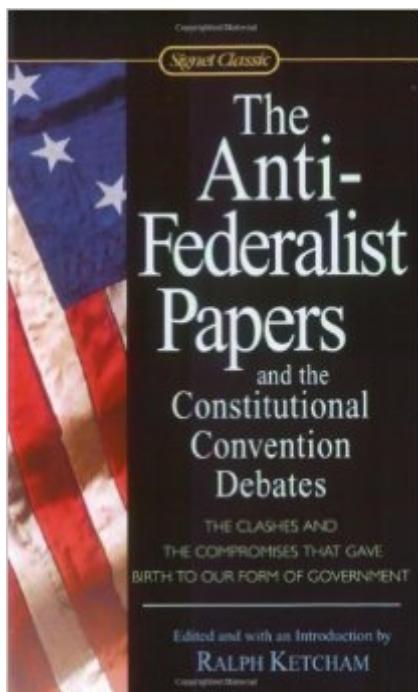


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The Anti-Federalist Papers And The Constitutional Convention Debates (Signet Classics)



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The complete texts of the documents that tell the story of the clashes and compromises that gave birth to the United States of America. Should the members of the government be elected by direct vote of the people? Should the government be headed by a single executive, and how powerful should that executive be? Should immigrants be allowed into the United States? How should judges be appointed? What human rights should be safe from government infringement? In 1787, these important questions and others were raised by such statesmen as Patrick Henry and John DeWitt as the states debated the merits of the proposed Constitution. Along with The Federalist Papers, this invaluable book documents the political context in which the Constitution was born. This volume includes the complete texts of the Anti-Federalist Papers and Constitutional Convention debates, commentaries, and an Index of Ideas. It also lists cross-references to its companion volume, The Federalist Papers, available in a Signet Classic edition. Edited and with an Introduction by Ralph Ketchum

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Ralph Ketchum is Professor of History and Political Science at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University. He is the author of many books on American History, including Presidents Above Party: The First American Presidency; From Colony to Country: The Revolution in American Thought, 1750-1820; and James Madison: A Biography.

A book revealing a little covered part of history!

Great book

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An excellent compendium of arguments critical of the various provisions of the U.S. Constitution as they were being drafted.

The Anti-Federalist Founding Fathers feared that an unbridled government, even as 'limited' by the proposed Constitution, would eventually grow into an uncontrollable insatiable beast, limiting Liberty and controlling every aspect of the citizens' lives. They ahve of course, ultimately been proven correct... this is a nice collection of some of the esaays by Anti-Federalists such as George Mason, Richard Henry Lee, Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson to name a few. Enjoyed the read, but it will take a student of history to get through them and not be bored.

This book gives a very good indication of what could, can and has gone wrong with our country when men (and women) are elected basically for life. Made a very good case for term limits. Clearly discussed the power of power to corrupt even those who start out well. I HIGHLY recommend every American read this book!

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The Anti-Federalists were prescient. Thank God for them or we would never have had the Bill of Rights. Not that the Bill of Rights are respected in many ways nowadays but how much worse life would be in America without them.

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