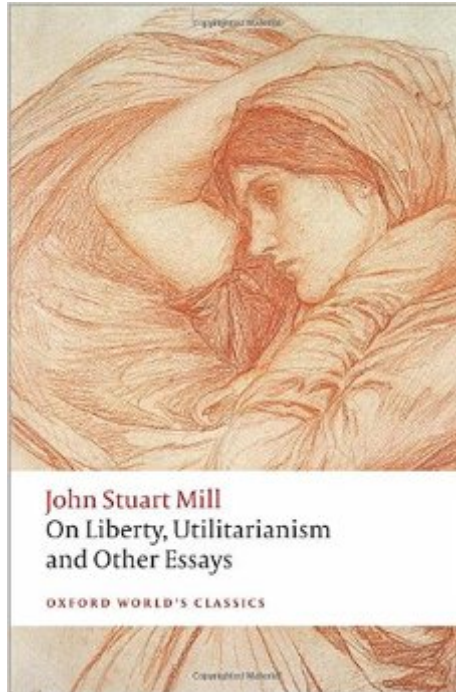


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On Liberty, Utilitarianism And Other Essays (Oxford World's Classics)



Synopsis

'it is only the cultivation of individuality which produces, or can produce, well developed human beings' Mill's four essays, 'On Liberty', 'Utilitarianism', 'Considerations on Representative Government', and 'The Subjection of Women' examine the most central issues that face liberal democratic regimes - whether in the nineteenth century or the twenty-first. They have formed the basis for many of the political institutions of the West since the late nineteenth century, tackling as they do the appropriate grounds for protecting individual liberty, the basic principles of ethics, the benefits and the costs of representative institutions, and the central importance of gender equality in society. These essays are central to the liberal tradition, but their interpretation and how we should understand their connection with each other are both contentious. In their introduction Mark Philp and Frederick Rosen set the essays in the context of Mill's other works, and argue that his conviction in the importance of the development of human character in its full diversity provides the core to his liberalism and to any defensible account of the value of liberalism to the modern world. ABOUT THE SERIES: For over 100 years Oxford World's Classics has made available the widest range of literature from around the globe. Each affordable volume reflects Oxford's commitment to scholarship, providing the most accurate text plus a wealth of other valuable features, including expert introductions by leading authorities, helpful notes to clarify the text, up-to-date bibliographies for further study, and much more.

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Customer Reviews

This is a revised edition of the best single-volume compilation of Mill's principal works -- the first Oxford World's Classics volume was edited by John Gray -- including a new introduction, expanded notes, and, for the first time, an index. Philip & Rosen's edition contains the four central essays for understanding J.S. Mill's version of liberalism -- "On Liberty", "Utilitarianism", "Considerations on Representative Government", and "The Subjection of Women". Philip & Rosen's introduction (pp. ix-xliv) sets the essays in the context of Mill's other writings, examines the relationships between them and the major issues of interpretation, and suggests a new approach to the debates surrounding Mill's position that results in a less arid, more comprehensible, and strikingly relevant Mill. There is also an up-to-date bibliography and thorough annotation, as well as a comprehensive index. New to this edition -- over Gray's -- is a new, contextualizing introduction with an important re-interpretation of Mill's central commitments that introduces students to existing scholarship and suggests ways of moving beyond it. There is also an updated and expanded select bibliography, a fuller chronology, fully revised and expanded notes, a comprehensive index, and a re-set text for improved appearance. However, as for the "Utilitarianism" itself, Roger Crisp's Utilitarianism (Oxford Philosophical Texts) is still preferable.

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