



## Equality or Liberty (Paperback)

By Christopher Thomason

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*. Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite - a slogan so powerful and poetic. Yet one whose meaning has been corrupted. Time was when that trilogy of ideals felt attainable as a set: individual freedom plus equality making for a truly strong collective; an us more powerful than the sum of its parts. Then, in the 20th century that pivotal call for equality got highjacked. Drawing on some of the greatest thinkers Western civilisation has produced, Christopher Thomason argues that the ambition of moral and political philosophy was - and should still be - the creation of a meritocracy. Despite their differing analyses and solutions, Aristotle, Hobbes, Machiavelli, Rousseau, Mill, Nietzsche and Sartre all saw notions of equality as double-sided - offering both the opportunity for personal achievement as well as a justification for difference. Equality meant equal access to law allied with state action against nepotism, cronyism and the formation of cartels. Yet today that meritocratic ambition is being buried under an avalanche of well-meant yet intellectually-lazy good intention. To advocate equality of opportunity is to rejoice in the expectation that people...



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