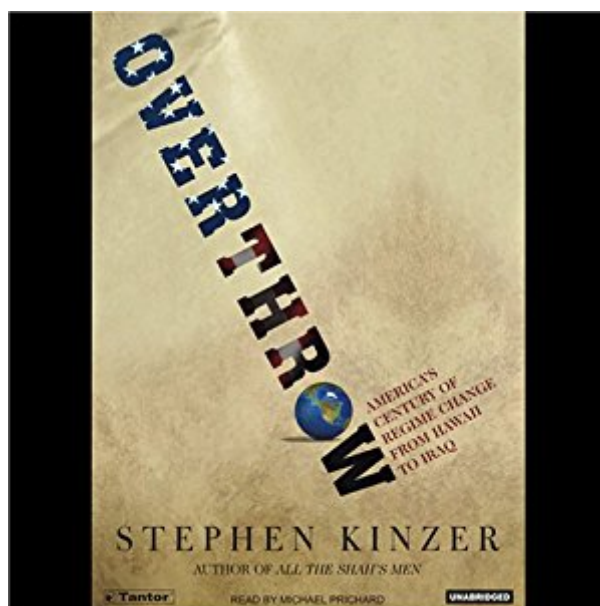


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# Overthrow: America's Century Of Regime Change From Hawaii To Iraq



## Synopsis

A fast-paced narrative history of the coups, revolutions, and invasions by which the United States has toppled fourteen foreign governments-not always to its own benefit. "Regime change" did not begin with the administration of George W. Bush, but has been an integral part of U.S. foreign policy for more than one hundred years. Starting with the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy in 1893 and continuing through the Spanish-American War and the Cold War and into our own time, the United States has not hesitated to overthrow governments that stood in the way of its political and economic goals. The invasion of Iraq in 2003 is the latest, though perhaps not the last, example of the dangers inherent in these operations. In *Overthrow*, Stephen Kinzer tells the stories of the audacious politicians, spies, military commanders, and business executives who took it upon themselves to depose monarchs, presidents, and prime ministers. He also shows that the U.S. government has often pursued these operations without understanding the countries involved; as a result, many of them have had disastrous long-term consequences. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I thoroughly enjoyed this quick read. While getting into some interesting history, author Stephen Kinzer doesn't get into the weeds but rather provides a nice overview for each of the events he covers. Kinzer covers US-led regime change events from Hawaii to the recent Iraq war. He offers a balanced view of the reasons behind American interventions. On the one hand he is critical of these

incursions and offers lucid insights into the often mixed motives. On the other hand, he isn't unreasonably anti-American or needlessly critical. I thought the last chapter in particular gave a fair overview (and review) and the post-intervention effects. While Stephen Kinzer comes from a left-leaning political perspective, as a right of center reader I enjoyed the book and recommend it for starter overviews for each of the conflicts in question.

In many ways this book was an eyeopener for me. Stephen Kinzer selects 14 scenarios to remind us that GWB invasion of Iraq was not a first. In most cases the overthrows were executed at least partly at the behest of American industry in post colonial situations around the world starting in 1893 in Hawaii. In other cases the main reason was to implement a political change or American doctrines. Some overthrows may have been profitable in the short term but most have had a negative effect in the long run and delayed the development of nations towards independence and democracy. The book was first published in 2006 when we could only guess the long time effect of the Iraq invasion but many scholars consider the ISIS uprising in Syria and Iraq to be among the more or less direct consequences. The book answers in part the question that so many Americans ask themselves: Why do they hate us?

I found the book enlightening. An opposing view needs to be read to put everything in perspective. History cannot be changed, how it is interpreted is another matter.

I've decided to read all the Kinzer books now. This book was the 4th I've read and it didn't disappoint. For me it was quite difficult to read about the Iraq conflict and I had to put it down a few times and resume reading later because of the harsh truths. The readability of this book is high, and I feel smarter for having read it.

Well written, well researched. I'm learning a lot from Mr. Kinzer and his subject matter. Thought knew a lot. Found out there was a lot I didn't know. Makes me sick to know how low we have sunk to get our way and the immorality of it all. Should be required reading for all students and adults.

Every American and leader should read this book. Many things make more sense now. I have a different view of many leaders.

The average American (myself included) envisages the US as always having played the role of

Mister Good Guy in all it's international relations. Sadly, US presidents and government officials are all too human.

A good look into how, from the 1890's until now we the United States have overthrown other Democracy's for the interest of corporations. The number is 14 in all, the legitimate Queen of Hawaii was the start. She committed the sin of wanting to help her people. Well written.

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