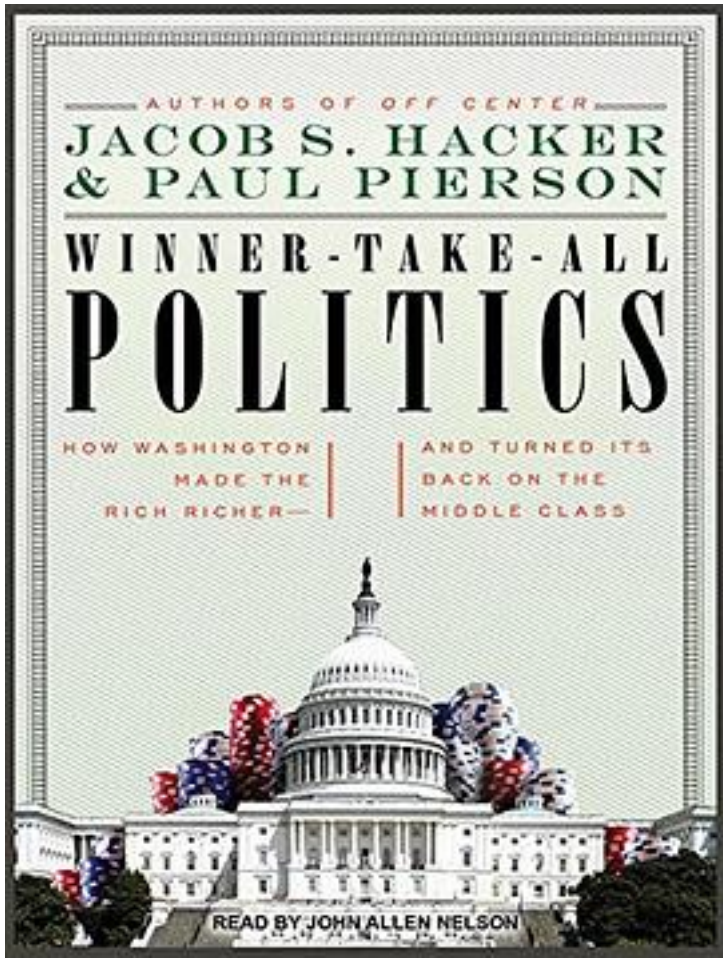


Winner-Take-All Politics



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A groundbreaking work that identifies the real culprit behind one of the great economic crimes of our time—the growing inequality of incomes between the vast majority of Americans and the richest of the rich. We all know that the very rich have

gotten a lot richer these past few decades while most Americans haven't. In fact, the exorbitantly paid have continued to thrive during the current economic crisis, even as the rest of Americans have continued to fall behind. Why do the "have-it-alls" have so much more? And how have they managed to restructure the economy to reap the lion's share of the gains and shift the costs of their new economic playground downward, tearing new holes in the safety net and saddling all of us with increased debt and risk? Lots of so-called experts claim to have solved this great mystery, but no one has really gotten to the bottom of it—until now. In their lively and provocative Winner-Take-All Politics, renowned political scientists Jacob S. Hacker and Paul Pierson demonstrate convincingly that the usual suspects—foreign trade and financial globalization, technological changes in the workplace, increased education at the top—are largely innocent of the charges against them. Instead, they indict an unlikely suspect and take us on an entertaining tour of the mountain of evidence against the culprit. The guilty party is American politics. Runaway inequality and the present economic crisis reflect what government has done to aid the rich and what it has not done to safeguard the interests of the middle class. The winner-take-all economy is primarily a result of winner-take-all politics. In an innovative historical departure, Hacker and Pierson trace the rise of the winner-take-all economy back to the late 1970s when, under a Democratic president and a Democratic Congress, a major transformation of American politics occurred. With big business and conservative ideologues organizing themselves to undo the regulations and progressive tax policies that had helped ensure a fair distribution of economic rewards, deregulation got under way, taxes were cut for the wealthiest, and business decisively defeated labor in Washington. And this transformation continued under Reagan and the Bushes as well as under Clinton, with both parties catering to the interests of those at the very top. Hacker and Pierson's gripping narration of the epic battles waged during President Obama's first two years in office reveals an unpleasant but catalyzing truth: winner-take-all politics, while under challenge, is still very much with us. Winner-Take-All Politics—part revelatory history, part political analysis, part intellectual journey—shows how a political system that traditionally has been responsive to the interests of the middle class has been hijacked by the superrich. In doing so, it not only changes how we think about American politics, but also points the way to rebuilding a democracy that serves the interests of the many rather than just those of the wealthy few.

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标签

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评论

大众向的一般教养类型的参考书。在北美若干畅销社会科学类的榜单上，感觉政治学者突然参合进来写作经济类的话题，可能多少是有一种违和感的。自然，指出美国的市场经济相较于欧洲和日本的同行，在若干指标上并非表现出色，可能是除了美国人之外很多人都知晓的常识。不过，指出国会山的政治家有意识地进行市场自由化的同时，拒绝积极进行新的市场规制和再分配的制度创立，多少也是真实的。无论如何，相较于30年代，后石油危机的美国资本主义市场经济体制已经从90年代的镀金年代突入了后次贷危机的动荡岁月。在全球化里，发达资本主义工业国的工人和中小资产者是最大的输家？多少也有这样的议论。不过，贸易自由化和资本流动化的浪潮，大概还暂且没有停止的迹象吧。

没有任何的国际眼光的左派檄文

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<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/67046/robert-c-lieberman/why-the-rich-are-get>

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