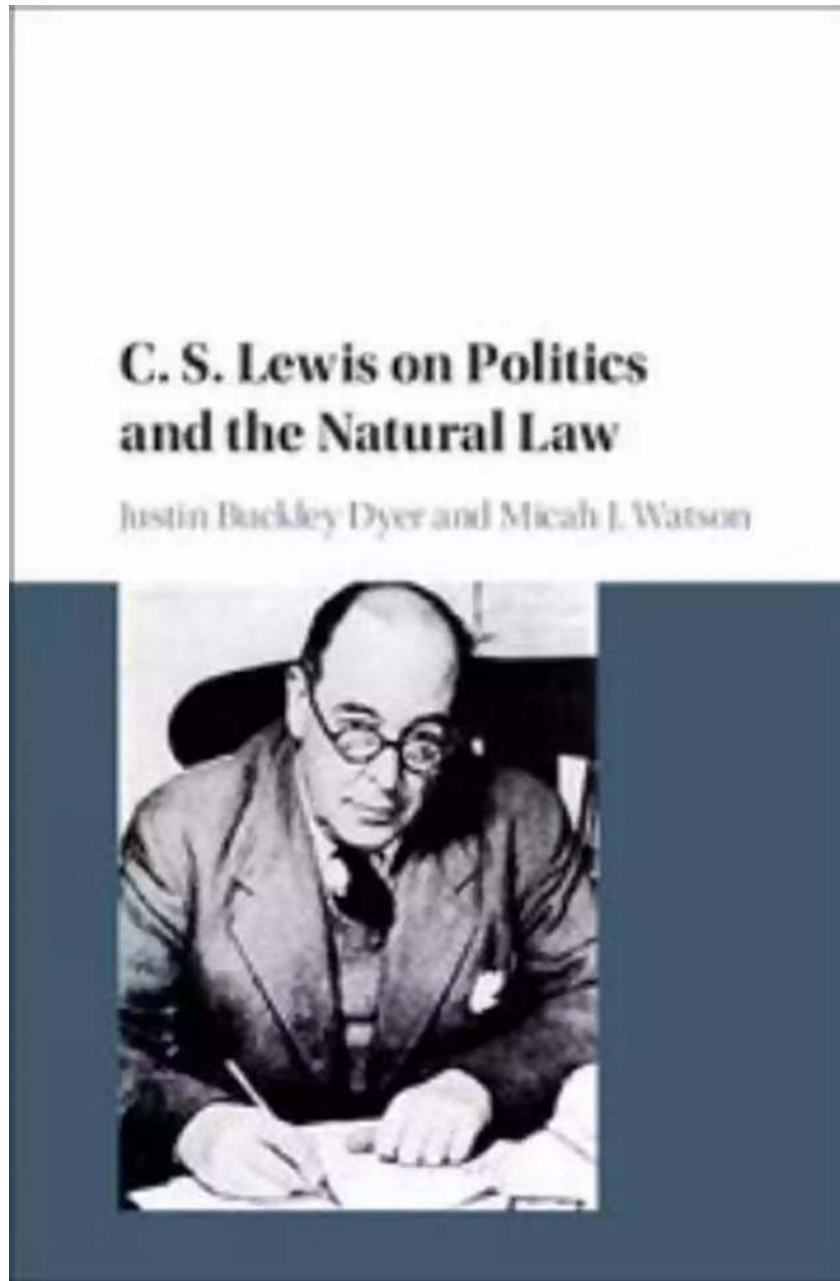


# Lewis On Politics And The Natural Law: Unraveling the Complexities

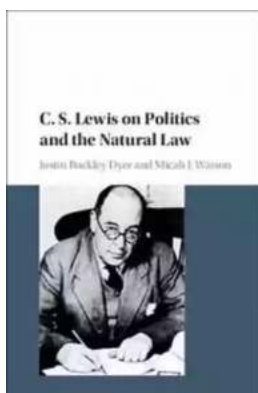


When it comes to understanding the intricate relationship between politics and the natural law, few thinkers are as enlightened as C.S. Lewis. The renowned author, best known for his enchanting tales of Narnia, also delved into various philosophical and theological subjects throughout his career. His insights on

politics and the natural law not only shed light on the workings of societies but also provide wisdom that can be applied to modern-day political discourse.

## The Foundations of Natural Law

In order to grasp Lewis's perspective on politics, it is essential to first understand his concept of the natural law. According to Lewis, the natural law is a set of objective moral principles that are written into the fabric of the universe. It is not contingent upon human laws or societal norms, but rather stands above them, serving as a universal guide for human conduct.



### C. S. Lewis on Politics and the Natural Law

by Justin Buckley Dyer (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1253 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 168 pages



For Lewis, the natural law is not dependent on religious doctrine or cultural traditions; it is a product of reason and can be recognized by individuals from various backgrounds. He believed that these principles are self-evident and can be discovered through introspection and observation of the world around us.

## The Role of Government

In Lewis's view, the primary role of government is to uphold and promote the natural law. He argued that a just government should align its laws and policies

with these moral principles, ensuring the well-being and flourishing of its citizens. Lewis emphasized the importance of limiting state power and protecting individual freedoms, as excessive government intervention can infringe upon the natural rights inherent in every human being.

However, Lewis also recognized the necessity of authority and acknowledged that government is essential for maintaining order in society. He believed that a balance between individual rights and collective responsibility must be struck in order to achieve a harmonious functioning of the political body.

## **The Role of Individuals**

Beyond the responsibilities of government, Lewis emphasized the role of individuals in shaping political discourse and effecting change. He encouraged citizens to actively participate in the political process, exercising wisdom, discernment, and moral judgment in their decision-making.

Lewis warned against the dangers of apathy and encouraged individuals to stay informed on political matters, holding public officials accountable for their actions. He believed that a society can only thrive when its citizens actively engage in the pursuit of justice and strive to create a better future.

## **Lessons for Modern Politics**

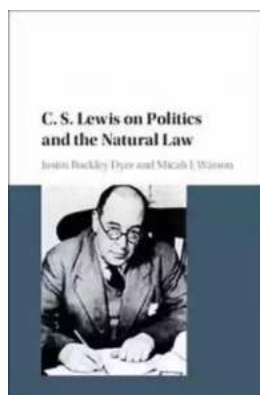
Although Lewis's thoughts on politics and the natural law were developed in the mid-20th century, they still hold relevance in today's world. With societal divisions, ideological clashes, and ethical dilemmas becoming increasingly prevalent, Lewis's insights provide valuable guidance.

One of the key lessons Lewis offers is the need for a transcendent moral framework in political decision-making. By grounding policies and actions in the

natural law, governments and individuals can navigate the complexities of modern politics with a clear sense of ethics and justice.

Additionally, Lewis's emphasis on individual responsibility and active engagement in the political process highlights the importance of citizen participation in democracy. He reminds us that political change requires the collective efforts of informed and moral individuals who are willing to challenge the status quo in pursuit of a better society.

, C.S. Lewis's insights on politics and the natural law offer a thought-provoking perspective on the complexities of social governance. His views on the natural law, the role of government, and individual responsibility continue to hold relevance in the modern world. By embracing his wisdom, we can strive towards a more just and harmonious society, rooted in timeless moral principles.



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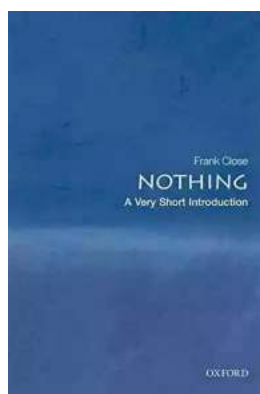
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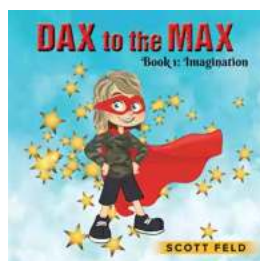
Conventional wisdom holds that C. S. Lewis was uninterested in politics and public affairs. The conventional wisdom is wrong. As Justin Buckley Dyer and Micah J. Watson show in this groundbreaking work, Lewis was deeply interested

in the fundamental truths and falsehoods about human nature and how these conceptions manifest themselves in the contested and turbulent public square. Ranging from the depths of Lewis' philosophical treatments of epistemology and moral pedagogy to practical considerations of morals legislation and responsible citizenship, this book explores the contours of Lewis' multi-faceted Christian engagement with political philosophy generally and the natural-law tradition in particular. Drawing from the full range of Lewis' corpus and situating his thought in relationship to both ancient and modern seminal thinkers, C. S. Lewis on Politics and the Natural Law offers an unprecedented look at politics and political thought from the perspective of one of the twentieth century's most influential writers.



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