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Stand For Something: The Battle For America's Soul



Synopsis

One of the most respected commentators on politics and society, John Kasich has penned a wake-up call to shake up America and reset its moral compass. He asserts that traditional American values have been lost. From pop culture to politics to parenting, Kasich isn't afraid to tackle the most important issues in our society, offering a clear-headed solution to the problems we face. In his far-reaching polemic, Kasich shows how our society has changed dramatically (and not for the better), drawing upon national headlines as well as everyday governmental happenings (the disappointing leadership of our elected officials), business (the growing lack of ethics), religion (why we can't seem to respect the faith of others), sports (cheating to win.), education (why the American educational system is running downhill), and popular culture. Not since *THE DEATH OF COMMON SENSE* has there been a book so strong in its simple truth. Kasich's book is a rally for all Americans, to get us to think, and to make us get off our easy chairs and **STAND FOR SOMETHING**.

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Customer Reviews

Kasich writes the way he speaks on his Fox News talk show. This former Ohio Republican congressman addresses the nation's lack of moral fiber in his latest book (after *Courage Is Contagious*). America has abandoned "honesty, integrity, personal responsibility, faith, humility, accountability, compassion, forgiveness," he laments, and the result is both a lack of leadership and "profound societal drift." Kasich decries the ruination of government, sports, business, religion,

education and popular culture. But unlike many other conservative talking heads, Kasich takes a more conciliatory than bitterly partisan tone. He praises liberal Democrats for their steadfastness and decency—•if not their programs—•and deplores the increasing divisiveness of partisan politics. When discussing national political debates, especially as they play out in the oversimplified red state—•blue state split, Kasich writes with insider knowledge (he served in Congress for 18 years), but his sermonizing cultural commentary that makes up half the book lacks that authority. "I'm not a moralizer," he writes, as he details his horror over a Roots CD and the Coen brothers' movie Fargo, which he harassed Blockbuster to ban from its shelves. Family values proponents will find their views confirmed in this call for personal accountability. (May 10) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Kasich, former nine-time U.S. congressman from Ohio, speaks directly to the reader, asking for agreement that things have gone awry in America and a commitment to set things right. He describes a "heat and haste" to American life that disregards basic values of decency and emphasizes instant gratification and winning at all costs. Kasich sprinkles personal history—his childhood in a family of Democrats who later became Republicans and early ambitions to be a priest and president of the U.S.—with a litany of examples of failed local and national leadership. In separate chapters, he details the spread of disorder and decline in politics, sports, business, religion, education, and popular culture. Evoking heroes from Martin Luther King Jr. to Ronald Reagan and more ordinary heroes, such as a shoe shiner who gave his life savings to a benefit for children with kidney disease, Kasich appeals to ordinary citizens to take action. Kasich, a host of the FOX News Channel and a former presidential candidate, is certain to provoke speculation about future campaign ambitions with this book. Vanessa Bush Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Whichever political party you belong to, it's hard not to like John Kasich as an individual and as a politician. His good nature shows through in this autobiographical book, as do his values and common sense. We get a glimpse of his past, the influence of his family, and his rise as a politician from the depths of depression after his beloved parents died in a car accident. Without being preachy, Kasich is an inspirational person who would be a unifying and positive force in today's divided political field.

Stand for Something, The Battle for America's Soul by John Kasich. Kasich was a Congressman for

18 years before he retired in 2001. Then he worked in the private sector as well as hosting a show on FOX for six years. Now he is serving his second term as Governor of Ohio. It was a boyhood dream of his to be president one day and he tossed his hat in the ring in 2000. The GOP must carry Ohio to win the presidency and they would be wise to nominate Kasich. But I don't expect the GOP to act wisely. In the 2012 presidential race, the GOP had one sane candidate, Jon M. Huntsman, Jr., and he was forced out of the race early. Kasich is considering entering the GOP race in 2016, and if he does, he will be the only sane candidate on the GOP side. Kasich, like John McCain, is a maverick, and the GOP do not allow any candidate to stray from the party line as determined by Grover Norquist and the TEA Party. It's too bad that the GOP will not nominate a candidate whose primary goal is the good of the country, not the good of the GOP and the 1%. I recommend Kasich's book.

Purchased this via audio book/CD. Narrated by the Governor, Kasich shares historical examples of sports, business and family leaders takes a stand for what is right. Is not a political book but one about leaders who put their ego second. Enjoyed it and appreciate the reinforcement of the need for citizens to take a stand for the right thing, regardless of religion, politics, or any other categorization of human choices.

This book is heartfelt and intelligent. It is a perfect testament to what John Kasich stands for. He inspires, motivates as he affirms that the average person can make contributions in their everyday lives for the greater good of our society.

Loan this book to everyone you know. John Kasich writes what our children should all learn in history-government classes. Maybe we will all then become proud Americans again!

I certainly do not regret buying and taking the time to read this book. It is a relatively quick read (lots of white space between and around the lines). For me the best and most important chapter dealt with the corruption of politics, and I include some memorable quotes from there below. The book reads rather blandly and inoffensively (typical of Presidential Hopefuls writing "please get to know me" books but I have to say that after putting down this book, I felt that the author had indeed made his point: he is a decent man who stands for core values, and believes in a balanced budget to boot. Memorable points from the political chapter, alone worthy of buying and reading the book: Reagan Republican who echoes President Carter's "malaise" concerns by saying "there's a

feeling of hopelessness out there."p 21. "Good politics shouldn't be about us or them" On page 75, after starting off by saying that politics should be about saving the world, he says "We haven't seen middle ground for so long I am no longer certain it exists." Both these comments tie in very well with the newly launched Unity08 movement to use the Internet to field a split party presidential team for 2008, and the new non-rival Citizens-Party (wing for each existing party to have "dual membership") which will be launched shortly to field not just a mixed party presidential team, but a coalition cabinet committed to electoral issue as the non-rival issue for all, and a balanced transparent budget with public intelligence and dialog driving public policy in the future, instead of party line politics or special interest money (the author addresses both). On page 77 he directly slams the Bush II administration is noting rather pointedly that we need leaders who represent our core values and are not simply committed to winning and holding power at any cost. On page 94 he specifically identifies one of the times when Dick Cheney broke his word, and one gets the feeling that the author is intimately familiar with the propensity of the sitting Vice President to lie and break his word to one and all. The books by Tom Coburn on "A Breach of Trust: How Washington Turns Outsiders Into Insiders" and by Joe Klein on "Politics Lost: From RFK to W: How Politicians Have Become Less Courageous and More Interested in Keeping Power than in Doing What's Right for America" as well as Norman Cousins on "The Pathology of Power - A Challenge to Human Freedom and Safety" are much more detailed and sophisticated than this book, but in his own way the author has told a simple elegant personal story about politics lost to party corruption and special interest money, and I respect him all the more for this chapter. In comparison with the chapter on politics the chapters on sports, business lack of ethics, loss of religion to Paris Hilton and sex on TV, loss of discipline in education, and the loss of culture as celebrities fail to walk the wholesome road, are straight-forward. The book ends with a general but rather bland "call to arms" asking each of us to believe in the greater good and act accordingly. Bottom line: good guy, leader, "must have" on any coalition ticket to save America from the Republican and Democratic extremists that are killing the Republic.

Outstanding insights into the character of the next President Of The United States

John Kasich has always been the man who has stood up for the people. He has shown the guts and the temerity to stand up to unpopular issues simply because he believes they are the wrong thing for the government to do. Although many people stop to take credit when something goes well. John Kasich is already working on the next thing on a never ending list. This book should be a must read

for anyone considering public service!

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