

# I. CONQUEST / POLITICS

## INVASIONS

### 1945 - present

- \* 2003 invasion of Iraq by a “coalition” led by the United States
- \* 2001 invasion of Afghanistan by the United States and allies
- \* 1994 invasion of Haiti by a “multinational force” (MNF) led by the United States
- \* 1991 invasion of Kuwait by a “coalition force of 34 nations” led by the United States
- \* 1990 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq
- \* 1989 invasion of Panama by the United States
- \* 1983 invasion of Grenada by the United States and “allied Caribbean nations”
- \* 1982 invasion of Lebanon by Israel.
- \* 1982 invasion of Falkland Islands by the United Kingdom
- \* 1982 invasion of Falkland Islands initially by Argentine civilians, followed by official Argentina forces
- \* 1979 invasion of Vietnam by China
- \* 1979 invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union
- \* 1978 invasion of Lebanon by Israel.
- \* 1978 invasion of Cambodia by Vietnam
- \* 1978 invasion of Sealand (micronation located on Roughs Tower) initially by German and Dutch civilians and then by former “head of state” and other civilians
- \* 1975 invasion of East Timor by Indonesia
- \* 1974 invasion of Northern Cyprus by Turkey
- \* 1973 Invasion of Israel by Egypt Syria and other Arab allies
- \* 1971 invasion of East Pakistan by India
- \* 1968 invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Warsaw Pact
- \* 1967 invasion of Syria by Israel
- \* 1967 invasion of Jordan by Israel
- \* 1967 invasion of Israel by Jordan and Syria
- \* 1967 invasion of Egypt by Israel
- \* 1961 invasion of Goa by India
- \* 1961 failed invasion of Cuba by Cuban allies of the United States, particularly its CIA
- \* 1956 invasion of Hungary by the Soviet Union
- \* 1956 invasion of Egypt by France, United Kingdom and Israel
- \* 1950 invasion of Tibet by China
- \* 1948 invasion of Lebanon and Egypt by Israeli forces
- \* 1948 invasion of Israel by Lebanese, Syrian, Iraqi, Egyptian, Transjordanian and other forces
- \* 1945 invasion of Vietnam by France, with British and Indian

### World War II (1939-1945)

- \* 1945 invasion of Hong Kong by Britain
- \* 1945 invasion of Japanese-controlled Northeast China and Korea by the Soviet Union
- \* 1945 invasion of Burma by Allied forces

- \* 1945 invasion of Okinawa by the United States
- \* 1945 invasion of Poland, Austria and Eastern Germany by the Soviet Union
- \* 1944 invasion of Western Germany by Allied forces
- \* 1944 invasion of Bulgaria, Yugoslavia by the Soviet Union
- \* 1944 invasion of Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Greece, the Philippines, Albania by Allied forces
- \* 1944 invasion of Guam by the United States
- \* 1944 Invasion of Southern France by the United States and Britain
- \* 1944 invasion of Normandy, France by the United States, Britain and Canada
- \* 1944 invasion of Hungary by Germany
- \* 1943 invasion of Italy by the United States and Britain
- \* 1943 invasion of Italy (Sicily) by Britain, the United States and Canada
- \* 1942 invasion of North Africa by the United States and Britain
- \* 1942 invasion of Vichy France by Germany
- \* 1942 invasion of Indonesia by Japan
- \* 1941 invasion of Solomon Islands by the United States
- \* 1941 invasion of Guam, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Singapore by Japan
- \* 1941 invasion of Malaya, Borneo and Hong Kong by Japan
- \* 1941 invasion of the Soviet Union by Germany
- \* 1941 invasion of Iraq and Syria by Britain
- \* 1941 invasion of Greenland and Iceland by the United States
- \* 1941 invasion of Yugoslavia by Germany, Hungary and Italy
- \* 1941 invasion of Portuguese Timor by Australian and Dutch forces
- \* 1940 invasion of Albania by Greece
- \* 1940 invasion of British Somaliland, Egypt, Greece by Italy
- \* 1940 invasion of Iceland by Britain
- \* 1940 invasion of Denmark, Norway, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Channel Islands and Romania by Germany
- \* 1939 invasion of Finland by the Soviet Union
- \* 1939 invasion of Poland by Germany and the Soviet Union initiating World War II in Europe

## **1919 - 1939**

- \* 1939 invasion of Albania by Italy
- \* 1938-1939 invasion of Czechoslovakia by Germany and Hungary
- \* 1937 invasion of China by Japan
- \* 1935-1936 invasion of Ethiopia by Italy
- \* 1931 invasion of Chinese Manchuria by Japan
- \* 1922 invasion of Smyrna by Turkey
- \* 1921 invasion of Anatolia by Turkey
- \* 1920 invasion of Anatolia by Greece
- \* 1920 invasion of Poland by Russia
- \* 1919 invasion of Smyrna by Greece
- \* 1919 invasion of Ukraine and Belarus by Bolshevist Russia and Poland

## **World War I (1914 - 1918)**

- \* 1916 invasion of Romania by Germany
- \* 1915 invasion of Russia by Germany and Austro-Hungary

- \* 1915 invasion of Ottoman Empire by Britain and Russia
- \* 1914 invasion of Austro-Hungary by Russia
- \* 1914 invasion of Germany by Russia
- \* 1914 invasion of France by Germany
- \* 1914 invasion of Luxemburg and Belgium by Germany
- \* 1914 invasion of Caroline Islands and Marshall Islands by Japan
- \* 1914 invasion of New Guinea by Australia
- \* 1914 invasion of Samoa by New Zealand
- \* 1914 invasion of Serbia by Austro-Hungary
- \* 1914 invasion of South Africa by Germany
- \* 1914 invasion of Togoland by France and Britain

## 1700 - 1915

- \* 1915 invasion of Haiti by the United States
- \* 1912 invasion of Albania by Greece, Serbia, and Montenegro
- \* 1912 invasion of Macedonia by the Balkan League (Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, Bulgaria)
- \* 1912 invasion of Macedonia by Albania
- \* 1911 invasion of Libya by Italy
- \* 1910 invasion of Tibet by China
- \* 1904 invasion of Tibet by British-Indian army
- \* 1900 invasion of China by the Eight-Nation Alliance
- \* 1898 invasion of the Philippines by the United States
- \* 1898 invasion of Puerto Rico by the United States
- \* 1898 invasion of Cuba by the United States
- \* 1895-1896 invasion of Ethiopia by Italy
- \* 1893 Invasion of Hawaii by the United States
- \* 1862-1867 Invasion of Mexico by France
- \* 1858 invasion of Vietnam by France
- \* 1856 invasion of China by French-British Alliance
- \* 1846 invasion of Mexico by United States
- \* 1830 invasion of Algeria by France
- \* 1814 invasion of the United States by Britain
- \* 1812 invasion of Canada by the United States
- \* 1812 invasion of Russia by France
- \* 1805 invasion of Bavaria by Austria
- \* 1798 invasion of Malta by France
- \* 1798 invasion of Egypt by France
- \* 1795 invasion of Bavaria by France
- \* 1788 invasion of Nepal by China
- \* 1783 invasion of the Netherlands by England
- \* 1775 invasion of Canada by the United States
- \* 1775 invasion of the United States by Britain
- \* 1757 invasion of Bohemia by Prussia
- \* 1756 invasion of Saxony by Prussia
- \* 1745 invasion of Scotland by England
- \* 1745 invasion of England by Scotland
- \* 1720 invasion of Tibet by China

**1300 - 1699**

- \* 1688 invasion of England by the Netherlands
- \* 1693 invasion of Mongolia by China
- \* 1683 invasion of Formosa by China
- \* 1672 invasion of the Netherlands by England
- \* 1655 invasion of western Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth by Sweden
- \* 1654 invasion of eastern Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth by Russia
- \* 1650 invasion of Scotland by England
- \* 1644 invasion of China by Manchu tribes
- \* 1609 invasion of Russia by the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth
- \* 1594 invasion of Cambodia by Siam
- \* 1592–1598 invasion of Korea by Japan
- \* 1515 invasion of Italy by France
- \* 1499 invasion of Italy by France
- \* 1421 invasion of Egypt by the Kingdom of Cyprus
- \* 1407 invasion of Vietnam by China

**1200 - 1299**

- \* 1297 invasion of Monaco by an Italian army
- \* 1296 invasion of Scotland by England
- \* 1291 invasion of Acre by the Mamluks
- \* 1268 invasion of Antioch by the Mamluks
- \* 1246 invasion of Thessaloniki by the Byzantine Empire
- \* 1224 invasion of the Kingdom of Thessaloniki by the Byzantine Despotate of Epirus
- \* 1204 invasion of Thessaloniki by the Fourth Crusade
- \* 1204 invasion of Constantinople by Venice and the Fourth Crusade
- \* 1203 invasion of Constantinople by Venice and the Fourth Crusade
- \* 1202 invasion of Hungary-Croatia by Venice and the Fourth Crusade

**Mongol invasions**

- \* 1293 invasion of Java by Mongols
- \* 1283, 1285, 1287 invasions of Vietnam by Mongols
- \* 1281 invasion of Syria by Mongols
- \* 1279 invasions of Southern China by Mongols
- \* 1274, 1281 invasions of Japan by Mongols
- \* 1251–1259 invasion of Persia, Syria and Mesopotamia by Mongols (Timour)
- \* 1258 invasion of Baghdad by Mongols
- \* 1244 invasion of Anatolia by Mongols
- \* 1241 invasion of Austria by Mongols
- \* 1240 invasion of Ukraine, Poland, Hungary by Mongols
- \* 1237-1238 invasion of Russia by Mongols
- \* 1220-1224 invasion of Georgians and the Cumans of the Caucasus, the Kuban, Astrakhan, Russia, Ukraine by Mongols
- \* 1218–1220 invasion of Khwarizm by Mongols

- \* 1236 invasion of Korea by Mongols
- \* 1211–1234 invasion of Northern China by Mongols
- \* 1205–1209 invasion of Western China by Mongols

## 900 - 1199

- \* 1191 invasion of Jaffa by England (Third Crusade)
- \* 1191 invasion of Acre by France, Conrad of Montferrat and England (Third Crusade)
- \* 1191 invasion of Cyprus by England (Third Crusade)
- \* 1189 invasion of Iconium by the Holy Roman Empire (Third Crusade)
- \* 1189 invasion of Kingdom of Jerusalem by Seljuk Turks (Egypt)
- \* 1171, 1173, 1187 invasion of Kingdom of Jerusalem by Seljuk Turks (Egypt)
- \* 1115–1118 invasion of Egypt by Kingdom of Jerusalem
- \* 1102, 1103, 1105 invasion of Kingdom of Jerusalem by Egypt
- \* 1099 invasion of Jerusalem by Norman forces (First Crusade)
- \* 1097–1098 invasion of Antioch by the First Crusade
- \* 1085 invasion of Antioch by the Seljuk Turks
- \* 1068 invasion of Egypt by the Seljuk Turks
- \* 1066 invasion of England by Norwegian and Norman forces.
- \* 1019 invasion of Kyushu, Japan by Jurchen pirates
- \* 969 invasion of Antioch by the Byzantine Empire
- \* 914, 919, 969 invasions of Egypt by Tunisian Fatimids

## Before 900

- \* 870 invasion of Malta by Arabs from Sicily
- \* 711-718 invasion of the Iberian peninsula by the Moors
- \* 642-711 invasion of Algeria by the Umayyads
- \* 639-641 invasion of Egypt by the second caliphate
- \* 636 invasion of Antioch by the second caliphate
- \* 633 - 651 invasion of Sassanid Empire by the first caliphate
- \* About 600 invasion of Antioch by the Byzantine Empire
- \* 598-614 invasion of Korea by China
- \* 540 invasion of Antioch by Persia
- \* 429 invasion of the Iberian peninsula by the Visigoths
- \* 409 invasion of the Iberian peninsula by Vandals and Alans
- \* 409 invasion of the NW of the Iberian peninsula by Suebians
- \* 406 CE invasion of Gallia by Vandals, Alans and Suebians
- \* 55 BCE - 43 CE invasions of Britain by the Roman Empire
- \* 208 BCE invasion of Vietnam by China
- \* 219 BCE invasion of Lusitania by the Roman Empire
- \* Approximately between 18th-13th century BCE invasion of Canaan by Joshua and the Israelites.

# POLITICS

## Early history:

V.G. Childe describes the transformation of human society that took place around 6000 BCE as an urban revolution. Among the features of this new type of civilization were the institutionalization of social stratification, non-agricultural specialised crafts (including priests and lawyers), taxation, and writing. All of which require clusters of densely populated settlements - city-states.

The word "Politics" is derived from the Greek word for city-state, "Polis". Corporate, religious, academic and every other polity, especially those constrained by limited resources, contain dominance hierarchy and therefore politics. Politics is most often studied in relation to the administration of governments.

The oldest form of government was tribal organization. Rule by elders was supplanted by monarchy, often aided by military conquest, led to a system of Feudalism as an arrangement where a single family dominated the political affairs of a community. Monarchies have existed in one form or another for the past 5000 years of human history.

## Definitions:

Power according to political theorist, Hannah Arendt, is "the human ability not just to act but to act in concert."

Authority is the ability to enforce laws, to exact obedience, to command, to determine, or to judge.

A government is the body that has the authority to make and enforce rules or laws.

Legitimacy is an attribute of government gained through the acquisition and application of power in accordance with recognized or accepted standards or principles.

Sovereignty is the ability of a government to exert control over its territory free from outside influence.

## Types of Governments:

- Oligarchy
- Democracy
- Republic
- Utopia
- Tyranny
- Anarchy
- Parliamentary
- Socialism
- Dystopia

Capitalism  
Communism  
Autocratic  
Theocracy

## **Authority and legitimacy**

Max Weber identified three sources of legitimacy for authority, known as the tripartite classification of authority. He proposed three reasons why people follow the orders of those who give them:

[edit]

### **Traditional**

Traditional authorities receive loyalty because they continue and support the preservation of existing values, the status quo. Traditional authority has the longest history. Patriarchal (and more rarely matriarchal) societies gave rise to hereditary monarchies where authority was given to descendants of previous leaders. Followers submit to this authority because "we've always done it that way."

Examples of traditional authoritarians include absolute monarchs.

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### **Charismatic**

Charismatic authority grows out of the personal charm or the strength of an individual personality (see cult of personality for the most extreme version). Charismatic regimes are often short-lived, seldom outliving the charismatic figure that leads them.

Examples of Charismatic regimes include:

Julius Caesar, Augustus, Hitler, Napoleon, Mao, and Fidel Castro.

For a charismatic regime to survive the rule of the individual personality, it must transform its legitimacy into a different form of authority. An example of this would be Augustus' efforts to create the position of the Roman principate and establish a ruling dynasty, which could be viewed as a shift to a traditional form of authority, in the form of the principate that would exist in Rome for more than 400 years after Augustus' death.

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### **Legal-rational**

Legal-rational authorities receive their ability to compel behavior by virtue of the office that they hold. It is the authority that demands obedience to the office rather than the office holder. Modern democracies are examples of legal-rational regimes. People also abide by legal-rational authority because it makes sense to do so for the greater good of society.

## Quotes on Politics

Politics, it seems to me, for years, or all too long, has been concerned with right or left instead of right or wrong.  
~**Richard Armour**

Politicians are like diapers. They both need changing regularly and for the same reason.  
~**Author Unknown**

Hell, I never vote for anybody, I always vote against. ~**W.C. Fields**

We live in a world in which politics has replaced philosophy. ~**Martin L. Gross, *A Call for Revolution*, 1993**

There are many men of principle in both parties in America, but there is no party of principle.  
~**Alexis de Tocqueville**

We'd all like to vote for the best man, but he's never a candidate. ~**Frank McKinney "Kin" Hubbard**

All of us who are concerned for peace and triumph of reason and justice must be keenly aware how small an influence reason and honest good will exert upon events in the political field.  
~**Albert Einstein**

What is conservatism? Is it not the adherence to the old and tried against the new and untried? ~**Abraham Lincoln**

I think it's about time we voted for senators with breasts. After all, we've been voting for boobs long enough. ~**Clarie Sargent, Arizona senatorial candidate**

A liberal is a man or a woman or a child who looks forward to a better day, a more tranquil night, and a bright, infinite future. ~**Leonard Bernstein, *The New York Times*, 30 October 1988**

Take our politicians: they're a bunch of yo-yos. The presidency is now a cross between a popularity contest and a high school debate, with an encyclopedia of cliches the first prize. ~**Saul Bellow**

In order to become the master, the politician poses as the servant. ~**Charles de Gaulle**

Those who are too smart to engage in politics are punished by being governed by those who are dumber. ~**Plato**

Under democracy one party always devotes its chief energies to trying to prove that the other party is unfit to rule - and both commonly succeed, and are right. ~**H.L. Mencken, 1956**

Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build a bridge even where there is no river.  
~**Nikita Khrushchev**

Liberalism is trust of the people tempered by prudence.  
Conservatism is distrust of the people tempered by fear. ~**William E. Gladstone, 1866**

When I was a boy I was told that anybody could become President; I'm beginning to believe it. ~**Clarence Darrow**

George Washington is the only president who didn't blame the previous administration for his troubles.  
~**Author Unknown**

Truth is not determined by majority vote. ~**Doug Gwyn**

An election is coming. Universal peace is declared and the foxes have a sincere interest in prolonging the lives of the poultry. ~**T.S. Eliot**

Politics is the art of looking for trouble, finding it whether it exists or not, diagnosing it incorrectly, and applying the wrong remedy. ~**Ernest Benn**

We have, I fear, confused power with greatness. ~**Stewart Udall**

The modern conservative is engaged in one of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness. ~**John Kenneth Galbraith**

A conservative is a man with two perfectly good legs who, however, has never learned how to walk forward. ~**Franklin D. Roosevelt, radio speech, 26 October 1939**

Politicians are people who, when they see light at the end of the tunnel, go out and buy some more tunnel. ~**John Quinton**

A conservative is one who admires radicals centuries after they're dead. ~**Leo Rosten**

The Democrats are the party that says government will make you smarter, taller, richer, and remove the crabgrass on your lawn. The Republicans are the party that says government doesn't work and then they get elected and prove it. ~**P.J. O'Rourke**

Conservative, n: A statesman who is enamored of existing evils, as distinguished from the Liberal who wishes to replace them with others. ~**Ambrose Bierce, The Devil's Dictionary**

A conservative is a man who believes that nothing should be done for the first time.  
~**Alfred E. Wiggam**

Their very conservatism is secondhand, and they don't know what they are conserving.  
~**Robertson Davies**

Liberalism is, I think, resurgent. One reason is that more and more people are so painfully aware of the alternative.  
~**John Kenneth Galbraith, New York Times, 8 October 1989**

Don't vote, it only encourages them. ~**Author Unknown**

The idea that you can merchandise candidates for high office like breakfast cereal - that you can gather votes like box tops - is... the ultimate indignity to the democratic process. ~**Adlai Stevenson**, *speech, Democratic National Convention, 18 August 1956*

The hardest thing about any political campaign is how to win without proving that you are unworthy of winning.  
~**Adlai E. Stevenson**

I offer my opponents a bargain: if they will stop telling lies about us, I will stop telling the truth about them. ~**Adlai Stevenson**, *campaign speech, 1952*

Every two years the American politics industry fills the airwaves with the most virulent, scurrilous, wall-to-wall character assassination of nearly every political practitioner in the country - and then declares itself puzzled that America has lost trust in its politicians. ~**Charles Krauthammer**

Instead of giving a politician the keys to the city, it might be better to change the locks.  
~**Doug Larson**

Any American who is prepared to run for president should automatically, by definition, be disqualified from ever doing so.  
~**Gore Vidal**

The reason there are so few female politicians is that it is too much trouble to put makeup on two faces. ~**Maureen Murphy**

I am working for the time when unqualified blacks, browns, and women join the unqualified men in running our government. ~**Cissy Farenthold**

There are always too many Democratic congressmen, too many Republican congressmen, and never enough U.S. congressmen. ~**Author Unknown**

Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich, by promising to protect each from the other. ~**Oscar Ameringer**

Do you ever get the feeling that the only reason we have elections is to find out if the polls were right? ~**Robert Orben**

Conservatism is the policy of make no change and consult your grandmother when in doubt. ~**Woodrow Wilson**

I have come to the conclusion that politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians.  
~**Charles de Gaulle**

Politicians say they're beefing up our economy. Most don't know beef from pork. ~**Harold Lowman**

He didn't say that. He was reading what was given to him in a speech. ~**Richard Darman**, *director of the Office of Management and Budget, explaining why President Bush wasn't following up on his campaign pledge that there would be no loss of wetlands*

Mankind will never see an end of trouble until... lovers of wisdom come to hold political power, or the holders of power... become lovers of wisdom. ~**Plato**, *The Republic*

The problem with political jokes is they get elected. ~**Henry Cate, VII**

The best thing about this group of candidates is that only one of them can win. ~**Will Rogers**

There are far too many men in politics and not enough elsewhere. ~**Hermione Gingold**

If God wanted us to vote, he would have given us candidates. ~**Jay Leno**

Some men change their party for the sake of their principles; others their principles for the sake of their party. ~**Winston Churchill**

If God had been a Liberal there wouldn't have been Ten Commandments, there would have been Ten Suggestions. ~**Malcolm Bradbury**, *After Dinner Game*, 1982

There are only two great currents in the history of mankind: the baseness which makes conservatives and the envy which makes revolutionaries.

~**Edmond de Goncourt and Jules de Goncourt**

The Democrats seem to be basically nicer people, but they have demonstrated time and again that they have the management skills of celery. They're the kind of people who'd stop to help you change a flat, but would somehow manage to set your car on fire. I would be reluctant to entrust them with a Cuisinart, let alone the economy. The Republicans, on the other hand, would know how to fix your tire, but they wouldn't bother to stop because they'd want to be on time for Ugly Pants Night at the country club. ~**Dave Barry**

In this world of sin and sorrow there is always something to be thankful for; as for me, I rejoice that I am not a Republican.

~**H.L. Mencken**

History is gossip but scandal is gossip made tedious by morality. ~**Oscar Wilde**

The politicians were talking themselves red, white and blue in the face. ~**Clare Boothe Luce**

Politics is supposed to be the second-oldest profession. I have come to realize that it bears a very close resemblance to the first. ~**Ronald Reagan**

If the person you are trying to diagnose politically is some sort of intellectual, the chances are two to one he is a Democrat. ~**Vance Packard**

A politician is a fellow who will lay down your life for his country. ~**Texas Guinan**

Politics: A strife of interests masquerading as a contest of principles. The conduct of public affairs for private advantage. ~**Ambrose Bierce**, *The Devil's Dictionary*, 1911

Politics, n: [Poly "many" + tics "blood-sucking parasites"] ~**Larry Hardiman**

If voting changed anything, they'd make it illegal. ~**Emma Goldman**

How come we choose from just two people to run for president and 50 for Miss America?  
~**Author Unknown**

A man that'd expect to train lobsters to fly in a year is called a loonytic; but a man that thinks men can be turned into angels by an illiction is called a rayformer an' remains at large. ~**Finley Peter Dunne, *Mr. Dooley's Philosophy*, 1900**

There ought to be one day - just one - when there is open season on senators. ~**Will Rogers**

Midas, they say, possessed the art of old  
Of turning whatsoever he touch'd to gold;  
This modern statesmen can reverse with ease -  
Touch them with gold, they'll turn to what you please.  
~**John Wolcot**

We have plenty of Confidence in this country, but we are a little short of good men to place our Confidence in. ~**Will Rogers**

We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office. ~**Aesop**

American youth attributes much more importance to arriving at driver's-license age than at voting age. ~**Marshall McLuhan, *Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man*, 1964**

A political leader is necessarily an imposter since he believes in solving life's problems without asking its question.  
~**André Malraux**

Politics - I don't know why, but they seem to have a tendency to separate us, to keep us from one another, while nature is always and ever making efforts to bring us together. ~**Sean O'Casey**

A politician should have three hats. One for throwing into the ring, one for talking through, and one for pulling rabbits out of if elected. ~**Carl Sandburg**

The imbecility of men is always inviting the impudence of power. ~**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

One ought to recognize that the present political chaos is connected with the decay of language, and that one can probably bring about some improvement by starting at the verbal end. If you simplify your English, you are freed from the worst follies of orthodoxy. You cannot speak any of the necessary dialects, and when you make a stupid remark, its stupidity will be obvious, even to yourself. Political language - and with variations this is true of all political parties, from Conservatives to Anarchists - is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind. One cannot change this all in a moment, but one can at least change one's own habits, and from time to time, one can even, if one jeers loudly enough, send some worn-out and useless phrase - some jackboot, Achilles' heel, hotbed, melting pot, acid test, veritable inferno or other lump of verbal refuse - into the dustbin where it belongs.  
~**George Orwell, "Politics and the English Language," *Shooting an Elephant*, 1950**

Whenever a man has cast a longing eye on offices, a rottenness begins in his conduct.

~**Thomas Jefferson**

It is not in the nature of politics that the best men should be elected. The best men do not want to govern their fellowmen.

~**George E. MacDonald**

A political convention is just not a place where you come away with any trace of faith in human nature. ~**Murray Kempton**

They say women talk too much. If you have worked in Congress you know that the filibuster was invented by men.

~**Clare Booth Luce**

If the World Series runs until election day, the networks will run the first one-half inning and project the winner.

~**Lindsey Nelson**

Before you can begin to think about politics at all, you have to abandon the notion that there is a war between good men and bad men. ~**Walter Lippmann**

A conservative is a man who just sits and thinks, mostly sits. ~**Woodrow Wilson**

Conservatives are not necessarily stupid, but most stupid people are conservatives.

~**John Stuard Mill**

The qualities that get a man into power are not those that lead him, once established, to use power wisely.

~**Lyman Bryson**

During a campaign the air is full of speeches - and vice versa. ~**Author Unknown**

If a politician murders his mother, the first response of the press or of his opponents will likely be not that it was a terrible thing to do, but rather that in a statement made six years before he had gone on record as being opposed to matricide.

~**Meg Greenfield**

When buying and selling are controlled by legislation, the first things to be bought and sold are legislators. ~**P.J.**

**O'Rourke**

Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote. ~**George Jean Nathan**

Democracy is being allowed to vote for the candidate you dislike least. ~**Robert Byrne**

The Christian Right is neither. ~**Author Unknown**

Political campaigns are designedly made into emotional orgies which endeavor to distract attention from the real issues involved, and they actually paralyze what slight powers of cerebration man can normally muster. ~**James Harvey Robinson, *The Human Comedy*, 1937**

A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman thinks of the next generation.

~**James Freeman Clarke**, *Sermon*

I'm not a leftist; I'm where the righteous ought to be. ~**M.M. Coady**

Politics are almost as exciting as war, and quite as dangerous. In war you can only be killed once, but in politics many times. ~**Winston Churchill**

In golf, you keep your head down and follow through. In the vice presidency, you keep your head up and follow through. It's a big difference. ~**Dan Quayle**

Conservatives define themselves in terms of what they oppose. ~**George Will**

Nobody believes a rumor here in Washington until it's officially denied. ~**Edward Cheyfitz**

When one may pay out over two million dollars to presidential and Congressional campaigns, the U.S. government is virtually up for sale. ~**John Gardner**

Politics is war without bloodshed, while war is politics with bloodshed. ~**Mao Zedong**

The only difference between the Democrats and the Republicans is that the Democrats allow the poor to be corrupt, too. ~**Oscar Levant**

# Political corruption

In broad terms, political corruption is the misuse of public (governmental) power for illegitimate, usually secret, private advantage.

All forms of government are susceptible to political corruption. Forms of corruption vary, but the most common are patronage, bribery, extortion, influence peddling, fraud, embezzlement, and nepotism. While corruption often facilitates criminal enterprise such as drug trafficking, money laundering, and criminal prostitution, it is not restricted to these organized crime activities, and it does not always support or shield other crimes.

What constitutes illegal corruption differs depending on the country or jurisdiction. Certain political funding practices that are legal in one place may be illegal in another. In some countries, police and prosecutors have broad discretion over who to arrest and charge, and the line between discretion and corruption can be difficult to draw, as in racial profiling. In countries with strong interest group politics, practices that could easily constitute corruption elsewhere are sometimes sanctified as official group preferences.

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## Effects:

### ***Effects on politics, administration, and institutions***

Corruption poses a serious development challenge. In the political realm, it undermines democracy and good governance by flouting or even subverting formal processes. Corruption in elections and in legislative bodies reduces accountability and distorts representation in policymaking; corruption in the judiciary compromises the rule of law; and corruption in public administration results in the unfair provision of services. More generally, corruption erodes the institutional capacity of government as procedures are disregarded, resources are siphoned off, and public offices are bought and sold. At the same time, corruption undermines the legitimacy of government and such democratic values as trust and tolerance. See also: Good governance

### ***Economic effects***

Corruption also undermines economic development by generating considerable distortions and inefficiency. In the private sector, corruption increases the cost of business through the price of illicit payments themselves, the management cost of negotiating with officials, and the risk of breached agreements or detection. Although some claim corruption reduces costs by cutting red tape, the availability of bribes can also induce officials to contrive new rules and delays. Where corruption inflates the cost of business, it also distorts the playing field, shielding firms with connections from competition and thereby sustaining inefficient firms.

Corruption also generates economic distortions in the public sector by diverting public investment into capital projects where bribes and kickbacks are more plentiful. Officials may increase the technical

complexity of public sector projects to conceal or pave way for such dealings, thus further distorting investment. Corruption also lowers compliance with construction, environmental, or other regulations, reduces the quality of government services and infrastructure, and increases budgetary pressures on government.

Economists argue that one of the factors behind the differing economic development in Africa and Asia is that in the former, corruption has primarily taken the form of rent extraction with the resulting financial capital moved overseas rather than invested at home (hence the stereotypical, but sadly often accurate, image of African dictators having Swiss bank accounts). Corrupt administrations in Asia like Suharto's have often taken a cut on everything (requiring bribes), but otherwise provided more of the conditions for development, through infrastructure investment, law and order, etc. University of Massachusetts researchers estimated that from 1970 to 1996, capital flight from 30 sub-Saharan countries totalled \$187bn, exceeding those nations' external debts.[1] (The results, expressed in retarded or suppressed development, have been modelled in theory by economist Mancur Olson.) In the case of Africa, one of the factors for this behaviour was political instability, and the fact that new governments often confiscated previous government's corruptly-obtained assets. This encouraged officials to stash their wealth abroad, out of reach of any future expropriation.

## **Types of abuse:**

### ***Bribery: Bribe-takers and bribe-givers***

It takes two to create corruption: giving and taking bribes. In some countries the culture of corruption extends to every aspect of public life, making it extremely difficult to stay in business without resorting to bribes.

### ***Graft***

Graft is the act of a politician personally benefitting from public funds in a way other than prescribed by law. New York's Senator George Washington Plunkitt once famously claimed that there was a difference between "honest" and "dishonest" graft. The classical example of graft is a politician using his knowledge of zoning and decision making to purchase land which he knows his political organization is interested in developing on, and then selling it at a significant profit to that organization. Large gifts from parties within the government also qualify as graft, and most countries have laws against it. (For example, any gift over \$200 value made to the President of the United States is considered to be a gift to the Office of the Presidency and not to the President himself. The outgoing President must buy it if he wants to take it with him.)

### ***Campaign contributions and soft money***

In the political arena, it is difficult to prove corruption, but impossible to prove its absence. For this reason, there are often rumors about many politicians.

Politicians are placed in apparently compromising positions because of their need to solicit financial contributions for their campaigns. Often, they then appear to be acting in the interests of those parties that fund them, giving rise to talk of political corruption.

Supporters of politicians assert that it is entirely coincidental that many politicians appear to be acting in the interests of those who fund them. Cynics wonder why these organizations fund politicians at all, if they get nothing for their money. In the United States many companies, especially larger ones, fund both the Democratic and Republican parties.

Because of the implications of corporations funding politicians, such as the perceived threat that these corporations are simply buying the votes of elected officials, certain countries, such as France, ban altogether the corporate funding of political parties. Because of the possible circumvention of this ban with respect to the funding of political campaigns, France also imposes maximum spending caps on campaigning; candidates that have exceeded those limits, or that have handed misleading accounting reports, risk having their candidacy ruled invalid, or even be prevented from running in future elections. In addition, the government funds political parties according to their successes in elections. In some countries, political parties are run solely off subscriptions (membership fees).

Even legal measures such as these have been argued to be legalised corruption, in that they often favor the political status quo. Minor parties and independents often argue that efforts to rein in the influence of contributions do little more than protect the major parties with guaranteed public funding while constraining the possibility of private funding by outsiders. In these instances, officials are legally taking money from the public coffers for their election campaigns to guarantee that they will continue to hold their influential and often well-paid positions.

## Conditions favorable for corruption

*Some argue that the following conditions are favorable for corruption:*

### \* **Adverse government structures**

- o Concentration of power in decision makers who are not practically accountable to the people, and especially who controls the military.
- o Democracy absent or dysfunctional. See illiberal democracy.
- o Lack of accountability.

### \* **Information deficits**

- o Lack of government transparency. See Freedom of information.
- o Contempt for or negligence of exercising freedom of speech or freedom of the press.
- o Weak accounting practices, including lack of timely financial management.

### \* **Opportunities and incentives**

- o Large investments of public capital.
- o Poorly-paid government officials.

### \* **Social conditions**

- o Self-interested closed cliques and "old boy networks".
- o Illiterate, apathetic or ignorant populace, with inadequate public discernment of political choices. See bounded rationality and rational ignorance.
- o In societies where personal integrity is rated as less important than other characteristics (by contrast, in societies such as 18th and 19th Century England, 20th Century Japan and post-war western Germany, where society showed almost obsessive regard for "honour" and personal integrity, corruption was less frequently seen)

### \* **Deficits of law**

- o Weak rule of law.
- o Weak legal profession.

**\* Imperfect electoral processes**

- o Costly political campaigns, with expenses exceeding normal sources of political funding.
- o Absence of adequate controls to prevent bribery or "campaign donations".

**Research**

Research shows that democracy, parliamentary systems, political stability, and freedom of the press are all associated with lower corruption.

**Measuring corruption**

Measuring corruption - in the statistical sense - is naturally not a straight-forward matter, since the participants are generally not forthcoming about it. Transparency International, the leading anti-corruption NGO, provides three measures, updated annually: a Corruption Perceptions Index (based on experts' opinions of how corrupt different countries are); a Global Corruption Barometer (based on a survey of general public attitudes toward and experience of corruption); and a Bribe Payers Survey, looking at the willingness of foreign firms to pay bribes. Transparency International also publishes the Global Corruption Report. The World Bank collects a range of data on corruption, including a set of Governance Indicators.

Transparency International has performed perception surveys from time to time. The 10 least corrupt countries, according to one conducted in 2005, are (in alphabetical order): Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, and Switzerland

According to the same survey, the 9 most corrupt countries are (in alphabetical order): Angola, Bangladesh, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, Myanmar, Nigeria, and Turkmenistan

However, the value of that survey is disputed, as it is based on subjective perceptions. Sophisticated technology may be available to those countries considered by the public as "least corrupt" to conceal corruption from public view or disguise it as legitimate dealings.

According to the perception survey Mississippi, North Dakota and Louisiana are the three most corrupt states within the USA. New Hampshire, Oregon and Nebraska have the least amount of corruption. The largest states, California and Texas, are ranked in the middle, California ranking 25th and Texas in 29th.

# Political scandals of the United States

## Categorizing and listing scandals:

Division of this article's list of American political scandals into three categories --- (1) federal; (2) state-and-local; and (3) sex ---- is somewhat arbitrary and sometimes overlapping. It seems possible that separate sub-categories could be developed, within the "federal" rubric, for example, for scandals that have emerged during the course of the confirmation hearing for a political or judicial appointee. Another approach might be to categorize American political scandals by the nature of the alleged wrongdoing (separating "private immorality" scandals, where possible, from graft, bribery, and other abuse of the public trust; or separating misconduct that led to criminal indictment, from non-criminal matters).

The arrangement of the list of federal-level scandals in this article follows a more or less chronological order; in the case of state and local scandals, the arrangement is alphabetical, by state.

### ***Political "scandal"***

It is not always clear whether a particular flap involving a politician should count as a "scandal." For example, the alcohol-related problems that have plagued Senator Ted Kennedy probably never rose to the level of a "scandal," apart from the question of drunk driving in the 1969 Chappaquiddick incident involving the death of Mary Jo Kopechne.

The illegal mining of Nicaraguan harbors, and the Reagan administration's refusal to inform or consult the Senate about this, caused an enormous uproar in the Congress (including condemnations by Republican Senator Barry Goldwater), but its status as a "scandal" is debatable, even though, as a result of the U.S.-sponsored paramilitary actions in Central America, the United States in the case *Nicaragua v. United States*, ultimately became the only nation ever adjudged by the International Court of Justice to have been guilty of sponsoring terrorism. Scandalous though it no doubt was that United States intelligence agencies had been covertly and unlawfully engaged in terrorism, neither the World Court judgment nor the covert violent acts were treated in mainstream media exactly as a "scandal." On the other hand, the secret funding of the contras (of which the Nicaraguan harbor mining and other covert violence were part), in the context of secret negotiations with Iran concerning embassy hostages, was ultimately treated as a scandal and dubbed the Iran-Contra affair.

### ***"Political" scandal***

Some major news stories that surely count as "scandals" are nevertheless not usually considered "political" scandals. An obvious example would be the story concerning allegations that entertainer Michael Jackson (who is not a politician or a public official, although he is a public figure) engaged in improper relations with children. Likewise, the ImClone "insider" stock investigation that led to the conviction of Martha Stewart was certainly a celebrity scandal, and there was doubtless a political dimension to her prosecution, but Martha Stewart was not acting as a public official or a politician, so her case is not normally considered a "political scandal." Again, although the Roman Catholic Church hierarchy certainly exercises political power, the recent ecclesiastical scandal involving priest sexual

misconduct and alleged coverup is not directly related to federal, state, or local governments and thus is not included among "political" scandals.

Even when public officials are involved, a scandal is not always considered "political" in nature. An example of this might be the Tailhook scandal, which was generally regarded as a military, rather than a political scandal. Likewise, the 2004 photographs of degradation and alleged torture at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq were viewed by some to implicate highly placed Defense Department officials, but the events at Abu Ghraib were generally treated as a matter for military discipline rather than as a political scandal.

### ***“Major” political scandal***

There is no bright line to distinguish "major" scandals from "minor" scandals. The nature of the particular act or occasion of wrongdoing need not be great, but the consequences (such as resulting notoriety, resignation, etc.) are normally significant. For example, a single "innocent" remark by then U.S. Senate majority leader Trent Lott of Mississippi in appreciation of Strom Thurmond on the occasion of Senator Thurmond's 100th birthday ultimately brought attention to Senator Lott's poor record on civil rights and associated him with white supremacy and racial segregationism, which ultimately caused this powerful political leader to step down from his role as majority leader.

This article includes a category of scandals on the "state and local" levels; this suggests a relative scale concerning the extent to which a scandal must be publicized or celebrated in order to be deemed "major."

At times, investigative news coverage of a political scandal may itself be considered scandalous if it is deemed to violate journalistic standards, as happened in 2004 in connection with allegations that CBS News and Dan Rather were negligent or malicious in allowing fabricated military records to be used in connection with a report of allegedly dishonorable conduct by President George W. Bush in avoiding his military service obligations. Even though the falsified records in question were only a tiny part of the evidence and were corroborated by other testimony and documents, the focus suddenly shifted from the alleged dereliction of duty on the part of Mr. Bush, to Dan Rather's irresponsible, improper, and possibly biased, authentication of a particular set of records. Similarly, an official investigation into alleged wrongdoing can itself come to be viewed as scandalously wrong if it appears to be politically motivated.

One of the most famous examples of an official investigation itself being perceived as scandalous was the Joseph McCarthy anti-communist investigation of the 1950's, which came to be widely viewed as an abusive witchhunt that violated civil liberties. One's perception of whether an official investigation has itself become scandalous is likely to depend on one's own political point of view. Thus, the perception was especially strong among supporters of President Bill Clinton, that malicious abuse of prosecutorial powers had pervaded the investigations conducted by Kenneth Starr, which ranged from Whitewater to Travelgate to Filegate to the Monica Lewinsky matter.

## Coverup

A frequent element of major political scandals is stonewalling, and often a cover-up is involved, which in some cases can even lead to formal criminal charges of obstruction of justice or perjury. In many cases, the "damage control" denials and other deception involved in efforts to "cover up" a scandal became themselves more scandalous, and more damaging to political careers, than the underlying problem. As embarrassing to the Nixon administration as the Watergate burglary was, what ultimately caused him to resign was the erosion of congressional support as it came to light that Nixon and his associates were concealing information and destroying evidence.

## Campaign attacks distinguished

A distinction should perhaps be drawn between allegations in negative campaign ads and political scandals. It has become commonplace for the campaigns or the surrogates of political candidates to accuse opposing candidates of scandalously unworthy behavior. Although some of this mudslinging can on occasion lead to investigations that bear fruit as scandal, more often than not the purpose of such ads is simply to create a temporary negative association with a certain candidate, only long enough to influence an upcoming election. In the race for the 1988 Democratic nomination, campaign attacks were launched against various candidates, including allegations of plagiarism by Senator Joe Biden, and allegations of attack videos secretly prepared by the campaign of Governor Michael Dukakis, etc., but it appears that few of these campaign allegations (even when substantiated) were widely considered to constitute major political scandals. On the other hand, one Democratic hopeful in 1988, Gary Hart, famously withdrew from the race after being caught in the Donna Rice "Monkey Business" illicit sex scandal, which was apparently deemed sufficiently salacious to qualify as a major political scandal.

## Contemporaneous notoriety versus historical research

A distinction can be drawn, between scandals that were widely publicized close to the time, and information about improprieties that did not surface until some time later. For example, rumors that either President John F. Kennedy or his brother Robert F. Kennedy had a sexual affair with Hollywood actress Marilyn Monroe did not become widespread until after all three were dead. Another example of delayed publicity is Thomas Jefferson's alleged relationship with Sally Hemings, which remained relatively unknown for nearly two centuries before it became widely publicized. In the more recent case of prominent white supremacist Senator Strom Thurmond, whose long political career had been built upon racial segregationism, it was not until after his death in 2003 (at age 100) that Essie Mae Washington-Williams came forward to reveal that she was the daughter of Strom Thurmond, who had impregnated her then-16-year-old mother, an African-American maid working for the Thurmond family in the 1920's.

On the contemporaneous end of the spectrum, Grover Cleveland's fathering of a child out of wedlock while he was Governor of New York was widely reported in his own day and became something of a campaign issue in the 1884 presidential election. Likewise, Cleveland's White House marriage to 21-year-old Frances Folsom raised some journalistic eyebrows at the time, as did rumors that he beat his wife.

## **Systemic scandals**

*Not included in this article are pervasive systemic scandals, such as the role of money in the political process.*

## **Campaign finance**

Some supporters of grass roots democracy have called the dominance of campaign contribution money in the political process the "great scandal" of modern democracy. Details of this systemic scandal are well documented by the Federal Election Commission, the Center for Responsive Politics, and elsewhere. Thus, except for the more extreme or celebrated cases of outright quid-pro-quo bribery, the "normal" purchase of access and influence by means of political donations is not covered in this article.

## **“Revolving door” conflicts of interest**

An increasing phenomenon is the facility with which government officials have come to move between serving in public office and working for private interests. Former members of Congress often join private lobbying firms upon leaving Congress; policymakers and other appointees to regulatory agencies are often selected from within the industries those agencies are charged with regulating, and then the "public servants" often quickly slip back into their private roles at the end of the appointment. Because private interests may well be at odds with the public interest, this situation has at times been widely viewed as a systemic political scandal. Rules designed to slow down this so-called "revolving door" process have had no substantial effect on this practice. And even some of the more celebrated instances of this type of conflict of interest, such as President Ronald Reagan's acceptance of a million dollar speaking fee from Japanese company, Fujisankei Communications Group, after leaving office, or large book advances for the Clintons, have come to be treated simply as routine practice rather than as "political scandals."

## **Corporate scandals, including accounting scandals**

Because of the close connection between certain politicians and certain corporations, some corporate accounting scandals that have come to light in recent years could reasonably be considered political scandals. For example, both the Enron scandal and the Harken Energy scandal implicated close associates of President George W. Bush. Occasionally a particular episode of corporate fraud will be treated as a "political scandal," but the widespread extent of corporate wrongdoing, and the systemic influence of corporate power on politics, would make it difficult to present a comprehensive account of all "political scandals" involving corporate misconduct.

## **Salacious Gossip versus Crisis of Legitimacy**

News coverage of some of the more sensationalized political scandals has tended to focus on salacious details, resembling gossipy tabloid coverage of Hollywood celebrity scandals. On the other hand, some political scandals have been treated more soberly as crises implicating the legitimacy of government. In either case, it is widely believed that political scandals are capable of profoundly undermining the credibility of government, in the public mind.

## List of scandals:

### *Federal-level Scandals*

#### 1700s

- \* King George III and Thomas Hutchinson, royal governor of Massachusetts, accused in the Declaration of Independence (1776) of outrageous wrongdoing and abuses against fundamental rights
- \* Conway Cabal (1777-1778), movement or conspiracy to remove George Washington as commander of the Continental Army
- \* Yazoo land scandal (1790s)

#### 1800s

- \* Aaron Burr duel with Alexander Hamilton (1804); See also Burr's "New Empire" conspiracy
- \* Judge John Pickering impeached and convicted in absentia by U.S. Senate for drunkenness and use of profanity on the bench (1804)
- \* Aaron Burr New Empire (Southwest) conspiracy (1804-1807) and treason trial (1807)
- \* James Wilkinson conspiracies (1787-1811)
- \* Corrupt Bargain (1824)
- \* Petticoat Affair or Eaton Affair (1831) involving a sex scandal and the resignation of much of Andrew Jackson's cabinet.
- \* Swartwout-Hoyt scandal involving the Port of New York Collectors' Office, became a struggle between President John Tyler and Congress concerning authority to appoint and pay investigative commissioners (1841-1842)
- \* Simon Cameron, war profiteer (1860-1862)
- \* Tammany Hall (1854-1934)
- \* Gould-Fisk Gold Conspiracy Black Friday scandal (1869)
- \* Crédit Mobilier of America scandal (1872)
- \* Salary Grab Act (1873)
- \* Sanborn Contract
- \* Whiskey Ring (1875)
- \* Bribing of Secretary of War William Belknap leading to impeachment and resignation; President Grant's acceptance of Belknap's resignation created an additional scandal and controversy, as this was believed by some to have deprived the Senate of jurisdiction over the impeachment (1876)
- \* Star Route Frauds postal contract corruption involving Arkansas Sen. Stephen W. Dorsey, who became Secretary of the Republican National Committee during James A. Garfield's 1880 presidential campaign (1876-1882)
- \* Senator-elect La Fayette Grover implicated (1878) in vote-rigging scheme while Governor of Oregon: See State and local-level scandals
- \* Ezra Ayres Hayt, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, forced to resign by Secretary of Interior Carl Schurz due to allegations of rampant corruption (1880)
- \* Dakota Territorial Governor Nehemiah Ordway indicted on corruption charges (1884) and removed by President Arthur

**1900 - 1945**

- \* Newport Sex Scandal (1919) Secretary of the Navy Franklin Delano Roosevelt initiated an investigation into allegations of "immoral conduct" (homosexuality) at Naval base in Newport, Rhode Island; the investigators were themselves ultimately accused misconduct, including ties to homosexuality (Consider moving to Sex scandal category)
- \* Teapot Dome scandal (1922)
- \* Deal supposedly struck in private meeting between Henry Ford and President Calvin Coolidge, relating to 1924 presidential contest and sale of Tennessee Valley hydroelectric complex at Muscle Shoals (1922-1924)

**1946 - 1974**

- \* Department of Justice tax scandal (1951-1952) leading to the firing or forced resignations of 166 employees of the agency; investigations were widely regarded as a systematic cover-up for high-level wrongdoing
- \* McCarthyism (1948-1954)
- \* 1952 Republican Vice-Presidential nominee Richard Nixon delivers televised "Checkers Speech," to deflect scandal about \$18,000 in gifts, maintaining that the only personal gift he had received was a cocker spaniel dog named "Checkers"
- \* Vicuna Coat scandal of Eisenhower's chief of staff Llewelyn S. Adams (1958); See State and Local level (New Hampshire)
- \* Billy Sol Estes (1961)
- \* Bobby Baker (1963) aide to LBJ was involved with underworld figures
- \* Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. of New York expelled from Congress (1967) but re-elected anyway
- \* Senator Thomas J. Dodd censured for financial misconduct and corruption (1967)
- \* Supreme Court Associate Justice Abe Fortas resigns in financial scandal (1969) that emerged during his nomination to become Chief Justice
- \* Harold Carswell nominated by President Nixon as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court withdrew (1970) after publication of a speech 20 years earlier: "I yield to no man . . . in the firm, vigorous belief in the principles of white supremacy."
- \* John Connally Milk Money scandal
- \* Pentagon Papers (1971)
- \* Watergate (1972-1973)
- \* Nixon Jewelry (1974) Violation of Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act of 1881, as amended in 1966.
- \* Spiro T. Agnew scandal (1973)
- \* Judge Otto Kerner, Jr. resigned U.S. Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals (1974) after exhausting appeals in conviction for bribery, mail fraud, conspiracy, and tax evasion while Kerner was Governor of Illinois
- \* Nixon Pardon by President Ford (1974)

**1975 - 1999**

- \* "Lancegate": President Carter's OMB Director Bert Lance resignation amidst allegations of misuse of funds (1977)
- \* Jimmy Carter's Chief of Staff Hamilton Jordan target of special prosecution (beginning 1979)
- \* "Billygate": President Jimmy Carter's brother Billy Carter was found to be a paid agent of the government of Libya (1980); ensuing scandal did not help President Carter's bid for re-election in 1980

- \* Tongsun Park "Koreagate" scandal involving alleged bribery of more than 100 members of Congress by South Korean government; charges were pressed only against congressmen Richard T. Hanna (convicted) and Otto E. Passman (not prosecuted because of illness); also implicated was South Korean President Park Chung Hee (1977-1980)
- \* Betty Ford addictions (1978)
- \* Senator Herman Talmadge of Georgia punished after his ex-wife produced cash "gifts" he had hidden in an overcoat (1979); Talmadge later wrote, "I wish I'd burned that damn overcoat and charged everything on American Express." Talmadge the same year admitted to having spent five weeks in alcohol rehabilitation; he was not re-elected to the Senate in 1980.
- \* Abscam (1980)
- \* "Debategate": briefing book of President Jimmy Carter stolen and given to Ronald Reagan campaign before 1980 presidential election debate in Cleveland, Ohio (1980)
- \* October Surprise (1980)
- \* Secretary of Labor Raymond J. Donovan investigated (beginning 1981) for wrongdoing and ultimately acquitted of larceny and fraud (1987)
- \* Anne Gorsuch Burford refusal to turn over EPA documents (1982)
- \* William Casey insider trading (1983)
- \* Iran-Contra affair (1985-1986); Oliver North was convicted (1989) of accepting an illegal gratuity, aiding and abetting in the obstruction of a congressional inquiry, and destruction of documents, but the convictions were later (1990) overturned by appeals court.
- \* Savings and loan scandal and the Keating Five (1980-1989): Alan Cranston, Dennis DeConcini, Don Riegle, John Glenn, and John McCain
- \* Preferential treatment for military contractor Wedtech implicates Attorney General Edwin Meese and White House aide Lynn Nofziger (1987)
- \* Robert Bernard Anderson former US Secretary of Treasury pleaded guilty to owning an offshore bank. (1987).
- \* "Pothead jurist," 1987: President Reagan's first controversial nominee to replace Justice Powell was Judge Robert Bork. Judge Bork, who coincidentally had fired Archibald Cox in the Nixon-era Saturday Night Massacre, was rejected for his allegedly extreme judicial philosophy; the second nominee was Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg, who had to drop out of consideration after he admitted having smoked marijuana while a Harvard Law School professor.
- \* Senator John Tower's nomination as Defense Secretary derailed due to allegations of habitual and extreme alcohol abuse and improper ties to defense industry (1987)
- \* Mario Biaggi convicted (1988) in Wedtech scandal of bribery, extortion, racketeering, filing a false tax return, mail fraud, and false financial disclosure; resigned from U.S. House before he could be expelled
- \* Speaker of the U.S. House Jim Wright from Texas forced to resign after ethics committee investigation found dozens of violations of House rules, including alleged improper receipt of \$145,000 in gifts by Wright's wife from a Fort Worth developer and large profits from "sale" of Wright's speeches (1989)
- \* Anthony Lee Coelho of California resigns from U.S. House for unethical finance practices including "junk bond" deal (1989)
- \* Alcee Hastings, federal district court judge impeached (1989) and convicted of soliciting a bribe; subsequently elected (1992) to U.S. House
- \* Senator David Durenberger denounced by Senate for unethical financial transactions (1990)
- \* Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) scandal implicates former Defense Secretary and Washington insider Clark Clifford (1991)
- \* House Banking scandal (1992)
- \* Mary Rose Oakar (1992) allegations of "ghost employees" on payroll

- \* President George H.W. Bush's pardon of 6 Iran-Contra affair figures on his last day in office (January 20, 1993), days before the perjury trial of Casper Weinberger was scheduled to begin.
- \* Travelgate (1993)
- \* Zoe Baird's nomination as Attorney General and Kimba Wood's subsequent near-nomination were derailed by past employment of illegal aliens as nannies. (1993)
- \* Dan Rostenkowski and other Democratic Members of Congress in the Congressional Post Office Scandal (1991 - 1995)
- \* The evident suicide (1993) of White House lawyer Vince Foster, together with accusations that documents from Foster's office relating to an investigation had disappeared mysteriously, fueled scandalous speculations, including the widely publicized suggestion (dismissed by investigators) that Foster's death had not been suicide.
- \* White House Coffees and Lincoln Bedroom sales -- political donations linked to access to President Clinton, including the apparent sale of "coffees" with him, and what amounted to the renting out of the Lincoln Bedroom.
- \* Walter Fauntroy, Delegate to Congress from the District of Columbia, guilty plea regarding lying on financial disclosure form (1995)
- \* Commerce Secretary Ron Brown investigated (1995)
- \* The 1996 U.S. campaign finance scandal, also known as Chinagate, refers to alleged efforts by the People's Republic of China (PRC) to influence domestic United States politics prior to and during the Clinton Administration as well as the fundraising practices of the administration itself.
- \* Americorps head Eli Segal investigated (1996)
- \* Wes Cooley (1996)
- \* Filegate -- Misuse of FBI resources by White House Security Chief under President Bill Clinton, allegedly to compile an enemies list (1996); investigation found insufficient evidence of criminal wrongdoing
- \* Walter R. Tucker III of California resigned before bribery conviction (1996)
- \* Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich financial improprieties leading to House reprimand and assessment of \$300,000 sanction (1997)
- \* Secretary of Agriculture Michael Espy forced to resign from office despite ultimate acquittal on criminal corruption charges (1998)
- \* Labor Secretary Alexis Herman investigated (1998) in connection with alleged illegal fundraising and other financial improprieties, ultimately cleared (2001)
- \* Bruce Babbitt, Interior Secretary, independent probe (1998-2000) of alleged lying to Congress concerning influence of money in 1995 American Indian tribe casino decision finds no criminally prosecutable perjury by Babbitt
- \* Vice-President Al Gore (1998) allegations of improper fundraising and "no controlling legal authority" defense
- \* Whitewater scandal (1994-2000) Bill and Hillary Clinton were found innocent beyond reasonable doubt.
- \* Teamstergate Ron Carey's and Bill Clinton's 1996 campaigns for the Presidency of the union and the United States, respectively, swapped Teamsters' Union general treasury funds into Clinton's campaign, for Clinton Campaign funds into Ron Carey's campaign war chest. The Teamsters' political director was jailed. No Clinton officials were charged. Carey's re-election was invalidated; James Hoffa, Jr. was elected when Teamsters election was rerun.
- \* Henry Cisneros resigns as Housing Secretary and, after lengthy probe that began in 1995, pleads guilty (1999) to lying to the FBI about money he paid former mistress Linda Medlar a.k.a. Linda Jones; later pardoned by President Clinton in 2001 (Possibly reclassify or cross-reference to Sex scandal)
- \* Pardongate (1999 - 2001) -- Bill Clinton appeared to write out pardons, during his lame duck tenure, in response to massive contributions linked to the pardoned. This included a scandal which has become traditional for departing presidents; the sudden flurry of

pardons during the final month in office, which would probably not have been deemed tolerable at any other time.

## 2000 -

- \* Linda Chavez, nomination as Secretary of Labor derailed by past employment of illegal alien (2001)
- \* Enron collapse (2002) leading to investigation of Kenneth Lay, a top political ally and financial donor to the election campaign of President George W. Bush; Lay, who had been named as a leading candidate for Secretary of the Treasury, eventually indicted (2004). Attempts to link individual politicians with the Enron malfeasance have not been particularly successful, perhaps partly due to the fact that so many politicians of both major parties received campaign contributions (including 158 Republicans and 100 Democrats in Congress (as of 2001).
- \* Jim Traficant (D-OH) financial corruption conviction and expulsion from House (2002)
- \* Robert Torricelli (D-NJ) bribery scandal (2002)
- \* Trent Lott (R-MS) resigned as Senate majority leader amid racial controversy
- \* Bill Frist (R-TN), becomes Senate majority leader and is alleged to have been deeply involved in campaign finance improprieties. The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission is investigating insider-trading issues in connection with Frist's July 2005 sale of Hospital Corporation of America shares immediately before the stock's value fell precipitously.
- \* Yellowcake forgery. Evidence alleged to be forged was presented in the case for 2003 invasion of Iraq (2003); related Valerie Plame affair (2004), eventually implicating White House aides Scooter Libby (indicted 2005) and Karl Rove
- \* Abu Ghraib torture and prisoner abuse scandal (2004-2005)
- \* Tom DeLay (R-TX), reprimanded twice by House Ethics Committee and aides indicted (2004-2005); eventually DeLay himself was indicted (October 2005)
- \* Bernard Kerik, nomination as Secretary of Homeland Security derailed by past employment of illegal alien as nanny, and amid allegations of various other ethical improprieties (2004)
- \* Former Clinton administration National Security Advisor Sandy Berger pleads guilty (2005) to unlawfully removing classified documents from the National Archives in October 2003
- \* Bush administration payment of columnists including Armstrong Williams, Maggie Gallagher and Michael McManus (2004-2005)
- \* Downing Street Memo minutes of U.K. government secret meeting (dated 23 July 2002, leaked 2005) include summary of MI6 Director Sir Richard Dearlove's report that "Bush wanted to remove Saddam, through military action, justified by the conjunction of terrorism and WMD. But the intelligence and the facts were being fixed around the policy."
- \* Duke Cunningham (R-CA) resigned from the House of Representatives and pleaded guilty on November 28, 2005 to charges of conspiracy to commit bribery, mail fraud and wire fraud, and tax evasion for underreporting his income in 2004. Prosecutors said Cunningham admitted to receiving at least \$2.4 million in bribes.
- \* Jack Abramoff, Republican lobbyist and key figure in Tom DeLay scandal, is indicted on wire fraud charges (August 2005). Representative Robert Ney (R-OH) is named as "Representative No. 1" in the indictment of Abramoff associate Michael Scanlon. Other members of Congress associated with Abramoff include Sen. David Vitter (R-LA), Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA), Rep. John Doolittle (R-CA), Rep. J.D. Hayworth (R-AZ), Rep. Don Young (R-AK), James Clyburn (D-SC), and Bennie Thompson (D-MS).
- \* Abramoff-Reed Indian Gambling Scandal A separate grand jury investigation involving Jack Abramoff, Ralph Reed and Grover Norquist

## State and local-level scandals

- \* Alabama Governor Harold Guy Hunt convicted of improperly using campaign money and removed from office (1993)
- \* Arizona Governor Evan Mecham impeached and removed from office 1988, faced with recall, pending criminal charges for illegal financial dealings (of which he was later acquitted), and public outcry over his derogatory remarks about African-Americans and gays, and his cancelation of Arizona's observance of the Martin Luther King holiday (which led to a boycott of Arizona by various groups)
- \* Arizona "AZSCAM" legislators caught on videotape taking payoffs for favors to gambling figure
- \* Arizona Governor John Fife Symington III convicted of fraud (1997)
- \* Arkansas Governor Powell Clayton investigated for corruption but cleared (1868-1871)
- \* Arkansas Governor James Guy Tucker, Jr., convicted of fraud conspiracy (1996); See related Whitewater scandal, under Federal-Level Scandals
- \* Arkansas Governor William Jefferson Clinton: See Federal-level scandals, which dogged President Clinton
- \* California San Francisco Mayor Eugene Edward Schmitz convicted of graft and bribery, including misconduct during the Great Earthquake (1906-1907); convictions later overturned on appeal.
- \* California State Senator and Senate Insurance Committee Chairman Alan Robbins resigned on November 21, 1991, in advance of pleading guilty to federal racketeering charges in connection with insurance-industry bribes.
- \* California Insurance Commissioner Chuck Quackenbush resigned on June 28, 2000, rather than face impeachment for campaign-finance violations arising out of insurance-industry settlements after the 1994 Northridge earthquake.
- \* Connecticut Republican Governor John Rowland Corruption
- \* District of Columbia Democratic Mayor Marion Barry caught on videotape using drugs in an FBI sting
- \* Florida Governor Harrison Reed subjected to three separate impeachment inquiries (1868-1872)
- \* Illinois Chicago Hired Trucking Scandal
- \* Illinois Republican Governor George H. Ryan involved in sale of government licenses and contracts while he was Secretary of State
- \* Illinois Governor Lennington Small, associate of Al Capone, embezzled, sold pardons, etc., but was never convicted
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman "Bathhouse John" Coughlin graft operation with fellow alderman Michael "Hinky Dink" Kenna, the so-called "Lords of the Levee" extracting protection payments from gambling and prostitution
- \* Illinois Chicago Mayor William Hale Thompson, years of ongoing corruption
- \* Illinois Governor Otto Kerner, Jr. bribery, mail fraud, conspiracy, and tax evasion, as Kerner was found out and convicted after becoming a federal judge
- \* Illinois former Governor Daniel Walker convicted (1987) of wrongdoing in connection with Savings & Loan and sentenced to federal penitentiary
- \* Illinois Operation Greylord, involving influence peddling and bribery of Circuit Court judges (1980s)
- \* Illinois state senator . Bruce A. Farley sentenced to 18 months in prison for mail fraud. 1999.
- \* Illinois state senator John A. D'Arco Jr. served about 3 years in prison for bribery and extortion. 1995.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Larence S. Bloom sentenced to 6 months in 1999 for filing a false tax return.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Jesse J. Evans sentenced to 41 months in prison in 1997 for racketeering, extortion conspiracy, attempted extortion, mail fraud, influence peddling, filing false tax returns, and obstruction of justice.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Percy Giles sentenced to 3 years in prison for racketeering, extortion, among other things in 2000.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Virgil E. Jones Jr. in 1999 was sentenced to 2 and a half years in prison for extortion.

- \* Illinois Chicago city clerk Walter S. Kozubowski was sentenced to 5 years in prison for mail fraud.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman John S. Madrzyk sentenced to 41 months in prison for mail fraud.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Joseph A. Martínez in 1998 pleaded guilty to ghost payrolling and was sentenced to 5 months in prison.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Ambrosio Medrano pleaded guilty to extortion in 1996 and was sentenced to 30 months in prison.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Allan J. Streeter pleaded guilty to extortion and was sentenced to prison in 1998.
- \* Illinois Chicago alderman Fred B. Roti was sentenced to 48 months in 1993 for racketeering, conspiracy, bribery, among other things.
- \* Illinois Chicago judge Thomas J. Maloney Jr. sentenced to almost 16 years in prison for taking bribes. 1994.
- \* Illinois Chicago treasurer Edward Rosewell pleaded guilty to mail fraud but was not sentenced due to an illness that he died from soon after. His conviction was vacated in 1999.
- \* Illinois Chicago City Treasurer Miriam Santos originally sentenced to 40 months for extortion and mail fraud but the sentence was overturned on appeal. She subsequently pleaded guilty to mail fraud and sentenced to 3 months, only served 17 days in prison.
- \* Indiana Governor Warren McCray: forced to resign after conviction for mail fraud (1924)
- \* Indiana Governor Edward F. Jackson: taking bribes and trying to bribe a previous Governor on behalf of the Ku Klux Klan (1928)
- \* Kansas Governor Charles Robinson impeached but acquitted of state bond scheme (1862)
- \* Kentucky State Treasurer James Williams "Honest Dick" Tate ran off with the entire state treasury and was impeached (1888)
- \* Kentucky 1899 gubernatorial election dispute leading to armed conflict and assassination of William Goebel (1900)
- \* Kentucky Majority leader Don Blandford, of the Kentucky House of Representatives sent to prison for taking bribes in 1992. (approximately 10% of Kentucky's legislature was implicated in this scandal, some took bribes for as little as \$100).
- \* Louisiana In what was called the Louisiana Scandals, Governor Richard W. Leche (and others including the LSU president) were convicted of corruption relating to the influence of the followers of Huey Long and the Long family.
- \* Louisiana Democratic Governor Earl Long committed to insane asylum while in office
- \* Louisiana Governor Edwin Edwards convicted of extortion (2000)
- \* Maryland Governor Spiro Agnew (see Federal-level Scandals, as his gubernatorial misconduct did not catch up to him until after he was Vice-President of the United States)
- \* Maryland Governor Marvin Mandel convicted of mail fraud and racketeering (1977)
- \* Maryland State Senator Tommie Broadwater, Jr., convicted of food stamp fraud (1983)
- \* Maryland State Sen. Larry Young forced out of office despite acquittal on corruption charges (1990's)
- \* Maryland Lobbyist Bruce C. Bereano convicted of mail fraud in connection with campaign contributions (1990's), but later returned to lobbying in Annapolis
- \* Maryland politician Ruthann Aron (Montgomery County Council and former 1994 Republican candidate for U.S. Senate) who ran on a "tough on crime" platform convicted of hiring "contract" hit man William H. Mossburg Jr., in 1997, to kill her husband and a lawyer (1998)
- \* Maryland Lobbyist Gerard E. Evans convicted of fraud after dummied up legislation and collecting fees from clients to fight it
- \* Maryland Banker Nathan A. Chapman Jr. found guilty of defrauding the state retirement system. State
- \* Maryland Police Superintendent Edward T. Norris convicted of spending police money for personal uses while Baltimore's police chief
- \* Maryland Senate President Thomas V. "Mike" Miller telephoning Maryland Court of Appeals Judges ex parte, trying to lobby them not to overturn the unconstitutional redistricting plan he had championed (2002)

- \* Maryland Former Maryland state senator Thomas L. Bromwell indicted (2005) on 30 counts of federal racketeering, corruption, and fraud charges, in alleged six-year conspiracy ending in 2004, to wield influence to benefit construction company Poole and Kent, in exchange for concealed payments and other favors
- \* Massachusetts politician James Michael Curley, various allegations of corruption and a few convictions in first half of twentieth century
- \* Minnesota state senator Sam Solon Pleaded guilty in 1995 to telecommunications fraud for letting his ex-wife make \$2,430 in calls on his State Senate telephone line.
- \* Minnesota Minneapolis city council members Brian Herron (taped by FBI accepting \$10,000 bribe in 2001) and Joe Biernat (accepting free plumbing work on house)
- \* Minnesota Democratic consultant and businessman Pat Forcica convicted of extensive bank fraud charges
- \* Mississippi Governor John A. Quitman resigned (1851) after indictment for violation of Neutrality Act in connection with Cuban insurrection against Spain (later acquitted of charges)
- \* Missouri Thomas J. Pendergast "machine boss" in Kansas City convicted of tax fraud (1939)
- \* Nebraska Governor David C. Butler impeached and removed from office (1871)
- \* Nebraska State Treasurer Lorelee Byrd accused of massive improper check-writing; guilty plea to one misdemeanor charge of official misconduct (2005) and resignation (2006)
- \* Nebraska Omaha City Councilman Chuck Sigerson and former Douglas County Election Commissioner Pat McPherson accused (2005) of groping a 17-year-old girl wearing Red Robin mascot costume at a local Red Robin restaurant: McPherson resigned but was acquitted; mistrial in Sigerson case (Possibly reclassify as Sex scandal, although essential allegation was offensive assault: unwelcome touching and lifting of skirt to expose underwear)
- \* Nebraska State Treasurer Frank Marsh convicted of misdemeanor charges for making personal, long-distance telephone calls (1991)
- \* Nebraska Omaha Mayor Mike Boyle was recalled in a special election after being accused of misconduct in office (1987)
- \* Nebraska Attorney General Paul Douglas impeached by Legislature for his dealings with the head of a failed savings and loan (1984)
- \* New Hampshire former Governor Llewelyn Sherman Adams Chief of Staff to President Eisenhower forced from office in "Vicuna Coat" scandal involving giving special favors to givers of gifts (1958)
- \* New Jersey Jersey City Mayor Frank Hague resigns as mayor (1947) amid accusations of widespread corruption; resigns other party offices later on
- \* New Jersey Democratic Governor Jim McGreevey sex and corruption scandal (2004)
- \* New York Tammany Hall (1854-1934) See Federal-level scandals, because the influence of the New York City political machine was felt at the national level
- \* New York highest court Chief Judge Sol Wachtler, scandal involving obscene telephone calls and extortion (1993)
- \* New York Lee Alexander, Syracuse mayor, pleaded guilty to racketeering and tax evasion. Served 6 years in prison.
- \* North Carolina Governor William Woods Holden impeached and removed from office in corruption scandal (1870)
- \* North Dakota Governor William Langer removed from office (1934) for alleged racketeering
- \* Dakota Territorial Governor Nehemiah Ordway corruption (1884) See Federal-level scandals.
- \* Ohio Cincinnati City Council member (and later Mayor) Jerry Springer resigned (1974) after vice investigation uncovered personal check he had paid a prostitute
- \* Ohio Summit County Probate Judge James V. Barbuto corruption by trading sexual favors with female defendants for leniency in their cases, exposed on national TV by Geraldo Rivera (1980) (classified here because it was less a Sex Scandal than a "crooked judge" scandal,

although Geraldo played up Judge Barbuto's preference for being spanked while wearing women's undergarments)

- \* Ohio Governor Bob Taft pleads no contest and is convicted on four first-degree misdemeanor ethics violations (2005)
- \* Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation loss of \$215 million in high-risk fund run by big contributor to political campaigns (Pittsburgh businessman Mark D. Lay), and loss of state funds in \$50 million rare-coin investment of prominent campaign contributor Tom Noe (2005)
- \* Oklahoma Governor John C. Walton impeached and removed (1923)
- \* Oklahoma Governor Harry S. Johnston impeached twice, second time convicted and removed (1928-1929)
- \* Oklahoma Governor David Lee Walters pleaded guilty to misdemeanor election law violation (1993)
- \* Oregon Governor La Fayette Grover (later U.S. Senator) implicated, but eventually exonerated, in vote-rigging scheme to give Oregon's electoral votes in the 1876 presidential election to Democrat Samuel Tilden
- \* Pennsylvania State Treasurer Budd Dwyer committed suicide on television before he was to be sentenced on bribery and related convictions (1987)
- \* Rhode Island Providence Mayor Vincent Cianci convicted of racketeering conspiracy (2002)
- \* Tennessee Governor Ray Blanton loses his reelection bid after exposure of a bribery scandal, (1976-1979)
- \* Tennessee State Senators John Ford, Kathryn Bowers, Ward Crutchfield accused of bribery among other charges in Operation Tennessee Waltz scandal (2005)
- \* Texas Governor James Edward Ferguson impeached and removed from office for financial misconduct (1917)
- \* Texas Governor Miriam "Ma" Ferguson, first woman elected Governor of a state in the U.S. and wife of the removed ex-governor, was implicated in the same financial improprieties that had brought "Pa" down and lost the Democratic primary in 1926
- \* Texas George Parr, the so-called "Duke of Duval County," suspected but never convicted of various illegal activities, including ballot box stuffing and fraud (1905-1975)
- \* Texas The Veterans Land Board Scandal tainted many prominent state politicians, including Governor Allan Shivers. (1954)
- \* Texas Sharpstown scandal (1971-1972)
- \* Washington Spokane Mayor James West, an opponent of gay rights, denied accusations of having molested two boys while he was a sheriff's deputy and Boy Scout leader in the late 1970's and early 1980's, but came under investigation (2005) for offering municipal jobs to men he met in gay online chat rooms; West was ousted in recall vote December 2005
- \* Wisconsin Governor William Augustus Barstow resigned 1856 amid investigation of corrupt business practices and election wrongdoing
- \* Wisconsin Caucus Scandal, 2002

## Sex Scandals

- \* Sally Hemings-Thomas Jefferson affair (alleged)
- \* Alexander Hamilton-Maria Reynolds affair (1797)
- \* Petticoat Affair or Eaton Affair
- \* President James Buchanan and Senator William Rufus King were the subject of scandalous gossip (alleging a homosexual affair) in Washington, DC for many years
- \* Warren Harding-Carrie Phillips-Nan Britton mistresses and pay-offs
- \* Walter Jenkins (1964)

- \* Wilbur Mills-Fanne Foxe (1972)
- \* Wayne Hays-Elizabeth Ray scandal (1976)
- \* John Young (1976)
- \* Allan Howe (1976)
- \* Fred Richmond (1978)
- \* Robert Bauman (1980)
- \* Jon Hinson (1981)
- \* Thomas Evans-Paula Parkinson (1981)
- \* Dan Crane and Gerry Studds Congressional Page sex scandal (1983)
- \* Gary Hart-Donna Rice scandal (1987)
- \* Ernie Konnyu (1987)
- \* Brock Adams (1988)
- \* Jim Bates (1988)
- \* Gus Savage (1989)
- \* Barney Frank (1989)
- \* Donald "Buz" Lukens scandal (1989)
- \* Arlan Stangeland (1990)
- \* Chuck Robb-Tai Collins affair (1991)
- \* Clarence Thomas-Anita Hill sexual harassment scandal (1991)
- \* Daniel Inouye (1992)
- \* Bob Packwood sexual harassment scandal (1995)
- \* Mel Reynolds (1995)
- \* Bob Livingston (1998)
- \* Henry Hyde "youthful indiscretion" (1998)
- \* Bill Clinton - Monica Lewinsky scandal (1998)
- \* Chandra Levy-Gary Condit (2001)
- \* Kentucky Governor Paul Patton affair; became public after former mistress alleged retaliation against her business (2002)
- \* Steven C. LaTourette affair with staffer (2003)
- \* West Virginia Governor Bob Wise affair with state employee (2003)
- \* The Washingtonienne scandal (2004)
- \* Illinois Republican U.S. Senate candidate Jack Ryan Sex Clubs (2004)
- \* New Jersey Democratic Governor Jim McGreevey – closeted homosexual extramarital affair (2004)

## **Accusations of rape against United States presidents**

### **Thomas Jefferson**

DNA tests have lent additional authority to longstanding rumors that Jefferson fathered children by his slave Sally Hemings. Some say that relationships such as that alleged to have occurred in Jefferson's case, and the Jefferson-Hemings relationship in particular could be considered rape by modern standards since Hemings was presumably unable to withhold consent. Opinions vary on this conclusion, however.

Writing about the relationship in the Nashville City Paper, Molly Secours said "for us to call it anything but 'rape' is disingenuous and dangerous." In USA Today, DeWayne Wickham wrote that "to imply that the sex between him and his slave was consensual, even in a TV movie, is a cruelly dishonest portrayal of the dirtiest secret of American slavery"; in the same article, Daniel Jordan, president of

the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation, is quoted as saying "whether it was love or lust, rape or romance, no one knows, and it's unlikely that anyone will ever know."

Recent evidence suggests one of the Jefferson brothers, but probably not Thomas, fathered Hemmings's child

## **Ronald Reagan**

In April 1991, major newspapers carried the report that actress Selene Walters claimed that, in 1952, Reagan, when he was president of the Screen Actors Guild, had raped her in her home. The charge was initially publicized in Kitty Kelley's unauthorized biography of Nancy Reagan and then repeated in a People magazine interview with Walters. "I opened the door," Walters told the magazine. "Then it was the battle of the couch. I was fighting him. I didn't want him to make love to me. He's a very big man, and he just had his way." According to Kelley, Walters shared contemporaneous accounts of the encounter with friends. No physical evidence has been produced to support the allegation. No legal action, civil or criminal, was taken against Reagan based on the allegation.

## **Bill Clinton**

In November 1998, Juanita Broaddrick gave an interview (transcript) to "Dateline NBC". The interview, broadcast in February 1999, centered around Broaddrick's accusation that Bill Clinton had raped her on April 25, 1978 during his first campaign for the governorship of Arkansas. In the interview, she declared that Clinton suddenly "turned me around and started kissing me, and that was a real shock. I first pushed him away. I just told him 'no.'... He tries to kiss me again. He starts biting on my lip... And then he forced me down on the bed. I just was very frightened. I tried to get away from him. I told him 'no.'... He wouldn't listen to me."

Previously, in 1997, Broaddrick had filed a sworn affidavit in the Paula Jones case saying Clinton had never assaulted her: "During the 1992 Presidential campaign there were unfounded rumors and stories circulated that Mr. Clinton had made unwelcome sexual advances toward me in the late seventies. ... These allegations are untrue ...." In 1998, she recanted that affidavit when interviewed by the FBI about the Jones case; the FBI found her account inconclusive. Broaddrick later said of the affidavit, "I didn't want to be forced to testify about one of the most horrific events in my life. I didn't want to go through it again."

According to Jack Nelson, Washington bureau chief of the Los Angeles Times, many journalists were skeptical; "This is a story that's been knocked down and discredited so many times, I was shocked to see it in the [Wall Street] Journal today... Everyone's taken a slice of it, and after looking at it, everyone's knocked it down. The woman has changed her story about whether it happened. It just wasn't credible." Joe Conason and Gene Lyon's book "The Hunting of the President" argued that Broaddrick's claim is not credible and contains numerous inconsistencies. In contrast, Michael Isikoff's book "Uncovering Clinton" and Christopher Hitchens' book "No One Left to Lie To" both argue that Broaddrick's claim is credible.

No legal action, civil or criminal, was taken against Clinton based on the allegation.

Bill Clinton also faced rape allegations by Paula Jones and Kathleen Willey.

## **George W. Bush**

In 2002, Margie Schoedinger of Missouri City, Texas, filed a pro se lawsuit against Bush alleging that he had raped her in October 2000. The complaint also claims she had been harassed, that she had been drugged and sexually assaulted numerous times by Bush and other men purporting to be FBI agents, that her bank account had been interfered with, and that she had been threatened and beaten. The suit also raised the allegation that her husband might have been similarly raped. Her husband, Christopher, did serve a year in prison after pleading "no contest" to assault charges against his wife; he later filed for divorce.

It has been widely speculated that Schoedinger suffered from a mental illness such as schizophrenia. Among American newspapers, the story was covered by only the Fort Bend Star, whose editor stated "I had heard she was a nutcase."

A notable excerpt from the legal petition reads "the Defendant [George Bush] also informed the Plaintiff [Margie Schoedinger] that his only option to assure his never having to answer for the previous contact would be to simply see Plaintiff pressured to the point of committing suicide"; another states that Bush never stopped watching her, and never stopped having sex with her, had dated her when she was a minor and that the entire affair was part of a racist conspiracy against her. A year later, she died of a gunshot wound to the head, which medical examiners ruled a suicide.

There is no evidence that Bush was ever served with the complaint in the civil action; no criminal action was taken against Bush based on the allegation.

## List of scandals with "-gate" suffix

The suffix -gate derives from the Watergate scandal of the United States in the early 1970s, which resulted in the resignation of U.S. President Richard Nixon. The word "Watergate" is derived from the Watergate Complex, where the scandal started. Since the Watergate scandal, the media has on occasion referred to political scandals by adding the suffix "-gate" to one of the key words used to describe the scandal. This new label has sometimes stuck but often a new name is used.

On June 17, 1972, agents of the Nixon White House and the Nixon reelection campaign were arrested while breaking into the office of the Democratic National Committee, which at the time was located in the Watergate Complex (a combination of residences and offices located near the Potomac River) in Washington D.C. Over the course of the next two years, the scandal grew from what initially appeared to be a relatively small and inconsequential event to become one of the biggest political controversies in U.S. history.

## Widely recognized scandals with a gate suffix

- \* Billygate — U.S. President Jimmy Carter's brother, Billy Carter, legally represented a Libyan terrorist "Billygate - 1980", The Washington Post, 1998.
- \* Camillagate — tape of a telephone conversation between Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla Parker-Bowles scroll to 1992.
- \* Chinagate (also "Campaign finance scandal"). Allegations that China illegally attempted to funnel campaign funds to the Democratic Party of the United States during the 1996 elections.
- \* Closetgate — Amid the Scientologist uproar following South Park's Trapped in the Closet, this term was coined in the Los Angeles Times to describe the controversy.
- \* Coingate — the mishandling of Ohio government funds entrusted to Republican operatives, involving rare coin funds "Gov. Taft sued over 'Coingate' scandal", WKYC, 2005-07-06.
- \* Filegate — The illegal possession and scrutiny of 300-900 FBI files by the Clinton Administration without the file's subject's permission.
- \* Hookergate
- \* Irangate or Contragate — (Usually referred to as the Iran-Contra affair) — The United States sold weapons to Iran and diverted the proceeds to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua. "1989: Irangate colonel avoids prison", St Louis Post-Dispatch, 1989-07-05.
- \* KatrinaGate - used by people who disapproved of government response to Hurricane Katrina.
- \* Kremingate (diversion of International Monetary Fund \$4.8 billions funds to Russia by bank Menatep owned by Mikhail Khodorkovsky)
- \* Monicagate or Sexgate ("Zippergate", "the Lewinsky scandal") — named after Monica Lewinsky who had an "inappropriate relationship" with the then-US President, Bill Clinton.
- \* Muldergate — South African political scandal of the late 1970s in which funds were clandestinely diverted by defence minister Connie Mulder for overseas propaganda in support of the apartheid regime. The scandal brought about the downfall of BJ Vorster.
- \* Nipplegate — Justin Timberlake reveals Janet Jackson's nipple during the halftime show of Super Bowl XXXVIII. Called "teatgate" by Jon Stewart.
- \* Plamegate (also "Leakgate," Plame affair) — the revealing, by Robert Novak, of the name of Valerie Plame. Lewis Libby allegedly leaked to the media the identity of a covert CIA agent who worked on WMDs, in retaliation for her husband, Joseph C. Wilson, criticizing George W. Bush's justification for the invasion of Iraq. Critics of the investigation have referred to it as Nadagate.

- \* Rathergate (also "Memogate") — Faxed copies of unauthenticated memos, that were presented on 60 Minutes in 2004, claimed President George W. Bush was derelict in his duty in the Texas Air National Guard in 1972.
- \* Squidgygate/Dianagate — tape of a telephone conversation between Diana, Princess of Wales and a male friend.
- \* Travelgate — Linked to Filegate, the firings and reinstatement of several people at the White House Travel Office. "How Clintons took control of federal law enforcement", WorldNetDaily, 2005-07-07.
- \* Troopergate — the allegations by two Arkansas state troopers that they arranged sexual liaisons or then-governor Bill Clinton.

## **Less well-known scandals with a gate suffix, or scandals that are in dispute of having a gate suffix**

- \* Bananagate — 1975 scandal, in which Oswaldo López Arellano, President of Honduras, accepted a \$1.2m bribe from US firm United Brands to halve the banana export levy
- \* Bingogate — the use of charity funds for political purposes by the ruling New Democratic Party in British ColumbiaCBC.
- \* Buttongate The tug-of-war that ran for two F1 seasons between WilliamsF1 and British American Racing over the services of Jenson Button
- \* Blobbygate — applied to a dispute between Noel Edmonds and Lancaster City Council over the failure of a theme park; refers to Mr. Blobby, an Edmonds character.
- \* Bluegate — The prosecution of Danish Minister of Trade Joseph Humphrey Nye in the mysterious death of Nikolai "Blue" Fukov
- \* Casinogate — indictment of sitting Premier of British Columbia in casino licensing influence case
- \* Cheriegate — concerning Cherie Blair's association with Carole Caplin, and through her to the convicted fraudster Peter Foster."Curse of 'Cheriegat' strikes again", The Scotsman, 2005-06-18.
- \* Clarkegate — In the UK on April 2006 it was revealed Home Secretary Charles Clarke had failed to deport over 1,000 foreign criminals.
- \* Cookiegate — 'Scandal' involving the improper use of browser cookies on internet users computers.
- \* Corngate — The accidental release of genetically modified corn in New Zealand. "Straight Thinking", Truth about Trade and Technology, 2005-06-28.
- \* Debategate — Acquisition of Jimmy Carter's briefing books by Ronald Reagan's team before the presidential debates during the 1980 campaign.
- \* Donnygate — corruption amongst Doncaster councillors. "Donnygate scandal ends in jail terms", The Guardian, 2002-3-13.
- \* Fajitagate — In November of 2002, three off-duty San Francisco police officers allegedly assaulted two civilians over a bag of steak fajitas.
- \* Fettesgate, a major scandal concerning the Lothian and Borders Police force in the 1990s, from its Fettes headquarters near Fettes College in Edinburgh.
- \* Fuddgate — alternate name given to the controversy surrounding Vice President Dick Cheney's shooting of Republican lawyer Harry Whittington during a quail-hunting trip in February 2006.
- \* Funeralgate is the name given to a scandal involving George W. Bush and family campaign contributor Robert Waltrip, owner of Service Corporation International, the largest funeral home company in the world.
- \* Gannogate — United States President George W. Bush's White House scandal involving free press conference passes for conservative James Dale Guckert under the false pseudonym Jeff Gannon "Gannogate threatens to expose a huge GOP pedophile and male prostitution ring", Online Journal, 2005-02-18.

- \* Garbagegate, a 2005 scandal in San Jose, California, involving Mayor Ron Gonzales, and a under-the-table deal with the Norcal garbage company.
- \* Gazzagate — Footballing scandal in 1998 involving footballer Paul Gascoigne's omission from the England squad for the forthcoming World Cup finals in France.
- \* Gloriagate ""Gloriagate" still open-ended", Xinhua News Agency, 2005-07-11.
- \* Gropegate — California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger was alleged to have groped many women while working on movies.
- \* Hansiegate — cricket match-fixing scandal involving South African captain Hansie Cronje.
- \* Iraqgate — Where Finnish opposition leader Anneli Jäätteenmäki used state secrets against prime minister Paavo Lipponen during the parliamentary election campaign.
- \* Jowellgate — David Mills (lawyer), the husband of Tessa Jowell, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport received £340,000 from Silvio Berlusconi.
- \* Jueteng-gate — Scandal involving Philippine president Joseph Estrada alleging that he amassed millions of dollars from an illegal numbers game called jueteng. As a result, he was deposed through a popular uprising.
- \* Koreagate — South Korean businessman Tongsun Park's shady dealings with certain members of Congress (1976). "WIU professor fought abuse in native Korea", Journal Star, 2005-07-12.
- \* Lexusgate — Top financial officer of Hong Kong, Antony Leung purchased a Lexus right before a luxury car tax hike was announced. "Their jobs on the line", The Standard, 2005-06-09.
- \* Mabelgate — The fiancée of Prince Johan-Friso of Orange-Nassau, Mabel Wisse Smit turned out to had "superficial sailing contacts" with murdered drug lord Klaas Bruinsma. This was discovered by dutch magazine Quote. The princess still denies any loving or sexual relation with Bruinsma.
- \* Michaelgate — the supposed conspiracy against Michael Jackson that led to the 2005 trial of Michael Jackson. Was written about in a book by author Geraldine Hughes titled, "Michaelgate: The Conspiracy Theories".
- \* Nitrogate - refers to an incident one week before the 2004 election in the U. S. where a stash of explosives in Iraq was found to be missing, and George W. Bush was unable to explain what happened to them.
- \* Nannygate — a scandal involving British Cabinet member David Blunkett fast tracking a visa application for his family's nanny "Telegraph owners fire Lawson", The Guardian, 2005-06-15.
- \* Nannygate — noncitizen domestic help for U.S. attorney general nominees. Also the name of a scandal involving former New York City Police Chief Bernard Kerik
- \* Officegate — the investigation into Scottish First Minister Henry McLeish's decision to sub-let his constituency office (while still an MP), for which he was receiving full Westminster parliamentary expenses, without notifying Parliament, resulting in his resignation. "McLetchie glad of easy ride as he calms taxi storm", The Scotsman, 2005-06-23.
- \* O'Learygate — a scandal involving the ruling New Democratic Party regarding a school superintendent who spent almost \$2 million between 2002 and 2005 on a risky real estate development scheme in Manitoba. "Land development, NDP style", The Black Rod, 2005-05-09.
- \* Oilgate — the alleged use of PetroSA funds for African National Congress election campaigns "Oilgate: UN probes Iraq deals", Mail and Guardian, 2005-07-08.
- \* Orlengate — corruption scandal in Poland "Polish privatisation scandal drags CRH into the fray", Sunday Business Post, 2005-07-03.
- \* Paintergate — when the Prime Minister of New Zealand fraudulantly signed a picture she did not paint.
- \* Paksagate (Paksageitas) — Impeachment of president Rolandas Paksas of Lithuania
- \* Pardongate — President Clinton's presidential pardons "Dick Morris: Hillary Surging, Thanks to GOP", NewsMax, 2005-06-21.
- \* PEMEXGATE — scandal in Mexico dealing with funds from PEMEX the national oil company
- \* Peengate — the internet scandal in which nude pictures of Pete Wentz were released in the LiveJournal community OhNoTheyDidnt[1]

- \* Phoneygate — used for multiple scandals: in Minnesota in the early 1990s, New Hampshire in 2002, and Macedonia in 2004
- \* Piñeragate, scandal in Chile involving secretly recorded phone calls to businessperson and politician Sebastián Piñera
- \* Pretzelgate — To explain a two-inch bruise on the face of U.S. President George W. Bush, he and his staff claim he hit his face on a coffee table after passing out because he choked on a pretzel. Some people felt the story was invented to cover-up the real cause of the bruise.
- \* Quailgate — Describes a scandal when U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shooting Harry Whittington during a quail hunt (see Dick Cheney hunting accident, February 2006).
- \* Rinkagate — the scandal surrounding the attempts to silence Norman Scott who said he had a sexual affair with Liberal party leader Jeremy Thorpe. In an apparent attempt to frighten him, Scott's dog Rinka was shot by a hitman.
- \* Rubbergate — alternate name for scandal in which members of the United States House of Representatives knowingly wrote overdrafts that were honored without penalty.
- \* Rywingate — a recent scandal in Poland, named after Lew Rywin who, on July 22, 2002, demanded a 17.5 million USD bribe from Adam Michnik (Gazeta Wyborcza) claiming that he was sent by the then Prime Minister of Poland, Leszek Miller.
- \* Sausagegate - 2003 incident in which Randall Simon hit a Milwaukee Brewers mascot with a bat during the "Sausage Race."
- \* Sharongate — the fictional scandal on television's EastEnders relating to the love triangle between Grant, Sharon, and Phil. BBC
- \* Shawinigate — scandal over former Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's alleged conflict-of-interest in real estate in his riding.
- \* Shot in the Face Gate Alternate name given to the controversy surrounding Vice President Dick Cheney's shooting of Republican lawyer Harry Whittington during a quail-hunting trip in February 2006 and the suspected cover up.
- \* Sirengate — the controversial finish and result of an Australian Football League game
- \* Skategate — the scandal over the pairs figure skating results of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, where a judge was apparently bribed to fix the outcome. The case went on for nearly two weeks before joint gold medals were granted.
- \* Sponsorgate — The Canadian sponsorship scandal.
- \* Squatgate — Malaysian lock-up detainee abuse scandal.
- \* Squidgygate
- \* Stormontgate — scandal involving an alleged Provisional IRA spy ring in Parliament Buildings, Belfast, Northern Ireland.
- \* Strippergate — Seattle City Council members Heidi Wills and Judy Nicastro vote for rezoning a strip club parking lot in exchange for unethical donations. "Four face charges in 'Strippergate' scandal", Seattle Post-Intelligencer, 2005-07-12.
- \* Strippergate — A scandal in Canada in 2004 with the Minister of Immigration Judy Sgro accused of granting a visa to a Romanian exotic dancer who worked for her campaign during the 2004 federal election.
- \* Strippergate — San Diego City Council Members Michael Zucchet and Ralph Inzunza are, in 2005, convicted of accepting bribes from a strip club owner in a scheme to get the "no-touch" laws in San Diegan strip clubs repealed. The case was referred to with this name by at least one local television news station in San Diego.
- \* Svengate "FA director Davies accused of sexual harassment", Reuters, 2005-06-21.
- \* Tapeigate — A Canadian scandal in which Conservative Member of Parliament Gurmant Grewal taped conversations with High Profile Liberals. "Tapeigate to be probed in B.C.", Ottawa Sun, 2005-06-22.
- \* Taxigate, a long-running dispute over receipts from taxi journeys which resulted in the resignation of the Leader of the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, David McLetchie, in 2005

- \* Templegate In April 2006 in the UK Deputy Prime Minister suffered humiliation after his two year affair with his secretary Tracey Temple was revealed by the press. Images were published from office parties featuring Mr Prescott having his shirt removed by Miss Temple and the press revelations were compounded by his promotional election literature featuring an image of Mr Prescott and his wife saying "Family values". Further revelations suggested Mr Prescott also condoned an affair with Rosalie Winterton MP.
- \* Toallagate — A scandal involving the cost of towels in the official residence of Mexican president Vicente Fox.
- \* Travelgate — "Travelgate MPs 'should not have lost seats'", Sunday Times, 2005-07-09.
- \* Tunagate — In 1985, a Canadian minister ordered the selling of tuna ruled unfit for consumption.
- \* Whitewatergate — In 1994, President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary were charged with covering up shady investments.
- \* Wikigate — candidates editing wikipedia for political gain e.g. (The Scotsman)
- \* Vodafone-gate — Political scandal in Greece concerning Vodafone Greece.
- \* VoterGate — Documentary Film which explores questions of alleged fraud, lack of accountability, disenfranchisement, lack of transparency, as well as other voting irregularities in the November 2, 2004 United States Presidential Election.