

Contents

1	Introduction to Democratic Culture and Moral Character: A Study in Culture and Personality	1
1.1	The Argument so Far: What We Can Learn About Social Evolution and Personal Character	24
1.2	The Overall Argument of This Book	25
	References	27

Part I Democracy and Character

2	Understanding Democracy as a Prerequisite for Spreading Democracy	33
	References	41
3	The Faking of Charisma and Decadence: Cultural Decay Through the Ages	43
	References	53
4	Modernity and Intimacy	55
	References	68
5	How Nationalism is Similar to Juvenile Delinquency	69
	References	84

Part II Pragmatism and Character

6	Pragmatism as the Basis of American Culture in an Individualistic Society	89
6.1	Some American and European Versions of Pragmatism	99
	References	101

7	Formal and Informal Uses of Law for Ensuring Political Freedom: A Short Cross-Cultural Comparison	103
7.1	When Law Ceases to be Pragmatic.	109
	References	110

Part III The Evolution of Democratic Character and Culture

8	Limited Alternatives and Personal Identity: The Relation Between Freedom and Personal Responsibility	113
8.1	Comparing Pre-Feudal and Post-Feudal Societies	119
8.2	Feudal Societies	120
8.3	Forced Choice Situations	121
	References	132
9	America as a Post-Feudal Society, or How to Relate to the Islamic World.	133
	References	138
10	Personal Versus Impersonal Forms of Exploitation	139
	References	153

Part IV Conclusion

11	Politics from the Bottom Up, Rather Than the Top Down	157
	References	159
12	Means and Ends in Personal Relationships	161
	References	177
13	The Sense of Self in Democratic Societies	179
13.1	Social Relationships and the Formation of Societies	184
13.2	Authoritarianism and Narcissism as Sources of Social Identity	187
13.3	The Political Influence of Intellectuals	200
	References	212
14	A Basic Summary on Social Evolution and Character	215
14.1	The Functions of Fantasy	221
14.2	Social Evolution and Personal Character (and Personal Relationships)	223
14.3	Alienation and Vulnerability to Anxiety in Postmodern Society.	224

14.4	Perversions of Character	225
14.5	Conclusion.	226
Bibliography		231
Index		253



<http://www.springer.com/978-94-007-6753-9>

Democratic Culture and Moral Character
A Study in Culture and Personality

Braun, J.

2013, IX, 264 p., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-94-007-6753-9