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Democratic Legitimacy (Routledge Studies in Social and Political Thought)

Fabienne Peter

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Fabienne Peter : Democratic Legitimacy (Routledge Studies in Social and Political Thought) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Democratic Legitimacy (Routledge Studies in Social and Political Thought):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A reference book (dense, dry) on issues of social ...By A TelebA reference book (dense, dry) on issues of social choice and deliberative democracy. Peter's own contribution to epistemic deliberative democracy, "pure epistemic proceduralism," which emphasizes pluralism and the social nature

of knowledge-production, is a welcome refinement of standard accounts that assume that either objective data or common goals can justify an inclusive deliberative procedure. In Peter's view, taking "biases as resources" justify equal and inclusive procedures without a problematic reference to an external standard. While it does lay out the most important issues in deliberative democracy and focuses on the constructive function of deliberation, the book is not sufficiently attentive to deliberative practice and its bodily dimensions. But, perhaps this is to be expected from analytic philosophy.

This book offers a systematic treatment of the requirements of democratic legitimacy. It argues that democratic procedures are essential for political legitimacy because of the need to respect value pluralism and because of the learning process that democratic decision-making enables. It proposes a framework for distinguishing among the different ways in which the requirements of democratic legitimacy have been interpreted. Peter then uses this framework to identify and defend what appears as the most plausible conception of democratic legitimacy. According to this conception, democratic legitimacy requires that the decision-making process satisfies certain conditions of political and epistemic fairness.

About the Author Fabienne Peter is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Warwick. She has co-edited two volumes: *Public Health, Ethics, and Equity* (OUP 2004, with Sudhir Anand and Amartya Sen), and *Rationality and Commitment* (OUP 2007, with Hans Bernhard Schmid).