

The Reckless Mind: Intellectuals in Politics (Revised Edition)

By Peter Viereck

The Reckless Mind is a classic work of intellectual history that explores the role of intellectuals in politics. Viereck argues that intellectuals are often drawn to politics because they are motivated by a desire to make a difference in the world. However, he also warns that intellectuals can be dangerous when they become too closely associated with political power.



The Reckless Mind: Intellectuals in Politics: Revised Edition by Mark Lilla

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1822 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 249 pages



Viereck's book is divided into four parts. The first part provides a historical overview of the relationship between intellectuals and politics. Viereck shows how intellectuals have played a major role in shaping political thought and action throughout history. He also discusses the different ways in which intellectuals have been involved in politics, from serving as advisors to heads of state to leading revolutions.

The second part of the book focuses on the intellectual history of the 19th and 20th centuries. Viereck argues that this period saw a profound change in the role of intellectuals in politics. With the rise of mass democracy, intellectuals began to play a more prominent role in public life. They became more involved in political parties and movements, and they began to write more directly for a popular audience.

The third part of the book examines the relationship between intellectuals and ideology. Viereck argues that ideology is a dangerous force that can lead intellectuals to embrace extreme and irrational beliefs. He shows how ideology has been responsible for some of the worst atrocities in history, from the Holocaust to the Cultural Revolution.

The fourth part of the book offers a prescription for how intellectuals can avoid the dangers of ideology. Viereck argues that intellectuals should be skeptical of all ideologies and that they should always be willing to question their own beliefs. He also believes that intellectuals should be more engaged with the world around them and that they should not be afraid to get their hands dirty in politics.

The Reckless Mind is a challenging and provocative book that offers a unique perspective on the role of intellectuals in politics. Viereck's insights are as relevant today as they were when the book was first published in 1955. This revised edition includes a new preface by the author that reflects on the changes that have taken place in the world since the book was first published.

Reviews

"The Reckless Mind is a classic work of intellectual history that is still relevant today. Viereck's insights into the role of intellectuals in politics are essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the complex relationship between ideas and power." -Fareed Zakaria, CNN

"Peter Viereck's The Reckless Mind is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of ideas and their impact on politics. Viereck's insights are sharp, his prose is elegant, and his analysis is always thought-provoking." - Anne Applebaum, The Washington Post

"The Reckless Mind is a brilliant and incisive work that deserves to be read by everyone who cares about the future of democracy." -The New York Times

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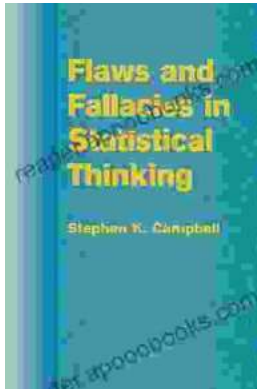
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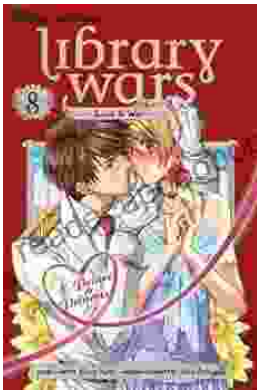
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