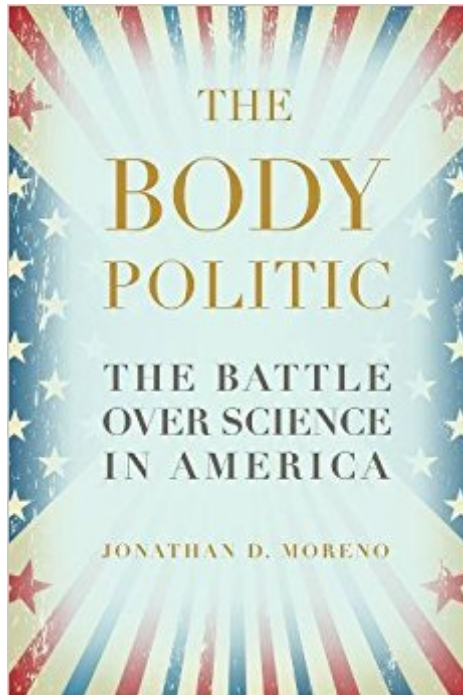




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The Body Politic: The Battle Over Science In America



Synopsis

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year and Scientific American Book Club selection; Moreno pulls apart the debates on eugenics, abortion, end-of-life decisions, embryonic stem-cell research, reproductive cloning, chimeras and synthetic biology, among others, carefully reassembling what's at stake for each side. In graceful, sparkling prose, he illuminates intricate threads of history and complex philosophical arguments. . . . Highly recommended for anyone interested in the[se] vital issues. Kirkus Reviews (starred review) We have entered what is called the "biological century" and a new biopolitics has emerged to address the implications for America's collective value system, our well-being, and ultimately, our future. The Body Politic is the first book to recognize and assess this new force in our political landscape; one that fuels today's culture wars and has motivated politicians of all stripes to reexamine their platforms. As Moreno explains the most contentious issues, he also offers an engaging history of the intersection between science and democracy in American life, a reasoned (and often surprising) analysis of how different political ideologies view scientific controversies, and a vision for how the new biopolitics can help shape the quality of our lives. Jonathan D. Moreno is the David and Lyn Silfen University Professor at the University of Pennsylvania and the editor-in-chief for the Center for American Progress's online magazine, Science Progress. He divides his time between Philadelphia and Washington, DC.

Customer Reviews

A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year and Scientific American Book Club selection "An impassioned defense of scientific study . . . an essential dose of logic."

"Regardless of who ends up occupying the White House in January 2013, one hopes that a few hours will have been set aside on the campaign trail to engage with this important book."

"Times Higher Education" "An excellent guide . . . In his highly readable and provocative book, Moreno makes clear that progress, including biotechnological progress, is still America's most important product."

"Reason magazine" "A timely take on the debate raging over biotechnology breakthroughs . . . Moreno shows how developments in biotechnology have affected people across the ideological spectrum. . . . conservatives concerned about abortion, neoconservatives worried about threats to human dignity and liberals fretting that new biotechnologies will exacerbate existing economic inequality."

"Nature" "The most penetrating characterization and analysis of the shrill political battles fought over the use of our new biotechnologies (and the battles to come)."

“Human cloning. Synthetic biology. Mood (and mind) altering drugs. Personalized medicine . . . The human future may be very different from the human past as these changes are negotiated and assimilated. And so may human politics. To help us prepare for this radical future is Jonathan Moreno, author of the new book *The Body Politic: The Battle Over Science in America*, which underscores the strange bedfellow allegiances that may occur in what has been called our “biological century.”

“Point of Inquiry” “Scholarly, sophisticated and compelling . . . If only more of our contemporary political battles were as careful, as cogent and as well grounded as *The Body Politic*, I’d be more confident that the unprecedented decisions being forced upon society by revolutionary advances in biology would most wisely and effectively be made.”

Washington Independent Review of Books

Called the “most interesting bioethicist of our time” by the American Journal of Bioethics, Jonathan D. Moreno has served as a senior staff member for three presidential advisory commissions, as well as on the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Bioethics Advisory Board for the Grand Challenges in Global Health Initiative. Author and editor of many seminal books and articles on science and science policy, he is the David and Lyn Silfen University Professor at the University of Pennsylvania and the editor-in-chief for the Center for American Progress’s online magazine, *Science Progress*.

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