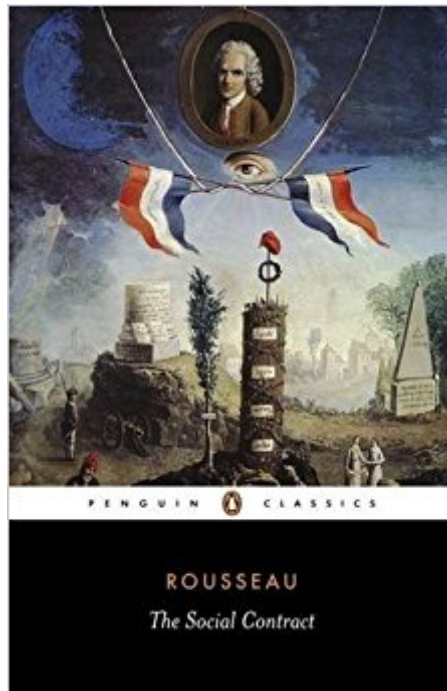


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The Social Contract (Penguin Books For Philosophy)



Synopsis

"Man was born free, and he is everywhere in chains" These are the famous opening words of a treatise that has not ceased to stir vigorous debate since its first publication in 1762. Rejecting the view that anyone has a natural right to wield authority over others, Rousseau argues instead for a pact, or 'social contract', that should exist between all the citizens of a state and that should be the source of sovereign power. From this fundamental premise, he goes on to consider issues of liberty and law, freedom and justice, arriving at a view of society that has seemed to some a blueprint for totalitarianism, to others a declaration of democratic principles. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great Ideas... is the right name for these slim, elegant paperbacks... They are written with precision, force, and care. ("The Wall Street Journal") Penguin Books hopes to provide an economical remedy for time-pressed readers in search of intellectual sustenance. ("USA Today")

Text: English (translation) Original Language: French

An important piece of history, and an honest look at Democracy and Republics through the eyes of someone who was accustomed to government that included royalty and aristocracy.

If you want to understand the genesis of much of America's constitution, read this carefully. Rousseau was the intellectual spark that set his country aflame in the French Revolution.

regarded as Jean-Jacques Rousseau's most important piece of work, On The Social Contract argues that government in itself is flawed leading to a society pillared on inequality and servitude. This piece of work should be read by all to gain an understanding of the invisible contract between the governed and government. The state of the book was new without tears, marks, or any creases etc.

Awesome read, of course! I read it in college and decided to order and read it again to brush up; especially since the price was just awesome. I'm in no way disappointed. Books arrive promptly and on time.

A necessary read. It's highly biased and generally illogical, and yet serves as a foundation for modern land use code and real estate ownership.

Haven't had time to read

I love Rousseau because he attacks many subjects almost as if he were blogging way back when. Maybe 2 pages on a topic and then move on to the next topic. Sure, some are more in depth, but it is a nice writing style.

Great book

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