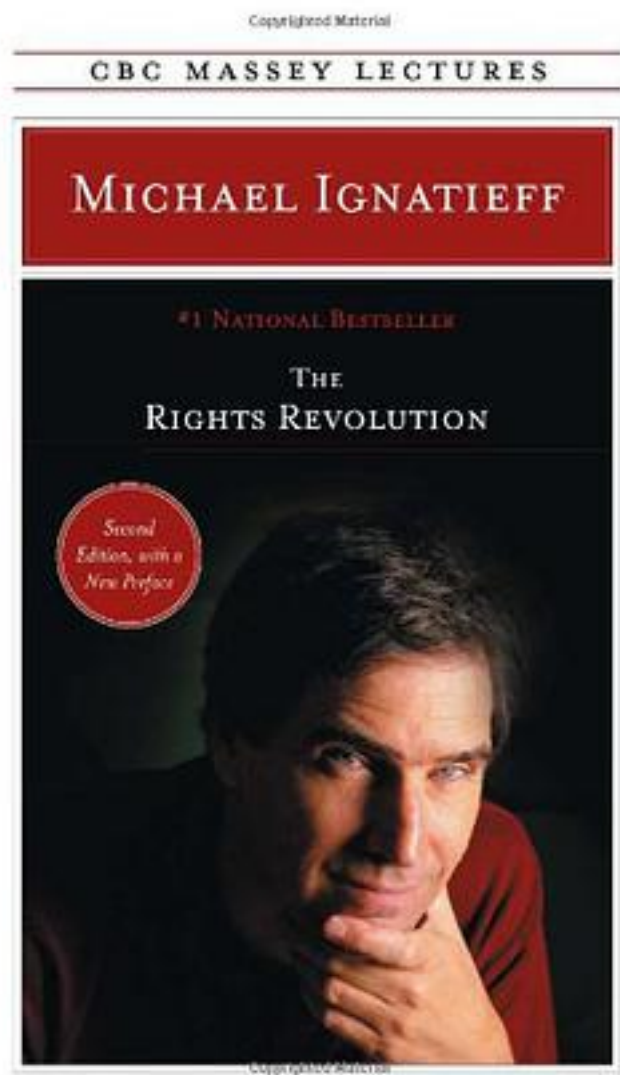


The Rights Revolution



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出版者:House of Anansi Press

出版时间:2007-8-28

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780887847622

Since the proclamation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, human rights have become the dominant language of the public good around the globe. Nowhere is this more apparent than in Canada. The long-standing fights for aboriginal rights, the linguistic heritage of French-speaking Canadians, and same-sex marriage have steered the country into a full-blown “rights revolution” — one that is being watched carefully around the world. Are group rights jeopardizing individual rights? When everyone asserts his or her rights, what happens to collective responsibility? Can families survive and prosper when each member has rights? Is rights language empowering individuals while weakening community? These essays, taken from Michael Ignatieff's famous Massey Lectures, addresses these questions and more, arguing passionately for the Canadian approach to rights that emphasizes deliberation rather than confrontation, compromise rather than violence. In a new afterword, the author explores Canada's political achievements and distinctive stance on rights, and offers penetrating commentary on more recent world events.

作者介绍:

Michael Ignatieff is a Canadian writer and historian. His books include *Scar Tissue* (which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize), *The Russian Album*, *Blood and Belonging*, *The Warrior's Honour*, *The Lesser Evil: Political Ethics in an Age of Terror*, and *The Rights Revolution*. His work has been translated into many languages and awarded numerous prizes and awards. Before being elected as a Liberal Member of Parliament in 2006, he was Professor of Human Rights and Director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University. Until May 2011 Ignatieff was leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. He lives in Toronto, where he teaches at the University of Toronto.

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