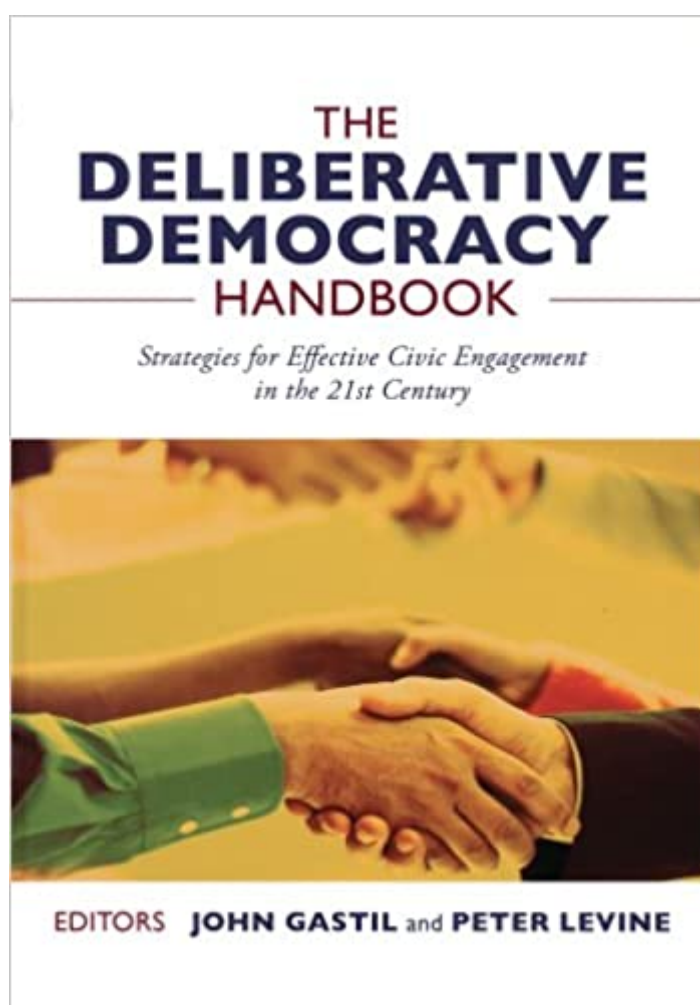


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# The Deliberative Democracy Handbook: Strategies For Effective Civic Engagement In The Twenty-First Century



## Synopsis

The Deliberative Democracy Handbook is a terrific resource for democratic practitioners and theorists alike. It combines rich case material from many cities and types of institutional settings with careful reflection on core principles. It generates hope for a renewed democracy, tempered with critical scholarship and political realism. Most important, this handbook opens a spacious window on the innovativeness of citizens in the U.S. (and around the world) and shows how the varied practices of deliberative democracy are part of a larger civic renewal movement.

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Praise for The Deliberative Democracy Handbook "The Deliberative Democracy Handbook is a terrific resource for democratic practitioners and theorists alike. It combines rich case material from many cities and types of institutional settings with careful reflection on core principles. It generates hope for a renewed democracy, tempered with critical scholarship and political realism. Most important, this handbook opens a spacious window on the innovativeness of citizens in the U.S. (and around the world) and shows how the varied practices of deliberative democracy are part of a larger civic renewal movement." —Carmen Sirianni, professor of sociology and public policy, Brandeis University, and coauthor, *Civic Innovation in America* "The Deliberative Democracy Handbook, edited by John Gastil and Peter Levine, is an important collection of readings for anyone interested in the role of citizen participation in the public policy process. It provides concrete examples of successful efforts to expand public input in decision-making at the local, state, and

national levels. The book also grapples with emerging challenges to the continued development of these efforts in the future." — Robert Mark Silverman, associate professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University at Buffalo, the State University of New York "In government, we need to get beyond the polarization of interest groups if we are to make good and politically sustainable decisions. The Deliberative Democracy Handbook shares lessons of endeavors around the world to engage the community in the complex task of decision-making. I recommend it to anyone in public office." — Hon. Alannah MacTiernan, minister for planning and infrastructure, Western Australia "Clear-eyed about the challenges as well as the promise of public deliberation, the book will be an invaluable resource for practitioners and scholars alike." — Francesca Polletta, associate professor of sociology, Columbia University

John Gastil is associate professor of communication at the University of Washington. He has collaborated with members of the Deliberative Democracy Consortium (DDC), the National Coalition of Dialogue and Deliberation (NCDD), AmericaSpeaks, and the Kettering Foundation's National Issues Forums. He is the author of *Democracy in Small Groups* and *By Popular Demand*. Peter Levine is deputy director of the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) and a research scholar at the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, both housed in the University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs. He is a cofounder of the Deliberative Democracy Consortium and author of *The New Progressive Era: Toward a Fair and Deliberative Democracy*.

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