

Democracy against Domination

K. Sabeel Rahman

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K. Sabeel Rahman : Democracy against Domination before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Democracy against Domination:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Gamechanger for understanding what ails our economy and our democracy By J Harris Lucid, urgent primer on what ails both our democracy and our economy. Rahman writes accessibly, putting recent economic shifts in historical context. He shows us that indeed, we've been here before, and how we previously articulated common-sense regulation using arguments that resonated across the political spectrum and up and down the income ladders. It worked. We healed American capitalism once, and Rahman delivers the fiery

call and the detailed blueprint that can help us do it again. From his pen to Washington's ears...1 of 6 people found the following review helpful. The pricing on this is RIDICULOUS.... ...By SongSungBlueThe pricing on this is RIDICULOUS.... Who can afford this? Why is it that a book on this subject is literally unreachable by the people most impacted by it's subject. I blame Oxford Press of course...

In 2008, the collapse of the US financial system plunged the economy into the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression. In its aftermath, the financial crisis pushed to the forefront fundamental moral and institutional questions about how we govern the modern economy. What are the values that economic policy ought to prioritize? What institutions do we trust to govern complex economic dynamics? Much of popular and academic debate revolves around two competing approaches to these fundamental questions: laissez-faire defenses of self-correcting and welfare-enhancing markets on the one hand, and managerialist turns to the role of insulated, expert regulation in mitigating risks and promoting growth on the other. In *Democracy Against Domination*, K. Sabeel Rahman offers an alternative vision for how we should govern the modern economy in a democratic society. Drawing on a rich tradition of economic reform rooted in the thought and reform politics of early twentieth century progressives like John Dewey and Louis Brandeis, Rahman argues that the fundamental moral challenge of economic governance today is two-fold: first, to counteract the threats of economic domination whether in the form of corporate power or inequitable markets; and second, to do so by expanding the capacity of citizens themselves to exercise real political power in economic policymaking. This normative framework in turn suggests a very different way of understanding and addressing major economic governance issues of the post-crisis era, from the challenge of too-big-to-fail financial firms, to the dangers of regulatory capture and regulatory reform. Synthesizing a range of insights from history to political theory to public policy, *Democracy Against Domination* offers an exciting reinterpretation of progressive economic thought; a fresh normative approach to democratic theory; and an urgent hope for realizing a more equitable and democratically accountable economy through practical reforms in our policies and regulatory institutions.

"The ultimate failure of economic regulation, the author argues, derives from viewing the market's problems as technical problems, to be solved by experts, rather than problems of political domination to be solved by altering democratic institutions. The author finds precedence for his interpretation in the writings of Louis Brandeis and John Dewey. Pragmatic regulation by democratically selected grassroots participants promises better outcomes than elite technocrats selected for their expertise. Summing Up: Highly recommended." --CHOICE

"The financial crisis prompted arcane debates about regulatory reform and much public outrage, but little rethinking of how citizens can have a voice in governing the economy - until now. Sabeel Rahman criticizes the managerial, technocratic approach to regulation and offers a morally robust, democratic alternative. The most important book about democracy and the regulatory state since the financial crisis." --Michael Sandel, author of *The Gods*

"The gods endowed Sabeel Rahman with a democratic soul. Ordinary citizens need not give over the regulatory state to managers and experts. We can combat concentrated power and remoteness from government by boldly redesigning the scale and scope of institutions. Rahman shows that these ideas have deep American roots, and that citizens can own crucial policy decisions, starting right now." --Nancy L. Rosenblum, author of *Sabeel Rahman is a new, bold, and original voice in the fields of law, history, and political economy. This book brilliantly heeds Walt Whitman's prophetic call in *Democratic Vistas* for 'a force-infusion of intellect' to confront 'the dominant play of solely materialistic bearings upon current life in the United States.'* --William J. Novak, author of *About the Author*

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