Issues concerning Law and Justice

## What or Who is the Deep State?

## JULY 21, 2019JULY 21, 2019 ~ LEXET BLOG

The Deep State, as I define it, is comprised of the people who operate in our political system who benefit from the structure of our current system, and who have a vested interest in preserving the system, and/or expanding their role within the system via the good idea fairy and mission creep. You can also call this group the "political class," although Deep State would be the political class members at the top of their hierarchy. They will not benefit from a structural change, or reform, and absolutely will not benefit from a significant structural change, such as large reductions in force. The naïve will believe that our nation is a system where the citizenry rule by delegation and through representation. Reality shows us the citizenry are managed and contained by delegates who are chosen and funded by those who have a monetary interest in government policy.

These are government employees, lobbyists, elected officials, and non-profits. They are the same gatekeepers that provide normal citizens access to power. They are the institutions necessary to carry out reform, and at the same time they are the same people who would be affected by such reform.

When it comes to federal governance, so many Americans are ignorant of how politics work. Most DC based institutions are led and staffed by DC natives, or children of wealthy donors and government officials. It is the same with lobby firms and academic institutions. This produces a heavily nepotistic environment. Look at the Bush, Cheney, and Scalia families as very public examples of such behavior (Trump just nominated Scalia's son to be the Secretary of Labor).

A big problem with this is that those who live in DC live in a bubble that is completely foreign to any other American subculture. The younger ones grew up in state or federal politics, and have knowledge of the inner workings of the political process and policy making. While that is actually invaluable experience and knowledge, it comes at the expense of the representation of *the people*.

Hardly any of these people have anything in common with the vast majority of Americans they are completely out of touch with reality. They attend formal black-tie events on a regular basis. Their knowledge of the average American is purely theoretical. These people go through life getting every job they want (Liz Cheney is a very public example of this), due to their family ties. Within this bubble, or small social circle, you also get political marriages that are based more on common interests, career path, and pecuniary gain than on any notion of love.

In DC, it is not uncommon for this class to include cover letters, or even place in their resume, their family pedigree. I have seen this myself, and actually know people who are well connected across generations. Some of them are very nice, humble, and great people. Some aren't. They do not have anything in common with anyone reading this article, or myself, though.

It is obvious why government officials and academics love our current system. Lobbyists for private interests will always exist as well. Non-profits are the most pernicious influence in politics though, especially in "right wing" circles. They have vast power as non-profit entities, but they are completely reliant on our tax code, as they survive on tax deductible donations. This is why they won't ever dare advocate for reforms to our tax system, and get behind efforts such as the Fair Tax. Sure, conservative institutions like Heritage may talk about the "death tax" from time to time, but they love the progressive income tax system, as it directly benefits them as an institution (and their Directors financially). Right wing institutes will use the issue to drum up financial support, knowing full well no one will act on their research, and that their lobbying-arms will do a half assed job at it.

They aren't going to put themselves out of work. For these people, carrying out reform in government is the equivalent of the proverbial private sector tech worker being forced to train their replacement. The result is that those necessary for reform will always be the primary opponents of reform. POSTED IN <u>POLITICS</u>

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