

# Parliament of Whores

*P. J. O'Rourke*

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**P. J. O'Rourke : Parliament of Whores** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Parliament of Whores:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great talent!By avataressGreat talent! Makes us view things in ways we usually don't, like how many impoverished people are impoverished because they find it hard to even imagine that things could work differently for them! The shackles are now on most people's minds not on their bodies! Also, how P.J. read a week's worth of letters of a congressman whom he'd shadowed for a day, over 400 or 700 letters total, I don't recall the exact number, but an awful lot, and there were only two thank you's in the whole bunch. Yet we expect our politicians to be morally better than we are and to have no self-interest whatsoever? Who do YOU personally know who's like that? I don't know many, if ANY, people like that, politicians or not, or as Plato said in ancient Greece, horse or foot, if you get my meaning!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Cynical and hilarious!By Dusty BurrowsA cynical view of the world of politics, and all too true!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Still a classicBy Magic LemurI first heard about this book from an eccentric English teacher at school and ever since then it has been sitting on my bookshelf as one of those 'classics' that begs to be read but never is.After 10 years, it seemed about time to read it. Although some aspects of a now 20 year old publication seem dated (e.g. President George Bush. Snr.), Andrew Ferguson still gets it right in his, now 10 year old introduction in saying that the book is timeless.In fact, surprisingly many of the problems the USA has now (e.g. Debt and an aging population) weren't just embryonic back then but apparently just as big problems as they are now. And all that has changed in the meantime is the scale of the issues. Where the author talks about how closely watched the President is (to the point

that his every word is dissected for hidden meaning), you can see that this is undoubtedly just as true now. There is also the federal budget, which back then was notoriously unreadable and consisted of one, and only one, copy. It also had a feature called 'off budget' spending, meaning trillions of dollars weren't even counted, let alone analysed. Has this changed? Unlikely. On top of this, there are a number of other eerily reminiscent features, such as the \$500bn bailouts of the Savings Loans companies, which are echoed by our \$700bn bailouts of George W Bush. Then there is pork barrel and special interest spending, which has only increased with time. In fact, it is fair to say that many of our current trends (e.g. excess spending, lax bank regulations and the failure of 'war on drugs') were obvious even back then. So although the Cold war and both Bush presidents are now (thankfully) behind us, greed, self interest and the "perennially indignant" still remain. Furthermore, few American commentators have succeeded in replicating O'Rourke's famed Gonzo wit (he is officially the most quoted humorous author in history). Literally every page contained something new, funny or insightful and usually all three. If, like me, you have this book gathering dust on a shelf, then I recommend you pick it up and read it. It is still as vivid as the day it was written containing valuable insights and essential reading into how little things change with time. Incidentally, for those that think P.J. O'Rourke is a has-been, do a search for some of his videos as he still makes many valuable contributions to politics, even in his 60's...P.S. For those of you that want the original version of this book, look no further than this copy. However, if you want a 10th anniversary edition, then go here: [Parliament of Whores](#)

A lone Humorist Attempts To Explain The Entire U.S. Government