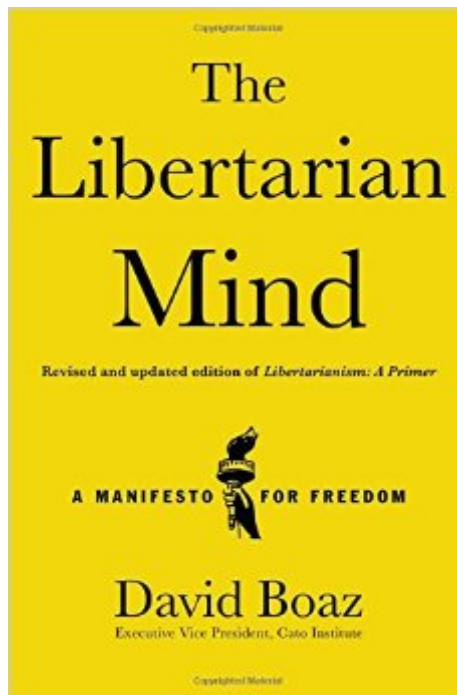


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# The Libertarian Mind: A Manifesto For Freedom



## Synopsis

A revised, updated, and retitled edition of David Boaz's classic book *Libertarianism: A Primer*, which was praised as uniting "history, philosophy, economics and law" "spiced with just the right anecdotes" "to bring alive a vital tradition of American political thought that deserves to be honored today" (Richard A. Epstein, University of Chicago). *Libertarianism* "the philosophy of personal and economic freedom" "has deep roots in Western civilization and in American history, and it's growing stronger. Two long wars, chronic deficits, the financial crisis, the costly drug war, the campaigns of Ron Paul and Rand Paul, the growth of executive power under Presidents Bush and Obama, and the revelations about NSA abuses have pushed millions more Americans in a libertarian direction. *Libertarianism: A Primer*, by David Boaz, the longtime executive vice president of the Cato Institute, continues to be the best available guide to the history, ideas, and growth of this increasingly important political movement" and now it has been updated throughout and with a new title: *>*. Boaz has updated the book with new information on the threat of government surveillance; the policies that led up to and stemmed from the 2008 financial crisis; corruption in Washington; and the unsustainable welfare state. *>* is the ultimate resource for the current, burgeoning libertarian movement.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 432 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster; Rev Upd edition (February 10, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1476752842

ISBN-13: 978-1476752846

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.3 x 8.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (46 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is great. I consider my political views "ever-changing" and I have been wanting to explore the philosophy behind libertarianism. This book is a wonderful primer. It explains libertarianism in a

simple, straightforward way. The book doesn't pander left, right, up, or down. I consider it to be fair. I would highly recommend.

Americans are tired of the two-party system of political racketeering. The Republicans and Democrats use tax money as a criminal slush fund to obtain and wield power, not for the benefit of the country, but for their parties. Boaz lays out how Libertarians approach the world from a "Live and Let Live" perspective. Were the current system working, the Libertarian approach might not be so appealing. But the current system is broken, starting with the most corrupt, secretive, and lawless president ever to have served. Freedom has a way of curing ills, social and economic. Freedom has not been tried and found wanting, it has not been tried at all. We've tried every other failed, cockamamie idea and program. Now, let's Give Freedom a Chance.

Very good review of principles of libertarianism, and why it makes more sense than the current overreaching federal and state governments. Politicians come up with many good sounding programs, but we need to remember that paying for everyone of those earned the money and having a politician or bureaucrat get it generally to their friends. Or their financial supporters. Not an efficient use of money. We are much more careful spending money that we earn than spending other People's Money on other people.

In this thought-provoking, engaging, and informative account of Libertarianism, David Boaz provides an overview of historical, social, philosophical, and moral ideas to illustrate how personal liberty has shaped the Libertarian worldview. Boaz also describes how centralized government has continually disregarded the U.S. Constitution, infringing upon our natural rights of life, liberty, and property. The book is written as a popular explanation and defense of Libertarian philosophy, practice, and policy, and both novices and veterans in this field will find *The Libertarian Mind* enjoyable. I recommend reading (also by Boaz) *The Libertarian Reader: Classic & Contemporary Writings from Lao-Tzu to Milton Friedman*, to supplement *The Libertarian Mind*. Additionally, I recommend *Realizing Freedom: Libertarian Theory, History, and Practice*, by Tom G. Palmer, for a more technical discussion of Libertarian philosophy.

As Libertarianism become more mainstream, anyone interested in American politics owes it to themselves to develop a working knowledge of the real thing rather than the cartoon versions floating around the media. Regardless of whether or not you accept libertarian ideas, at least make

an effort to know what it is you embrace or reject. The Libertarian Mind is the best place to start. Cato is the acknowledged center of libertarianism in the US and David Boaz is one of, if not the, leading libertarian scholars writing today. If he cannot explain libertarianism, nobody can. He makes his case well and describes more of a philosophy than a party platform. Although the book may gain some converts to the libertarian cause, it's greater value is that even readers who are less than fully convinced or who remain adamantly opposed, will at least be able to address their arguments to real libertarian ideals rather than the straw men too often put forward by those who do not understand or deliberately misrepresent libertarianism.

Boaz does a splendid job of presenting Libertarian/Classical Liberal tenets/thoughts/beliefs in such an easy to understand manner. Gave the book to one of my most neo-liberal friends who's comment summed it up. "It's just common sense." Loved that. Boaz does not hide from the sticky issues for many Libs and offers options for understanding those issues. He helped me to better understand how libertarianism is much more of a process than an ideology. He shows how far back in human history you can find libertarian thought and practices. All in all a marvelous read for the novice, the inquisitive, and even the hardened Rand Paul-ite.

excellent Book, I recommended for Republicans and Democrats , so they can see what are they doing to this Country.

The Libertarian Mind is an excellent book. David Boaz makes a compelling case for the Libertarian cause. This is a must read for anyone who has concerns with Government overstepping its bounds as stated in the Constitution.

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