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Richard Shorten, University of Birmingham, UK

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This book offers a new perspective on the beliefs reactionaries share, presenting a theory of reactionary ideology in the process. Rather than taking self-contradictions as a reason for diminishment, complexity is taken as a challenge. The book argues that the features that unite reactionaries lie in rhetoric. Reactionaries make three persuasive appeals: to decadence, conspiracy, and indignation. The book's rhetorical approach entails a critique of the alternative approaches to reactionary politics. *The Ideology of Political Reactionaries* ought to interest anyone concerned about current ideological trends and, in particular, students and scholars of politics and history.

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