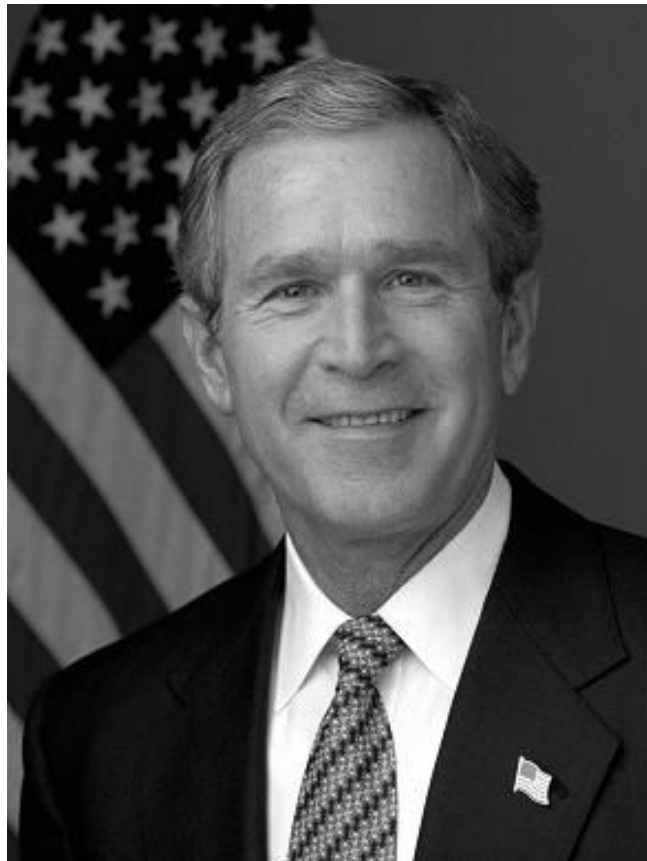


George W. Bush

Waist Deep in the Euphrates
Forty-Third, 2001-?



Nicknames: "Dubya", "Bush II", "Bush the Younger", "Bush 43", "Incurious George", "The Commander Guy", "Resident Bush", "Bushtail", "The Bombastic Bushkin", "Lip", "Tweeds Bush", "Temporary"

Birth: July 6th, 1946, New Haven, Connecticut

Death: Still living as of the time of writing

Significant Events During Bush's Terms: Disputed 2000 Election ... "9/11" ... Anthrax ... Enron ... Iraq War ... Another Close Election (2004) ... Hurricane Katrina ... Iraq Situation Deteriorates

Quotes: *"I went to school with George. In fact, I knew him quite well, both through athletics, socializing, joint classes, and particularly as my immediate lab partner in a freshman science class. The fact that he is tantalizingly close to becoming the most powerful and important person in the world is both astonishing and terrifying...He was intellectually lazy, not particularly interested in anything serious, rather arrogant, contemptuous of studying, and purposeless. To think that someone so "average" could be leading this nation is a scary proposition."* -- Dick Herman

"I do know I'm ready for the job. And, if not, that's just the way it goes." -- George W. Bush

"He was born on third base and thinks he hit a triple."

-- attributed to both former Governor of Texas Ann Richards and Jim Hightower

"We may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's Presidential election, [but] the identity of the loser is perfectly clear. It is the Nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the rule of law." -- Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer

"And the king began to answer them harshly. Thus King Rehoboam left the counsel of the older men, and he went on to speak to them according to the counsel of the young men, saying: 'I shall make your yoke heavier, and I, for my part, shall add to it. My father, for his part, chastised you with whips, but I, for my part, with scourges.' And the king did not listen to the people." -- 2 Chronicles 10:13-15a

"[Our enemies] never stop thinking about new ways to harm our country and our people and neither do we." -- George W. Bush

"Rarely is the question asked: Is our children learning?" -- George W. Bush

"I think if you know what you believe, it makes it a lot easier to answer questions. I can't answer your question." -- George W. Bush

"I'm the Decider." -- George W. Bush

"I think as far as the adverse impact on the nation around the world, this administration has been the worst in history." -- Jimmy Carter, 2007, speaking of the Bush administration

"Having been attacked by Al Qaeda, for us now to go bombing Iraq in response would be like our invading Mexico after the Japanese attacked at Pearl Harbor." -- Richard Clarke

"You know, one of the hardest parts of my job is to connect Iraq to the war on terror."

-- George W. Bush

"The liberties of the people never were nor ever will be secure when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them." -- Patrick Henry

"After each perceived security crisis ended, the United States has remorsefully realized that the abrogation of civil liberties was unnecessary. But it has proven unable to prevent itself from repeating the error when the next crisis came along." -- Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan, Jr.

"If this were a dictatorship, it'd be a heck of a lot easier, just so long as I'm the dictator."

-- George W. Bush

"I fixed the election in Florida for George Bush." -- James Baker III

"Mr. Bush's relationship to the environment is roughly that of a doctor to a patient – when the doctor's name is Kevorkian." -- New York Times columnist Bob Herbert

"If you believe in a rational universe, in enlightenment, in knowledge, and in a search for the truth, this White House is an absolute disaster." -- Scientist Michael Oppenheimer

"With the Bush administration, whether or not environmental laws are enforced depends on who you know. If you've got a good lobbyist, you can just buy your way out of trouble."

-- Eric Schaeffer, Chief Enforcement Officer, EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)

"I've been regulating mining since 1966, and this is the most lawless administration I've encountered. They have no regard for protecting miners or the people in mining communities. They are without scruples. I know that Massey Energy influenced Bush appointees to alter the outcome of our report! The corruption and lawlessness goes right to the top."

-- Jack Spadaro, superintendent of the Mine Health and Safety Academy

"There was a time in South Africa that people would put flaming tires around people's necks if they dissented. And in some ways the fear is that you will be necklaced here [in America], you will have a flaming tire of lack of patriotism put around your neck. Now it is that fear that keeps journalists from asking the toughest of the tough questions." -- Dan Rather

"To make a contented slave it is necessary to make a thoughtless one. It is necessary to darken the moral and mental vision and, as far as possible, to annihilate the power of reason."

-- Frederick Douglass

"It is always a simple matter to drag the people along, whether it is a democracy, or a fascist dictatorship, or a parliament, or a communist dictatorship. Voice or no voice, the people can always be brought to the bidding of the leaders. That is easy. All you have to do is tell them they are being attacked, and denounce the peacemakers for lack of patriotism and exposing the country to danger. It works the same in any country." -- Hermann Goering

"The issue of peace and people dying for no reason is not a matter of 'right or left', but 'right and wrong'." -- Cindy Sheehan

"Do not fight for a dying regime. It is not worth your life." -- George W. Bush, to the Iraqis

How his term will end: That remains to be seen: Bush could attempt to roll back the twenty-second amendment (limiting Presidents to two full terms), and arrange for himself to "win" yet another election; He could take advantage of a terrorist attack in the latter half of 2008 to suspend the Presidential election, and perhaps declare martial law to boot; He could

be assassinated; He could perish from some illness while still in office; Or (the most likely scenario), he will simply ride off into the sunset at the end of his two terms, to be replaced by someone with more or less the same agenda, sponsored by pretty much the same backers.

Other Professions: Soldier, Businessman (Oil), Baseball Executive (Owner of the Texas Rangers)

Worst Mistakes: Bush appears to have lied regarding Saddam Hussein/Iraq having WMDs (Weapons of Mass Destruction), and that Hussein had ties to Al Qaeda. In actuality, bin Laden abhorred Hussein, whom he considered an infidel.

In the wake of 9/11, Bush also bombed Afghanistan, killing many civilians in the process.

Bush has led the Congress and the American people—and the world—to believe many other “stretchers,” to put it euphemistically. In his book “Worse than Watergate: The Secret Presidency of George W. Bush,” John Dean enumerates these in detail, particularly in chapter 5, “Hidden Agenda.” Dean also presents a litany of lies, refuted point-by-point, in Appendix I of his screed. In fact, Dean goes so far as to say, “Sadly, one could literally fill a fair-size book with nothing but Bush and Cheney's false statements about Saddam's purported nuclear capabilities and ties to al Qaeda.”

Perhaps Bush was not really lying; perhaps he himself had been misled by his marionettes, who masquerade as his underlings. At any rate, Bush was either lying or incompetent, believing cooked (falsified) intelligence.

Bush, Rutherford Hayes-like (#19), seems to have stolen the 2000 election from Al Gore and the 2004 election from John Kerry. See the Notes section below for more on this.

Bush has rolled back hundreds of environmental laws. Additionally, he has reduced EPA funding to such an extent that they are no longer able to clean up many Superfund sites. “Mountaintop Removal,” the strip-mining of coal in Appalachia and elsewhere, has also reached new lows during his administration.

Saving Grace: Mr. Bush stays in good physical shape by means of regular exercise.

Notes: Bush dated Tricia Nixon during the time her father Richard (#37) was President.

The 2000 election came down to Florida, where Jeb Bush (George W.'s brother) was Governor. Then during a recount in that state, Katherine Harris, a Republican functionary, declared Bush the winner in Florida. The U.S. Supreme Court decided to disallow further recounting, even though there were anomalies as respects who was allowed to vote and who was not, and also with the ballots themselves (anybody remember the terms “dimpled chads” and “butterfly ballots”?).

Questions persist regarding whether Bush was legitimately elected. How Bush wrangled his

way into office smells as fishy as the back room shenanigans in 1876 that put Rutherford B. Hayes (#19) in the White House, and reeks of the sort of dirty tricks (voting anomalies) that would have made Nixon (#37) either proud or envious.

In Florida in 2000, many African-Americans voters were prevented from casting ballots; more often than not, this segment votes Democratic. Similarly, “spoilage” (votes thrown out due to some problem with the ballots or the voting machines) overwhelmingly took place in precincts where the majority of the voters belonged to this demographic.

As to Bush's “victory” in 2004, some cynics saw it coming well in advance — if “W” could, with the help of his powerful friends and relatives, finagle his way into the White House in 2000 from the *outside*, they thought, what deals would he be able to pull off to rig the results from the *inside*?

Ph.D. Dennis Loo, of Cal Poly Pomona, wrote an article entitled “No Paper Trail Left Behind: The Theft of the 2004 Presidential Election” about the mighty odd and suspicious anomalies in that 2004 election. The article in its entirety can be read on the Internet:
http://www.projectcensored.org/newsflash/voter_fraud.html

In a nutshell, Loo’s article presents a panoply of points that cast doubts on the authenticity of the official election results. Among the questions Loo raises are:

- 1) How was it that Bush was able to obtain more votes in Florida than there are registered Republican voters in 60 of 67 counties — and in fact 200% in fifteen of those counties, and 300% in four?
- 2) In contrast with the above, how did it come about that voter participation was as low as 8% in many Democratic strongholds in the key states of Ohio and Florida?
- 3) Why was it that Bush, in the Florida precincts that used electronic voting machines, received 260,000 more votes than past voting patterns would indicate he should have gotten, while prior voting patterns held steady in the precincts that used optical scanners to record the votes?

As to this last question, it is quite interesting that computer programmer Clinton Curtis (a life-long Republican) testified that his employers asked him to create a computer program that could undetectably alter vote totals. Specifically, they told him, “This program is needed to control the vote in south Florida.”

Similarly, there is the case of electronic voting machine manufacturer Diebold, whose CEO Walden O’Dell promised GOP fund raisers in a 2003 letter that he was “committed to helping Ohio to deliver its electoral votes to the President next year.” Diebold is one of three major suppliers of electronic voting machines that were used in Ohio in 2004.

Loo’s conclusion: “A plethora of reasons clearly exists to conclude that widespread and historic levels of fraud were committed in this election.”

So why didn't the Democratic party raise a bigger stink about this? Dr. Loo’s opinion:

The Democrats, rather than vigorously pursuing these patently obvious signs of election fraud in 2004, have nearly all decided that being gracious losers is better than being winners, probably because – and this may be the most important reason for the Democrat's relative silence – a full-scale uncovering of the fraud runs the risk of mobilizing and unleashing popular forces that the Democrats find just as threatening as the GOP does...To all of those who said before the 2004 elections that this was the most important election in our lifetimes; to all of those who plunged into that election hoping and believing that we could throw the villains out via the electoral booth; to all of those who held their noses and voted for Democrats thinking that at least they were slightly better than the theocratic fascists running this country now, this must be said: VOTING REALLY DOESN'T MATTER. If we weren't convinced of that before these last elections, then now is the time to wake up to that fact. Even beyond the fraudulent elections of 2000 and 2004, public policies are not now, nor have they ever been, settled through elections.

For even more details on the “sleight of hand” used by Bush's network of cronies and co-conspirators to undermine the democratic process in both 2000 and 2004, see Greg Palast's books “The Best Democracy Money Can Buy” and “Armed Madhouse.”

The number of scandals among Bush's Cabinet and other sycophants makes his administration appear to be at least as crooked as that of U.S. Grant (#18) and Warren Harding (#29).

James Watt, Reagan's (#40) Secretary of the Interior, believed in “dominion theology,” a misapplication of the Biblical injunction calling for man to “subdue” nature. Watt, seemingly quite a dim bulb, explained his anti-conservation pillaging of the land by saying, “I do not know how many future generations we can count on before the Lord returns.” Watt was apparently operating under the delusion that at that time the earth would no longer be needed.

If Bush's thinking mirrors Watt's, it would help explain his apathy towards the environment. And if that is the explanation for his uncaring attitude towards the planet, Bush is not only a very dangerous man, but also dead wrong. Any self-styled religious zealot who believes that the earth can be destroyed with impunity because it was only meant for temporary use is greatly mistaken. The Bible does not teach that. The Bible teaches that the earth will remain and be inhabited by man forever. Psalm 37:29 states: “The righteous themselves will possess *the earth*, And they will reside *forever* upon it” (italics mine). The Bible also teaches that those who ruin the earth will themselves be destroyed -- Revelation 11:18 promises that God will “bring to ruin those ruining the earth.” So the pseudo-Christian radicals who dismiss those who endeavor to conserve the earth by deriding them as tree huggers, cranks, and kooks are dead wrong. They are not only acting in direct opposition to what is right and just, but also to what would be to their own benefit.

Cynically or disingenuously, though, Bush's team de-fang environmental laws and then give their replacement policies environmentally-friendly sounding monikers like “Healthy Forests,” “Clear Skies,” and “Wise Use.” But, as Abraham Lincoln said, calling a tail a leg doesn't make it a leg.

Theodore Roosevelt's (#26) attitude about the environment was much sounder than Bush's. Roosevelt once said: "The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value."

I cannot put it more eloquently than did Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., in his book "Crimes Against Nature: How George W. Bush and His Corporate Pals Are Plundering the Country and Hijacking Our Democracy" when he wrote:

The President and his cronies have taken the conserve out of conservative. Instead of rugged individualism, they've created a clubhouse that dispenses no-bid contracts to Halliburton. They talk about law and order while encouraging corporate polluters to violate the law. They proclaim free markets while advocating corporate welfare. They claim to love democracy while undermining open government. They applaud state rights and local control, but they are the first to tear up local zoning laws and bully states into lowering environmental standards to make way for corporate profit taking. They exalt property rights, but only when it's the right of a property owner to use his property to pollute or destroy someone else's. Where are these property rights advocates when big coal is demolishing homes in Appalachia, when coal-bed methane barons are destroying Wyoming ranches, when the hog barons are defiling property in North Carolina?

--and:

Instead of inspiring us with invocations for courage, community, and sacrifice, President Bush's campaign strategy revolves around fear-mongering and appeals to selfishness – Karl Rove's two t's: taxes and terrorists. Instead of can-do American ingenuity, this is the administration of "can't do." It has constructed a philosophy of government based on self-interest run riot: It has borrowed \$9 trillion from our children and looted our Treasury, poisoned our water and air, destroyed our public lands, and sacrificed our health – all to enrich the wealthy few.

Bush Jr. has the same relatives as his father (#41), of course.