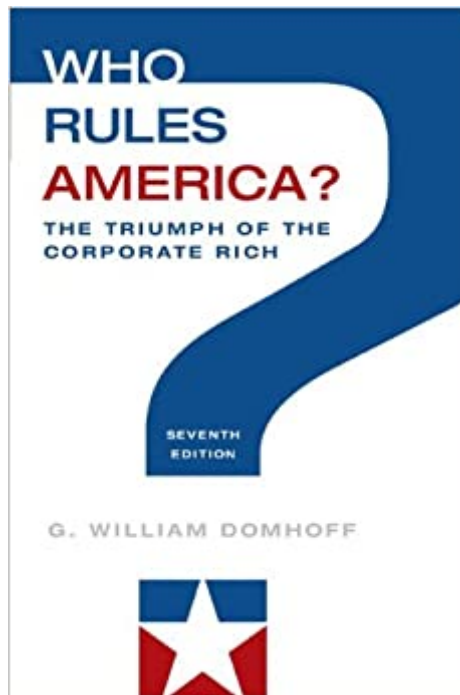


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# Who Rules America? The Triumph Of The Corporate Rich



## Synopsis

Blending together class, organizational, and institutional perspectives, along with a wide range of unique new empirical information the author has assembled, *Who Rules America?* is an invaluable tool for teaching students about how power operates in U.S. society. This classic text has been completely updated to capture the full sweep of the dramatic changes that occurred in the United States during the first twelve years of the twenty-first century. Instructors and students can now access their course content through the Connect digital learning platform by purchasing either standalone Connect access or a bundle of print and Connect access. McGraw-Hill Connect<sup>®</sup> is a subscription-based learning service accessible online through your personal computer or tablet. Choose this option if your instructor will require Connect to be used in the course. Your subscription to Connect includes the following:

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## Customer Reviews

This is the definitive work and the culmination of the "Who Rules America" series from the preeminent political sociologist of our time. Domhoff's analysis, methodology and specific descriptive writing ability is clear light to a topic that is widely discussed but poorly understood by the public and academics. For over fifty years, William Domhoff has provided a keen observation of those who dominate politics and the economy of the United States. In the tradition of Max Weber, Thorstein Veblen, Hans Gerth and C. Wright Mills, Domhoff is a beacon of insight into structure and functions the ruling classes. One cannot know America without knowing the work of this sociological and intellectual giant. "Who Rules America? The Triumph of the Corporate Rich 7th Edition" is his most recent and greatest work. Study this work and be informed. You will sing it's praise in spite of it's conclusions. Thank you G. William Domhoff. Mills is beaming.

This book provides a true insight into how corporate America and how power elites uses interlocking systems to stay in power.. It allows you to think critically about the world you live in. It truly opened my eyes to how corporate America has a large influence on policies and laws that govern the country. This is a book about capitalism and profit and what corporations America and the power elite do to keep their power.

Very interesting perspective. Perfect for my Power and Politics class. Author gives great insight as to what he believes is going on with our government and the corporate community.

Perfect

just as described ;-)

This book was central to my education in Political Science (more political than science, more passive aggressive than normative). In light of all that we know now, the book MUST be considered both a 6 Star classic (in my top 10%, I read non-fiction in 98 categories), and highly relevant today. It distresses me that there are no good reviews visible right now, this is partly because has destroyed really great reviews from past editions in order to make way for new generations of students, most of whom do not get pointed toward this book by their college professors, if they are lucky enough to even go to college. Here is the 6th edition of the book where useful reviews are to be found: Who Rules America? Challenges to Corporate and Class Dominancel am posting an image from the author that shows how the social, corporate, and "hired hand" elite (for the latter, think tanks and

politicians) intersect, with the 1% shown in the center (I added that bit). Democracy is hard. Responsibility in democracy cannot be delegated or integrity is lost. When I and the author speak of integrity we are talking about accountability, the assurance of diversity in all councils, feedback loops, and the recognition of true costs of any decision. When the public delegates its responsibility for self-government, democracy is quickly lost. For other books that support this one, which can be considered "the original" in modern history (Toqueville's *Democracy in America* (Penguin Classics) is THE original), see my easily found list of my reviews on this topic and its anti-thesis corruption, by searching for: [Worth a Look: Book Reviews on Democracy Lost & Found](#) [Worth a Look: Book Reviews on Corruption 2.0](#) For anyone wanting more than is available from Inside the Book, or seeking a summary of the book, there is no better summary available than that provided by the author himself on a very powerful web site of his own, search online for: [The Class-Domination Theory of Power](#) by G. William Domhoff For myself, this book is both a celebration of what Political Science can offer (see also the books listed below within my ten link limit), and also an indictment of the discipline of Political Science. I am in the process of thinking about how to change the discipline to answer these three WHAT IF questions: WHAT IF Political Science were to make the evolving craft of intelligence (decision-support) its central focus, such that a new norm is established in which politics is evaluated in relation to its ability to engage in deep multi-cultural history and holistic analytics that are public in nature and inclusive of all eight tribes of public hybrid governance (academic, civil society, commerce, government, law enforcement, media, military, non-government/non-profit)? WHAT IF Political Science actually became a science by embracing Whole Systems True Cost Economics as a foundational multi-disciplinary science with data indexed geospatially and in time; thus creating a more grounded landscape of financial, social, and ecological opportunity and threat -- a basis for being a normative discipline. WHAT IF Political Science recognized that in the Age of Information no discipline can be credible without the ability to collect, process, analyze, and share information affordably, inter-operably, and universally, which is to say, in an Open Source Everything fashion? The author, in his summary at the end of the book, *The Weaknesses of the Working Class*, says: QUOTE: There are many democratic countries where the working class -- defined as all those white-collar and blue-collar workers who earn a salary or a wage -- has more power than it does in the United States. This power is achieved primarily through labor unions and political parties. It is reflected in more egalitarian wealth and income distributions, a more equitable tax structure, better public health services, subsidized housing, and higher old-age and unemployment benefits. ALL IS NOT LOST. The USA is in a pre-revolutionary condition (see my second image posted above, based on my 1976 first graduate thesis), but the 1% have successfully

fragmented the 99% and own law enforcement -- witness over 7,000 Occupy protesters arrested, and no major bankers from Goldman Sachs, Morgan, Citi-Bank, or Bank of America, among others. For the explanation, Matt Taibbi's *Griftopia: A Story of Bankers, Politicians, and the Most Audacious Power Grab in American History* remains the best, and so important that I offer one quote from Taibbi here (see my summary review at [for much more detail](#)): QUOTE (32): What has taken place over the last generation is a highly complicated merger of crime and policy, of stealing and government. Far from taking care of the rest of us, the financial leaders of America and their political servants have seemingly reached the cynical conclusion that our society is not work saving and have taken on a new mission that involved not creating wealth for us all, but simply absconding with whatever wealth remains in our hollowed out economy. They don't feed us, we feed them. Political Science needs to merge with Liberation Theology and True Cost Economics, rooted in Open Source Everything as a means of enabling public information-sharing and sense-making. That is my view. The author's book, first published in 1967 and totally updated in this new edition, remains "REF A" for where we are, still today, for lack of a normative discipline of Political Science, and a public that is good-hearted but morally and intellectually pathetic. See Also: American Ruling Class Deer Hunting with Jesus: Dispatches from America's Class War The Global Class War: How America's Bipartisan Elite Lost Our Future - and What It Will Take to Win It Back State of the Unions: How Labor Can Strengthen the Middle Class, Improve Our Economy, and Regain Political Influence Left Hand of God, The: Healing America's Political and Spiritual Crisis The People's Advocate: The Life and Legal History of America's Most Fearless Public Interest Lawyer How America Was Lost: From 9/11 to the Police/Warfare State Best wishes to all, Robert David STEELE Vivas THE OPEN SOURCE EVERYTHING MANIFESTO: Transparency, Truth, & Trust

This book was a great read as it lays out clearly the organizational structure that people with money and wealth have put together to manage and control politicians, regulators and educators (mostly with their consent). This is a great read for people that get carried away by conspiracy theories. The combination of foundations, think tanks, and political candidate selection ensures the wealthy maintain control over those in positions of power and use it to their benefit. So once you know this you either work to change it or join the system, or both. But it makes no sense to complain that a few people have too much money and it's because it's a conspiracy

I first read this book way back in 1967. That edition was a best seller, and required reading in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. Domhoff is not the only person who has written

about the domination of America's elite, and how they work, play and intermarry, but his use of statistics buttresses his arguments. Several readers said the book was hard to read. Well, it's aimed at smart people who can understand subtlety and the use of statistics. This isn't some hack screed from one of our nation's punditry outlets but an attempt (successful) to have a serious discussion about the issue. A similar attempt has been made in this Princeton book.

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=9354310>

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