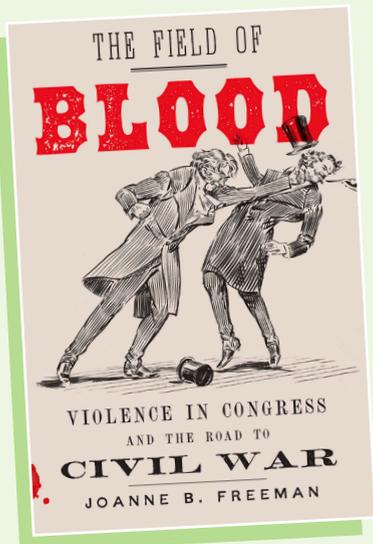


# RECESS READS



## **THE FIELD OF BLOOD: VIOLENCE IN CONGRESS AND THE ROAD TO CIVIL WAR**

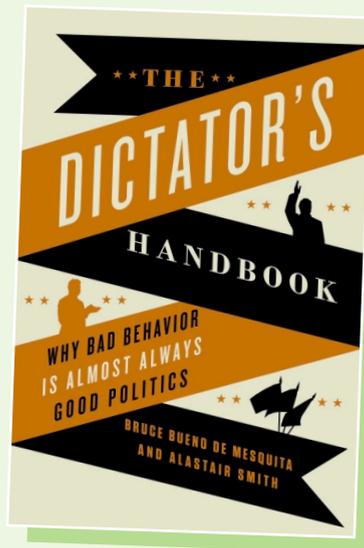
By Joanne Freeman

Everyone says our politics are worse than they've ever seen, but Professor Freeman illustrates that things can be much, much worse. She documents the violent rhetoric and action that escalated prior to the Civil War. A useful history of the society and the institution in a tumultuous time.

## **THE DICTATOR'S HANDBOOK**

By Bruce Bueno de Mesquita & Alastair Smith

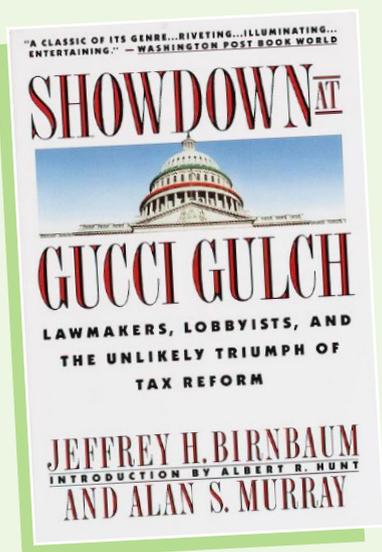
Argues that politicians, regardless of whether they are in authoritarian dictatorships or in democracies, must stay in power by pleasing a core inner circle of power brokers, and that politicians must engage in self-interested behavior in order to stay in power.



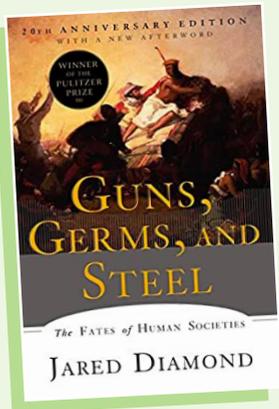
## **SHOWDOWN AT GUCCI GULCH**

By Jeffrey Birnbaum & Alan Murray

Two *Wall Street Journal* reporters provide the first complete picture of how the single most sweeping change in the history of America's income tax went from an improbable dream to a widely hailed reality.



# RECESS READS



## **GUNS, GERMS, AND STEEL**

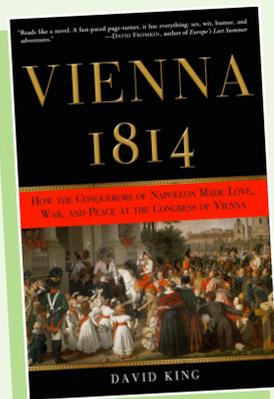
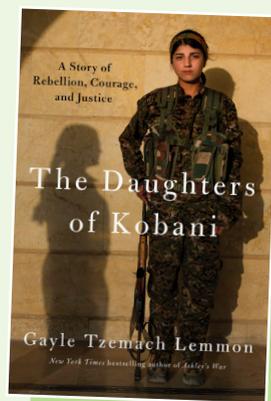
By Jared Diamond

An in-depth look into how ecology and geography have shaped the outcomes of societies throughout history. Diamond asserts that geographical circumstance was the strongest determining factor in the rise of Europe in the early modern period, and dispels myths of racial and religious superiority.

## **THE DAUGHTERS OF KOBANI**

By Gayle Tzemach Lemmon

Tells the unforgettable story of the women of the Kurdish militia that improbably became part of the world's best hope for stopping ISIS in Syria.



## **VIENNA 1814**

By David King

A fascinating account of the "Congress" of 1814 catalyzed by Napoleon. For all its failures, it was the first time Europe came together and attempted to solve continental and global problems of war, peace, economics, slavery and other challenges. While they ultimately failed to find much common ground, the groundwork was laid for a Europe that would work together, and for the continent we see today.

## **WILSON WRITTEN**

### **INSANITY DEFENSE**

By Jane Harman

Former Congresswoman and President Emerita of the Wilson Center Jane Harman's account of America's ineffectual approach to some of the hardest defense and intelligence issues in the three decades since the Cold War ended.

