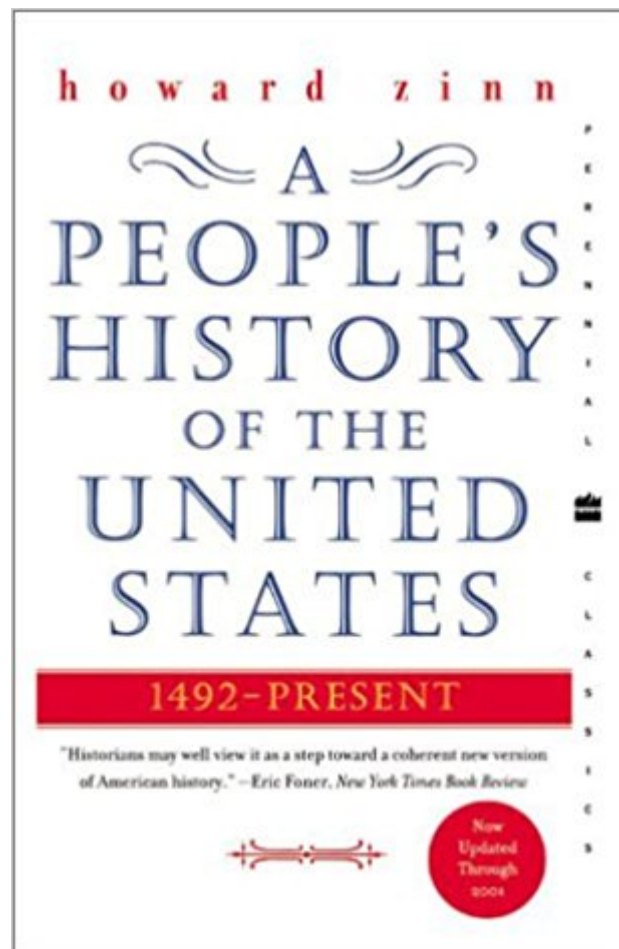




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A People's History Of The United States: 1492-Present (Perennial Classics)



Synopsis

Known for its lively, clear prose as well as its scholarly research, *A People's History of the United States* is the only volume to tell America's story from the point of view of -- and in the words of -- America's women, factory workers, African Americans, Native Americans, working poor, and immigrant laborers.

Book Information

Series: Perennial Classics

Paperback: 752 pages

Publisher: Harper Perennial; Reprint edition (April 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060528370

ISBN-13: 978-0060528379

Product Dimensions: 5.3 x 1.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 2,815 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #24,993 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Political Ideologies](#) #42 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Democracy](#) #205 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States](#)

Customer Reviews

According to this classic of revisionist American history, narratives of national unity and progress are a smoke screen disguising the ceaseless conflict between elites and the masses whom they oppress and exploit. Historian Zinn sides with the latter group in chronicling Indians' struggle against Europeans, blacks' struggle against racism, women's struggle against patriarchy, and workers' struggle against capitalists. First published in 1980, the volume sums up decades of post-war scholarship into a definitive statement of leftist, multicultural, anti-imperialist historiography. This edition updates that project with new chapters on the Clinton and Bush presidencies, which deplore Clinton's pro-business agenda, celebrate the 1999 Seattle anti-globalization protests and apologize for previous editions' slighting of the struggles of Latinos and gays. Zinn's work is an vital corrective to triumphalist accounts, but his uncompromising radicalism shades, at times, into cynicism. Zinn views the Bill of Rights, universal suffrage, affirmative action and collective bargaining not as fundamental (albeit imperfect) extensions of freedom, but as tactical concessions by monied elites

to defuse and contain more revolutionary impulses; voting, in fact, is but the most insidious of the "controls." It's too bad that Zinn dismisses two centuries of talk about "patriotism, democracy, national interest" as mere "slogans" and "pretense," because the history he recounts is in large part the effort of downtrodden people to claim these ideals for their own. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Howard Zinn is a historian, playwright, and social activist. He was a shipyard worker and Air Force bombardier before he went to college under the GI Bill and received his Ph.D. from Columbia University. He has taught at Spelman College and Boston University, and has been a visiting professor at the University of Paris and the University of Bologna. He has received the Thomas Merton Award, the Eugene V. Debs Award, the Upton Sinclair Award, and the Lannan Literary Award. He lives in Auburndale, Massachusetts.

An entertaining history book. I am not a history buff. My grandson had this book for his social studies class and I read a chapter while he was visiting. It was not the stuffy history books I remember from school days. I ordered it and have been enjoying a different type of history book ever since. It's a most enjoyable and thought provoking read. As a bonus, I get to carry on conversations about history with my grandson.

A very long read, but really worth it. I had to stop chapter by chapter because it's so disturbing. Highly recommended.

Excellent book and I recommend for everyone to read.

Too many boring history books report on the doings of the ruling classes and the rich folk who influenced government. Prof. Zinn tells the History of our country in layman's term, as to how all the decisions of the 1% affected the common man and how the struggle of the average citizen affected the direction of the government. If you are a student of history and have not read Zinn, you don't know Jack!

Long, but really interesting. I found that during this time in history it is especially interesting to make comparisons with how little progress we have actually made.

A must read for every American. We seem to repeat history all the time. Very sad

excellent and eye opening perspective

This should be required reading in all the high schools!

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