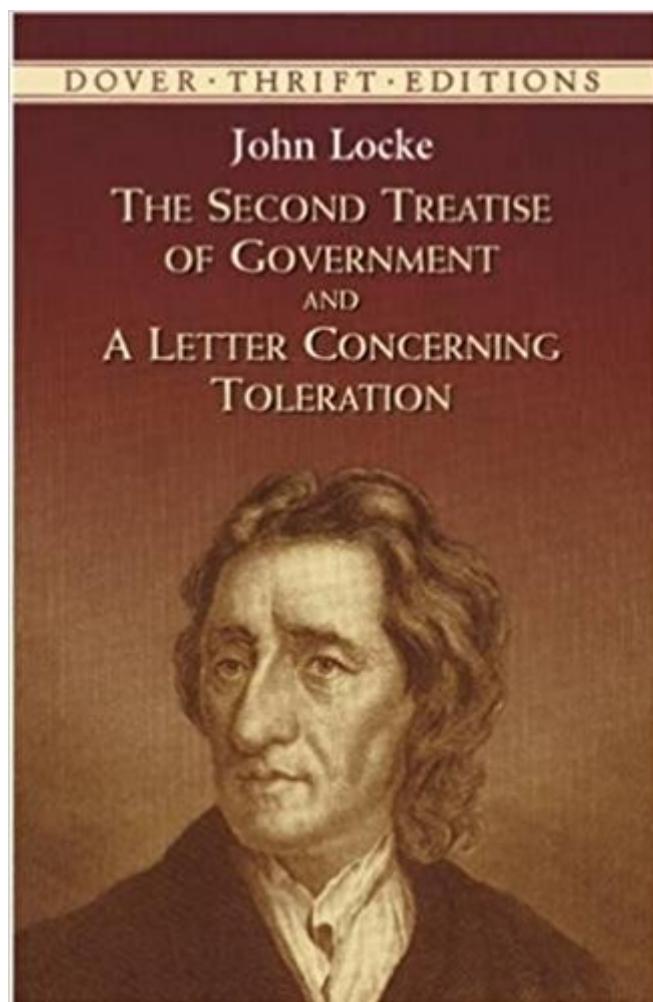


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# The Second Treatise Of Government And A Letter Concerning Toleration (Dover Thrift Editions)



## Synopsis

A highly influential figure in the Age of Enlightenment in England and France, whose works helped inspire the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution, John Locke was one of the most important political theorists in Western history. In *The Second Treatise of Government*, a major contribution to the principles underlying modern democracies, he achieved two objectives: refuting the concept of the divine right of monarchy, and establishing a theory of government based on the ultimate sovereignty of the people. In *A Letter Concerning Toleration*, composed as early as 1667 but not published for political reasons until 1689 — after the "Glorious Revolution" — Locke pleaded for religious tolerance on grounds similar to his argument for political freedom, i.e., that all men are by nature "free, equal, and independent," and are entitled to freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of worship. To help guarantee the latter freedom, Locke called for separation of church and state. The basis of social and political philosophy for generations, these works laid the foundation of the modern democratic state in England and abroad. Their enduring importance makes them essential reading for students of philosophy, history, and political science.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

John Locke (1632–1704), widely known as the Father of Classical Liberalism, was an English philosopher and physician regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment thinkers. Considered one of the first of the British empiricists, following the tradition of Francis Bacon, he is

equally important to social contract theory. His work greatly affected the development of epistemology and political philosophy. His writings influenced Voltaire and Rousseau, many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, as well as the American revolutionaries. His contributions to classical republicanism and liberal theory are reflected in the United States Declaration of Independence.

--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Insightful and thought provoking. His style of argument is likeable. I do, however, take issue, and a small one at that, with the length of time, sometimes pages, to make his point. He also, on many occasions, repeats himself, as if the reader didn't grasp his point the first go around. The works could be much shorter and more enjoyable, not that they aren't, if he would get to the point quicker.

John Locke is the greatest philosopher and political theorist to ever live. He wrote 'The Second Treatise of Government,' which is his greatest work. *Ipsa facto*, 'The Second Treatise of Government' is the greatest philosophical and political text ever written. So...read it!

Long and dry but the letter at the end is the best part. Otherwise would not recommend. Try Hobbes or Rousseau instead.

Human freedom espoused with forceful reasoning. Even though the work starts with religious presuppositions the arguments are just as valid for those espousing no religious viewpoint. This is a classic exposition of the cause of human freedom and should be read by all who value the ideals of the enlightenment and the right of all men to determine by popular approval their form of government. Most notably, Locke states that religious associations exist by the voluntary assent of their members. A radical idea for the time.

I purchased this book as an e-book for my IPad as well as IPhone. I enjoy how I am able to highlight, take notes, look up words, through this! It makes reading this a lot more easy and helps me to categorize all the important information into different sections! I really enjoy reading this, the concepts are simple and the information that backs them up are very insightful! I would recommend this, especially the kindle version. :)

A short must read for anyone desiring to know what was bouncing around in the founding father's heads during the American revolution, and what philosophies inspired them to write the founding

documents. So inexpensive, it can sit on your bookshelf while you read all of the writings we as Americans live by, which this book helped inspire. };>{>

very dry reading and also very profound, this book will change how you think about our god given rights, and about tolerance. even if you only read a few pages, this will change how you think, forever. .

I have not read it yet. Just happy to have it

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