

First Research Assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to familiarize you with the methods and resources for researching the biographies of individual social, political, and economic elites. Each work group will be assigned a list of government appointees and a list of persons attending the Bohemian Grove retreat in California in the mid-1990s (the most recent year available). Each group member will be responsible for researching four persons on these lists. The assignment is to assemble biographical profiles of these persons that allow you to answer the following question.

The key issue to be addressed in each biography is whether or not the person in question can be classified as a member of *one or more* of the following: (a) the *corporate* elite (aka capitalist economic class); (b) the *social* or *cultural* elite (aka upper social class); and/or (c) the *political* elite (aka policy-planning elite). For those who are government appointees, you can assume that all of these individuals meet the *minimal* qualifications to be considered political elites, although you may conclude that some are political elites only in a relatively weak or marginal sense.

Before you write up your research, your group should decide on appropriate and consistent indicators of membership in each of these elites. One member of each group should be chosen to write a one-page summary of the indicators you agree upon. Chapters 2-4 of *Who Rules America?* should be helpful in defining and measuring your concepts. You should also consult pp. 64-68 of Domhoff (on the Bohemian Grove) and pp. 183-197 (on government appointees).

Depending upon how you define these concepts, you may decide to place greater or lesser importance on specific kinds of information in defining a person's elite status. At a minimum, however, you should collect relevant information on (a) family background, (b) educational background, (c) occupational history, (d) corporate and other directorships, (e) important organizational affiliations, (f) exclusive social club memberships, and (g) *Social Register* listings.

The "Power Elites" page of the *Who Rules?* website and Section B of the "Library Resources" page list a number of useful resources. At a minimum, your search should include: (a) sources listed in the *Biography and Genealogy Master Index* database; (b) full-text articles in the *Lexis-Nexis* database, (c) information from online biographical databases like *NDDB* and *LittleSis*, (d) a general search of the Internet using *Google* or another search engine, and (e) checking whether people (or their families) are listed in the *Social Register*. Hopefully, you will also locate additional sources that provide information not available in those listed above.

Please pay strict attention to the following: Your conclusions must be *consistent* with the definitions you decide upon. Occasionally certain kinds of data that you would ideally like to have may not be available no matter how thoroughly you search, so you will have to make do the best you can with what is available. Your biographies should limited mainly to information that is relevant to whether or not the person qualifies as a member of each elite category; simply downloading and printing out a mountain of irrelevant information will *hurt* rather than help your grade. Finally, and this is *very important*, you should be *explicit* in your conclusions. In many cases the evidence for or against elite status will be strong and unambiguous; in other cases it may be weaker or ambiguous. In the latter instances you may present qualified conclusions as appropriate (e.g., "weak or marginal elite" or "on track to become an elite, but not there yet"). The assignment is due in class on Monday, April 19. If you present your information in summary fashion, it should be possible to complete each biography in two pages.

Division of labor: Each group member should research four individuals — one appointee for each of the two government positions listed, and two Bohemian Grove attendees. For the state appointees, please select two people who do not overlap in the years that they served. If there are not enough students in your group to cover the entire lists of government appointees and Bohemian Grove attendees, then drop one or more early appointees or one or more attendees from the end of the alphabet. A sign-up sheet will be distributed in class for you to choose which four individuals you will be responsible for researching. If someone is absent from class, you should assign them people to research and email both them and me that information.

Group assignments:

Group 1: Secretaries of State, Commerce, Cave Man Camp.

Group 2: Secretaries of Treasury, Defense, Hill Billies Camp.

Group 3: Secretaries of State and Defense, Lost Angels Camp.

Group 4: Secretaries of Commerce, Ambassadors to UK, Owl's Nest Camp.

Group 5: Secretaries of Treasury, Ambassadors to UK, Mandalay Camp.

Government appointees:

Secretaries of State: George P. Shultz (1982-89), James A. Baker, III (1989-93), Warren M. Christopher (1993-97), Madeleine K. Albright (1997-2001), Colin L. Powell (2001-05), Condoleezza Rice (2005-2009), Hillary Rodham Clinton (2009-present).

Secretaries of the Treasury: Nicholas F. Brady (1989-93), Robert E. Rubin (1995-98), Lawrence H. Summers (1999-2001), Paul H. O'Neill (2001-03), John W. Snow (2003-2006), Henry M. Paulson, Jr. (2006 to 2009), Timothy Geithner (2009-present).

Secretaries of Commerce: Malcolm Baldrige (1981-87), C. William Verity, Jr. (1987-89), Robert A. Mosbacher (1989-1992), Ronald H. Brown (1993-96), Donald L. Evans (2001-05), Carlos M. Gutierrez (2005-2009), Gary Locke (2009-present).

Secretaries of Defense: Caspar Weinberger (1981-87), Richard B. Cheney (1989-93), William J. Perry (1994-97), William S. Cohen (1997-2001), Donald H. Rumsfeld (2001-2006), Robert M. Gates (2006 to present).

Ambassadors to United Kingdom: Charles H. Price, II (1984-89), Henry E. Catto, Jr. (1989-91), Raymond G. H. Seitz (1991-94), Philip J. Lader (1997-2001), William S. Farish III (2001-04), Robert Holmes Tuttle (2005-2009), Louis B. Susman (2009-present).

Bohemian Grove camps:

Cave Man Camp: Martin Carl Anderson, William Sperry Beinecke, W. Glenn Campbell, John Franklin Fort III, Henry H. Fowler, Maurice R. Greenberg, Haig G. Mardikian, Paul Craig Roberts III, Robert Johnson Swain, John E. Swearingen, Morley P. Thompson, John Horter Williams.

Hill Billies Camp: Paul Bancroft III, William K. Bowes, William F. Buckley Jr., George H. W. Bush, Alden W. Clausen, William Kraemer Coblenz, William H. Draper III, Donald G. Fisher, Evan G. Galbraith Jr., George H. Pfau Jr., Frank A. Sprole, Paul H. Stephens.

Lost Angels Camp: Howard Pfeiffer Allen, Harold Brown, David Tennant Bryan, Albert V. Casey, James F. Dickason, John Anthony Gavin, Frank Borden Hanes, W. Thomas Johnson, Thomas V. Jones, Patrick O'Melveny Joseph B. Platt, George A. Wieggers.

Owl's Nest Camp: Eddie Albert, Alfred A. Checchi, Robert L. Dilenschneider, Harry Jack Gray, Michael Huffington, Richard M. Krasno, Harvey Mackay, Robert C. McCormack, G. Willard Miller Jr., Larry Pressler, Richard T. Reminger, J. Paul Sticht.

Mandalay Camp: Samuel H. Armacost, Riley P. Bechtel, Richard P. Cooley, James Hurlburt Evans, Martin Stuart Feldstein, Philip M. Hawley, Charles Bartlett Johnson, Edgar F. Kaiser, Jr., Charles Robert Lee, Drew Lewis, Ruben F. Mettler, Carl E. Reichardt, Richard E. Salomon, Richard Allen Voell.

Additional resources on the Bohemian Grove:

You will encounter lots of information on the Internet about the Bohemian Grove, not all of it reliable. Below are several additional resources that you can generally rely on:

G. William Domhoff, *Social Cohesion and the Bohemian Grove*.
http://sociology.ucsc.edu/whorulesamerica/power/bohemian_grove.html

Peter Phillips, *A Relative Advantage: Sociology of the San Francisco Bohemian Club*.
<http://libweb.sonoma.edu/regional/faculty/phillips/bohemianindex.html>

Sonoma County Free Press, *Bohemian Grove Action Network*.
<http://www.sonomacountyfreepress.com/>