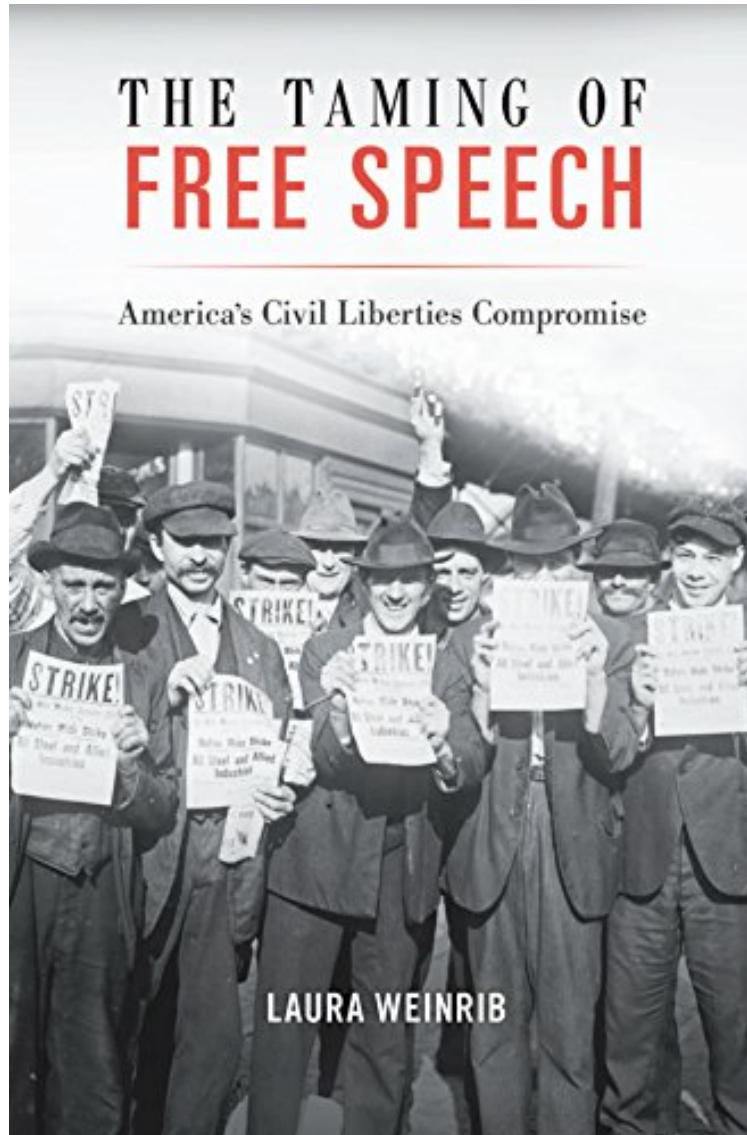


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The Taming of Free Speech

Laura Weinrib

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Laura Weinrib : The Taming of Free Speech before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Taming of Free Speech:

Laura Weinrib shows how a coalition of lawyers and activists made judicial enforcement of the Bill of Rights a defining feature of American democracy. Protection of civil liberties was a calculated bargain between liberals and conservatives to save the courts from New Deal attack and secure free speech for both labor radicals and businesses.

Utterly brilliant... Balanced and restrained in her writing but original and subversive in her argument, Weinrib stops short of offering morals from this history... Most important, Weinrib reanimates a strange time when the forces of business and the forces of labor were engaged in a pitched battle about the way Americans should construct their economy. When you go looking for the origins of civil libertarianism, it turns out, you find a class struggle... Weinrib's book is an extraordinary reminder of why history matters to the present. (Samuel Moyn Wall Street Journal 2016-09-25) This is a big, bold project, a painting on a large canvas, depicting many different scenes in the manner of a Brueghel painting or WPA mural. It is a major work of history which will, I am quite sure, remain for many years the authoritative account of the ACLU's pivotal role in producing our modern law of free expression. (Robert W. Gordon, Stanford Law School) Weinrib's important reconstruction of the history of our notions of free expression shows how an idea first offered on behalf of labor radicals became transformed into a general account of why all dissent from the conventional should be protected. The Taming of Free Speech is a major contribution to the history of civil liberties. (Mark Tushnet, Harvard Law School) The Taming of Free Speech is a complex story about the evolution of political and legal tactics within competing organizations and among the notable cast of characters at their helm... [A] provocative book. (Sophia Rosenfeld Dissent 2016-10-01) A fascinating read, as constitutional history and as storytelling... The book highlights the underappreciated foundational role of the interwar ACLU. (D. E. Smith Choice 2017-03-01) [An] important revisionist history of the origins of American civil liberties... Offer[s] important correctives to the celebratory accounts of civil liberties that we so often tell ourselves. (David Cole New York of Books 2017-03-23) Extremely original and well-written... [A] wide-ranging history. (David M. Rabban s in American History 2017-06-01) About the Author Laura Weinrib is Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School.