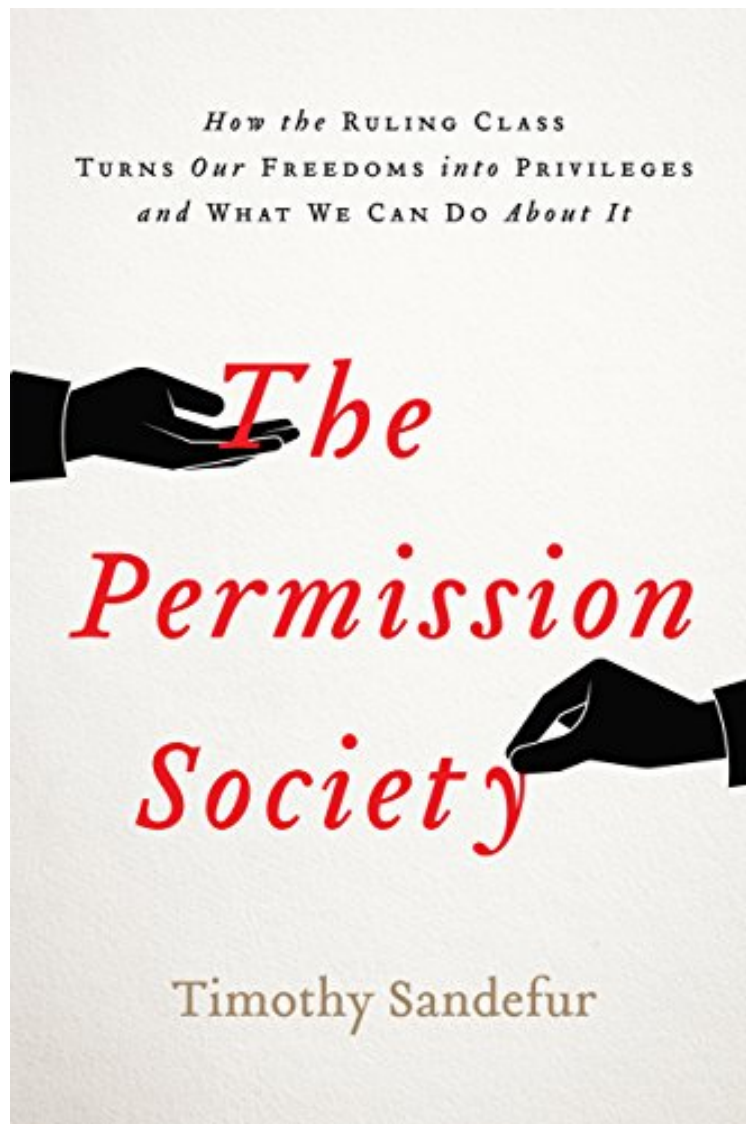


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## The Permission Society: How the Ruling Class Turns Our Freedoms into Privileges and What We Can Do About It

*Timothy Sandefur*

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**Timothy Sandefur : The Permission Society: How the Ruling Class Turns Our Freedoms into Privileges and What We Can Do About It** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Permission Society: How the Ruling Class Turns Our Freedoms into Privileges and What We Can Do About It:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. He's a brilliant legal scholarBy Kristin L. NapolilloI've only read

through the first chapter and it's great. But I wanted to add that I have personally met Mr. Sandefur on a couple of occasions. He used to be a leading member of the Pacific Legal Foundation, and lived just a few short miles from me. We asked him to speak at our Tea Party meetings on the ACA. And later he spoke to us about his current passion, which is Native American societal issues. He's a very dynamic speaker. His writing style is very engaging. I would recommend reading all his books. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. well informed and competent presentation By Hardrock Lawyer insightful, rational and scholarly - a must read! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All should read this By george A very interesting book. After reading it you will not look at any government the same way.

Throughout history, kings and emperors have promised "freedom" to their people. Yet these freedoms were really only permissions handed down from on high. The American Revolution inaugurated a new vision: people have basic rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and government must ask permission from them. Sadly, today's increasingly bureaucratic society is beginning to turn back the clock and to transform America into a nation where our freedoms—the right to speak freely, to earn a living, to own a gun, to use private property, even the right to take medicine to save one's own life—are again treated as privileges the government may grant or withhold at will. Timothy Sandefur examines the history of the distinction between rights and privileges that played such an important role in the American experiment, and how we can fight to retain our freedoms against the growing power of government. Illustrated with dozens of real-life examples—including many cases he litigated himself—Sandefur shows how treating freedoms as government-created privileges undermines our Constitution and betrays the basic principles of human dignity.

From the Inside Flap Throughout history, kings and emperors have promised "freedom" to their people. Yet these freedoms were really only permissions handed down from on high. The American Revolution inaugurated a new vision: people have basic rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and government must ask permission from them. Sadly, today's increasingly bureaucratic society is beginning to turn back the clock and to transform America into a nation where our freedoms--the right to speak freely, to earn a living, to own a gun, to use private property, even the right to take medicine to save one's own life--are again treated as privileges the government may grant or withhold at will. Timothy Sandefur examines the history of the distinction between rights and privileges that played such an important role in the American experiment, and how we can fight to retain our freedoms against the growing power of government. Illustrated with dozens of real-life examples---including many cases he litigated himself--Sandefur shows how treating freedoms as government-created privileges undermines our Constitution and the basic principles of human dignity. From the Back Cover "With *The Permission Society*, his fourth magnificent book, plus countless articles, speeches, and legal briefs, Timothy Sandefur has emerged as one of America's most important political and legal theorists. Yet his writing is eminently readable. Here, his focus is on the fundamental shift from liberty to license that began setting in systematically during the Progressive Era, after which Americans increasingly have had to get permission from government officials before they could open a business, build on their property, attend to their health, and even speak in many contexts. Rich in both theory and example, this book puts the modern world of liberty only by government permission in perspective. The Founders' blood would boil, and the reader's will too." -- Roger Pilon, B. Kenneth Simon Chair in Constitutional Studies at the Cato Institute and Director of the Cato Institute's Center for Constitutional Studies "It is remarkable that one man can be both an active constitutional litigator and a genuine constitutional scholar. Timothy Sandefur's latest book brilliantly explains how 'freedom is not permission.' Are we citizens whose liberty is presumed or are we subjects who must seek permission from our rulers? Read this important book and decide." -- Randy E. Barnett, Carmack Waterhouse Professor of Legal Theory, Georgetown Law, and author of *Our Republican Constitution: Securing the Liberty and Sovereignty of We the People* and *Restoring the Lost Constitution: The Presumption of Liberty*. "Timothy Sandefur has always been focused on one thing: freedom. Sadly, licensing laws and permit requirements are taking more and more of our freedoms away, and forcing Americans instead to ask approval from bureaucrats before they can build homes, take jobs, or even express their political opinions. In this book, Sandefur makes a powerful case for why a free society is better than a 'permission society'--and explains how we can act to defend our freedoms in the future." -- Hugh Hewitt, radio talk show host and author of *The Brief Against Obama: The Rise, Fall Epic Fail of the Hope Change Presidency*