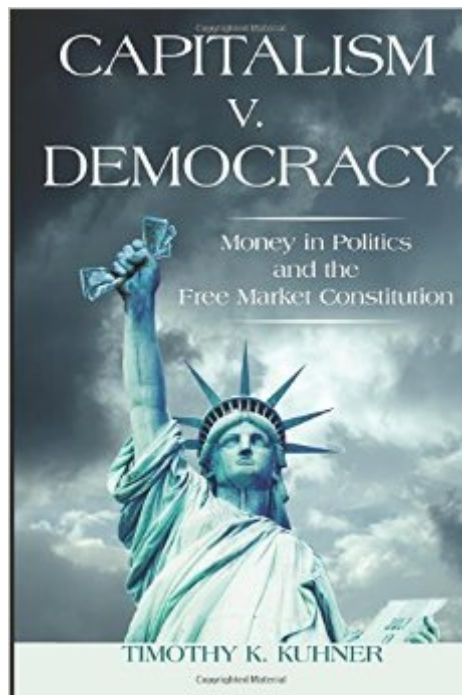


The book was found

# Capitalism V. Democracy: Money In Politics And The Free Market Constitution



## Synopsis

As of the latest national elections, it costs approximately \$1 billion to become president, \$10 million to become a Senator, and \$1 million to become a Member of the House. High-priced campaigns, an elite class of donors and spenders, superPACs, and increasing corporate political power have become the new normal in American politics. In *Capitalism v. Democracy*, Timothy Kuhner explains how these conditions have corrupted American democracy, turning it into a system of rule that favors the wealthy and marginalizes ordinary citizens. Kuhner maintains that these conditions have corrupted capitalism as well, routing economic competition through political channels and allowing politically powerful companies to evade market forces. The Supreme Court has brought about both forms of corruption by striking down campaign finance reforms that limited the role of money in politics. Exposing the extreme economic worldview that pollutes constitutional interpretation, Kuhner shows how the Court became the architect of American plutocracy. *Capitalism v. Democracy* offers the key to understanding why corporations are now citizens, money is political speech, limits on corporate spending are a form of censorship, democracy is a free market, and political equality and democratic integrity are unconstitutional constraints on money in politics. Supreme Court opinions have dictated these conditions in the name of the Constitution, as though the Constitution itself required the privatization of democracy. Kuhner explores the reasons behind these opinions, reveals that they form a blueprint for free market democracy, and demonstrates that this design corrupts both politics and markets. He argues that nothing short of a constitutional amendment can set the necessary boundaries between capitalism and democracy.

## Book Information

Paperback: 376 pages

Publisher: Stanford Law Books (June 25, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0804791562

ISBN-13: 978-0804791564

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #631,133 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in [Books > Law >](#)

[Administrative Law > Urban, State & Local Government](#) #382 in [Books > Business & Money >](#)

[Economics > Free Enterprise](#) #505 in [Books > Business & Money > Processes & Infrastructure >](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is an astonishingly erudite exposition of the problem of money corrupting politics and how the Roberts Court is unwittingly harming real capitalism by misreading the Constitution. But it is not just another dreary leftwing jeremiad about the evils of capitalism; indeed, Kuhner defends true capitalism from its evil twin, "crony capitalism." The latter is a form of 18th Century mercantilism where a theocratic or aristocratic elite controlled all commerce for its own benefit by restricting access to labor, commercial rights and markets. Money in politics today is the new mercantile elite. It is ever more evident in producing the same distortion of the invisible hand of price and product allocation by lobbying for favorable tariffs, tax exemptions, avoidance of legal restrictions such as pollution controls and safety regulations that apply to less wealthy corporations. The central issue is not whether capitalism and democracy is the best system--that issue has been long settled--but how the two forces should interact. How is liberty to be protected and wealth produced? What activities should be governed by the state and which by the market? These issues have all too often only been addressed by academics with sharp ideological axes to grind and with only the most slanted historical analysis on which to pin their half-baked arguments. While a distinct liberal, Timothy Kuhner is not, I repeat, not an anti-capitalist (which I'm sure will dishearten his more ardent admirers). He emphasizes this time and again: "Properly understood...the interests of capitalism are aligned with the public interest itself," and "society suffers when capitalism is corrupted." (p 256).

It took several constitutional amendments over about 200 years to prevent political power from being officially conditioned upon property ownership, sex, and race. Today, however, political power is increasingly conditioned upon wealth - undoing much of the impact of those struggles for inclusion. Officeholders have become increasingly beholden to big donors, interest-groups, corporate political power - leaving ordinary citizens with a diminishing role. As of the 2012 election, it costs about \$1 billion to become president, \$10 million to become a senator, and \$1 million to become a member of the House of Representatives. Spending in U.S. congressional and presidential campaigns topped \$6 billion in 2012, up from \$5.3 billion in 2008, \$4.2 billion in 2004. President Obama appeared at 221 fundraisers in 24 states during the 2012 election season, vs. 101 rallies in ten states during the same period. Romney's fundraising was similarly rigorous and notably more informative than his public appearances. SuperPACs and dark money groups raised more than the national party committees - the majority of superPAC funds came via seven-figure checks.

Dark money groups, such as Karl Rove's Crossroads GPS and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, do not have to reveal the identities of their donors - thus, the people and interests behind \$400 million in 2012 spending will never be known. After the 2008 election, nearly 80% of those who collected over \$500,000 for Obama took 'key administration posts.' Officeholders spend roughly half their time raising funds for reelection, and candidate feasibility is judged by fundraising ability. Only 0.37% of the population supplies about 70% of all the money in politics.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Capitalism v. Democracy: Money in Politics and the Free Market Constitution The US Constitution: A Pocket Reference w/Constitution, Bill of Rights, Amendments, Declaration of Independence, History of the Constitution, Questions ... Quotes, and Free Download for 10 works The Allergy Self-Help Cookbook: Over 350 Natural Foods Recipes, Free of All Common Food Allergens: wheat-free, milk-free, egg-free, corn-free, sugar-free, yeast-free WHEAT BELLY DIET FOR BEGINNERS: Grain-Free, Wheat-Free, Gluten-Free Cookbooks and Recipes For Weight Loss Plans and Solutions Included! (Wheat Free Grain Free Gluten Free Weight Loss Diet Book 1) Easy Breadmaking for Special Diets : Wheat-Free, Milk- And Lactose-Free, Egg-Free, Gluten-Free, Yeast-Free, Sugar-Free, Low Fat, High To Low Fiber Yummy Yum for Everyone: A Childrens Allergy Cookbook (Completely Dairy-Free, Egg-Free, Wheat-Free, Gluten-Free, Soy-Free, Peanut-Free, Nut-Fre The Constitution: Understanding America's Founding Document (Values and Capitalism) Matched Betting: 20 No lose Strategies To Make Free Money Fast (Matched Betting offers, betting deals, free matched bet, matched free bet, bet matching) ... betting, matched betting free bets Book 1) Democracy--The God That Failed: The Economics and Politics of Monarchy, Democracy, and Natural Order (Perspectives on Democratic Practice) Debt-Free: How to Get Out of Debt To Your Road Towards Financial Freedom (Get Out of Debt, Budgeting Money, Save Money, Credit Card Debt, Wealth Management, Credit Control, Money Tips) Money, Politics, and the Constitution: Beyond Citizens United Gluten-Free, Wheat-Free, Dairy-Free, Sugar-Free, Caffeine-Free?.Are you kidding me?: All natural and 99% organic recipes that are quick and easy to prepare. The Healthy Gluten-Free Life: 200 Delicious Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, Soy-Free and Egg-Free Recipes! Gluten Free: Gluten Free Quick-start Guide To Living A Gluten-Free and Wheat-Free Diet (Over 100 Gluten-Free Recipes) The Constitution and the Declaration of Independence: A Pocket Constitution Prakriti: Your Ayurvedic Constitution (Your Ayurvedic Constitution Revised Enlarged Second Edition) The Constitution of the State of Colorado (Us Constitution) Money, Greed, and God: Why Capitalism Is the Solution and Not the Problem Making Money: Coin, Currency, and the Coming of Capitalism Democracy Derailed in Russia: The Failure

of Open Politics (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics)

[Dmca](#)