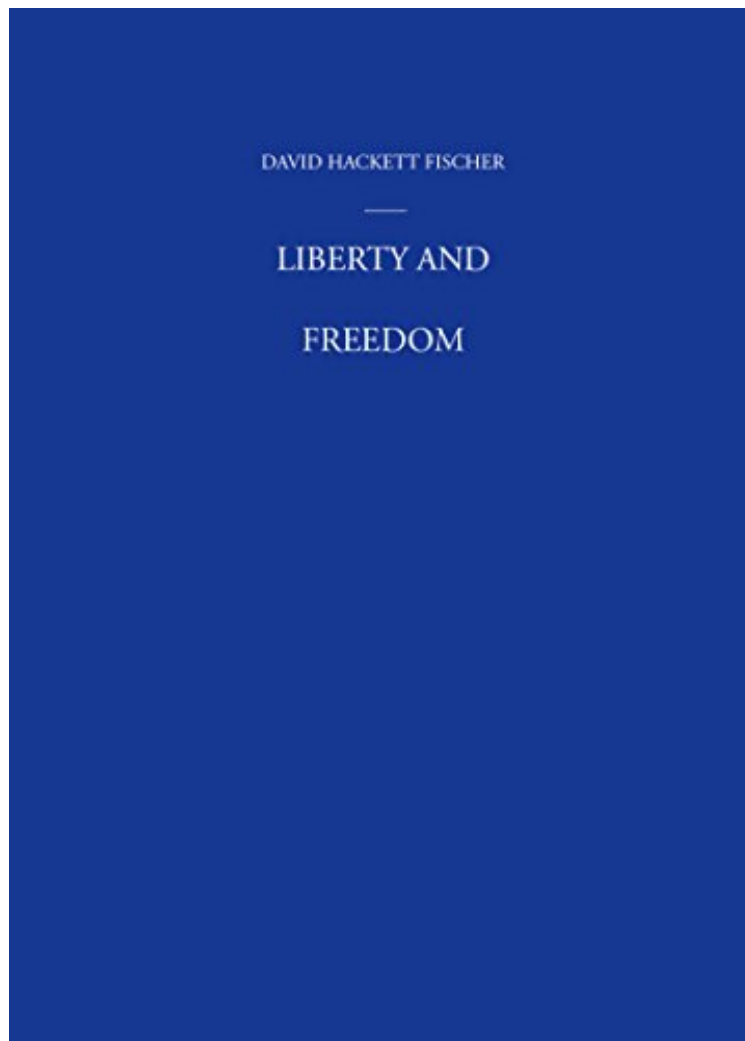


(Free) Liberty and Freedom: A Visual History of America's Founding Ideas (America: a cultural history)

Liberty and Freedom: A Visual History of America's Founding Ideas (America: a cultural history)

Von David Hackett Fischer
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Von David Hackett Fischer : Liberty and Freedom: A Visual History of America's Founding Ideas (America: a cultural history) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Liberty and Freedom: A Visual History of America's Founding Ideas (America: a cultural history):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. BilderbuchVon Dr. Jens P. BeckerDer amerikanische Historiker David Hackett Fischer hat mit seinem Buch "Albion's Seed" die Kulturgeschichtsschreibung revolutioniert. Hackett geht weg von der elitren Kulturdefinition Matthew Arnolds, die nicht nur fr das 19. Jahrhundert die bestimmende Maxime war. Kultur war Hochkultur, nichts anderes.

Unter dem Einfluß der Ethnologen/Anthropologen, die eher auf eine genaue Beschreibung, eine "thick description" (Clifford Geertz) aller kulturellen Phänomene abhob, ist diese elitäre Kulturdefinition aufgeweicht worden. So konnte T.S. Eliot 1948 postulieren, dass auch Hunderennen und das Pokalfinale zur englischen Kultur gehörten. Fischer folgt mit "Liberty and Freedom" T.S. Eliot, nicht Matthew Arnold. "Liberty and Freedom" ist der dritte Band einer auf vier Bände angelegten Kulturgeschichte der USA. Die beiden Bände "American Plantations" und "Deep Change" sind noch nicht geschrieben. Man kann nur hoffen, dass der liebe Herrgott Fischer noch genügend Zeit gibt, sein Lebenswerk zu vollenden. "Liberty" und "Freedom" sind Begriffe, die wir mit der amerikanischen Revolution und der Unabhängigkeitserklärung verbinden, die besten Exportartikel Amerikas. Sind es Synonyme? Statt eine langatmige philosophische Begriffsklärung zu versuchen, geht Fischer einen ganz anderen Weg, er taucht ein in Kunst und Volkskunst und zeigt, wie sich diese Begriffe in der "folk art" manifestieren. Von Miss Liberty bis zur Freiheitsstatue, vom Freiheitsbegriff der Declaration of Independence zum Freiheitsbegriff des Feminismus. reich illustriert, offeriert der Band eine Kulturgeschichte Amerikas von 1776 bis heute. Und er zeigt beherrschende Gemeinsamkeiten auf: im Jahre 2002 zeigten alle amerikanischen Kriegsschiffe eine Flagge aus dem Revolutionskrieg. Die mit der Klapperschlange und dem Satz "Don't tread on me!" Als Warnung an die Welt, Amerikas Freiheiten anzugreifen. Dieses Buch kann man von vorne lesen (was man ja gemeinhin mit Bchern macht), man kann aber auch an jeder beliebigen Stelle anfangen zu lesen. Die Lesefähigkeit der Amerikaner ist ja leider im Sinken begriffen, wie Neil Postman uns schon vor Jahrzehnten gezeigt hat, aber dies ist ein Buch, das jeder Amerikaner lesen sollte. Und auch jeder, der Amerika verstehen will.

Kurzbeschreibung Liberty and freedom: Americans agree that these values are fundamental to our nation, but what do they mean? How have their meanings changed through time? In this new volume of cultural history, David Hackett Fischer shows how these varying ideas form an intertwined strand that runs through the core of American life. Fischer examines liberty and freedom not as philosophical or political abstractions, but as folkways and popular beliefs deeply embedded in American culture. Tocqueville called them "habits of the heart." From the earliest colonies, Americans have shared ideals of liberty and freedom, but with very different meanings. Like DNA these ideas have transformed and recombined in each generation. The book arose from Fischer's discovery that the words themselves had differing origins: the Latin "liberty" implied separation and independence. The root meaning of "freedom" (akin to "friend") connoted attachment: the rights of belonging in a community of free people. The tension between the two senses has been a source of conflict and creativity throughout American history. Liberty Freedom studies the folk history of those ideas through more than 400 visions, images, and symbols. It begins with the American Revolution, and explores the meaning of New England's Liberty Tree, Pennsylvania's Liberty Bells, Carolina's Liberty Crescent, and "Don't Tread on Me" rattlesnakes. In the new republic, the search for a common American symbol gave new meaning to Yankee Doodle, Uncle Sam, Miss Liberty, and many other icons. In the Civil War, Americans divided over liberty and freedom. Afterward, new universal visions were invented by people who had formerly been excluded from a free society--African Americans, American Indians, and immigrants. The twentieth century saw liberty and freedom tested by enemies and contested at home, yet it brought the greatest outpouring of new visions, from Franklin Roosevelt's Four Freedoms to Martin Luther King's "dream" to Janis Joplin's "nothin' left to lose." Illustrated in full color with a rich variety of images, Liberty and Freedom is, literally, an eye-opening work of history--stimulating, large-spirited, and ultimately, inspiring. Pressestimmen "Endlessly entertaining. It offers the author a chance to fact-check and retell some of the great stories of American history (Francis Scott Key and 'The Star-Spangled Banner,' Betsy Ross and the flag) and dredge up icons that have been sadly forgotten.... There are hundreds of fascinating strands in this volume, each of them worth tugging at."--Philip Kennicott, Washington Post Book World "Impressive.... A richly illustrated study of both American ideals as they developed through such visual symbols as Yankee Doodle and Uncle Sam."--Carlin Romano, Philadelphia Inquirer "Liberty and Freedom seeks to combine the 'new' history with the 'old,' using the habits and customs of ordinary people to illuminate the actions and ideas of political leaders.... Fischer declares that the creative tension between the two concepts has given English-speaking people 'a distinctively dynamism in their thoughts about liberty and freedom.'"--New York Times Book "A staggering achievement, learned and erudite in the best sense of the words. It is chock full of engaging anecdotes and rich narrative material. Fischer has conceptualized the whole history and issue of 'liberty and freedom' in a very creative and thoughtful way."--Michael Kammen, Cornell University, author of Life in the Past Lane and Mystic Chords of Memory "An important and thought-provoking synthesis of historical analysis and cultural commentary that is accessible to lay readers.... Using many black-and-white and color illustrations, historian Fischer recounts fascinating true stories and creative legends, demonstrating how images and symbols in American history (e.g., 'Stars and Stripes,' the Liberty Bell, the American Eagle) reflect varying meanings of these two ideas."--Library Journal "Liberty and freedom are America's most priceless heritage, which we have tried to export to other peoples. But what do these words mean? Are they interchangeable? Has their meaning changed over time? David Hackett Fischer sets out to answer these questions in

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