



Political Authority

Contract and Critique

By Peter Winch, Edited by Michael Campbell and Lynette Reid

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This book compiles Peter Winch's previously unpublished manuscripts on political philosophy, collecting editorial notes and an interpretive essay showing the development of Winch's thinking over time.

Peter Winch (1926–1997) was one of the most important philosophers of his generation. Although best known for his work in social science and the interpretation of Ludwig Wittgenstein, he had a long-standing interest in ethics and political philosophy and was writing a book on political philosophy at the time of his death. This volume collects together Winch's previously unpublished manuscripts on political philosophy, together with an editorial introduction which outlines the development of Winch's approach over the course of his life, and shows the originality and enduring relevance of his approach to perennial issues concerning the nature and justification of political authority.

Readership

This book will appeal to scholars and academics engaged in issues in political philosophy or interested in the tradition of post-war British philosophy

Key selling points

- Makes available for the first time Peter Winch's manuscripts on political philosophy.
- Articulates an approach to political philosophy inspired by the work of Wittgenstein.
- Situates Winch's work on political philosophy within his philosophy as a whole and within the context of Anglophone post-war moral philosophy.
- Provides an original diagnosis of the crises of legitimacy besetting contemporary political liberalism.

About the Author(s) / Editor(s)

Peter Winch (1926–1997) was Professor of Philosophy at King's College London and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

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