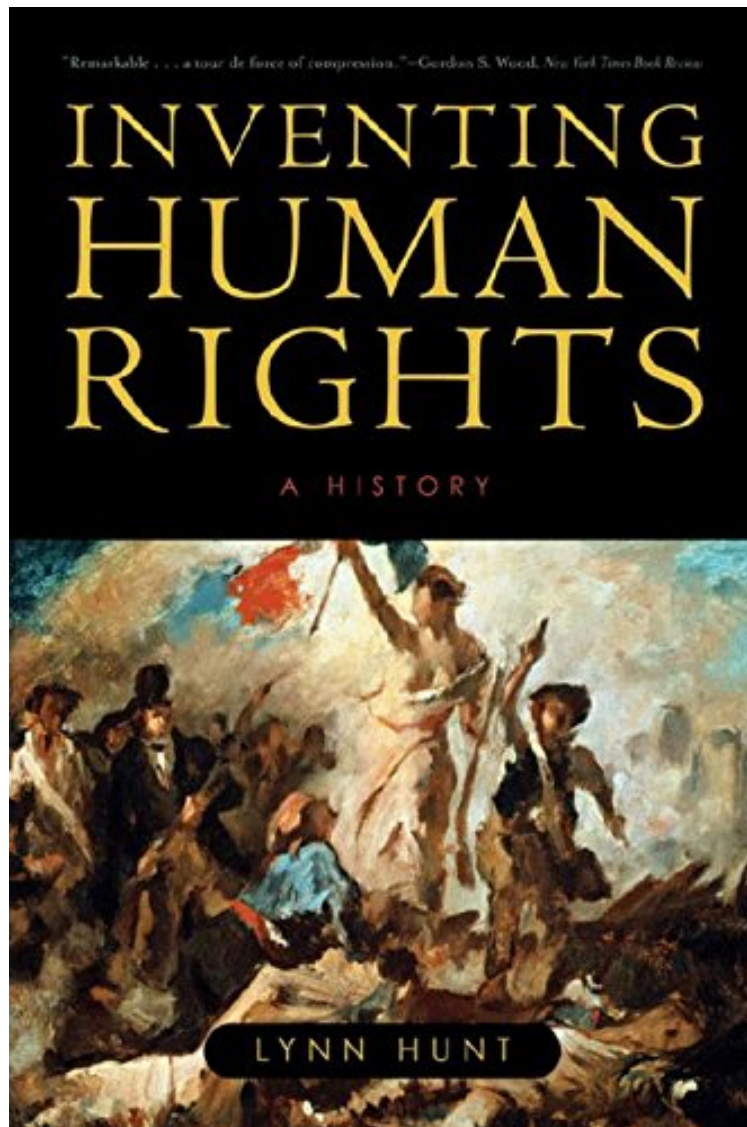


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Inventing Human Rights: A History

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Lynn Hunt : Inventing Human Rights: A History before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inventing Human Rights: A History:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Splendid analysis and one of the finest writingBy Nishant Upadhyayfirst of all the book is very well structured with the content. Despite unstable and spreading issues, Lynn Hunt gathers and assimilated issues extraordinarily from third chapter. So first two chapter might embarrass and confuse you a bit, but a gradual and patient read ahead will make everything Crystal clear.Her analysis of evolution of

human rights from rights of Man and torture is well compiled, addictive and brilliantly arranged for general understanding. Her writing of torture and change in prison and legal system makes me call her 'Simple Foucault'. Final chapter is equally persuasive wot her proper and unbiased analysis of the gestation of current Universal Declaration. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Shaky Start but Strong Finish By Lionel S. Taylor This is a book that finishes much stronger than it starts. The author is trying to track the development of the idea of Human rights in the western civilization and although there is a obviously a need to begin somewhere, the point where the author starts seems a little arbitrary. For this reason I believe that the first and part of the second chapters of the book are the weakest parts. After this, however the book seems to find its stride by tracking the development of the concept of human rights over time with a focus on the Declaration of Independence , The Declaration of the Rights of Man and the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights. She makes the important point that once the conversation on who should be included in what rights is started the group of those included will inevitably expand. All in all it is a decent introduction to the topic 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excelent work! I couln't leave it untill I finished ... By Patricia Rodrguez Hlkemeyer Excelent work! I couln't leave it untill I finished it! It was very helpful for my research project with the University of Costa Rica. Patricia Rodrguez Hlkemeyer, Full Professor, School of Political Science, UCR.

A tour de force. Gordon S. Wood, New York Times Book Review How were human rights invented, and how does their tumultuous history influence their perception and our ability to protect them today? From Professor Lynn Hunt comes this extraordinary cultural and intellectual history, which traces the roots of human rights to the rejection of torture as a means for finding the truth. She demonstrates how ideas of human relationships portrayed in novels and art helped spread these new ideals and how human rights continue to be contested today.

From Publishers Weekly This comprehensive work traces the development of human rights from its conceptual roots in the Enlightenment to its full expression in the United Nation's 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Hunt begins with a wonderfully detailed lexicographical survey of 18th century uses of rights language ("rights of man," "natural rights," "rights of humanity") to show the many currents that led to the first modern declaration of human rights, the Bill of Rights. She then triangulates the upswing in rights language with both the appearance of the novel of letters (such as Rousseau's Julie and Samuel Richardson's Pamela and Clarissa) and the rise of portraiture in the mid-to late-18th century. These particular art forms, she argues, fostered a sense of individuality in their audience and empathy for their subjects, most frequently "regular folks" rather than nobles, royalty, or saints. She then takes the reader through 250 years of rights legislation, covering the French Revolution's Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen, various anti-torture measures and 20th century campaigns against human rights violations, among others. Despite the obvious academic grounding of this sweeping work, it is aimed at a wider audience and will appeal to most readers interested either in the history of human rights or in European or American history. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Elegant... intriguing, if not audacious... Hunt is an astute historian. - Joanna Bourke, Harper's Fast-paced, provocative, and ultimately optimistic. Declarations, she writes, are not empty words but transformative; they make us want to become the people they claim we are. - The New Yorker A provocative and engaging history of the political impact of human rights. - Gary J. Bass, New Republic This is a wonderful story of the emergence and development of the powerful idea of human rights, written by one of the leading historians of our time. - Amartya Sen Rich, elegant, and persuasive. - London of Books As Americans begin to hold their leaders accountable for the mistakes made in the war against terror, this book ought to serve as a guide to thinking about one of the most serious mistakes of all, the belief that America can win that war by revoking the Declaration that brought the nation into being. - Alan Wolfe, Commonweal About the Author Lynn Hunt is Distinguished Research Professor at UCLA, former president of the American Historical Association, and author of numerous works, including *Inventing Human Rights* and *Telling the Truth about History*. She lives in Los Angeles.