Short Paper Assignment #1: "Who Rules America?"  
Reflection Paper

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Sociology 3301W: Introduction to Political Sociology

Due: Monday September 25, 11:15am (beginning of class)  
Length: Approx. 1 page in Times 12 double space. 1.5 pages maximum.

Briefly summarize the main ways that the power elite influences public opinion. This should constitute about one-half of your paper. The second half of your paper is about evidence. Discuss (and specifically reference) two different examples of evidence that Domhoff uses to support his claims. Be clear about what the evidence is and how it serves to support Domhoff's arguments. Finally, give two examples of evidence that would contradict Domhoff. Be clear how the evidence would undermine his arguments. Try to cite real examples if you can think of them. Alternately, you may make up hypothetical examples (i.e., imaginary but plausible data on funding flows, survey research findings, or historical quotes). Note: If you rely on hypothetical evidence, do not just give the converse of the first two examples.

The goal is to read critically and think of possible evidence one might use to argue against Domhoff. This is also an exercise in writing clearly and succinctly. Since this is a short paper, you must be very efficient. To make things easier, you may omit an introduction and conclusion, allowing more space to write your answer.
