

Healing American Democracy: Going Local to Reclaim Our Political Power

In the wake of the 2020 presidential election, American democracy stands at a crossroads. The bitter divisions that have plagued our country for decades have only deepened in recent years, and there seems to be little hope of bridging the partisan divide. Many have come to believe that our political system is irrevocably broken, that there is no way to heal the wounds that have been inflicted upon it.

But even in the darkest of times, there is always hope. And for those who are committed to healing American democracy, there is no better place to start than local government. Local government is the most direct way for citizens to participate in the political process. It is where the decisions that affect our daily lives are made, and where we can have the most impact on our community.



Healing American Democracy: Going Local

by Morley Winograd

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

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There are many ways to get involved in local government. You can run for office, volunteer for a campaign, or simply attend a city council meeting. Even small acts of participation can make a big difference. By showing up and making our voices heard, we can help to ensure that our local government is responsive to the needs of the people.

One of the most important things that we can do to heal American democracy is to rebuild trust between citizens and their government. This is especially important at the local level, where government officials are more likely to be held accountable for their actions. By participating in local government, we can help to ensure that our elected officials are transparent and responsive to the needs of the people.

Local government can also play a vital role in addressing the root causes of political polarization. For example, many local governments are working to reduce economic inequality and improve access to education and healthcare. These are all issues that have been shown to contribute to political division. By addressing these issues at the local level, we can help to create a more just and equitable society, which will in turn help to heal our political divide.

Of course, healing American democracy will not be easy. It will require a sustained effort from all of us. But it is a task that is worth undertaking. The future of our democracy depends on it. Here are some specific ways that you can get involved in local government:

- Run for office. This is the most direct way to have an impact on your community. There are many local offices that are open to candidates

with no prior experience. If you are passionate about making a difference, consider running for office.

- Volunteer for a campaign. If you don't want to run for office yourself, you can still get involved in local politics by volunteering for a campaign. This is a great way to learn about the issues and meet other people who are passionate about making a difference.
- Attend a city council meeting. This is a great way to learn about what's happening in your community and make your voice heard. City council meetings are typically open to the public, so you can simply show up and listen. If you see something that you don't like, you can speak up and let your elected officials know how you feel.
- Join a local organization. There are many local organizations that are working to make a difference in their communities. These organizations are always looking for volunteers, so you can get involved in a cause that you care about and meet other people who share your values.

By getting involved in local government, you can help to heal American democracy and build a better future for our country.

Additional Resources

- National Civic League
- International City/County Management Association
- National League of Cities

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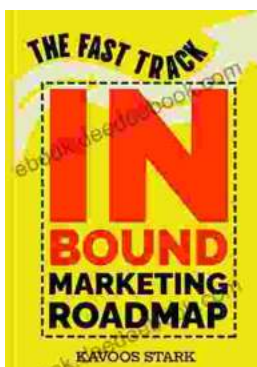
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