

Helena Rosenblatt

“When liberalism split into two”

In my book, *The Lost History of Liberalism from Ancient Rome to the Twenty-First Century*, I argue that liberalism was first conceived in France, in the wake of the French Revolution. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, under the influence of German thinkers, it was then reconceived in reaction to the adverse effects of industrialization on the lives of the poor. This is caused two streams within liberalism to be formed, one that favored government intervention, and one that that did not. It is also the reason why “liberalism” today means one thing in America and almost the opposite in the rest of the world.