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# Justice and the Meritocratic State

**Thomas Mulligan**, Georgetown University, USA

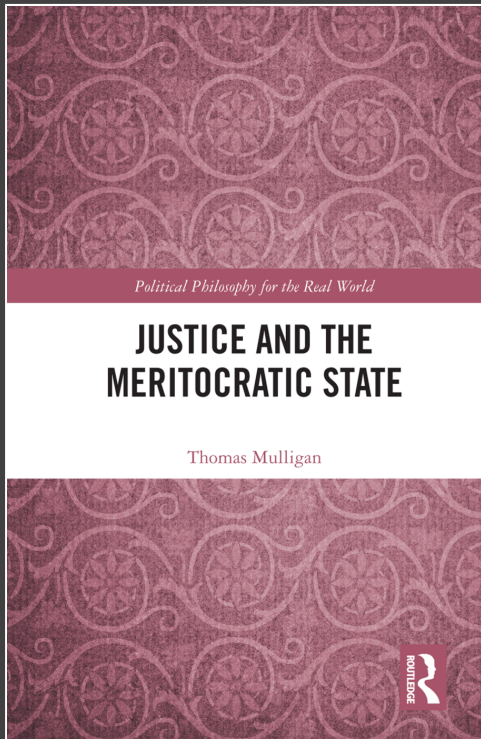
Like American politics, almost all academic theories of justice fall within one of two traditions: egalitarianism and libertarianism. This book provides an alternative to the partisan standoff by focusing not on equality or liberty, but on the idea that we should give people the things that they deserve. This book offers a new theory of justice grounded in empirical research on how humans think about justice and provides solutions to our most vexing social and economic problems, including anti-meritocratic bias against women and racial minorities and the United States' widening economic inequality. It will be of keen interest to philosophers, economists, and political theorists.

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS:

Part I: On Justice 1. Why Meritocracy? 2. The Metatheory of Justice 3. What We Believe about Justice 4. The Concept of Desert Part II: A Meritocratic Theory of Economic Justice 5. On the Distribution of Income 6. On the Distribution of Jobs 7. Defending Desert from the Left and the Right Part III: Meritocratic Public Policy 8. Public Spending and the Establishment of Equal Opportunity 9. Meritocratic Tax Theory 10. Justice in Our Lifetimes



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