



# Who's Running America?: The Obama Reign

By Thomas R. Dye

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A classic of American government, *Who's Running America?* continues to demonstrate how power is concentrated in large institutions no matter who inhabits the White House. The eighth edition of this best-selling text focuses on the Obama administration and the ways in which it is different from but also similar to administrations that have come before. Based on years of exhaustive data compilation and analysis, *Who's Running America?* explores the influence and impact of governmental leaders, corporate officials, and other elites both inside and outside the United States. Employing an oligarchic model of national policymaking, Tom Dye doesn't just lay out theory and data. He very consciously "names names" in describing the people who inhabit the White House, the Cabinet, the leaders of Congress, members of the Supreme Court, as well as the board rooms of the nation's largest corporations and banks including leading media lights as well as "fat cat" political contributors. Dye argues that big institutions run America, but also that these institutions are made up of real people. *Who's Running America?* puts the flesh and bones on the statistics and delivers the inside scoop on the Obama reign.

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## Who's Running America?: The Obama Reign By Thomas R. Dye Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #492964 in Books
- Published on: 2014-01-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.02" h x .53" w x 5.98" l, .80 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 248 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Almost all introductory textbooks either ignore or only superficially mention the vast concentrations of private power, institutions, and decision-making in America and their consequences for meaningful democracy. For more than two decades, Who’s Running America? has filled this enormous gap.

Thoughtfully and methodically, Dye analyzes the role of major institutions in decision-making and in constraining democracy. Well-illustrated with examples, Dye presents an up-to-date analysis that Hamilton and the Madison of Federalist 10 would find agreeable.”

?David Johns, Portland State University, author of A New Conservation Politics

#### About the Author

Thomas R. Dye is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at Florida State University. He was formerly McKenzie Professor of Government. He received his BS and MA degrees from Pennsylvania State University and his PhD degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He is the author of numerous books and articles on American government and public policy, including *The Irony of Democracy*, now in its fourteenth edition; *Politics in States and Communities* and *Understanding Public Policy*, both now in their fourteenth editions; *Politics in Florida; American Politics in the Media Age; Power and Society; American Federalism; Top Down Policymaking*; and *Politics, Economics and the Public*.

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