Editor’s Note

This issue of *Reason Papers* features a symposium on Scott Scheall’s *F. A. Hayek and the Epistemology of Politics: The Curious Task of Economics*. We have three authors with three rather different takes on Scheall’s book. Aeon Skoble examines how the book points towards what he calls an “almost intractable problem for liberal democracy.” Next, Timothy Sandefur argues that Scheall’s new book has some of the same problems that Sandefur has previously spied in Hayek. Lastly, Forrest Nabors reads Scheall’s book in a broader context of intellectual history from the ancients to the moderns. Nabors interprets Scheall’s approach to be at odds with both ancient wisdom and the path chosen by James Madison and the other American founders. As is only fair, our author gets the last word. In his reply, Scheall recapitulates the central arguments of the book before responding to what he argues are misinterpretations and misreadings of the book.

This symposium is valuable in drawing out various fault lines and disagreements about core principles and visions about how best to understand the task and methods of political philosophy. Part of my vision for *Reason Papers* is that it encourages greater dialogue and meaningful exchange of ideas. Symposia such as this one highlight this goal by helping all of us to see some of the fundamental ways in which we disagree. Real dialogue, dialogue that helps us to make intellectual progress, can only start after we identify the ideas about which we differ.

Often such dialogue requires some degree of humility or maybe it’s modesty? It can be so hard to keep those concepts clear! Thankfully, in his article, William Irwin offers an account of how the concepts of humility and modesty differ and why it is important to keep these start.

We close out this issue with a review of Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt’s *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure*. Our own book editor Carrie-Ann Biondi takes on the task of reviewing this important diagnosis of many of the problems that plague education and society more generally. Biondi highlights the important themes of the book while also suggesting some further points that the authors missed in their account.
As previously announced online, *Reason Papers* is moving to a symposium-only format. This is to encourage greater dialogue and more meaningful exchanges of ideas. This means, though, that the journal is no longer accepting unsolicited manuscripts. We still have a few articles in the review pipeline, so the Articles section will not disappear quite yet. But we encourage individuals to propose a symposium. In addition, we will continue to publish Book Reviews, so please contact us if you are interested in writing a review.

Shawn E. Klein
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

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