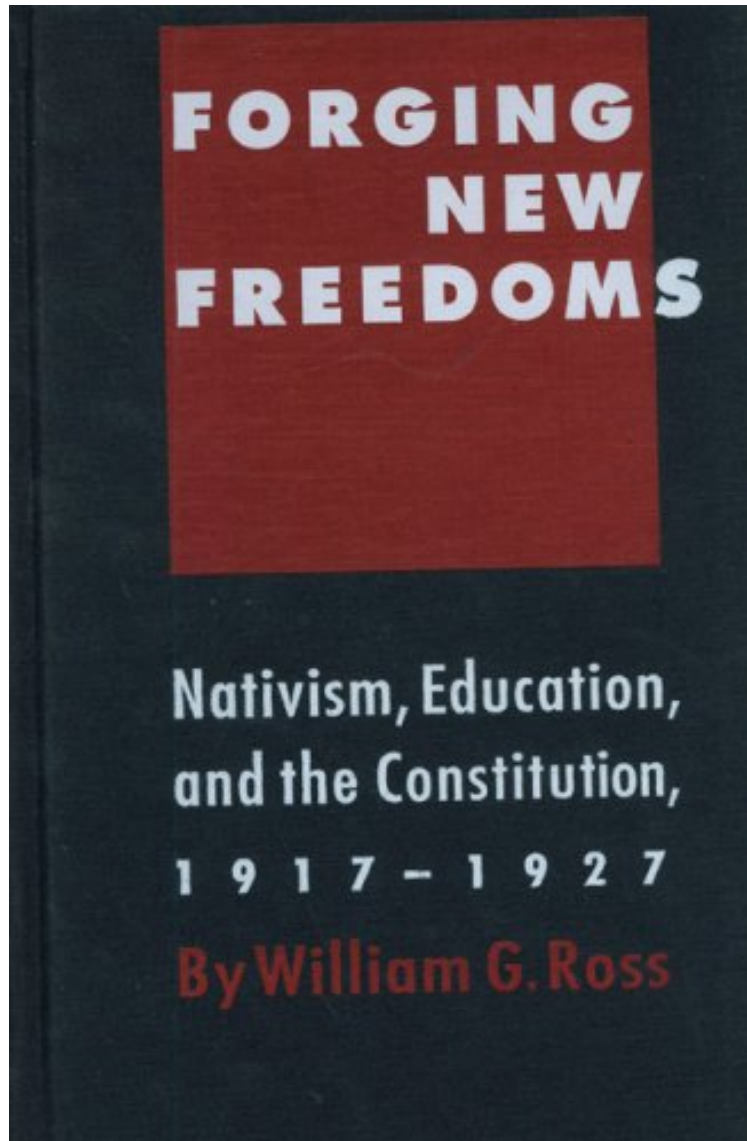


(Download free ebook) Forging New Freedoms: Nativism, Education and the Constitution, 1917-1927

Forging New Freedoms: Nativism, Education and the Constitution, 1917-1927

William G. Ross

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William G. Ross : Forging New Freedoms: Nativism, Education and the Constitution, 1917-1927 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forging New Freedoms: Nativism, Education and the Constitution, 1917-1927:

In several landmark decisions during the mid-1920s, the U.S. Supreme Court significantly expanded the scope of the Constitution's protection of individual freedom by striking down state laws designed to repress or even destroy private and parochial schools. *Forging New Freedoms* explains the origins of nativist hostility toward German and Japanese Americans, Roman Catholics, Lutherans, and other groups whose schools became the object of assaults during and shortly after World War I. The book explores the campaigns to restrict foreign language instruction and to require compulsory public education. It also examines the background of *Meyer v. Nebraska* and *Farrington v. Tokushige*, in which the Court invalidated laws that restricted the teaching of foreign languages, and *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, which nullified an Oregon law that required all children to attend public elementary schools. Drawing upon diverse sources, including popular periodicals, court briefs, and unpublished manuscripts, William G. Ross explains how the Court's decisions commenced the Court's modern role as a guardian of civil liberties. He also traces the constitutional legacy of those decisions, which have provided the foundation for the controversial right of privacy. Ross's interdisciplinary exploration of the complex interaction among ethnic and religious institutions, nativist groups, public opinion, the legislative process, and judicial decision-making provides fresh insights into both the fragility and the resilience of civil liberties in the United States. While the campaigns to curtail nonpublic education offer a potent reminder of the ever-present dangers of majoritarian tyranny, the refusal of voters and legislators to exact more extreme measures was a tribute to the tolerance of American society. The Court's decisions provided notable examples of how the judiciary can protect embattled minorities who are willing to fight to protect their rights.

About the Author William G. Ross, a graduate of Stanford and the Harvard Law School, is a professor at the Cumberland School of Law, Samford University, Alabama. He is the author of *A Muted Fury: Populists, Progressives, and Labor Unions Confront the Courts, 1890-1937*.