

The Character of Justice

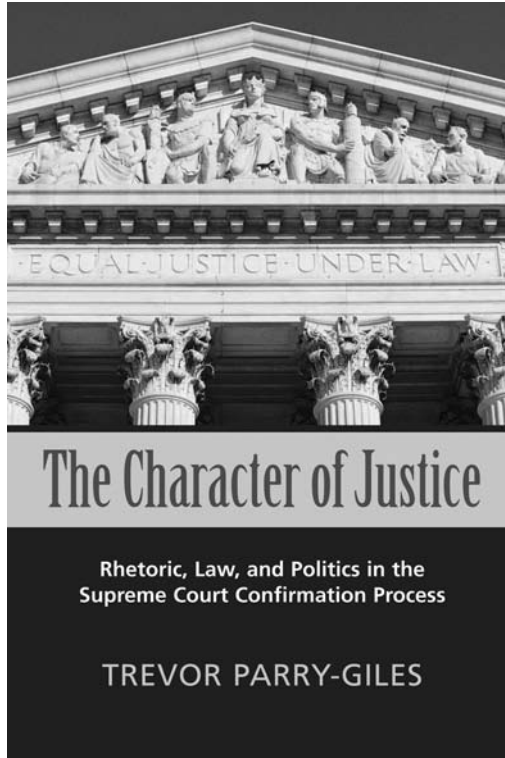
Rhetoric, Law, and Politics in the Supreme Court Confirmation Process

Trevor Parry-Giles

For much of American history, Supreme Court nominations attracted little public attention. The rancorous public hearings that characterize contemporary confirmation struggles were unheard of prior to the twentieth century. Today, except for presidential campaigns, no single constitutional event produces more controversy and interest than the nomination of a Supreme Court Justice. The intense scrutiny of this process is not surprising, as the Court addresses profound issues of civil rights and liberties, constitutional law, and economics policy, and the power of one vote is considerable. As it has done so many times before, in *Bush v. Gore*, the Supreme Court in 2000 inserted itself into a critical and ongoing national debate. Slavery, property rights, abortion, individual privacy, freedom of religion—all of the great issues that have confronted the United States have come before the Supreme Court for resolution.

Judicial philosophies, plus ideological formation for American conceptions of law, justice, and democracy are rhetorically important. Parry-Giles examines some controversial and ideologically meaningful Supreme Court nominations from 1916 through 1987: Louis D. Brandeis, Charles Evans Hughes, John J. Parker, Thurgood Marshall, Clement F. Haynsworth Jr., G. Harrold Carswell, and Robert Bork. The book also discusses recent confirmations, including Clarence Thomas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Stephen Breyer.

The Character of Justice points to the centrality of this process to and the ideological constitution of the American system of democracy and law.



Trevor Parry-Giles is Associate Professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Maryland; Affiliate Faculty Member with the Center for Political Communication and Civic Leadership; and Affiliated Scholar, Center for American Politics and Citizenship.

Rhetoric and Public Affairs Series
 256 pages, 6 x 9, references, index
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Christianity and the Mass Media in America

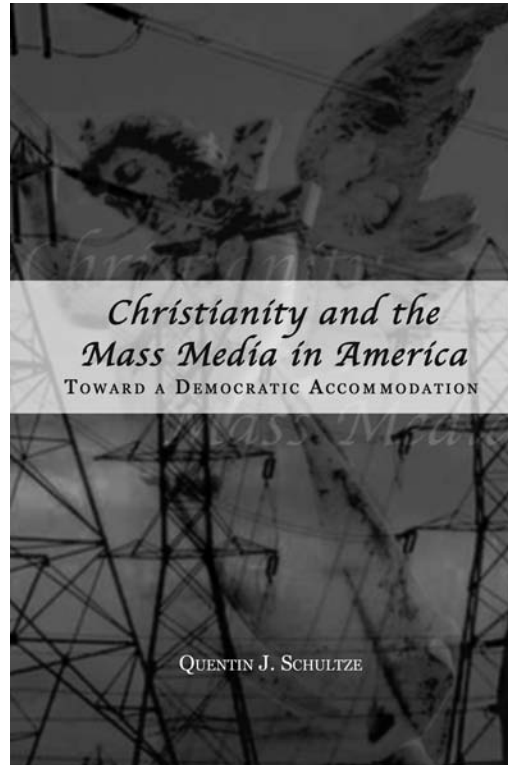
Toward a Democratic Accommodation

Quentin J. Schultze

The mass media and religious groups in America regularly argue about news bias, sex and violence on television, movie censorship, advertiser boycotts, broadcast and film content rating systems, government regulation of the media, the role of mass evangelism in a democracy, and many other issues. In the United States the major disputes between religion and the media usually have involved Christian churches or parachurch ministries, on the one hand, and so-called secular media, on the other. Often the Christian Right locks horns with supposedly liberal Eastern media elite and Hollywood entertainment companies. When a major Protestant denomination calls for an economic boycott of Disney, the resulting news reports suggest business as usual in the tensions between faith groups and media empires.

Schultze demonstrates how religion and the media in America have borrowed each other's rhetoric. In the process, they have also helped to keep each other honest, pointing out respective foibles and pretensions. Christian media have offered the public as well as religious tribes some of the best media criticism—better than most of the media criticism produced by mainstream media themselves. Meanwhile, mainstream media have rightly taken particular churches to task for misdeeds as well as offered some surprisingly good depictions of religious life.

The tension between Christian groups and the media in America ultimately is a good thing that can serve the interest of democratic life. As Alexis de Tocqueville discovered in the 1830s, American Christianity can foster the “habits of the heart” that ward off the antisocial acids of radical individualism. And, as John Dewey argued a century later, the media offer some of our best hopes for maintaining a public life in the face of the religious tribalism that can erode democracy from within. Mainstream media and Christianity will always be at odds in a democracy. That is exactly the way it should be for the good of each one.



“Highly recommended . . .”

—Choice magazine

Quentin J. Schultze is Professor of Communication Arts and Sciences at Calvin College. He has published a number of books about media and Christianity, including *Habits of the High-Tech Heart: Living Virtuously in the Information Age*.

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448 pages, 6 x 9, references, index

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The Political Economy of Transition in Eurasia

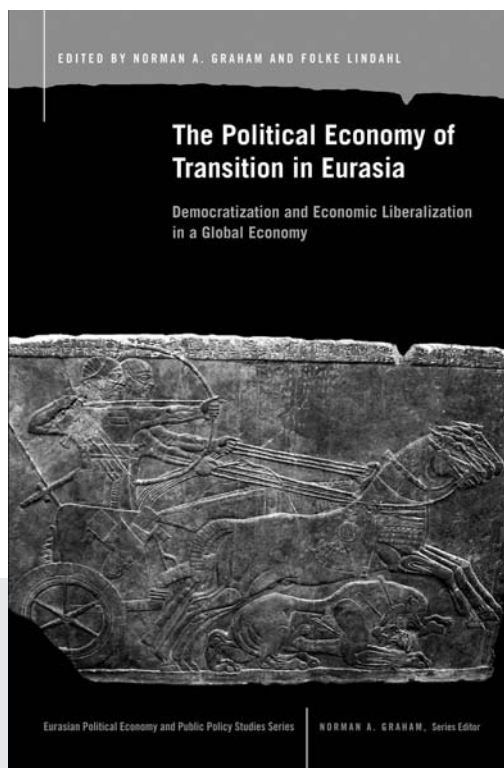
Democratization and Economic Liberalization in a Global Economy

Norman A. Graham and Folke Lindahl, editors

This important collection looks at the progress in democratization and economic liberalization of the twenty-seven post-communist countries of Eurasia with some guarded optimism. Belarus, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are clearly unabashed authoritarian regimes with only sporadic ventures toward political accountability and very limited effort to liberalize economically. Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia have made more substantial moves, particularly on the economic side, but the regimes seem to be undergoing political retrenchment. Hungary, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, and the three Baltic States clearly have competitive democracies with effective political institutions and processes and functioning market economies. But, as some of the contributors suggest, there remain some very serious challenges and unmet expectations. It is clear that the “dual transition” of democratization and economic liberalization has been a challenge for all the regimes that have seriously attempted it.

CONTENTS

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- *The Dissidents and the Antipolitical Ideology of Civil Society*, Folke Lindahl
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Announcing a New Series!

This is the inaugural volume of our new series, *Eurasian Political Economy and Public Policy Studies*, which focuses on the neglected but clearly emerging region of Eurasia, with an emphasis on trends and challenges in political economy and public policy—especially the challenges of the twin transitions of democratization and economic liberalization in the post-Soviet space.

Norman A. Graham is Director of the Center for European and Russian/Eurasian Studies and Associate Dean of James Madison College, Michigan State University. **Folke Lindahl** is Professor of Political Science, James Madison College, Michigan State University.

320 pages, 6 x 9, tables, graphs, references

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Increasing the Odds for High-Performance Teams

Lessons Learned

Arlen Leholm and Raymond Vlasin

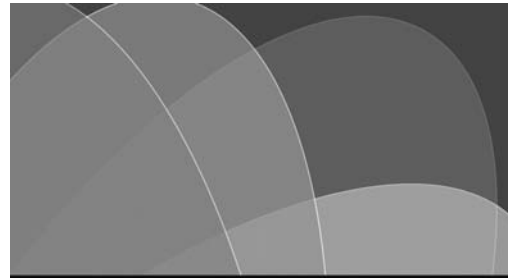
Have you ever wondered why some work teams greatly out-perform others within the same organizational settings? Have you questioned whether work teams from very different sectors of the economy and society achieved a high performance level by using similar means? Have you considered what you or others might do to help teams increase their chances of becoming truly high performing?

Increasing the Odds for High-Performance Teams is written for the business leader who is inquisitive but busy—who seeks new lessons about high team performance but wants them to be succinct and efficient.

The book is intended to assist professionals in private, public, and not-for-profit organizations who want to use teams to enhance job performance. Also, it is intended to be helpful to the team members, team leaders, mentors, coaches, and administrators across these sectors who want to diagnose their team and organizational conditions, in order to make improvements.

CONTENTS

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- The Teams of TIGER
- Bosch Teams: Two Creative Arrangements
- Michigan State University Extension and Ohio State University Extension Self-Directed Teams
- The Women's Interest Group: The Hill Women
- Broader Lessons from the Cases Explored



Increasing the Odds for High-Performance Teams

LESSONS LEARNED

Arlen Leholm and Raymond Vlasin

Arlen Leholm is Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension for the University of Wisconsin. **Raymond Vlasin** is University Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Michigan State University. He was also director of the Natural Resource Economics Division of Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and a Staff Economist for the House Public Works Committee

288 pages, 6 x 9, tables, graphs, references

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February 2006 · World Rights

Five Years of Fourth Genre

Martha A. Bates, editor

In 1999 Michigan State University Press launched *Fourth Genre: Explorations in Creative Nonfiction*, a journal devoted to publishing notable, innovative work in nonfiction. The title reflected our intention to give nonfiction its due as a literary genre—to give writers of the “fourth genre” a showcase for their work and to give our readers a place to find the liveliest and most creative works in the form.

Given the genre’s flexibility and expansiveness, journal editors Michael Steinberg and David Cooper have welcomed a variety of works—ranging from personal essays and memoirs to literary journalism and personal criticism. The essays are lyrical, self-interrogative, meditative, and reflective, as well as expository, analytical, exploratory, or whimsical. In short, *Fourth Genre* encourages a writer-to-reader conversation, one that explores the markers and boundaries of literary/creative nonfiction.

Since its inaugural issue, contributors to *Fourth Genre* have earned many literary awards: 5 Notable Essays of the Year (Best American Essay); the Lowell Thomas Travel Journalism Award; Notable Essay of the Year (Best American Travel Writing); and 4 Pushcart Prizes.

Five Years of Fourth Genre is a celebration of this significant literary journal. Culling a selection of some of the most creative of *Fourth Genre*’s first five years—the Pushcart winners are here, as well as those essays that are unique, those that tell us something new, those that startle us, and those that touch our hearts—we present a representative sampling.



Martha A. Bates is Acquisitions Editor at the Michigan State University Press.

352 pages, 6 x 9, paper

0-87013-776-X, \$24.95

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State of the Nation*South Africa 2005–2006*

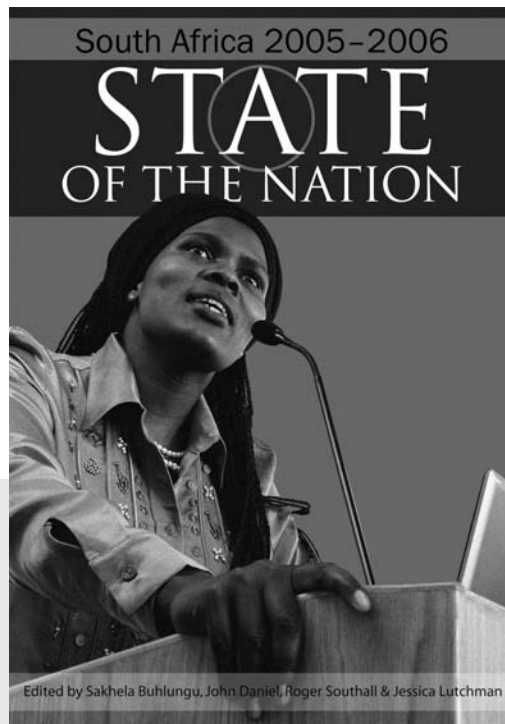
Sakhela Buhlungu, John Daniel, Roger Southall, and Jessica Lutchman, editors

State of the Nation: South Africa 2005–2006 is the third in the Human Sciences Research Council's annual volume of essays on aspects of contemporary politics, economics, society, and international relations in South Africa. This series has become an established part of the annual South African scholarly calendar.

As with the previous two editions, this volume draws together a wide and exciting set of analyses, written by contributors from universities, civil society organizations, and the media, as well as from the Human Sciences Research Council. *South Africa 2005–2006* includes chapters on the state of land restitution, Parliament, South African soccer, the Chinese communities of South Africa, science and mathematics education, research and development, black economic empowerment, the labor market, and the informal economy. There are chapters on the emerging development state, the service delivery targets set by the president in 2004, the implementation of the socio-economic rights provisions of the Constitution, and South Africa's growing economic involvement in Africa.

ALSO OF INTEREST

State of the Nation: South Africa 2004–2005 provides critical insights into the state of the political parties after the 2004 election, race and identity ten years after the advent of democracy, the performance of the economy, the state of employment and emerging patterns of business ownership. Essays on the state of the military, crime and policing, schooling, arts and culture, the Muslim community and how AIDS is affecting families and households are both enlightening and useful. Also included are probing accounts of South Africa's relations with Nigeria and Zimbabwe. 0-87013-716-6, \$37.95 (S)



“As long as the HSRC publishes an independent annual review of this quality, there is good reason for optimism about the survival of free speech and a vigorous climate of debate.”

—Gerald Shaw, *Cape Times*

Sakhela Buhlungu is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology and the Deputy Director of the Sociology of Work Unit (SWOP) at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. **John Daniel** has taught at universities in the USA, Swaziland, Netherlands and South Africa, and spent six years in the 1980s as the Africa editor of Zed Books in London. **Roger Southall** is a Distinguished Research Fellow of the HSRC and was formerly Professor of Political Studies, Rhodes University. **Jessica Lutchman** is a Researcher in the Democracy and Governance Research Programme at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in South Africa.

536 pages, 5.5 x 8.5

0-87013-778-6, paper, \$37.95 (S)

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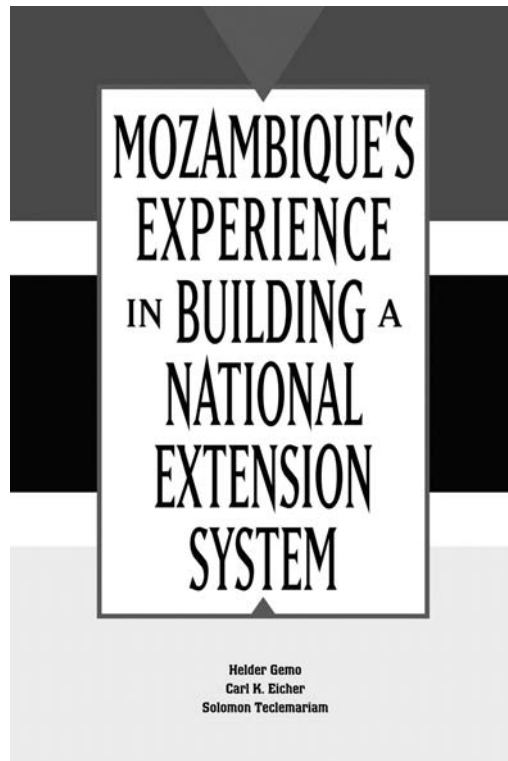
Mozambique's Experience in Building a National Extension System

Helder Gemo, Carl K. Eicher, and Solomon Teclamarium

Agricultural extension is undergoing rapid change in many countries of the world, with a shift in funding and management from the public to the private sector. This is especially true in Africa, where donors from industrial countries, and more recently from middle-income developing countries such as Chile, have historically promoted and financed those extension models. Currently, African nations are being encouraged to import the Farmer Field School extension model that is meeting with some success in Asia.

Mozambique, a former Portuguese colony, became independent in 1975 but was wracked by civil war in the 1980s. Consequently, Mozambique was not able to establish its public extension service until 1987. Gemo, Eicher, and Teclamarium analyze the growth and evolution of extension provided by public, private, and NGO (local and international) sources in Mozambique during the seventeen years from 1987 to 2004.

This work highlights the Mozambique's Ministry of Agriculture's drive to develop and test both local and imported extension models and to share its experience with other countries in Africa. *Mozambique's Experience in Building a National Extension System* will be of interest to African Ministries of Agriculture, agricultural extension managers, donors, NGOs, and teachers of extension courses in industrial and developing countries throughout the world.



Helder Gemo is Director of National Directorate of Rural Extension, Maputo, Mozambique. **Carl K. Eicher** is University Distinguished Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University. **Solomon Teclamarium** is Technical Advisor, National Directorate of Rural Extension, Mozambique.

146 pages, 6 x 9, graphs, tables, references

0-87013-763-8, paper, \$13.95

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