

# **Il pragmatismo predittivo di Oliver Wendell Holmes: le basi filosofiche dell'antiformalismo americano**

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*Oliver Wendell Holmes's Predictive Pragmatism: The Philosophical Basis of American Anti-formalism*

*Abstract:* Oliver Wendell Holmes occupies a prominent and highly recognised position among the extraordinary figures who have contributed to the advancement of legal science in the American legal landscape. He is widely read, cited and commented upon as the pioneer of predictive legal science which, through an anti-formalistic approach, offers a clear perspective on legal inquiry influenced by Pragmatism and Evolutionism. Understanding these two quintessentially American philosophical currents enables us to appreciate the full intellectual maturity of Oliver Wendell Holmes as a legal scholar and judge.

*Keywords:* Pragmatism, Anti-formalism, Darwinism, Evolutionism, Predictive theory of law.

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