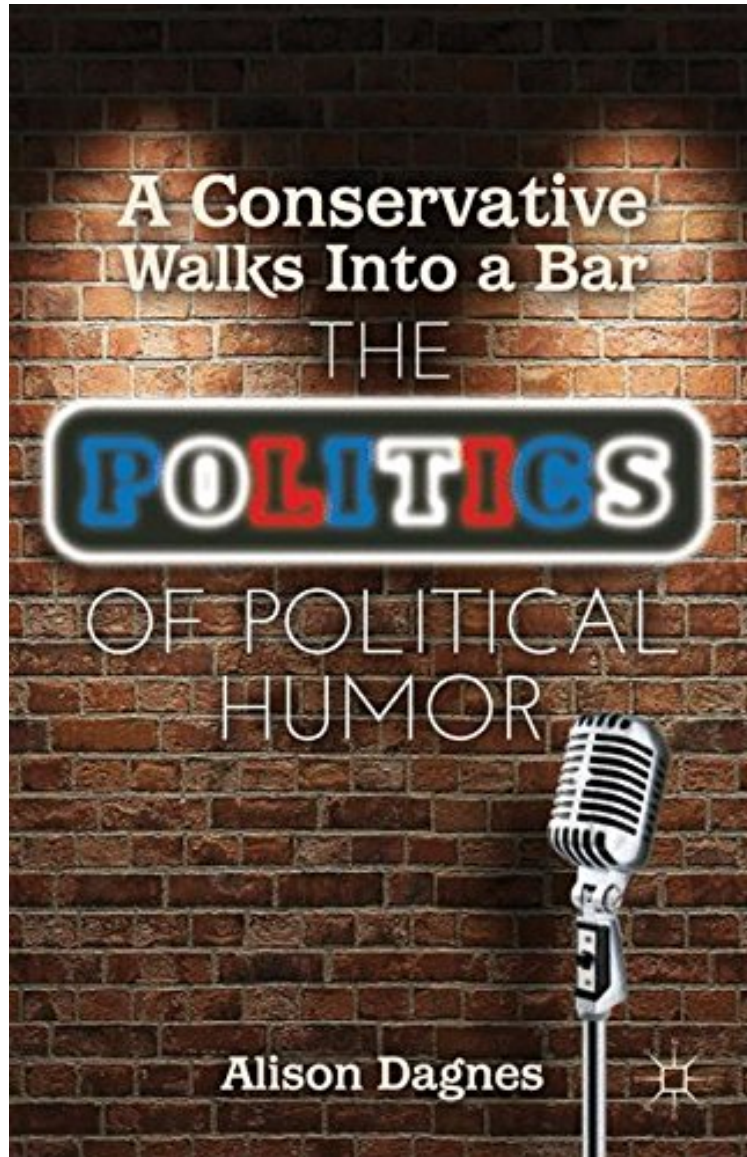


(Download pdf ebook) A Conservative Walks Into a Bar: The Politics of Political Humor

A Conservative Walks Into a Bar: The Politics of Political Humor

A. Dagnes

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A. Dagnes : A Conservative Walks Into a Bar: The Politics of Political Humor before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Conservative Walks Into a Bar: The Politics of Political Humor:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Deeper View of Satire-- not a joke bookBy G.Filkovsky F.DitlowAccording to Allison Dagnes, laughter universally extends beyond borders and species. Quoting Simon

Critchley, she says we laugh for three basic reasons- to feel superior, to release pent up energy and as a result of witnessing incongruity. In our current polarized climate, we may be brought together by humor if people don't object to comedy itself. Satire could shed light needed to eventually solve problems. In her interview with Mark Maron: "comedians release aggression and disarm things while making a point about our culture and society." This study of satire will deepen your knowledge and understanding of our human reaction to authority. If you are entertained by Steven Colbert, Saturday Night Live and others, which contain jokes and sketches that have often been featured in the national political discussion, this is eye opening.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Qualitatively Interesting Read on Political Humor That Could Have Been Better By Brandon Marshall As a whole, the book is rather interesting and provides some insight into the nature of political satire in the modern age. It is primarily a qualitative work, focusing mostly on analyzing the interviews the author conducted with various comedians. From an academic perspective, however, it is mostly okay. The quantitative analysis done was quite simple and rudimentary, and the content analysis should have probably been longer than a week. The greatest disappointment, however, was that it seems no effort was taken to compare the qualitative findings of the interviews with the rather rich literature on political psychology that touches on subjects such as personality and cognitive differences across the ideological spectrum. The reason this is disappointing is because that research would have been a great asset to one of the major arguments in the book, which is that the personality, cognitive, and anti-establishment attitudes necessary to do political satire well is generally more receptive to individuals who have a liberal bent than a conservative one.

On a more minor note, was also disappointed that in the discussion on the influence of political cartoonists no effort was made to give at least some visual examples. Talking about cartoonists is nice and all, but having some examples of the work would have been nice to have as well.

2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Great book for better understanding our current humorous political discourse By bookbird Excellent book, excellent academic analysis done in a very entertaining way. No, it's not a book of jokes, but it does serve its intended purpose very well.

Conservative critics argue that modern political satire, in the age of The Daily Show, has a liberal bias. A quick review of the humor landscape shows that there are very few conservative political satirists, and using personal interviews with political humorists this book explains why. The book explores the history of satire, the comedy profession, and the nature of satire itself to examine why there is an ideological imbalance in political humor and it explores the consequences of this disparity. This book will appeal to Daily Show and Colbert fans, political junkies, and anyone interested in the intersection of politics and media.

"In this engaging book, A. Dagnes analyzes modern political satire and dissects how political humor is crafted and consumed by both liberals and conservatives. Well-researched and thoughtfully written, it provides a deeper understanding of why we laugh at politics." (Off the Shelf, offtheshelf.com, September, 2016) "Alison Dagnes' new book *A Conservative Walks into a Bar* is an engaging and thoughtful analysis of political satire in America. Its unique focus on why there is so little satire on the political right raises broader questions about the connection between humor and American politics. Combining experiments with rich historical descriptions, Dagnes shows that while satire is largely a liberal phenomena, it is not necessarily prejudicial. Instead, satire should be viewed as a vitally important tool of political criticism and debate. This book does a wonderful job of contextualizing and assessing the current state of American political humor. Its a "must read" for anyone interested in American satire and political ideology." - Michael Parkin, associate professor of Politics, Oberlin College "Impeccably researched, effectively argued, and overflowing with insight from practitioners of political humor, Dagnes digs deep, asserting that to truly understand why liberal satire dominates requires an understanding of the nature and purpose of satire; the financial imperatives of the entertainment industry; the liberal tradition; and an appreciation of how liberals and conservatives conceive, consume, and communicate humor. Dagnes has done it again: This brilliant, witty, necessary, evidence-based examination of our political humor and times is essential reading, and the perfect antidote to the instant-analysis impulses of our polarized era." - Kevan M. Yenerall, professor of Political Science, Clarion University, and co-author, *Seeing the Bigger Picture: American and International Politics in Film and Popular Culture* "An engaging, enlightening, and entertaining read; this book is the most authoritative work on the nature of satire. It is also well balanced, and remarkably unbiased, considering it was written by a Liberal." - Tim Slagle, comedian "In this well-documented study, the author seeks to defend contemporary liberal satirists and promoters of satire in the entertainment business from conservative charges of bias. Dagnes examines such programs as The Daily Show, The Colbert Report and Saturday Night Live, which contain jokes and sketches that have often been featured in the national political discussion. Perfect examples include SNL's treatment of Sarah Palin and Stephen Colbert's recent presidential campaign. Dagnes also discusses particular comedians, their writers and raw material, and she provides a wealth of helpful references, including personal interviews, literary sources, and TV performances. The author employs the evenhandedness of an academic sociological analysis, and she focuses mainly on the well-accepted, and studied, divisions between liberals and conservatives..." - Kirkus About the Author ALISON DAGNES is an Associate Professor of Political Science at Shippensburg University in Pennsylvania, USA. She is the author of *Politics on*

Demand: *The Effects of 24-Hour News on American Politics* (2010) and she frequently speaks on the topic of the modern media. Dr. Dagnes has most recently edited a book on political sex scandals called *Political Sex Scandals: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. Her current research examines ideology and political satire. Prior to receiving her doctorate in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Dr. Dagnes was a producer for C-SPAN in Washington, DC.