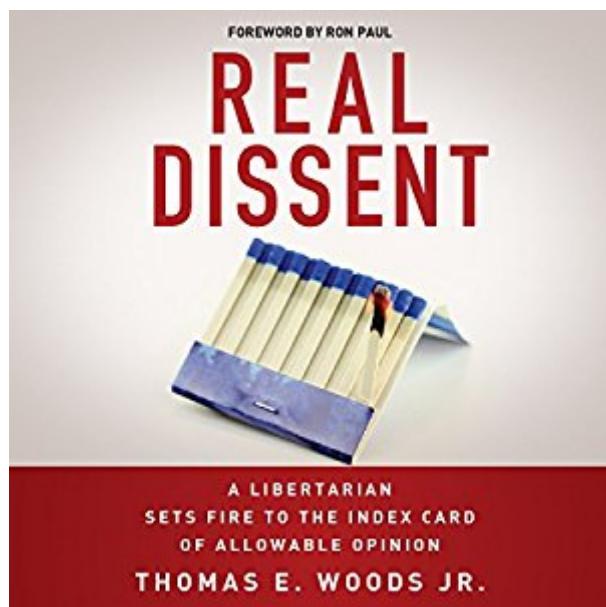


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Real Dissent: A Libertarian Sets Fire To The Index Card Of Allowable Opinion



Synopsis

Nothing makes traditional left and right kiss and make up faster than when they're faced with an articulate libertarian. Avert your eyes from this dangerous extremist, citizen! Government is composed of wise public servants who innocently pursue the common good! In *Real Dissent*, Tom Woods demolishes some of the toughest critics of libertarianism in his trademark way. In doing so he strays beyond what he calls the index card of allowable opinion, the narrow range within which the media and political classes permit debate to take place in America. Should 40% or 35% of our income be taxed? That's the kind of debate the *New York Times* prefers. Should our income be taxed at all? Now that's out of bounds, citizen! In foreign policy, Americans are permitted to choose between bombing a despised country or starving its people to death. You favor peace? Why, you must be an "extremist"! On the Federal Reserve, the debate is over which policy the Fed should pursue. But what if the Fed is itself the problem? No answer, because the question isn't raised. *Real Dissent* is organized into ten parts: Part I: War and Propaganda Part II: Capitalism and Anti-Capitalism Part III: Libertarianism Attacked, and My Replies Part IV: Ron Paul and Forbidden Truths Part V: End the Fed Part VI: History and Liberty Part VII: When Libertarians Go Wrong [on people who don't quite get their own philosophy] Part VIII: Books You May Have Missed Part IX: Talking Liberty: Selected Tom Woods Show Interviews Part X: Back to Basics Afterword: How I Evaded the Gatekeepers of Approved Opinion The index card of allowable opinion forces Americans into narrow and pointless debates, and closes off discussion of plausible and humane alternatives. For the sake of American liberty, it's time we set that thing on fire. This audiobook is a match.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've never had much exposure to Mr. Woods, but I pre-ordered this book on the strength of Ron Paul's Foreword and I wasn't disappointed. Over the course of over 50 chapters, Mr. Woods does an excellent job of explaining the actual libertarian positions on the subjects of War, Capitalism, Freedom, the Federal Reserve and more. In addition, he addresses the faux arguments against libertarian positions offered by the media. If you want to examine rational political thought outside the pre-determined "choices," that are offered by mainstream society, this is an excellent place to start. The writing is engaging and the thought process is enlightening.

Thomas Woods' book titled REAL DISSENT is a historically accurate antidote to the "conservatives" and the cowardly war party. Woods value is that he writes very well, and he knows actual history and bona fide sources. While some readers may place Woods as a "neocon," he is certainly is not. While this reviewer does not agree with all of Woods' views, Woods presentations are logical, and he is articulate. Woods wasted no time in attacking the neocons and the "liberals" strait jacket avenues of debate. The apprehensively conventional view that political debate should be confined to Romney, Clinton, and Obama agendas is shattered by Woods book. An amusing view of the neocons is that they whine about socialism and communism. Yet, these same neocons want a Soviet Leninist-Stalinist police state to undermine their badly distorted views of history. Woods cites "chapter and verse" the contradictory neocon views and confusion. Police state spying and attempts to stifle truth are exposed in Woods' book, and the "Establishment" is uncomfortable with Woods to say the least. Both Democrats and Republicans have expanded the war state. Without knowing who the "enemy" is at any given moment, all they can do is talk about bombing people regardless of innocent unarmed civilians including women and children. Between 1988-1991, US forces destroyed Iraq's water purification system which cost the lives of approximately five hundred thousand children because US authorities did not like Saddam Hussein. Then Secretary of State Madeleine Albright actually justified such tragedy. Woods could have made this more of an issue. Readers should know that between 1980-1988, Russian, West German, and US authorities armed Hussein and help him fight the Iranians in a long deadly war which no one won. The lies that Hussein had weapons of mass destruction were later undermined. In 1988, US forces helped the US Navy intervened on Hussein's behalf against the Iraqis. Yet three short years later, Hussein

became the "bad guy." The Orwellian overtones are too obvious to ignore. Later in 2001, US forces ousted Hussein, and, as Woods noted, one neocon boasted that US forces should destroy anyone just to do it without any moral imperative. In other words, diplomacy should be based on evil impulse rather than rational policy. When US policy makers were warned about the different political factions in Western Asia, the ignorant government officials dismissed such warning and marginalized anyone who told the truth. Older conservatives such as Russel Kirk who were "the darlings of conservatism," are now condemned by the neocons. Woods noted that Kirk and older conservatives warned that war destroyed civilized behavior which is now epidemic both overseas and in the US. Woods cited "The Founding Fathers" who were against standing armies, imperialism, and militarism. Now the neocons hate such great men because the views of "The Founding Fathers" undermine "Perpetual War for Perpetual Peace." In fact, some of the neocons are such "cry babies" that anyone who undermines their nonsense is removed from Face Book and other Internet connections. One example of the war party's deceit is John Yoo who tried to cite Alexander Hamilton's views in THE FEDERALIST PAPERS. Supposedly Hamilton said the US presidents had the same power as King George III. Yoo blundered in that he DID NOT finish the citation whereby Hamilton argued that presidents' war making powers were limited by the US Constitution and a declaration of war by Congress. Yoo had to retreat. The undersigned disagreed with Woods' economic views. Woods economic views were logical and expressed very well. However, his views would work in "a perfect world." The political greed and corruption is so entrenched that Woods' views would not work. On the other hand, Woods's economic arguments are well worth reading to understand what is wrong. In spite of minor disagreements, Woods' book titled REAL DISSENT is an "eye opener. This writer recommends any of Woods books which anyone of "residual common sense" can enjoy reading and comprehend. Hopefully Woods will write more thoughtful books and monographs if only for the record. James E. Egolf August 23, 2015

A relatively short investment of time, as well as an incredibly small actual investment for the kindle version (less than \$5.00 currently), makes this title an incredible value. Dr. Tom Woods is chicken soup for the (embattled) freedom-loving soul. Lovers of liberty are sure to garner some spirit rejuvenating comfort from Dr. Woods' ability to maul (with grizzly bear like tenacity) the propaganda of the court academics and the media apologists for the political class. If you have taken time to check the reviews, then you have more than the required curiosity to read this book. Real Dissent is actually a collection of Tom Woods' previous letters, essays, blog posts, interviews, and responses that Dr. Woods has edited into a collection and organized by topic.

One should not expect a fully documented treatise, as that was clearly not the purpose of this work. However, the selections do work toward an overall goal, and are often times extremely entertaining. Dr. Woods is an accomplished academic, but his best work seems to come off-the-cuff, because his wit and literary flare make him a heavyweight champion of debate utilizing the written word. I have increasingly become a fan of Dr. Woods' non-academic literary works (e.g. Politically Incorrect Guide to American History, Nullification, Rollback), and have felt a connection of sorts to his writing - as his philosophical evolution from Regan Conservatism to Rothbard/Ron Paul Libertarianism much resembles my own journey of philosophical discovery to arrive at the same moral and logical ends. Many of Dr. Woods' earlier works are much more thorough regarding the individual theme of each book, but 'Real Dissent' is an entertaining book that I would recommend to most any reader regardless of their previous exposure to libertarian thought.

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