

Fleeced

How Barack Obama, Media Mockery of Terrorist Threats, Liberals Who Want to Kill Talk Radio, the Do-Nothing Congress, Companies That Help Iran, and Washington Lobbyists for Foreign Governments Are Scamming Us....And What To Do About It

by Dick Morris and Eileen McGann
Harper Collins, 2008; 337 pages

Whether you agree with Dick Morris or not, his latest book, Fleeced is a must read. The following are key quotes from the book.

(Page 2) FACT: Under our very noses, foreign companies like Shell, Repsol, Siemens, Hyundai, BNP Paribus, and others are helping Iran's repressive regime stay in power, even though it is developing nuclear weapons. And it's our state pension funds that invest in these companies, enabling them to come to the ayatollah's aid.

FACT: Hedge fund billionaires----like George Soros make astronomical incomes each year and pay only the lower capital gains tax rate on their income.

(Page 3) FACT: Bill Clinton is a partner in a global investment fund with the emir of Dubai, one of the United Arab Emirates states.

(Page 4) [Barack Obama] spreads the message of the audacity of hope. Yet unnoticed in this inspirational rhetoric are plans to pass the largest tax increase in history; to introduce rationing to our health care system; to weaken our defenses against domestic terrorism; to cripple our efforts to reform education; to let criminals and crack dealers out of prison; and to send our economy into a downward spiral.

(Page 10) What caused the (mortgage crisis)? Not a war. Not even a terror attack. It was triggered by greed---simple, self-serving greed which led the very, very rich to try to get even richer by manipulating the credit markets, government guarantees, and gullible consumers in the biggest mortgage scam in history.

In his biography of Andrew Jackson, Sean Wilentz articulated the essence of the heritage of democracy in America. You can't make all people, equal, he argued. Some will always be brighter, prettier, healthier, or more energetic than others.

(Page 17) But at the core of Obama's belief system is a commitment to income redistribution.

(Page 18) We all must realize one thing: if the Democrats retake the White House in November, our wallets will be considerably lighter once they're finished with us.

(Page 21) Whenever the capital gains tax goes up, revenue drops. And when it's cut, revenue rises.

(Page 22) Add in state and local taxes----even after you deduct them on your federal returns and you're still looking at paying more than 60 percent of your income to taxes if the Democrats get back into power!

(Page 29) But the United States already spends 16 percent of its national wealth on health care....While the United States spends \$5,711 per capita on health care, the nearest other large country, France, spends only \$3,048.

(Page 31) Who are the uninsured? 10 million illegal immigrants, 15 million people who are eligible for Medicaid but don't apply, 15 million adults whose children are eligible for free insurance and 10 million childless adults.

(Page 35) Why is Obama so eager to dilute the PATRIOT Act? Where is the evidence that the FBI has abused the NSL privilege?

(Page 36) But Obama misses the point. Homeland Security doesn't want these records for criminal prosecutions. It needs them to aid their efforts to spot and stop terrorist attacks, not to put people in jail.

(Page 39) The unions worry about testing because it shows up their failure to educate children. Instead of predicating their funding and continued employment on seniority and their performance evaluations based on the inflated grades teachers hand out to failing students, the act requires that objective testing be the basis of the system.

(Page 41) Obama would play Santa Claus; his proposals would reduce the number of taxpayers and expand the number of tax consumers.

[Obama] would bring us much closer to the Swedish, French, and German model, where everybody gets a check from the government, regardless of wealth or income, making it impossible to criticize the program.

(Page 42) Promoting an American equivalent of European socialism, [Obama] wants to anchor the growth of government in largesse to people who vote----so that no one will ever be able to repeal it.

(Page 112) Louisiana: Has not only disinvested [in companies dealing with Iran] but authorized its state treasurer to develop a terror-free investment vehicle that individuals around the country can use for their own portfolios.

(Page 186) Though unions and education purists complain that this system leads to teaching to the test, that's a whole lot better than not teaching at all!

(Page 189) The formula for success in public education is clear:

*Give parents the option of sending their children to charter schools that are free of union control.

*Pay teachers in public schools based on the degree of improvement in their students' test performance. And weaken teacher tenure to allow administrators to get rid of incompetent or burned-out teachers.

*Finally, where charter schools do not solve the problem, give private and parochial schools a crack at doing so by issuing tuition vouchers.

(Page 305) One simple reform we should demand immediately is that every member of Congress and every upper-level bureaucrat post his or her schedule on the Internet.