

[Free] Secrecy and Power: The Life of J. Edgar Hoover

Secrecy and Power: The Life of J. Edgar Hoover

Richard Gid Powers

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Richard Gid Powers : Secrecy and Power: The Life of J. Edgar Hoover before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Secrecy and Power: The Life of J. Edgar Hoover:

1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. J. Edgar Hoover was an embarrassment and a blight ...By Michael G. CassidyJ. Edgar Hoover was an embarrassment and a blight on our nation's history. His disregard for the Constitution, while presumably protecting and defending it, shows how far true believers can be blinded and misguided by power. If you want to see an illustration of the adage " power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely", this book will suffice.

Drawing on previously unknown personal documents, a study of F.B.I. files, and the presidential papers of nine administrations, this biography reveals the public record and private life of J. Edgar Hoover, America's most controversial law enforcer.

From Library JournalPowers (History, Coll. of Staten Island, CUNY), author of an earlier work on a related subject (G-Men: Hoover's FBI in American popular culture), here offers a full biography of the former FBI director. The book is extremely well researched, covering all aspects of Hoover's controversial career from the Red Scare following World War I to the 1960s and his personal vendettas against Martin Luther King and the civil rights and antiwar movements. While the discussions of Hoover's private life is rather thin, this is due more to a lack of materials than to

any failings in the author's research. Overall, this is a balanced and interesting account that is likely to stand for the foreseeable future as the standard work on its subject. Highly recommended. Scott Wright, History Dept., Coll. of St. Thomas, St. Paul Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.