



the perspective of an ardent political supporter. He claims that Obama's ability to transform political culture was a key to his success, but experts in the field would suggest that other factors were far more consequential. While not providing a rigorous analysis of political culture or political change, the book does provide an interesting perspective on some major political events of the past 40 years. Written in very accessible language, it will appeal to general readers interested in those events. **Summing Up:** Recommended. ★★ General readers and lower-division undergraduate students.—*A. L. Aoki, Augsburg College*

50-3526 JC578 2011-46103 CIP
Spinner-Halev, Jeff. **Enduring injustice.** Cambridge, 2012. 236p bibl index ISBN 9781107017511, \$95.00; ISBN 9781107603073 pbk, \$27.99

Spinner-Halev's *Enduring Injustice* is a thoughtful, provocative contribution to a growing theoretical literature on how to respond to historical acts of injustice. Specifically, Spinner-Halev (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) focuses on instances of injustice that endure over time and space, continue to weigh upon the present, and seem particularly resistant to attempts to transcend them. In examining the proper state and societal responses to these lingering conditions, he engages thoughtfully with a number of challenging political and ethical questions. Given the scope of historical mistreatment, how can it be determined which specific injustices merit attention or redress today? Is "apology" a sufficient or effective means of addressing them? Does the persistence of some forms of injustice call into question narratives of progress, rights expansion, and emancipation? Spinner-Halev's engagement with these challenging questions forces readers to rethink the ways in which these narratives have been addressed in liberal theory and practice, as well as in perspectives that critique liberalism's shortcomings. *Enduring Injustice* is an important, timely contribution to thinking about past injustice and the ability to confront it and cope with its effects in contemporary societies. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. ★★★ Upper-division undergraduate, graduate, and research collections.—*R. W. Glover, University of Maine*

50-3527 HX39 MARC
Thomas, Paul. **Karl Marx.** Reaktion Books, 2012. 185p bibl ISBN 1861899068 pbk, \$16.95; ISBN 9781861899064 pbk, \$16.95

Was Karl Marx an impartial social scientist or a partisan for the poor and disposed? This eminently readable little account of his life and work by Thomas (Univ. of California, Berkeley) takes up this conflicting legacy, which emanated literally from Marx's graveside to today. The task is confounded by the author's assertion that the "trouble with the term 'Marxist' is not that it is meaningless but that it bristles with too many meanings." To demonstrate this and to work through these emanations, the book's narrative is broken into four main parts roughly corresponding to locations of Marx's education and later active life. The book's main conceit is that understanding Marx's thought is impossible without also coming to terms with Marx as a political actor. This historical approach forces readers to confront the so-called early Marx with the later Marx, whose legacy was indelibly shaped by Engels before the Russian communists took it up. It is through these multiple strategies that the author seeks to explicate Marx's understanding and practice of the relation between theory and practice in order to save Marx from his progeny. **Summing Up:** Recommended. ★★ General readers, undergraduate students, and graduate students.—*A. B. Commissiong, West Texas A&M University*

U.S. Politics

50-3528 BR516 2012-2051 CIP
Edwards, Mark Thomas. **The Right of the Protestant Left: God's totalitarianism.** Palgrave Macmillan, 2012. 286p bibl index ISBN 9781137019899, \$90.00

In a tight though somewhat didactic presentation, historian Edwards (Spring Arbor Univ.) argues that the Protestant movement from the Gilded Age through the Reagan era remained conservative while advancing the cultural politics of progressive thinking. Conservative Protestant movements fully engaged in the participatory democratic process alongside the more liberal movements of the New Deal and Great Society periods. Their methodology remained a "common ethos ... presuppos[ing] substantial Christian interference." The goal of the Protestant Left was to fight against "secularism, nationalism, and totalitarianism," all the while increasingly adopting totalitarian ideologies within an expanding democratic community and global society. In what he calls a "comparative cultural-intellectual group biography," Edwards focuses on religious conservatives (Reinhold Niebuhr), political conservatives (John Foster Dulles), neoconservatives arguing against New Deal liberalism, new social radicals (Arthur Schlesinger), and the societies or groups spawned from their ideological positioning within the US cultural-intellectual tradition. The author warns readers to "recognize the classical conservatism within modern liberalism" amid the political strategizing of both Left and Right within US politics. Such an understanding of the rightness of the Protestant Left leaves readers with a revitalized "interest in participatory democratic communitarianism," so vitally needed in the present US political environment. **Summing Up:** Recommended. ★★ Graduate students, faculty.—*G. Donato, Bentley University*

50-3529 JC573 2011-35572 CIP
Ellis, Christopher. **Ideology in America,** by Christopher Ellis and James A. Stimson. Cambridge, 2012. 206p bibl index ISBN 9781107019034, \$99.00; ISBN 9781107687417 pbk, \$27.00

Public opinion watchers have long noted that many Americans profess "conservative" values while still supporting "liberal" policies. Ellis (Bucknell Univ.) and Stimson (Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) have produced a detailed, nuanced exploration and explanation of this phenomenon. According to the authors, many Americans are motivated by a broadly conceived self-interest to support the liberal policies that provide them with collective and individual benefits. However, this "operational ideology" is complicated by their "symbolic ideology"; the same people also find conservatism and its values attractive and identify themselves as conservatives. These "conflicted conservatives" make up a large enough percentage of the electorate to swing elections and influence the framing of public debate. Though few of their conclusions are particularly surprising, Ellis and Stimson back them up with voluminous data, including a "preference database" of over 7,000 poll questions going back decades. The data and arguments are clearly presented throughout, although more casual readers might find the text a bit repetitive. For example, the authors seem to rarely let a paragraph go by without restating their thesis. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. ★★★ Upper-division undergraduates and above.—*R. J. Meagher, Randolph-Macon College*

50-3530 KF4749 MARC
Garry, Patrick M. **Limited government and the Bill of Rights.** Missouri, 2012. 197p index afp ISBN 9780826219718, \$45.00
Garry (Univ. of South Dakota School of Law) focuses on the Bill