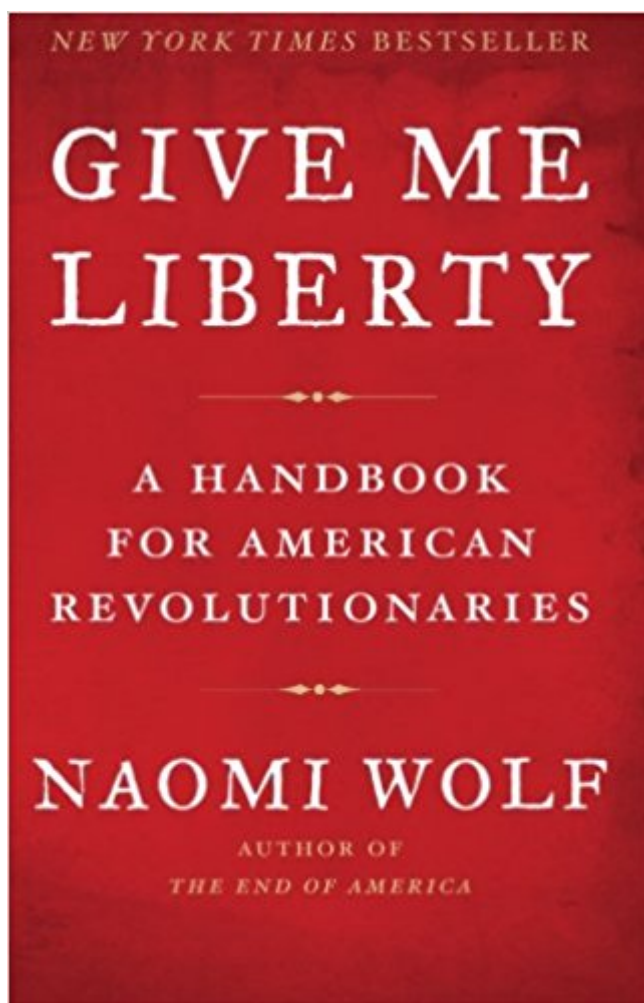


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# Give Me Liberty: A Handbook For American Revolutionaries



## Synopsis

As the practice of democracy becomes a lost art, Americans are increasingly desperate for a restored nation. Many have a general sense that the "system" is in disorder -- if not on the road to functional collapse. But though it is easy to identify our political problems, the solutions are not always as clear. In *Give Me Liberty: A Handbook for American Revolutionaries*, bestselling author Naomi Wolf illustrates the breathtaking changes that can take place when ordinary citizens engage in the democratic system the way the founders intended and tells how to use that system, right now, to change your life, your community, and ultimately, the nation.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Give Me Liberty is a splendid introduction to the historical meaning of American citizenship -- and the challenge of sustaining its promise in a new century." -- Bruce Ackerman, Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science, Yale University "[A] primer on how to become a citizen activist" -- Suki Casanave, *The Washington Post* "A passionate, practical guidebook to reclaiming and reinvigorating participatory democracy." -- Dennis J. Seese, *Library Journal*

Naomi Wolf made a sensation with her landmark international bestseller *The Beauty Myth* in 1991. The author of four books, she is also the cofounder and president of the Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership. She lives in New York City.

ANYthing from this from Ms. Wolf's brain is priceless. Truth worthy of our respect.

Ms. Wolf has a knack for being ahead of the crowd and with this book, she maintains her position in the vanguard of American political activists. This work, coupled with her last book, are an effective call to arms for Americans to act aggressively and effectively as citizens who are frustrated with the past 20-30 years trend in American political life. Citizens in a democracy have the responsibility to act and participate in the civic discourse and Ms. Wolf challenges all of us take this responsibility seriously. This would be a great book for high school and college students as well as adults. And instead of a mere rehash of the usual liberal complaints, Ms. Wolf nails the real issues on the head and then gives the reader a full menu of options and activities. At their core, her recent works send the message that the clock is ticking on saving the American Experiment and that it is high time that citizens take back their government by action. The time for complaining are over. It is time for civic action, action that works and that has results. And that is what Ms. Wolf lays out effectively in this new book. She has given us a much-needed practical and down-to-earth read on the situation that faces us as Americans. And Ms. Wolf has provided us with a civics lesson (when was the last time you heard civics being taught in school?) about our responsibility to act. Not our responsibility to complain and grumble, but our responsibility to act.

The book comes in three parts, the first two by the author, the third a collection of well-chosen pieces by others. I am totally engaged by the idea that liberty is a state of mind, that America the Beautiful is a state of mind, not to be confused with the Wall Street greed and two-party tyranny that is killing the Republic. The author has done a moderately good job of reviewing the history, and that which she shares is most valuable. I especially like her quoting Robert F. Kennedy on how each generation must win its own struggle to be free, and later in the book, she cites one of the thousands across the country as observing that we have abdicated our citizenship. The state of mind theme is carried on in a discussion of the difference between a free society and a fear society, and throughout parts I and II we see documented evidence of how America has become a fear society and how the Global War on Terror (GWOT) has been a virtual seizure of power by quasi-fascist mind-sets who may have the best of intentions but in fact have executed a "paper coup" or as the author also puts it, following a long (LONG) summary of restrictions on everything from permits for free speech to travel to voting rules and regulations, "civic death by a thousand cuts." Although the author is not to my knowledge tied in to the complementary literature and movement represented by

such books as *The Tao of Democracy: Using Co-Intelligence to Create a World That Works for All*, *All Rise: Somebodies, Nobodies, and the Politics of Dignity* (BK Currents (Hardcover)), *Society's Breakthrough!: Releasing Essential Wisdom and Virtue in All the People*, or *Conscious Evolution: Awakening Our Social Potential*, her own contribution is magnificent in its own right and every bit the equal. I have also noted her offerings via the Woodhull Institute for Ethical Leadership, and post Event notices for that organization at Phi Beta Iota, the Public Intelligence Blog. QUOTE: Key Enlightenment beliefs of the colonial era are these: human beings are perfectible; the right structures of society, at the heart of which is a representational government whose power derives from the consent of the government, facilitate the continual evolution; reason is the means by which ordinary people can successfully rule themselves and attain liberty; the right to liberty is \*universal\*, God given, and part of a natural cosmic order, or "natural law"

This book is certainly a companion piece to the excellent 'The End of America'. Where TEOA has the references and detail, *Give Me Liberty* follows up on those themes and provides guidance on where to take it next, if you are so inclined. The author's style is engaging and there is good material here. I would recommend this as the advanced course of *The End Of America*. It moves from theory to practice, and is mostly targeted at those predisposed to take action based on what they have read before.

Excellent resource for people who want to make a radical change in how we do humanity. Highly recommended.

Daughter is using this for a college class. No complaints.

I learned what I should have learned at my private high school.

A good book for all Americans to read

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