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Political Science and International Relations : Political Theory

Frausto, O., Powell, J., Vitale, S. (Eds.)

The Weariness of Democracy

Confronting the Failure of Liberal Democracy

- Offers a critical framework to underlie the concepts of politics, utopia, plurality, diversity, difference, controversy, and conflict in order to combat the advancement of nationalism, right-wing populist governments, and unrestrained capitalism
- Collects together global perspectives from scholars of political philosophy from across the world, including the United States, Mexico, France, Spain, and Argentina
- Presents landmark articles from scholars Miguel Abensour and Luis Villoro translated into English for the first time

Liberal democracy today, having aligned itself with capitalism, is producing a generalized feeling of weariness and disillusionment with government among the citizenry of many countries. Because of a decades-long march of globalized capitalism, economic oligarchies have gained oppressive levels of political power, and as a result, the economic needs of many people around the world have been neglected. It then becomes essential to remember that our ability to change society emerges from our power to formulate different questions; or, in this case, alternative understandings of democracy. This book draws together a variety of alternative theories of democracies in a quest to expose readers to a selection of the most exciting and innovative new approaches to politics today. The consideration of these leading alternative conceptualizations of democracy is important, as it is now common to see xenophobic and racist rhetoric using the platform of liberal democracy to threaten ideas of plurality, diversity, equality, and economic justice. In looking at four different models of democracy (utopian democracy, radical democracy, republican democracy, and plural democracy) this book argues that encounters with alternate conceptualizations of democracy is necessary if citizens and scholars are going to understand the constellation of possibilities that exist for inclusive, plural, economically equal, and just societies.

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