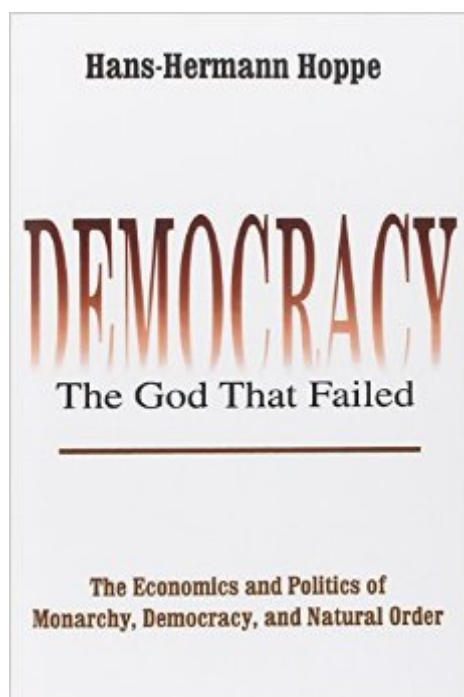


The book was found

# Democracy--The God That Failed: The Economics And Politics Of Monarchy, Democracy, And Natural Order (Perspectives On Democratic Practice)



## Synopsis

The core of this book is a systematic treatment of the historic transformation of the West from monarchy to democracy. Revisionist in nature, it reaches the conclusion that monarchy is a lesser evil than democracy, but outlines deficiencies in both. Its methodology is axiomatic-deductive, allowing the writer to derive economic and sociological theorems, and then apply them to interpret historical events. A compelling chapter on time preference describes the progress of civilization as lowering time preferences as capital structure is built, and explains how the interaction between people can lower time all around, with interesting parallels to the Ricardian Law of Association. By focusing on this transformation, the author is able to interpret many historical phenomena, such as rising levels of crime, degeneration of standards of conduct and morality, and the growth of the mega-state. In underscoring the deficiencies of both monarchy and democracy, the author demonstrates how these systems are both inferior to a natural order based on private-property. Hoppe deconstructs the classical liberal belief in the possibility of limited government and calls for an alignment of conservatism and libertarianism as natural allies with common goals. He defends the proper role of the production of defense as undertaken by insurance companies on a free market, and describes the emergence of private law among competing insurers. Having established a natural order as superior on utilitarian grounds, the author goes on to assess the prospects for achieving a natural order. Informed by his analysis of the deficiencies of social democracy, and armed with the social theory of legitimation, he foresees secession as the likely future of the US and Europe, resulting in a multitude of region and city-states. This book complements the author's previous work defending the ethics of private property and natural order. *Democracy: The God that Failed* will be of interest to scholars and students of history, political economy, and political philosophy.

## Book Information

Series: Perspectives on Democratic Practice

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Transaction Publishers; 1st edition (July 30, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0765808684

ISBN-13: 978-0765808684

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.7 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (71 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #66,665 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > History > Europe > Scandinavia](#) #42 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Political Ideologies](#) #70 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Political History](#)

## Customer Reviews

Jack Rain, a reviewer on another site, used the phrase above to describe this book, and I unhesitatingly appropriate it for my review because it is so dead-on accurate. This is a very, very good, and very, very important, book. It's also a strong argument for the author's elevation to the pantheon of pro-freedom writers and philosophers, alongside Mises, Rothbard, Spooner, de Jasay, and a select few others. I have to admit that I found the first two chapters, especially, to be tough reading, and had to work through them several times. The economic analysis in the sections on time preference, for example -- while the outline of the argument becomes clear soon enough -- need extra time for all the shadings and implications to fall into place. After that, though, the truly important work begins, as Hoppe is engaged in nothing less than (to use his own words from a slightly different context) "an ideological campaign of delegitimizing the idea and institution of democratic government." In so doing, he undertakes a two-pronged approach of both demonstrating the failures of democracy (failures that are part of the very nature of democracy, and therefore irreparable) and the superiority of "natural order" -- a condition known by many other names too, including anarcho-capitalism and individualist or free-market anarchism. Personally, I responded most strongly to Hoppe's argument that "conservatives today must be antistatist libertarians and, equally important, [that] libertarians must be conservatives" [p. 189]. In so arguing, Hoppe gives us a thorough and revealing deconstruction of modern "conservatism" (so-called), showing how many self-styled conservatives are in fact merely the right wing of social democracy.

Hans-Hermann Hoppe is a very important political economist and philosopher in the intellectual tradition of the Austrian School of Economics -- I would say he is without a doubt the most important anarchocapitalist thinker since Murray Rothbard. His book, *Democracy: The God That Failed*, is the most devastating and solid critique of democracy I have seen, and is essential reading for everyone in our new millennium. Democracy is conventionally regarded as the best form of government. Even most rigorous anti-statists such as Murray Rothbard (to whom Hoppe is intellectually indebted) looked upon democracy as an improvement over alternative systems of government. Professor Hoppe dissents with this view, averring that monarchy (ancien-regime-style)

is a 'better' system than democracy. However, this is not a defense of monarchy, for Hoppe sees any form of state as morally unjustifiable. Rather, Democracy: The God That Failed serves a twin purpose: firstly, to interpret history and account for the dramatic rise in exploitation observed in the democratic age. Secondly, Hoppe asserts the moral and economic superiority of a system he calls "natural order" -- a stateless society of private property anarchy. By what insight does Hoppe show that monarchy is the superior system? It is shockingly brilliant in its simplicity, yet the implications that follow are critical. What Hoppe states is this: A monarch is essentially the private owner of the government -- all exploited resources are *\*owned\** by him. (Perhaps the insightful reader will already be able to predict Hoppe's conclusion.) As such, he will work to maximize both current income and the total capital value of his estate. In effect, he owns the kingdom.

Dr. Hans-Herman Hoppe is a professor of economics and fellow at the Ludwig von Mises Institute. It is obvious from reading this work that his primary intellectual debt is to Ludwig von Mises and Murray Rothbard. Prof. Hoppe, following Rothbard, advocates anarcho-capitalism, or, as he calls it, "natural order." He is not a monarchist, but shows the many advantages of monarchy over democracy. As Prof. Hoppe tells us, both Rothbard and von Mises, although by no means supporting most of the changes in the twentieth century, held a generally favorable opinion of the change from monarchy to democracy. However, Prof. Hoppe shows that this transition was not at all favorable to the protection of civil rights and restricting the growth of government. In fact, just the opposite happened. Contemporaneous with this change, we have seen a decline in morals and individual responsibility. This is largely explained by Prof. Hoppe's fascinating discussion of time preference to democratic and monarchical governments. A monarchical government is more likely to enact policies similar to what an individual, unfettered by government, would do. Take for example immigration. A monarch, who in some sense "owns" the country, will establish an immigration policy that reflects his country's need for new citizens. He will ask what the immigrant can contribute to the economy, whether the person has good values, and whether he is likely to become a public charge. The democratic government will permit massive immigration, more concerned with social engineering and expanding the pool of voters who will support the welfare state. He also shows that, contrary to many supposed conservatives and libertarians, "free trade" doesn't require "free immigration."

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Democracy--The God That Failed: The Economics and Politics of Monarchy, Democracy, and Natural Order (Perspectives on Democratic Practice) DANIEL SILVA COMPLETE SERIES

READING ORDER: Gabriel Allon series in order, Michael Osbourne series in order, all omnibus editions, all stand-alone novels, and more! Mary Higgins Clark Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Alvirah and Willy books, Under Suspicion series, Stand-alone novels, Memoir, Children's ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 25) LEE CHILD COMPLETE SERIES READING ORDER: Jack Reacher series in chronological order, all short stories in order, non-fiction, and more! Wilbur Smith Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Ballantyne series, Courtney series, Ancient Egyptian series, Wilbur Smith Thrillers (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 22) J.A. Jance Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: J.P. Beaumont series, Joana Brady Mysteries series, Ali Reynolds series, Walker Family series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 13) W.E.B. Griffin Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Presidential Agent series, Badge of Honor series, The Corps series, Honor Bound series, Brotherhood ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 14) Anne McCaffrey Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Dragonriders of Pern series, Acorna series, Catteni sequence, Brainships, The Talent series, ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 21) Robert Ludlum Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Jason Bourne series, Covert-One series, Janson series, Stand-alone novels (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 15) Stephen King Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: The Dark Tower series, Shining series, Talisman series, The Green Mile series, stand-alone novels, ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 30) Dale Brown Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: Patrick McLanahan series, Acts of War series, Independent series, Dreamland series (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 24) Alexander McCall Smith Series Reading Order: Series List - In Order: No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, 44 Scotland Street, Isabel Dalhousie, Portuguese Irregular ... (Listastik Series Reading Order Book 31) Democratic Rules of Order : Complete, Easy-To-Use Parliamentary Guide for Governing Meetings of Any Size When the Invasion of Land Failed: The Legacy of the Devonian Extinctions (The Critical Moments and Perspectives in Earth History and Paleobiology) Philosophical And Theoretical Perspectives For Advanced Nursing Practice (Cody, Philosophical and Theoretical Perspectives for Advances Nursing Practice) Lebanon: The Politics of Frustration - The Failed Coup of 1961 (History and Society in the Islamic World (Paperback)) The Struggle for Democratic Politics in the Dominican Republic (H. Eugene and Lillian Youngs Lehman Series) Arresting Citizenship: The Democratic Consequences of American Crime Control (Chicago Studies in American Politics) Wetland Economics, 1989-1993: A Selected, Annotated Bibliography (Bibliographies and Indexes in Economics and Economic History) Stochastic Methods in Economics and Finance, Volume 17 (Advanced Textbooks in Economics)