Amending America If We Love the Constitution So Much, Why Do We Keep Trying to Change It

By Jerome Agel

University Press of Kansas. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 415 pages. Dimensions: 9.2in. x 6.0in. x 0.9in. Even as we marvel at the grandeur of our constitutional system, we can't resist tinkering with it. Amending America tells the dramatic story of how, over the past 206 years, the American people have reshaped the Constitution to meet the country's changing needs. It describes how we have adopted 27 amendments since 1789—and debated and rejected 10,000 more. A provocative examination of one of America's most important yet least-known democratic tools, Amending America brings to life events in our history that continue to resonate today as, as various politicians have set their hearts on amendments to balance the budget, to ban abortion, or to allow school prayer. A wonderful book . . . A magnificent treasure trove of American history. Arthur R. Miller, Bruce Bromley Professor of Law, Harvard Law School. A skillfully rendered, comprehensive, and engaging study of Article V procedures for amending the Constitution. Washington Post Instructive and fascinating. The book is thorough, erudite, and packed with the anecdotes that make our political past so enjoyable to review. Minneapolis Star Tribune. Admirably illuminates the complex and remarkable history of the American...

Reviews

This book might be worth a study, and superior to other. It can be written in easy words and phrases and never confusing. I am just happy to inform you that here is the greatest ebook i have got read within my personal daily life and may be he best pdf for actually.

-- Mrs. Avis Little DDS

Complete information for publication fans. Better then never, though i am quite late in start reading this one. Its been written in an extremely straightforward way in fact it is just soon after i finished reading this ebook in which basically altered me, change the way i believe.

-- Ellie Stark
The Bill of Rights IS about "individual rights" and the author explains in detail why this is so. This book should be required reading for any college course on the U.S. Constitution in my opinion and for any citizen wanting to understand what America is all about. Read more. 6 people found this helpful.
Amending America tells the dramatic story of how, over the past 206 years, the American people have reshaped the Constitution to meet the country's changing needs. It describes how we have adopted 27 amendments since 1789 and debated and rejected 10,000 more. A provocative examination of one of America's most important yet least-known democratic tools, Amending America brings to life events in our history that continue to resonate today as, as various politicians have set their hearts on amendments to balance the budget, to ban abortion, or to allow school prayer. "A wonderful book... A magnificent treasure trove of American history."--Arthur R. Miller, Bruce Bromley Professor of Law, Harvard Law School. "If we love the Constitution so much, why do we keep trying to change it? Part of the answer is that the nation has changed dramatically in the more than two centuries since the United States declared its independence from Great Britain. In spite of the Framers' intentions to produce a document that would not only serve their immediate concerns but also address the problems and crises of generations to follow, they could not possibly have conceived what the United States of America would become. They also could not envision the moral and legal dilemmas created by modern technology and the enormous challenges that the nation would face in the future. Scholars of American constitutional development should find the book a useful addition to their shelves; general readers should find it an interesting and enjoyable way to learn about some often overlooked aspects of American history."--Sanford Levinson, History Book Club News "Invaluable for just about anybody seeking to understand the contradictions of our approach to constitutional government."--Herbert S. Parmet, author of Richard. Nixon and His America "For a book with such a weighty subject, Amending America is surprisingly entertaining and humorous."--Alan Mass... "A skillfully rendered, comprehensive, and engaging study of Article V's procedures for amending the Constitution."--Washington Post. Customer reviews. Amending America is a comprehensive and engaging study of Article V's procedures for amending the Constitution. It describes how we have adopted 27 amendments since 1789 and debated and rejected 10,000 more. A provocative examination of one of America's most important yet least-known democratic tools, Amending America brings to life events in our history that continue to resonate today as, as various politicians have set their hearts on amendments to balance the budget, to ban abortion, or to allow school prayer. "A wonderful book... A magnificent treasure trove of American history."--Arthur R. Miller, Bruce Bromley Professor of Law, Harvard Law School. "If we love the Constitution so much, why do we keep trying to change it? Part of the answer is that the nation has changed dramatically in the more than two centuries since the United States declared its independence from Great Britain. In spite of the Framers' intentions to produce a document that would not only serve their immediate concerns but also address the problems and crises of generations to follow, they could not possibly have conceived what the United States of America would become. They also could not envision the moral and legal dilemmas created by modern technology and the enormous challenges that the nation would face in the future. Scholars of American constitutional development should find the book a useful addition to their shelves; general readers should find it an interesting and enjoyable way to learn about some often overlooked aspects of American history."--Sanford Levinson, History Book Club News "Invaluable for just about anybody seeking to understand the contradictions of our approach to constitutional government."--Herbert S. Parmet, author of Richard. Nixon and His America "For a book with such a weighty subject, Amending America is surprisingly entertaining and humorous."--Alan Mass... "A skillfully rendered, comprehensive, and engaging study of Article V's procedures for amending the Constitution."--Washington Post. Customer reviews. Amending America is a comprehensive and engaging study of Article V's procedures for amending the Constitution.