

The United States Supreme Courts relegation of many rights to definition under state constitutional law, combined with the tendency of recent administrations to entrust the states with the task of preserving individual rights, is increasingly making state constitutions the arena where the battles to preserve the rights to life, liberty, property, due process, and equal protection of laws must be fought. Ranging in time from the late 1700s to the late 1900s, *Toward a Usable Past* offers a series of case studies that examine the protection afforded individual rights by state constitutions and state constitutional law. As it explores the history of liberty at the state level, this volume also investigates the promise and risks of turning to state constitutions to guarantee and expand individual rights. In this book, major scholars and legal practitioners discuss state protections of civil liberty, and ponder the contemporary implications of the state record. The cases examined cover topics ranging from religion in schools during the Federalist era to criminal justice in the late nineteenth century, from racial integration in Kansas before *Brown v. Board of Education* to legal battles over birth control in the Connecticut Supreme Court. The introduction presents the historical and contemporary significance of the topic and traces the evolution of the federal constitutional law establishing the parameters of state regulation of individual rights.

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Book review: *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions*. Edited by Paul Finkelman and Stephen E. Gottlieb. Athens: University of Georgia Press. *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions*. Edited by Paul Finkelman and Stephen E. Gottlieb. Reviews Contain[s] much of interest, and [has] an Finkelman, Paul and Stephen E. Gottlieb, eds., *Toward A Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions*, Athens: University of Georgia Press, *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions*. Edited by Paul Finkelman and Stephen E. Gottlieb. Athens: University of Georgia 2 See, e.g., PAUL FINKELMAN AND STEPHEN E. GOTTLIEB, EDS., *TOWARD A USABLE. PAST: LIBERTY UNDER STATE CONSTITUTIONS* (1991). 3 Parham *Liberty Under State Constitutions* Paul Finkelman, Stephen E. Gottlieb. as new cases arise. Such judges may also find it difficult to overcome a nonlibertarian *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions*. Edited by Finkelman Paul and Gottlieb Stephen E.. Athens: University of Georgia His publications in this field include *Econocide: British Slavery in the Era of Abolition* Gottlieb, *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions* (1991). The United States Supreme Courts relegation of many rights to definition under state constitutional law, combined with the tendency of recent administrations to *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions* )] [Author: Paul Finkelman] [Jun-2010] on . \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. William J. Brennan, Jr., "State Constitutions and the Protection of Individual Rights," eds., *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions*, 394 (1991). By G. Alan Tarr *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions*. Edited by Paul Finkelman and Stephen E. Gottlieb. Athens: *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions* [Paul Finkelman, Stephen Gottlieb, Mary L. Dudziak, Kermit Hall, Peter Onuf, William Wiecek, Lawrence *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty under State Constitutions*. Finkelman, Paul and Stephen E. Gottlieb, eds.: Athens, GA: University of Georgia *Skullduggery, Machinations, and the Decline of Georgias Progressive Politics*. *Toward a Usable Past: Liberty Under State Constitutions*. *The Trial of Democracy*

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