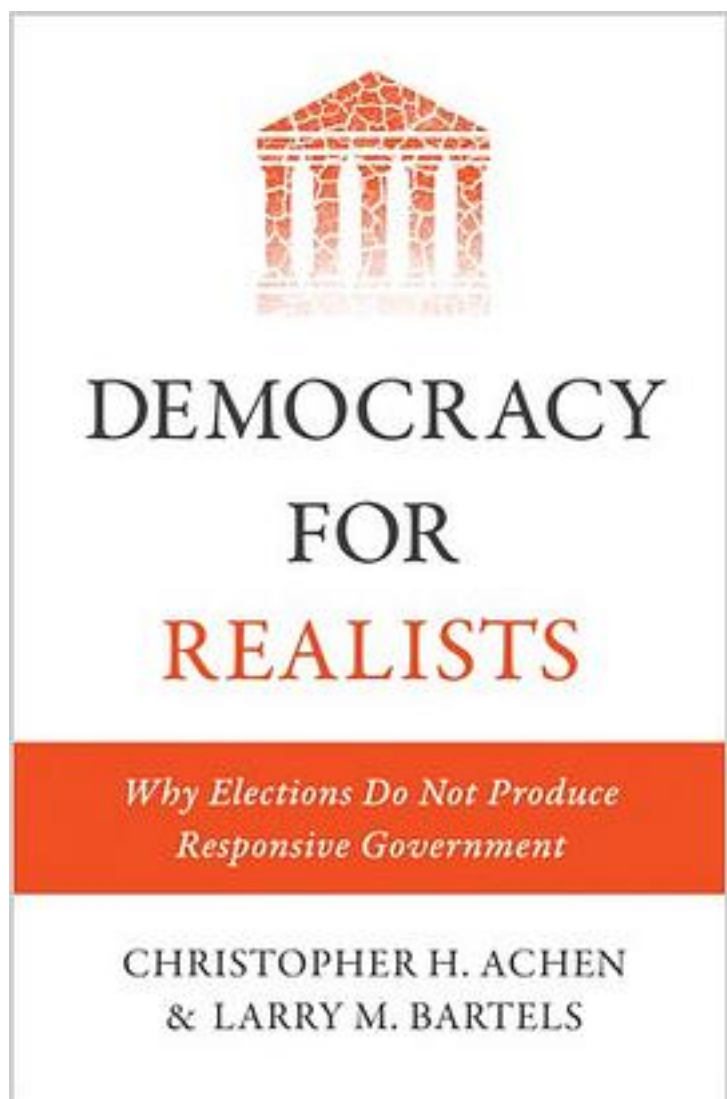


Democracy for Realists



[Democracy for Realists_ 下载链接1](#)

著者:Christopher H. Achen

出版者:Princeton University Press

出版时间:2016-4

装帧:Hardcover

isbn:9781400882731

Democracy for Realists assails the romantic folk-theory at the heart of contemporary thinking about democratic politics and government, and offers a provocative alternative view grounded in the actual human nature of democratic citizens.

Christopher Achen and Larry Bartels deploy a wealth of social-scientific evidence, including ingenious original analyses of topics ranging from abortion politics and budget deficits to the Great Depression and shark attacks, to show that the familiar ideal of thoughtful citizens steering the ship of state from the voting booth is fundamentally misguided. They demonstrate that voters—even those who are well informed and politically engaged—mostly choose parties and candidates on the basis of social identities and partisan loyalties, not political issues. They also show that voters adjust their policy views and even their perceptions of basic matters of fact to match those loyalties. When parties are roughly evenly matched, elections often turn on irrelevant or misleading considerations such as economic spurts or downturns beyond the incumbents' control; the outcomes are essentially random. Thus, voters do not control the course of public policy, even indirectly.

Achen and Bartels argue that democratic theory needs to be founded on identity groups and political parties, not on the preferences of individual voters. Democracy for Realists provides a powerful challenge to conventional thinking, pointing the way toward a fundamentally different understanding of the realities and potential of democratic government.

作者介绍:

Christopher H. Achen is the Roger Williams Straus Professor of Social Sciences and professor of politics at Princeton University. His books include *The European Union Decides*. Larry M. Bartels holds the May Werthan Shayne Chair of Public Policy and Social Science at Vanderbilt University. His books include *Unequal Democracy: The Political Economy of the New Gilded Age* (Princeton).

目录: List of Illustrations ix

Preface xiii

1 Democratic Ideals and Realities 1

2 The Elusive Mandate: Elections and the Mirage of Popular Control 21

3 Tumbling Down into a Democratical Republic: "Pure Democracy" and the Pitfalls of Popular Control 52

4 A Rational God of Vengeance and of Reward? The Logic of Retrospective Accountability 90

5 Blind Retrospection: Electoral Responses to Droughts, Floods, and Shark Attacks 116

6 Musical Chairs: Economic Voting and the Specious Present 146

7 A Chicken in Every Pot: Ideology and Retrospection in the Great Depression 177

8 The Very Basis of Reasons: Groups, Social Identities, and Political Psychology 213

9 Partisan Hearts and Spleens: Social Identities and Political Change 232

10 It Feels Like We're Thinking: The Rationalizing Voter 267

11 Groups and Power: Toward a Realist Theory of Democracy 297

Appendix Retrospective Voting as Selection and Sanctioning 329

References 335

Index 371

• • • • • [\(收起\)](#)

标签

政治学

美国政治

民主

选举民主

社会学

政治

政治经济学

选举政治学

评论

四星+。Interesting empirical research oversold.
强调选民缺乏个体理性和政治信息，依赖群体/党派认同反向形成政治观点，回溯性投票短视且依赖主观感受不能锁定政府责任，而这种随意事件造成的党派认同改变有长远影响。提出民主理论要以群体和身份为核心。统计工作尚可但有缺陷。结论太大推得太远，对改革的建设性意见老生常谈且牵强。

观点相当犀利。

真的斗士Bartels

5星。补mark。虽然这本书引起了很多争议（比如鲨鱼在新泽西的意外事件是否造成威尔逊总统的选票流失），但是两位作者提出了很多引人深思的问题。他们提出了这样一种可能性：更多的直接民主并不能带来治理效果的改善，选举问责在很多情况下会失效——选民的有限理性、选民将自然灾害归咎于政客（鲨鱼例子）、以及选民受到各种身份政治的影响（比如党派）……作者从某种程度上回归了熊彼得对民主的思考，民主的效果有限，所以要让政治家管理国家，选举结束之后人民对政治的参与要限制。不要被民主的表象欺骗了，到最后，依然是政治家搞政治，我们最多只能决定由哪个政治家来搞，这就是regime type所能带给我们的一切。不要期望太多，所谓人民直接当家做主不会（也不应该）实现。

可怜的“民主”，骗子，谁的爱，赤裸裸！

果然是 for Realists

for voting behavior class 只读了第二第九十一章节 今天课上讨论了小问题 social identity 对应folk theory of democracy which argues for citizen rationality.

很搞笑的书。最重要的实证部分（鲨鱼）已经被数据和技术更好的学者证明为垃圾（见Anthony Fowler）。另外，这本书的研究设计基本上是不及格。评价一个政治体制好坏如何，要找到counter-factual，这是博士一年级学生都应该有的常识。很明显，美国这个案例不适合研究“选举”，因为美国一直都有选举。美国内部的variation根本就不够。真正探寻政治体制优劣，应该找一个先前没有引入该体制但后来逐渐引进该体制并且在引进上存在地区差异的国家，见Nancy Qian等人一系列研究，其实证比这本书也做的扎实。或者：直接用跨国实证，那么阿西莫格鲁等人在JPE的比这本书实证严谨多了的研究已经告诉我们答案了: Democracy does cause growth.

[Democracy for Realists_ 下载链接1](#)

书评

原文发表于公共平台“敦伦政经”：<https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/rlbJdILGTLKqnb7xDSaglg?文/小墙>

回溯性投票是民主选举影响政策的重要方式。政治理论家认为，相对于前瞻式地辨别潜在领导人的质量，选民更善于回溯式地判断本届政府在任期内的执政表现，并据此投票决定是否让在...

首发于 政见 CNPolitics.org

选举制度向来都被政治学家视作民主制度的核心。在许多学术著作中，“是否有相对公平和自由竞争的选举”被视作衡量一个国家是否民主的重要（乃至唯一）标准。

但是，选举制度本身有多民主呢？它能够反映民众利益吗？

选总统与掷硬币：传统理论的...

[Democracy for Realists_下载链接1_](#)