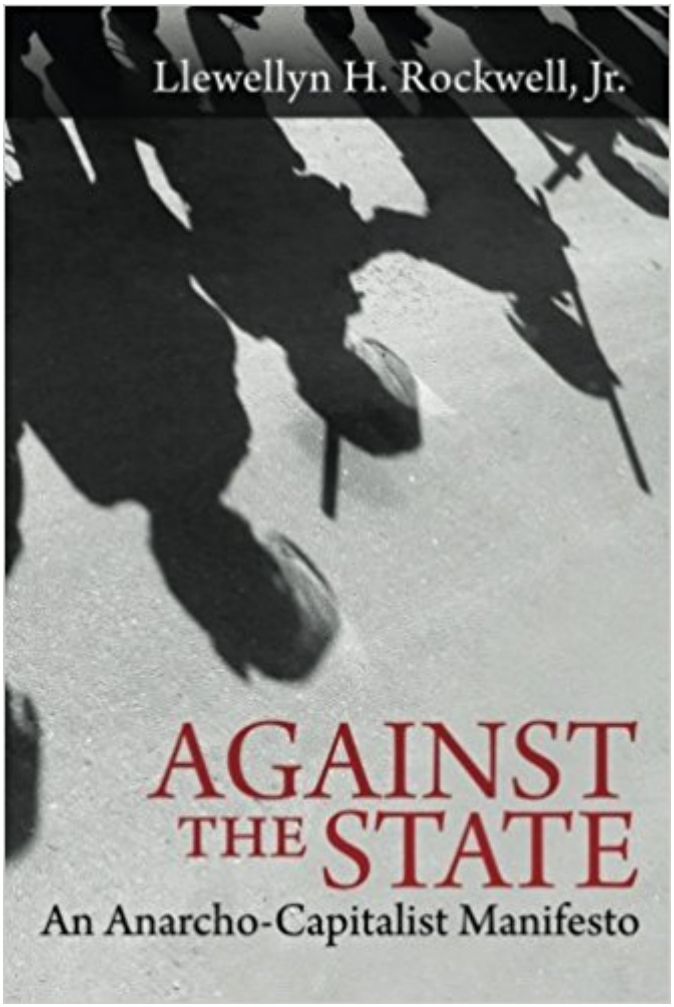
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Against The State: An Anarcho-Capitalist Manifesto



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Synopsis

Against the State: An Anarcho-Capitalist Manifesto diagnoses what is wrong with the American political system and tells us what we need to fix things. The cure is a radical one because, as the book incontrovertibly shows, the many problems that confront us today are no accident. They stem from the nature of government itself. Only peaceful cooperation based on the free market can rescue us from our present plight. Against the State is written by Lew Rockwell, the founder of the Mises Institute and LewRockwell.com, and the closest friend and associate of Murray Rothbard, the leading theorist of anarcho-capitalism. Rockwell applies RothbardÃ¢â ¬â„¢s combination of individualist anarchism and Austrian economics to contemporary America. The book shows how the government is based on war, both against foreign nations and against the American people themselves, through massive invasions of our liberties. Fueled by an out-of-control banking system, the American State has become in essence fascist. We cannot escape our predicament through limited government: the government is incapable of controlling itself. Only a purely private social order can save us, and Rockwell succinctly sets out how an anarcho-capitalist order would work.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a short book considering the subject matter. There is no doubt that Lew could have filled thousands of pages on this topic, but the genius of this work is the distilling down to this size, it is basically concentrated wisdom.This is the book that will have statists quaking in their boots. There is not a single major statist argument that Lew does not shred and scatter to the winds while at the same time showing them to be empty of any logic and reason.This book starts with the U.S. war machine and Lew handily carpet bombs the pro war side into so much rubble.The book is a great

resource for quotes and Lew leans heavily on work from all the greats, Rothbard, Mises, Higgs and of course indomitable Ron Paul with Lew adding his own observations and conclusions.If you ever wished you could have a good resource to help you win debates or to change minds, this is the one.Buy several and give them as gifts, Lew’s writing style is concise and accessible to anyone and one by one he destroys the statist’s arguments for why we even need a state. It is hard to imagine anyone reading this book and not wanting to force themselves to reexamine their assumptions about what they think is the proper role of any state. The answer will surprise many.All states become parasitic and oppressive even the ones started with the best intentions (See the USA as Exhibit A).This book is an Anarchists manifesto and maybe one of the most important books of the century simply because the case is distilled down to it’s essence and presented in a simple logical format.You have to read this to truly appreciate it. Even if a reader is not inclined to pure anarchism I think they will be prompted to take a fresh look at the state and perhaps they will force themselves to question a few of their cherished assumptions. This is always a mind expanding experience.Note: Anarchism means "without a ruler". It doesn’t mean "without rules" and it is NOT a synonym for ’chaos’, Statism is actually the chaotic and murderous system whereas anarchism is the system of peace and liberty and only that truly supports the natural human need for self actualization.As Lew demonstrates the state is just too dangerous to allow to exist and has no real and defensible justifications for its existence. Here is the case. Read it if you dare, and if you do not dare read it anyway.

Lew Rockwell uses just 162 pages to demolish the idea that we need the State. Covering every important aspect of the State that its apologists insist make it necessary for us to submit. That submission comes under threat of force and backed up by a history of unleashing violence to enforce that threat.Lew tackles the Warfare State, the drug war, the assault on our liberties, how the bankers have waged war on the taxpayers, and how America really is a fascist system. His chapter on war dismantles the neocon propaganda that the various wars and military engagements since the end of World War 2 have resulted in the liberation of the oppressed, replaced by freedom and democracy. Lew Rockwell notes that because of technology, never before have we had access to so much information, yet AmericanÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s remain blind (by choice?) to the horrors perpetrated in their names.Although he dedicates a chapter to ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“The Assault On Our LibertiesÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â•, this entire book is an interwoven testament to how the existing system dismantles the Bill of Rights. From the police state that has arisen with frightful speed since 9/11, to the government essentially claiming ownership of our bodies with the War on Drugs, and

condemning AmericaÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s progeny to a life of debt slavery through massive money printing.In the end, Rockwell disassembles the Minarchist idea of a limited government and explains how a free-market anarchist system would work. IÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢m not naive and I certainly donÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢t believe in utopia. ItÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s a world unlikely to exist anytime soon if for no other reason than the violence the current system can bring to bear to cling onto the power theyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢ve carved out for themselves. Nonetheless, this book should be read by anyone who even questions the status quo.

This was an excellent read. I believe people need to explore this idea further. We are only told that anarchy is bad and something to be avoided at all costs. That unveils the way we are taught and propagandized from cradle to grave. I am a longtime libertarian (40+ years) and yet only recently have I opened my eyes to the good side of anarchy. Rockwell does a good job and this book may lead to other worthwhile anarchy books. As another title explained: anarchy is defined by its root meaning as "absence of a ruler" ... not "no rules." --- Here is a dictionary definition with the first part what we have always been taught and the second part as a fuller expression: "a state of disorder due to absence or nonrecognition of authority: he must ensure public order in a country threatened with anarchy. ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â¢ absence of government and absolute freedom of the individual, regarded as a political ideal." --- Lew Rockwell is an impressive writer with superb credentials. If you read anything on anarchy, this is likely a great start.

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