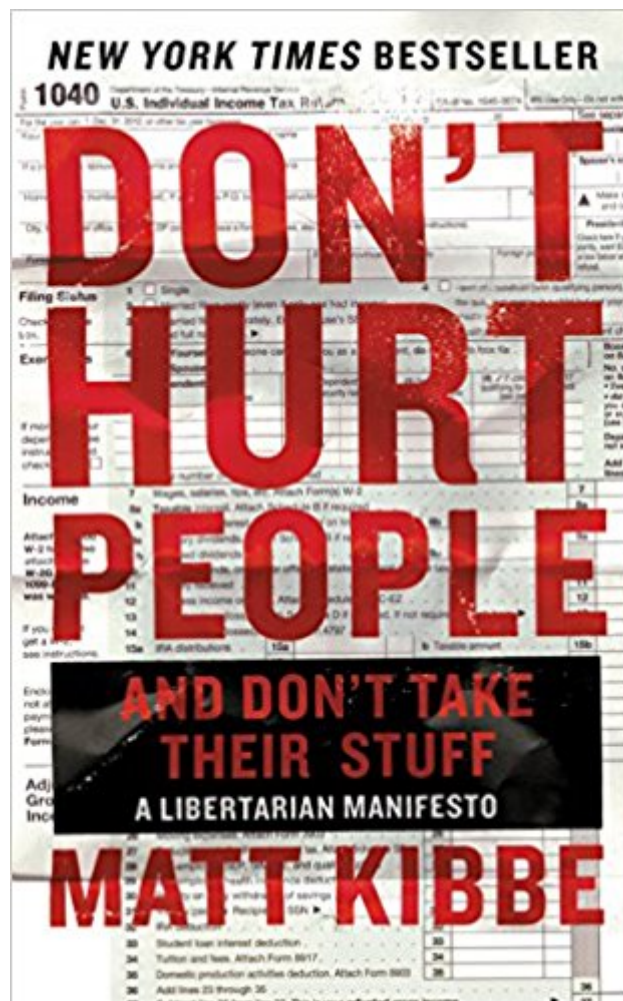




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Don't Hurt People And Don't Take Their Stuff: A Libertarian Manifesto



Synopsis

In this essential manifesto of the new libertarian movement, New York Times bestselling author and president of FreedomWorks Matt Kibbe makes a stand for individual liberty and shows us what we must do to preserve our freedom. Don't Hurt People and Don't Take Their Stuff is a rational yet passionate argument that defends the principles upon which America was founded—principles shared by citizens across the political spectrum. The Constitution grants each American the right to self-determination, to be protected from others whose actions are destructive to their lives and property. Yet as Kibbe persuasively shows, the political and corporate establishment consolidates its power by infringing upon our independence—from taxes to regulations to spying—ultimately eroding the ideals, codified in law, that have made the United States unique in history. Kibbe offers a surefire plan for reclaiming our inalienable rights and regaining control of our lives, grounded in six simple rules:
• Don't hurt people: Free people just want to be left alone, not hassled or harmed by someone else with an agenda or designs over their life and property.
• Don't take people's stuff: America's founders fought to ensure property rights and our individual right to the fruits of our labors.
• Take responsibility: Liberty takes responsibility.
• Don't sit around waiting for someone else to solve your problems.
• Work for it: For every action there is an equal reaction.
• Work hard and you'll be rewarded.
• Mind your own business: Free people live and let live.
• Fight the power: Thanks to the Internet and the decentralization of knowledge, there are more opportunities than ever to take a stand against corrupt authority.

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Customer Reviews

“For those eager to understand the clear-thinking that informs libertarian philosophy, Kibbe’s book is an excellent choice. ... Kibbe’s goal is to revive the libertarianism that clearly animated our founding fathers. ... [An] excellent book.” • (Forbes)

Wall Street Journal • USA Today • Publishers Weekly Bestseller
Do you believe in the freedom of individuals to determine their own futures and solve problems cooperatively? Don’t hurt people, and don’t take their stuff. Simple and straightforward, that’s liberty in a nutshell. And yet it seems that, more and more, the decisions CEOs and Washington bureaucrats make about what to do for us, or to us, or even against us, are having an increasingly adverse impact on our lives and freedoms. From Matt Kibbe, the influential leader of FreedomWorks, Don’t Hurt People and Don’t Take Their Stuff is the first true manifesto of a new libertarian grassroots movement, in which Kibbe clearly articulates the case for freer people, more voluntary cooperation, and solving problems from the bottom up. The rules for liberty Don’t hurt people: Free people just want to be left alone, not hassled or harmed by someone else’s agenda or designs on their life and property. Don’t take people’s stuff: America’s founders fought to ensure property rights and our individual right to the fruits of our labors. Take responsibility: Liberty means responsibility. Don’t sit around waiting for someone else to solve your problems. Work for it: For every action there is an equal reaction. Work hard and you’ll be rewarded. Mind your own business: Free people live and let live. Fight the power: Take a stand against corrupt authority.

If you operate under the premise that either the Democratic or Republican Party represents the best interests of this country or its citizens, you probably shouldn’t buy this book. As a libertarian myself, I’m often asked to explain my political philosophy in a short phrase, and I’ve generally gone with, "More Freedom, Less Government," but this book provides a more detailed approach that is also accessible. Those enamored with the power of the State will trash this book without having read it (see the 1 Star reviews), but it’s actually a cogent argument for freedom and individualism as a solution to the problems our country is facing today. It is concise, well-written and engaging. Read it with an open mind and it will be a great use of your time.

I actually didn't have too high expectations about this book but I was more than pleasantly surprised. "Don't Hurt People and Don't Take Their Stuff" is actually pretty good. A concise, eminently readable, straightforward Libertarian Manifesto with 6 simple "Rules for Liberty" - #1 Don't Hurt People, #2 Don't take people's stuff, #3 Take Responsibility, #4 Work for it, #5 Mind your own business, and #6 Fight the Power. This is not a work of deep philosophical thought but it nicely condenses a number of great works that are. I recommend it most especially to those who have not personally read Ayn Rand, Thomas Sowell, Adam Smith, F.A. Hayek, and Ludwig von Mises and are looking to acquire a basic understanding of libertarian philosophy.

Matt Kibbe has put the hundreds of volumes of rules, put together by politicians, into 8 words. "Don't hurt people and don't take their stuff". He is into the high tech era of smart phones and PC's as a means of wide communication. I'm still behind the curve. If we ever intend to slow down the political onrush to socialism and communism you had better read this book. He actually has some reasonable methods of defeating this madness. Kibbe has a solution. We need men and women in public office who understand the Constitution and wish to strictly adhere to it. Right now all of our politicians seem eager to embrace socialism. Socialism has failed in every country where its been tried. Yet each new politician believes it failed only because "he/she" wasn't in charge of it. Capitalism succeeds every time its tried. Obama is going to ensure that our country is equal to others. He means equally poor and miserable. He punishes success. Matt Kibbe offers a solution. So do a few other other authors. We must get back to our roots. Benjamin Franklin said it best. "We must hang together, or surely, we shall hang separately". We must be united American's to oust our entrenched politicians who are leading the country into chaos, and replace them with strict Constitutionalists. 545 people are responsible for every single problem this country faces, from Obamacare to obesity. The Congress, the Senate, the President and the Supreme Court. None of the rest of us have much of a say.

First off, I'll tell you up front: if you're one of those freedom-hating curmudgeons who blames "liberals" for everything bad that ever happened to you (including your own bad decisions), don't waste your money on this book because you're going to hate it anyways. With that said, if you're looking for a real brand of libertarianism that hasn't been hijacked by haters, you will probably like this book because Kibbe tells it like it is---America is deadlocked in a civil war between competing MENTALITIES, one minarchist, one neo-feudal. Truth hurts, but only if you're a phony. The first part of the book is pretty dystopian... from reading it, you sort of get the feeling that as soon as the big,

bad government (for some unknown reason, Kibbe doesn't call out large corporations) bleeds Earth dry, Heaven's going to be next!BUT... around halfway through the book, Kibbe points out, correctly, that the internet has become a genie the government and their corporate cronies carelessly let out of the bottle, and through it, social media threatens to turn the tables to create a sort-of-feudal society where even the most powerful and immune won't be safe from karma vigilantes. Something has to give one way or the other (author's words), but I personally hope the US isn't going to become another Syria, with individual reformists and anti-freedom volunteer brigades turning our cities into war zones. :-(

I found the book enlightening and entertaining. A great read for the Libertarian minded but I would think more useful for partisans of either major party. Take it in with an open mind and see if you have an intellectual counter not an emotional outburst.

Enjoyed reading the book and getting to understand the views of this group.

If you want to know what libertarians think, without getting into the some of the contentious nerdy libertarian things like the finer points of the non-aggression principle, this is a great book to read. Libertarians actually hold a wide range of views on social issues, but are united in valuing liberty.

Matt Kibbe makes the material read easily.

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