

Rules For Radicals

Saul Alinsky's Rules for Radicals

RULE 1: Power is not only what you have, but what the enemy thinks you have.

RULE 2: Never go outside the expertise of your people.

RULE 3: Whenever possible, go outside the expertise of the enemy.

RULE 4: Make the enemy live up to its own book of rules.

RULE 5: Ridicule is man's most potent weapon.

RULE 6: A good tactic is one your people enjoy.

RULE 7: A tactic that drags on too long becomes a drag.

RULE 8: Keep the pressure on. Never let up.

RULE 9: The threat is usually more terrifying than the thing itself.

RULE 10: If you push a negative hard enough, it will push through and become a positive.

RULE 11: The price of a successful attack is a constructive alternative.

RULE 12: Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it.

Born in Chicago in 1909, Saul Alinsky was a Communist/Marxist who helped establish the tactics of infiltration that have been implemented in the U.S. government, media, and Hollywood of today.

Rules for Radicals: A Guide to Effective Activism and Social Change

Introduction:

Are you passionate about a cause? Do you yearn to see real, lasting change in the world? If so, you've likely considered activism, but perhaps feel overwhelmed by the process. This blog post delves into Saul Alinsky's seminal work, "Rules for Radicals," providing a practical and insightful overview of his strategies for effective social change. We'll explore key principles, analyze their applications, and discuss their relevance in today's ever-evolving activist landscape. This isn't about condoning any specific tactics, but rather about understanding the underlying principles of successful social movements. Prepare to learn how to organize, strategize, and ultimately, make a difference.

H2: Understanding Alinsky's Core Principles

Alinsky's "Rules for Radicals" isn't a how-to manual for violent or disruptive action. Instead, it's a pragmatic guide to power dynamics and effective organizing. His core philosophy centers on empowering marginalized communities to challenge established power structures. Key principles

include:

H3: Power from the People: Alinsky emphasizes grassroots mobilization. Real change comes not from top-down mandates but from the collective power of ordinary citizens uniting for a common goal. This means building strong, organized communities capable of collective action.

H3: Know Your Enemy: Effective activism requires understanding your opposition. Alinsky stresses the importance of recognizing their strengths, weaknesses, and motivations to develop effective counter-strategies. This isn't about demonizing opponents but about strategic engagement.

H3: Pick Your Battles: Resources are finite. Alinsky advocates for choosing battles strategically, focusing on achievable victories that build momentum and morale. Small wins can lead to larger, more significant achievements.

H3: The Importance of Organization: A successful movement requires strong organization. Alinsky details the importance of establishing clear hierarchies, responsibilities, and communication channels to ensure effective coordination and action.

H2: Analyzing Alinsky's "Rules" in Practice

Alinsky's book isn't just theoretical; it's filled with real-world examples. Let's examine some of his core strategies:

H3: Tactics of Ridicule and Humor: Alinsky understood the power of satire and humor to undermine opponents' authority and expose hypocrisy. He advocated using these tactics to shift public opinion and expose injustice.

H3: The Use of Media: Control of the narrative is crucial. Alinsky highlighted the importance of using media – both mainstream and alternative – to frame the issues, shape public perception, and disseminate information.

H3: The Role of Negotiation and Compromise: While confrontation is sometimes necessary, Alinsky understood the value of negotiation and compromise. He emphasized the importance of finding common ground to achieve incremental progress.

H3: Maintaining Momentum: Sustaining a movement requires consistent effort and maintaining momentum. Alinsky stresses the importance of continuous engagement, building on successes, and adapting to changing circumstances.

H2: The Relevance of "Rules for Radicals" Today

While written decades ago, Alinsky's principles remain surprisingly relevant in today's world. The internet and social media have dramatically altered the activist landscape, offering new tools for organizing and mobilizing, but the fundamental principles of grassroots power, strategic planning, and community building remain as vital as ever. The rise of social movements like Black Lives Matter and #MeToo demonstrates the enduring power of collective action and the importance of strategic organization.

H2: Criticisms and Considerations

It's crucial to acknowledge criticisms of Alinsky's work. Some argue his methods are manipulative or unethical. Others criticize his focus on power dynamics, suggesting a more collaborative approach is preferable. However, understanding these criticisms allows for a more nuanced interpretation of his strategies. The key takeaway isn't to blindly follow every "rule" but to critically evaluate the principles and adapt them to specific contexts.

Conclusion:

"Rules for Radicals" offers a valuable framework for understanding the complexities of social movements. It's not a blueprint for revolution, but a guide to effective organizing and strategic action. By understanding its core principles, and critically engaging with its strategies, activists can gain powerful tools to create meaningful and lasting social change. Remember, effective activism requires careful planning, strategic thinking, and a deep commitment to the cause.

FAQs:

1. Is Alinsky's work only applicable to left-leaning movements? No, Alinsky's principles are applicable to any group seeking to challenge power structures, regardless of their political ideology. His focus is on strategy and organization, not specific political goals.
2. Are Alinsky's tactics always ethical? This is a complex question with no easy answer. Some of his tactics have been criticized as manipulative or unethical. The ethical implications of any tactic must be carefully considered in its specific context.
3. How can I apply Alinsky's principles to online activism? Alinsky's emphasis on organization and media manipulation translates well to online activism. Utilize social media to build networks, spread awareness, and coordinate actions.
4. What's the difference between Alinsky's approach and other forms of activism? Alinsky emphasizes grassroots mobilization and strategic engagement with power structures, whereas some approaches focus more on peaceful protest or legal challenges.
5. Where can I learn more about Alinsky's work? Besides reading "Rules for Radicals" itself, you can explore biographies of Alinsky and research academic analyses of his work and its impact on social movements.

rules for radicals: *Rules for Radicals* Saul Alinsky, 2010-06-30 "This country's leading hell-raiser (The Nation) shares his impassioned counsel to young radicals on how to effect constructive social change and know "the difference between being a realistic radical and being a rhetorical one." First published in 1971 and written in the midst of radical political developments whose direction Alinsky was one of the first to question, this volume exhibits his style at its best. Like Thomas Paine before him, Alinsky was able to combine, both in his person and his writing, the intensity of political engagement with an absolute insistence on rational political discourse and adherence to the American democratic tradition.

rules for radicals: Rules for Radicals Saul Alinsky, 1989-10-23 "This country's leading hell-raiser (The Nation) shares his impassioned counsel to young radicals on how to effect constructive social change and know "the difference between being a realistic radical and being a rhetorical one." First published in 1971 and written in the midst of radical political developments whose direction Alinsky was one of the first to question, this volume exhibits his style at its best.

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rules for radicals: Thirteen Tactics for Realistic Radicals Saul Alinsky, 2016-10-04 A Vintage Shorts Selection From the founder of modern radical activism in America, Saul Alinsky, whose the bestselling classic *Rules for Radicals* has reinvigorated the political left in America. "Organizational genius" Alinsky lays out the thirteen rules that all have-nots must follow to wage a successful campaign against the haves. Wielding tremendous influence to this day, and used as a bible by leading organizers since it was first published almost fifty years ago, these vital words of wisdom are written with humor, wit and unassailable power. Crucially impactful on both President Obama and Hillary Clinton's political philosophies and dedicated to the American political tradition—Alinsky's thirteen tactics will remain powerful and relevant, a must-read, for anyone interested in how to enact constructive social change for years to come. An ebook short.

rules for radicals: *Reveille for Radicals* Saul Alinsky, 2010-08-25 Legendary community organizer Saul Alinsky inspired a generation of activists and politicians with *Reveille for Radicals*, the original handbook for social change. Alinsky writes both practically and philosophically, never wavering from his belief that the American dream can only be achieved by an active democratic citizenship. First published in 1946 and updated in 1969 with a new introduction and afterword, this classic volume is a bold call to action that still resonates today.

rules for radicals: *Rules for Radical Conservatives* David Kahane, 2010 Are you a frustrated conservative shocked by the bunch of far Left fanatics driving the bus--and our future--off a cliff? It's time to fight back with the same ruthlessness that has served the radicals so well--not just now, but for the long term. And who better to reveal their strategies--and their fatal weaknesses--than one of their own? Playing on his all-too-typical hubris and good old greed, we've recruited well-known liberal apparatchik David Kahane to lead conservatives out of the political wilderness, whether he means to or not. Is he arrogant and obnoxious? Absolutely. Does he deliver the goods? You betcha. We'll let Dave speak for himself: Please allow me to introduce myself. . . . My name is David and I'm going to share some secrets. I'm going to take you into the smoke-free back rooms of today's progressive political machine to reveal how it really operates--and how you can bring it down. I'll lay out the rules we radicals have used to run circles around you, and clue you in on how to make them work for you, too. How do I know this stuff? As the son of the sainted Che Kahane, I've been schooled in the art of seizing and holding political power as we transform America one antiquated tradition and constitutional clause at a time. Now I work in Hollywood, where I've perfected the game pioneered by such pros as Machiavelli, Saul Alinsky, and Al Capone, father of the immortal Chicago Way. Read on and learn from our time-tested techniques: * Know your enemy, his intentions, his weapons, and his weaknesses. You too can play relentless, on-message hardball with every scandal, hypocrisy, lie, and fundamentally flawed policy your adversaries dish up. * Become what you behold. Adopt some of our scorched-earth tactics, best described in David Mamet's *Untouchables*: They pull a knife, you pull a gun. * Take no prisoners. Attack our premises, expose their true nature and consequences, and pin them on us, hard. * Never cede anything to the other side, philosophically speaking. Force the Left to argue facts, not emotions. We hate that. * Treat us with the same respect we give you. None. * It is better to be feared than liked, especially by your enemies. And it helps to show up for the fight. (Note to past and future Republican candidates.) Why

am I telling you all this? Because I thrive on making trouble and, frankly, because I'm proud of what my team has done. Between us, I don't think it matters if I turn over our playbook to you at this late date. I don't think you can get it together to stop us now. Plus, I got a lot of money. Happy reading, America! You think you can take us down? Go for it. I dare you.

rules for radicals: *Rules for Revolutionaries* Becky Bond, Zack Exley, 2016-11-09 Lessons from the groundbreaking grassroots campaign that helped launch a new political revolution *Rules for Revolutionaries* is a bold challenge to the political establishment and the “rules” that govern campaign strategy. It tells the story of a breakthrough experiment conducted on the fringes of the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign: A technology-driven team empowered volunteers to build and manage the infrastructure to make seventy-five million calls, launch eight million text messages, and hold more than one-hundred thousand public meetings—in an effort to put Bernie Sanders’s insurgent campaign over the top. Bond and Exley, digital iconoclasts who have been reshaping the way politics is practiced in America for two decades, have identified twenty-two rules of “Big Organizing” that can be used to drive social change movements of any kind. And they tell the inside story of one of the most amazing grassroots political campaigns ever run. Fast-paced, provocative, and profound, *Rules for Revolutionaries* stands as a liberating challenge to the low expectations and small thinking that dominates too many advocacy, non-profit, and campaigning organizations—and points the way forward to a future where political revolution is truly possible.

rules for radicals: *Elinor Ostrom's Rules for Radicals* Derek Wall, 2017 Elinor Ostrom was the first woman to win the Nobel Prize for Economics. Her theorising of the commons has been celebrated as groundbreaking and opening the way for non-capitalist economic alternatives, yet, many radicals know little about her. This book redresses this, revealing the indispensability of her work for green politics, left economics and radical democracy. Ostrom has often been viewed as a conservative or managerial thinker; but Derek Wall's analysis of her work reveals a how it is invaluable for developing a left political programme in the twenty-first century. Central to Ostrom's work was the move 'beyond panaceas'; transforming institutions to widen participation, promote diversity and favour cooperation over competition. She regularly challenged academia as individualist, narrow and elitist and promoted a radical take on education, based on participation. Her investigations into how we share finite resources has radical implications for the Green movement and her rubric for a functioning collective ownership is highly relevant in order in achieving radical social change. As activists continue to reject traditional models of centralised power, Ostrom's work will become even more vital, offering a guide to creating economics that exists beyond markets and states.

rules for radicals: *Rules for Conservatives* Michael Charles Master, 2012 Saul Alinsky wrote *Rules for Radicals* 40 years ago as instructions on how to seize power. He was the original community organizer who documented how to organize others to provide power to the organizers. Alinsky was an instigator of class warfare and of the culture war. He taught liberals how to divide America by organizing communities to seize power. Because of those who practiced those rules, America is suffering. Every problem that we Americans face today can be traced back to compromises with liberal radical leaders. As it defined the rules that radicals should use to implement socialism and gain more control of governments, *Rules for Conservatives* defines the rules that conservatives should use to stop this incremental takeover by liberals. The Tea Party movement is determined to cut the tax burden on Americans. With decreased tax revenues, governments will have to shrink and liberals will lose power. *Rules for Conservatives* is the playbook for all conservatives and all Tea Party people to save America from liberal community organizers.

rules for radicals: *Roots for Radicals* Edward T. Chambers, 2018-01-25 The successor to the legendary activist Saul Alinsky, Edward T. Chambers pioneered a set of principles and practices that have guided community organizations throughout the US and the world. *Roots for Radicals* remains his definitive reflection on these fundamental principles of community activism: how, as public citizens, we can navigate the gap between the world as it is and as it should be, between self-interest and self-sacrifice and in doing so create lasting change for our communities. In the face of the

increasingly turbulent politics of the 21st-century, Chambers's book has never been more relevant.

rules for radicals: Rules for Radicals Defeated Jeff Hedgpeth, 2012-05-04 *Rules for Radicals* is the playbook for the Left. If you want to understand how the Obama Administration operates you need this book. You will also learn twenty principles to defeat the Alinsky tactics without compromising your morality. Learn how the Obama Administration thinks, and how to counteract them. Learn it. Live it. Take America back.

rules for radicals: John L. Lewis Saul Alinsky, 2017-01-12 Dramatically, from personal acquaintance and Lewis's own files, Saul Alinsky writes here the inside story of one of the most powerful men in America. Its revelations of why Lewis broke with Roosevelt, of why he fought with the AF of L to form the CIO, of the birth of the sit-down strikes, of the motives behind the war strikes, of how Lewis has so often managed to stalemate the U.S. Government—these are front-page news. They are brought out with sharp insight by one of the most brilliant observers of the labor movement in this country. John L. Lewis is not only reporting of an extremely high order but one of the most stimulating biographies that have been published in many years. There is no one of us who can remain unaffected by the acts of the mine workers' president.

rules for radicals: Hegemony How-To Jonathan Smucker, 2017-01-02 A guide to political struggle for a generation that is deeply ambivalent about power. While many activists gravitate toward mere self-expression and identity-affirming rituals at the expense of serious political intervention, Smucker provides an apologia for leadership, organization, and collective power, a moral argument for its cultivation, and a discussion of dilemmas that movements must navigate in order to succeed.

rules for radicals: Rules for Defeating Radicals Chris Adamo, 2019-08 The American left has achieved enormous success in its onslaught against our nation, primarily by employing tactics of deceit and intimidation. This book gives a comprehensive account of the left's motivations, its guiding philosophy, and operating strategy. Most importantly, this book explains how principled patriots and conservatives can effectively expose leftists and their schemes in order to defeat their destructive agenda.

rules for radicals: Rules for Rebels Max Abrahms, 2018-09-12 Ever wonder why militant groups behave as they do? For instance, why did Al Qaeda attack the World Trade Center whereas the African National Congress tried to avoid civilian bloodshed? Why does Islamic State brag over social media about its gory attacks, while Hezbollah denies responsibility or even apologizes for its carnage? This book shows that militant group behaviour depends on the tactical intelligence of the leaders. The author has extensively studied the political plights of hundreds of militant groups throughout world history and reveals that successful militant leaders have followed three rules. These rules are based on original insights from the fields of political science, psychology, criminology, economics, management, marketing, communication, and sociology. It turns out there's a science to victory in militant history. But even rebels must follow rules.

rules for radicals: Taking on the System Markos Moulitsas Zúniga, 2008 The founder of one of America's most influential political blogs gives voice to the new world of digital activism, sharing helpful guidelines on how a grassroots movement can grow and thrive in the age of global information and how to transform the world with political, cultural, social, and environmental change.

rules for radicals: Digital, Political, Radical Natalie Fenton, 2016-09-26 *Digital, Political, Radical* is a siren call to the field of media and communications and the study of social and political movements. We must put the politics of transformation at the very heart of our analyses to meet the global challenges of gross inequality and ever-more impoverished democracies. Fenton makes an impassioned plea for re-invigorating critical research on digital media such that it can be explanatory, practical and normative. She dares us to be politically emboldened. She urges us to seek out an emancipatory politics that aims to deepen our democratic horizons. To ask: how can we do democracy better? What are the conditions required to live together well? Then, what is the role of the media and how can we reclaim media, power and politics for progressive ends? Journeying

through a range of protest and political movements, Fenton debunks myths of digital media along the way and points us in the direction of newly emergent politics of the Left. Digital, Political, Radical contributes to political debate on contemporary (re)configurations of radical progressive politics through a consideration of how we experience (counter) politics in the digital age and how this may influence our being political.

rules for radicals: *Tempered Radicals* Debra Meyerson, 2003 This text explores the experiences of tempered radicals. These are people who want to become valued and successful members of their organisations without selling out on who they are and what they believe in.

rules for radicals: *Arbitrary Rule* Mary Nyquist, 2013-05-10 Slavery appears as a figurative construct during the English revolution of the mid-seventeenth century, and again in the American and French revolutions, when radicals represent their treatment as a form of political slavery. What, if anything, does figurative, political slavery have to do with transatlantic slavery? In *Arbitrary Rule*, Mary Nyquist explores connections between political and chattel slavery by excavating the tradition of Western political thought that justifies actively opposing tyranny. She argues that as powerful rhetorical and conceptual constructs, Greco-Roman political liberty and slavery reemerge at the time of early modern Eurocolonial expansion; they help to create racialized “free” national identities and their “unfree” counterparts in non-European nations represented as inhabiting an earlier, privative age. *Arbitrary Rule* is the first book to tackle political slavery’s discursive complexity, engaging Eurocolonialism, political philosophy, and literary studies, areas of study too often kept apart. Nyquist proceeds through analyses not only of texts that are canonical in political thought—by Aristotle, Cicero, Hobbes, and Locke—but also of literary works by Euripides, Buchanan, Vondel, Montaigne, and Milton, together with a variety of colonialist and political writings, with special emphasis on tracts written during the English revolution. She illustrates how “antityranny discourse,” which originated in democratic Athens, was adopted by republican Rome, and revived in early modern Western Europe, provided members of a “free” community with a means of protesting a threatened reduction of privileges or of consolidating a collective, political identity. Its semantic complexity, however, also enabled it to legitimize racialized enslavement and imperial expansion. Throughout, Nyquist demonstrates how principles relating to political slavery and tyranny are bound up with a Roman jurisprudential doctrine that sanctions the power of life and death held by the slaveholder over slaves and, by extension, the state, its representatives, or its laws over its citizenry.

rules for radicals: The Federalist Society Michael Avery, Danielle McLaughlin, 2021-04-30 Over the last thirty years, the Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies has grown from a small group of disaffected conservative law students into an organization with extraordinary influence over American law and politics. Although the organization is unknown to the average citizen, this group of intellectuals has managed to monopolize the selection of federal judges, take over the Department of Justice, and control legal policy in the White House. Today the Society claims that 45,000 conservative lawyers and law students are involved in its activities. Four Supreme Court Justices--Antonin Scalia, Clarence Thomas, John Roberts, and Samuel Alito--are current or former members. Every single federal judge appointed in the two Bush presidencies was either a Society member or approved by members. During the Bush years, young Federalist Society lawyers dominated the legal staffs of the Justice Department and other important government agencies. The Society has lawyer chapters in every major city in the United States and student chapters in every accredited law school. Its membership includes economic conservatives, social conservatives, Christian conservatives, and libertarians, who differ with each other on significant issues, but who cooperate in advancing a broad conservative agenda. How did this happen? How did this group of conservatives succeed in moving their theories into the mainstream of legal thought? What is the range of positions of those associated with the Federalist Society in areas of legal and political controversy? The authors survey these stances in separate chapters on • regulation of business and private property • race and gender discrimination and affirmative action • personal sexual autonomy, including abortion and gay rights • American exceptionalism and international law

rules for radicals: *Rules for Retrogrades* Timothy J. Gordon, David R. Gordon, 2020-03-20 What

is a retrograde? In the words of Shakespeare, a retrograde is one of God's spies. The retrograde has the unique capacity for understanding the stark chasm between the degenerate, socialist-infiltrated world of decay on one side and the well-meaning, good-hearted, but clueless Christian world on the other.

rules for radicals: Barack Obama's Rules for Revolution David Horowitz, 2009 Barack Obama's Rules for Revolution: The Alinsky Model provides an understanding of the roots of the current administration's effort to subject America to a wholesale transformation by looking at the work of one of the President's heroes -- radical Chicago community organizer Saul Alinsky. The guru of Sixties radicals, Alinsky urged his followers to be flexible and opportunistic and say anything to get power, which they can then use to destroy the existing society and its economic system. Alinsky died in 1972, but left behind an organization in Chicago dedicated to his malicious ideas. This team hired Barack Obama in 1986 when he was 23 and taught him how to organize for radical transformation. In this insightful new booklet, Horowitz discusses Alinsky's work in the 60s and his advice to radicals to seize any weapon to advance their cause. This became the philosophy of Alinskyite organizations such as ACORN and to Alinsky disciples Van Jones, a self described communist who served as President Obama's Green Czar until he was forced to resign when his extremist ideas became public. - Publisher.

rules for radicals: Why America Needs a Left Eli Zaretsky, 2013-04-26 The United States today cries out for a robust, self-respecting, intellectually sophisticated left, yet the very idea of a left appears to have been discredited. In this brilliant new book, Eli Zaretsky rethinks the idea by examining three key moments in American history: the Civil War, the New Deal and the range of New Left movements in the 1960s and after including the civil rights movement, the women's movement and gay liberation. In each period, he argues, the active involvement of the left - especially its critical interaction with mainstream liberalism - proved indispensable. American liberalism, as represented by the Democratic Party, is necessarily spineless and ineffective without a left. Correspondingly, without a strong liberal center, the left becomes sectarian, authoritarian, and worse. Written in an accessible way for the general reader and the undergraduate student, this book provides a fresh perspective on American politics and political history. It has often been said that the idea of a left originated in the French Revolution and is distinctively European; Zaretsky argues, by contrast, that America has always had a vibrant and powerful left. And he shows that in those critical moments when the country returns to itself, it is on its left/liberal bases that it comes to feel most at home.

rules for radicals: Let Them Call Me Rebel Sandord D. Horwitt, 1992-03-31 In the course of his flamboyant career as an all-purpose activist, Saul Alinsky went from organizing working-class ethnics in one of Chicago's most blighted neighborhoods to mapping out strategies for the civil rights and antiwar movements of the 1960s. He enlisted allies—from Catholic clergymen to labor unionists and black activists, in battles waged against opponents from slumlords to the Eastman Kodak corporation. The range of Alinsky's activities, the intensity of his beliefs, and his exhilarating mixture of crudeness and calculation almost vibrate off the pages of this passionate and inspiring biography. This is an important account of a complex and idiosyncratic urban populist who insisted that power was the keystone of social change. Horwitt . . . produce[s] a comprehensive appraisal of Alinsky's colorful confrontational tactics; as a community organizer and his influence on a succeeding generation of social activists . . . An insightful and well-written study."—Library Journal

rules for radicals: Democracy in Chains Nancy MacLean, 2018-06-05 Winner of the Lillian Smith Book Award Winner of the Los Angeles Times Book Prize Finalist for the National Book Award The Nation's Most Valuable Book "[A] vibrant intellectual history of the radical right."—The Atlantic "This sixty-year campaign to make libertarianism mainstream and eventually take the government itself is at the heart of Democracy in Chains. . . . If you're worried about what all this means for America's future, you should be."—NPR An explosive exposé of the right's relentless campaign to eliminate unions, suppress voting, privatize public education, stop action on climate change, and alter the Constitution. Behind today's headlines of billionaires taking over our government is a

secretive political establishment with long, deep, and troubling roots. The capitalist radical right has been working not simply to change who rules, but to fundamentally alter the rules of democratic governance. But billionaires did not launch this movement; a white intellectual in the embattled Jim Crow South did. *Democracy in Chains* names its true architect—the Nobel Prize-winning political economist James McGill Buchanan—and dissects the operation he and his colleagues designed over six decades to alter every branch of government to disempower the majority. In a brilliant and engrossing narrative, Nancy MacLean shows how Buchanan forged his ideas about government in a last gasp attempt to preserve the white elite's power in the wake of *Brown v. Board of Education*. In response to the widening of American democracy, he developed a brilliant, if diabolical, plan to undermine the ability of the majority to use its numbers to level the playing field between the rich and powerful and the rest of us. Corporate donors and their right-wing foundations were only too eager to support Buchanan's work in teaching others how to divide America into "makers" and "takers." And when a multibillionaire on a messianic mission to rewrite the social contract of the modern world, Charles Koch, discovered Buchanan, he created a vast, relentless, and multi-armed machine to carry out Buchanan's strategy. Without Buchanan's ideas and Koch's money, the libertarian right would not have succeeded in its stealth takeover of the Republican Party as a delivery mechanism. Now, with Mike Pence as Vice President, the cause has a longtime loyalist in the White House, not to mention a phalanx of Republicans in the House, the Senate, a majority of state governments, and the courts, all carrying out the plan. That plan includes harsher laws to undermine unions, privatizing everything from schools to health care and Social Security, and keeping as many of us as possible from voting. Based on ten years of unique research, *Democracy in Chains* tells a chilling story of right-wing academics and big money run amok. This revelatory work of scholarship is also a call to arms to protect the achievements of twentieth-century American self-government.

rules for radicals: *You Say You Want a Revolution?* Daniel Chirot, 2022-02-08 Why most modern revolutions have ended in bloodshed and failure--and what lessons they hold for today's world of growing extremism. Why have so many of the iconic revolutions of modern times ended in bloody tragedies? And what lessons can be drawn from these failures today, in a world where political extremism is on the rise and rational reform based on moderation and compromise often seems impossible to achieve? In *YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION?*, Daniel Chirot examines a wide range of right- and left-wing revolutions around the world--from the late eighteenth century to today--to provide important new answers to these critical questions. A powerful account of the unintended consequences of revolutionary change, *YOU SAY YOU WANT A REVOLUTION?* is filled with critically important lessons for today's liberal democracies struggling with new forms of extremism.--Back cover

rules for radicals: *Panic Attack* Robby Soave, 2019-06-18 Since the 2016 election, college campuses have erupted in violent protests, demands for safe spaces, and the silencing of views that activist groups find disagreeable. Who are the leaders behind these protests, and what do they want? In *Panic Attack*, libertarian journalist Robby Soave answers these questions by profiling young radicals from across the political spectrum. Millennial activism has risen to new heights in the age of Trump. Although Soave may not personally agree with their motivations and goals, he takes their ideas seriously, approaching his interviews with a mixture of respect and healthy skepticism. The result is a faithful cross-section of today's radical youth, which will appeal to libertarians, conservatives, centrist liberals, and anyone who is alarmed by the trampling of free speech and due process in the name of social justice.

rules for radicals: *Rules for Reformers* Douglas Wilson, 2014-12-02 In *Rules for Reformers*, Douglas Wilson poaches the political craft of radical progressives and applies it to Christian efforts in the current culture war. The result is a spicy blend of combat manual and cultural manifesto. *Rules for Reformers* is a little bit proclamation of grace, a little bit *Art of War*, and a little bit analysis of past embarrassments and current cowardice, all mixed together with a bunch of advanced knife-fighting techniques. As motivating as it is provocative, *Rules for Reformers* is just plain good to

read. Thanks to Saul Alinsky's *Rules for Radicals: A Practical Primer for Realistic Radicals*--a book well-beloved by Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and many others--for much of the shrewd advice, and for none of the worldview.

rules for radicals: Rules for Radical Christians: 10 Biblical Disciplines for Influential Believers Doug Giles, 2018-04-16 Dear Young Christian: The tolerant society in which you live is intolerant of your Biblical Worldview. So what's the young Christian to do? Well, You could huddle together in a Christian subculture and pray that Christ would come quickly and rapture you out of this mess. Or, you could compromise your godly principles, become spiritual chameleons and allow your relationship with God to be governed by CNN. Or, you can become strategically equipped to move into an anti-theistic environment and effectively influence it for the glory of God. *Rules For Radical Christians* argues for the last option. *Rules For Radical Christians* is not a survival devotional designed to help the young Christian adult limp through life. Rather, it is a road-tested, dominion blueprint that will equip the young adult with leadership skills and sufficient motivation to rise to a place of influence in an overtly non-Christian culture.

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speaker Ashton Applewhite has written a rousing manifesto calling for an end to discrimination and prejudice on the basis of age. In our youth obsessed culture, we're bombarded by media images and messages about the despairs and declines of our later years. Beauty and pharmaceutical companies work overtime to convince people to purchase products that will retain their youthful appearance and vitality. Wrinkles are embarrassing. Gray hair should be colored and bald heads covered with implants. Older minds and bodies are too frail to keep up with the pace of the modern working world and olders should just step aside for the new generation. Ashton Applewhite once held these beliefs too until she realized where this prejudice comes from and the damage it does. Lively, funny, and deeply researched, *This Chair Rocks* traces her journey from apprehensive boomer to pro-aging radical, and in the process debunks myth after myth about late life. Explaining the roots of ageism in history and how it divides and debases, Applewhite examines how ageist stereotypes cripple the way our brains and bodies function, looks at ageism in the workplace and the bedroom, exposes the cost of the all-American myth of independence, critiques the portrayal of elders as burdens to society, describes what an all-age-friendly world would look like, and offers a rousing call to action. It's time to create a world of age equality by making discrimination on the basis of age as unacceptable as any other kind of bias. Whether you're older or hoping to get there, this book will shake you by the shoulders, cheer you up, make you mad, and change the way you see the rest of your life. Age pride! "Wow. This book totally rocks. It arrived on a day when I was in deep confusion and sadness about my age. Everything about it, from my invisibility to my neck. Within four or five wise, passionate pages, I had found insight, illumination, and inspiration. I never use the word empower, but this book has empowered me." —Anne Lamott, New York Times bestselling author

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