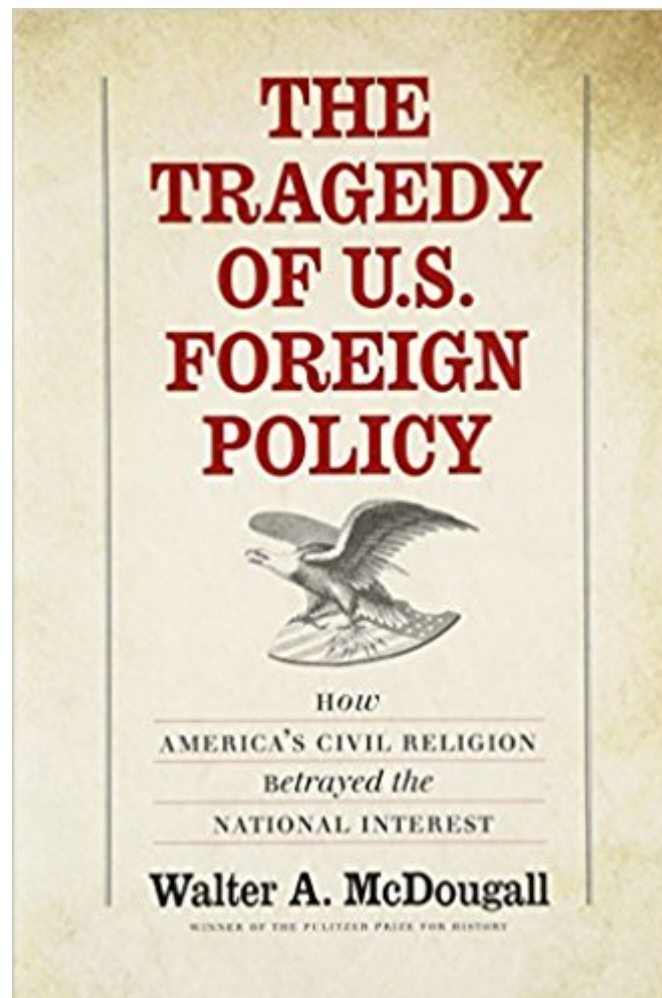




Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

The Tragedy Of U.S. Foreign Policy: How Americaâ€™s Civil Religion Betrayed The National Interest



Synopsis

A fierce critique of civil religion as the taproot of America's bid for global hegemony Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Walter A. McDougall argues powerfully that a pervasive but radically changing faith that "God is on our side" has inspired U.S. foreign policy ever since 1776. The first comprehensive study of the role played by civil religion in U.S. foreign relations over the entire course of the country's history, McDougall's book explores the deeply infused religious rhetoric that has sustained and driven an otherwise secular republic through peace, war, and global interventions for more than two hundred years. From the Founding Fathers and the crusade for independence to the Monroe Doctrine, through World Wars I and II and the decades-long Cold War campaign against "godless Communism," this coruscating polemic reveals the unacknowledged but freely exercised dogmas of civil religion that bind together a "God blessed" America, sustaining the nation in its pursuit of an ever elusive global destiny.

Book Information

Hardcover: 424 pages

Publisher: Yale University Press (November 22, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300211457

ISBN-13: 978-0300211450

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 1.1 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #77,441 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > International & World Politics > Diplomacy #96 in Books > History > World > Religious > Religion, Politics & State #102 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Church & State

Customer Reviews

"One of this disturbing book's many strengths is its reminder of a United States before it entered the world's stage. . . . Whether American presidents could conduct foreign relations better without the hype of civil religion Mr. McDougall does not say. But he suggests that the national interest might be a better guide to America's conduct in the world." "D.G. Hart, Wall Street Journal" "Walter A. McDougall, . . . who has taken on some of the broadest themes in American society and won a Pulitzer for his brilliant history of the American space program, warns in The

Tragedy of U.S. Foreign Policy that once in office American presidents are often 'susceptible to a utopian temptation.' They adopt a language that he describes as 'American civil religion,' wrapping adventurism in a gauzy, semireligious haze." "David E. Sanger, New York Times Book Review" A book remarkable for its depth, breadth, and intellectual daring." "Kirkus Review" (starred review) "McDougall's well-written, compelling, and provocative book definitely fits in the tragedy genre 'one that may help equip future policy makers against lies and against the temptations of the musical.'" "Christopher Hemmer, Air War College," H-Net Reviews "The Tragedy of U. S. Foreign Policy" is utterly original, brutally honest, and vividly written. Here is a rare example of an American patriot and master historian willing to speak hard truths about his country." "Andrew Bacevich, author of America's War for the Greater Middle East: A Military History" As Americans come to recognize that our foreign policy has led us dangerously astray, many ask how and why this happened. McDougall offers us an insightful and original answer. By recounting and seeking to explain our misadventures, he shows us not only what went wrong, but how America can approach the world more wisely in the future." "Stephen Kinzer, author of The Brothers: John Foster Dulles, Allen Dulles, and Their Secret World War" The most important book on U.S. foreign policy to appear in many years, Walter McDougall's sobering essay is both social criticism and a warning. It is about how great powers rise and fall, grow corrupted and exhausted. It is a brilliant synopsis of America's still-recent encounter with the world, a lively, riveting historical narrative. The Tragedy of US Foreign Policy confirms McDougall's stature as a premier story-teller and perhaps America's greatest living historian." "David Eisenhower" A lot has been written about U.S. foreign policy since 9/11, but nothing compares to Walter McDougall's wonderfully original new book. Deftly blending diplomatic, religious, intellectual, and political history, and written with stylish wit and penetrating insight, The Tragedy of U.S. Foreign Policy reveals the historical origins of America's current global predicament. Required reading for anyone interested in American politics, foreign policy, and the future of world order." "Andrew Preston, Cambridge University

Walter A. McDougall is professor of history and the Alloy 'Ansin Professor of International Relations at the University of Pennsylvania. His numerous books include the 1986 Pulitzer Prize winner *The Heavens and the Earth*.

Well researched and very readable. Interesting point of view on American Exceptionalism and some downsides to being the "shining City on the Hill."

Outstanding! The first book I have come across on the subject. People will complain that it is not thorough and that it moves too fast. McDougall has several other books that go into detail on American history and foreign policy. This, however, is an explanation of how our civil religion affects and changes our actions in foreign affairs. It is a sobering look into our national psyche that every American, most of all our leaders, should read. Well researched, well written, and well worth it!

A great book that complements Dr. McDougall's previous book, *Promised Land, Crusader State*. His writing style makes reading this dense volume actually enjoyable!

In these times, an important book to read and learn

A must-read

Very disappointed. I expected a thorough, critical history of US Foreign policy. Instead I was reading a book with meandering commentary from contemporaries of each President and era..with little precise explanation of the foreign policy of each President. After getting halfway through I know very little more than when I started. Also the writing style of this author is so dull and lifeless. How a historian can make exciting events such as our foreign policy uninteresting is beyond me. But I doubt I will have the patience to finish this.

Brilliant...and a long overdue explanation of foreign policy mis-adventures.

Too pessimistic a note! Every single diplomatic gesture has a tint of crookedness, and yet the author says FDR was a great masquerader and a failed high priest preaching wrong civil religion. Neither is he willing to give any single credit to Donald Nelson, the WPB chairman, nor to Bill Knudson of the War Department. You may dream an impossible dream and that dream would one day become a phantastic dream nobody would ever had dared to imagine. Contrary to what the author wants to deliver to readers, the U. S. foreign policy has never been pursuing a fata morgana but a dream of a juggler whose right hand APPARENTLY KNEW what his left hand does.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Tragedy of U.S. Foreign Policy: How America's Civil Religion Betrayed the National Interest
Millennials and U.S. Foreign Policy: The Next Generation's Attitudes toward Foreign Policy and

War (and Why They Matter) Four Revenge Tragedies: The Spanish Tragedy; The Revenger's Tragedy; The Revenge of Bussy D'Ambois; and The Atheist's Tragedy (Oxford World's Classics) The Bridge Betrayed: Religion and Genocide in Bosnia (Comparative Studies in Religion and Society) The UAE and Foreign Policy: Foreign Aid, Identities and Interests (Culture and Civilization in the Middle East) Tears in the Wind: Triumph and Tragedy on America's Highest Peak Civil War: American Civil War in 50 Events: From the Very Beginning to the Fall of the Confederate States (War Books, Civil War History, Civil War Books) (History in 50 Events Series Book 13) The 16% Solution: How to Get High Interest Rates in a Low-Interest World with Tax Lien Certificates, Revised Edition The 16 % Solution, Revised Edition: How to Get High Interest Rates in a Low-Interest World with Tax Lien Certificates Why He REALLY Lost Interest In You: The Real Reasons Why Men Suddenly Lose Interest In Their Woman and How to Instantly Get Their Attention BACK! Public Interest Design Practice Guidebook: SEED Methodology, Case Studies, and Critical Issues (Public Interest Design Guidebooks) Russia's Foreign Policy: Change and Continuity in National Identity Breaking the Conflict Trap: Civil War and Development Policy (Policy Research Reports) Michigan at Antietam: The Wolverine State's Sacrifice on America's Bloodiest Day (Civil War Series) Unfair Housing: How National Policy Shapes Community Action (Studies in Government & Public Policy) The Battle for the Court: Interest Groups, Judicial Elections, and Public Policy (Constitutionalism and Democracy) Designing Judicial Review: Interest Groups, Congress, and Communications Policy Civil Service Exam Secrets Study Guide: Civil Service Test Review for the Civil Service Examination (Mometrix Secrets Study Guides) National Geographic Secrets of the National Parks: The Experts' Guide to the Best Experiences Beyond the Tourist Trail (National Geographic's Secrets of the National Parks) National Geographic Guide to National Parks of the United States, 8th Edition (National Geographic Guide to the National Parks of the United States)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)