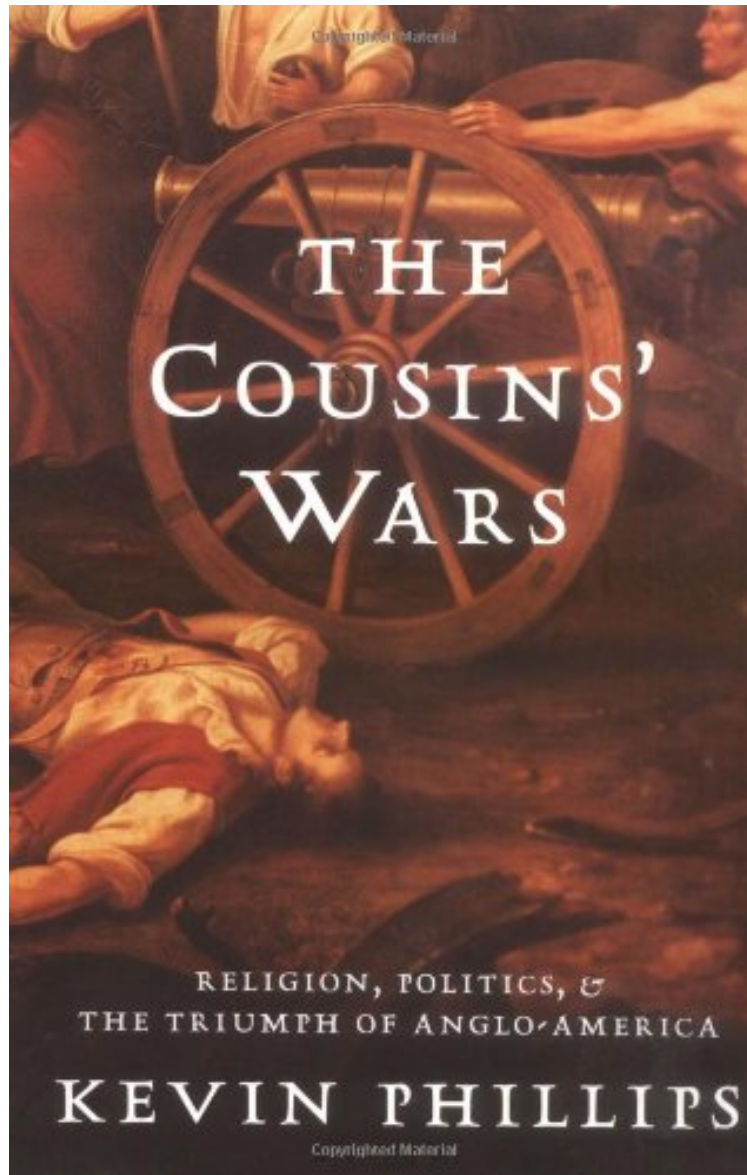


(Read free) The Cousins' Wars: Religion, Politics, Civil Warfare, And The Triumph Of Anglo-America

The Cousins' Wars: Religion, Politics, Civil Warfare, And The Triumph Of Anglo-America

Kevin Phillips

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Kevin Phillips : The Cousins' Wars: Religion, Politics, Civil Warfare, And The Triumph Of Anglo-America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cousins' Wars: Religion, Politics, Civil Warfare, And The Triumph Of Anglo-America:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Dense read but great premise.By FanterIntersting premise to a

fascinating topic. This book details the sectarian motivations which caused the English Civil War, American War of Independence and American Civil War. Phillips weaves several fascinating themes through each period, arguing that they in part drove the Anglo-American world dominance that we are still experiencing today. This is a refreshing and un-apologetic take on Anglo-American ascendancy which contributes to the canon of American History. It is however, quite dense and rather academic. Not for the fans who want easy to read history. Enthralling nonetheless this book contributed to my understanding of the cultural underpinnings of our great nation. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Really religious wars?! By Josef the English Major I'm about half way through and became enthusiastic enough to order *A World on Fire* to complete the English American connection. Since we now live in the Appalachian mountains, I am curious about the Scots and the Irish. I was most surprised by the anti-Catholic slant to the war to win the Ohio valley. Why the Protestants should be afraid of bishops is as mystifying as it is humorous. Addendum in April: I still haven't finished the book but I have learned so much about the Scots Irish immigrants in the Appalachians. He explains why they were there and the history of their time in Ireland. As I read into the section on the Civil War, I am cross referencing with an excellent book - *The Southern Cross* - which tries to find out why abolitionists moving south became defenders of the slave owners. In the *Southern Cross* she thinks the reason was economic and social, needing the local Episcopal plantation owner's permission to meet and his seasonal feasts were the only decent meals some of the plantation workers ever had. Phillips explains the theological defense of slavery was part of the second awakening - "the elite southern denominations" but he doesn't say what those were. I would think Episcopalian for sure, and maybe Presbyterians or Southern Baptists - I think this is where many denominations split on the issue. I know the Episcopalians split as well. When I finish the book, I'll write more. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Never thought about it like this By John T. The author puts facts out that were never shown to me in any history class. The view we had was the North was united and the South became united after the Union forces invaded Virginia. He shows the relationship got started all the way back in the English Civil War and with the coming to America the old feelings came too. They also intensified. It made me read more carefully so that I would not miss all the author had to offer. For the person who wants to see more deeply into why America is the way it is I recommend this book and this author.

The question at the heart of *The Cousins' Wars* is this: How did Anglo-America evolve over a mere three hundred years from a small Tudor kingdom into a global community with such a hegemonic grip on the world today, while no other European power Spain, France, Germany, or Russia did? The answer to this, according to Phillips, lies in a close examination of three internecine English-speaking civil wars - the English Civil War, the American Revolution, and the American Civil War. These wars between cousins functioned as crucial anvils on which various religious, ethnic, and political alliances were hammered out between the English-speaking cousin-nations, setting them on a unique two-track path toward world leadership - one aristocratic and aloof to dominate the imperial nineteenth century and the other more egalitarian and democratic to take over in the twentieth century. They also functioned as unfortunate and deadly cultural crucibles for African Americans, Native Americans, and the Irish. Phillips's analysis shows exactly how these conflicts are inextricably linked and how they seeded each other. He offers often surprising interpretations that cut across the political spectrum - for instance, that the Constitution of the United States, while brilliant in many respects, was also a fatally flawed political compromise that contributed mightily in setting the stage for the final and the bloodiest cousins' war: the American Civil War. With the new millennium upon us and triggering widespread assessment of our nation's place in world history, *The Cousins' Wars* provides just the kind of magisterial sweep and revisionist spark to ignite widespread interest and debate. This grand religious, military, and political epic is the multi-dimensional story of the triumph of Anglo-America.

.com Political commentator Kevin Phillips (author of the 1991 bestseller *The Politics of Rich and Poor*) takes a break from analyzing the latest election returns with this sweeping history of Anglo-American exceptionalism. How did the political culture of Anglo-America rise "from a small Tudor kingdom to a global community and world hegemony"? asks Phillips. His answer comes in the course of studying three wars - the English Civil War, the American Revolution, and the U.S. Civil War. Phillips does not examine the military history of these conflicts, looking instead at the political, religious, economic, and sectional interests that shaped them. He makes several eye-opening observations, comparing, for instance, a "state-by-state portrait of which counties, towns, districts, or regions were loyal" during the American Revolution to "ethnoreligious maps of the modern-day Balkans." This is a hefty book (over 600 pages, not including appendices and footnotes), and while Phillips's preface is a bit self-absorbed, admirers of David Landes's *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations* and Jared Diamond's *Guns, Germs, and Steel* will find much to like between its covers. --John J. Miller From Publishers Weekly Phillips (*Arrogant Capital*) is one of the most influential political analysts in America. In 1969, his *The Emerging Republican Majority* correctly predicted that the Republicans would become the majority party by taking control of the then Democratic South. Now, turning to the past, he offers this ambitious account of how "Anglo-America" - his term for the cultural and political axis and kinship of the U.S. and Britain - came to dominate the political, linguistic and economic shape of the world. His thesis is sweeping: a trio of

wars?the English Civil War, the American Revolution and the U.S. Civil War?were a single crucible out of which a dominant Anglo-America emerged. In each of these "cousins' wars," maintains Phillips, the catalytic groups were similar: Puritans from Eastern England (East Anglia) in the 1640s; their Yankee descendants in New England in 1775 and 1860. Moreover, he argues, each of the three wars reaffirmed and spurred Anglo-America's expansionism, as well as the belief of British imperialists and American pioneers that they were God's chosen people with a manifest destiny to fulfill. Phillips emphasizes the plight of the cousins' wars' principal losers: black slaves and ex-slaves, Native Americans, the Irish. Interestingly, he counts Germans among the losers, arguing that Anglo-American ascendancy and waves of European emigration to the U.S. diminished the relative clout of German-Americans and thwarted Germany's expansionist ambitions. As in his political analyses, Phillips pays close attention to ethnic, religious, class and electoral divisions. At times, his thoroughness makes for slow, somewhat wonky going, but on balance this is a tremendously rewarding work full of startling connections and provocative syntheses. Agent, Bill Leigh. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist

Noted Republican political analyst Phillips offers a detailed historical interpretation of U.S. political development, advancing the thesis that ethnic and religious divisions in the British Isles can illuminate the knotty course of war and politics in the North American colonies. Numerous maps clarify his narrative, which analyzes most closely the English Civil War, the American War of Independence, and the American Civil War. The original English version of civil war, Phillips argues, established the pattern. New England Congregationalists sided with the Roundheads of East Anglia; Anglicans of the southern colonies cheered on King Charles' Cavaliers. Expanding on these ur-politics as transplanted to America, Phillips relates the political attitudes of seemingly every ethnic and religious group, attitudes that were complicated and shifting, as they were subject to interests changing in response to military contingencies. Phillips maintains the "central significance" that battles played in the rise of an English-speaking imperium in the world. A widely informed, big-think weighing-in on U.S. history. Gilbert Taylor