

E. M. USLANER, *The Historical Roots of Corruption: Mass Education, Economic Inequality, and State Capacity*, Cambridge University Press, 2017, 204 pp., ISBN: 978-1-108-40390-0

Can education be the cure to corrupt societies? Eric M. Uslaner seeks to answer this question in his book *The Historical Roots of Corruption*, which dives into the history of corruption among societies worldwide and analyzes the key reasons for its persistence. Uslaner bases his analysis on data collected of the levels of education in 1870 and the levels of corruption in 2010 over 78 countries, and the strong statistical relationship between the two factors. According to his analysis, countries with programs of mass education in 1870 show higher levels of equality and trust in government, whereas those countries that had no mass education system show higher levels of corruption and persistent inequality.

Uslaner also examines the importance of significant historical events for mass education and subsequent corruption, such as the Protestant Reformation, which encouraged literacy among formerly Roman Catholic populations, and Western Imperial powers' denial of education to populations of third world countries. He also analyzes the effectiveness of some countries' education systems based on factors such as regime type; for example, education given under authoritarian regimes were used more as tools for spreading propaganda than for creating opportunities.

This book is an effective and well researched argument on the benefits of mass education as a powerful tool against widespread and persistent corruption.

*H. Kenney*

H. WINTER, *Issues in Law & Economics*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 2017, 233 pp., ISBN: 978-02-26-24962-9

Law and economics often seek to distance themselves from one another, but remain intrinsically linked. Analysis of this often lacks practical examples and instead delves into theory to distinguish them. Harold Winter bucks this trend by using practical case studies in fields including contract, tort and property law, before analyzing