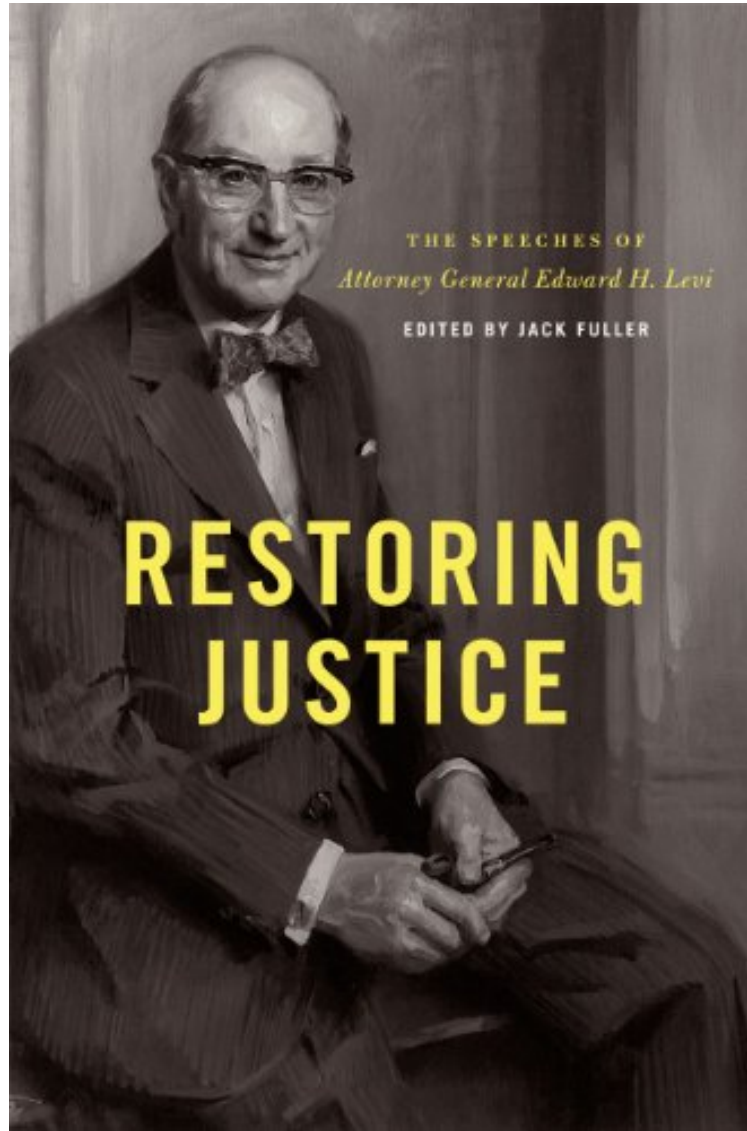


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In the wake of Watergate, Gerald Ford appointed eminent lawyer and scholar Edward H. Levi to the post of attorney general and thus gave him the onerous task of restoring legitimacy to a discredited Department of Justice. Levi was famously fair-minded and free of political baggage, and his inspired addresses during this tumultuous time were critical to rebuilding national trust. They reassured a tense and troubled nation that the Department of Justice would act in accordance with the principles underlying its name, operating as a nonpartisan organization under the strict rule of law.

It was Edward H. Levi's first and overwhelming task as attorney general to end the cynicism of Watergate. This wonderful collection of his speeches shows how he did it: with eloquent words that expressed his profound belief in American values. In our time of meanness and strife, Levi reminds us what we should be.