



## Leading Thinkers and Writers Dispel Our Myths About Americans

**Toronto, April 30, 2008** – The Dominion Institute releases today a new commercial publication - ***American Myths: What Canadians Think They Know about the United States***. This insightful and provocative collection brings together twelve leading intellectuals to dispel the myths that Canadians have about our American neighbours. This essay compilation is edited by Dominion Institute co-founder and political commentator Rudyard Griffiths and published by Key Porter Books.

Canadians cherish ideas—even myths—about Americans that may not be true. Many would argue that Americans are warlike, while Canadians are the world's peacekeepers; that Canada is a beacon of social-welfare innovation, while America is a regressive and uncaring state; that America's ethnic melting pot is hidebound and discriminatory, while Canada is the enlightened and tolerant nation in North America.

How appropriate is this conventional wisdom? Do we truly understand Americans, or have our internal political battles and insecurities led to a distorted perception of them? How do our myths about the United States affect not only the relationship between our two nations but Canadians' very sense of who we are as a people?

Comprising 12 essays, *American Myths* offers a wide-ranging look at the perceptions and preconceptions Canadians have about their neighbours to the south. Intelligent, thought-provoking, and often polarizing, *American Myths* issues a challenge to Canadian readers: strive to better understand who we are, or run the risk of defining what it means to be Canadian primarily in opposition to the U.S. It is required reading for anyone interested in this country's future.

Contributors include Andrew Cohen, Andrew Coyne, Tom Flanagan, David Frum, Robert Fulford, Allan Gotlieb, J.L. Granatstein, Dr. David Gratzner, Joel Kotkin, Jessica LeCroy, Patrick Luciani, Neil Reynolds

**RUDYARD GRIFFITHS** is the co-founder of the Dominion Institute, co-director of the Salon Speakers Series and advisor to the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. Rudyard writes a bi-monthly column for the National Post and has edited and contributed to eight books on Canadian history and politics. In 2006, he was recognized as one of Canada's Top 40 under 40.

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