

# The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Edward Bernstein's Challenge to Marx

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## POLITICAL THEORY, RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY

*Bolshevism: An Introduction to Soviet Communism.* By WALDEMAR GURIAN. (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1952. Pp. 189. \$5.25.)

Professor Gurian's brief study sheds a great deal of light on the ideological aspects of Soviet Communism. The study consists of three chapters, comprising, together with the conclusion, 105 pages of text; in addition there is an extremely valuable appendix presenting one of the best brief collections of documents and source materials available on Soviet doctrine. The major thesis of the book, set forth systematically in the first chapter, but implicit throughout, is that Bolshevism is not merely a political and economic doctrine but a social and political religion. The author strongly suggests in the first chapter and explicitly states in his conclusion, that the utopianism inherent in Bolshevism must result in tyranny.

Many students may disagree with Professor Gurian in his explanation of Bolshevism totalitarianism, but few will fail to benefit from his penetrating analysis of the intellectual roots of Communist fanaticism and dynamism. One of the merits of his approach is that he brings out vividly the intolerant mood with which Lenin approached opponents, an attitude which has been retained by the Communists. This may seem an obvious point, but many otherwise excellent studies of Soviet politics have failed to achieve their maximum effect because they neglected these emotional and psychological aspects of the subject. It should be pointed out that, unlike many other writers, Gurian emphasizes the continuity of Bolshevism. In his view, Lenin and Stalin were orthodox Marxists, and Lenin was no more "humanitarian" than his even more literal-minded but perhaps more cunning successor.

Under the heading of the "Soviet Reality," of Bolshevism, Gurian presents a history of Bolshevist ideology and of the Soviet regime. Perhaps the most interesting part of this, the longest chapter in the book, is the material bringing out the peculiarly Russian aspects of Bolshevism. A great deal of insight and erudition is compressed into a short compass in this chapter. While the author is strongly anti-Communist, he does not make the common mistake of under-estimating either the power or the achievements of the Soviet regime. At the same time, he brings out forcefully the psychological and moral price paid for these

achievements. One of the most interesting concepts advanced by Professor Gurian is that Bolshevism practice requires the creation of an "artificial reality" which is systematically and ruthlessly substituted for the knowledge which would result from freedom.

Throughout the book, but particularly in the last chapter entitled "Bolshevism as World Power," Gurian displays understanding of the circumstances which have enabled the rulers of the Kremlin to exert influence outside the borders of the U.S.S.R. He believes that the mythology of Soviet "anti-imperialist imperialism," with other aspects of the Soviet image as projected to the outside world, has won adherents not only because of the energy and skill with which it has been propagated, but also because this doctrine carried to its logical conclusions powerful currents of modern thought. In developing this concept, the author presents some very interesting comparisons between the Soviet and Nazi forms of totalitarianism. Professor Gurian's presentation of the world power of Bolshevism makes sobering reading. It is balanced at the end of the book by an expression of confidence. The author feels that by meeting the challenge of Communism, the non-Bolshevist world can sharpen its social conscience and improve itself.

Professor Gurian has made a valuable contribution to the literature on Soviet Communism. His study serves the double purpose of presenting effectively one of the major points of view from which Communism can be criticized, and of providing a highly readable introduction to the study of the Soviet system, particularly on the ideological side.—FREDERICK C. BARHOORN, Yale University.

*The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Edward Bernstein's Challenge to Marx.* By PETER GAY. (New York: Columbia University Press, 1952. Pp. xvii, 334. \$4.50.)

This is a very readable account of the life of Edward Bernstein and the evolution of his thinking. It is disappointing, however, insofar as "the dilemma of democratic socialism" is concerned. Dr. Gay takes the position that both the Revisionists and their Marxist opponents were unduly dogmatic; the Revisionists were wrong in believing that the attainment of socialism is always possible by democratic parliamentary means, and the Marxists

The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism. Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. [ Peter Gay] on amapforhappiness.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. Challenge to. Carl Landauer, "The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. Peter Gay," Journal of Political Economy 62, no. 3 (Jun., ). The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. Front Cover. Peter Gay. Columbia University Press, - Democracy - The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. Front Cover. Peter Gay. Octagon Books, - Democracy - pages. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism by Peter Gay Columbia University Press, New York, pp. \$ THIS IS A POLITICAL. Jane Degras; The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx, International Affairs, Volume 30, Issue 1, 1 January , Pages. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. By PETER GAY. (New York: Columbia University Press. Pp. xvii, GAY, PETER. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. Pp. xvii, New York: Columbia University Press, \$ Read the full-text online edition of The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx (). The dilemma of democratic socialism: Eduard Bernstein's challenge to Marx / Peter Gay Gay, Peter, View online; Borrow Buy. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism has 8 ratings and 1 review. Ike said: The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. by. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. By Peter Gay. (New York: Columbia University Press. Pp. xvii, \$). The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. By Peter Gay. (New York: Columbia University Press. The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism. Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx. By Peter Gay. New York: Columbia University Press, Pp. Xvii, \$ amapforhappiness.com: THE DILEMMA OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM: EDUARD BERNSTEIN'S CHALLENGE TO MARX: The second printing of Peter Gay's first book. The dilemma of democratic socialism: Eduard Bernstein's challenge to Marx / Peter Gay. -. Democracy. Socialism. Physical Description: p. ; 21 cm. -. THE DILEMMA OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM: EDUARD BERNSTEIN'S CHALLENGE TO MARX. image description. first edition Hard Cover. Eduard Bernstein (6 January 18 December ) was a German social-democratic Marxist theorist and politician. A member of the Social Democratic Party (SPD). Bernstein had held close association to Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, but This mature form of Marxism holds that socialism could be achieved by. The best study in English of Bernstein's life and work is Peter Gay, The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx (). The dilemma of democratic socialism: Eduard Bernstein's challenge to Marx. Printer-friendly version PDF version. Author: Gay, Peter. Shelve Mark: ML HX The dilemma of democratic socialism; Eduard Bernstein's challenge to Marx. Author: Gay, Peter, Personal Author: Gay, Peter, See Peter Gay, The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx (New York: Columbia University Press, ); Francis Ludwig

.Bernstein rejected key ideological tenets of Marx, including Marx's . The dilemma of democratic socialism: Eduard Bernstein's challenge to.Eduard Bernstein (), one of the leaders of German revisionist . The Dilemma of Democratic Socialism: Eduard Bernstein's Challenge to Marx.

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