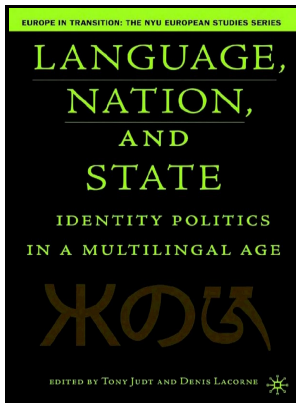


# Burden of responsibility - Blum, Camus, Aron, and the French twentieth century

University of Chicago Press - The Burden of Responsibility: Blum, Camus, Aron, and the French Twentieth Century by Tony Judt, Paperback



Description: -

-

Paul VI, Pope, 1897-1978.

Harmony.

France -- Intellectual life -- 20th century -- Political aspects

Intellectuals -- France -- Political activity -- History -- 20th century

Aron, Raymond, 1905- -- Ethics

Camus, Albert, 1913-1960 -- Ethics

Blum, Léon, 1872-1950 -- Ethicsburden of responsibility - Blum,

Camus, Aron, and the French twentieth century

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twentieth century

Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index.

This edition was published in 1998



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## The Burden of Responsibility

Interesting angle - brief profiles of three prominent left-leaning 20th Century European anti-communists, one an academic, one a politician, and one a popular writer. On 11 June, the Chamber of Deputies voted for the forty-hour workweek, the restoration of civil servants' salaries, and two weeks' paid holidays, by a majority of 528 to 7. Using the lives of the three outstanding French intellectuals of the twentieth century, renowned historian Tony Judt offers a unique look at how intellectuals can ignore political pressures and demonstrate a heroic commitment to personal integrity and moral responsibility unfettered by the difficult political exigencies of their time.

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But this is a telling controversy — Camus, as a Frenchman of Algerian origin, experienced a moral-political conundrum. Briefly, he examines the role Blum was to play in keeping the Socialist Party in France out of the hands of the popular Communist party of the day.

## Book Review: Tony Judt's The Burden of Responsibility

This collection could have used more centrifugal force, or a little more clarity behind the notion of 'responsibility,' which seems straightforward but is actually a little elusive. As we listen to some Sanders supporters insist that they cannot support Hillary even though they must know that if she loses Donald Trump becomes president and even though their agenda is not practical or achievable is exactly the same as the issues that Blum, Camus, Aron, and Judt addressed throughout the 20th Century in France.

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