

Can we interest you in a feature story or interview with Steven O. Ludd a Professor Emeritus of Constitutional Law and author of the new book, ***Confronting the Politics of Gridlock--- Revisiting the Founding Visions in Search of Solutions?***

His insightful book takes a close look at what the Founding Fathers really said and did. He explains exactly what the Constitution says and stands for and he has identified the many ways it is being manipulated, particularly by the right.

We can send you a pdf file of the book right away if you are interested in receiving a review copy fast. Paper review copies, cover and author photography and additional information are also available and upon request.

Please contact us and let us know how we can help you.

Paul Krupin and Kitty Werner, Publicists for Professor Steven Ludd.

For Immediate Release

Review copies, photography and interviews are available upon request.

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### ***Confronting the Politics of Gridlock***

Anyone who has more than a passing interest in politics knows that the vision of the “*Founding Fathers*” is important to the decisions we face, but few people have ever taken the time to find out what they really said and meant.

**Steven O. Ludd**, a Professor Emeritus of Constitutional Law, has just published an insightful book that explains exactly what the Constitution says and stands for and he has identified the many ways it is being manipulated. He identifies some of the most important reasons for our political gridlock and provides recommendations based upon our constitutional "First Principles" in an effort to address some of the public policy issues currently confronting the country."

***Confronting the Politics of Gridlock-Revisiting the Founding Visions in Search of Solutions*** provides an overview of the philosophical and historical origins of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The book analyzes the Founders fears and aspirations they expressed in the design of the government and explores the Founders' understanding of "liberty" and their commitment to the preservation "of the public welfare."

Professor Ludd focuses us on the observations of Jefferson, Franklin, Madison, and Hamilton, and reiterates their warning that without an engaged and "enlightened citizenry" our republic would be unsustainable.

Alexander Hamilton expressed concerns about the "wiles of parasites and the snares of the ambitious".

Benjamin Franklin worried openly about the future "A republic, if you can keep it!"

Particular attention is given to James Madison's fear of "factions" and the need for their control through political compromise in a national forum - the Congress of the United States.

Madison and the other advocates for a national government identified uncontrolled factions as the most dangerous mechanism in the creation of abuse of power and tyranny from whatever source.

Madison recognized that the "latent causes of faction...are sown in the nature of man" and that any attempt to eliminate what we now commonly refer to as special interest groups would be to destroy liberty. Instead, he argued that the creation of a national forum, the Congress of the United States, would compel political compromise between competing interest groups and minimize the potential for abuse of power.

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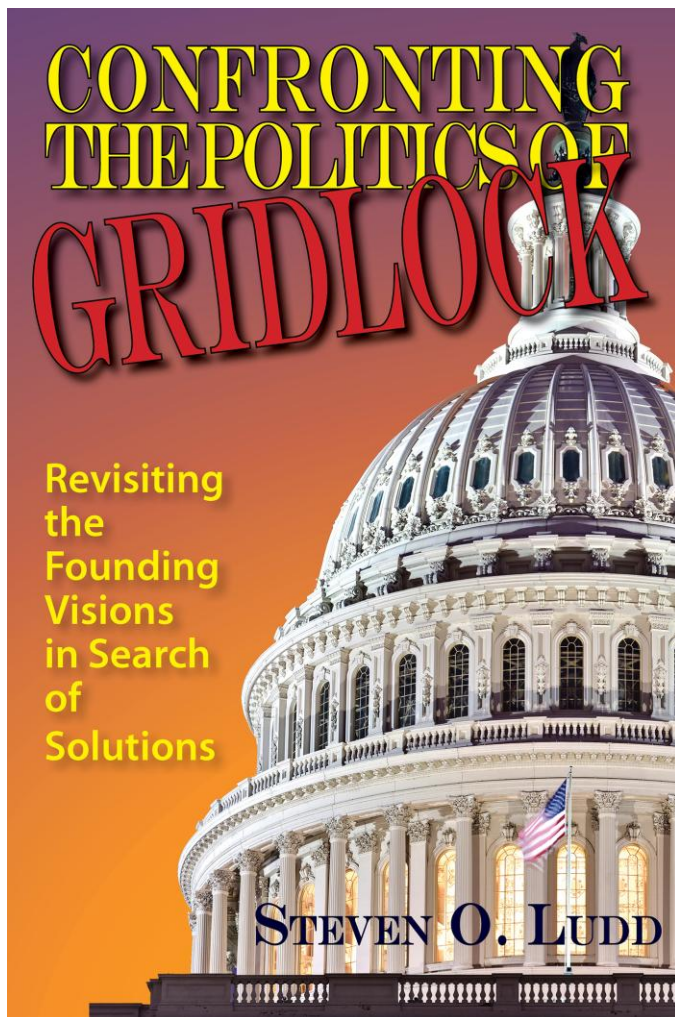
The problem is not the existence or even the proliferation of such "factions," but rather as Madison observed "...that the public good is disregarded in the conflicts of rival parties."

Madison is quoted says, "It is essential to such a government that it be derived from the great body of the society, not from an inconsiderable proportion or a favored class of it..."

Professor Ludd analyzes and offers comments on the extreme interpretation of the Constitution that America's founders believed that government power should be limited, enumerated, and constrained by our Constitution...

"To infer ... that ... contemporary "libertarian" special interest groups that the Founders believed that "limited government" meant state legislative supremacy or local government authority over issues which have implications regarding its constituent's rights as American citizens is simply unsupportable."

It's time. For the last six years the most strident and loudest voices have driven our culture and politics. The result has been the marketing of 'divide and conquer politics' and a distortion of our Founding Values. It's time to begin the task of 'rebalancing' the Nation's priorities through political compromise. It's time to demand that the loudest voices sit down. It's time for Americans to stand up and demand leadership from those who hold the public trust – our political representatives.



***Confronting the Politics of Gridlock***  
***Revisiting the Founding Visions in Search of Solutions***  
***Steven O. Ludd***

***List \$16.95 trade \$29.95 hardcover***  
***Trade paperback 282 pages 6 X 9 in.***  
***ISBN 978-1-937667-14-6 tradepaper***  
***ISBN 978-1-93766716-0 hardcover***  
***Published by Distinction Press, Waitsfield, VT***

***For more information visit [www.DistinctionPress.com](http://www.DistinctionPress.com)***

## ***About the Author***



Steven O. Ludd is a Professor Emeritus at Bowling Green State University. Dr. Ludd, a professor of Political Science, taught undergraduate and graduate classes in Constitutional Law, Administrative Law, and the Judicial Process. He is the recipient of numerous university honors for teaching and service including the Master Teacher award. With the collaboration of student organizations, he designed BGSU's Student Legal Services — the first pre-paid legal service program for students in Ohio. The co-editor of *Outlook on Ohio Prospects and Priorities*, he has published numerous professional and academic Articles on the constitutional right to privacy and the use of administrative discretion in public administrative agencies.

As a member of the Ohio bar and Federal District Court, he was selected by the Court to be an Alternative Dispute Resolution Mediator and a Federal Court Monitor. He has worked with a variety of non-for-profit and local government entities on issues of dispute resolution.

He received his law degree from Syracuse University College of Law and his Ph.D. from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.