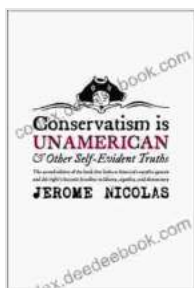


Conservatism Is Un-American: Other Self-Evident Truths

Conservatism has long been considered a pillar of American politics, a bastion of traditional values and a defender of the free market. However, is it possible that that this ideology is actually contrary to some of the most fundamental principles on which our nation was founded? To unpack this intriguing question, let us delve into an exploration of how conservatism stacks up against the self-evident truths enshrined in the Declaration of Independence.

The Conservatism Conundrum: A Clash with Self-Evident Truths

The Declaration of Independence proclaims that "all men are created equal" and endowed with certain "unalienable Rights" including "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." At its core, conservatism affirms the importance of individual rights and limited government. However, a closer examination reveals certain tenets of conservative thought that appear to be at odds with these founding principles.



Conservatism Is Un-American: & Other Self-Evident

Truths by Alun Gibbard

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 1883 KB
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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 334 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported



1. Inequality: A Contradiction to "All Men are Created Equal"

Conservatism's emphasis on hierarchy and social order runs counter to the egalitarian spirit enshrined in the Declaration. The idea that some individuals are inherently superior to others, a concept central to conservative thought, undermines the notion of equality upon which our nation was founded.

2. Wealth Concentration: A Violation of the Pursuit of Happiness

Conservative economic policies, often favoring deregulation and tax cuts for the wealthy, contribute to wealth concentration and exacerbate economic inequality. This, in turn, makes it harder for many Americans to achieve their full potential and lead fulfilling lives, thereby violating the "pursuit of Happiness."

3. Limited Government: A Threat to Life and Liberty?

While conservatism proponents advocate for a limited government, a government that fails to protect its citizens from harm or secure their fundamental rights undermines the very principles of "Life" and "Liberty" outlined in the Declaration.

The Myth of American Conservatism

The conservative movement in America has, ironically, co-opted the language of patriotism and American values. However, the ideology's core tenets often contradict the principles that made this country great.

1. American Tradition: A False Narrative

Conservatives often portray themselves as defenders of traditional American values. However, many of the policies they advocate, such as strict immigration restrictions and opposition to same-sex marriage, are at odds with America's history of welcoming immigrants and embracing diversity.

2. Self-Reliance: A Misnomer in Modern Society

The conservative emphasis on self-reliance ignores the vital role of community and government support, especially in times of hardship. In a complex modern society, collective action is often necessary to address issues that individuals cannot solve on their own.

A Progressive Vision for America

The pursuit of a truly just and equitable society requires a progressive vision that upholds the true principles of the Declaration of Independence. This vision includes:

1. Equality for All: Embracing Diversity and Inclusion

A progressive society values and celebrates diversity, recognizing the contributions of all its members regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or any other aspect of their identity.

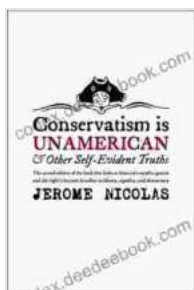
2. Economic Justice: A Fair Distribution of Wealth

A progressive economy prioritizes policies that promote economic equality and ensure that all Americans have a fair shot at success, regardless of their socioeconomic background.

3. A Strong Government: Protecting Citizens and Promoting General Welfare

A progressive government is committed to protecting its citizens from harm, securing their fundamental rights, and investing in programs that promote the general welfare of the nation.

Conservatism, as practiced in America today, is out of step with the self-evident truths upon which our nation was founded. Its emphasis on inequality, wealth concentration, and a limited government that fails to protect its citizens undermines the principles of equality, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. A progressive vision for America, one that embraces true equality, economic justice, and a strong government that serves its people, is the path forward for a more just and equitable society.



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