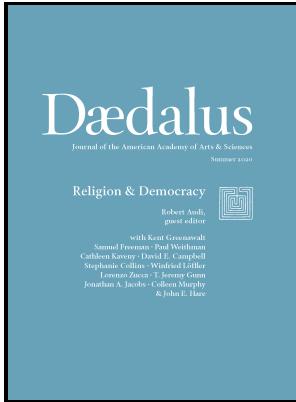


Constitutional democracy - creating and maintaining a just political order

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- Public opinion
- Comparative government
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The Johns Hopkins series in constitutional thought

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These residual powers are areas of authority not explicitly assigned in the constitution, which are comprehensively granted to one level of government. Only someone with Walter Murphy's immense learning could so effectively bridge the gap between constitutional law and political philosophy, and -- as a bonus -- provide a model of how material from other countries can be used to illuminate American law and politics. Next, he tells the story of how a democracy is established within the context of a fictional constitutional convention for a fictional country.

Constitutional Democracy: Creating and Maintaining a Just Political OrderPrinciples of Constitutional Design

Only by constitutionally restraining the majority to protect the rights of minorities can there be the inclusion of all the people in the polity, a necessary condition for justice in a democracy today. These responsibilities include taking care of one's self, supporting one's family, friends, and community; adhering to one's moral principles and considering the rights and interests of others.

An Introduction to Democracy

Thus, the executive may be able to veto legislation passed by the legislature while the legislature may be able to curtail actions of the executive by cutting off funds for specific executive activities.

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Design contingency, to be sure, as well as the challenges and possibilities posed by questions of culture and constitutions, and by dignity and design, will always be with us. Citizens should be familiar with the geography of their own country and of the world in order to be able to

incorporate geographical factors into their thinking about political, social, and economic events.

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