The Resurgence of State Power: The Return of the State

In the annals of political science, the role of the state has been a subject of perpetual debate. From the classical era to the modern age, scholars have grappled with the nature, functions, and limits of state power. In recent decades, however, the rise of neoliberalism has led to a widespread belief in the virtues of state retrenchment and the superiority of market forces.

However, in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis and the subsequent global economic downturn, there has been a growing recognition that the state plays a crucial role in promoting economic stability, social welfare, and environmental sustainability. The Return of the State, written by a team of leading political scientists, provides a timely and comprehensive examination of the resurgence of state power in the 21st century.

The Return of the State And Why It Is Essential for Our Health, Wealth and Happiness

The Return of the State: And Why it is Essential for our Health, Wealth and Happiness by Graeme Garrard

★★★★★ 4.6 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 745 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 214 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



The book begins by exploring the key concepts that underpin the concept of the state. The authors argue that the state is more than just a collection of institutions and offices. It is a social entity that embodies the collective will of a people and exercises legitimate authority over a territory.

The authors also discuss the different forms that states can take. They distinguish between centralized and decentralized states, unitary and federal states, and democratic and authoritarian states. They argue that the form of a state has a profound impact on its capacity to fulfill its functions.

Historical Perspectives

The book provides a historical perspective on the evolution of state power. The authors trace the development of the state from its origins in ancient Mesopotamia to the modern era. They show how the state has played a key role in shaping the course of human history.

The authors also discuss the different theories of state power that have been developed over the centuries. They examine the work of classical thinkers such as Plato and Aristotle, as well as modern theorists such as Max Weber and Karl Marx. They show how these theories have influenced our understanding of the state and its role in society.

Contemporary Challenges

The book concludes by examining the challenges that the state faces in the 21st century. The authors argue that the state is facing a triple crisis of legitimacy, capacity, and accountability.

The crisis of legitimacy stems from the fact that people are increasingly losing faith in the ability of the state to meet their needs. The crisis of

capacity stems from the fact that the state is increasingly struggling to keep up with the demands of a complex and interconnected world. The crisis of accountability stems from the fact that the state is increasingly difficult to hold accountable for its actions.

The authors argue that these challenges are not insurmountable, but they will require a fundamental rethinking of the role of the state. They call for a new social contract between the state and its citizens, a contract that is based on the principles of democracy, transparency, and accountability.

The Return of the State is a timely and important book. It provides a comprehensive and nuanced analysis of the resurgence of state power in the 21st century. The book is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the role of the state in the modern world.

Call to Action

If you are interested in learning more about the resurgence of state power, I encourage you to read The Return of the State. The book is available for Free Download from Our Book Library and other online retailers.

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