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Aristotle and the Rediscovery of Citizenship

Aristotle and the Rediscovery of Citizenship confronts a question that is central to Aristotle's political philosophy as well as to contemporary political theory: What is a citizen? Answers prove to be elusive, in part because late-twentieth-century critiques of the Enlightenment called into doubt fundamental tenets that once guided us. Engaging the two major works of Aristotle's political philosophy, his *Nicomachean Ethics* and his *Politics*, Professor Susan D. Collins poses questions that current discussions of liberal citizenship do not adequately address. Drawing a path from contemporary disputes to Aristotle, she examines in detail his complex presentations of moral virtue, civic education, and law; his view of the aims and limits of the political community; and his treatment of the connection between citizenship and the human good. Collins thereby shows how Aristotle continues to be an indispensable source of enlightenment, as he has been for political and religious traditions of the past.

Susan D. Collins is assistant professor of political science at the University of Houston. Her research focuses on political thought in classical antiquity. She has contributed to the *American Journal of Political Science* and the *Review of Politics*, and she is coeditor of *Action and Contemplation: Studies in the Moral and Political Thought of Aristotle* and cotranslator of *Empire and the Ends of Politics: Plato's "Menexenus" and Pericles' Funeral Oration*.

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*In memory of my parents
Elizabeth and Thomas Collins*

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