

Every Four Years, An Exercise in Futility

Why America's Presidential Elections Miss the Point

by **Louis René Beres** (June 2015)

Plato's *Republic* endures as a celebrated touchstone of classical political thought. Here, attentive to what was once known as the *Western Canon*, college freshmen read hopefully about a "philosopher king." This figure of reason and righteousness was cast to be an exemplary political leader – in Plato's own time, the chief executive of a *polity* like Athens – one who would deftly combine real learning with virtuous governance. [more>>>](#)