

the problem of political authority

The Problem of Political Authority: Understanding Power, Legitimacy, and Consent

the problem of political authority is a fundamental issue that has preoccupied philosophers, political theorists, and citizens alike for centuries. At its core, it grapples with one vital question: why should individuals obey political leaders or governments? This inquiry delves deep into the nature of power, legitimacy, and the relationship between rulers and the ruled. Political authority is not just about who holds power but why that power is accepted, challenged, or resisted. Exploring this problem reveals much about the foundations of modern states, democratic governance, and even ongoing debates about civil disobedience and political legitimacy.

What Is Political Authority?

Political authority refers to the recognized right of a governing body or individual to make laws, enforce rules, and command obedience within a political community. It is distinct from mere power or coercion because it carries an element of legitimacy — the governed not only comply out of fear but often accept the authority as rightful or justified.

Authority vs. Power

It's crucial to differentiate political authority from power. Power can be exercised through force or coercion without legitimacy, whereas authority implies a moral or legal right to rule. For example, a dictator may wield power through oppression, but their authority is often contested. Conversely, elected officials in democratic states possess authority granted through consent, even if their power is sometimes limited or checked by institutions.

Why Is Political Authority a Problem?

The problem arises when questioning why individuals should obey laws or rulers, especially if they disagree with them. What justifies the existence of a state's monopoly on violence or its ability to impose taxes? Without a clear answer, political authority risks being seen as arbitrary or oppressive. This problem challenges the very foundation of political order, demanding theories that explain legitimacy and consent.

Philosophical Perspectives on Political Authority

Over the centuries, thinkers have wrestled with the problem of political authority, offering various theories to explain why political power should be accepted.

Social Contract Theory

One of the most influential frameworks is the social contract, famously articulated by philosophers like Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau. According to this view, individuals consent, either explicitly or tacitly, to surrender some freedoms to a ruler or government in exchange for protection and social order.

- **Hobbes** saw the social contract as necessary to escape a “state of nature” characterized by chaos and conflict. Political authority arises from the need to create a sovereign with absolute power to ensure peace.
- **Locke** emphasized natural rights and argued that political authority is legitimate only as long as it protects life, liberty, and property. When governments fail, citizens retain the right to resist.
- **Rousseau** introduced the idea of the “general will,” suggesting that political authority is valid when it reflects the collective interest of the people.

Social contract theory tackles the problem of political authority by rooting legitimacy in consent, but it also raises questions about the nature and extent of that consent.

Consent and Its Limits

One challenge in social contract theory is determining what counts as genuine consent. Do citizens truly consent by living in a country and obeying laws? Or is explicit agreement necessary? Many critics argue that most people never explicitly agree to be governed, making political authority seem imposed rather than voluntarily accepted.

Divine Right and Traditional Authority

Before modern theories, political authority was often justified by divine right or tradition. Monarchs claimed their right to rule was granted by God, and obedience was a religious duty. Traditional authority also relies on customs and long-standing practices to legitimize power.

While these justifications have lost much influence in contemporary politics, they highlight how political authority can be derived from sources other than rational consent, complicating the problem further.

Challenges to Political Authority in the Modern World

The problem of political authority remains highly relevant today, especially as societies become more diverse and interconnected.

Legitimacy in Democratic Systems

Democracy attempts to solve the problem of political authority by basing legitimacy on popular sovereignty and regular elections. The idea is that citizens choose their leaders and thus grant them authority. However, even in democracies, questions persist:

- How much authority should elected officials have?
- What happens when a government acts against the will of some citizens?
- Does mere participation in elections equate to ongoing consent?

These challenges mean that legitimacy is not guaranteed simply by democratic procedures; it must be continually earned and respected.

Authority and Civil Disobedience

The problem of political authority also surfaces in discussions about civil disobedience. When is it justified to disobey laws? Figures like Martin Luther King Jr. argued that unjust laws lack true authority and that moral duty may require resistance. This perspective shows that authority is not absolute and can be contested on ethical grounds.

Globalization and Authority Beyond the Nation-State

In an increasingly globalized world, political authority faces new tests. Supranational bodies like the United Nations or the European Union exercise authority that transcends national borders, raising questions about legitimacy and consent on a global scale. Citizens often feel disconnected from these institutions, intensifying the problem of political authority outside traditional state frameworks.

The Role of Power, Coercion, and Consent

Understanding political authority also means examining the interplay between power, coercion, and consent.

When Does Coercion Become Legitimate Authority?

Governments often rely on laws backed by the threat of punishment, which is a form of coercion. The challenge is distinguishing between mere coercion and legitimate authority. Legitimate authority is generally accepted because it aligns with shared values, laws are just, and rulers are accountable.

Building Consent in Diverse Societies

In pluralistic societies, building consensus around political authority is complex. Governments must balance competing interests and identities, ensuring that authority reflects fairness and inclusivity. Transparency, rule of law, and protection of rights help foster genuine consent.

Implications for Citizens and Society

Reflecting on the problem of political authority is not just an academic exercise; it affects how individuals relate to their governments and participate in civic life.

Active Citizenship and Political Engagement

Recognizing the conditional nature of political authority encourages active participation. Citizens who understand the basis of authority are better equipped to hold leaders accountable, advocate for justice, and engage in meaningful political dialogue.

Vigilance Against Abuse of Authority

The problem of political authority reminds us to remain vigilant against abuses of power. Legitimate authority can be undermined by corruption, oppression, and disregard for rights, leading to social unrest and loss of trust.

Encouraging Political Education

To address these challenges, political education is crucial. Teaching individuals about the sources and limits of political authority empowers them to make informed decisions and contribute to healthier democracies.

In pondering the problem of political authority, we confront the delicate balance between order and freedom, power and legitimacy. It's a dynamic tension that shapes the political landscape and influences how societies evolve. Understanding this problem helps us appreciate the complexities of governance and the ongoing quest to create just and effective political systems.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the core issue addressed by the problem of political authority?

The core issue is whether and why political authorities have the legitimate right to govern and enforce laws over individuals, and what justifies obedience to such authority.

How do social contract theories attempt to solve the problem of political authority?

Social contract theories propose that political authority is justified through an implicit or explicit agreement among individuals to form a society and accept certain rules and institutions for mutual benefit and order.

What role does consent play in legitimizing political authority?

Consent, whether explicit or tacit, is often argued to be essential for legitimizing political authority, meaning individuals agree to be governed and recognize the authority's right to enforce laws.

How do anarchist perspectives challenge the problem of political authority?

Anarchists reject the legitimacy of political authority altogether, arguing that no state or governing body has a rightful claim to power over individuals and that society can function without hierarchical authority.

What is the difference between de jure and de facto political authority?

De jure authority refers to legitimate, lawful authority recognized by legal and moral standards, while de facto authority is authority exercised in practice, regardless of its legitimacy or legality.

How do theories of political authority address the issue of coercion?

Theories of political authority examine whether the use of coercion by the state is justified, typically arguing that coercion is permissible only if it serves a legitimate purpose like maintaining order or protecting rights.

Why is the problem of political authority relevant in contemporary democratic societies?

It remains relevant because questions about the legitimacy of government actions, citizen compliance, and the balance between authority and individual freedoms continue to shape

political debates and policy-making.

Additional Resources

The Problem of Political Authority: An In-Depth Examination

the problem of political authority stands as a fundamental challenge in political philosophy and governance, shaping the structures and legitimacy of power worldwide. At its core, it questions the justification and limits of the power exercised by governments and political institutions over individuals and societies. This issue is not merely theoretical; it underpins the functioning of democracies, autocracies, and everything in between, influencing how laws are made, enforced, and accepted. Understanding the complexities behind political authority requires delving into its philosophical roots, practical implications, and the ongoing debates surrounding legitimacy, coercion, and consent.

Understanding Political Authority

Political authority is the recognized right of a governing body to impose rules and make decisions that affect a community or state. Unlike mere power, which can be exercised through force or coercion without legitimacy, political authority implies a form of accepted or justified power. The problem arises when questioning why certain authorities deserve obedience and others do not, especially since political authority often involves limiting individual freedoms for collective goals.

Historically, philosophers such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau provided foundational frameworks to address this problem. Hobbes, for instance, argued that individuals consent to an absolute sovereign to escape the chaos of the “state of nature.” Locke, in contrast, emphasized natural rights and the need for government to secure life, liberty, and property, suggesting authority remains conditional on the protection of these rights. Rousseau introduced the concept of the “general will,” proposing that legitimate authority arises from the collective agreement of the people.

The Legitimacy of Authority

One of the central issues in the problem of political authority is legitimacy—the moral and legal justification for exercising power. Without legitimacy, authority risks being perceived as illegitimate coercion or tyranny. Legitimacy can stem from different sources:

Consent of the Governed

Consent is a cornerstone in democratic societies, where authority is derived from the will of the people, often expressed through voting and representation. However, the nature of consent is complex. Is tacit acceptance sufficient, or must explicit agreement be continually

reaffirmed? Critics argue that many citizens comply due to necessity or lack of alternatives rather than genuine consent, raising questions about the authenticity of political authority.

Rule of Law

The rule of law ensures that political authority operates within a framework of established laws rather than arbitrary decisions. This principle helps constrain power and protect rights, reinforcing legitimacy. However, challenges arise when laws themselves are unjust or when legal frameworks are manipulated to entrench authority rather than serve the public interest.

Effectiveness and Stability

Some political theorists suggest that authority's legitimacy partly depends on its ability to maintain social order and provide public goods. From this perspective, a government that sustains peace, security, and economic prosperity gains a practical form of authority, even if its origins are controversial. This pragmatic angle often clashes with normative views that emphasize moral justification over outcomes.

Challenges in Contemporary Political Authority

In the modern era, the problem of political authority faces new dimensions fueled by globalization, technological advances, and shifting societal values.

Globalization and Sovereignty

Nation-states historically have been the primary loci of political authority. However, globalization complicates this model, as supranational institutions, multinational corporations, and international law dilute traditional sovereignty. Questions arise about the legitimacy of authority exercised beyond national borders and how individuals relate to these diffuse power structures.

Technology and Surveillance

The rise of digital technologies introduces novel dilemmas about authority, privacy, and control. Governments increasingly deploy surveillance tools to maintain security, but such measures often provoke debates about overreach and the erosion of civil liberties. The problem of political authority here revolves around balancing effective governance with respecting individual rights in a digital age.

Populism and Political Polarization

Recent trends toward populism and political polarization reflect deep skepticism about established authorities. Populist movements often challenge traditional elites, claiming to represent “the people” against corrupt or disconnected institutions. While this can reinvigorate democratic participation, it also risks undermining the stability and legitimacy of political authority by fostering division and mistrust.

Philosophical Perspectives and Theoretical Debates

The problem of political authority remains a vibrant field of philosophical inquiry, with ongoing debates about the nature and scope of legitimate power.

Social Contract Theory

Social contract theory continues to be influential, positing that political authority arises from an implicit or explicit agreement among individuals to form a society. Yet, critics question whether such contracts ever truly exist or whether they are idealized constructs that fail to capture real social complexities.

Anarchism and Authority Rejection

At the opposite end of the spectrum, anarchist thought rejects political authority altogether, arguing that all hierarchical power is inherently oppressive. Anarchists advocate for decentralized, voluntary associations as alternatives to state authority, challenging mainstream assumptions about legitimacy and governance.

Democratic Authority vs. Authoritarianism

The tension between democratic authority, based on participation and accountability, and authoritarian regimes, characterized by concentrated power, highlights the practical stakes of the problem. While authoritarianism can bring efficiency and stability, it often does so at the cost of individual freedoms, raising enduring questions about the ethical limits of political authority.

Implications for Governance and Society

The problem of political authority is not merely academic; it has tangible impacts on how

societies organize themselves, resolve conflicts, and pursue justice. Weak or contested authority can lead to instability, civil unrest, or failed states. Conversely, unquestioned authority risks authoritarianism and abuses of power.

Modern governance models increasingly seek to negotiate this balance through mechanisms such as constitutional checks and balances, judicial review, and participatory democracy. Transparency, accountability, and the protection of human rights are emphasized to sustain legitimacy and public trust.

- **Transparency:** Open governance reduces corruption and enhances legitimacy.
- **Accountability:** Mechanisms to hold leaders responsible prevent abuses of authority.
- **Participation:** Inclusive political processes ensure that authority reflects the populace's will.

In addition, civil society organizations and independent media play critical roles in scrutinizing political authority and advocating for reforms.

The persistent nature of the problem of political authority reflects humanity's ongoing struggle to reconcile order and freedom, power and consent. As societies evolve, so too will the debates and structures surrounding political authority, necessitating continual vigilance and adaptation.

[The Problem Of Political Authority](#)

the problem of political authority: The Problem of Political Authority Michael Huemer, 2012-10-29 The state is often ascribed a special sort of authority, one that obliges citizens to obey its commands and entitles the state to enforce those commands through threats of violence. This book argues that this notion is a moral illusion: no one has ever possessed that sort of authority.

the problem of political authority: Policy Legitimacy, Science and Political Authority Michael Heazle, John Kane, 2015-10-05 Voters expect their elected representatives to pursue good policy and presume this will be securely founded on the best available knowledge. Yet when representatives emphasize their reliance on expert knowledge, they seem to defer to people whose authority derives, not politically from the sovereign people, but from the presumed objective status of their disciplinary bases. This book examines the tensions between political authority and expert authority in the formation of public policy in liberal democracies. It aims to illustrate and better understand the nature of these tensions rather than to argue specific ways of resolving them. The various chapters explore the complexity of interaction between the two forms of authority in different policy domains in order to identify both common elements and differences. The policy domains covered include: climate geoengineering discourses; environmental health; biotechnology; nuclear power; whaling; economic management; and the use of force. This volume will appeal to researchers and to convenors of post-graduate courses in the fields of policy studies, foreign policy decision-making, political science, environmental studies, democratic system studies, and science policy studies.

the problem of political authority: The Authority of Virtue Tristan J. Rogers, 2020-11-09 This

book provides a unified account of the connection between justice and the good life. It argues that the virtues of character require institutions, while good institutions enable persons to live together virtuously. Although virtue ethics and political philosophy are rich and sophisticated philosophical traditions, there has been an unfortunate divergence, in theory and practice, between the virtues of character and the virtues of institutions. This book has two primary purposes. First, it reorients political philosophy around the concept of the good life. To do so, the author addresses the problem of political authority from a virtue ethics perspective. He also considers whether a political theory oriented around the good life is compatible with Rawls's notion of reasonable pluralism. Second, the book explains the relationship between the virtues of institutions and the virtues of character. The author shows how institutions support the development and exercise of the virtues of character, while examining specific other-regarding virtues such as justice and friendship. *The Authority of Virtue* will appeal to scholars and advanced students working in virtue ethics, social and political philosophy, ancient philosophy, and political theory.

the problem of political authority: *Political Authority* Peter Winch, 2025-07-15 Peter Winch (1926-1997) was one of the most important philosophers of his generation. Although best known for his work in social science and the interpretation of Ludwig Wittgenstein, he had a long-standing interest in ethics and political philosophy and was writing a book on political philosophy at the time of his death. This volume collects together Winch's previously unpublished manuscripts on political philosophy, alongside an editorial introduction which outlines the development of his thought over the course of his life. It demonstrates the originality and enduring relevance of Winch's philosophical work to perennial issues concerning the nature and justification of political authority.

the problem of political authority: *Political Authority and Obligation in Aristotle* Andres Rosler, 2005-03-03 to follow

the problem of political authority: *Is Political Authority an Illusion?* Michael Huemer, Daniel Layman, 2021-11-09 What gives some people the right to issue commands to everyone else and force everyone else to obey them? And why should people obey the commands of those with political power? These two key questions are the heart of the issue of political authority, and, in this volume, two philosophers debate the answers. Michael Huemer argues that political authority is an illusion and that no one is entitled to rule over anyone. He discusses and rebuts the major theories supporting political authority's rightfulness: implicit social contract theory, hypothetical contract theories, democratic theories of authority, and utilitarian theories. Daniel Layman argues that democratic governments have authority because they are needed to protect our rights and because they are accountable to the people. Each author writes two replies directly addressing the arguments and ideas of the other. Key Features Covers a key foundational problem of political philosophy: the authority of government. Debate format ensures a full hearing of both sides. A Glossary includes key concepts in political philosophy related to the issue of authority. Annotated Further Reading sections point students to additional resources. Clear, concrete examples and arguments help students clearly see both sides of the argument. A Foreword by Matt Zwolinski describes a broader context for political authority and then traces the key points and turns in the authors' debate.

the problem of political authority: *Summary of Michael Huemer's The Problem of Political Authority* Everest Media,, 2022-05-04T22:59:00Z Please note: This is a companion version & not the original book. Sample Book Insights: #1 The story of the villager who kidnapped and locked up vandals in his basement to prevent crime is a short political story that illustrates the difference between a government and a non-government person. Most people support the government's imprisonment of criminals, feel obligated to pay their taxes, and consider punishment of tax evaders both desirable and within the rights of the state. #2 We have a double standard when it comes to the ethical acceptability of government actions versus those of nongovernmental agents. We consider it ethical for governments to do things that we would consider unethical if done by nongovernmental agents. #3 The distinction between political legitimacy and political obligation is what I call political authority. Political authority is the moral property in virtue of which

governments may coerce people in certain ways not permitted to anyone else and in which citizens must obey their governments even when they would not be obligated to obey anyone else. #4 Those who believe in political authority do not believe that all governments have it. They may believe that certain governments have a limited sphere of authority.

the problem of political authority: Legal Authority Beyond the State Patrick Capps, Henrik Palmer Olsen, 2018-03 These specially commissioned essays by prominent lawyers and philosophers analyse a range of approaches to legal authority beyond the state.

the problem of political authority: *The Grounds of Political Legitimacy* Fabienne Peter, 2023 Fabienne Peter argues that political legitimacy doesn't just depend on respect for the will of the citizens. *The Grounds of Political Legitimacy* compares democratic and non-democratic conceptions of legitimacy and develops a novel hybrid conception of the grounds of political legitimacy.

the problem of political authority: THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL AUTHORITY: A DUTY BASED THEORY OF THE JUSTIFICATION OF POLITICAL AUTHORITY. ANN KATHERINE MINCKLER MARSHALL, 1987 public interest, helped by the basic insight of John Dewey's conception of the public. (Abstract shortened with permission of author.)

the problem of political authority: The Routledge Handbook of Anarchy and Anarchist Thought Gary Chartier, Chad Van Schoelandt, 2020-12-30 This Handbook offers an authoritative, up-to-date introduction to the rich scholarly conversation about anarchy—about the possibility, dynamics, and appeal of social order without the state. Drawing on resources from philosophy, economics, law, history, politics, and religious studies, it is designed to deepen understanding of anarchy and the development of anarchist ideas at a time when those ideas have attracted increasing attention. The popular identification of anarchy with chaos makes sophisticated interpretations—which recognize anarchy as a kind of social order rather than an alternative to it—especially interesting. Strong, centralized governments have struggled to quell popular frustration even as doubts have continued to percolate about their legitimacy and long-term financial stability. Since the emergence of the modern state, concerns like these have driven scholars to wonder whether societies could flourish while abandoning monopolistic governance entirely. Standard treatments of political philosophy frequently assume the justifiability and desirability of states, focusing on such questions as, What is the best kind of state? and What laws and policies should states adopt?, without considering whether it is just or prudent for states to do anything at all. This Handbook encourages engagement with a provocative alternative that casts more conventional views in stark relief. Its 30 chapters, written specifically for this volume by an international team of leading scholars, are organized into four main parts: I. Concept and Significance II. Figures and Traditions III. Legitimacy and Order IV. Critique and Alternatives In addition, a comprehensive index makes the volume easy to navigate and an annotated bibliography points readers to the most promising avenues of future research.

the problem of political authority: SUMMARY OF "THE CONCEPT OF POLITICAL POWER IN MAX WEBER'S WORK" BY EMILIA CASTORINA MAURICIO ENRIQUE FAU, 2023-05-04 We have summarized here the essential of this book by the author. THE CONCEPT OF POLITICAL POWER IN MAX WEBER'S WORK Presentation Max WEBER is a CLASSIC SOCIOLOGY. This is understood in the sense that his work continues to arouse controversy and open suggestions about the present and future of human society. IDEOLOGICALLY, WEBER IS A DISENCHANTED LIBERAL He is to say a thinker who shares the liberal purposes but who warns that part of those purposes has led to the production of facts totally opposed to the ends of individual freedom. The faith in a society self-regulated by the market fell in the face of the attacks of a less happy and more complex reality. Weber chooses to remain a liberal but flatly dismisses the more trivial and ideological forms of this ideology.

the problem of political authority: Oxford Studies in Philosophy of Law: Volume 2 Leslie Green, Brian Leiter, 2013-08-29 Oxford Studies in the Philosophy of Law is an annual forum for new philosophical work on law. The essays range widely over general jurisprudence (the nature of law, adjudication, and legal reasoning), philosophical foundations of specific areas of law (from criminal

to international law), and other philosophical topics relating to legal theory.

the problem of political authority: *Legal Evolution and Political Authority in Indonesia* Daniel Lev, 2021-10-25 For nearly forty years, following the collapse of Indonesia's parliamentary system, Indonesia's once independent legal institutions were transformed into dedicated instruments of a powerful elite and allowed to sink into a deep mire of corruption and malfeasance. Legal process was devastated far beyond the capacity of any simple effort at reconstruction by post-Suharto governments. Indonesia's problems in this respect surpass those of other countries in the region compelled by economic crisis to re-examine institutional structures. The works reprinted in this collection constitute a case study over time of legal decay and the rise of reform interests in one of the most complex countries in the world. Written during a period of more than thirty years, beginning in the early 1960s, the essays trace several themes in the legal history of modern Indonesia. They make clear, however, that legal history is seldom that alone, but rather, like law itself, is largely derivative, fundamentally imbedded in the interest, ideas, purposes, and contentions of local political, social, and economic power.

the problem of political authority: The Emergence of Private Authority in Global Governance Rodney Bruce Hall, Thomas J. Biersteker, 2002-12-12 The emergence of private authority has become increasingly a feature of the post-Cold War world. In *The Emergence of Private Authority in Global Governance*, leading scholars explore the sources, practices and implications of this erosion of the power of the state. They analyse and compare actors as diverse as financial institutions, multinational corporations, religious terrorists and organised criminals, and assess the potential for reversal of the situation. The themes of the book relate directly to debates concerning globalization and the role of international law, and will be of interest to scholars and students of international relations, politics, sociology and law.

the problem of political authority: *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics*, 2012-01-10 The *Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics*, Second Edition, Four Volume Set addresses both the physiological and the psychological aspects of human behavior. Carefully crafted, well written, and thoroughly indexed, the encyclopedia helps users - whether they are students just beginning formal study of the broad field or specialists in a branch of psychology - understand the field and how and why humans behave as we do. The work is an all-encompassing reference providing a comprehensive and definitive review of the field. A broad and inclusive table of contents ensures detailed investigation of historical and theoretical material as well as in-depth analysis of current issues. Several disciplines may be involved in applied ethics: one branch of applied ethics, for example, bioethics, is commonly explicated in terms of ethical, legal, social, and philosophical issues. Editor-in-Chief Ruth Chadwick has put together a group of leading contributors ranging from philosophers to practitioners in the particular fields in question, to academics from disciplines such as law and economics. The 376 chapters are divided into 4 volumes, each chapter falling into a subject category including Applied Ethics; Bioethics; Computers and Information Management; Economics/Business; Environmental Ethics; Ethics and Politics; Legal; Medical Ethics; Philosophy/Theories; Social; and Social/Media. Concise entries (ten pages on average) provide foundational knowledge of the field. Each article will feature suggested readings pointing readers to additional sources for more information, a list of related websites, a 5-10 word glossary and a definition paragraph, and cross-references to related articles in the encyclopedia. Newly expanded editorial board and a host of international contributors from the US, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. The 376 chapters are divided into 4 volumes, each chapter falling into a subject category including Applied Ethics; Bioethics; Computers and Information Management; Economics/Business; Environmental Ethics; Ethics and Politics; Legal; Medical Ethics; Philosophy/Theories; Social; and Social/Media.

the problem of political authority: Political Authority and Provincial Identity in Thailand Yoshinori Nishizaki, 2018-08-06 The powerful Thai politician Banharn Silpa-archa has been disparaged as a corrupt operator who for years channeled excessive state funds into developing his own rural province. This book reinterprets Banharn's career and offers a detailed

portrait of the voters who support him. Relying on extensive interviews, the author shows how Banharm's constituents have developed a strong provincial identity based on their pride in his advancement of their province, Suphanburi, which many now call Banharm-buri, the place of Banharm. Yoshinori Nishizaki's analysis challenges simplistic perceptions of rural Thai voters and raises vital questions about contemporary democracy in Thailand. Yoshinori Nishizaki's close and thorough examination of the numerous public construction projects sponsored and even personally funded by Banharm clearly illustrates this politician's canny abilities and tireless, meticulous oversight of his domain. Banharm's constituents are aware that Suphanburi was long considered a backward province by other Thais—notably the Bangkok elite. Suphanburians hold the neglectful central government responsible for their province's former sorry condition and humiliating reputation. Banharm has successfully identified himself as the antithesis to the inefficient central state by promoting rapid development and advertising his own role in that development through well-publicized donations, public ceremonies, and visits to the sites of new buildings and highways. Much standard literature on rural politics and society in Thailand and other democratizing countries in Southeast Asia would categorize this politician as a typical strongman, the boss of a semiviolent patronage network that squeezes votes out of the people. That standard analysis would utterly fail to recognize and understand the grassroots realities of Suphanburi that Nishizaki has captured in his study. This compassionate, well-grounded analysis challenges simplistic perceptions of rural Thai voters and raises vital questions about contemporary democracy in Thailand.

the problem of political authority: *Political Theory and the Displacement of Politics* Bonnie Honig, 2023-03-15 *Political Theory and the Displacement of Politics*, originally published in 1993, has been called a founding text of agonism, which treats political contestation not as a regrettably necessary way to correct political imperfections but as a necessary, sometimes joyful feature of democratic life. As Bonnie Honig writes in the preface to this thirtieth anniversary edition, the agonism that informs this book is democratic: it is committed to shared spaces and relational practices in which diverse groups and individuals set and reset the terms of living together as equals. By rethinking the established relation between politics and political theory, Honig argues that political theorists of opposing positions often treat political theory less as an exploration of politics than as a series of devices for its displacement. She characterizes Kant, Rawls, and Sandel as virtue theorists of politics, arguing that they rely on principles of right, rationality, community, and law to protect their political theories from the conflict and uncertainty of political reality. Drawing on Nietzsche and Arendt as well as Machiavelli and Derrida, Honig instead explores an alternative politics of virtù, which treats the disruptions of political order as valued sites of democratic freedom and individuality.

the problem of political authority: *The Routledge Companion to Social and Political Philosophy* Gerald F. Gaus, Fred D'Agostino, 2013 This comprehensive work provides an up-to-date survey of social and political philosophy, charting its history and key figures and movements, and addressing enduring questions as well as contemporary research.

the problem of political authority: *Authority* Joseph Raz, 1990-12 Authority is one of the key issues in political studies, for the question of by what right one person or several persons govern others is at the very root of political activity. In selecting key readings for this volume Joseph Raz concerns himself primarily with the moral aspect of political authority, choosing pieces that examine its justification, determine who is subject to it and who is entitled to hold it, and whether there are any general moral limits to it. The readings—by such modern political thinkers as Robert Paul Wolff, H. L. A. Hart, G. E. M. Anscombe, and Ronald Dworkin—examine the basic moral issues and provide an essential introduction to the debate about the nature of authority for all students of political theory.

Related to the problem of political authority

Mein Konto | PayPal DE Wie ändere ich die Anzeigesprache in meinem PayPal-Konto? Was ist der Unterschied zwischen Zahlungen an Freunde und Familie und Zahlungen für Waren und

Dienstleistungen?

Log in to your PayPal account Transfer money online in seconds with PayPal money transfer. All you need is an email address

Loggen Sie sich bei PayPal ein Transfer money online in seconds with PayPal money transfer. All you need is an email address

Mein Konto | PayPal AT Wie ändere ich die Anzeigesprache in meinem PayPal-Konto? Was ist der Unterschied zwischen Zahlungen an Freunde und Familie und Zahlungen für Waren und Dienstleistungen?

PayPal Konto | Digitale Mobile Wallet | PayPal DE Verwende dein PayPal-Konto zum Bezahlen, Geld senden und verwalten. Erstelle ein Händlerkonto für dein Unternehmen. Nutze mobiles Bezahlen und Ratenkauf

Melden Sie sich bei PayPal an | Privat- und Geschäftskonten Erstellen Sie Ihr PayPal-Konto für Privat- oder Geschäftszwecke. reSenden, empfangen und verwalten Sie Ihr Geld an einem Ort. Holen Sie sich die App oder melden Sie sich noch heute

Log in to your PayPal account Transfer money online in seconds with PayPal money transfer. All you need is an email address

Zahlungen und Abbuchungen | PayPal DE Wie kann ich meine physische PayPal Card an einem Geldautomaten nutzen? Was ist zu tun, wenn ich meine PayPal Card verliere oder wenn sie gestohlen bzw. beschädigt wird?

Send Money, Pay Online or Set Up a Merchant Account - PayPal Paypal Home. Shopping online shouldn't cost you peace of mind. Buy from millions of online stores without sharing your financial information

PayPal Konto | Digitale Mobile Wallet | PayPal DE Verwende dein PayPal-Konto, um zu bezahlen, Geld zu senden und zu verwalten. Oder erstelle dir ein Händlerkonto für dein Unternehmen. Und noch vieles mehr

Thrilla in Manila - Wikipedia Thrilla in Manila bezeichnet einen berühmten Boxkampf zwischen Muhammad Ali und Joe Frazier am 1. Oktober 1975 in Quezon City, heute ein Teil der Region Metro Manila, Philippinen

Der Sport-Tag: 50 Jahre "Thriller in Manila": "Einer der härtesten 2 hours ago Oktober 1975 geht der Kampf zwischen Joe Frazier und dem legendären Muhammed Ali als "Thriller in Manila" in die Box-Geschichte ein. Axel Schulz resümiert einen

Ali, Frazier und der ultraharte «Thrilla in Manila» 5 hours ago Vor 50 Jahren kam es auf den Philippinen zu einem legendären Boxkampf. Muhammad Ali und Joe Frazier duellierten sich

Der Zusammenhang von Boxen und Jazz - zum 50 7 hours ago Als „Thriller in Manila“ ist ein Boxkampf in die Geschichte eingegangen, der heute vor 50 Jahren stattgefunden hat. Am 1. Oktober 1975 haben in Manila Muhammad Ali und Joe

The Thrilla in Manila, 50 years on: How Ali and Frazier took 15 hours ago The “Thrilla in Manila” is not just about Muhammad Ali’s victory in his third and final fight with Joe Frazier, 50 years ago. In the months before the fight, Ali set a cruel agenda and,

„Thrilla in Manila“: Der beste Kampf aller Zeiten 1 day ago Vor 50 Jahren erlebte die Welt ein episches Duell mit Fäusten: Der „Thrilla in Manila“ zwischen Muhammad Ali und Joe Frazier gilt als der beste,

Boxen: Vor 50 Jahren triumphierte Muhammad Ali im legendären 12 hours ago Vor dem legendären Boxkampf hatte Ali den Gegner Joe Frazier aufs Übelste beleidigt. Das Duell in Manila veränderte die Beziehungen der beiden Amerikaner zueinander

Muhammad Ali schlägt 1975 im «Thrilla in Manila» Joe Frazier Der «Thrilla in Manila» zwischen Ali und Frazier wird zum Höhepunkt der Box-Geschichte 1. Oktober 1975: Sie hassten sich und sie verprügeln sich

Thrilla in Manila: The Brutal Showdown Between Ali and Frazier The "Thrilla in Manila," held on October 1, 1975, is widely regarded as one of the greatest heavyweight boxing matches in history. The Ali-Frazier rivalry was one of boxing's

The Thrilla in Manila, remembered: The brutal, bleak brilliance of 4 hours ago Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier's trilogy encounter in Manila in 1975 is the consensus greatest heavyweight title fight of all time. The darkness of what both men endured

Related to the problem of political authority

New Zealand Government Punishes Gun Owners for Their Political Beliefs (Yahoo11mon) A common—and persuasive—argument against gun registration is that those who comply just put themselves on a list to have their firearms stolen by government officials in the future. As if to emphasize

New Zealand Government Punishes Gun Owners for Their Political Beliefs (Yahoo11mon) A common—and persuasive—argument against gun registration is that those who comply just put themselves on a list to have their firearms stolen by government officials in the future. As if to emphasize

Related Articles

- [mcaa labor unit manual](#)
- [cut and paste addition worksheets](#)
- [health informatics physical therapy](#)

[Back to Home](#)