Introduction

Thesis: Owners and top level managers in large companies work together to maintain themselves as the core of the dominant power group (joined by Christian Right).

1. Cohesion based on common interests and social network that reinforces cohesion.
2. Make up corporate conservative coalition (incl Christian Right –social issues).
3. Control government but critical of it, power to help citizens.
4. There is a weaker liberal-labor coalition.
5. Class conflict: conflict of interests between two (asymmetrical conflict)
6. Most Americans: not loyal to either, busy.

Chapter One

1. America’s foundational myth: a revolution for “equality”
2. A “certain degree of equality”
3. Economic class: common position in economic system (position and relationship)
4. Social class: interact, common social orgs, common lifestyle (position and relationship).
5. Dominant class is both social and economic (overlap) which gives them more cohesion and more power.
6. Level of analysis: membership network analysis (persons and groups)aka organizational network.
7. Social institutions: patterns for organizing life, and mechanisms for interactin
8. Economic class? Measures marketable assets, income distribution, wealth distribution (pp 9 and 10)
9. Collective power
10. Distributive power: group that achieves goals through conflict
11. Indicators of power:
    1. Who benefits? Wealth and income distribution
    2. Who governs? Who occupies important positions
    3. Who wins?
12. Power Networks: means of influence
    1. special interest process
    2. policy planning process
    3. candidate selection process
    4. opinion shaping process

Chapter 2: Corporate Community

1. Starting point: Corporate community’s organization network: interlocking boards of directors.
   1. Inside directors

b. Outside directors

1. Demographics of directors
2. Strategic alliances (diagram Siemens p 32)
3. producer networks
4. Offshoring and the NLRB: no collective bargaining over management decisions.
5. Defense industry and hi-tec both part of this system
6. Corporate lawyers
7. Agribusinesses
8. Local business: growth coalitions

10. Communities: race to the bottom