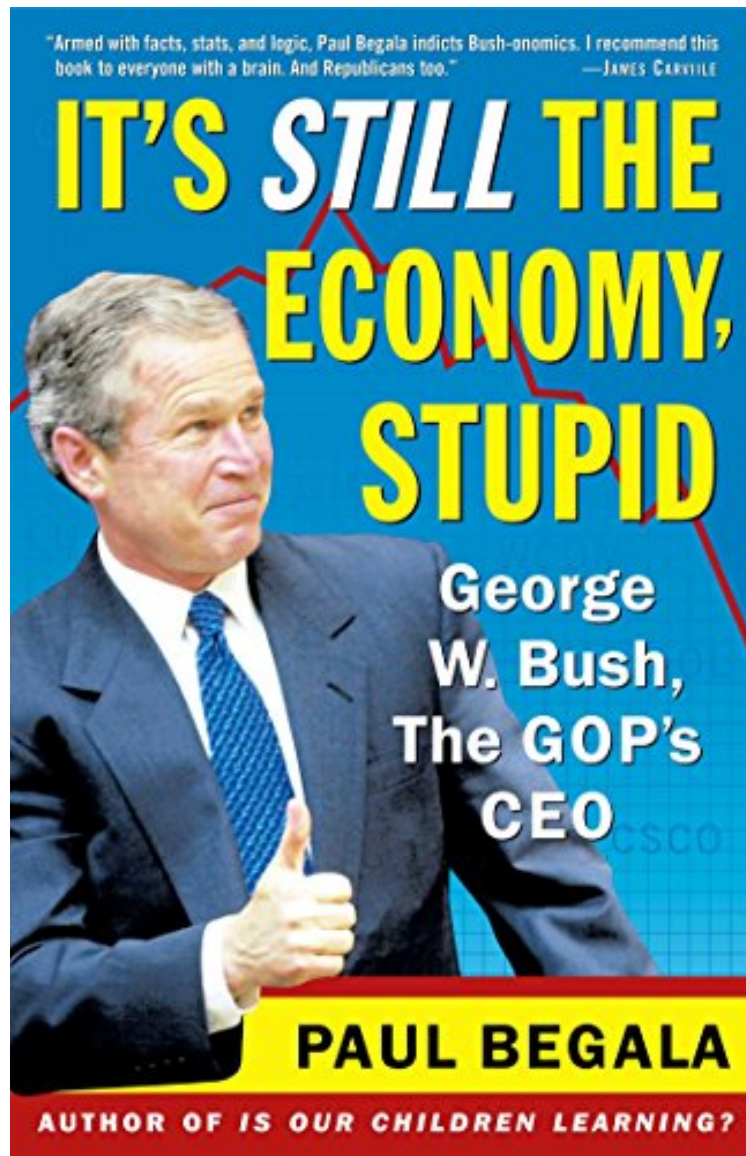


[Ebook free] It's Still the Economy, Stupid: George W. Bush, The GOP's CEO

## It's Still the Economy, Stupid: George W. Bush, The GOP's CEO

*Paul Begala*

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**Paul Begala : It's Still the Economy, Stupid: George W. Bush, The GOP's CEO** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised It's Still the Economy, Stupid: George W. Bush, The GOP's CEO:

5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Poor Little G WBy Rick GP  
Paul Begala and I share things in common that Little GW does not:1. Paul and I are REAL Texans; in my book "Co-Dependent", I have clearly shown that Little GW is not.2. Paul and I have a heart that understands that we as a nation should not abuse the abused. Little GW sees a need to only comfort the comfortable.3. Paul and I can put three words together without walking over our tongues.

Everyone knows of Little GW's Bushisms of course many people are trying to find some clinical reason for his Bushisms: Does he have dyslexia, apraxia, or is he just plain dumb? I think they all miss the mark and I believe that I have located a real clinical reason for his Bushisms, however you will have to wait for my next book "Any Clown Can Appear Presidential" to learn what it is. There is also something we do not have in common: Writing. Paul Begala is one of the best minds around. He writes intelligent well thought out books. Where as my works are that of a hack when weigh against his. Needless to say, I'm not really sure that Little GW can read without help with the big words. It's Still the Economy, Stupid: George W. Bush, The GOP's CEO is full of hard facts handed over with "Good Old Down Home" humor. This book could very well be the down fall of little GW if only more Americans would read it with an open mind... but they will not which proves the point I made in "Co-Dependent" which is "common sense is much too common" Read this book... It is a real joy... scary but still a joy. Rick Goodner, Author of "Co-dependent... What a Bore and Other Clinical Observations". 33 of 41 people found the following review helpful. Don't underestimate this book! By Malvin Paul Begala's "It's Still the Economy, Stupid" serves as a welcome reality check on the George W. Bush administration's propaganda war. While Republicans always seem eager to attach the "class warfare" label onto Democrats, Begala makes clear that the Republicans have long been on the offensive. Begala looks at numerous examples of Bush administration doublespeak to expose the Republican's real agenda. Not surprisingly, Begala has found that Bush's brand of "compassionate conservatism" looks a lot like plain old right-wing conservatism: it is pro-corporate and pro-wealth on the one hand and anti-environment and anti-working class on the other. Begala ties specific pieces of legislation to the lobbying activities of their sponsors to reveal a government with deep ties to the business community in general and to corporate cronies like Enron and Halliburton in particular. Begala contends that the Bush tax cuts for the rich are pulling the rug out from under the American people. He rightly points out that taxes can be more equitably cut in other ways (such as reducing the payroll tax) but suggests that Bush has purposely selected the income and inheritance taxes because reductions to these taxes disproportionately benefits his wealthy campaign donors. Unfortunately, these decisions are creating enormous future deficits that, if left unchallenged, ultimately threatens to bankrupt social security and other vital programs that the working class has come to rely upon. Begala is to be congratulated for being a staunch defender of the Clinton administration. You are reminded that Republicans vehemently opposed the policies that proved critical in turning the corner to economic success during the 1990s. Begala shows that it is possible to create a strong economy marked by widely shared prosperity. Contrasting the Clinton success story with the unconscionable looting of the federal treasury by the Bush-Cheney team, the author makes us rethink what our definition of scandalous behavior ought to be. (On the other hand, one should not look to Begala to find a critique of how Clinton's ill-advised deregulation of Wall Street and free trade policies with China conspire to undermine middle class prosperity over the long haul.) Begala's writing is energetic and full of humor, giving Democratic partisans something to cheer about during these long, dark days. But what sets the book apart from the average political screed is its thorough documentation and use of facts. As Bush himself might say, Republicans shouldn't "underestimate" this book, because it will be very difficult indeed for them to refute. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Chronicle of Ruin By Judah Begala credits Clinton with visionary economic policy, but fails to mention NAFTA resulted in millions of manufacturing 'living wage' jobs leaving the country, while only creating 'poverty wage' service jobs. Clinton did leave the country with a balanced budget, and a potential surplus of trillions, enough to pay off the deficit by 2009. The FED (Federal Reserve) is also not mentioned in the book, and that institution plays a vital role regarding US debts. This book provides details about how George W. Bush destroyed the American Empire by bankruptcy (both moral and monetary). He accelerated the outsourcing began under Clinton, gutted American manufacturing, and raised his own salary with tax breaks for the rich. If you are looking for 'How Bush is a traitor to America' look no farther than the budget and accounting numbers from his years in office. Begala needed more hard numbers to cement his case. The ten year surplus estimate of 5.6 Trillion dollars in 2009, from when the Clinton administration finished, had been reduced to 0.3 Trillion dollars in 2002, in the second year of the Bush bankruptcy. (Later Bush would waste the entire surplus, including the bankrolled Social Security Fund, and push America's deficit to previously unreached heights.) Cheney personally enriched himself by awarding no-bid government contracts to Haliburton. The Bush administration also did sold off federal lands to rich friends (Enron), who desired to exploit mining or drilling rights, along with destroying federal pollution standards to maximize gain. Bush even tried to end federal Pell grants and dismantle the Head Start program. The Bottom Line: this book shows how half the corporatist party (Republicans) made the other half of the corporatist party (Democrats) uncomfortable by killing the middle class by looting too hard. I'm sure better books exist on the subject, but Begala's isn't a bad start for the clueless. Reading this book made me feel powerless as an American citizen.

When he took office in 2001, George W. Bush inherited the strongest economy in American history. He inherited the largest federal budget surplus in American history -- and the prospect of paying off the entire national debt in just eight years. He inherited a strong dollar and sound fiscal policy. He inherited a nation whose economy was so strong that commentators who just a decade before were predicting American decline were now complaining about American dominance. And yet, Dubya blew it. Squandered everything he'd inherited from President Clinton. We thought if Junior

was good at anything, it was inheriting things. It's Still the Economy, Stupid is the story of how America's CEO -- our first MBA president -- has trashed our economy. It shows:

- How he wasted the surplus on massive tax cuts for the hyper-rich.
- How he talked down the economy for his short-term political gain, then passed an economic program that has put 1.8 million Americans out of work and cost investors \$4.4 trillion.
- How he abandoned his free-trade rhetoric to adopt protectionist tariffs, effectively raising taxes on consumers.
- How he walked away from needed investments in education, training, and all the things that make us smarter, safer, and stronger economically.
- How he plans to go on from here to cripple Social Security and to allow the privileged to avoid even more taxes.

It makes you wonder: What do they teach you at Harvard Business School?