

# DIRECT DEMOCRATIC CHOICE

*The Swiss Experience*

HANSPETER KRIESI

# Direct Democratic Choice

**RM Cervero**



## **Direct Democratic Choice:**

**Direct Democratic Choice** Hanspeter Kriesi, 2008-01-01 Direct Democratic Choice sets out to understand how the citizens actually decide in direct democratic votes Author Hanspeter Kriesi has analyzed nearly twenty years of post election surveys in Switzerland 1981 1999 which he has contextualized according to the various political issues and the relevant arguments provided by the political elites This book s core argument is that the citizens who participate in direct democratic votes make competent choices Kriesi s extensive empirical research shows that the majority of these voters arrive at their decisions on the basis of arguments about the advantages and disadvantages of the available options The less competent and less interested citizens either do not vote or if they do employ heuristic shortcuts allowing them to make approximately reasonable decisions Kriesi provides strong support for an optimistic view of direct democratic decision making but also indicates that this process wherever it occurs can be improved by proper institutional design and by appropriate strategies enacted by the political elite

**Social Choice and Democratic Values** Eerik Lagerspetz, 2015-11-26 This book offers a comprehensive overview and critique of the most important political and philosophical interpretations of the basic results of social choice assessing their plausibility and seeking to identify the links between the theory of social choice and the more traditional issues of political theory and philosophy In this regard the author eschews a strong methodological commitment or technical formalism the approach is instead based on the presentation of political facts and illustrated via numerous real life examples This allows the reader to get acquainted with the philosophical and political dispute surrounding voting and collective decision making and its links to social choice theory

**Demanding Choices** Shaun Bowler, Todd Donovan, 2000-12-21 DIVReferenda are becoming a more common way to resolve heated political questions This book shows how voters make choices in referenda div *Design, Meaning and Choice in Direct Democracy* Shauna Reilly, 2010 A rigorous and highly original analysis of direct democracy in the United States which calls into question the future of governance through ballot measures Shauna Reilly uses quantitative qualitative and experimental methodological approaches to present insights on the different behaviours of the petitioner the ballot and the voter

**The Democratic Choice** Commission on the Democratic Selection of Presidential Nominees, 1968 **Selected Articles on Direct Primaries** Clara Elizabeth Fanning, 1911 **Democratic Delusions** Richard J. Ellis, 2002 It is becoming common in many states the opportunity to reclaim government from politicians by simply signing a petition to put an initiative on the ballot and then voting for it Isn t this what America ought to be about Proposition 13 in California s 1978 election paved the way the past decade saw more than 450 such actions now in many states direct legislation dominates the political agenda and defines political and public opinion While this may appear to be democracy in action Richard Ellis warns us that the initiative process may be putting democracy at risk In *Democratic Delusions* he offers a critical analysis of the statewide initiative process in the United States challenging readers to look beyond populist rhetoric and face political reality Through engaging

prose and illuminating and often amusing anecdotes Ellis shows readers the dark side of direct democracy specifically the undemocratic consequences that result from relying too heavily on the initiative process He provides historic context to the development of initiatives from their Populist and Progress roots to their accelerated use in recent decades and shows the differences between initiative processes in the states that use them Most important while acknowledging the positive contribution of initiatives Ellis shows that there are reasons to use them carefully and sparingly ill considered initiatives can subvert normal legislative checks and balances undermine the deliberative process and even threaten the rights of minority groups through state sanctioned measures Today s initiative process Ellis warns is dominated not by ordinary citizens but by politicians perennial activists wealthy interests and well oiled machines Deliberately misleading language on the ballot confuses voters and influences election results And because many initiatives are challenged in the courts these ostensibly democratic procedures have now put legislation in the hands of the judiciary Throughout his book he cites examples drawn from states in which initiatives are used intensively Oregon California Colorado Washington and Arizona as well as others in which their use has increased in recent years Undoing mistakes enacted by initiative can be more difficult than correcting errors of legislatures As voters prepare to consider the host of initiatives that will be offered in the 2002 elections this book can help put those efforts in a clearer light Democratic Delusions urges moderation attempting to teach citizens to be at least as skeptical of the initiative process as they are of the legislative process and to appreciate the enduring value of the representative institutions they seek to circumvent

**Current Opinion** ,1904      **Demanding Choices** Shaun Bowler,Todd Donovan,1998-10-14 Referenda are becoming a more common way to resolve heated political questions This book shows how voters make choices in referenda      *Foundations of Free Choice* H. John Cashin,1985      Keeping the People's Liberties John J. Dinan,1998 4 The theory and design of populist institutions      Democracy and Citizenship George Kessler,1920      *Ultimate Democracy and Its Making* Newell LeRoy Sims,1917      **The Convention and the Primary** Mary Elizabeth Pidgeon,1925      *The Democrat* ,1919      **The Divine Right of Democracy** Clarence True Wilson,1922      **The American Year Book** ,1911      **Manufacturers' News** ,1924      **Democracy and the Organization of Political Parties** Moisei Ostrogorski,1902      **Locomotive Engineers Journal** ,1924

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