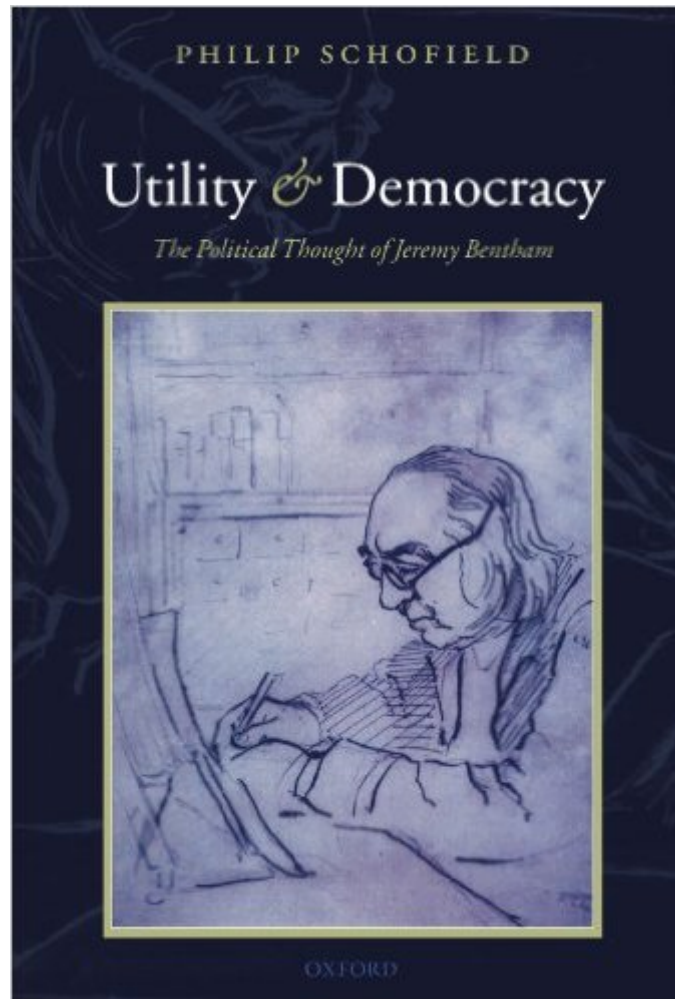


The book was found

Utility And Democracy: The Political Thought Of Jeremy Bentham



Synopsis

Utility and Democracy is the first comprehensive historical account of the political thought of Jeremy Bentham (1748-1832), the philosopher and reformer. Philip Schofield draws on his extensive knowledge of Bentham's unpublished manuscripts and original printed texts, and on the new, authoritative edition of *The Collected Works of Jeremy Bentham*. A compelling narrative charts the way in which Bentham applied his utilitarian philosophy to the rapidly changing circumstances of his age. Schofield begins with a lucid account of Bentham's insights in the fields of logic and language, and in particular his theory of real and fictitious entities, which lie at the foundation of his thought. He proceeds to show how these insights brought Bentham to the principle of utility, which led him in turn to produce the first systematic defense of democracy from a utilitarian perspective. In contrast to previous scholarship, which claims that Bentham's "conversion" or "transition" to political radicalism took place either at the time of the French Revolution or following his meeting with James Mill in 1808 or 1809, Professor Schofield shows that the process began in or around 1804 when the notion of sinister interest emerged in Bentham's thought. Bentham appreciated that rulers, rather than being motivated by a desire to promote the greatest happiness of those subject to them, aimed to promote their own happiness, whatever the overall cost to the community. In his constitutional writings of the 1820s, which he addressed to "all nations professing liberal opinions," Bentham argued that the proper end of constitutional design was to maximize official aptitude and minimize government expense, and that the publicity of official actions, within the context of a republican system of government where sovereignty lay in the people, was the means to achieve it. Bentham's commitment to radical reform led him to advocate the abolition of the British monarchy and House of Lords, the replacement of the Common Law with a codified system of law, and the "euthanasia" of the Anglican Church.

Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (June 22, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0199563365

ISBN-13: 978-0199563364

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.9 x 6.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #2,881,497 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Movements > Utilitarianism #5253 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Political History #7187 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Political

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Utilitarianism and On Liberty: Including 'Essay on Bentham' and Selections from the Writings of Jeremy Bentham and John Austin: Including "Essay on Bentham" and Selections from t Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham Utilitarianism and On Liberty: Including 'Essay on Bentham' and Selections from the Writings of Jeremy Bentham and John Austin 7 BOOKS ON MENTAL POWER AND THOUGHT FORCE. THOUGHT-FORCE IN BUSINESS AND EVERYDAY LIFE; MEMORY CULTURE; DYNAMIC THOUGHT; THOUGHT VIBRATION; MENTAL POWER; ... OF LESSONS (Timeless Wisdom Collection) Democracy More or Less: America's Political Reform Quandary (Cambridge Studies in Election Law and Democracy) American Interpretations of Natural Law: A Study in the History of Political Thought (Library of Liberal Thought) Rousseau: 'The Discourses' and Other Early Political Writings (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) (v. 1) Kant: Political Writings (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) Bentham: A Guide for the Perplexed (Guides for the Perplexed) 117VN - Terry Shade/Jeremy Woolstenhulme: Book 3: String Basics Steps to Success for String Orchestra Ron Jeremy: The Hardest (Working) Man in Showbiz Jeremy's Journey: A season of action, a lifetime of memories Race, Reform, and Regulation of the Electoral Process: Recurring Puzzles in American Democracy (Cambridge Studies in Election Law and Democracy) Democracy--The God That Failed: The Economics and Politics of Monarchy, Democracy, and Natural Order (Perspectives on Democratic Practice) Democracy Incorporated: Managed Democracy and the Specter of Inverted Totalitarianism Losing the News: The Future of the News that Feeds Democracy (Institutions of American Democracy) The Religious Thought of Hasidism: Text and Commentary (Sources and Studies in Kabbalah, Hasidism, and Jewish Thought, V. 4) Poetry, Language, Thought (Harper Perennial Modern Thought) Democracy and Political Ignorance: Why Smaller Government Is Smarter El Salvador in the Aftermath of Peace: Crime, Uncertainty, and the Transition to Democracy (The Ethnography of Political Violence)

[Dmca](#)