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## The Practice of Liberal Pluralism

*The Practice of Liberal Pluralism* defends the theory of liberal pluralism, a theory based on three core concepts – value pluralism, political pluralism, and expressive liberty – and explores the implications of this theory for politics.

Liberal pluralism helps clarify some of the complexities of real-world political action and points toward a distinctive conception of public philosophy and public policy. It leads to a vision of a good society in which political institutions are active in a delimited sphere and in which, within broad limits, families, civil associations, and faith communities may organize and conduct themselves in ways that are not congruent with principles that govern the public sphere.

Part I addresses the philosophical foundations of liberal pluralism. Part II extends the analysis of value pluralism to aspects of political behavior and moral motivation. Part III considers the practical aspects of liberal pluralism. Part IV defends liberal pluralism against attacks that it is internally incoherent or that it denies, without justification, key theological premises.

Written in a nontechnical style, this book will appeal to professionals in philosophy, political science, law, and policymaking.

William A. Galston is Saul Stern Professor at the School of Public Policy, University of Maryland.

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WILLIAM A. GALSTON

*University of Maryland*



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PUBLISHED BY THE PRESS SYNDICATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
 The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, United Kingdom

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
 The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK  
 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011-4211, USA  
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia  
 Ruiz de Alarcón 13, 28014 Madrid, Spain  
 Dock House, The Waterfront, Cape Town 8001, South Africa

<http://www.cambridge.org>

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First published 2005

Printed in the United States of America

*Typeface* ITC New Baskerville 10/13 pt.    *System* L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X 2<sub>ε</sub> [TB]

*A catalog record for this book is available from the British Library.*

*Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data*

Galston, William A. (William Arthur), 1946–  
 The practice of liberal pluralism / William A. Galston.  
 p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 0-521-84034-1 – ISBN 0-521-54963-9 (pbk.)

1. Liberalism. 2. Pluralism (Social sciences) I. Title.

JC574.G372 2005

320.51'3-dc22 2004046567

ISBN 0 521 84034 1 hardback

ISBN 0 521 54963 9 paperback

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*To Miriam, for more than I have ever said*

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Most of the issues that mankind sets out to settle, it never does settle. They are not solved, because . . . they are incapable of solution properly speaking, being concerned with incommensurables.

— Learned Hand

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## Acknowledgments

This book took shape in part as a response to reactions to my previous book, *Liberal Pluralism* (Cambridge, 2002). In this connection, I want to extend my thanks to Stephen Macedo and Nicholas Wolterstorff for the searching remarks they offered at a panel on *Liberal Pluralism* convened at the Brookings Institution, sponsored by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, and chaired by the indefatigable and multitalented E. J. Dionne, Jr. As well, I thank Dionne, Judge Richard Posner, Alan Ryan, and Robert Pippin for the equally searching (and memorably spirited) remarks they offered at an “author meets critics” panel organized by Peter Berkowitz at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association.

For providing wonderful forums where previous versions of these materials were presented and discussed, I also want to thank: Nancy Rosenblum and Harvard’s political theory colloquium; Robert George and Princeton’s James Madison Center; Jacob Levy and the University of Chicago’s political science department; Sandy Levinson and the University of Texas Law School; Robert Talisse and Vanderbilt University’s philosophy department; and Gerard Bradley, John Finnis, and the University of Notre Dame’s philosophy department.

As always, I want to thank my colleagues at the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy at the University of Maryland for helping to refine my rough thoughts into something more nearly acceptable for public presentation.

Finally, I want to thank the anonymous reviewers for Cambridge University Press, and especially the passionate nay-sayer (you know who you are), for helping make this a much better book than it would otherwise



have been. I owe a special debt to the Press's marvelously patient and level-headed Terence Moore, without whom there would have been no book at all.

Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, and 12 appear here in print for the first time. Earlier versions of the remaining chapters were published, as follows: Chapter 5 as "Toughness as a Political Virtue," *Social Theory and Practice* 17, 2 (1991): 175–97; Chapter 6 as "Cosmopolitan Altruism," *Social Philosophy and Policy* 10, 1 (1993): 118–34; Chapter 7 as "An American Public Philosophy for the Twenty-First Century: The Theory and Practice of Liberal Community," Monograph No. 2, "Toward a New Public Philosophy: A Global Reevaluation of Democracy at Century's End" Series, New York: Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs, 1997; and Chapter 9 as "After Socialism: Mutualism and a Progressive Market Strategy," *Social Philosophy and Policy* 20, 2 (2003): 204–22. I am grateful to *Social Theory and Practice*, *Social Philosophy and Policy*, and the Carnegie Council for permission to make use of these materials.