



The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life

Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life

Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen


Some people make photo albums, collect antiques, or visit historic battlefields. Others keep diaries, plan annual family gatherings, or stitch together patchwork quilts in a tradition learned from grandparents. Each of us has ways of communing with the past, and our reasons for doing so are as varied as our memories. In a sweeping survey, Roy Rosenzweig and David Thelen asked 1,500 Americans about their connection to the past and how it influences their daily lives and hopes for the future. The result is a surprisingly candid series of conversations and reflections on how the past infuses the present with meaning.

Rosenzweig and Thelen found that people assemble their experiences into narratives that allow them to make sense of their personal histories, set priorities, project what might happen next, and try to shape the future. By using these narratives to mark change and create continuity, people chart the courses of their lives. A young woman from Ohio speaks of giving birth to her first child, which caused her to reflect upon her parents and the ways that their example would help her to become a good mother. An African American man from Georgia tells how he and his wife were drawn to each other by their shared experiences and lessons learned from growing up in the South in the 1950s. Others reveal how they personalize historical events, as in the case of a Massachusetts woman who traces much of her guarded attitude toward life to witnessing the assassination of John F. Kennedy on television when she was a child.

While the past is omnipresent to Americans, "history" as it is usually defined in textbooks leaves many people cold. Rosenzweig and Thelen found that history as taught in school does not inspire a strong connection to the past. And they reveal how race and ethnicity affects how Americans perceive the past: while most white Americans tend to think of it as something personal, African Americans and American Indians are more likely to think in terms of broadly shared experiences--like slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, and the violation of Indian treaties."

Rosenzweig and Thelen's conclusions about the ways people use their personal, family, and national stories have profound implications for anyone involved in researching or presenting history, as well as for all those who struggle to engage with the past in a meaningful way.

 [Download The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of Histor ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen

From reader reviews:

Rebecca Clark:

Do you among people who can't read gratifying if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys this kind of aren't like that. This The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life book is readable simply by you who hate the straight word style. You will find the details here are arrange for enjoyable reading experience without leaving perhaps decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer connected with The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life content conveys thinking easily to understand by a lot of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different by means of it. So , do you even now thinking The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

Lori Barnes:

Reading a guide can be one of a lot of pastime that everyone in the world really likes. Do you like reading book consequently. There are a lot of reasons why people like it. First reading a book will give you a lot of new facts. When you read a book you will get new information since book is one of various ways to share the information or perhaps their idea. Second, looking at a book will make anyone more imaginative. When you looking at a book especially hype book the author will bring you to imagine the story how the characters do it anything. Third, you are able to share your knowledge to others. When you read this The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life, you may tells your family, friends as well as soon about yours guide. Your knowledge can inspire the others, make them reading a e-book.

Priscilla McNeil:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The e-book lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, limited story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not trying The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world considerably better then how they react toward the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading habit only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to always be success person. So , for all you who want to start looking at as your good habit, you could pick The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life become your own personal starter.

Kristy Douglas:

What is your hobby? Have you heard that will question when you got college students? We believe that that problem was given by teacher with their students. Many kinds of hobby, Every person has different hobby. Therefore you know that little person like reading or as examining become their hobby. You have to know that reading is very important along with book as to be the thing. Book is important thing to incorporate you knowledge, except your own teacher or lecturer. You see good news or update concerning something by

book. Different categories of books that can you choose to adopt be your object. One of them is niagra The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life.

Download and Read Online The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen #ME5QHDOGX64

Read The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen for online ebook

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen books to read online.

Online The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen ebook PDF download

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen Doc

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen Mobipocket

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life by Roy Rosenzweig, David Thelen EPub