

Contemporary Affairs

**SON OF THE
REVOLUTION**
by Liang Heng
and Judith Shapiro
Knopf, 1983
301 pp. \$15



Growing up in Mao's China taught Liang, now a U.S. citizen, one terribly important lesson: "the danger that lies in blind obedience." Born in 1954 in the central Chinese city of Changsha, Liang, like most toddlers, was taught that Mao was "like the sun itself." But the ways of this almighty figure were, he quickly learned, frighteningly unpredictable. In 1957, his mother, a party functionary, following the orders of the reformist Hundred Flowers Movement, criticized one of her superiors. The next year, when the party inaugurated the Anti-Rightist Movement, she was punished for following Mao's earlier command. To show his loyalty to the "Great Saving Star," Liang's father, a journalist, divorced his wife, but the family remained stigmatized. Liang's narration of subsequent tribulations (a six-day stint of solitary confinement at age 15 for corresponding with a "rightist"), his growing disillusionment, and his attempts to survive (joining a gang of teenage hoodlums, he felt "truly free" for the first time) reads like a Kafka fable come true. Allowed to enroll in Hunan Teacher's College in 1978, he there met Judith Shapiro, an American teacher, whom he subsequently married and with whom he penned this vivid account of a truly lost generation.

**CONSEQUENCES OF
PARTY REFORM**
by Nelson W. Polsby
Oxford, 1983
267 pp. \$8.95

"If it ain't broke," current wisdom in Washington goes, "don't fix it." This study of the consequences of the 1968-72 reforms of the presidential candidate selection process suggests that skepticism toward political tinkering is warranted. Acknowledging that back-room politics can produce presidential disasters of the Warren G. Harding variety, Polsby, a Berkeley political scientist, charges that the liberal reformers' moves to "open up" the presidential selection process have backfired. Not only have they increased the power of the media and special interest groups in shaping elections; they have driven

The Sons of the Revolution was founded in 1876 by John Austin Stevens, a member of New York City's Victorian society. He was a patriotic historian who descended from Ebenezer Stevens, a Revolutionary Officer in the Continental line who did not meet all of the strict requirements for membership in the Society of Cincinnati at that time. He along with the other "founders", some of whom were members of Cincinnati, wished to broaden participation in preserving American Heritage of the Revolutionary War on the eve of the centennial of the Declaration of Independence. The founder's mission was to.. Son of the Revolution By Liang Heng "STRUGGLE AGAINST ONESELF; CRITICIZE REVISIONISM" (p. 144) was a slogan often used during the Great Cultural Revolution. In reality, the Cultural Revolution was not great at all. It was an unwarranted attack on personal freedoms of China's people. The Chinese fought themselves, they even acknowledged it as a "struggle." They looked upon this struggle as part of the great Cultural Revolution. At age 3, a boy should not be held accountable for his parents political status. "Son Of The Revolution" WriteWork.com. WriteWork.com, 01 February, 2008. Web. 29 Dec. 2020. WriteWork contributors, "Son Of The Revolution," WriteWork.com, <https://www.writework.com/essay/son-revolution> (accessed December 29, 2020). Sons of the Revolution. 2,025 likes. Featuring members of Sixth Floor and Sinners & Saints. Kentucky-style rock at it's finest! Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content. Page created 28 January 2013. People. National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and teaching American history to future generations. Learn More. Scroll For More. Interested in Becoming a Member? Follow These 4 Easy Steps. 1. Determine Eligibility.