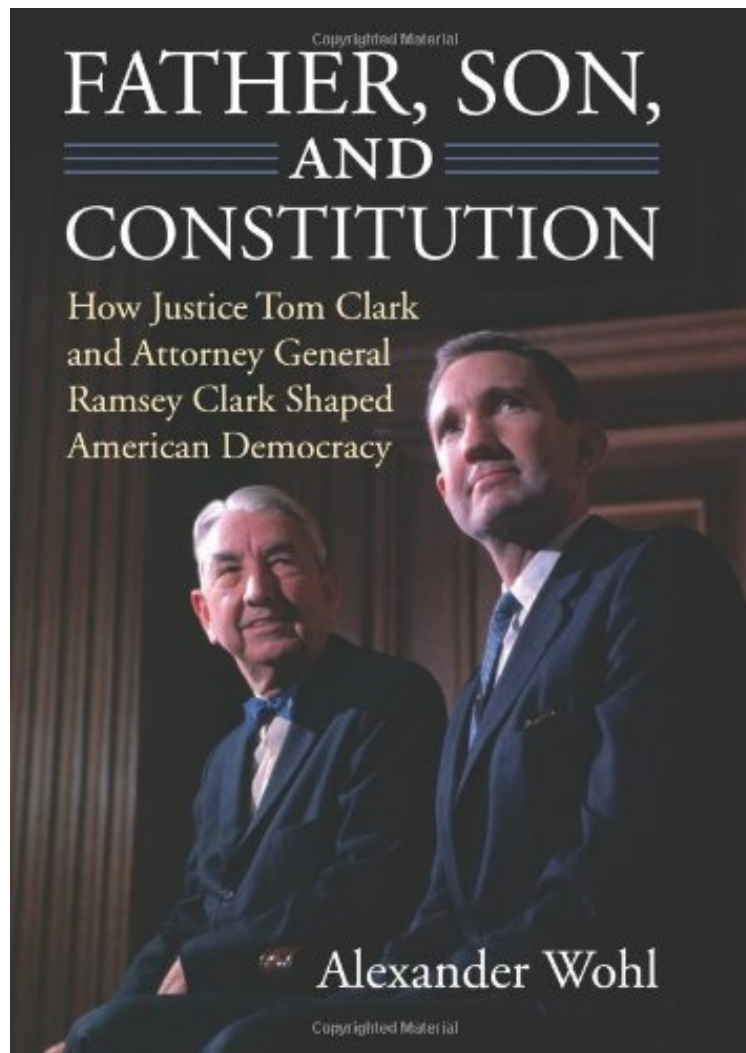


(Free read ebook) Father, Son, and Constitution: How Justice Tom Clark and Attorney General Ramsey Clark Shaped American Democracy

Father, Son, and Constitution: How Justice Tom Clark and Attorney General Ramsey Clark Shaped American Democracy

Alexander Wohl

ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2515786 in Books 2013-04-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.10 x 1.70 x 6.50l, 1.90 #File Name: 070061916X478 pages | File size: 51.Mb

Alexander Wohl : Father, Son, and Constitution: How Justice Tom Clark and Attorney General Ramsey Clark Shaped American Democracy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Father, Son, and Constitution: How Justice Tom Clark and Attorney General Ramsey Clark Shaped American Democracy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. What the men in the law should look like!!By Jane A. ClarkIncredible men and incredible story, and highly recommend this book showing the integrity of really good men

in the Justice System. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Necessary Reminder By Joseph Walwik
Father, Son, and Constitution by Alexander Wohl offers a timely and unique perspective on questions of how the law should be used to deal with limitations or expansions of governmental power. By examining the complex and evolving lives of Tom and Ramsey Clark, Wohl captures the spirit of how the people of the United States have redefined the relationship between individual liberties and government sponsored security. Neither Tom or Ramsey Clark can be easily judged by referring to their most famous (or infamous) actions. On the surface, the Clarks seemed to approach the law from opposite directions, Tom as an advocate of government power and Ramsey as a champion of individual rights. As Wohl deftly shows this reading of their careers misses the point that their actions sprang from a deep-rooted reverence for the Constitution. The long careers of Tom and Ramsey Clark represent the arc of legal thinking across the 20th century. Just as attitudes about governmental power and individual liberties changed, so too did the thinking of the Clarks. As he guides the reader through the lives of Tom and Ramsey Clark, Wohl reminds us of the importance of understanding people in the context of their times and leaving open the possibility that individual perspectives can change, even if their core principles do not. As we debate issues of law, power, and liberty today, it is valuable to look back on the lives of Tom and Ramsey Clark to remind ourselves that we can disagree on many things without uprooting our foundations. In Father, Son and Constitution Alexander Wohl has produced a book that we need to remind us of the common ground we share.

When Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark resigned his seat on the bench at the youthful age of 67 after 18 years, his decision was unique in the annals of Court history: he was leaving so that his son Ramsey, just nominated as Attorney General, could assume the job Clark himself had once held without conflict of interest. As Alexander Wohl shows, Tom and Ramsey Clark had a profound impact on American law and society. For nearly three quarters of a century, they influenced presidents, policies, and legal rulings, during careers that tracked closely with some of the most significant and controversial episodes in modern American history. Highlighting their consistent effort to balance individual liberties with government power, Wohl examines how their work reflected the tensions that continue to resonate in today's legal and policy battles. The two men, however, evolved quite differently. As a young government lawyer, Tom Clark was a key figure in enforcing the relocation of Japanese Americans, and as Attorney General he was vilified by civil liberties advocates for the Cold War policies he implemented, even as he promoted a progressive strategy on civil rights. Ramsey began his career to the ideological left of his father, was intimately involved in enforcement of civil rights laws during the turbulent 1960s, as Attorney General fought to expand protections of individual rights, and as a private attorney represented clients on the farthest reaches of the individual rights-government power spectrum. A unique approach for understanding our nation's history during the second half of the twentieth-century, Wohl's study addresses such salient issues as civil rights, free speech, government surveillance and rights of privacy, presidential power, and the role of judges in interpreting the Constitution. The Clarks' lives and careers also offer a veritable who's who of 20th-century American law and policy: from Tom's close relationships with Harry Truman, Lyndon Johnson, Sam Rayburn, and Earl Warren, to Ramsey's connections with Robert Kennedy, LBJ, and Martin Luther King Jr. Both men befriended and battled J. Edgar Hoover and both were targets of political attack twenty years apart by Richard Nixon. At its fundamental core, however, Wohl's book presents a moving and intimate portrait of a unique father-son relationship that endured through triumph and tribulation and that should appeal to anyone interested in how the personal and the political intertwine in a highly public setting.

"Alexander Wohl should be commended for producing such a voluminous, detailed, and well-written examination of two under-investigated historical figures. It is replete with fascinating historical anecdotes that are certain to bring to life some of the most important political battles that shaped constitutional law and legal policy in the United States. It is an important biographical contribution that emphasizes the historical context in which Tom and Ramsey Clark were embedded..." Law and Politics Book "The compelling story of Tom and Ramsey Clark has been hiding in plain sight for decades. It took Wohl's prodigious research to unearth it and show how, as major actors in some of the great legal struggles of twentieth-century America, father and son became civil libertarians almost in spite of themselves." Linda Greenhouse, author of *Becoming Justice Blackmun: Harry Blackmun's Supreme Court Journey* "Combining two biographical subjects within a single volume would challenge any author, but Wohl has blended his treatments both fairly equally and effectively, despite the generational and sharply contrasting professional differences in the lives of these two Texans." The Journal of Supreme Court History From the Back Cover "The Clarks lived through, and participated in, all the major events of the second half of the twentieth century; often they played a role in shaping those events. Wohl's double biography is a well written, finely-crafted, and fascinating account of the lives and careers of these two men, who were linked together by blood and history. And it is a notable contribution to the political, legal, and social history of our times." Lawrence M. Friedman, author of *A History of American Law* "Justice Tom Clark has been neglected too long, while in recent decades Ramsey Clark's contributions have largely been dismissed, misunderstood, and overshadowed. Wohl's book fills a significant void in the literature on the Supreme Court and American law and politics. It's exceptionally well researched, organized, and developed, as well as commendably well

written." David M. O'Brien, author of *Storm Center: The Supreme Court in American Politics* About the
Author Alexander Wohl, a former Supreme Court Judicial Fellow and Supreme Court correspondent for the San
Francisco Chronicle, is an adjunct professor at American University's Washington College of Law.