

Extreme Speech and Democracy

EDITED BY IVAN HARE AND JAMES WEINSTEIN

'What are the appropriate limits to freedom of expression in societies that wish to be democratic, multi-cultural, and committed to the human rights of all? Ivan Hare and James Weinstein, a UK human rights practitioner and a US academic, have assembled a dazzling array of talent from a variety of disciplines, jurisdictions, and viewpoints to explain and debate a controversy that is intellectually complex, politically explosive, and as current as today's news. *Extreme Speech and Democracy* is a mine of information and argument that will be quarried for years to come. This is quite simply the most sophisticated, penetrating, and ambitious study of these issues available.'

Christopher McCrudden, FBA, Professor of Human Rights Law, University of Oxford

'The papers in this book bring a penetrating scholarship to the law relating to extreme speech—and to the political philosophy which is the subject's real challenge. Whether you believe in free expression warts and all, or in censorship for the sake of public tranquillity, you will find these contributions a major intellectual resource.'

Lord Justice Laws, Court of Appeal of England and Wales

A commitment to free speech is a fundamental precept of all liberal democracies. However, democracies can differ fundamentally when addressing the constitutionality of laws regulating certain kinds of speech. In the United States, for instance, the commitment to free speech under the First Amendment has been held by the Supreme Court to protect the public expression of the most noxious racist ideology and hence to render unconstitutional even narrow restrictions on hate speech. In contrast, governments have been accorded considerable leeway to restrict racist and other extreme expression in almost every other democracy, including Canada, the United Kingdom, and other European countries. This collection of papers, from some of the world's leading legal scholars as well as internationally recognized thinkers from other disciplines including philosophy, history, psychology, and literature, considers the legal responses of various liberal democracies towards hate speech and other forms of extreme expression.

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Readership: Academics, scholars, and advanced students of Human Rights; Comparative Human Rights; Freedom of Information & Freedom of Speech; Media, Information, & Communication Industries; Censorship; Extreme Speech & Hate Speech

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EXTREME SPEECH AND DEMOCRACY

Edited by Ivan Hare and James Weinstein

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