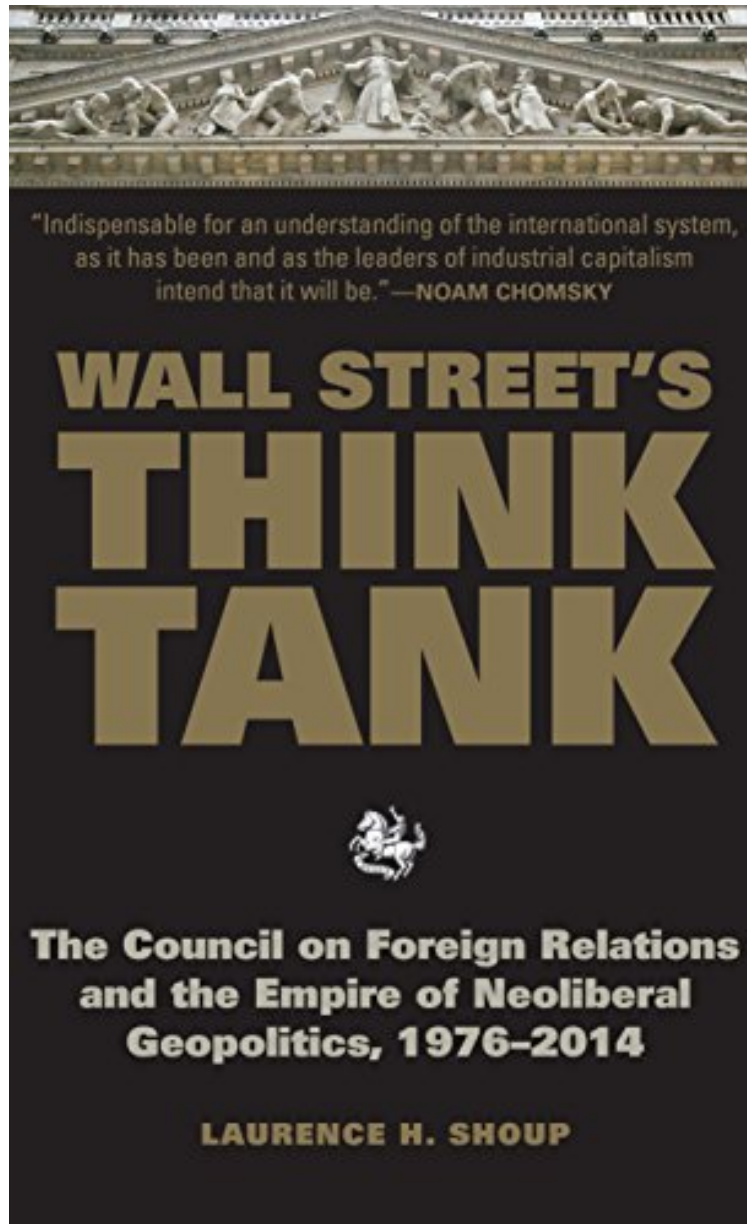


(Free download) Wall Street's Think Tank: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Empire of Neoliberal Geopolitics, 1976-2014

Wall Street's Think Tank: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Empire of Neoliberal Geopolitics, 1976-2014

Laurence H. Shoup

*audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#509309 in eBooks 2015-08-22 2015-08-22 File Name: B010VIKKYQ | File size: 67.Mb

Laurence H. Shoup : Wall Street's Think Tank: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Empire of Neoliberal Geopolitics, 1976-2014 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wall Street's Think Tank: The Council on Foreign Relations and the Empire of Neoliberal Geopolitics,

1976-2014:

22 of 23 people found the following review helpful. The history of 20th capitalism/imperialism through the history of the Council on Foreign Relations

By Zap Rowsdower

Noam Chomsky said at one point that "There's a reason nobody studies history. It just teaches you too much." That is certainly true of Wall Street's Think Tank. Bypassing the academic doubletalk and obfuscation of other scholarly histories which are meant to give the impression that world affairs too complicated for the average person to understand, Laurence Shoup takes a very simple and commonsensical approach to studying US economic and foreign policy: simply reading the documents of the people who plan it. And the result of this is, indeed, a book that teaches you too much.

His principal object of study is the Council on Foreign Relations, a policy think tank which unites the most powerful members of the US capitalist class with the US academic and political class which serves them. There are lots of conspiracy theories about the Council on Foreign Relations for just this reason, and I want to assure you that this book is not a conspiracy theory; it does not present the Council as some kind of dark puppetmaster. Shoup explains that rather than imposing policies themselves, the Council on Foreign Relations "helps unite the capitalist class community, making it not just a class in itself, but a class for itself." In this way, the Council articulates the interests of the wealthiest and most powerful people in the country, and so sets the agenda for US politics and economics. The capitalist class works with the professional/political class to plan strategies for maintaining and expanding the economic and geopolitical power of US, which is no more a conspiracy theory than saying that the board of Apple Computers meets to determine how to increase profits and market share. Shoup's account of history is carefully documented and clear-sighted, since he has all of the planning documents from the Council on Foreign Relations to back him up. If you are interested in why history in the twentieth century took the course that it did, Shoup shows that you can find a lot of the answers just by reading the documents of the powerful people who planned it. And all of the documents he cites are freely open to the public. This is all going on in plain sight--you just have to look at it.

I decided to write this review since I found the book so valuable and saw that only one other person had reviewed it so far. This is an important work of historical precision and clarity, and it deserves serious attention. Wall Street's Think Tank covers the period from 1976 to 2014, so I highly recommend you also check out Imperial Brain Trust by Shoup and a co-author, which covers the period from the 1940's until the late 1970's and examines US strategy for ensuring its supremacy on the global stage after WWII. Both books provide a broad overview of the 20th century, but those are the two main areas of focus.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A VERY IMPORTANT WORK

By Robert Arango

I agree with Mr. Rowsdower's review that Laurence Shoup's book is "an important work" and "deserves serious attention." Shoup's detailed investigation enables him to "name names," and the reader can easily conclude that the most important names are those of the Anglo-Zionist elite. I would have rated the book a 5 star rating, except that Shoup fails to draw the obvious connection with AIPAC.

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars

By Pat Leach

I believe this book should be required reading for all citizen's.....

The Council on Foreign Relations is the most influential foreign-policy think tank in the United States, claiming among its members a high percentage of government officials, media figures, and establishment elite. For decades it kept a low profile even while it shaped policy, advised presidents, and helped shore up U.S. hegemony following the Second World War. In 1977, Laurence H. Shoup and William Minter published the first in-depth study of the CFR, Imperial Brain Trust, an explosive work that traced the activities and influence of the CFR from its origins in the 1920s through the Cold War. Now, Laurence H. Shoup returns with this long-awaited sequel, which brings the story up to date. Wall Street's Think Tank follows the CFR from the 1970s through the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union to the present. It explains how members responded to rapid changes in the world scene: globalization, the rise of China, wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the launch of a "War on Terror," among other major developments. Shoup argues that the CFR now operates in an era of "Neoliberal Geopolitics," a worldwide paradigm that its members helped to establish and that reflects the interests of the U.S. ruling class, but is not without challengers. Wall Street's Think Tank is an essential guide to understanding the Council on Foreign Relations and the shadow it casts over recent history and current events.

Praise for Imperial Brain Trust: "The first in-depth analysis of the activities and influence of the most important private institution in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy. Shoup and Minter's work is based on detailed research, including examination of material hitherto unavailable to the public. This work will stand as a milestone." - Library Journal

About the Author

Laurence H. Shoup received his Ph.D. in History from Northwestern University in 1974. He is the author of several books, including Imperial Brain Trust (with William Minter) and Rebels: A People's History of Early California, 1769-1901, as well as many articles in scholarly and popular publications. He has taught U.S. history at the University of Illinois, San Francisco State University, Sonoma State University, and elsewhere, and has been active in the anti-war and social justice movements since the 1960s.