

American Government Roots And Reform 2012 Election

With every presidential election, Americans puzzle over the peculiar mechanism of the Electoral College. The author of the Pulitzer finalist *The Right to Vote* explains the enduring problem of this controversial institution. Every four years, millions of Americans wonder why they choose their presidents through the Electoral College, an arcane institution that permits the loser of the popular vote to become president and narrows campaigns to swing states. Most Americans would prefer a national popular vote, and Congress has attempted on many occasions to alter or scuttle the Electoral College. Several of these efforts—one as recently as 1970—came very close to winning approval. Yet this controversial system remains. Alexander Keyssar explains its persistence. After tracing the Electoral College's tangled origins at the Constitutional Convention, he explores the efforts from 1800 to 2019 to abolish or significantly reform it, showing why each has thus far failed. Reasons include the tendency of political parties to elevate partisan advantage above democratic values, the difficulty of passing constitutional amendments, and, especially, the impulse to preserve white supremacy in the South, which led to the region's prolonged backing

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of the Electoral College. The most common explanation—that small states have blocked reform for fear of losing influence—has only occasionally been true. Keyssar examines why reform of the Electoral College has received so little attention from Congress for the last forty years, as well as alternatives to congressional action such as the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact and state efforts to eliminate winner-take-all. In analyzing the reasons for past failures while showing how close the nation has come to abolishing the institution, *Why Do We Still Have the Electoral College?* offers encouragement to those hoping to produce change in the twenty-first century.

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art interactive and instructive solution for introductory American government courses that combines multimedia simulations, video debates, research support, and practice tests to make learning fun! This is the product access code card for MyPoliSciLab and does not include the actual bound book. Updated in a new 2011 edition, *American Government: Roots and Reform* provides the historical context students need to understand our government and the most crucial and controversial issues affecting the nation in the 21st century. This bestselling book has been extensively revised to provide in-depth coverage of President Barack Obama's first two years in office and the 111th Congress, the 2010 congressional elections, continued concerns related to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and domestic concerns related to health care reform and the economy.

“Keep your government hands off my Medicare!” Such comments spotlight a central question animating Suzanne Mettler’s provocative and timely book: why are many Americans unaware of government social benefits and so hostile to them in principle, even though they receive them? The Obama administration has been roundly criticized for its inability to convey how much it has accomplished for ordinary citizens. Mettler argues that this difficulty is not merely a failure of communication; rather it is endemic to the formidable presence of the

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“submerged state.” In recent decades, federal policymakers have increasingly shunned the outright disbursing of benefits to individuals and families and favored instead less visible and more indirect incentives and subsidies, from tax breaks to payments for services to private companies. These submerged policies, Mettler shows, obscure the role of government and exaggerate that of the market. As a result, citizens are unaware not only of the benefits they receive, but of the massive advantages given to powerful interests, such as insurance companies and the financial industry. Neither do they realize that the policies of the submerged state shower their largest benefits on the most affluent Americans, exacerbating inequality. Mettler analyzes three Obama reforms—student aid, tax relief, and health care—to reveal the submerged state and its consequences, demonstrating how structurally difficult it is to enact policy reforms and even to obtain public recognition for achieving them. She concludes with recommendations for reform to help make hidden policies more visible and governance more comprehensible to all Americans. The sad truth is that many American citizens do not know how major social programs work—or even whether they benefit from them. Suzanne Mettler’s important new book will bring government policies back to the surface and encourage citizens to reclaim their voice in the political process.

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First Amendment defenders greeted the Court's Citizens United ruling with enthusiasm, while electoral reformers recoiled in disbelief. Robert Post offers a constitutional theory that seeks to reconcile these sharply divided camps, and he explains how the case might have been decided in a way that would preserve free speech and electoral integrity. Understand American politics from past to present American Government: Roots and Reform, 2012 Election Edition explores how the origins of American government affect the issues facing the United States today. This bestselling text offers the strongest coverage of history and current events. This approach encourages students to study present political structures and behaviors in full constitutional and historical context. The text helps students learn how our government evolved and how they can become more informed citizens. Most importantly, it encourages them to discover that politics can be-and most often is-a good thing. This text features full integration with the New MyPoliSciLab.

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American democracy is in many ways more vital than ever before. Advocacy groups proliferate and formerly marginalized groups enjoy new opportunities. But worrisome trends exist. Millions of Americans are drawing back from involvements with community affairs and politics. Voters stay home; public officials grapple with distrust or indifference; and people are less likely to cooperate on behalf of shared goals. Observers across the spectrum of opinion agree that it is vital to determine

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what is happening and why—so that Americans can take well-informed, effective steps to revitalize our national community. The book opens with an eagle-eye look at the roots of America's special patterns of civic engagement, examining the ways social groups and government and electoral politics have influenced each other. Other chapters examine the impact of advocacy groups and socioeconomic inequalities on democratic processes and probe the influence of long-term social and cultural changes on voluntary associations and civic participation. The book concludes by asking why social liberation has been accompanied by new inequalities and the erosion of many important forms of citizen leverage and participation. Coming together from several disciplines, contributors include Jeffrey M. Berry, Henry E. Brady, John Brehm, Steven Brint, Elisabeth S. Clemens, Peter Dobkin Hall, Wendy M. Rahn, Kay Lehman Schlozman, Sidney Verba, and Robert Wuthnow. Copublished with the Russell Sage Foundation

Offering a revision of the understanding of the rise of the American regulatory state in the late 19th century, this book argues that politically mobilised farmers were the driving force behind most of the legislation that increased national control.

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facing the United States today through an historical lens. By presenting coverage of the origins of American government in tandem with material on contemporary political structures and behaviors, the authors help students see how what happened in the past can be used to understand what measures should be taken in the future. In order to boost student engagement with key concepts, the 2016 Presidential Election Edition incorporates coverage of contemporary issues that dominate today's headlines, as well as the most up-to-date data.

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The precursors to today's right-to-work movement, advocates of the open shop in the Progressive Era argued that honest workers should have the right to choose whether or not to join a union free from all pressure. At the same time, business owners systematically prevented unionization in their workplaces. While most scholars portray union opponents as knee-jerk conservatives, Chad Pearson demonstrates that many open-shop proponents identified themselves as progressive reformers and benevolent guardians of America's economic and political institutions.

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Congress Work Together?" and more. UPDATED interactive figures include the latest data and analysis. For example, Figure 6.1 "How Well Does the House of Representatives Reflect the American People?" now shows numbers from the 115th Congress (instead of the 114th) and Figures 12.5 and 12.6 on campaign financing include the final dollar amounts from the 2016 election. Examples of NEW narrative content include a chapter-opener for Chapter 12 about Donald Trump's victory in the context of the Electoral College, analysis of 2016 voter turnout as it relates to income and education, President Trump's Executive Order banning immigrants from seven Muslim nations, his appointment of Justice Neil Gorsuch, his dismissal of ninety-four U.S. Attorneys, and his stance on treaties such as NAFTA, as well as his recent foreign policy moves. NEW LiveSlide dynamic lecture slides include every data visualization and interactive map within your Revel course, giving you a direct path to all the Social Explorers. Revel(TM) American Government: Roots and Reform helps students view the issues facing the United States today through an historical lens. By presenting coverage of the origins of American government in tandem with material on contemporary political structures and behaviors, authors Karen O'Connor and Larry Sabato help students see how what happened in the past can be used to understand what measures should be taken in the future. In order to boost student engagement with key concepts, the 2016 Presidential Election Edition incorporates coverage of contemporary issues that dominate today's headlines, as well as the most up-to-date data.

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American Government 2e is designed to meet the scope and sequence requirements of the single-semester American Government course. This title includes innovative features designed to enhance student learning, including Insider Perspective features and a Get Connected module that shows students how they can get engaged in the political process. The book provides an important opportunity for students to learn the core concepts of American Government and understand how those concepts apply to their lives and the world around them.

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