

A Conversation with MARK BLITZ

Mark Blitz (A.B. and Ph.D. from Harvard University) is Fletcher Jones Professor of Political Philosophy, Director of the Henry Salvatori Center, and Chairman of the Department of Government at Claremont McKenna College. He is a Reagan Associate, having served as the administration's senior official responsible for educational and cultural exchange and also as senior staff member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. A prolific author, Blitz has written on political philosophy, public policy, and foreign affairs.

Blitz has an impressive breadth of expertise in the great ideas of Western civilization. In this conversation with Bill Kristol that touches on a full range of great thinkers—from [Plato](#) and [Aristotle](#) to [Locke](#), [Hegel](#) and [Nietzsche](#)—Blitz lays out his own vision of the origins, ills, and future possibilities of the modern world.

On Plato's Dialogues, Blitz says: *"The dialogues have this dramatic aspect to them that treatises don't. Dialogues also enable you to see people thinking. It's easier to portray the kind of dance of thought, the movement of thought, the ups and down, the hypotheses suggested and then rejected – easier to do that in a dialogue than when you're talking to yourself in a way in a treatise."*

On Hegel, he says: *"Hegel is the most powerful thinker of the 19th century – one of the most powerful thinkers ever. For us, talking about political philosophy and thinking now in terms of Plato and Aristotle and of Locke, Hegel attempts to bring them all together."*

Chapter Links to MARK BLITZ Conversation

[Plato's Political Philosophy](#)

[The Ancients and How We Live Now](#)

[Character Virtue in Aristotle](#)

[John Locke's America](#)

[Hegel and Marx](#)

[On Liberal Democracy](#)

[The Allure of Nietzsche](#)

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