

## The Bushes: Portrait of a Dynasty

By Peter Schweizer, Rochelle Schweizer

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**Get the inside story on America's most powerful political dynasty.**

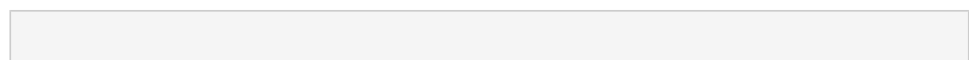
President George W. Bush leads our nation in a time of unprecedented peril. But how well do we really know him or his remarkable family, whose history often mirrors the history of America? Now, in the first full-scale biography of the Bushes, Peter and Rochelle Schweizer trace the extraordinary trajectory of their rise to power.

Through a series of exclusive, surprisingly candid interviews with members of the family and close friends, the inner workings of this very private family are revealed: their marriages and friendships; the intense sibling rivalry between George W. and Jeb Bush; divisions between father and son over the Iraq war; even Jeb Bush's plans to run for president in 2008. Never-before-seen private photos add even greater detail and depth to this fascinating family portrait.

And above all, we see George W. Bush the way his family does, as an intensely driven person who has a much more complex relationship with his father than has often been portrayed in the media. Family members talk about how he deals with the stresses of the war on terrorism, why he sees it as a "religious war," and how his personal faith influences what he says and does.

The Schweizers also delve into the Bushes' sensitive and secret business dealings, including their long history of involvement in the oil business. Their shrewd alliances with other American dynasties—including the Kennedys, Rockefellers, and Tafts—have all helped to quietly consolidate their power within the Republican Party.

Indeed, what makes the Bushes so successful is that they function less like the great political families before them and more like a high-tech startup: free-flowing, pragmatic, and opportunistic. It is this distinction that assures them an enduring presence on the nation's political stage, making *The Bushes* essential reading for anyone who cares about America's future.



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## **The Bushes: Portrait of a Dynasty** By Peter Schweizer, Rochelle Schweizer Bibliography

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## **Editorial Review**

From Publishers Weekly

Like Kevin Phillips in his bestselling *American Dynasty*, the Schweizers trace the history of the Bush family back to progenitors George Herbert Walker and Samuel P. Bush. It's easy to spot both continuity and change in four generations of prominent Bushes. Of Prescott Bush's career in business, we're told, "Consensus and camaraderie forged behind closed doors suited him perfectly," a description that fits his grandson's style in the White House. And many of the family's connections span decades: Back in 1928, a firm headed by Prescott Bush purchased Dresser Industries—which today is a subsidiary of Halliburton. However, the family's politics have shifted rightward like those of their party: Prescott Bush lost his first election after being "smeared" as an advocate of birth control, and later he became one of the first senators to denounce Joseph McCarthy—a bold gesture of moderation. Unlike Phillips, the Schweizers try hard to put a positive spin on the family saga. They insist that George H.W. Bush disliked negative campaigning, without mentioning the infamous Willie Horton ad that helped him win the 1988 election. When recounting the Florida election crisis of 2000, they find it "troublesome" that Carol Roberts, who oversaw the Palm Beach recount, was a Gore supporter, but fail to note that election supervisor Katherine Harris helped run Bush's Florida campaign. Thus, while this group portrait usefully gathers much family lore in a single, accessible source, the unbiased, authoritative story of the dynasty remains to be written.

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From [Booklist](#)

Using the extraordinary access that allowed them to interview Bush relatives, intimates, and even members of the core family (including Jeb Bush), the Schweizers have put together an exhaustive yet highly readable biography of the Bush dynasty that offers real insight into its origins and inner workings. The book mostly lets the events speak for themselves; what comes across repeatedly is that, going back to President Bush's great-grandfather, the way the family kept getting ahead was to "forge relationships to succeed." In fact, for all its detail on the Bush family, this volume is really a chronicle of how the old-boy network works in this country. As such, it spells out in no uncertain terms the advantage that those on the inside have when it comes to making money and raising money for business ventures and political campaigns. Further, following the Bush family tree offers a perfect illustration of the way old-boy connections are passed on to family members, often through associations like Yale's Skull-and-Bones Club, which has benefited several generations of Bushes. Although hardly dishy, the book offers some startling information about George W., in particular, the rivalry between him and his brother Jeb; the evolution of the president's evangelical faith; and his complicated relationship with his father. Read this in tandem with Kevin Phillips' *American Dynasty* [BKL N 1 03], which views much of the same information from a far less benign point of view. *Ilene Cooper*  
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Review

"In *The Bushes*, the Schweizers give us an *Adams Chronicles* for the twenty-first century—an unforgettable group portrait of a family whose reticence is matched by its ambition. More than a dynastic saga, this elegantly written, often surprising account traces the cultural migration of the American Establishment, and the personal transformation of George W. Bush. A marvelous biography, of a country as well as a family."  
—Richard Norton Smith, author of *Patriarch: George Washington and the New American Nation* and *An Uncommon Man: The Triumph of Herbert Hoover*

“The Schweizers have penetrated to the heart of the Bush family. This is as close as anyone has ever been able to get.”

—Doug Wead, author of *All the Presidents' Children*, and former aide to both Bush presidents

“Peter and Rochelle Schweizer provide an intimate and absorbing account of a family so secure in its aristocratic cocoon that its sons venture forth with courage bordering on abandon to the battlefields of business, war, and national politics. Here is a competitive family culture that showers its sons with wealth, elite education, and priceless connections, and then sends them out to earn what they have already received. Without the searing will of a patriarch like Joseph Kennedy, the heroic imagination of Teddy Roosevelt, the focused brilliance of the Adams family, the Bushes have still managed to elect two presidents while networking an international galaxy of the wealthy and the powerful.”

—Robert Zelnick, Chairman of the Department of Journalism at Boston University, former ABC News correspondent, and author of *Gore: A Political Life*

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Information is provisions for those to get better life, information presently can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even a concern. What people must be consider any time those information which is in the former life are hard to be find than now is taking seriously which one is appropriate to believe or which one often the resource are convinced. If you have the unstable resource then you have it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All those possibilities will not happen within you if you take *The Bushes: Portrait of a Dynasty* as the daily resource information.

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