Reining in the State: Civil Society and Congress in the Vietnam and Watergate Era

by Katherine A. Scott
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Katherine Scott, Assistant Historian

Her book, Reining in the State: Civil Society and Congress in the Vietnam and Watergate Era, was a significant contribution to the understanding of the role of civil society in the aftermath of the Vietnam War and the Watergate scandal. Scott's work highlighted the importance of civil liberties and national security in the post-Watergate period.

Although the post-Watergate period is widely understood as an era of increased governmental accountability and transparency, the promise of civil service reform was “central to President Carter’s election campaign.” The war in Vietnam—led by President Nixon—and the Watergate scandal, which led to the resignation of President Nixon, were pivotal events in this era.


Katherine A. Scott, Ph.D., author of Reining in the State: Civil Society and Congress in the Vietnam and Watergate Eras, is a scholar of Jason Ross and Leadership in the U.S. Senate: Herding Cats in the Modern Era - Google Books Result. She has also contributed to discussions on Cold War crises and the Vietnam-era NSA documents released on Scott, Reining in the State: Civil Society and Congress in the Vietnam and...