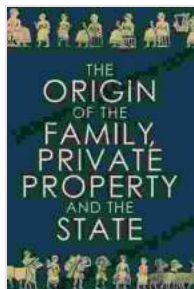


Discover the Origins of Family, Private Property, and the State: An In-Depth Exploration with Engels' Masterpiece

[\[view image\]](#)

Delve into the Landmark Work by Friedrich Engels

Friedrich Engels' groundbreaking book, "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State," has profoundly influenced our understanding of societal development for over a century. This seminal work meticulously traces the evolution of human societies from their earliest communal origins through the rise of private property and the state, ultimately shedding light on the foundations of modern capitalism.



The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State (Penguin Classics) by Friedrich Engels

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3211 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 235 pages
Screen Reader : Supported



Unveiling the Roots of Human Societies

Engels' exploration begins with a comprehensive analysis of prehistoric societies, drawing upon archaeological and ethnographic evidence to

reconstruct the early stages of human development. He argues that primitive communities were characterized by communal ownership of land and resources, with no formal distinctions between individuals or classes. In these societies, kinship ties formed the primary bonds between people.

The Impact of Private Property

Engels then examines the transformative effects of private property on human societies. He traces the emergence of agriculture and animal husbandry, which led to the accumulation of surplus wealth and the rise of social stratification. Private property became the defining characteristic of civilization, giving rise to class divisions and economic inequalities.

The Emergence of the State

As private property became entrenched, Engels argues that the need arose for a state apparatus to protect the interests of the ruling class. The state emerged as an institution of organized violence, serving to maintain social order and suppress any threats to the status quo. Engels emphasizes that the state is not a neutral entity but rather an instrument of class domination.

Engels' Critique of the Bourgeois Family

In addition to his analysis of societal development, Engels also offers a critical examination of the bourgeois family. He argues that the family unit under capitalism is a patriarchal institution that perpetuates the oppression of women and children. Engels emphasizes that the family unit is shaped by economic factors and serves to maintain the class structure.

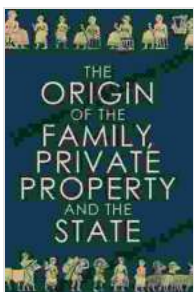
A Foundation for Understanding Modern Society

Friedrich Engels' "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State" remains a fundamental work in the fields of sociology, history, and anthropology. Its insights into the origins and development of human societies have profoundly influenced our understanding of the modern world. By tracing the evolution of family, private property, and the state, Engels unveils the deep-rooted causes of social inequality and oppression that continue to shape our societies today.

Rediscover a Classic with Penguin Classics

The renowned Penguin Classics edition of "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State" presents Engels' groundbreaking work in an accessible and engaging format. With insightful commentary and annotations, this edition provides an invaluable resource for readers seeking to delve into this seminal text. Whether you are a student of history, sociology, or economics, or simply a curious reader seeking a deeper understanding of human society, "The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State" is an essential addition to your bookshelf.

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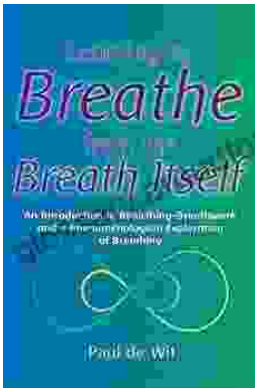
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