

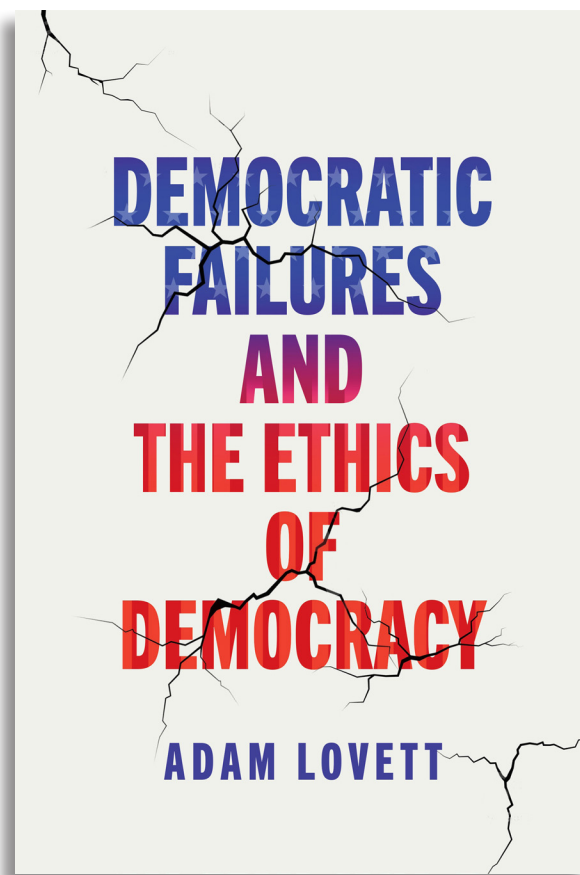
Democratic Failures and the Ethics of Democracy

Adam Lovett

"In this singular synthesis of political science and political philosophy, Adam Lovett exposes how institutions that we call 'democratic' fall short of their own democratic ideals and convinces us that we should all care."—**Niko Kolodny**, author of *The Pecking Order: Social Hierarchy as a Philosophical Problem*

In *Democratic Failures and the Ethics of Democracy*, political philosopher Adam Lovett argues that when it comes to democratic ideals, the United States is a failed democracy. Specifically, he contends that American democracy has failed to advance equality and self-rule for its citizens—qualities he identifies as essential components of democracy's intrinsic value. Drawing on rich empirical research, Lovett locates democratic failures at both the level of political elites and at the level of the masses. However, he does not conclude that American democracy is doomed—he instead proposes reforms that are vital for compelling the state to act on behalf of *all* citizens, not just the partisan or the powerful. *Democratic Failures and the Ethics of Democracy* sheds light on an increasingly troubled democratic ethos and proposes solutions for how ordinary citizens can work to save it.

Adam Lovett is a Fellow at the London School of Economics. He is the author of articles in *Philosophy & Public Affairs* and *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, among other journals.



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