Statesmanship and Party Government



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In this incisive look at early modern views of party politics, Harvey C. Mansfield examines the pamphlet war between Edmund Burke and the followers of Henry St. John, First Viscount Bolingbroke during the mid-eighteenth century. In response to works by Bolingbroke published posthumously, Burke created his most eloquent advocacy of the party system. Taking an interdisciplinary approach to the material, Mansfield shows that present-day parties must be understood in the light of the history of party government. The complicated organization and the public actions of modern parties are the result, he contends, and not the cause of a great change in opinion about parties. Mansfield points out that while parties have always existed, the party government that we know today is possible only because parties are now considered respectable. In Burke's day, however, they were thought by detractors to be a cancer in a free polity. Burke, however, was an early champion of the party system in Britain and made his arguments with a clear-eyed realism. In "Statesmanship and Party Government", Mansfield provides a skillful evaluation of Burke's writings and sheds light on present-day party politics.

作者介绍:

目录:
Statesmanship and Party Government_下载链接1_
标签
政治哲学
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政治学
Mansfield
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法学・公法・代表制
评论
只读了第一章和最后两章 施派政治哲学果然是五线城市凤凰男的春药 读的窝意气风发牛气哄哄不过施特劳斯和曼斯菲尔德对柏克的解读确实有过人之处,谈柏克的prudence恐怕未有过之者,对柏克思想中各种成分的把握也比较到位。

书评

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