



Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English

By Geoffrey Hughes



Download



Read Online

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes

Tracing the history of swearing from ancient Anglo-Saxon traditions and those of the Middle Ages, through Shakespeare, the Enlightenment and the Victorians, to the Lady Chatterley trial and various current trends, Geoffrey Hughes explores a fascinating, little discussed yet irrespressible part of our linguistic heritage. This second edition contains a Postscript updating various contemporary developments, such as the growth of Political Correctness.



[Download Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oat ...pdf](#)

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English

By Geoffrey Hughes

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes

Tracing the history of swearing from ancient Anglo-Saxon traditions and those of the Middle Ages, through Shakespeare, the Enlightenment and the Victorians, to the Lady Chatterley trial and various current trends, Geoffrey Hughes explores a fascinating, little discussed yet irrespressible part of our linguistic heritage. This second edition contains a Postscript updating various contemporary developments, such as the growth of Political Correctness.

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #763575 in Books
- Published on: 1998-09-01
- Released on: 1998-09-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.79" h x .54" w x 5.07" l, .46 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 304 pages



[Download Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oat ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes

Editorial Review

Review

"Excellent, non-prescriptive history." *Literary Review*

"Erudite and splendidly researched book ... quite fascinating." *Daily Telegraph*

"A provocative and stimulating book." *Glasgow Herald*

"Professor Hughes shows real skill in handling the social history aspect of the book, blending theme and chronology into a digestive mixture." *Punch*

From the Back Cover

From the earliest times swearing has existed in many variegated forms, from the deadliest curse to the most trivial expletives of annoyance. Hedged about with all manner of complex pressures, personal, societal, religious, sexual and other forms of taboo, it remains a phenomenon only imperfectly understood. Geoffrey Hughes traces these two contrasting strands through our linguistic history. His discussion starts with the use of language as magic in 'primitive' society, the binding oath of heroic commitment in Anglo-Saxon warrior society and the emergence of blasphemy in the medieval age of faith. With the Renaissance came a shift from a religious to a secular idiom of swearing, a period combining rich exuberance in language with severe restraint. This oscillation between institutional censorship and individual defiance continues to modern times. Professor Hughes includes in this broad-ranging survey such topics as xenophobia and the racist basis of abuse, graffiti, the sexual and sexist patterns of swearing, the multifarious forms of euphemism and the curious varieties of verbal duelling known as 'flyting' and 'sounding'. His book is a tireless exploration of a little discussed but irrepressible part of our linguistic heritage.

About the Author

Geoffrey Hughes is Professor of History of the English Language at the University of the Witwatersand, Johannesburg.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

John Jacquez:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can certainly share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Plenty of author can inspire their own reader with their story or perhaps their experience. Not only the story that share in the publications. But also they write about the ability about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors these days always try to improve their proficiency in writing, they also doing some study before they write to the book. One of them is this Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English.

Lily Pawlak:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to do! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their own friends. Usually they doing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book could be option to fill your free of charge time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of reserve that you should read. If you want to attempt look for book, may be the e-book untitled Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English can be very good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

Lidia Mejia:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill actually analytical thinking? Then you have problem with the book than can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all this time you only find book that need more time to be study. Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English can be your answer mainly because it can be read by you actually who have those short spare time problems.

Lorraine Michael:

That e-book can make you to feel relax. This specific book Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English was bright colored and of course has pictures on the website. As we know that book Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English has many kinds or genre. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and believe you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book are generally make you bored, any it offers up you feel happy, fun and loosen up. Try to choose the best book to suit your needs and try to like reading which.

Download and Read Online Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes #KLAVH6O7J1D

Read Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes for online ebook

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes books to read online.

Online Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes ebook PDF download

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes Doc

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes Mobipocket

Swearing: A Social History of Foul Language, Oaths, and Profanity in English By Geoffrey Hughes EPub