

# Does Plato Really Want Philosophers To Be Kings?

14 August 2008 . Pdf'd August 14, 2008.

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*Abstract*

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I would like to thank xxx, and xxx and seminar participants at xxx for helpful comments.

## 1. Introduction

When I was a 17-year-old freshman reading *The Republic*, I thought Plato was crazy in his proposed city. But I was intrigued. Compared to Aristotle, that silly schoolmarm who always chose the conventional and moderate path and who read like an out-of-date textbook, Plato was romantic and allusive, and seemed to have something deeper underneath, just out of sight.

Plato does NOT want philosophers to be kings. They would be rotten at it. I take Bloom in *Response to Hall* a step further.

The Laws has an Athenian citizen, not Socrates, making alws.

Socrates is just as bad at politics as at astronomy in *The Birds*. McCain on Earmarks.

Ecclesiastes.

Han Fei.

Sexual freedom is desired by Socrates.

The Myth of Er. I am Christian so I believe something like it.

Buckley on the NY phone book.

Political economy. two things: desire to do good, ability to do good.

I need to lay out the order of the argument in *The Republic*.

## 8. Concluding Remarks

xxx not written yet

Plato, The Dialogues of Plato translated into English with Analyses and Introductions by B. Jowett, M.A. in Five Volumes. 3rd edition revised and corrected (Oxford University Press, 1892). Chapter: THE REPUBLIC. <http://oll.libertyfund.org/title/767/93795on2008-08-14>

Greek text too, 1935 translation, notes, <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/ptext?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A1999.01.0168&query=book%3D%231>