



Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham

By Philip Schofield

Download now

Read Online ➔

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield

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 Philip Schofield draws on his extensive knowledge of Bentham's unpublished manuscripts and original printed texts, and on the new, authoritative edition of *The Collected Works of Jeremy Bentham*.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.

 [**Download** Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Je ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of ...pdf](#)

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham

By Philip Schofield

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield

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.

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #4921961 in Books
- Published on: 2009-06-22
- Released on: 2009-08-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 6.10" h x .90" w x 9.10" l, 1.30 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 384 pages

 [**Download** Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Je ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield

Editorial Review

Review

"Anyone who wants to understand Bentham's evolution into radical democrat must now start with this thorough study."--William Thomas, *English Historical Review*

About the Author

Philip Schofield is Professor of the History of Legal and Political Thought at University College London.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Alice Smith:

Book is written, printed, or created for everything. You can understand everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading skill was fluently. A reserve Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham will make you to be smarter. You can feel more confidence if you can know about every little thing. But some of you think that open or reading some sort of book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they might be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or ideal book with you?

Irma Huges:

This Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you receive by reading this book is definitely information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get details which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. This Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham without we understand teach the one who looking at it become critical in thinking and analyzing. Don't always be worry Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham can bring whenever you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even cell phone. This Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham having fine arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Mary Gobeil:

The actual book Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham will bring you to the new experience of reading some sort of book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. When you try to find new book to read, this book very suitable to you. The book Utility and Democracy: The Political

Thought of Jeremy Bentham is much recommended to you to study. You can also get the e-book through the official web site, so you can quickly to read the book.

Andrea Lampkin:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This kind of book Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham was vibrant and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham has many kinds or category. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. So , not at all of book tend to be make you bored, any it can make you feel happy, fun and chill out. Try to choose the best book for yourself and try to like reading in which.

Download and Read Online Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield #F789UBLDPRS

Read Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield for online ebook

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield books to read online.

Online Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield ebook PDF download

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield Doc

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield Mobipocket

Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield EPub

F789UBLDPRS: Utility and Democracy: The Political Thought of Jeremy Bentham By Philip Schofield