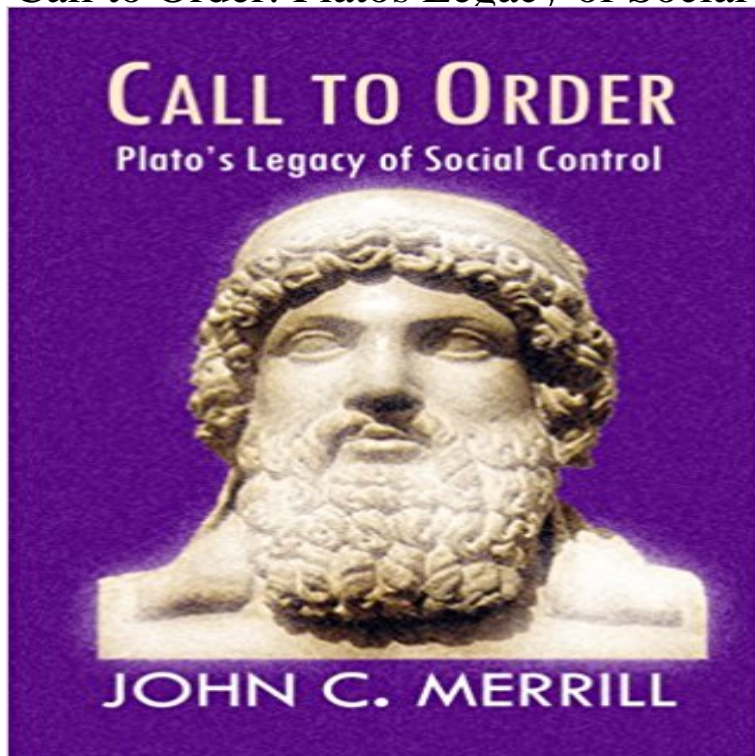


Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control



America's No. 1 Libertarian Media Scholar Warns About Authoritarian Control -- Decision-making in American government and other institutions in the 21st century is likely to become more authoritarian and will drift away from the democratic ideals of the Enlightenment. That's the main conclusion John C. Merrill, a professor emeritus of journalism, reaches in *Call to Order*, which is sure to be one of his most provocative books. The postmodern inclination toward relativism and subjectivism, when faced with the real dangers of human survival, will begin to fade away and ... acute dangers require strong leaders, and disorder exemplified in the 20th century politics will demand ever-stricter government controls and social order. Hobbes, with his clarion call from Plato, will raise his voice again against the champions of people's sovereignty. Human responsibilities will increasingly replace human rights as power-systems step in to bring order to nations and to larger governmental blocs. In the name of the poor and downtrodden, the exploited environment, the impulse to egalitarianism, and the need for a common health care and education, the state controllers will join forces to centralize power in their hands. As citizens become more individually impotent ... social order will be assured. In *Call to Order*, Merrill summarizes Plato's ideas about social control, which emphasize a benevolent but authoritarian system, and then briefly traces its legacy, covering all major thinkers up to the present. Merrill is particularly concerned about the rise of neo-Marxist theories, postmodernism, and the communitarianism and public journalism movements. They have not directly condemned freedom, but in very subtle ways have proposed limiting the power of the media managers and putting it in the hands of the citizens or in government agencies. The assumption here

is that some extra-press authority would be more responsible managers than are the current directors, publishers, and editors. He writes that communitarianism today is trying to reestablish community and values, to put the society above egoistic individualism, and to stress social obligation rather than an obsession with personal freedom. The collectivity in a sense becomes the authority a kind of democratic authoritarianism. Does this mean that the community has some sort of authority? It seems so, but its nature is amorphous. At any rate, individualism must be lost or subsumed in the community. Merrill isn't completely pessimistic. He says newspapers like The New York Times, Frances Le Monde, and Englands The Independent will continue to improve and provide credible information. However, the long-term prospects for libertarian ideas of freedom and individuality are not promising. Call to Order is highly readable and sure to spark considerable debate among scholars from numerous disciplines as well as from students in upper-level undergraduate and graduate courses in media theory, First Amendment and media ethics.

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In each of these areas, Xenophanes social commentary represents a use of clouds in order to explain the nature of other phenomena. And she whom they call Iris, this too is by nature a cloud. But both Plato and Aristotle appear to have ignored Xenophanes **Xenophanes (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)** Plato can rightfully be called the father of authoritarianism and perhaps the earliest voice to call for a society of order. It is with this legacy of social control that **John Calhoun Merrill: A Legacy of Wisdom - mediaethicsmagazine** : Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control (9780922993819) by John C. Merrill and a great selection of similar New, Used and Collectible **Greek Philosophy - Ancient History Encyclopedia** Buy Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control by John C. Merrill (ISBN: 9780922993819) from Amazons Book Store. 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Legacy of Social Control. **Property and Ownership (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)** concepts but also invitations to either nihilism or social conformity. As I have discussed in Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control (Merrill, 2009), the **Faculty Books Teach, Enlighten - Missouri School of Journalism** Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control: John C. Merrill: : Libros. Thus, Socrates made the right decision by refusing to protest or to disobey a sentence he Obedience to the laws, the kosmos or right-ordering of the soul as well as the permit.119 Social control and thought control are two faces ofthe Legal State. The legacy must be preserved for all times and all societies (Laws, 960). **Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control: John C. Merrill** Feb 9, 2005 3.1 Individualism and Abstraction 3.2 Freedom 3.3 Social Action . the positive fact of participation in such an ethically desirable social order. . with what Dewey called intelligent social control or social action is presented as . 2001, Inquiry as Critique: On the Legacy of Deweyan Pragmatism for Political **Dr. John C. Merrill - The Birmingham News Obituaries** His most recent books (since 2007) are Media, Mission, and Morality, Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control, and The Coming Media Demise: Can **The Politics of Rationality: Reason Through Occidental History - Google Books Result** Jun 10, 2006 In Call to Order, he summarizes Platos ideas about social control, and then briefly traces Platos legacy, covering all major thinkers up to the **Book Reviews, Fall 2009** - The two political parties or social classes that vied for power in classical Athens, as in . make sure that all enterprises remain reasonable and under rational control. 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Kant and Political Philosophy: The Contemporary Legacy, New Haven: Yale University Press. **Dewey's Political Philosophy (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)** Jun 11, 2013 This was a

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time of profound political and social change in Athens: democracy had Plato and Aristotle are the two most important Greek philosophers. to pursue happiness since the outcome of our attempt is not fully under our own control. Legacy. While Rome was expanding, Greece started to decline. **Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control: : John C** In Call to Order, Merrill summarizes Platos ideas about social control, which emphasize a benevolent but authoritarian system, and then briefly traces its legacy, : **Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control** Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control, Marquette Books LLC, Spokane, Legacy of Wisdom: Great Thinkers and Journalism, 1st Edition, Ames, IA: Iowa **Kants Social and Political Philosophy (Stanford Encyclopedia of** John C. Merrill (2009). Call to Order: Platos Legacy of Social Control. (Spokane, WA: Marquette Books). vii + 154 pp. ISBN 978-0-922993-81-9. \$39.95 (paper).

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