

## *Chapter 2*

### *On the true DEEP STATE and Oligarchy .*

*America has been under white, male control since its inception. Only relatively recently have women and people of color been added to the electorate of American voters.*

*However, the true deep state is still primarily made up of wealthy and powerful men from both sides of the political aisle. And the nature of how these men govern is neither democratic or totalitarian, but a hybrid that many are beginning to call... an oligarchy.*

*While both conservatives and liberals have attempted to brand the other as a deep state that needs to be unmasked and suppressed, in actuality it is the wealthy on both sides of the aisle that currently dictate where American is going and WHO wins. The recent revelations of how the ultra-wealthy avoid paying any income taxes is one example.*

*When we look OUT into the world we have a tendency to divide nations into democratic and totalitarian systems of governance. However, an oligarchy is a hybrid system of centralized governance that does not openly exercise its control over its citizens through the dictates of one dictator or party committee. Rather it exercises its power behind the scenes, orchestrated by a loosely organized group made up of powerful politicians, bankers, CEO's, corporate media and the military. It may currently appear that democratic checks and balances in America are in place, but in reality these norms have not proven strong enough lately to check the wealthy who see themselves as above the rules that apply to all the rest of us.*

*American oligarchs currently maintain certain agreements with each other that impact everything about the now and the future of America as defined by its economic, political and social policies. The “crumbs” thrown to the majority of US citizens could be called... distractions. Think about things we are encouraged to obsess about... sports, video games, celebrity gossip, social media memes, the alt right vs. the socialist left etc. Beyond the collective engagement these pastimes offer, they also play a role in keeping Americans occupied and not asking too many questions.*

*From time to time this loosely knit group of American oligarchs is dominated by one tribe or another. However, this makes this oligarchy style of governance unstable. For example, the Obama years followed by Trumps one term in office is the most recent example of radical swings from progressive left to radical right dictated by a few thousand votes in three swing states.*

*Over time an oligarchy is also not stable because it has a tendency to be greedy. An oligarchy keeps squeezing the masses until the forgotten finally light the torches and storm the wealthy's gated neighborhoods. Even when white collared criminals are caught operating illegally they are rarely punished.*

*Since the latest incarnation of this rule by the wealthy that began in 1980, the current group of American oligarchs have been smart enough to give the masses just enough hope and reward to keep them vaguely satisfied and occupied. But make no mistake about it...the ultimate goal of an oligarchy is to control the national narrative with its attendant political and economic rules, so the favored few retain the power to*



*acquire obscene amounts of wealth. When either political party claims the system is rigged... they are partially correct, but not in the partisan way that claim is usually meant.*

*Oligarchies can fail. Their undoing usually occurs because of some unexpected event that is beyond their control. The current Covid pandemic is one such potential X factor that exposed the corruption and the incompetence of American oligarchs.*

*As much as we believe that it has always been a minority of powerful individuals and organizations dictating who America rewards there have been times when more American citizens shared in its bounty. Following the Civil War, the emancipation of black slaves radically changed American culture, even though equal opportunity for people of color is still a challenged work in progress.*

*Following World War II, a dramatic rise in the fortunes of the middle class spread the wealth of America to a much larger portion of the population. Even recently, big tech startups initially prided themselves on disrupting entrenched corporate monopolies, but then were co-opted into the current system of privileged shareholder wealth that rewards less the 1% of the American population.*

*Lately, it has been openly discussed that capitalism does not necessarily need democratic norms to thrive anymore. As white conservatives and libertarians continue to push for less government and unregulated marketplaces those efforts target regulations and rules designed to protect American citizens from the excesses of the rich and powerful. They claim these regulations are a barrier to innovation. This is a false narrative promoted by the powerful.*

*Since 1980 and the emergence of the “trickledown economics” narrative that falsely postulates that rewarding the rich “trickles down” benefits to everyone else, the percentage of American wealth has continue to consolidate in less than 1% of the population. For example, never before in our history have we allowed one company like Google to control 90% of the marketplace they do business in.*

***IF** this trend is allowed to continue, democracy as America has known it will be replaced more and more by an oligarchy of the rich and powerful.*