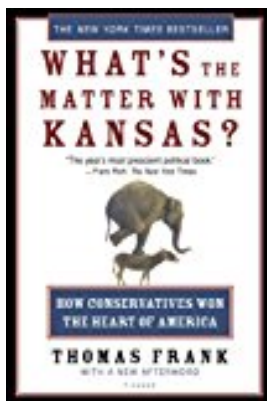


# [PDF] What's The Matter With Kansas?: How Conservatives Won The Heart Of America

Thomas Frank - pdf download free book

---



**Books Details:**

Title: What's the Matter with Kansas  
Author: Thomas Frank  
Released: 2005-04-14  
Language:  
Pages: 322  
ISBN: 080507774X  
ISBN13: 978-0805077742  
ASIN: 080507774X

[CLICK HERE FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

---

pdf, mobi, epub, azw, kindle

**Description:**

The largely blue collar citizens of Kansas can be counted upon to be a "red" state in any election, voting solidly Republican and possessing a deep animosity toward the left. This, according to author Thomas Frank, is a pretty self-defeating phenomenon, given that the policies of the Republican Party benefit the wealthy and powerful at the great expense of the average worker. According to Frank, the conservative establishment has tricked Kansans, playing up the emotional touchstones of

conservatism and perpetuating a sense of a vast liberal empire out to crush traditional values while barely ever discussing the Republicans' actual economic policies and what they mean to the working class. Thus the pro-life Kansas factory worker who listens to Rush Limbaugh will repeatedly vote for the party that is less likely to protect his safety, less likely to protect his job, and less likely to benefit him economically. To much of America, Kansas is an abstract, "where Dorothy wants to return. Where Superman grew up." But Frank, a native Kansan, separates reality from myth in *What's the Matter with Kansas* and tells the state's socio-political history from its early days as a hotbed of leftist activism to a state so entrenched in conservatism that the only political division remaining is between the moderate and more-extreme right wings of the same party. Frank, the founding editor of *The Baffler* and a contributor to *Harper's* and *The Nation*, knows the state and its people. He even includes his own history as a young conservative idealist turned disenchanted college Republican, and his first-hand experience, combined with a sharp wit and thorough reasoning, makes his book more credible than the elites of either the left and right who claim to understand Kansas. --John Moe  
--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

**From** Kansas, once home to farmers who marched against "money power," is now solidly Republican. In Frank's scathing and high-spirited polemic, this fact is not just "the mystery of Kansas" but "the mystery of America." Dismissing much of the received punditry about the red-blue divide, Frank argues that the problem is the "systematic erasure of the economic" from discussions of class and its replacement with a notion of "authenticity," whereby "there is no bad economic turn a conservative cannot do unto his buddy in the working class, as long as cultural solidarity has been cemented over a beer." The leaders of this backlash, by focussing on cultural issues in which victory is probably impossible (abortion, "filth" on TV), feed their base's sense of grievance, abetted, Frank believes, by a "criminally stupid" Democratic strategy of triangulation. Liberals do not need to know more about nascar; they need to talk more about money and class.

Copyright © 2005

---

- Title: What's the Matter with Kansas?: How Conservatives Won the Heart of America
  - Author: Thomas Frank
  - Released: 2005-04-14
  - Language:
  - Pages: 322
  - ISBN: 080507774X
  - ISBN13: 978-0805077742
  - ASIN: 080507774X
-

