



Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)

By Stephen M. Griffin

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin

Variously and roundly perceived as gridlocked, incompetent, irresponsible, and corrupt, American government commands less respect and trust today than perhaps at any time in the nation's history. But the dysfunction in government that we like so little, along with the policy disasters it engenders, is in fact a product of that deep and persistent distrust, Stephen M. Griffin contends in *Broken Trust*, an accessible work of constitutional theory and history with profound implications for our troubled political system.

Undertaken with a deep concern about the way our government is performing, *Broken Trust* makes use of the debate over dysfunctional government to uncover significant flaws in the conventional wisdom as to how the Constitution works. Indeed, although Americans strongly believe that our government is dysfunctional, they are just as firmly convinced that the Constitution still works well. Griffin questions this conviction by examining how recent policy disasters—such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the response to Hurricane Katrina, and the 2008 financial crisis—are linked to our constitutional system. This leads him to pose the question of whether the government institutions we have inherited from the eighteenth century are poor fits for contemporary times.

Griffin argues that understanding the decline of trust in government requires investigating the historical circumstances of the last several decades as well as the constitutional experience of the states. In particular, he examines “hybrid democracy,” the form of constitutionalism prevailing in California and other western states that combines Madisonian-style representative government with direct democracy. Hybrid democracy offers valuable lessons relevant to our contemporary difficulties with dysfunctional government at the national level. These lessons underpin the agenda for reform that Griffin then proposes, emphasizing democratic innovations aimed at producing both more effective government and greater trust in our political institutions. Building on a better understanding of the sources and consequences of government dysfunction, his book holds genuine hope, as well as practical possibilities, for the repair of our broken political and constitutional system.

 [Download Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constit ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Const ...pdf](#)

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)

By Stephen M. Griffin

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin

Variously and roundly perceived as gridlocked, incompetent, irresponsible, and corrupt, American government commands less respect and trust today than perhaps at any time in the nation's history. But the dysfunction in government that we like so little, along with the policy disasters it engenders, is in fact a product of that deep and persistent distrust, Stephen M. Griffin contends in *Broken Trust*, an accessible work of constitutional theory and history with profound implications for our troubled political system.

Undertaken with a deep concern about the way our government is performing, *Broken Trust* makes use of the debate over dysfunctional government to uncover significant flaws in the conventional wisdom as to how the Constitution works. Indeed, although Americans strongly believe that our government is dysfunctional, they are just as firmly convinced that the Constitution still works well. Griffin questions this conviction by examining how recent policy disasters—such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the response to Hurricane Katrina, and the 2008 financial crisis—are linked to our constitutional system. This leads him to pose the question of whether the government institutions we have inherited from the eighteenth century are poor fits for contemporary times.

Griffin argues that understanding the decline of trust in government requires investigating the historical circumstances of the last several decades as well as the constitutional experience of the states. In particular, he examines “hybrid democracy,” the form of constitutionalism prevailing in California and other western states that combines Madisonian-style representative government with direct democracy. Hybrid democracy offers valuable lessons relevant to our contemporary difficulties with dysfunctional government at the national level. These lessons underpin the agenda for reform that Griffin then proposes, emphasizing democratic innovations aimed at producing both more effective government and greater trust in our political institutions. Building on a better understanding of the sources and consequences of government dysfunction, his book holds genuine hope, as well as practical possibilities, for the repair of our broken political and constitutional system.

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #853183 in Books
- Published on: 2015-08-21
- Released on: 2015-07-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: .80" h x 5.90" w x 8.30" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 216 pages

 [**Download** Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constit ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Const ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)* By Stephen M. Griffin

Editorial Review

Review

"The root causes of government dysfunction, Stephen Griffin explains in this elegant book, lie not in polarization but in the breakdown of trust in American government. *Broken Trust* is an important and original discussion of our nation's problems—and how we might find a path toward solving them."—**Jack M. Balkin**, Knight Professor of Constitutional Law and the First Amendment at Yale Law School "It has become conventional wisdom that American government has entered a period of dysfunction. In this lively and important new book, one of our leading constitutional scholars offers a fresh diagnosis and prognosis, arguing that many of the problems stem from our constitutional structure and that the answer lies in adapting certain state-level constitutional innovations to the federal government. Anyone interested in the workings of American government will want to read and wrestle with Griffin's work."—**Josh Chafetz**, author of *Democracy's Privileged Few: Legislative Privilege and Democratic Norms in the British and American Constitutions* "Stephen Griffin has written the contemporary counterpart to Madison's *Vices of the Political System of the United States*. His acute diagnosis of the political ills afflicting American constitutional politics, their causes and their cures is as vital to continued American constitutional development as Madison's observations were in 1787."—**Mark A. Graber**, author of *A New Introduction to American Constitutionalism*

"It has become conventional wisdom that American government has entered a period of dysfunction. In this lively and important new book, one of our leading constitutional scholars offers a fresh diagnosis and prognosis, arguing that many of the problems stem from our constitutional structure and that the answer lies in adapting certain state-level constitutional innovations to the federal government. Anyone interested in the workings of American government will want to read and wrestle with Griffin's work."—**Josh Chafetz**, author of *Democracy's Privileged Few: Legislative Privilege and Democratic Norms in the British and American Constitutions*

"The root causes of government dysfunction, Stephen Griffin explains in this elegant book, lie not in polarization but in the breakdown of trust in American government. *Broken Trust* is an important and original discussion of our nation's problems—and how we might find a path toward solving them."—**Jack M. Balkin**, Knight Professor of Constitutional Law and the First Amendment at Yale Law School

"Stephen Griffin has written the contemporary counterpart to Madison's *Vices of the Political System of the United States*. His acute diagnosis of the political ills afflicting American constitutional politics, their causes and their cures is as vital to continued American constitutional development as Madison's observations were in 1787."—**Mark A. Graber**, author of *A New Introduction to American Constitutionalism*

About the Author

Stephen M. Griffin is W. R. Irby Chair and Rutledge C. Clement, Jr. Professor in Constitutional Law, Tulane Law School. He is the author of *American Constitutionalism: From Theory to Politics and Long Wars and the Constitution*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kathy Woodward:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite book and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the guide entitled *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)*. Try to make book *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)* as your buddy. It means that it can be your friend when you sense alone and beside those of course make you smarter than ever before. Yeah, it is very fortunate for you. The book makes you far more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So, let's make new experience and also knowledge with this book.

Randy Gable:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world could share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their particular reader with their story as well as their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the books. But also they write about advantage about something that you need example. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book that exist now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their ability in writing, they also doing some analysis before they write to the book. One of them is this *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)*.

Joseph Myrick:

You could spend your free time to read this book this book. This *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)* is simple to bring you can read it in the recreation area, in the beach, train along with soon. If you did not have got much space to bring often the printed book, you can buy the actual e-book. It is make you much easier to read it. You can save often the book in your smart phone. So there are a lot of benefits that you will get when one buys this book.

Rod Reese:

Some individuals said that they feel bored when they reading a book. They are directly felt the idea when they get a half areas of the book. You can choose the book *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)* to make your own personal reading is interesting. Your current skill of reading expertise is developing when you including reading. Try to choose simple book to make you enjoy to see it and mingle the feeling about book and looking at especially. It is to be 1st opinion for you to like to open up a book and study it. Beside that the reserve *Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)* can to be your friend when you're truly feel alone and confuse with the information must you're doing of that time.

**Download and Read Online Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking)
By Stephen M. Griffin #JF0IDE5OHSN**

Read Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin for online ebook

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin books to read online.

Online Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin ebook PDF download

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin Doc

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin MobiPocket

Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin EPub

JF0IDE5OHSN: Broken Trust: Dysfunctional Government and Constitutional Reform (Constitutional Thinking) By Stephen M. Griffin