

<<战后美国简史>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

Postwar America is an up-to-date history of the United States from the presidency of Harry Truman at the end of World War II to the presidency of Barack Obama today. By taking an interdisciplinary approach, Professor Paul Levine combines political, social and cultural history to explore American life during the last seven decades. Among the themes he discusses are: racism and multiculturalism; civil rights and civil society; the Cold War and Soft Power; immigration and the American Dream. Postwar America is a distillation of lectures Paul Levine delivered at two Fulbright-sponsored seminars for Chinese postgraduate students held at Shantou University and Beijing Foreign Studies University in 2009 and 2010. The lectures have been revised to serve as a general introduction for all Chinese university students. Paul Levine is Professor Emeritus in American Literature at Copenhagen University and a former Fulbright Professor at East China Normal University.

作者简介

Paul Levine is Emeritus Professor of American Literature at Copenhagen University. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, and attended Wesleyan and Princeton Universities before receiving a Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization from Harvard. Levine taught at Wesleyan, Rochester and York (Toronto) Universities before becoming the first Professor of American Literature in Copenhagen (1975-2006). He also held the Salgo Chair in American Studies at Eotvos Lorand University in Budapest (1986-9) and directed the Athens American Studies Seminar for fifteen years (1994-2009). Professor Levine publishes widely on literature, art, film and culture. He collaborated with E. L. Doctorow on a volume of the novelists Screenplays (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003) and a new edition of *America Since 1945: The American Moment*, (with Harry Papasotiriou) was published by Palgrave in 2011. He has twice received royal honors in Denmark and holds the title of Ridder af Dannebrogorden, 1st Kl. (2000). Professor Levine first went to China in 2001 at the invitation of the U.S. State Department to help create a graduate program in American Studies at East China Normal University. In 2004 he was awarded a Fulbright Professorship at ECNU for three semesters. In 2005 ECNU granted him the title of Guest Professor. After retiring from Copenhagen in 2006, he served as director of regional studies and the new Center for International Studies (2007-11) at Shantou University. He and his wife, Lily Varidald-Levine, now live in Copenhagen and Athens.

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版权页：插图：As we have seen, Tocqueville was impressed with how Americans associated in informal groups to solve problems that weak local and national governments could not resolve. For him the connection between the vitality of civil society and the practice of democracy was clear. Americans were freer than Europeans not only because they were more egalitarian, but because they created a more inclusive civil society. During the nineteenth century, American civic participation grew rapidly. In the twentieth century, citizen's groups continued to flourish, except during the Depression, until the end of the 1950s. And then something strange happened, says Putnam. "For the first two-thirds of the twentieth century a powerful tide bore Americans into ever deeper engagement in the life of their communities, but a few decades ago——silently, without warning——that tide reversed and we were overtaken by a treacherous rip current." Over the past thirty years, "Americans have been dropping out in droves, not merely from political life, but from organized community life more generally." The signs are everywhere, from the fall in church-going through the decline in volunteering to the loss of membership in bowling leagues. More Americans than ever are bowling—ninety-one million in 1996—but more are "bowling alone." Significantly, the drop-out rate in civic participation is lower among older Americans born before World War II than among so-called "Baby Boomers" born between 1946 and 1964. But the drop-out rate is highest among "Generation X" members born after 1965. Moreover, the decline in civic participation is matched by a similar decline in mental health. "The younger you are, the worse things have gotten over the last decades of the twentieth century in terms of headaches, indigestion, sleeplessness, as well as general satisfaction with life and even likelihood of taking your own life."

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编辑推荐

《战后美国简史(英文版)》以时间发展为脉络，从杜鲁门一直说到奥巴马，结合历任总统执政时期的社会背景，点评历任总统的性格特征以及大政方略等，进而把二战后美国政治、经济、文化的全貌展现在读者面前，让读者了解真正意义上的美国梦。

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