# WHAT IS IT FOR?

# What Is It For?

Series Editor: George Miller

The status quo is broken. Humanity today faces multiple interconnected challenges, some of which could prove existential. If we believe the world could be different, if we want it to be better, examining the purpose of what we do – and what is done in our name – is more pressing than ever.

The What Is It For? series examines the purpose of the most important aspects of our contemporary world, from religion and free speech to animal rights and the Olympics. It illuminates what these things are by looking closely at what they do.

The series offers fresh thinking on current debates that gets beyond the over-heated polemics and easy polarizations. Across the series, leading experts explore new ways forward, enabling readers to engage with the possibility of real change.

The first books in the series, on war, cybersecurity and philanthropy published in March 2023, with animal rights in October 2023 and titles on zoos and counterterrorism and many more set to be published soon.

Each book explains not only the history behind the topic and how it functions, but also the purpose it serves in our society – and, crucially, how it could work better.



### **What Are Animal Rights For?**

By Steve Cooke

PB £8.99 | US \$14.99 ISBN 9781529228410 EPUB £8.99 | US \$16.00 ISBN 9781529228427 October 2023



### What Is War For?

By Jack McDonald

PB £8.99 | US \$14.99 ISBN 9781529228380 EPUB £8.99 | US \$16.00 ISBN 9781529228397 March 2023

This book shows why animals ought to have greater rights and what the world might look like if they did.

Focusing on efforts to regulate and eliminate war, this book provides a guide to the complex problems it poses now – and threatens in the future.





### What Is Philanthropy For?

### By Rhodri Davies

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### What Is Cybersecurity For?

By Tim Stevens

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Davies, drawing on his deep knowledge of the past and present landscape of philanthropy, explains why it's important to ask what philanthropy is for because it has for centuries played a major role in shaping our world.

This book accessibly explains the complexities of global information systems, the challenges of providing security to users, societies, states and the international system, and the multitude of competing players and ambitions in this arena.



#### What Are Prisons For

### By Hindpal Singh Bhui

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### By Jules Boykoff

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What does a good prison look like? Hindpal Singh in prisons worldwide, argues that we need to look at ideology and myth.

Bhui, with 25 years' experience of visiting and working who is sent there and why, to disentangle reality from

# What Is History For?

### By Robert Gildea

PB £8.99 | US \$14.99 ISBN 9781529230512 EPUB £8.99 | US \$16.00 ISBN 9781529230529 March 2024



In this passionately argued book, Gildea suggests that the more people who really understand what good history entails, the more likely history is to triumph over myth.

What does a good prison look like? Hindpal Singh Bhui, with 25 years' experience of visiting and working in prisons worldwide, argues that we need to look at who is sent there and why, to disentangle reality from ideology and myth.



### **COMING SOON**



### What Are Museums For?

By Jon Sleigh

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# What Is Counter-Terrorism For?

By Leonie Jackson

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In this passionately argued book, Jon Sleigh maintains that museums must be for all people and inclusion must be at the heart of everything they do. Focusing on the costs of counterterrorism, this book takes a global view to understand what is done in the name of our safety.



#### What Are Zoos For?

By Heather Browning and Walter Veit

PB £8.99 | US \$14.99 ISBN 9781529231045 EPUB £8.99 | US \$16.00 ISBN 9781529231052 November 2024



### What Is Veganism For?

By Catherine Oliver

PB £8.99 | US \$14.99 ISBN 978-1529234329 EPUB £8.99 | US \$16.00 ISBN 978-1529234336 June 2024

Browning and Veit test the common justifications for zoos against the evidence and suggest what the best zoos of the future should look like to ensure that they are primarily for animals and not just for people.

Oliver shows why the veganism movement has become a powerful social, political and environmental force, taking an honest look at how we live and eat.



# **Call for proposals**

The What's It For? series seeks, like the Press as a whole, to be an agent for positive change. It will ask tough questions about purpose and fitness for purpose: what has to change for the future to be better?

George Miller seeks to explore these questions with authors who are specialists in their fields and – equally important – passionate about communicating to a wide readership.

### **Contact us**



If you would like to submit a proposal, or discuss ideas, then please contact the Series Editor(s):

**George Miller**: george.miller@bristol.ac.uk

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