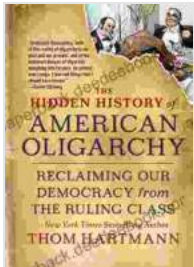


# Reclaiming Our Democracy From the Ruling Class: The Thom Hartmann Hidden History



The Hidden History of American Oligarchy: Reclaiming Our Democracy from the Ruling Class (The Thom Hartmann Hidden History Series Book 5) by Thom Hartmann

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3648 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 205 pages



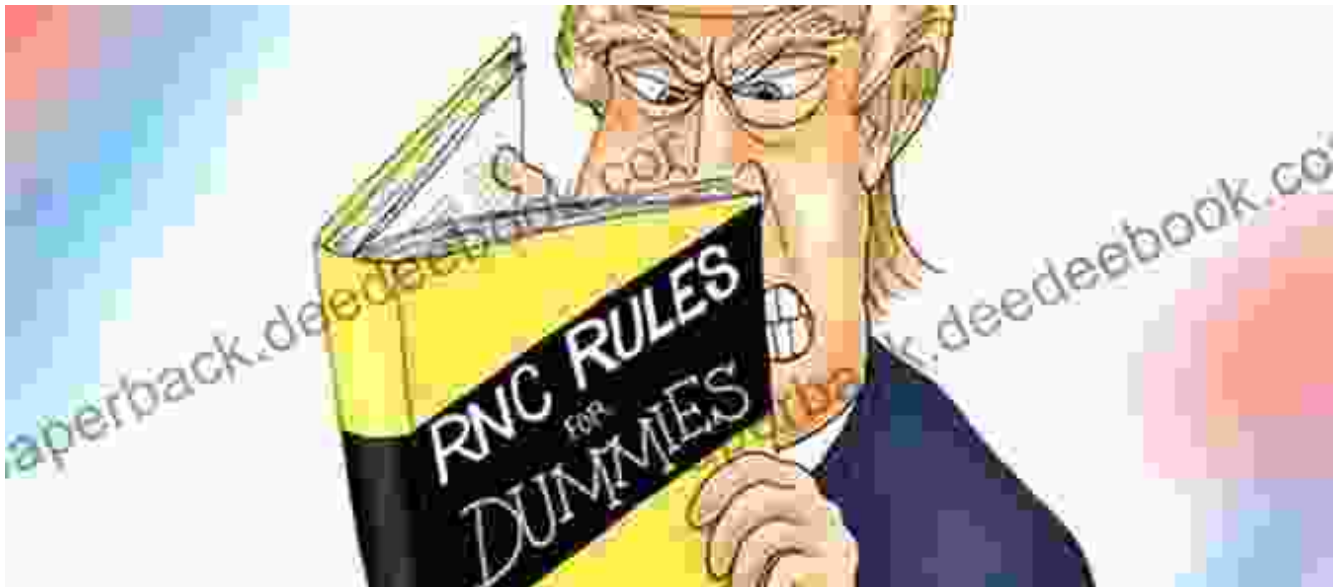
In the annals of American history, the concept of democracy has been both a beacon of hope and a subject of fierce debate. While the ideals of equality, liberty, and self-governance have long inspired generations, the reality often falls short, as powerful interests seek to undermine the very foundations of our democratic system.

In his groundbreaking work, author and political commentator Thom Hartmann has spent decades delving into the hidden history of the ruling class, exposing the intricate web of power and influence that shapes our political and economic landscape. Through meticulous research and captivating storytelling, Hartmann paints a vivid picture of how the ruling

class has systematically eroded democratic institutions and manipulated public opinion to maintain their grip on power.

## **The Rise of the Ruling Class**

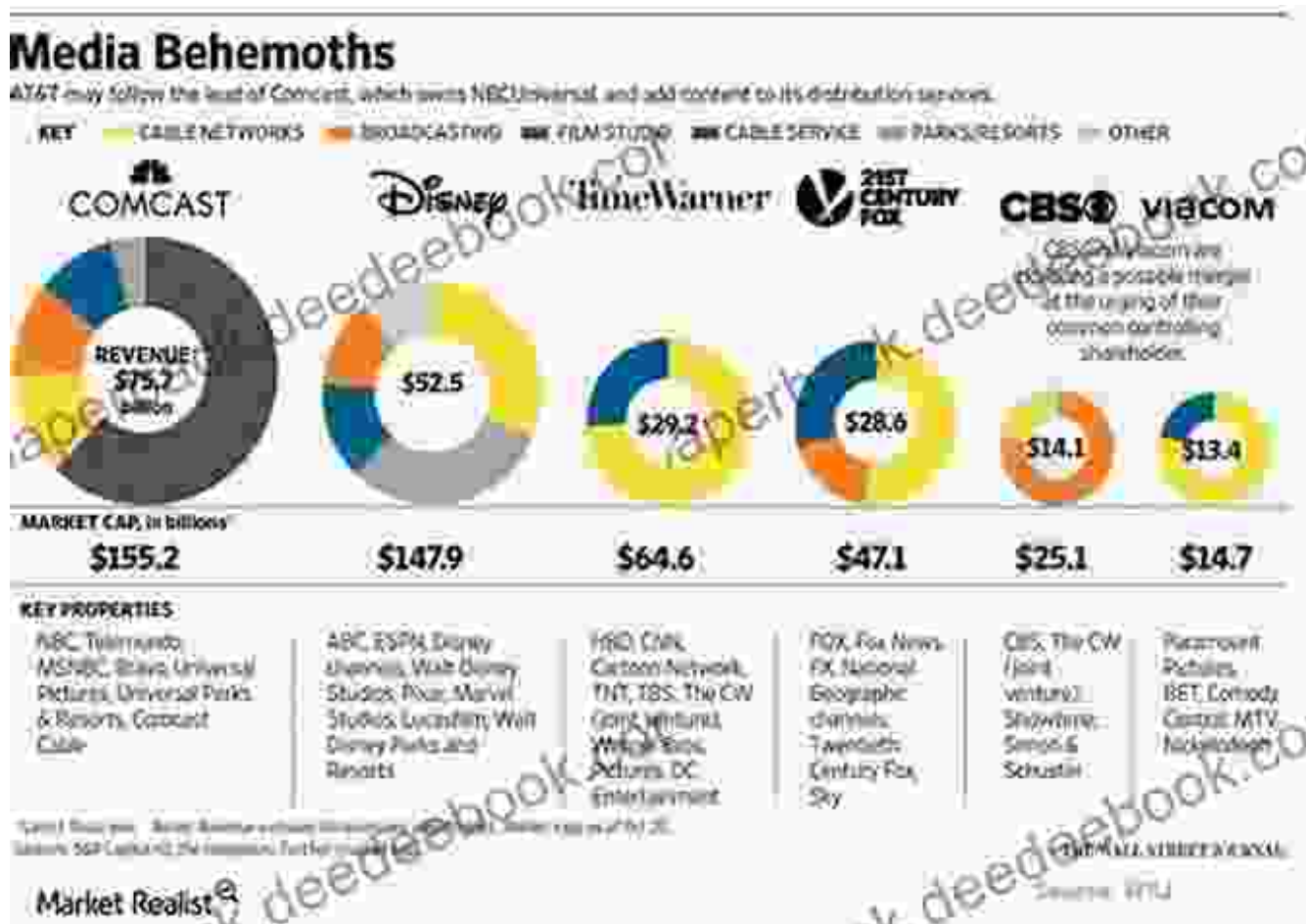
Hartmann traces the origins of the ruling class back to the Industrial Revolution, when a small group of wealthy elites amassed unprecedented economic power through the control of industry and finance. As their wealth grew, so did their influence over government and public policy.



This concentration of economic power gave rise to a system of political corruption where the interests of the ruling class took precedence over the needs of ordinary citizens. Hartmann reveals how corporate lobbyists and special interest groups have infiltrated the halls of government, influencing legislation, manipulating regulations, and shaping public discourse to benefit their own agendas.

## **Media Manipulation**

The ruling class has also recognized the power of media to shape public opinion. Hartmann exposes how large corporate media outlets, owned by a handful of powerful individuals, have become a propaganda machine for the ruling class.

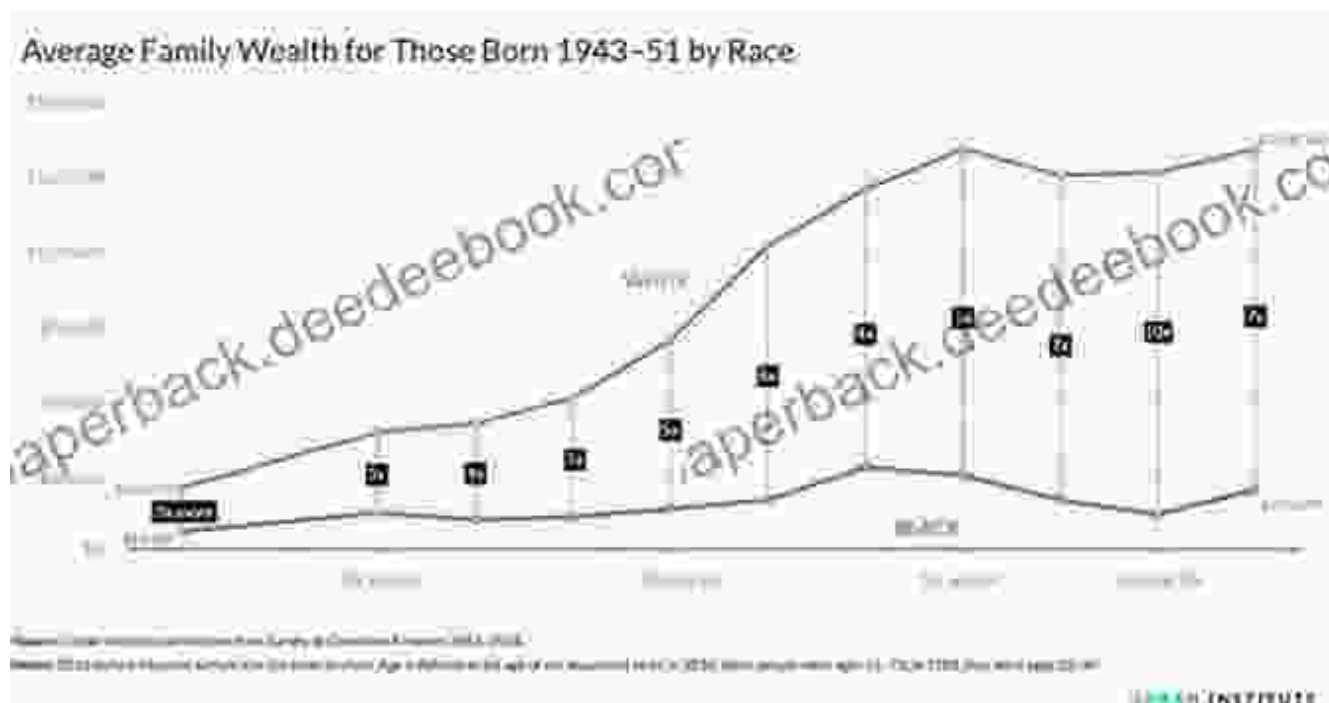


Infographic by visual.ly

These media outlets use carefully crafted narratives and biased reporting to promote the interests of the ruling class while marginalizing dissenting voices. By controlling the flow of information, the ruling class can influence public perception, manufacture consent, and silence opposition.

## Economic Inequality

One of the most devastating consequences of the ruling class's grip on power is the widening gap between the wealthy and the rest of society. Hartmann documents how neoliberal policies, deregulated markets, and tax cuts for the wealthy have resulted in a massive transfer of wealth from the middle class to the top 1%.



This economic inequality has profound implications for democracy. When a small number of individuals control a disproportionate share of wealth and income, they have the power to influence elections, buy politicians, and shape public policy in their own interests. The end result is a system where the concerns of the majority are marginalized and the needs of the wealthy are prioritized.

## Grassroots Movements

Despite the challenges posed by the ruling class, Hartmann remains optimistic about the future of democracy. He argues that the power of

ordinary citizens to make a real difference is often underestimated.



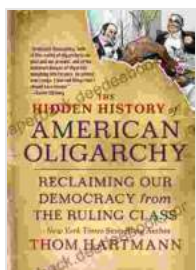
Photo by The Guardian

Hartmann's work highlights the importance of grassroots movements in challenging the ruling class and pushing for progressive change. He points to successful examples of citizen-led campaigns that have overturned corporate power, held politicians accountable, and expanded democratic rights.

Thom Hartmann's hidden history of the ruling class is a timely and urgent call to action. By exposing the insidious ways in which the ruling class has undermined our democracy, Hartmann provides us with a roadmap for resistance.

Reclaiming our democracy requires a concerted effort to fight political corruption, break up corporate monopolies, democratize the media, and address economic inequality. It requires a return to the principles of participatory democracy, where ordinary citizens have a real say in the decisions that shape their lives.

Thom Hartmann's work is an inspiration to those who believe in the power of democracy and the indomitable spirit of the human spirit. By shining a light on the hidden history of the ruling class, Hartmann empowers us to break free from its grip and reclaim our democracy for generations to come.

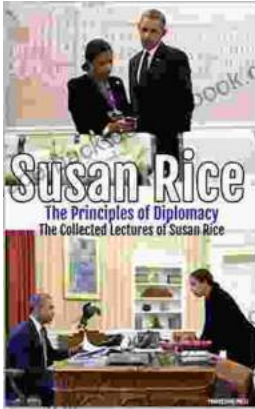


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