Rather than simply summarizing the state of play in African countries and elsewhere, this book identifies and makes explicit the assumptions about the citizen’s relationship to the state that lie beneath Freedom of Information (FoI) discourse. The book goes on to test them against the reality of the pervasive politics of patronage that characterize much of African practice.

- examines the concept of FoI
- presents a discussion of the human rights claim appropriates the concepts of Hohfeldian analysis for more radical purposes in support of the idea that the state has a duty to implement FoI practices

Readership: Social activists, library and information science professionals, African studies specialists; publishers, legislators, politicians. Students of: law, politics, sociology and information science at the final year/postgraduate levels.

Contents: Introduction; Developing countries and freedom of information; The diffusion problem and the semantic shift; Compliance and the impulse to secrecy; Freedom of information as a human right; Struggles for freedom of information in countries in transition; Struggles for freedom of information in Africa; From adversarialism to FoI 2.0.