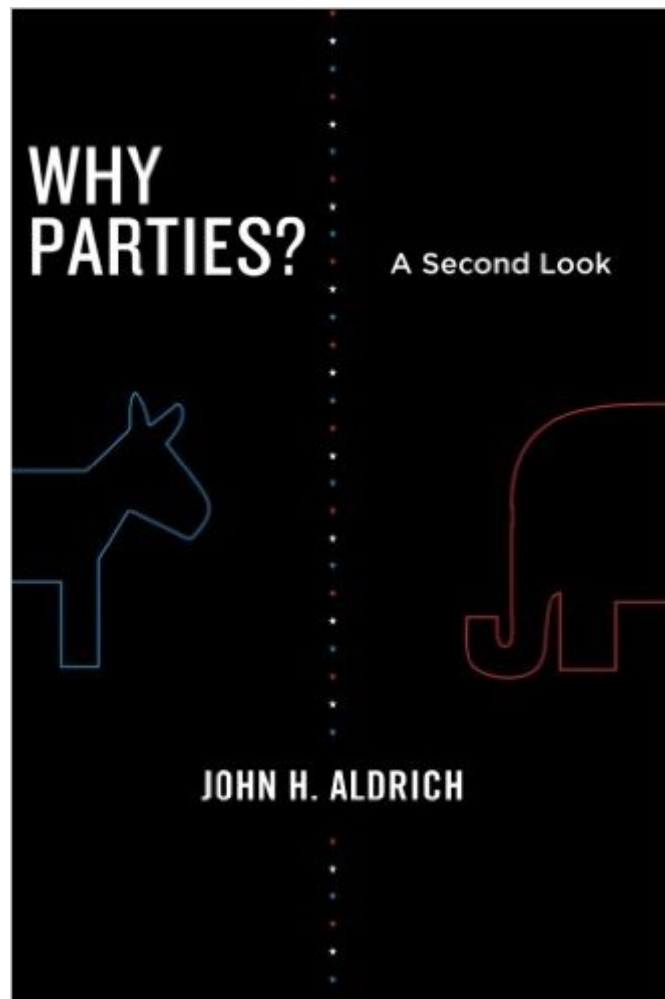


The book was found

Why Parties?: A Second Look (Chicago Studies In American Politics)



Synopsis

Since its first appearance fifteen years ago, *Why Parties?* has become essential reading for anyone wishing to understand the nature of American political parties. In the interim, the party system has undergone some radical changes. In this landmark book, now rewritten for the new millennium, John H. Aldrich goes beyond the clamor of arguments over whether American political parties are in resurgence or decline and undertakes a wholesale reexamination of the foundations of the American party system. Surveying critical episodes in the development of American political parties "from their formation in the 1790s to the Civil War" Aldrich shows how they serve to combat three fundamental problems of democracy: how to regulate the number of people seeking public office, how to mobilize voters, and how to achieve and maintain the majorities needed to accomplish goals once in office. Aldrich brings this innovative account up to the present by looking at the profound changes in the character of political parties since World War II, especially in light of ongoing contemporary transformations, including the rise of the Republican Party in the South, and what those changes accomplish, such as the Obama Health Care plan. Finally, *Why Parties? A Second Look* offers a fuller consideration of party systems in general, especially the two-party system in the United States, and explains why this system is necessary for effective democracy.

Book Information

Series: Chicago Studies in American Politics

Paperback: 400 pages

Publisher: University Of Chicago Press (May 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0226012743

ISBN-13: 978-0226012742

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #305,086 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #290 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > Political Parties](#) #1832 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > History > United States](#) #3313 in [Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science](#)

Customer Reviews

This is a great update from the 1995 edition. The book is divided into three main parts; all of them

really interesting and engaging. In the first part, the author provides a theory of political parties. Why do we have political parties in democracies? According to the author, parties are endogenous institutions that help office-seeking politicians to get votes and solve various problems (the mobilization of voters, for example). In the second and third parts the author provides multiple evidence to test his theory (in fact, in these two parts, Aldrich demonstrates that he is a great political scientist: he writes clearly, he knows history and he dominates an array of methodological techniques). If you want to understand why parties form and how they dominate democratic politics, then this book is for you.

Aldrich's book is a good overview for the political science rationale for political parties. The book doesn't drive home a single theory quite as well as some works in the literature, but rather explores several different ideas. This actually ends up making it great as a general reader or textbook. It's also quite accessible, even to non-political scientists.

Aldrich's new book is not a simple update of his WHY PARTIES?, published in 1995. He expands upon his theory, takes account of recent research, and evaluates political developments in the last fifteen years. It is another major contribution.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Why Parties?: A Second Look (Chicago Studies in American Politics) Why Washington Won't Work: Polarization, Political Trust, and the Governing Crisis (Chicago Studies in American Politics) The City in a Garden: A History of Chicago's Parks, Second Edition (Center for American Places - Center Books on Chicago and Environs) Style: The Lady's Guide to French Style, Fashion and Beauty- Get Dressed to Look Charm and Elegant (French Chic, Sense of Style, Style, Style Books, Style ... Dressed, Look Hot, Look Fabulous Book 1) In Time of War: Understanding American Public Opinion from World War II to Iraq (Chicago Studies in American Politics) The Submerged State: How Invisible Government Policies Undermine American Democracy (Chicago Studies in American Politics) Arresting Citizenship: The Democratic Consequences of American Crime Control (Chicago Studies in American Politics) New Directions in American Political Parties (New Directions in American Politics) The Timeline of Presidential Elections: How Campaigns Do (and Do Not) Matter (Chicago Studies in American Politics) Trapped in America's Safety Net: One Family's Struggle (Chicago Studies in American Politics) Independent Politics: How American Disdain for Parties Leads to Political Inaction Governing Sound: The Cultural Politics of Trinidad's Carnival Musics (Chicago Studies in Ethnomusicology) Streetwise Chicago CTA & Metra Map - Laminated Chicago

Metro Map - Folding pocket size map for travel De Los Maras a Los Zetas. De Colombia a Chicago: Los Secretos Del Narcotr  f  fico De Colombia a Chicago (Best Seller (Debolsillo)) (Spanish Edition) The Chicago Guide to Grammar, Usage, and Punctuation (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing) Why Can't My Child Behave?: Why Can't She Cope? Why Can't He Learn? The Feingold Diet updated for today's busy families IS THIS WHY AFRICA IS? (Why Africa is poor, Why Africa is not developing, What Africa needs, What Africa needs to develop): Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa Africa, Africa, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola Making the Second Ghetto: Race and Housing in Chicago 1940-1960 (Historical Studies of Urban America) My Amazing Body: A First Look at Health and Fitness ("A First Look At..." Series) Look West Navajo Rug Designs-c (Look West Series)

[Dmca](#)