



Power to the People

Laura Ingraham

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In her latest, radio personality and author Ingraham (Shut up and Sing) calls on the American people to take back the phrase "Power to the People" from the anti-establishment groups of yesterday that, today, have made the country, according to Ingraham, "a slave to fringe groups, political correctness, expanding bureaucracies, and our own consumerism." Taking an approach that makes mutually exclusive groups out of those "working and taking care of their families" and the "protest culture," Ingraham's message is loud and clear: "they're coming for you." Specifically, "they" means the Lifetime network (brainwashing women to "swear off men and family"), the growing ranks of "Team Atheist" (including Dan Brown), "family deconstructivists," illegal immigrants and Islamic jihadists, among others. Chapters cover most of today's hot button topics-the war in Iraq, homeland security, the judiciary, the news media and global warming-with attitude and conviction. Ingraham's commentary on the lack of education in our schools and the "pornification" of the culture contain her most sound, articulate arguments (bolstered by a wealth of statistics), but Ingraham's assembling tactics are overzealous; still, fans of her strident radio show should be pleased to find more of the same here.

Power to the People Details

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John says

Though this book covers some of the most basic foundational topics of neo-conservative thought, Ingraham approaches them in a way that is both novel and mentally invigorating. While not nearly as divisive as Ann Coulter, Ingraham doesn't pull any punches in the name of political correctness. That, plus her strong Christian point of view, will continue to make her (and therefore this book) an anathema to the "do-whatever-feels-good" crowd. I especially like that Ingraham, although a conservative, spends about as much time criticizing Republicans as she does Democrats. When was the last time you read a liberal pundit who did that? POWER TO THE PEOPLE is basically the Christian conservative soccer-mom version of a RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE album, only in book form. Ingraham's sense of humor doesn't always resonate with me (and, IMHO, her recent books of political satire are downright embarrassing), but I admire her mental acuity in exploring controversial topics and the unwavering tenacity she displays in fighting for what she believes is right.

Mary Lou says

Just okay. Very redundant if you listen to Ingraham's radio show.

Steven Hummer says

I got to the 4th CD of 9 and I just can't finish this one rarely do I give up on books but this one was really bad. A good source of information but hard to follow and when you hear all of these stats and facts about our boarder security and how the Judicial system is so corrupted and then its just miserable because now we have a President who plans to just make things even worse.If you want to be informed on news of the day I suggest you read Glenn Beck's stuff his writing style is easy to follow and he has a bunch of laughs along the way to make your reading experience a pleasant one.

Alicia says

Very basic. This book seemed to just be common sense preached to the (conservative) choir. I didn't find anything new and wondered what the purpose of this book was. Most conservatives already agree with Ms. Ingraham and those who don't or who are actually interested would probably focus on a book with more substantial arguments and substance (i.e. Mr. Souza's books).

Rather than reading the book, just listen to her radio show and cruise the conservative blogosphere and save the \$14.00 or the trip to the library.

Samantha says

I don't always agree with Laura Ingraham's views but they are well researched and thought out. I just read

this book so some of the predictions have come true and some of the views are just after thoughts. I'm not sure this is a book that can last for the ages. I enjoyed the different topics she explored and while making fun of a differing view she still explains the other side of the issue. I really found the book interesting and it had a lot of sources that you could find further information on. I would recommend this book to anyone that likes her radio show or shares her views. For others that don't share her views, why read something that will just upset you? :-)

Jack Hansen says

An enjoyable, informative perspective about America and how it is changing within our lifetime. Laura Ingraham is a Conservative Christian who views the changes as red flags in the areas of family and faith. Power to the People also warns her audience about the loss of people's power that trends toward a loss of liberty, the quality that defines America. Laura's strong Christian faith is evident as she tells about its emergence during trying times in her life, the death of her mother and Laura's bout with cancer. She concludes that the people's power is not "of" the people but "to" the people, suggesting it is given by the grace of the only power, God.

MOrfeus says

Excellent general analysis of current hot button issues and the Conservative position on them. It is also a nice introduction to Federalism and what that means to how our government should govern.

And finally, it wraps up with a section on the indispensable role of religious faith and morality in civic and public life.

All in Laura's inimitable style.

Anyone who loves her radio show will love this book! Those who've never heard her radio show will also come away from it with a good grasp of how Conservatives see the world (hint--we see it as it is) and of what can be done to wrest power from the elites and to put it back where it belongs--with the people.

As Laura says, Liberals talk about "Power to the People" but they never really mean it. In LiberalSpeak "Power to the People" means power to unelected elites such as the Supreme Court or the UN. Laura ends each chapter in this book with concrete steps We the People can take to reclaim our power. This is what Conservatives mean by "Power to the People".

Karen says

I am currently reading this book. I love Laura's direct honesty about how it is in politics today. I share her conservative views, thus her book reaffirms what I believe to the most part. I love her optimistic approach as to how we as citizens can step up and make a difference through our own personal patriotism, love of country, and willingness to speak out against the liberal bias in this country.

Julie says

This book was insightful, humorous, and a reminder of how blessed we are to live in the greatest country in the world!! Even with all our flaws, there is no better place to call home. I think patriotism should be taught to children at home and at school. We are not a global melting pot for every whim and idea set out to infiltrate our American way of life. We are Americans. Anyone wanting to live here should understand that. We must do everything we can to protect our freedoms and way of life. Power to the people!!

Doran Barton says

I recently finished Laura Ingraham's latest book *Power To The People* and present a review of it.

Power To The People Laura Ingraham is a nationally syndicated conservative talk-radio host. In Salt Lake City, she is heard on 1430 AM (KLO) from 7-10 a.m. She's probably a second or third tier conservative host as most people don't know who she is — they know Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, and even Glenn Beck, but may have never heard of Laura Ingraham before. It wouldn't surprise me if people thought she was "Dr. Laura" but, believe me, she and Laura Schlessinger are completely different. For one thing, Ingraham is, like, really educated and not just some physiology grad.

Some people probably confuse Laura Ingraham with Ann Coulter. There are some similarities in their "acts," but I find Coulter to be much more vitriolic in her attacks of liberal democrats where Laura Ingraham is just entertaining.

Laura's radio program features lots of soundbites and clips from TV news programs with witty analysis by Laura and her studio cohorts. She is also frequently joined by this or that politician or pundit to talk about the issues of the day.

One of Laura's program's trademarks is the opening montage of soundbites that accompany the theme music. Unlike Limbaugh's opener (classic) or Hannity's (*rolls eyes*), Laura's gets changed quite frequently as she mixes it up weekly or daily with funny, idiotic, or inspiring clips of people. These montages always end with a shrill "Power to the peeeeeeeople!" at the end. The screamer is a leftist human rights activist named Efi Nwangaza and the clip sounds like she's being dragged away by security as she's screaming.

Now you know where the title of the book comes from.

The book was an easy read, maybe too easy for me. *Power To The People* can be summarized as follows: Conservative talk-radio listeners should be aware of the following problems with our society. As talk-radio listeners, you have the power, collectively, to make a difference and influence action on these problems.

I fear Glenn Beck's book coming out in November may be a similar set of recipes. We'll see.

Laura begins by talking about the attack on the family. This was one of the more interesting chapters in the book. Laura — not married and not a parent — talks about how mainstream society looks down on large families and families in general. She discusses the value of the traditional (and natural) family model and how it must be defended. She touches on other topics that resurface later in the book, like sexualization of children and government usurping the authority of parents.

Next, illegal immigration. Who saw that coming? This section was just another dose of common sense solutions all of the talk radio world is screaming about while Washington collectively holds its fingers in its ears and says, "La la la la la."

After that: national security. Laura talks about terror, terrorist states, and China.

Chapter four is about the courts and I thought it was the standout chapter in the book. Laura has a lot more perspective when it comes to judicial issues because she spent time working as a clerk for Justice Clarence Thomas in the U.S. Supreme Court. In this chapter she uses the nomination of Harriet Miers to argue who should and should not be a judge. I learned a lot more about the judiciary and its modern issues and controversies than I expected to.

The next chapter covers smaller government, or putting the power closer to the people. Another typical dose of conservative common sense.

Then: Porn. Laura explores just how explicit news, popular culture, and society has become and what we can do to squelch it. It's not clear what we can do about it, to really make a difference, but Laura has several ideas.

Other chapters include topics such as schools and science. It was a little embarrassing to see Laura mention Utah twice in her book as a state that's got it right by passing a school choice voucher law. Maybe she didn't know about the legal appeals and the referendum when she wrote about it.

Finally, Laura spends a chapter talking about her fight with breast cancer. This was a stark deviation from the rest of her book, but it definitely humanizes the author a great deal. I found that chapter quite moving.

So, all in all, it's an okay book. I'll give it a 6/10 for what it is, basically a political propoganda book. It's good reading if you're a fan of Laura Ingraham. If you're not (and I'm kind of in between), it may or may not be your cup of tea.

Diane says

I have only started this book. I'm intrigued by the tendency to have smaller families, and how she decries that trend; I hadn't really thought about it until she brought it up. (She's adopted a child since the book was complete.)

I tend to agree with her conservatism, though I'm probably a bit more libertarian. I look forward to seeing what she has to say on other issues. (Miss her show; my station has Glenn Beck on in her place.):(

Ann Coulter is much more "in your face" and "up front," but Laura does have great humor, and intelligence.

Dennis says

Reads like a hype talk show host's program notes. Shallow without much substance, but lots of opinion.

Such gems:

"Bad media. Bad media. Elitist media."

Then "Hooray, thanks to the media for leading the way to Supreme Court nominee Myer's defeat!"

"There should be no foreign language taught in schools. English only. USA! USA!" Then Ms. Ingraham laments the lack of bi-lingual abilities in the military.

"Be pro-life!" Then "Hail to the God-ordained military for killing our enemies!"

Kept my Attention - 1

Well-written - 1

Important - 1

Must Read - 1

Accessible - 5

Heather says

I really enjoyed this book for awhile, but the end was a little too preachy and long-winded for me. I'm really glad to have listened to this, though, because it got me thinking about a lot of the major issues facing our country. I think that's important to do. While I agree with much of what she says, even the things I don't agree with were good to get me thinking about what I do think, if that makes any sense at all!

Dann says

Taken from a sound-bite in the opening montage of her radio talk show, Laura Ingraham calls on Middle America to take their power back from the elites in *Power to the People*. Looking at hot-button political issues like the Family, National Defense, Illegal Immigration, Judicial Activism, and the Abuse and Exploitation of Science, Ingraham discusses how power is being taken away from the public and placed in the hands of government and institutions run by the social elite. She then offers plans of action to restore power back into the hands of the people, concluding with a call to faith and hope. Especially well-written, Ingraham does a good job at walking the reader through the issues and at offering up practical solutions and plans of action. Unlike so many other political books that just lament the state of affairs and point out problems, *Power to the People* serves as a guide for grassroots action.

Carol says

I like to listen to audiobooks and read hardback or paperbacks. I prefer audiobooks especially on long trips and while doing a lot of driving around town. I feel that if the book isn't that great, at least my time was not a complete waste. With that said I Love Laura Ingraham. She is a brave woman with her battle of breast cancer. I listened to her on talk radio and that is when I heard about her book. I too am a two time cancer survivor and can relate to a lot of the stuff she says. I do like her radio show. Think she is very good, but she overall seems focused and on point.
