

The Political Thought of Benjamin Franklin



Edited by Ralph Ketcham

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The Political Thought Of Benjamin Franklin



Benjamin Franklin

The Political Thought Of Benjamin Franklin:

The Political Thought of Benjamin Franklin Benjamin Franklin, 1965-01-01 Too often dismissed as the least philosophic of the Founding Fathers Benjamin Franklin had a deep and lasting impact on the shape of American political thought In this substantial collection of Franklin s letters essays and lesser known papers Ralph Ketcham traces the development of Franklin s practical and distinctly American political thought from his earliest Silence Dogood essays to his final writings on the Constitution and The Evils of the Slave Trade The Political Philosophy of Benjamin Franklin Lorraine Smith

Pangle, 2007-09-28 Franklin s political writings are full of fascinating reflections on human nature on the character of good leadership and on why government is such a messy and problematic business Drawing together threads in Franklin s writings Lorraine Smith Pangle illuminates his thoughts on citizenship federalism constitutional government the role of civil associations and religious freedom **THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: THE BEGINNING**

OF THE PRAGMATIC TRADITION IN AMERICAN POLITICAL THOUGHT. Richard Donald Miles, 1948 **Political Thought of Benjamin Franklin** Ralph L. Ketcham, 1965-12 *The Political Philosophy of Benjamin Franklin* Lorraine Smith Pangle, 2007-09-28 One of the very finest introductions to this remarkable American s thought Ralph Ketcham Claremont Review of Books He invented the wood burning stove and the lightning rod he wrote Poor Richard s Almanac and The Way to Wealth and he traveled the world as a diplomat But it was in politics that Benjamin Franklin made his greatest impact Franklin s political writings are full of fascinating reflections on human nature on the character of good leadership and on why government is such a messy and problematic business Drawing together threads in Franklin s writings Lorraine Smith Pangle illuminates his thoughts on citizenship federalism constitutional government the role of civil associations and religious freedom Of the American Founders Franklin had an unrivaled understanding of the individual human soul At the heart of his political vision is a view of democratic citizenship a rich understanding of the qualities of the heart and mind necessary to support liberty and sustain happiness This concise introduction reflects Franklin s valuable insight into political issues that continue to be relevant today The Political Philosophy of Benjamin Franklin Richard Donald Miles, 1974

Benjamin Franklin Unmasked Jerry Weinberger, 2005 Taking the Autobiography as the key to Franklin s thought Weinberger argues that previous assessments have not yet probed to the bottom of Ben s famous irony and elusiveness While others take the self portrait as an elder statesman s relaxed and playful retrospection Weinberger unveils it as the window to Franklin s deepest reflections on God virtue justice equality natural rights love the good life the modern technological project and the place and limits of reason in politics and human experience Along the way Weinberger explores Franklin s ribald humor usually ignored or toned down by historians and critics and shows it to be charming and philosophic *Franklin: The Autobiography and Other Writings on Politics, Economics, and Virtue* Benjamin Franklin, 2004-10-21 Benjamin Franklin is one of the best known and most widely admired figures in American history His wit and charm make him endearing his practical

intelligence and commitment to middle class virtues like thrift and industry make him admirable Indeed to many he is the first American Ironically this identification of Franklin with American popular culture diminishes the breadth and depth of his contributions to modern political thought The present volume provides the textual foundation for a fuller understanding of Franklin s thought and represents a major addition to the Cambridge Texts series Readers interested in the Autobiography will find a new and complete edition based on the original manuscript Those interested in the full range of Franklin s political ideas will find a selection of his most important letters essays and pamphlets Alan Houston s lucid introduction brings life to these texts and sets them in their proper historical context Reason and Power in Benjamin Franklin's Political Thought
Gerald Stourzh,1953 *Franklin: The Autobiography and Other Writings on Politics, Economics, and Virtue* Benjamin Franklin,2004-10-21 Benjamin Franklin is one of the best known and least understood figures in the history of eighteenth century political thought Alan Houston clarifies our understanding of his thought by making available a representative selection of his most important political writings The entire text of the Autobiography is included alongside letters essays pamphlets and manuscript notes that cover political economy moral psychology and religious belief and practice among other topics

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