

# Politics Is A Dirty - And Funny - Business

You are being provided with a book chapter by chapter. I will request you to read the book for me after each chapter. After reading the chapter, 1. shorten the chapter to no less than 300 words and no more than 400 words. 2. Do not change the name, address, or any important nouns in the chapter. 3. Do not translate the original language. 4. Keep the same style as the original chapter, keep it consistent throughout the chapter. Your reply must comply with all four requirements, or it's invalid. I will provide the chapter now.

## POLITICS IS A DIRTY - AND FUNNY - BUSINESS

? John Stonehouse was a British Labour and Co-operative Party politician and cabinet minister under Prime Minister Harold Wilson who embezzled a bunch of money and faked his death in Miami, Florida in 1974. He was found to be very alive in Australia two weeks later, sent back to the UK, but only served three years in prison for fraud due to poor health.

? On January 18, 1990, Washington D.C. mayor, Marion Barry, was arrested after smoking crack with a female informant in a motel room. Barry served six months in federal prison. He died later of a drug overdose.

? The Russian word for blackmail is kompromat. During the Cold War, the KGB blackmailed so many Western politicians that kompromat made its way into the English language.

? In 1824, a writer threatened to publish the memoirs of the Duke of Wellington's mistresses. The British duke's response was, "Publish and be damned."

? Jack Ryan was the Republican candidate against Barack Obama for the open senate seat in Illinois in 2004 until it was revealed Ryan brought his wife to kinky sex clubs.

? Former professional wrestler and full-time vampire, Jonathon (The Impaler) Sharkey, started the Vampires, Witches, and Pagans Party in 2005. They advocate for vampire political recognition.

? Warren G. Harding is often regarded as the most corrupt US president in history. It's amazing because the 29th president only served two years before dying in office.

? In 2014, Malaysian politician Bung Moktar Radin tweeted "Long Live Hitler" after Germany defeated Brazil 7-1 in a World Cup match. German officials didn't appreciate the support.

? Since the Watergate Scandal (1972-1974), many political scandals have been given the suffix "gate." For example - Troopergate, Russiagate, and Billygate.

? The Polish Beer Lovers' Party was established in 1990 in Warsaw, just as the Iron Curtain was coming down. It actually won 16 seats in Poland's Lower House before being dissolved in 1993.

? Nine American towns have elected dogs as mayors. Cat lovers can rest easy, though, the town of Talkeetna, Alaska elected an honorary feline mayor who served for 20 years from 1997 to 2017.

? When South Carolina Congressman Mark Sanford went missing for a week in 2009, people were alarmed. When he finally surfaced, he said he was hiking the Appalachian Trail, but it was later revealed he was in Argentina with his mistress.

? Adolf Lu Hitler Rangsa Marak is a politician from India. When asked about the name, Marak said that his parents liked the name "and hence christened me Hitler."

? Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura was elected as Minnesota's 38th governor in November 1998. He was the first American professional wrestler to hold such a high office.

? Tired of political corruption, 100,000 residents of Sao Paulo, Brazil voted for a female black rhinoceros named Cacareco for city council in 1958. Although she won more votes than the other candidates, election officials ruled Cacareco ineligible.

? US Congressman Hank Johnson said in a 2010 hearing on the territory of Guam: "My fear is that the whole island will become so overly populated that it will tip over and capsize." His office said it was a joke.

? American author Robert Anton Wilson formed the Guns and Dope Party. It was a bit of a joke Wilson had fun with during California's 2003 gubernatorial recall election.

? In addition to being involved in fraud, it was later made public that John Stonehouse had been spying for Czechoslovakia during the 1960s.

? Colorado US Senator Gary Hart looked set to win the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination when news of an extra-marital affair derailed his campaign. If only he ran after Clinton!

? Getting caught smoking crack on video isn't just an American thing. In 2013, Chris Farley lookalike and Toronto mayor, Rob Ford, got busted for smoking crack on tape, ending his reelection bid.

? Porngate is the name of one of the strangest scandals in Indian politics. The scandal involved two members of the Karnataka state cabinet watching porn on a smartphone when the legislature was in session in February 2012.

? American conspiracy theorist Lyndon La Rouche ran in every US presidential election from 1976 through 2004. Although a registered Democrat, he always ran as a third-party candidate.

? Democratic US Congressman Philemon Thomas Herbert shot and killed a waiter at a hotel in 1856. Herbert was acquitted of manslaughter, but the charges ruined his career.

? Empress Dowager Cixi of China (1861-1908) knew how to use blackmail as well as any man. Cixi tortured the concubines and servants of the Guangxu Emperor, her nephew, to use as kompromat against him.