



Foundations and Public Policy: The Mask of Pluralism (Suny Series in Radical Social and Political Theory)

By Joan Roelofs

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Documents how even progressive foundations serve to reinforce the political status quo.

In this pathbreaking study of foundation influence, author Joan Roelofs produces a comprehensive picture of philanthropy's critical role in society. She shows how a vast number of policy innovations have arisen from the most important foundations, lessening the destructive impact of global "marketization." Conversely, groups and movements that might challenge the status quo are nudged into line with grants and technical assistance, and foundations also have considerable power to shape such things as public opinion, higher education, and elite ideology. The cumulative effect is that foundations, despite their progressive goals, have a depoliticizing effect, one that preserves the hegemony of neoliberal institutions.

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About the Author

Joan Roelofs is Professor of Political Science at Keene State College. She is the author of *Greening Cities: Building Just and Sustainable Communities*.

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