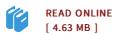




The State of Speech: Rhetoric and Political Thought in Ancient Rome

By Joy Connolly

Princeton University Press, United States, 2013. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 229 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Rhetorical theory, the core of Roman education, taught rules of public speaking that are still influential today. But Roman rhetoric has long been regarded as having little important to say about political ideas. The State of Speech presents a forceful challenge to this view. The first book to read Roman rhetorical writing as a mode of political thought, it focuses on Rome s greatest practitioner and theorist of public speech, Cicero. Through new readings of his dialogues and treatises, Joy Connolly shows how Cicero s treatment of the Greek rhetorical tradition s central questions is shaped by his ideal of the republic and the citizen. Rhetoric, Connolly argues, sheds new light on Cicero s deepest political preoccupations: the formation of individual and communal identity, the communicative role of the body, and the unmanly aspects of politics, especially civility and compromise. Transcending traditional lines between rhetorical and political theory, The State of Speech is a major contribution to the current debate over the role of public speech in Roman politics. Instead of a conventional, top-down model...



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