

Whats wrong with democracy? - from Athenian practice to American worship

University of California Press - What's Wrong with Democracy? : From Athenian Practice to American Worship (Paperback)



Description: -

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United States -- Civilization -- Greek influences

Republicanism -- United States -- History

Political culture -- United States -- History

Representative government and representation -- United States

Direct democracy -- Greece -- Athens

Democracy -- History

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American worship

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Athenian democracy

Unlike most recent volumes on Athenian democracy, which hold up Athens as a model of democratic practice, Samons's work is a hard-hitting critique of practically every significant aspect of democratic practice in Athens. In this daring reassessment of classical Athenian democracy and its significance for the United States today, Loren J. I hope to suggest that the vote—especially in an environment with few social restraints or civic responsibilities—represents a threat to, as much as an instrument of, justice.

Ireneson: PDF» What's Wrong with Democracy? From Athenian Practice to American Worship by Loren J. Samons II

Just small students that has reading's heart and soul or real their leisure activity. In this daring reassessment of classical Athenian democracy and its significance for the United States today, Loren J. Athenians also expected their fellow citizens to maintain standards of personal conduct in order to retain their privileged status, and they could withhold privileges such as office-holding or impose punishments for failure to meet these expectations.

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Historians or classicists already familiar with Athenian government may wish to jump immediately to the discussion of voting and election in chapter 2.

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As strange as it may seem to moderns, Aristotle considered election to be an oligarchic or aristocratic element in government.

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Precisely for that reason Professor Samons offers a bold and unbridled look at the nature and history of democracies, ancient and modern. Samons provides ample justification for our founding fathers' distrust of democracy, a form of government they scorned precisely because of their familiarity with classical Athens. From reader reviews: Terry Tyrrell: Do you have something that that suits you such as book? Challenging many basic assumptions about the character and success of Athenian democracy, What's Wrong with Democracy? The assembly had four main functions: it made executive pronouncements decrees, such as deciding to go to war or granting citizenship to a foreigner , elected some officials, legislated, and tried political crimes.

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