



The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism)

By Patrick Weil

Download now

Read Online →

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil

Present-day Americans feel secure in their citizenship: they are free to speak up for any cause, oppose their government, marry a person of any background, and live where they choose—at home or abroad. Denaturalization and denationalization are more often associated with twentieth-century authoritarian regimes. But there was a time when American-born and naturalized foreign-born individuals in the United States could be deprived of their citizenship and its associated rights. Patrick Weil examines the twentieth-century legal procedures, causes, and enforcement of denaturalization to illuminate an important but neglected dimension of Americans' understanding of sovereignty and federal authority: a citizen is defined, in part, by the parameters that could be used to revoke that same citizenship.

The Sovereign Citizen begins with the Naturalization Act of 1906, which was intended to prevent realization of citizenship through fraudulent or illegal means. Denaturalization—a process provided for by one clause of the act—became the main instrument for the transfer of naturalization authority from states and local courts to the federal government. Alongside the federalization of naturalization, a conditionality of citizenship emerged: for the first half of the twentieth century, naturalized individuals could be stripped of their citizenship not only for fraud but also for affiliations with activities or organizations that were perceived as un-American. (Emma Goldman's case was the first and perhaps best-known denaturalization on political grounds, in 1909.) By midcentury the Supreme Court was fiercely debating cases and challenged the constitutionality of denaturalization and denationalization. This internal battle lasted almost thirty years. The Warren Court's eventual decision to uphold the sovereignty of the *citizen*—not the state—secures our national order to this day. Weil's account of this transformation, and the political battles fought by its advocates and critics, reshapes our understanding of American citizenship.

 [**Download** The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Or ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the ...pdf](#)

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism)

By Patrick Weil

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil

Present-day Americans feel secure in their citizenship: they are free to speak up for any cause, oppose their government, marry a person of any background, and live where they choose—at home or abroad. Denaturalization and denationalization are more often associated with twentieth-century authoritarian regimes. But there was a time when American-born and naturalized foreign-born individuals in the United States could be deprived of their citizenship and its associated rights. Patrick Weil examines the twentieth-century legal procedures, causes, and enforcement of denaturalization to illuminate an important but neglected dimension of Americans' understanding of sovereignty and federal authority: a citizen is defined, in part, by the parameters that could be used to revoke that same citizenship.

The Sovereign Citizen begins with the Naturalization Act of 1906, which was intended to prevent realization of citizenship through fraudulent or illegal means. Denaturalization—a process provided for by one clause of the act—became the main instrument for the transfer of naturalization authority from states and local courts to the federal government. Alongside the federalization of naturalization, a conditionality of citizenship emerged: for the first half of the twentieth century, naturalized individuals could be stripped of their citizenship not only for fraud but also for affiliations with activities or organizations that were perceived as un-American. (Emma Goldman's case was the first and perhaps best-known denaturalization on political grounds, in 1909.) By midcentury the Supreme Court was fiercely debating cases and challenged the constitutionality of denaturalization and denationalization. This internal battle lasted almost thirty years. The Warren Court's eventual decision to uphold the sovereignty of the *citizen*—not the state—secures our national order to this day. Weil's account of this transformation, and the political battles fought by its advocates and critics, reshapes our understanding of American citizenship.

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #733269 in Books
- Brand: University of Pennsylvania Press
- Published on: 2012-10-26
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .67" w x 5.98" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 296 pages

 [**Download** The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Or ...pdf](#)

 [**Read Online** The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online **The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism)** By Patrick Weil

Editorial Review

Review

"In vividly depicting the long struggle to secure the citizenship rights of Americans, Weil treats us to striking insights as well as delicious tidbits of newly discovered data."—Norman Dorsen, former President of the American Civil Liberties Union

"One of the world's leading experts on nationality brilliantly explores past campaigns to strip Americans of their citizenship. Patrick Weil reveals how both bureaucratic rigor and national security zeal threatened citizenship rights, and points to important lessons for twenty-first century debates."—Gerald Neuman, Harvard Law School

"An important, exhaustive, and meticulously researched work"—*Dissent*

"In this masterful and timely book, Patrick Weil plunges deep into rarely used archives to write a new history of the shaping of American identity in the twentieth century, all the more important as we now debate the reform of immigration law. This story of belonging and exile has its heroes—defenders of civil liberties who deserve to be better known—and its scoundrels. Unlike many histories, it has a heartening conclusion."—Linda K. Kerber, author of *No Constitutional Right to Be Ladies: Women and the Obligations of Citizenship*

About the Author

Patrick Weil is Senior Research Fellow at the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) and Professor at the Paris School of Economics. He is author of numerous books, including *How to Be French: Nationality in the Making Since 1789*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Mark Carter:

Now a day folks who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by talk with the internet and the resources within it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each data they get. How individuals to be smart in obtaining any information nowadays? Of course the reply is reading a book. Examining a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information especially this *The Sovereign Citizen*:

Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) book since this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred % guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Diana Chung:

Reading a book tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. With book everyone in this world may share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only situation that share in the ebooks. But also they write about the ability about something that you need case in point. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach children, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors on earth always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write on their book. One of them is this The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism).

Harold Bunch:

Reading a book to become new life style in this season; every people loves to read a book. When you read a book you can get a lot of benefit. When you read publications, you can improve your knowledge, simply because book has a lot of information in it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your research, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, as well as soon. The The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) will give you a new experience in examining a book.

Ricardo Hempel:

Reading a guide make you to get more knowledge from it. You can take knowledge and information from your book. Book is composed or printed or created from each source which filled update of news. Within this modern era like now, many ways to get information are available for anyone. From media social like newspaper, magazines, science publication, encyclopedia, reference book, novel and comic. You can add your knowledge by that book. Are you hip to spend your spare time to spread out your book? Or just looking for the The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) when you desired it?

**Download and Read Online The Sovereign Citizen:
Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic
(Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil**

#5NM0D1OKIBA

Read The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil for online ebook

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil books to read online.

Online The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil ebook PDF download

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil Doc

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil Mobipocket

The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil EPub

5NM0D1OKIBA: The Sovereign Citizen: Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic (Democracy, Citizenship, and Constitutionalism) By Patrick Weil