



# The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous in American Life

*Bill O'Reilly*

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**The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous in American Life** Bill O'Reilly  
The million-copy *New York Times* bestseller from the Fox News anchor who's brought new excitement—and massive amounts of populist common sense and rock-solid honesty—to television news.

Now four seasons strong, Bill O'Reilly's nightly cable news program, "The O'Reilly Factor," is one of the hottest shows on the air. In book form, *The O'Reilly Factor* has sold over a million copies and spent fourteen weeks at the top of the *New York Times* bestseller list. Obviously, Bill O'Reilly has made his mark. His blunt, ironic, no-holds-barred style has earned him a devoted audience—friends and foes alike—who send him five thousand letters every week. And with the wit and intelligence that have made him one of the most talked-about stars in both television and publishing, O'Reilly continues to identify what's right, what's wrong, and what's absurd in the political, social, economic, and cultural life of America.

## The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous in American Life Details

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# **From Reader Review The O'Reilly Factor: The Good, the Bad, and the Completely Ridiculous in American Life for online ebook**

## **Jeannie says**

I enjoyed this book, maybe because I agree with O'Reilly's value system...there are a few points I took a "whoa point of view", but I have to agree with the majority of basic principles of honor, honesty, understanding and loyalty that resonated with me. His parenting chapter was spot on!

I would like an update of this book since it was written in 2000 to see what changes have taken place in his mind-sight if any. (Maybe "Patriots and Pinheads" will fulfill that request.

Why did I read this book? because I recently within the last 6 months faithfully started watching "The O'Reilly Factor", read "Killing Lincoln", read "Killing Kennedy" and wanted to understand the man that my 85 year old mother has been watching for the last 10 years. Now I understand why! I borrowed this book from her.

I've learned more about our current government and historical events through him (and other Fox Programs) than I have through any other source! (And I thought I was paying attention to what was happening around me!) Thank you Mr. O'Reilly! I am onto "No Spin Zone"

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## **Philip Boling says**

Easy read, and fairly frequently I read something I appreciated.

75% of all physical abuse against helpless little kids is committed by inebriated adults... Alcohol is involved in fully half of all murders, accidental deaths, and suicides in the United States and in almost half of all fatal car accidents... pg 58

...drug testing is possible now for about a dollar a test... "in" Alabama ... All prisoners are now tested as soon as they are booked. The majority -no surprise- have drugs or alcohol in their blood... All convicted suspects are given a choice forced drug rehab in a prison drug facility or... 90% opt for rehab pg 62

If you think it's easy for your kids to get their hands on cigarettes and booze... just wait until the day some town or state makes the mistake of legalizing heroin, coke... pg 60

Miss Manners is right. No one wants to eat near a slob... pg 128

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## **Mariam says**

The entirety of the male species is sex starved! They are no more than a bunch of horny bastards, according to Bill O'Reilly's Sex Factor. Men think of "NOTHING" but sex and rightly so because that's just the way they are – sex starved monsters. "If we aren't having sex on a daily basis, we are thinking about it all the time. I mean, all the time" (p.29)... "Women to men are just sex objects and no matter what a man says to you ladies, he is lying. He just wants to sleep with you"!!!!

Papa Bill has spoken. I hope his wife is listening coz he is trying to tell her something! It puzzles me why he has a problem with Hip hop artist singing about this acknowledged reality of how all “human male” are and their portrayal of women as sex objects. But of course if it’s O’Reilly then it O’Righty!

There are a lot of contradicting statements I could easily pull out from this chapter but I will save my time. I will like to point out, however, if this immorality is in the nature of all men, then Bill has no right to constantly bash and contemptuously ridicule Clinton or make a mockery of him throughout the book – I mean, we have already been educated by him that all men are sexual perverts.

Conversely, he writes that he has no problem with Mick Jagger, in fact Bill blames Jagger’s wife for not being “perceptive.” “She is as dumb as she looks,” he asserted. I can’t help but wonder how Bill controls his own unceasingly incessant sexual orgies?!

Vis-à-vis the Job factor, I thought Bill will at least attempt to address issues related to “jobs” and unemployment in the “American Life.” Lo and behold, it was his resume presented with obnoxious braggadocio. This man supports and defends his cockiness as much as he blabbers about success, politics, marriage et al. His obvious hypocrisies are unbelievable: "I'm not going to brag about my exploits with women" and then he dives right into it. The book ends with the “Good” factor in which he lists "all the good in the American Life," ironically; the list comprises of only and all the celebrities and movies Bill really likes whilst giving a synopsis of each along with why they made it to the good list [right after the dude complains that Americans give celebrities unnecessary attention and too much importance. Way to go, Bill!]

Repeatedly, throughout the book, he starts making lists of things he likes and dislikes as soon as he runs out of ideas. Of course you’ll enjoy this claptrap balderdash if you are interested to know what O'Reilly's favorite books and movies are. I really don't care what he thinks of Weather-people, Rice Cakes, Steak Tartar, Onion Flavored Potato Chips or Sushi and whether or not he likes Chinese food, P. Diddy or the Doors. I don’t care. Nobody cares.

He is definitely suffering from megalomania. Papa Bill, what is the significance of telling us that a woman bid \$3000 to take you on a date in 1990? I really don’t care. You say: “don't kiss and tell,” however; you described to us how far you got on a first date at a drive in! Also, what’s with all the name dropping? That’s lame!

I must confess, however, that he got me in the first and somewhat only interesting chapter but then lost me almost immediately as he quickly ran out of steam. The rest of the book, unfortunately, drifts and wanders away through his roughly and badly thought out musings on just about everything else. The more you read, the more the content wears away and each chapter reads more and more like a high school newspaper editorial column.

Seriously, the book was poorly written, the prose is irritating and somewhat immature. I have been reading it for over 3 months; I finally forced myself to finish it. I struggled to find anything that I gained from this book but meh. My intelligence was thoroughly and severely insulted, I was frustrated by his inability to think critically.

O’Reilly’s level of ignorance and lack of logical reasoning is impeccable. I was expecting at least a certain depth in analysis from a so called journalist. But this guy is far from an intellectual, he is one of the most ludicrously hilarious and annoying people I have ever read. This book is absurd, it doesn’t serve a purpose, and it follows no clear linear path. It’s all random thoughts of an old crazy conservative demagogue. His ego is about the size of Kilimanjaro. He is biased and arrogant on every factor and issue he discusses. It is impossible for this guy to see things in shades of gray, it either black or white. All the rounded and blunt

conclusions are based on irrelevant data and observations.

Ultimately, I find it simply unbelievable and alarming that this schmuck is so popular and a worthless book like this can end up on the bestseller list. The man lacks journalistic integrity, his book is absolute Garbage. They are both a waste of time and money. If I Could, I would give It 0 Stars. However, if you like the man and his show go ahead and buy it. You deserve it..

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### **Brendan says**

Sigh. He's a cranky old guy who believes earnest garbage like 'this country was great a generation ago.' He's the rich white uncle who worked hard, made a ton of mistakes, recounts them here and now feels privileged to look down on the needy. Jackass? You bet, and proud of it. He espouses the retro-corrected mush of 'Leave it to Beaver' and its ilk as being authentic portrayals of American values.

O'Reilly also has the #1 rated opinion program on a "news" network; not to be confused with a news program. Feared as too conservative at the time this book was published, O'Reilly's show is now surrounded by programming which makes him appear almost moderate. Worth reading simply to see how a relatable stubborn mule hit it big. Amusing and infuriating.

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### **Mitch says**

His books read like they were taken straight from a transcript of his show, with little editing or addition.

I don't mean that as a compliment either.

This guy seemed so fresh when he first started out with the "no spin zone" now it seems that instead of "fair and balanced" he (and the rest of his station) try to provide a balance.

Anyway, I would probably try to read another one if they were actually written instead of cobbled together from his on air transcript material. This kind of 'book' is just an attempt to cash in on those who just can't get enough of the 'on air' personality.

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### **Jonathan says**

In the dead of winter, with no TV, no internet, no sunshine to brighten my life, I turned to Bill O'Reilly to warm my cold, lonely nights. I read this book mostly because I wanted to challenge myself, to see if I could read his entire book without vomiting. I succeeded in finishing this book and not becoming violently ill. The only side effect was the nightmares, nightmares about intolerable, insensitive individuals who pollute and inhibit sensible dialogue. Individuals like Mr O'Reilly.

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## **Steph (loves water) says**

Sigh. Mr. O'Reilly is an extremely intelligent man and a decent writer. He is definately \*not\* my cup of tea and I rarely watch his show. That said, I did find myself, much to my horror, agreeing with him on the class situation in the U.S. I did not agree with his stance on drug addiction and alcoholism (as an Irish-American, he ought to know better!)

His views on children and discipline seem reactionary. I've often wondered if his daughter, who was an infant at the time the book was written, ended up having some sort of a learning disability. If she did, I feel very sorry for her for having a narrow minded individual for a parent. Hopefully the mother is a little more "with it."

All in all, the book was well-written. I just wish, sometimes, that "intelligence" could mean "open minded."

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## **Miranda Davis says**

Please, someone, neuter this man. It will calm him down and make him less vicious, ask any veterinarian. Mr. O'Reilly himself is one of the worst, completely ridiculous things in American life today. I read this as a library book, looking for laughs and not being willing to underwrite his special, rabid brand of fiction. How can I explain this man's point of view: think Karl Rove after being bitten by a foaming-at-the-mouth skunk.

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## **Francis Berger says**

To be honest, I don't why the heck I read this. I must have been in an extremely masochistic mood when I checked it out from the local library. If subjecting myself to pain was my ultimate goal that afternoon, this book certainly did not disappoint. It was painful to read all the way through.

This book is even more painful than his t.v. show. On television O'Reilly is able to mask his vast stupidity by raising his voice and screaming at everyone and everything within a two-mile radius of his anchor desk. Unfortunately for him, the "scream at them so they don't see how dumb I am" strategy cannot be employed between the covers of a book.

The most ridiculous thing in American Life is that this simpleton gets books published. Even more ridiculous . . . idiots like me who wasted their time reading it.

If you are one of these people who absolutely needs a fix of stale received-wisdom and molten-hot liberalism disguised as raging, foaming-at-the-mouth conservatism, I suggest you skip this book and get your fix of Bill "Oh, Really?" straight from the source on FOX. At least the screaming contains some element of entertainment.

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## **Linda says**

I've never watched Fox News nor (until this book) did I know anything about Bill O'Reilly. I enjoyed the

historical context of his books *The Killing of Patton* and *The Killing of Jesus* and still would like to read *Killing Lincoln*. With that in mind I picked up the *O'Reilly Factor* at the local library, just to get a look into the person of Bill O'Reilly himself. Written 14 years ago, it was interesting to see that O'Reilly had strong thoughts about the Clintons and Donald Trump even then. The book was so-so, moving along, until the final chapter in which O'Reilly stated his picks of the worst and best of Americans who influence our lives, and Bill Cosby came in first as a favorite. For better or worse it negated the entire book for me.

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### **Sean says**

I read this one on a bit of a dare to myself, to check out something I usually wouldn't get near. You may be able to tell that Mr. O'Reilly isn't really 'my cuppa'.

My father (who likes Bill a \*lot\* and is a regular Fox News viewer) owns this book and I found it while staying at the folks' place.

It seems to be pretty much what you get on O'Reilly's TV program. He stresses his "working class" Irish-Catholic roots, charts his rise through various network news jobs and of course, tells the reader what's good for America and the children.

Apart from a very few wry observations, I grew tired of Mr. O'Reilly's smug tone after the first few chapters. His act of imitating Clint Eastwood's demeanor while stalking corridors at whatever job he was working at, seemed to ring hollow and cheesy to me. The nadir of the entire book, though, is when he's discussing his nightclubbing adventures in the 70s. The idea of that actually made me shudder--though I suppose I did get a humorous image of B.O'R. with medallions and a white disco suit, permed hair and a Tom Selleck 'tache lounge-lizarding around his local disco.

Maybe I could rate it two stars just for that...or 1 and a half.

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### **Linda says**

I don't think I would care for Mr. O'Reilly very much, and I certainly don't agree with all he says, but he certainly makes me think, and I do enjoy his writing.

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### **Stephanie says**

I was under the impression this would be a read about Mr. O'Reilly's views of American Life-I was wrong. This was, primarily, a book about Mr. O'Reilly's life and experiences. Parts were interesting and mildly entertaining, but most of it was a snooze fest into O'Reilly egomania. If you wish to know many boring details from Mr. O'Reilly's childhood and job history experiences, with him acting like a jackass most of the way, this is definitely the book for you.

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## **Curtis says**

I had heard enough soundbytes of Bill O'Reilly spouting off to have a very negative impression, but when I found this audiobook used, for a dollar, I thought I would give him a fair try. At first, I found myself agreeing with so many of the values and beliefs he stated, and was surprised to hear him rant as much about the rich, corporate power-mongers as Hilary Clinton. But this was written in 2000, just before the Bush/Gore election, and perhaps he had not made the transition fully to the dark side by then.

As the book went on, I started to question whether he actually believed many of those values we shared. By the second half of the book, the accumulation of rants really showed his true nature - that of an incredibly arrogant, opinionated chauvinist who contains not an ounce of humility or empathy. The problem lies in his belief in his omniscience and absolute righteousness. By believing that he already knows everything, he does not have the capacity to learn anything new, as when a bucket of sand is full, any sand added will just pour down the sides.

In fact, I now believe that Mr. O'Reilly and I share very little, and I have found him to be misogynistic, prejudiced, and really antagonistic to the working class that he claims to represent.

I gave this book two stars just to give him some credit for his prose - he can write and express his views well. I was ready to give it three stars, but he lost me in the second half, and I will cite two points (among many) that swayed me: In his advice on writing, he demands that young writers stop using cliches, yet his prose is overwhelmed by them (the most ironic of which is his repeated use of "This Humble Reporter"); The worst was his story of intimidating a woman on an airplane to keep her child in line, then deriding her for "chickening out" in her solution (without considering the fear of physical danger that he obviously, and intentionally, instilled in her).

I do not think I need to read anymore of his work, though if I see something more current in the Used Audiobooks rack (for no more than a dollar), I might pick it up to see if and when he dropped the pretense of the champion of the working class.

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## **Katie says**

I definitely don't think O'Reilly should be giving me advice on child-rearing, marriage, DATING! Eeek! but I agreed with him on some subjects: race, politics, money, etc. I was not impressed by his attempts at being funny and I did not find this very stimulating at all. I will still watch him interrupt people on TV. He is much more entertaining as a TV host.

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