

Freedom From Tyranny Of The Urgent

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celebrations of literary fictions as autonomous worlds appeared first in the renaissance and were occasioned paradoxically by their power to remedy the ills of history robert e stillman explores this paradox in relation to philip sidney s defence of poesy the first renaissance text to argue for the preeminence of poetry as an autonomous form of knowledge in the public domain offering a fresh interpretation of sidney s celebration of fiction making stillman locates the origins of his poetics inside a neglected historical community the intellectual elite associated with philip melanchthon leader of the german reformation after luther the so called philippists as a challenge to traditional anglo centric scholarship his study demonstrates how sidney s education by continental philippists enabled him to dignify fiction making as a compelling form of public discourse compelling because of its promotion of powerful new concepts about reading and writing its ecumenical piety and its political ambition to secure through natural law from universal ideas freedom from the tyranny of confessional warfare intellectually ambitious and wide ranging this study draws together various elements of contemporary scholarship in literary religious and political history in order to afford a broader understanding of the defence and the cultural context inside which sidney produced both his poetry and his poetics

in 1993 the world celebrated the 2500th anniversary of the birth of democracy in ancient athens whose polis or citizen state is often viewed as the model ancient greek state in an age when democracy has apparently triumphed following the collapse of communism in eastern europe we tend to forget that the democratic citizen state was only one of many forms of political community in greek antiquity this volume originally a seminar series at the universities of leeds and manchester aims to redress the balance eighteen essays by established and younger historians examine alternative political systems and ideologies oligarchies monarchies mixed constitutions along with diverse forms of communal and regional associations such as ethnoi amphiktyonies and confederacies the papers which span the length and breadth of the hellenic world from the balkans and anatolia to magna graecia and north africa highlight the immense political flexibility and diversity of ancient greek civilization

all over the world people talk about god and argue endlessly about what god said and what if anything we should do about it do they know what are they talking about do they ever seriously consider what it might look like or feel like if god actually spoke to you how could you tell if someone said god spoke to them whether they were deluded bluffing or high on drugs the reflections dialogues and arguments in this book address such questions often with humor sometimes provocatively as when the author suggests the ancient gods have returned to invade the institutions of our great religions or when two spirits william and james viewing the world from afar voice their doubt as to whether the human species will ever attain the pinnacles of cooperation reason beauty and love ancient texts from the mayan popol vuh through the bible to the chinese classics are invoked and the discoveries of modern science from anthropology to zoology are brought into play as the reader is gently led to an appreciation of the role of religious language in modern society

thoroughly updated and featuring 75 new entries this monumental four volume work illuminates past and present events associated with civil rights and civil liberties in the united states this revised and expanded four volume encyclopedia is unequalled for

both the depth and breadth of its coverage some 650 entries address the full range of civil rights and liberties in america from the colonial era to the present in addition to many updates of material from the first edition the work offers 75 new entries about recent issues and events among them dozens of topics that are the subject of close scrutiny and heated debate in america today there is coverage of controversial issues such as voter id laws the use of drones transgender issues immigration human rights and government surveillance there is also expanded coverage of women s rights gay rights gay marriage and native american rights entries are enhanced by 42 primary documents that have shaped modern understanding of the extent and limitations of civil liberties in the united states including landmark statutes speeches essays court decisions and founding documents of influential civil rights organizations designed as an up to date reference for students scholars and others interested in the expansive array of topics covered the work will broaden readers understanding of and appreciation for the people and events that secured civil rights guarantees and concepts in this country at the same time it will help readers better grasp the reasoning behind and ramifications of 21st century developments like changing applications of miranda rights and government access to private internet data maintaining an impartial stance throughout the entries objectively explain the varied perspectives on these hot button issues allowing readers to draw their own conclusions

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