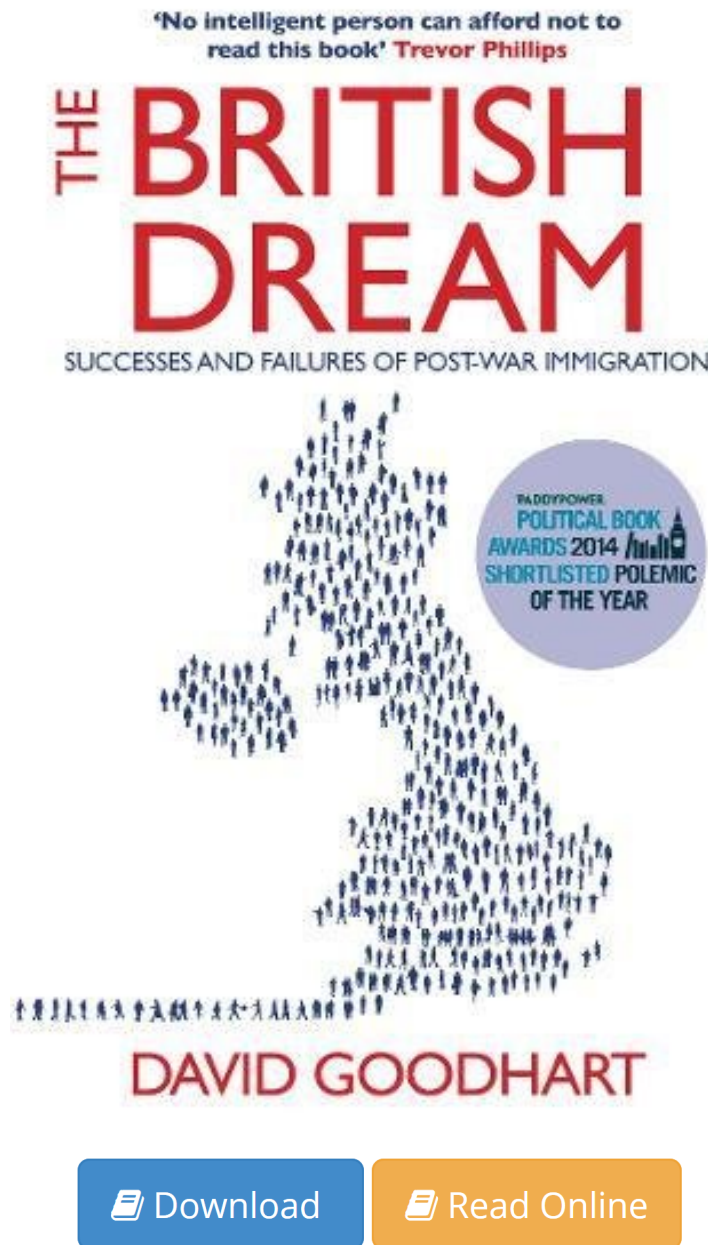


[Download ebook] The British Dream: Successes and Failures of Post-war Immigration

The British Dream: Successes and Failures of Post-war Immigration

David Goodhart

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David Goodhart : The British Dream: Successes and Failures of Post-war Immigration before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The British Dream: Successes and Failures of Post-war Immigration:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Immigration to the UK deconstructed and analysedBy CustomerI really liked this book. It takes a dispassionate and balanced look at contemporary migration trends into UK. Effects of the sharp rise is assessed using empirical data as evidence and the author's 'field visits' to various parts of the country.

As the title indicates, there have been both positive and ill-effects of immigration, these are looked at in detail. 'Migration' is deconstructed, having read this book you will never again think of it as a homogenous phenomenon. Anyone who is interested in getting an overview of what's been happening in the UK on a social, political and cultural level in relation to immigration should read this book. Another reason I give this book 5 stars is because it is not written from a partisan point of view. It is a 'must-read' for all who are interested in contemporary UK society. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Canadians and other should read this..By BTG This is an excellent book - few of us outside the UK realise how much it has changed, even since 1997 when immigration to the UK increased. This is a book which has much to say about the continuing need and role for the nation state, and how immigration can impact a society in ways never intended. As a Canadian, I found some of the parallels very interesting - such as a British leader referring to the UK as a "nation of immigrants" and also in other places how the UK defines itself because of things like the creation of the National Health (universal medicare) scheme after WW2 - when Canada has also sought for similar justifications or ways of defining its identity. Canada invented multiculturalism (though Goodhart gets it a little wrong - multiculturalism was not to show acceptance of the French Canadian - that is "bi-culturalism", but that other groups in other provinces, where French is rarely heard, felt left out - Ukrainians in Saskatchewan and Italians in Toronto) - but what many of my fellow Canadians fail to grasp is that "multiculturalism" is no longer unique to Canada, or Australia or even the US, but is becoming the norm in nearly every prosperous country except Japan... Canada and Australia just managed it better than the others (the US has more of a history of assimilation, until more recently and of course ignoring the black and Hispanic divisions within it). I would recommend this book - but it does help to know a little of British politics over the last 30-60 years, and a few place names of cities (the town of "Slough"? Rymes with plough, not with rough!)

In *The British Dream*, David Goodhart tells the story of post-war immigration and charts a course for its future. Drawing on hundreds of interviews with people from all over the country and a wealth of statistical evidence, he paints a striking picture of how Britain has been transformed by immigration and examines the progress of its ethnic minorities projected to be around 25 per cent of the population by the early 2020s. Britain today is a more open society for minorities than ever before, but it is also a more fragmented one. Goodhart argues that an overzealous multiculturalism has exacerbated this problem by reinforcing difference instead of promoting a common life. The multi-ethnic success of Team GB at the 2012 Olympics and a taste for chicken tikka masala are not, he suggests, sufficient to forge common bonds; Britain needs a political culture of integration. Goodhart concludes that if Britain is to avoid a narrowing of the public realm and sharply segregated cities, as in many parts of the US, its politicians and opinion leaders must do two things. Firstly, as advocated by the center right, they need to bring immigration down to more moderate and sustainable levels. Secondly, as advocated by the center left, they need to shape a progressive national story about openness and opportunity one that captures how people of different traditions are coming together to make the British dream.

"Finally: a European liberal who isn't afraid of his own shadow and a British intellectual who isn't allergic to evidence... No intelligent person can afford not to read this book." -- Trevor Phillips, former Chair of the Equality and Human Rights Commission "Like a latter-day George Orwell, David Goodhart penetrates the fog of delusion and wishful thinking surrounding the issues of race, immigration, multiculturalism and national identity. Goodhart has written a hard-headed but also an optimistic book." -- Frank Field, MP "You won't agree with everything he says, but he has made himself the starting point for a vital debate at the centre of British and European politics." -- Michael Ignatieff, Professor, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University
About the Author David Goodhart is the director of the think tank DEMOS, and the editor-at-large of Prospect Magazine, which he founded in 1995. He was previously a senior correspondent for the Financial Times.