



Inventing the Individual: The Origins of Western Liberalism

By Larry Siedentop

Penguin Books Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Inventing the Individual: The Origins of Western Liberalism, Larry Siedentop, The new book from Larry Siedentop, acclaimed author of Democracy in Europe, Inventing the Individual is a highly original rethinking of how our moral beliefs were formed and their impact on western society today. "Magisterial, timeless, beautifully written .Siedentop has achieved something quite extraordinary. He has explained us to ourselves". (Spectator). This ambitious and stimulating book describes how a moral revolution in the first centuries AD - the discovery of human freedom and its universal potential - led to a social revolution in the west. The invention of a new, equal social role, the individual, gradually displaced the claims of family, tribe and caste as the basis of social organisation. Larry Siedentop asks us to rethink the evolution of the ideas on which modern societies and government are built, and argues that the core of what is now our system of beliefs emerged much earlier than we think. The roots of liberalism - belief in individual liberty, in the fundamental moral equality of individuals, that equality should be the basis of a legal system and that only a representative form of...



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