

# Contents

6.2 The Fundamental Ideal	131
6.2.1 Negative Liberty	131
6.2.2 The Schoolyard View	134
6.2.3 Democracy, Equality, and Justice	135
6.3 Classical Conceptions of Democracy	135
6.3.1 Aggregation	138
6.3.2 Minimalism	139
6.3.3 Stepping Back	141
6.4 Two Contemporary Trends	142
6.4.1 Participation	144
6.4.2 Deliberation	146

Preface	x
Acknowledgments	xvi

## PART I

### Setting the Task

1	Some Preliminary Considerations	3
1.1	The Social World	3
1.2	What Is Political Philosophy?	9
1.3	How We Will Proceed	13
1.4	A Final Preliminary about Philosophy	14
	For Further Reading	17
2	Beginning Where We Are	19
2.1	Where to Begin?	19
2.2	Liberalism in Political Philosophy	21
2.2.1	Three Core Commitments of Liberalism	22
2.2.2	Liberalism and the Challenge of Anarchism	24
2.2.3	Further Commitments of Liberalism	26
2.2.4	Liberalism and Democracy	31
2.3	Liberalism and Popular Politics	32
2.4	Varieties of Liberal Theory	34
2.5	Conclusion	36
	For Further Reading	36

## PART II

### Fundamental Concepts

3	Liberty	41
3.1	The Concept of Liberty	41
3.1.1	Liberty: Metaphysical and Political	42
3.1.2	The Concept/Conception Distinction	43
3.1.3	Identifying the Concept	45



3.2	<i>Three Conceptions of Liberty</i>	47
3.2.1	Negative Liberty	47
3.2.2	Positive Liberty	53
3.2.3	Freedom as Civic Standing	57
3.3	<i>Conclusion</i>	63
	<i>For Further Reading</i>	65
4	<b>Authority</b>	66
4.1	<i>Some Initial Distinctions</i>	66
4.1.1	Expertise and Permission	66
4.1.2	A Point about <i>Oughts</i>	70
4.1.3	Political Authority	72
4.2	<i>The Puzzle of Political Authority</i>	77
4.2.1	Consent and Contract	79
4.2.2	Consequentialism	82
4.2.3	Fair Play	84
4.3	<i>The Dangers of Authority</i>	86
4.3.1	The Milgram Experiment	86
4.3.2	The Stanford Prison Experiment	88
4.4	<i>Conclusion</i>	89
	<i>For Further Reading</i>	91
5	<b>Justice</b>	93
5.1	<i>Our Concept of Justice</i>	93
5.1.1	Expansive and Constrained Approaches	94
5.1.2	Justice as the First Virtue	98
5.1.3	The Circumstances of Justice	99
5.1.4	Justice and Equality	101
5.1.5	Moving Ahead	103
5.2	<i>Conceptions of Justice</i>	104
5.2.1	Minimalism	105
5.2.2	Utilitarianism	109
5.2.3	Egalitarianism	113
5.2.3.1	Responsibilism	115
5.2.3.2	Democratic Egalitarianism	117
5.2.3.3	Capabilities	120
5.3	<i>Conclusion</i>	123
	<i>For Further Reading</i>	125
6	<b>Democracy</b>	127
6.1	<i>The Familiarity of Democracy</i>	127
6.1.1	Popular Attitudes toward Democracy	128
6.1.2	Familiar Criticisms of Democracy	128
6.1.3	Resolving a Tension	130



6.2	<i>The Fundamental Ideal</i>	131
6.2.1	Democracy as a Moral Ideal	132
6.2.2	The Schoolyard View	134
6.2.3	Democracy, Equality, and Authority	136
6.3	<i>Classical Conceptions of Democracy</i>	138
6.3.1	Aggregation	138
6.3.2	Minimalism	139
6.3.3	Stepping Back	141
6.4	<i>Two Contemporary Trends</i>	143
6.4.1	Participationism	144
6.4.2	Deliberativism	146
6.4.2.1	Public Reasoning	147
6.4.2.2	Complexities of Public Reason	149
6.4.2.3	Problems with Deliberativism	151
6.5	<i>Conclusion</i>	154
	<i>For Further Reading</i>	156
7	<b>Conclusion: Politics without Certainty</b>	159
	<i>Index</i>	170