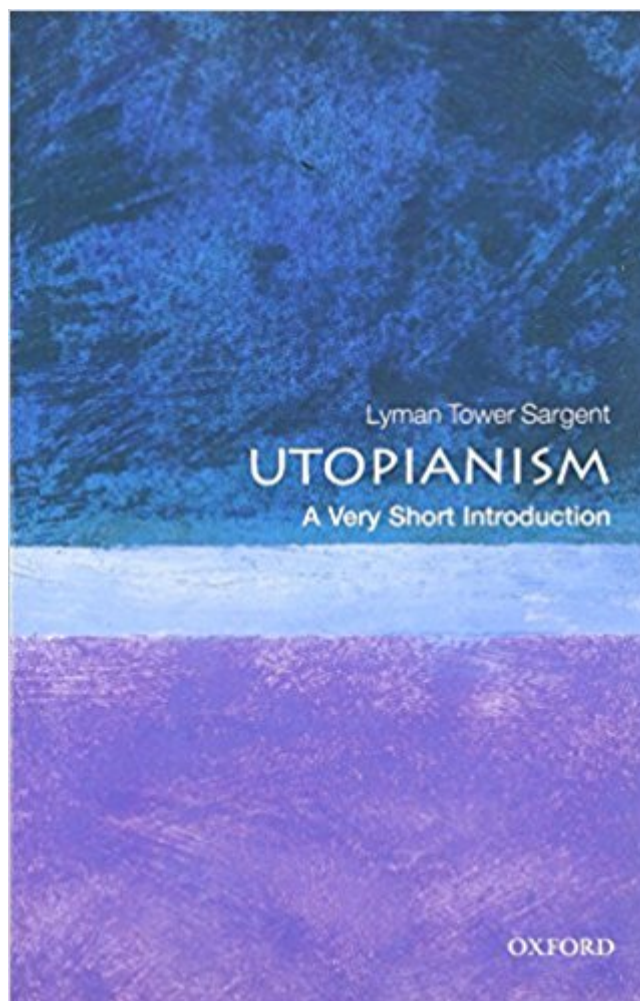


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# Utopianism: A Very Short Introduction



## Synopsis

There are many debates about what constitutes a utopia. Are utopias benign or dangerous? Is the idea of utopianism essential to Christianity or heretical? What is the relationship between utopia and ideology? In this Very Short Introduction, Lyman Sargent, one of the leading scholars in the field of utopian studies, explores these issues and examines utopianism and its history, discussing the role of utopianism in literature and in the development of colonies and in immigration. The idea of utopia has become commonplace in social and political thought, both negatively and positively. Sargent notes that some thinkers see a trajectory from utopia to totalitarianism, with violence an inevitable part of the mix. Others see utopia directly connected to freedom and as a necessary element in the fight against totalitarianism. In Christianity, utopia is labeled as both heretical and as a fundamental part of Christian belief, and such debates are also central to such fields as architecture, town and city planning, and sociology among many others. Sargent addresses all these issues in this clear, compact introduction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lyman Sargent is a Fellow of the Stout Research Centre at the Victoria University of Wellington and a Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. He is the primary bibliographer in the field of utopian literature.

This short book admirably serves its purpose to provide a general and short overview on a vast

topic. The bibliography is particularly useful.

This is a good overview of the topic of utopianism. My only reservations concern the confusing and somewhat repetitive organization of topics. There must be a better short overview of utopianism available somewhere. Leszek Kolokowski's Tanner lectures on the topic are much more stimulating and profound.

New and quick delivery!

Me ha ayudado a comprender que, efectivamente, el deseo de superaci3n es algo inherente a la raza humana, y este se le puede clasificar bajo el t3rmino utopismo, o de cualquier otra forma. El libro da una gran bibliograf3a para profundizar en el tema

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