# Bipbas Reakup Talian Olitics He Illionaires Ffair Eries

Billionaires and Stealth PoliticsThe ArgumentBillionaires in World PoliticsBillionaires in World PoliticsAmerican BillionairesDark MoneyHolding It TogetherNation on the TakeAmerican Billionaires: Privilege, Politics and PowerThe Monarch BillionaireThe Essential Bernie Sanders and His Vision for AmericaBillionaire

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Bai Peter Hägel Peter Hägel The New York Times Editorial Staff Jane Mayer Jessica Calarco Wendell Potter The New York Times Editorial Morrison Isaac Swift

Jonathan Tasini George Tyler Renee Shea Lindsay Mark Lewis

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in 2016 when millions of americans voted for donald trump many believed his claims that personal wealth would free him from wealthy donors and allow him to drain the swamp but then trump appointed several billionaires and multimillionaires to high level positions and pursued billionaire friendly policies such as cutting corporate income taxes why the change from his fiery campaign rhetoric and promises to the working class this should not be surprising argue benjamin i page jason seawright and matthew j lacombe as the gap between the wealthiest and the rest of us has widened the few who hold one billion dollars or more in net worth have begun to play

a more and more active part in politics with serious consequences for democracy in the united states page seawright and lacombe argue that while political contributions offer a window onto billionaires influence especially on economic policy they do not present a full picture of policy preferences and political actions that is because on some of the most important issues including taxation immigration and social security billionaires have chosen to engage in stealth politics they try hard to influence public policy making large contributions to political parties and policy focused causes leading policy advocacy organizations holding political fundraisers and bundling others contributions all while rarely talking about public policy to the media this means that their influence is not only unequal but also largely unaccountable to and unchallengeable by the american people stealth politics makes it difficult for ordinary citizens to know what billionaires are doing or mobilize against it the book closes with remedies citizens can pursue if they wish to make wealthy americans more politically accountable such as public financing of political campaigns and easier voting procedures and notes the broader types of reforms such as a more progressive income tax system that would be needed to increase political equality and reinvigorate majoritarian democracy in the united states

while pundits obsess over who s up and who s down on capitol hill the real action in democratic politics is happening among the grass roots where an emerging progressive movement the first popular movement of the internet age is seizing power from the party s weakened washington establishment bai gets deep inside this movement penetrating a secret club of wealthy donors and following a group of other progressive power brokers howard dean the blogger markos moulitsas the union chief andy stern the leaders of moveon org as they vie with party leaders for control of a vastly changed democratic landscape what does it mean to be a democrat seventy five years after the new deal in a society transformed by the suburb the internet and the mutual fund book jacket

billionaires in world politics shows how the privatization of politics assumes a new dimension when billionaires wield power in world politics which requires a re thinking of individual agency in international relations structural changes globalization neoliberalism competition states and global governance have generated new opportunities for individuals to become extremely rich and to engage in politics across borders the political agency of billionaires is being conceptualized in terms of capacities goals and power which is contingent upon the specific political field a billionaire is trying to enter six case studies explore the power of billionaires in their pursuit of security wealth and esteem the chapter on security analyzes raj rajaratnam s relationship to the tamil cause in sri lanka and sheldon adelson s transnational electioneering in the israel palestine conflict regarding the economy the book studies how the koch brothers political protection of fossil fuels is affecting climate change mitigation and how rupert murdoch s opinion shaping is valorizing conservatism across borders the chapter on social entrepreneurship and esteem examines

the role of bill gates in the governance of global health and george soros s attempts to build open societies as a stateless statesman an analytical conclusion evaluates the prior findings in order to address three major questions is it more appropriate to see billionaires as super actors or as a global super class what is the relative power of billionaires within the international system what does the power of billionaires mean for the liberal norms of legitimate political order

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according to forbes magazine there are more than 500 billionaires in the united states ranging from tech moguls to hedge fund managers and ceos this collection of articles profiles the lives and influence of some of america s best known billionaires including jeff bezos oprah winfrey warren buffett the koch brothers the devos family and robert mercer readers explore the powers afforded to those who have accumulated vast amounts of wealth and investigate how these men and women seek to use their platforms to buy influence sway politics and advance personal causes charitable and otherwise media literacy questions and terms will challenge readers to assess how journalistic principles are applied to news coverage of the incredibly wealthy few

national bestseller one of the new york times 10 best books of the year who are the immensely wealthy right wing ideologues shaping the fate of america today from the bestselling author of the dark side an electrifying work of investigative journalism that uncovers the agenda of this powerful group in her new preface jane mayer

discusses the results of the most recent election and donald trump s victory and how despite much discussion to the contrary this was a huge victory for the billionaires who have been pouring money in the american political system why is america living in an age of profound and widening economic inequality why have even modest attempts to address climate change been defeated again and again why do hedge fund billionaires pay a far lower tax rate than middle class workers in a riveting and indelible feat of reporting jane mayer illuminates the history of an elite cadre of plutocrats headed by the kochs the scaifes the olins and the bradleys who have bankrolled a systematic plan to fundamentally alter the american political system mayer traces a byzantine trail of billions of dollars spent by the network revealing a staggering conglomeration of think tanks academic institutions media groups courthouses and government allies that have fallen under their sphere of influence drawing from hundreds of exclusive interviews as well as extensive scrutiny of public records private papers and court proceedings mayer provides vivid portraits of the secretive figures behind the new american oligarchy and a searing look at the carefully concealed agendas steering the nation dark money is an essential book for anyone who cares about the future of american democracy national book critics circle award finalist la times book prize finalist pen jean stein book award finalist shortlisted for the lukas prize

other countries have social safety nets the u s has women holding it together chronicles the causes and dire consequences america runs on women women who are tasked with holding society together at the seams and fixing it when things fall apart in this tour de force acclaimed sociologist jessica calarco lays bare the devastating consequences of our status quo holding it together draws on five years of research in which calarco surveyed over 4000 parents and conducted more than 400 hours of interviews with women who bear the brunt of our broken system a widowed single mother struggles to patch together meager public benefits while working three jobs an aunt is pushed into caring for her niece and nephew at age fifteen once their family is shattered by the opioid epidemic a daughter becomes the backstop caregiver for her mother her husband and her child because of the perceived flexibility of her job a well to do couple grapples with the moral dilemma of leaning on overworked underpaid childcare providers to achieve their egalitarian ideals stories of grief and guilt abound yet they are more than individual tragedies tracing present day policies back to their roots calarco reveals a systematic agreement to dismantle our country's social safety net and persuade citizens to accept precarity while women bear the brunt she leads us to see women's labor as the reason we ve gone so long without the support systems that our peer nations take for granted and how women's work maintains the illusion that we don't need a net weaving eye opening original research with revelatory sociological narrative holding it together is a bold call to demand the institutional change that each of us deserves and a warning about the perils of living without it

a rallying cry to bring government back under the control of the people their argument is impassioned and accessible library journal american democracy has become coin operated special interest groups increasingly control every level of government the necessity of raising huge sums of campaign cash has completely changed the character of politics and policy making determining what elected representatives stand for and how their time is spent the marriage of great wealth and intense political influence has rendered our country unable to address our most pressing problems from runaway government spending to climate change to the wealth gap it also defines our daily lives from the cars we drive to the air we breathe to the debt we owe in this powerful work of reportage wendell potter and nick penniman two vigilant watchdogs expose legalized corruption and link it to the kitchen table issues citizens face every day inciting our outrage the authors then inspire us by introducing us to an army of reformers laying the groundwork for change ready to be called into action the battle plan for reform presented is practical realistic and concrete no one except some lobbyists and major political donors likes business as usual and this book aims to help forge a new army of reformers who are compelled by a patriotic duty to fight for a better democracy an impassioned infuriating yet ultimately hopeful call to arms nation on the take lays bare the reach of moneyed interests and charts a way forward toward the recovery of america s original promise

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in this short accessible book author jonathan tasini draws heavily from sanders ample public record of speeches statements and interviews and couples his working class spirit with specific legislation he has championed on a number of core proposals that comprise a broader people s agenda for america publisher s description

this isn t your america no matter who the president is we re told that when we vote when we elect representatives we re gaining a voice in government and the policies it implements but if that s true why don t american politics actually translate our preferences into higher living standards for the majority of us the answer is that in america the wealthy few have built a system that works in their favor while maintaining the illusion of democracy the reality is that the quality of democracy in

the united states is lower than in any other rich democracy on a par with nations such as brazil or turkey in the us voters have little influence on eventual policy outcomes engineered by lawmakers political scientists call it the income bias and attribute it to the power of wealthy donors who favor wage suppression and cuts to important government programs such as public education and consumer protection it causes american lawmakers to compete to satisfy preferences of donors from the top one percent instead of the middle class it s also why our economy has been misfiring for most americans for a generation wages stagnating and opportunity dwindling the election of donald trump shocked the world but for many americans it came as a stark reflection of mounting frustrations with our current system and anger at the status quo we need to find a way to fix the way our government serves us the only realistic pathway to improve middle class economics is for congress and the supreme court to raise the quality of american democracy in billionaire democracy the hijacking of the american political system economist george r tyler lays out the fundamental problems plaguing our democracy he explains how the american democratic system is rigged and how it has eroded the middle class providing an unflinching and honest comparison of the us government to peer democracies abroad he also breaks down where we fall short and how other rich democracies avoid the income bias created by the overwhelming role of money in us politics finally tyler outlines practical campaign finance reforms we can adopt when we finally focus on improving the political responsiveness of our government it s time for the people of this nation to demand a government that properly serves us the american people

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when bill clinton defeated george h w bush in 1992 their campaigns spent a total of 192 million combined in 2012 barack obama and mitt romney spent over 7 billion including outside funding from superpacs nearly 37 times more than just 20 years earlier all that money didn t appear out of thin air in political mercenaries lindsay mark lewis tells the outrageous tale of the fledgling days of fundraising and how he raised over 200 million for the democratic party its candidates and its causes over a fifteen year career sure to raise the eyebrows of everyone from ordinary citizens to citizens united he pulls back the veil of secrecy that has shrouded the relationships between politicians and their financial backers in this thought provoking and laugh out loud insider account the outrageous lewis starts off as a wide eyed 22 year old who thinks raising political money is a means to an end helping democrats win lewis tactics aren t for the faint of heart along the way he launders 40 000 from an allegedly murdered casino mogul smuggles marijuana and passes an elvis impersonator off as bill clinton but he becomes increasingly conflicted as he continues to sell access to politicians in exchange for ever larger checks and a loss of control over the party s priorities lewis eventually rises to his party s top

fundraising post at the democratic national committee and attempts to redeem himself by waging an ultimately losing battle against the party s elite billionaire donors who force him out contrary to conventional wisdom lewis and co author jim arkedis conclude that the real damage isn t the raw amount of money spent on elections but rather the amount of time politicians spend raising it it s time they should spend governing and lewis lays much of that blame at the feet of the democratic party who sold out not to corporate or lobbying interests but to a very few liberal wealthy elites

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