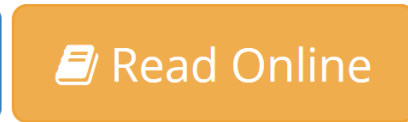


Misreading the Bill of Rights: Top Ten Myths Concerning Your Rights and Liberties

By Kirby Goidel, Craig Freeman, Brian Smentkowski



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The Bill of Rights—the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution—are widely misunderstood by many Americans. This book explores the widely held myths about the Bill of Rights, how these myths originated, why they have persisted, and the implications for contemporary politics and policy.

- Carefully separates out widely held contemporary beliefs about the Bill of Rights and connects them to debates over meaning, enabling readers to see how the meaning of rights is historically and contextually determined
- Explores the Bill of Rights in the context of myths that define the American political culture
- Provides an even-handed but incisive analysis of individual myths, pointing out where both the left and the right often misinterpret the true meaning of the Bill of Rights
- Places the debates regarding rights in contemporary politics and modern society by considering the complex challenge of protecting individual freedoms in the context of a digital age, international terrorism, and ongoing threats to national security

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Kirby Goidel is professor in the Department of Communication and the Public Policy Research Institute at Texas A&M University.

Craig Freeman is professor of media law and entrepreneurial journalism at Oklahoma State University's School of Media and Strategic Communications.

Brian Smentkowski is associate director of faculty and academic development and a member of the Department of Government and Justice Studies at Appalachian State University.

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