

American Progressivism

Reflections on American Progressivism
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Social and Political Thought of American Progressivism
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America in the Progressive Era, 1890-1914
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A Very Different Age
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be defined in the media as a contest between liberals and conservatives this book explores the ideological underpinnings of american progressivism in doing so it examines the foundations of modern liberalism and conservatism the fundamental problem of any science of politics is to explain however imperfectly the sources of justice and injustice in politics what are the self evident truths that inform and drive the public debates over time the foundational arguments for justice and injustice what people regard as self evident truths do change this process of change is at the heart of progressivism the original arguments of the progressive movement are obscured or largely forgotten in contemporary political debates but in a myriad of ways the original progressive arguments continue to reverberate they need to be more fully explored and understood in order to seriously engage the differences between liberals and conservatives such differences are not likely to be overcome simply by a study of the roots of progressivism but it is a first step in a more rational debate which this book will inspire

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american progressivism is a one volume edition of some of the most important essays speeches and book excerpts from the leading figures of national progressivism it is designed for classroom use includes an accessible interpretive essay and introduces each selection with a brief historical and conceptual background the introductory essay is written with the student in mind and addresses the important characteristics of progressive thought and the role of progressives in the development of the american political tradition students of american political thought american politics american history the presidency congress

and political parties will find this reader to be an invaluable source for insight into progressivism

through a variety of primary sources including speeches poems magazine articles and book excerpts this collection illustrates the origins ambitions and political legacy of the american progressivism movement 1886 1924 a general introduction offers a history of the movement and a brief discussion of recent historiographical debates headnotes introduce each selection and provide historical and political context

emerging historians inspect the roots politics and politicians of american progressivism as well as the urban and environmental reforms effected during this era
bibliogs

covering the turbulent 1890s and the era of theodore roosevelt and woodrow wilson this new next provides a readable analytical narrative of the emergence influence and decline of the spirit of progressive reform that animated american politics and culture around the turn of the twentieth century

this study recreates the intellectual climate and transatlantic setting of turn of the century american reform it examines the influence and meaning of german social thought and reform in the american reform movement prior to world war i the american progressives used the german theories in order to develop and establish new concepts of reform and to base democracy on principles other than possessive individualism utilitarian ethics and market ideology that liberalism held in stock however due to the war these reforms lost their radical character in the end the progressive quest for a broader sphere of public control participatory models of reform and social ethics yielded to the liberal model of regulation business co operation and administrative efficiency and to the moralistic agenda of prohibition and immigration control axel r schafer s fine study of what american progressives learned from their german counterparts adds to the growing literature illuminating the cosmopolitan breadth and ideological daring of turn of the century reform a it is a testament to the argumentative force of this insightful work that it so clarifies and deepens the vital debate over the progressive legacy in our new gilded age the journal of american history schafer did not intend to offer an exhaustive treatment instead he wished to show that part of progressive thought was not merely home grown a relection of narrow moralistic protestantismae 220 but had some german roots too this he did well and readers may mine his chapters for other insightsa german studies review axel r schafers kenntnisreiche methodisch

reflektierte und quellengesättigte untersuchung legt die bis vor kurzem nur wenig beachteten transatlantischen bezüge der progressiven bewegungae an der wende vom 19 zum 20 jahrhundert frei und bettet dieses als sehr amerikanischae geltende reformphanomen starker in seinen weltlichen gesamtzusammenhang ein schafer wird daher nicht nur von amerikaspezialisten mit gewinn gelesen werden sondern auch von historikern die sich mit interkulturellen austauschprozessen beschäftigen das historisch politische buch selten jedenfalls ist die krise des progressivism im ersten weltkrieg so klar analysiert worden wie hiera historische zeitschrift anachronismen vermeidend und mit grosser fähigkeit zur empathie zeichnet schafer die motive und vorstellungswelten der akteure nach ohne sie von vornherein zu verurteilen auf diese weise gelingt ihm eine sehr differenzierte darstellunga neue politische literatur franz steiner 2000

eisenach s selection of primary sources illustrates the origins ambitions and political legacy of the american progressivism movement 1844 1932 while his introduction offers a history of the movement and a brief discussion of recent historiographical debates

the america of the modern administrative state is not the america of the original constitution this transformation comes not only from the ordinary course of historical change and development but also from a radical new philosophy of government that was imported into the american political tradition by the progressives of the late nineteenth century the new thinking about the principles of government and open hostility to the american constitution led to a host of concrete changes in american political institutions our government today reflects these original progressive innovations even if they are often unrecognized as such because they have become ingrained in american political culture this book shows the nature of these changes both in principles and in the nuts and bolts of governing it also shows how progressivism was often at the root of critical developments subsequent to the progressive era in more recent american political history how it was different than the new deal the liberalism of the 1960s and today s liberalism but also how these subsequent developments could not have transpired without the ground laid by the original progressives

unless americans prove themselves willing to be as open minded about the institutional arrangements of the country as they have been about almost everything else they will continue to find their hopes frustrated it is not enough to rebel against the lack of justice unless we also rebel against the lack of imagination roberto mangabeira unger and cornel west argue that the path to progressive reform goes through reorganization of our economic and political instutitions tax and

spending are not enough breaking with the conventional ideas of american progressive politics they show how we can stimulate economic growth and guarantee a minimum of resources for all citizens

this book details the origins of american progressivism and its enduring effects on american politics and constitutionalism in the twenty first century

now in its second edition *america in the progressive era 1890 1917* provides a readable analytical narrative of the emergence influence and decline of the spirit of progressive reform that animated american politics and culture around the turn of the twentieth century covering the turbulent 1890s to the american entry into world war i the text examines the political social and cultural events of a period which set the agenda for american public life during the remainder of the twentieth century this new edition places progressivism in a transatlantic context and gives more attention to voices outside the mainstream of party politics key features include a clear account of the continuing debate in the united states over the role of government citizenship and the pursuit of social justice a full examination of the impact of reform on women and minorities a rich selection of documents that allow the historical actors to communicate with today s readers an extensive updated bibliography providing a valuable guide to additional reading and research based on the most recent scholarship and written to be read by students this book will be of interest to students of american history and political history

the progressive era from the 1890s to the 1920s was one of the most important periods in american social political and economic history during this time the united states saw a great change in the role of government particularly in terms of its involvement in the regulation of business and industry this era has often been characterized as the first period in which government power was increased for largely egalitarian reasons however many have argued the opposite case that the legislation was designed by industry to serve its own purposes in america reformed progressives and progressivisms 1890s 1920s author maureen a flanagan introduces progressivism less as a straightforward history of actual reforms than as a revision of the ways in which americans organized themselves to confront the problems of their society she examines how this reorganization in turn drew americans into a new type of relationship with the federal government drawing on the most up to date scholarship flanagan explores what democracy meant to various citizens and emphasizes the social justice movement as an integral aspect of progressive reforms organized around four thematic lines of progressivism political social justice economic and foreign policy the book analyzes the various ideas

actors and movements that constituted the time period by incorporating coverage of how women, African Americans, and ethnic and working class organizations participated in progressive reform movements. Flanagan reveals how the reform struggles of the period all revolved around defining the nature and purpose of U.S. democracy ideal for undergraduate courses in the U.S. progressive era and the Gilded Age. Progressive Era America reformed features documents, maps, and illustrations throughout as well as anecdotes of historical events to introduce each chapter. The text also includes references to scholarly websites of original source material.

The Progressives offers comprehensive coverage of the origins, evolution, and notable events that came to define the pivotal period of American history known as the Progressive Era. It offers a rich in-depth analysis of who the Progressives were and the process through which they identified and attacked social, economic, and political injustices. It features an up-to-date synthesis of the literature of the field, including comprehensive treatment of the role of women in the Progressive movement. It considers the movement's enduring impact and how its vision for a better society became transfixed in the American social consciousness and helped to create the modern welfare state. Part of the well-respected American History series, it integrates themes of class, race, ethnicity, and gender throughout, offering a concise and engaging account of a fascinating era in U.S. history that forever changed the relationship between a democratic government and its citizens.

discusses the changes of the progressive era focusing on the industrial revolution and its effects on American society

Publisher Description

At its core this book is intellectual history tracing the work of progressive historians as they in turn wrote the history of progressivism. In Progressivism: The Strange History of a Radical Idea, Bradley C.S. Watson presents an intellectual history of American progressivism as a philosophical political phenomenon, focusing on how and with what consequences the academic discipline of history came to accept and propagate it. This book offers a meticulously detailed historiography and critique of the insularity and biases of academic culture. It shows how the first scholarly interpreters of progressivism were in large measure also its intellectual architects and later interpreters were in deep sympathy with their premises and conclusions. Too many scholarly treatments of the progressive synthesis were products of it or at

least were insufficiently mindful of two central facts the hostility of progressive theory to the founders constitution and the tension between progressive theory and the realm of the private including even conscience itself the constitutional and religious dimensions of progressive thought and in particular the relationship between the two remained hidden for much of the twentieth century this pathbreaking volume reveals how and why this scholarly obfuscation occurred the book will interest students and scholars of american political thought the progressive era and historiography and it will be a useful reference work for anyone in history law and political science

for several decades conservatives set the political agenda in the united states allowing them to focus the conversation on topics such as tax cuts national security and social issues it is increasingly becoming apparent however that this has begun to change factors such as the election of the first african american president and the increasing diversity of the population the dramatic rise of income inequality and the social liberalism of younger americans indicate that progressive political ideas are more influential today than at any point in four decades this book is the first to offer a comprehensive overview of progressive politics combining historical analysis a discussion of policy priorities today and a survey of the challenges ahead featuring essays by leading scholars analysts and commentators it is an indispensable guide to the ideas and debates that will shape american politics in the coming years with contributions from joseph stiglitz e j dionne jonathan alter jacob hacker and rosa brooks

this book details the origins of american progressivism and its enduring effects on american politics and constitutionalism in the twenty first century

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