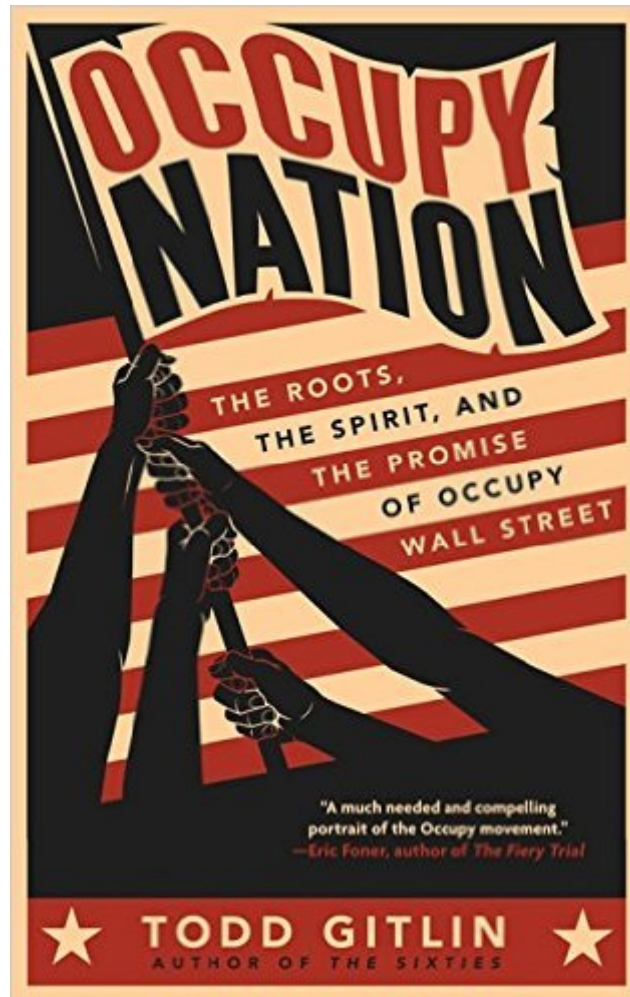


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# Occupy Nation: The Roots, The Spirit, And The Promise Of Occupy Wall Street



## Synopsis

“A much needed book | a compelling portrait of the Occupy movement | that capture[s] the spirit of the people involved, the crisis that gave Occupy birth, and the possibility of genuine change it represents.” —Eric Foner, author of *The Fiery Trial: Abraham Lincoln and American Slavery*

The Occupy Wall Street movement arose out of a widespread desire of ordinary Americans to change a political system in which the moneyed 1% of the nation controls the workings of the government. In *Occupy Nation*, social historian Todd Gitlin—a former leader of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) who stood at the forefront of the birth of the New Left and the student protests of the 1960s and ’70s—offers a unique overview of one of the most rapidly growing yet misunderstood social revolutions in modern history. *Occupy Nation* is a concise and incisive look at the Occupy movement at its pivotal moment, as it weighs its unexpected power and grapples with its future mission.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The negative reviews here are off base, unsustainable judgments about the book from reviewers whose comments strongly suggest they either did not read the book, or are upset because they have an anti-Occupy bias and wanted a different book reflecting their point of view. This is an excellent, even-handed account. Gitlin is well-placed on account of his long history of activist experiences both to observe and report, with insight, and to surface important questions about Occupy. In particular, he clearly, to this reader, appears to be of the view that Occupy might have

had greater nearer-term impact on important policy decisions and non-decisions, had it opted to articulate specific demands and act on those. This reflects a basic divergence in point of view among those generally sympathetic to the concerns that appeared to animate Occupy, between those who supported its decision to refrain from direct attempts to influence current policy decisions and election outcomes and instead focus on modeling alternative forms of social organization and changing public consciousness at broader levels, and those who, like Gitlin among others, had hoped for a different direction. Agree or disagree with Gitlin's stance on this issue in particular. But anyone who writes that this book is somehow a one-sided account by an uncritical supporter of Occupy, as some reviewers have here, simply did not read the book, or is writing a highly misleading account. Gitlin's observations are consistent with other accounts of what was going on on the inside of Occupy written by those in agreement with directions Occupy chose to move in.

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