

politics is downstream from culture

politics is downstream from culture is a fundamental concept that underscores the relationship between societal values, beliefs, and political outcomes. This phrase suggests that cultural norms and collective attitudes shape political institutions, policies, and power structures rather than the other way around. Understanding this dynamic is crucial for analyzing why certain political ideologies prevail in different societies and how cultural shifts can lead to political transformation. By exploring the interplay between culture and politics, one gains insight into the deeper forces driving governance, legislation, and public opinion. This article delves into the meaning of the phrase, historical examples supporting the idea, the role of media and education, and implications for political strategy and social change. The following sections provide a comprehensive overview of why politics is downstream from culture and how this principle operates in various contexts.

- The Meaning of "Politics is Downstream from Culture"
- Historical Examples Demonstrating Culture's Influence on Politics
- The Role of Media and Education in Shaping Culture and Politics
- Implications for Political Strategy and Social Change
- Challenges and Critiques of the Concept

The Meaning of "Politics is Downstream from Culture"

The expression "politics is downstream from culture" conveys that political systems and decisions are heavily influenced by the cultural environment within which they exist. Culture encompasses the shared values, traditions, language, norms, and worldviews of a group, which collectively inform how individuals perceive authority, governance, and social organization. Political ideologies, laws, and leadership styles emerge from this cultural context, making politics a reflection of the underlying societal mindset. Rather than politics determining culture, culture shapes the political landscape over time.

Defining Culture in Political Context

Culture in this context refers to the collective social behaviors and norms found in human societies. It includes elements such as religion, language, customs, arts, and education systems. These components influence how citizens relate to one another and to their governing institutions. Political culture, a subset of culture, specifically relates to attitudes towards government, civic engagement, and political participation.

How Culture Influences Political Outcomes

Political values tend to mirror cultural values, guiding the type of policies and governance that are acceptable or desirable within a society. For example, a culture that emphasizes individualism may favor liberal democracy, while a culture that prioritizes community cohesion might support more centralized authority. This cultural foundation directs political discourse, voter behavior, and policymaking.

Historical Examples Demonstrating Culture's Influence on Politics

Throughout history, numerous examples illustrate how cultural shifts have precipitated political change. These cases confirm the principle that politics does not exist in a vacuum but flows from cultural transformations.

The Renaissance and the Rise of Modern Political Thought

The Renaissance period in Europe marked a cultural awakening that emphasized humanism, art, and critical thinking. This cultural shift away from medieval scholasticism influenced the development of modern political ideas about individual rights, secular governance, and democracy. The cultural renaissance laid the groundwork for political revolutions and reformations.

The Civil Rights Movement in the United States

The cultural changes in American society during the mid-20th century, including shifts in attitudes toward race, equality, and justice, fueled the political momentum behind the Civil Rights Movement. Changing cultural perceptions created pressure on political institutions to enact laws such as the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act.

Post-Communist Transition in Eastern Europe

After decades under communist regimes, cultural aspirations for freedom, democracy, and market economies drove political revolutions in Eastern Europe. The collapse of authoritarian governments was preceded and accompanied by cultural movements emphasizing individual liberty and human rights.

The Role of Media and Education in Shaping Culture and Politics

Media and education serve as primary channels through which culture is transmitted and transformed, ultimately influencing political beliefs and behaviors. These institutions play a pivotal role in cultivating societal values and political awareness.

Media as a Cultural Shaper

Mass media, including television, newspapers, and digital platforms, disseminate narratives and information that shape public opinion and cultural norms. Media framing of political issues affects how citizens interpret policies and political actors, reinforcing or challenging existing cultural values.

Education's Influence on Political Socialization

Education systems instill knowledge, critical thinking skills, and civic values that contribute to political socialization. Curriculum content and pedagogical approaches can either reinforce dominant cultural narratives or encourage questioning and reform, thereby impacting political attitudes.

List of Media and Education Impacts on Politics

- Promotes shared cultural identity and understanding
- Shapes public discourse and acceptable political viewpoints
- Encourages civic participation and political literacy
- Offers platforms for cultural expression and dissent
- Influences generational shifts in political ideology

Implications for Political Strategy and Social Change

Recognizing that politics is downstream from culture has significant implications for political actors, activists, and policymakers. It suggests that lasting political change requires cultural engagement and transformation.

Culture-Driven Political Campaigns

Effective political strategies often target cultural values to build support. Campaigns that resonate with the cultural identity and beliefs of voters are more likely to succeed than those that focus solely on policy proposals.

Long-Term Social Change Through Cultural Influence

Social movements aiming for political reform invest in changing cultural attitudes through education, art, and media to create a foundation for political shifts. Cultural change precedes and sustains political victories by shaping public consensus.

Policy Development Considering Cultural Context

Policymakers must understand the cultural environment to design policies that align with societal values and have public support. Ignoring cultural factors can lead to resistance and policy failure.

Challenges and Critiques of the Concept

While the idea that politics is downstream from culture is widely accepted, it faces challenges and critiques concerning its application and interpretation.

Complex Interactions Between Culture and Politics

The relationship between culture and politics is bidirectional and complex. Political decisions can influence culture over time, creating feedback loops rather than a simple one-way flow. This complexity challenges the notion of a strict downstream effect.

Variability Across Societies

The impact of culture on politics varies depending on historical, social, and economic contexts. Some societies may exhibit stronger cultural influence, while others may experience more direct political intervention shaping culture.

Potential for Oversimplification

Attributing political outcomes solely to culture risks oversimplifying the multifaceted causes of political change, which also involve economic conditions, institutional structures, and international factors.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does the phrase 'politics is downstream from culture' mean?

The phrase means that political ideas, policies, and behaviors are largely influenced and shaped by the underlying cultural values, beliefs, and norms of a society.

Who popularized the idea that 'politics is downstream from culture'?

This idea was popularized by Andrew Breitbart, a conservative commentator, who emphasized that changing culture is essential to influencing political outcomes.

How does culture influence political decisions?

Culture shapes people's worldviews, priorities, and behaviors, which in turn affect voting patterns, policy preferences, and political engagement, thereby influencing political decisions.

Can political change occur without cultural change according to this concept?

According to the concept, political change is unlikely to be lasting or effective without corresponding shifts in cultural attitudes and values, since culture forms the foundation for politics.

What role do media and entertainment play in the link between culture and politics?

Media and entertainment are major components of culture; they shape public perceptions, norms, and values, thereby indirectly shaping political opinions and the political landscape.

How can activists use the idea that 'politics is downstream from culture' in their strategies?

Activists can focus on influencing cultural narratives, education, and social norms to create a supportive environment for political change, recognizing that culture shapes political possibilities.

Are there examples where cultural shifts led to significant political changes?

Yes, examples include the civil rights movement, where changing cultural attitudes toward race and equality helped drive legislative and political reforms in the United States.

Additional Resources

1. *The Culture Code: An Ingenious Way to Understand Why People Around the World Live and Buy as They Do*

This book by Clotaire Rapaille explores how culture shapes human behavior, including political attitudes and decisions. Rapaille argues that deeply ingrained cultural codes influence not only consumer behavior but also political ideologies and social norms. By understanding these cultural underpinnings, readers can better grasp why political movements resonate differently across societies.

2. *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*

Jonathan Haidt delves into the moral psychology behind political divisions, showing how culture and morality shape political beliefs. He explains that politics is downstream from culture because moral intuitions form the foundation upon which political ideologies are built. This book helps readers understand the emotional and cultural roots of political conflict.

3. *Cultural Politics: Class, Gender, Race, and the Postmodern World*

In this work, Lawrence Grossberg examines how culture intersects with political identities and power

structures. He argues that cultural dynamics like class, gender, and race are crucial for understanding contemporary political struggles. The book highlights how cultural shifts influence political agendas and policymaking.

4. Culture and Politics: A Reader

This anthology collects essays on the intricate relationship between culture and politics, illustrating how political ideas are shaped by cultural contexts. The editors emphasize that political ideologies cannot be separated from cultural influences such as language, traditions, and media. It serves as a foundational text for understanding politics as downstream from cultural forces.

5. Political Tribes: Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations

Amy Chua explores how cultural identities and group loyalties drive political behavior and conflict. She argues that political divisions often stem from tribal cultural affiliations rather than purely ideological differences. The book sheds light on why cultural identity is a powerful force shaping political landscapes worldwide.

6. Weapons of Mass Persuasion: Marketing the War Against Iraq

By Paul Rutherford, this book investigates how cultural narratives and media framing influenced public opinion and political support for the Iraq War. It demonstrates how culture, through media and messaging, shapes political realities and policy decisions. The analysis reveals the downstream effect of cultural perceptions on political actions.

7. The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation

Drew Westen discusses how cultural emotions and subconscious feelings impact political decision-making. He posits that political beliefs are deeply rooted in cultural emotional responses rather than rational calculations. This work underscores the importance of culture in shaping political behavior and election outcomes.

8. Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized America

Lilliana Mason challenges the idea that American politics is solely defined by ideological polarization, emphasizing the role of cultural identities in political alignment. She argues that cultural group identities are fundamental to understanding political divisions. The book illustrates how shifts in culture can lead to significant political realignments.

9. Manufacturing Consent: The Political Economy of the Mass Media

Edward S. Herman and Noam Chomsky reveal how cultural institutions like mass media influence political consent and public opinion. They argue that media culture shapes political narratives, often limiting the scope of political debate. This seminal work explains how culture underpins political power structures and policy formation.

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politics is downstream from culture: The Countercultural Logic of Neoliberalism David Hancock, 2019-01-10 Why, since the financial crisis of 2008, has neoliberal capitalism remained seemingly impregnable? Why, when it is shown as no longer capable of delivering on its economic promises does its logic pervade all facets of contemporary life? How has it seduced us? This book examines the seductive appeal of neoliberalism by understanding it as a fundamentally counter-cultural logic. Unlike earlier modes of capitalism, neoliberalism is infused by spirit of rebellion and self-creation, with the idealised neoliberal subject overturning traditional morality whilst creating new modes of being based on risk and excess. Tracing the development of the logic of neoliberalism from its beginnings in the thought of Friedrich Hayek in the wake of the post-war period, through the work of neoconservative writers overcoming and moving beyond what they perceived as the nihilism of both the counter-culture and capitalism of the 1960s and 70s, to its establishment as a new moral order underpinning the economic system from the 1980s onwards, the author argues that it is only through a clear understanding of the seduction of neoliberalism that it can be overcome by reimagining our relationships to work and society.

politics is downstream from culture: Five Views on the Church and Politics J. Brian Benestad, Robert Benne, Bruce Fields, Thomas W. Heilke, James K.A. Smith, 2015-12-15 Learn to think deeply about the relationship between church and state in a way that goes beyond mere policy debates and current campaigns. Few topics can grab headlines and stir passions quite like politics, especially when the church is involved. Considering the attention that many Christian parachurch groups, churches, and individual believers give to politics--and of the varying and sometimes divergent political ideals and aims among them--Five Views on the Church and Politics provides a helpful breakdown of the possible Christian approaches to political involvement. General Editor Amy Black brings together five top-notch political theologians in the book, each representing one of the five key political traditions within Christianity: Anabaptist (Separationist: the most limited possible Christian involvement in politics) - represented by Thomas Heilke Lutheran (Paradoxical: strong separation of church and state) - represented by Robert Benne Black Church (Prophetic: the church's mission is to be a voice for communal reform) - represented by Bruce Fields Reformed (Transformationist: emphasizes God's sovereignty over all things, including churches and governments) - represented by James K. A. Smith Catholic (Synthetic: encouragement of political participation as a means to further the common good of all people) - represented by J. Brian Benestad Each author addresses his tradition's theological distinctives, the role of government, the place of individual Christian participation in government and politics, and how churches should (or should not) address political questions. Responses by each contributor to opposing views will highlight key areas of difference and disagreement. Thorough and even-handed, Five Views on the Church and Politics will enable readers to consider the strengths and weaknesses of the most significant Christian views on political engagement and to draw their own, informed conclusions.

politics is downstream from culture: Running Into the Fire Terri Hasdorff, 2022-09-06 We are the answer to America's growing darkness. After reading this book, you will have the keys you need to be a vibrant participant of the political system to see laws and policies passed that will positively affect generations for God's purposes. In Running Into the Fire, Terri Hasdorff draws from her more than twenty years in politics to reveal how people of faith can effectively influence government and push back against the liberal socialist agenda. In addition to revealing how the rise of super PACs and massive marketing machines are getting unqualified and corrupt candidates elected, this book gives clear-cut direction for how people of conscience can get involved in politics, whether they are soccer moms with limited resources or multimillionaires capable of making sizeable campaign contributions. Sharing advice for finding and supporting honest candidates and ensuring contributions go to campaign needs and not bloated consultant salaries, Hasdorff also reveals: • How to make a difference as an average citizen, • What to know before running for political office, and • How to give in the most effective way. All is not lost. People of faith really can make a difference in their communities and the nation, but they must get involved in politics. If they don't, the country could be in for years of darkness. This book will reveal practical ways they can

affect change starting now.

politics is downstream from culture: Post-Digital Cultures of the Far Right Maik Fielitz, Nick Thurston, 2018-12-12 How have digital tools and networks transformed the far right's strategies and transnational prospects? This volume presents a unique critical survey of the online and offline tactics, symbols and platforms that are strategically remixed by contemporary far-right groups in Europe and the US. It features thirteen accessible essays by an international range of expert scholars, policy advisors and activists who offer informed answers to a number of urgent practical and theoretical questions: How and why has the internet emboldened extreme nationalisms? What counter-cultural approaches should civil societies develop in response?

politics is downstream from culture: Misinformation and Society Yotam Ophir, 2025-06-25 A Comprehensive Guide to Understanding and Addressing Political and Scientific Misinformation In our increasingly interconnected world, misinformation spreads faster than ever, influencing public opinion, political outcomes, and personal beliefs. In *Misinformation and Society*, Yotam Ophir takes an interdisciplinary approach to unravel the complexities of misinformation in its various forms. Offering invaluable insights into the history, psychology, and social impact of misinformation, this timely book provides you with the tools to critically analyze misinformation's origins, effects, and solutions. From understanding the cognitive processes that make individuals vulnerable to false information, to exploring the societal impact of viral misinformation, *Misinformation and Society* delivers deep insights into one of the most pressing issues of our time. Drawing on research from fields such as communication, political science, and psychology, Ophir presents in-depth case studies of high-profile events such as Brexit and COVID-19, clearly demonstrating how misinformation has shaped public discourse. Through clear and engaging writing, the author presents evidence-based strategies to address misinformation in a variety of specific real-world contexts, such as conspiracy theories, public health disinformation, fabricated political news, and more. Requiring no previous background in the subject, *Misinformation and Society* is essential reading for undergraduate and graduate students in Media Studies, Political Science, Communication, and Public Health, as well as journalists, educators, policymakers, and general readers interested in media literacy, information integrity, and the challenges posed by misinformation in the Digital Age.

politics is downstream from culture: Montesquieu's Liberalism and the Problem of Universal Politics Keegan Callanan, 2018-08-23 Dubbed 'the oracle' by no less an authority than James Madison, Montesquieu stands as a theoretical founder of the liberal political tradition. But equally central to his project was his account of the relationship of law to each nation's particular customs and place, a teaching that militates against universal political solutions. This teaching has sometimes been thought to stand in tension with his liberal constitutionalism. In this book, Keegan Callanan argues that Montesquieu's political particularism and liberalism are complementary and mutually reinforcing parts of a coherent whole. In developing this argument, Callanan considers Montesquieu's regime pluralism, psychological conception of liberty, approach to political reform, and account of 'the customs of a free people', including the complex interaction of religion and commerce. Callanan concludes that, by re-orienting our understanding of liberalism and redirecting our attention toward liberty's distinctive preconditions, a return to Montesquieu's political philosophy leaves us better prepared to confront liberal democracy's contested claim to universality.

politics is downstream from culture: Politics and the Religious Imagination John H.A. Dyck, Paul S. Rowe, Jens Zimmermann, 2010-06-10 *Politics and the Religious Imagination* is the product of a group of interdisciplinary scholars each analyzing the connections between religious narratives and the construction of regional and global politics, combining a set of theoretical and philosophic insights with several case studies that represent varied geographies and religious customs. The past decade has seen increasing interest in the links between religion and politics, and this edited volume seeks to take religion seriously as a motivator of action. Few studies have attempted to bring together the multi-disciplinary work in this burgeoning field of study and this work takes a global perspective, using a variety of contexts including East-West relations to analyze the following key themes: the constructive and destructive hermeneutics of religious stories the

relevance and importance of religion as a dominant political narrative the rise of new stories among groups as agents of change the way that religious narratives help to define and constrain the Other the manipulation of religious stories for political benefit This work argues that it is insufficient to judge the relationship of religion and politics through mere institutional or quantitative lenses, and this collection proves that while this promise of the narrative part of the social imaginary has been recognized in political theory to a certain extent, its influence in the realm of empirical political science has yet to be fully considered. Combining the work of a wide range of experts, this collection will be of great interests to scholars of politics, philosophy, religious studies, and the literary influence of religion.

politics is downstream from culture: *Alt-Education* Catherine Tebaldi, 2025-07-25

Alt-Education looks at the stories the right tells about schools: a fight between an evil, indoctrinating government and a far-right freethinking truth warrior, between a frigid cultural Marxist teacher and a loving Christian mother. This book explores the link between education, gender, and far-right metapolitics, and offers insights into the ways in which it circulates and is normalized. Through digital ethnography and fieldwork it explores the production, circulation, and interpretation of these discourses and the ideologies they express, tracing their movement across four groups of women in the US and UK – fascists, white nationalist, Christian nationalists, and Republicans. Although often understood to be opposed to education, the far-right is instead opposed to schooling – and offers its own practices of alt-education. Through media, alternative schools and home education, the far-right teaches their ideologies of gender and race, knowledge, and power, as well as transmitting alternative histories, sociologies, and conspiracies. From mom’s groups to digital discourses about the evils of public schools, social media are key arenas in which women not only teach, but are taught, far-right alternative knowledge. Alt-education teaches reactionary ideology as a timeless truth, normalizing it through discourses of home, family and love. At the same time, alt-education borrows and co-opts the language of critique – normalizing racism, sexism and fascism a kind of alternative knowledge, while making it exciting as a countercultural critique of “woke” liberal indoctrination. The book concludes with a look at this attempt to “speak post-truth to power” as a way of normalizing and spreading their ideology – bringing alt-education to a wide audience as their critiques of “woke” politics spreads across the US, UK, and into Europe. This book is aimed at scholars of the far-right and gender, as well as scholars and practitioners of education. Written in an accessible and engaging tone, this book will be of interest to both researchers and advanced undergraduates.

politics is downstream from culture: *Post-Truth Politics* Elesa Zehndorfer, 2025-02-24 In recent years, rapid innovations in generative AI and social media technologies have enabled fake news to explode across our social media accounts and TV screens. Post-truth political content now routinely manipulates our realities, microtargeting us, exploiting our desires and turning our fears against us. It is an age where politics runs on emotion, not cognition, and where the democratization of disinformation has spawned a whole new global industry of disinformation entrepreneurs. It has amplified polarization, using hate, anger and fear as its oxygen. Fake news continues to bolster levels of right-wing populism not seen since the 1930s. If left unchallenged, it will continue to place its jackboot ever harder against the upturned face of democracy. *Post-Truth Politics: A Brave New World?* empowers voters to fight back. It provides, for the first time, a complete view of the global disinformation ecosystem: who is targeting us, how we are microtargeted, and which evolutionary, technological, marketing, neurological and military approaches are being used to manipulate us. This non-partisan book will resonate with all supporters of democracy (conservative, liberal, centrist), alongside academics in fields as diverse as media studies, sociology, politics, marketing, military studies and creative writing.

politics is downstream from culture: *Winning Space* Brandon J. Weichert, 2020-09-15 When President Donald J. Trump announced the creation of America’s sixth branch of the military, the United States Space Force, many in Washington scoffed. But, U.S. rivals in China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea took notice. Since the end of the Cold War, these American foes have chafed under the

full-spectrum dominance that the American superpower has enjoyed globally. They have identified space as a key strategic domain where they can challenge—and possibly defeat—the United States military. And, depriving the U.S. military and/or its economy of access to space during an international crisis could spell doom for the United States in other strategic domains (land, sea, air, and cyberspace). After all, space is critical for America's vaunted information dominance. Satellites overhead are the backbone of America's global military. Remove them from orbit and U.S. forces worldwide are rendered deaf, dumb, and blind. What's more, space is a more than \$1 trillion economy just waiting to be developed. Whichever country gets there first will have considerable economic and geopolitical power on Earth. Despite President Trump's creation of the Space Force, Swamp Dwellers in Washington continue resisting his reforms to U.S. space and technology policy. *Winning Space* tracks the increasing competition the United States is facing in the technology sector and depicts how the United States has been engaged in a Second Space Race—and how it has been losing. Author Brandon Weichert warns how the United States is at risk for a Pearl Harbor-type event in space. Weichert advocates for the full embrace of Trump's reforms for America's flailing space policy, while also calling for a minimum \$1 trillion investment in advanced research and development here in the United States, to stay ahead of America's advancing foes. Contrary to what many Americans may think, the United States has been declining in space and the high-technology development sector. Should it lose its dominance in these areas, it will surely lose its superpower status. The next decade presents U.S. policymakers one last chance to preserve the superpower status that America fought two world wars and the Cold War to build. Time is not on our side. We are on notice, but we have not noticed.

politics is downstream from culture: Right-wing Politics in Interwar Southeastern Europe : Between Conservatism and Fascism Dragan Bakić, Dušan Fundić , Dušan Fundić,

politics is downstream from culture: Political Technology Andrew Wilson, 2023-12-14
'Political technology' is a Russian term for the professional engineering of politics. It has turned Russian politics into theatre and propaganda, and metastasised to take over foreign policy and weaponise history. The war against Ukraine is one outcome. In the West, spin doctors and political consultants do more than influence media or run campaigns: they have also helped build parallel universes of alternative political reality. Hungary has used political technology to dismantle democracy. The BJP in India has used it to consolidate unprecedented power. Different countries learn from each other. Some types of political technology have become notorious, like troll farms or data mining; but there is now a global wholesale industry selling a range of manipulation techniques, from astroturfing to fake parties to propaganda apps. This book shows that 'political technology' is about much more than online disinformation: it is about whole new industries of political engineering.

politics is downstream from culture: *The Routledge Handbook of Applied Climate Change Ethics* Donald A. Brown, Kathryn Gwiazdon, Laura Westra, 2023-09-27 *The Routledge Handbook of Applied Climate Change Ethics* is a powerful reference source for the identification and exploration of the underlying ethical issues in climate change law and policy. Bridging theory with practice, it takes ethical engagement out of the classroom and into the halls of governance. The Handbook's 39 chapters--written by a diverse and inter-disciplinary team of experts from around the world--are case studies divided into five parts. Parts I-IV highlight the ethical issues that arise in climate change policy formation, from duties not to harm to duties to consider the views and voices of those who will be, or are being, harmed; from the role of human rights, justice, and democracy to how to identify and respond to disinformation and denialism. It also raises the ethics of various policy responses, such as cap-and-trade, carbon taxing, and geo-engineering. Part V offers a way forward, with strategies on how to expressly consider ethics in climate change policy formation, from negotiations to education, media, communication, and the power and potential of shaming. The volume is essential reading for students, professors, and practitioners who wish to better engage with government and non-government organizations on climate policy, to better understand the practical application of the theory and philosophy of ethics, and how to more strongly draft and defend ethical

action in negotiating, drafting, and defending climate change law and policy.

politics is downstream from culture: The Man in the Middle Timothy S. Goeglein, 2011
Timothy Goeglein, a former member of President George W. Bush's administration, insightfully hails the U.S. leader's difficult decisions made in office as a blueprint for the future of thoughtful conservatism.

politics is downstream from culture: What Men Want to Say to Women (But Can't)
Denise McAllister, 2020-02-11 No matter one's political persuasion, most of us agree there's something deeply wrong in America today. Conflict has reached a fever pitch as our nation has become alarmingly polarized in the political arena. Many look to politicians and public policies for solutions, but journalist Andrew Breitbart rightly said that politics couldn't be fixed if culture is ignored, because "politics is downstream from culture." McAllister would take this observation a step further—politics might be downstream from culture, but culture is downstream from relationships. If we don't focus on the personal building blocks of society, we will fail to fix problems in culture and the politics that flow from it. If relationships are sick or broken—especially those between men and women—then everything else is affected. If there's little love, respect, and trust there, you won't find it anywhere else. Men are tired of being dumped on. They have a lot to say to women about sex, equality in the workplace, raising boys, and the lie of "toxic masculinity," but modern feminism and a politically correct culture have silenced them. This "war on men" has disrupted relationships and caused men to question their place in American society. "Misogyny," "male privilege," and "the Patriarchy" are buzzwords that shut men down. Some are so frustrated they've given up entirely—"Who needs women if all they're going to do is use you and treat you like garbage?" Anger, separation, and simply giving up aren't solutions to a festering problem. Instead, we need to heal relationships by learning to respect the designed purposes of masculinity and femininity. For this to happen, women will need to hear some hard truths about themselves and those they love. In *What Men Want to Say to Women (But Can't)*, cultural commentator and New York Times bestselling author Denise McAllister speaks to women on men's behalf—exposing the lies of modern feminism and offering insights on how to rebuild broken relationships in the workplace, at home, and in the bedroom. Here's a sneak peek at a few things men would like to say to women, but can't: • "When I look at your cleavage, it doesn't mean I want to rape you." • "Stop complaining about equal pay when you don't do equal work." • "Children need their father—stop shutting men out of the picture because you think you do everything better." • "I will teach my son to compete—now go toss that participation trophy in the trash!" "A triumph of compassion, insight, and good sense. Denise McAllister doesn't just want to fix how men and women talk to each other. She wants to heal a fraying holy sacrament. Read this book to save your marriage—or to find one."
—Milo Yiannopoulos

politics is downstream from culture: Kingdom Politics Kristopher Norris, Sam Speers, 2015-04-16 American Christians, weary of decades of entrenched partisan feuding, are increasingly distancing themselves from politics. Some, however, continue to turn toward the state and public policy to find solutions to the world's problems. The problem is that both responses allow a narrow vision of politics to determine the church's mission and ministries, which often ends up separating its commitment to personal faith from the pursuit of social justice--the King from the kingdom. Christians too easily forget that the church is inherently political, a community defined by its allegiance to a King, its citizenship in a new world, and its call to work alongside others in pursuit of a new way of life. The church needs a political vision that is more than blind acceptance or mere rejection of past models. It needs a positive vision that takes its cues about politics not from the nation-state but from another political reality: the kingdom of God. This book tells the stories of the visits of two researchers to five diverse congregations across the United States. From the megachurch energy of Rick Warren's Saddleback Church in California, to a young Emergent community in Minneapolis, to the politically active home of Martin Luther King in Atlanta, these stories illuminate the vastly different ways congregations understand and approach politics--and offer a glimpse of a new political imagination for today's church.

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