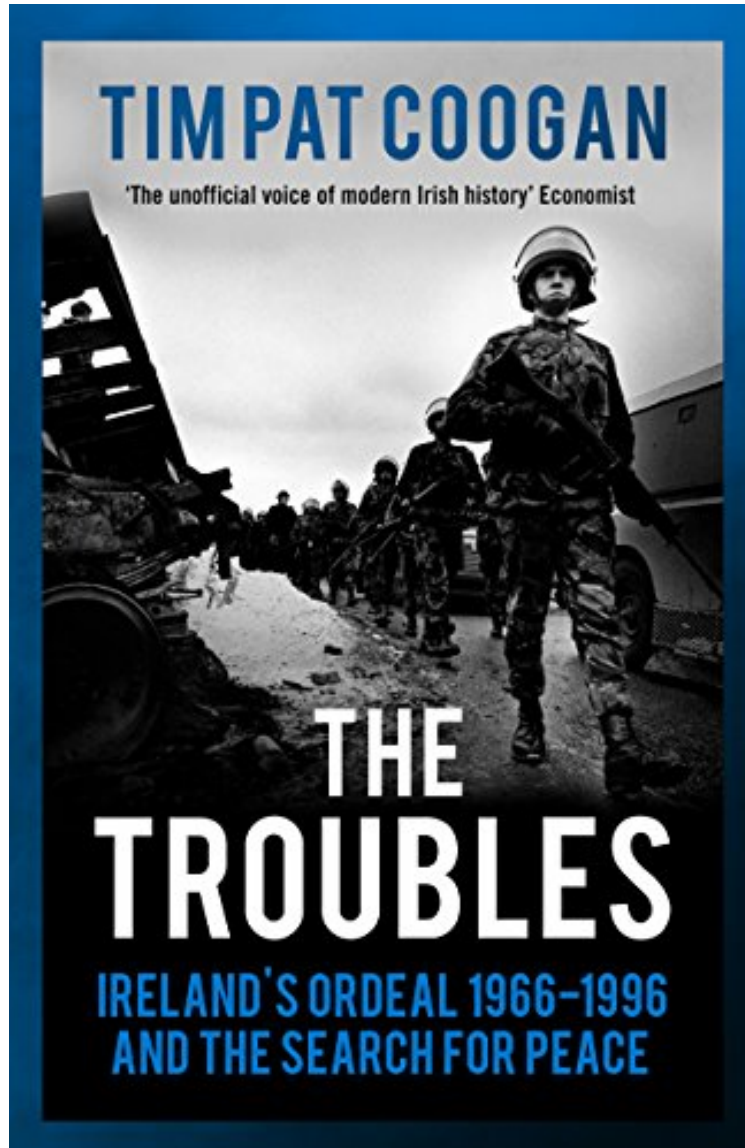


[Download] The Troubles: Ireland's Ordeal 1966-1995 and the Search for Peace

The Troubles: Ireland's Ordeal 1966-1995 and the Search for Peace

Von Tim Pat Coogan

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Von Tim Pat Coogan : The Troubles: Ireland's Ordeal 1966-1995 and the Search for Peace before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Troubles: Ireland's Ordeal 1966-1995 and the Search for Peace:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. DisappointingVon R. M. KelleherI bought this book knowing very little about the subject, and had hoped for an unbiased historical account from which I would be allowed to draw my own conclusions. As an ignorant reader, I

depend on Coogan for the facts and have no way of knowing for certain whether they are all true. The only way an author can reassure the reader that his word is reliable is through objective coverage bolstered by careful and thorough documentation. Yet in several places he quotes dubious sources and injects his own opinions. As a result, I'm never quite sure whether I can believe everything he says. In other places he seems to be using words in a manipulative way to downplay the atrocities of the IRA and garner sympathy for the Republican cause. For example, he continually refers to assassinations by Unionist paramilitaries as "murders of Catholics" but does not say whether the victims were known members of the IRA--an important detail. I also suspect that the IRA has far less actual, uncoerced support among Catholics than Coogan implies. In all my years at Catholic school, never once do I remember being taught that it was all right to kill and maim hundreds of innocent people to get my way. Maybe I was sick that day. If anyone can recommend a better book on the subject, let me know. Thanks!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Worth reading but too one sided

Von Ein Kunde I read this book several years ago because I was fed up of hearing about Northern Ireland on the news and (like most people in Britain) not knowing what the conflict was fully about. However Tim Pat Coogan only half rectified this. On the plus side this book gives a comprehensive account of the main incidents, in a clear and engaging style, occasionally giving personal anecdotes to add a more human element to the proceedings. It quickly becomes apparent that contrary to the main conception, the conflict has very little to do with religion and all to do with a typical power struggle complicated by nationalism and ineffectual British governmental policy. Coogan presents the horrors (and there are some very disturbing ones) and the missed opportunities in an intelligent fashion. He's also an expert on the IRA. Where the book falls short however is in its blatant bias. Coogan is firmly on the side of the Irish nationalists (as am I), however he does not go far enough to explain the Unionist view point, thus many readers will go away bewildered at the protestants, perceiving them as deranged orange devils, as many British people already do (though in Ian Paisley's case they may be correct). Thus Coogan is pretty irresponsible especially as this can be a very emotive issue. Overall, this book should still be read (it is a very enjoyable read), but with caution or preferably in tandem with another source that gives the unionist side more fully.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Not as good as his earlier books, too biased.

Von Ein Kunde This is an important book about an important subject, but it fails to reach the high standards of his earlier work (such as the biography of Michael Collins). Its two major faults are that he talks about himself too much (who he has talked to etc) and that he fails to be a detached historian. He is consistently pro-Republican, an understandable viewpoint perhaps, but not good enough in a supposed history book. A telling feature is the ridiculously low profile given to Ulster's majority population, the Protestants. They appear only as faceless bigots or puppets of the British state. This is not just a Brit whinging, I was in Ireland when this book came out, and the Irish press found it equally hard to view this book as a balanced history. It is very hard to find impartial books on Irish history and this is not one of them. Read some Roy Foster as a counter-balance.

Kurzbeschreibung The Troubles refers to a violent thirty-year conflict, at the heart of which lay the constitutional status of Northern Ireland. Over 3,000 people were killed on all sides, and many more damaged by a legacy that continued long past 1998. After looking at the roots of Catholic discrimination of the Northern Irish state, Coogan points to Orange prejudice in housing, education and jobs and the lack of a Catholic outlet for peaceful protest. He argues that the war in the North started as a civil rights demonstration, but that radical Orange response soon turned protest into war. He takes a close look at Ian Paisley 'the great pornographer'; John Hume, the quiet peacemaker; Gerry Adams, gunman turned peacemaker; and Albert Reynolds, the first prime minister to insist on peace. In this controversial volume, Coogan covers all parts of the war, from Bloody Sunday in 1972 to the Bobby Sands hunger strike. Although written from a nationalist viewpoint, Coogan has taken a complicated history and explained it simply, with grace and wit.

deNoted Irish journalist Tim Pat Coogan covers the tortured history of Ireland from the beginning of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, through the long, horrible years of violence, and up to the attempts to find peace. Coogan, author of the definitive biography of Michael Collins, knows what he's writing about, and his access to many of the principals gives this book a particular authority. Going beyond the slogans and tabloid headlines, Coogan provides a good hard look at many of the characters, some of whom prefer to live in the shadows, who act out the deadly drama of divided Ireland.

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