

# Educational Book Review

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## Review of *Restoring Free Speech and Liberty on Campus*

by Donald Alexander Downs

Drawing on personal experiences as well research by the author, here is the recent work on free speech and civil liberty that have sprung upon America's campuses following the wave of so-called progressive reforms instituted in the 1980s and the 1990s. The most important reforms include speech codes, broad anti-harassment codes, orientation programs dedicated to promoting an ideology of sensitivity and new procedures and pressure of the adjudication of students and faculty misconduct. This book tells the story of how and why this turn of events took place. But it goes a step further than previous literature. Although this book stresses the threats to academic and intellectual freedom posed by speech codes and related policies, freedom is also threatened by other sources, especially in the post-September 11 world. Terrorism and the reaction to it have also brought about new threats to academic and intellectual freedom. Terrorism is a threat, of course, as such groups as al Qaeda are bent on destroying the very fabric of liberal freedom in the world. The book is a progressive work of scholarship and an important contribution to the never-ending real world struggles to maintain free speech on campus. The book should be read by anyone interested in the status of

higher education, the fate of constitutional citizenship, the politics of civil liberty and large questions dealing with the relationship between law and politics.

CONTENTS: Part I: Introduction and Background (The Return of the Proprietary University: The New Politics of Free Speech and Civil Liberty- The Rise of Ideology Against Free Speech and Liberty) Part II: Case Studies in the Politics of Civil Liberty on Campus (Columbia's Sexual Misconduct Policy: Civil Liberty versus Solidarity- Undue Process at Penn- Berkeley and the Rise of the Anti-Free Speech Movement Undue Process at Penn- Renewal: The rise and the Free Speech Movement at Wisconsin- Abolition in the Wisconsin Faculty Senate and Its Aftermath) Part III: Conclusions (Civil Liberty and Political Strategy on Campus) Appendix- Index.

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