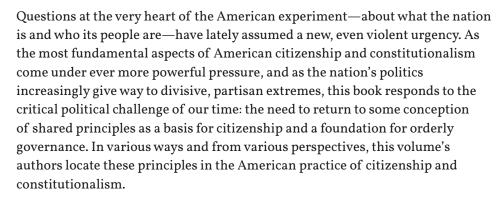


BOOK NEWS

Explores prospects for political community based on a shared notion of U.S. citizenship

American Citizenship and Constitutionalism in Principle and Practice

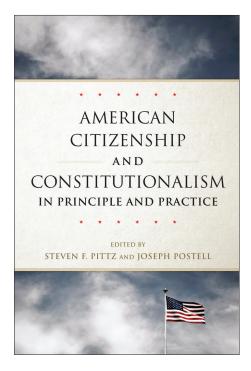
Edited by Steven Pittz and Joseph Postell



Chapters in the book's first part address critical questions about the nature of U.S. citizenship; subsequent essays propose a rethinking of traditional notions of citizenship in light of the new challenges facing the country. With historical and theoretical insights drawn from a variety of sources—ranging from Montesquieu, John Adams, and Henry Clay to the transcendentalists, Cherokee freedmen, and modern identitarians—American Citizenship and Constitutionalism in Principle and Practice makes the case that American constitutionalism, as shaped by several centuries of experience, can ground a shared notion of American citizenship. To achieve widespread agreement in our fractured polity, this notion may have to be based on "thin" political principles, the authors concede; yet this does not rule out the possibility of political community.

By articulating notions of citizenship and constitutionalism that are both achievable and capable of fostering solidarity and a common sense of purpose, this timely volume drafts a blueprint for the building of a genuinely shared political future.

Steven F. Pittz is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs and is the author of Recovering the Liberal Spirit: Nietzsche, Individuality, and Spiritual Freedom. Joseph Postell is Associate Professor of Politics at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan. He is the author of Bureaucracy in America: The Administrative State's Challenge to Constitutional Government and coeditor of Rediscovering Political Economy and Toward an American Conservatism: Constitutional Conservatism during the Progressive Era.



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JANUARY 2022

\$29.95 PAPERBACK 978-0-8061-7538-6 \$95.00 HARDCOVER 978-0-8061-7539-3

324 PAGES, 6 X 9

POLITICAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

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