

# On Liberty: A Classic Philosophical Work

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## Reviews

Complete information! Its such a excellent study. It is filled with knowledge and wisdom I realized this publication from my dad and i advised this publication to find out. (Geovanny Grimes)

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### **ON LIBERTY: A CLASSIC PHILOSOPHICAL WORK**



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Createspace, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 254 x 178 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\* THE COMPLETE CLASSIC On Liberty by John Stuart Mill. John Stuart Mill opens his essay by discussing the historical struggle between authority and liberty, describing the tyranny of government, which, in his view, needs to be controlled by the liberty of the citizens. He divides this control of authority into two mechanisms: necessary rights belonging to citizens, and the establishment of constitutional checks by which the consent of the community, or of a body of some sort, supposed to represent its interests, was made a necessary condition to some of the more important acts of the governing power. Because society was-in its early stages-subjected to such turbulent conditions (i.e. small population and constant war), it was forced to accept rule by a master. However, as mankind progressed, it became conceivable for the people to rule themselves. Mill admits that this new form of society seemed immune to tyranny because there was no fear of tyrannizing over self. Despite the high hopes of the Enlightenment, Mill argues that the democratic ideals were not as easily met as expected. First, even in democracy, the rulers were not always the same sort of people as the ruled. Second, there is a risk of a tyranny of the majority in which the many oppress the few who, according to democratic ideals, have just as much a right to pursue their legitimate ends. In Mill s view, tyranny of the majority is worse than tyranny of government because it is not limited to a political function. Where one can be protected from a tyrant, it is much harder to be protected against the tyranny of the prevailing opinion and feeling. The prevailing opinions...

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