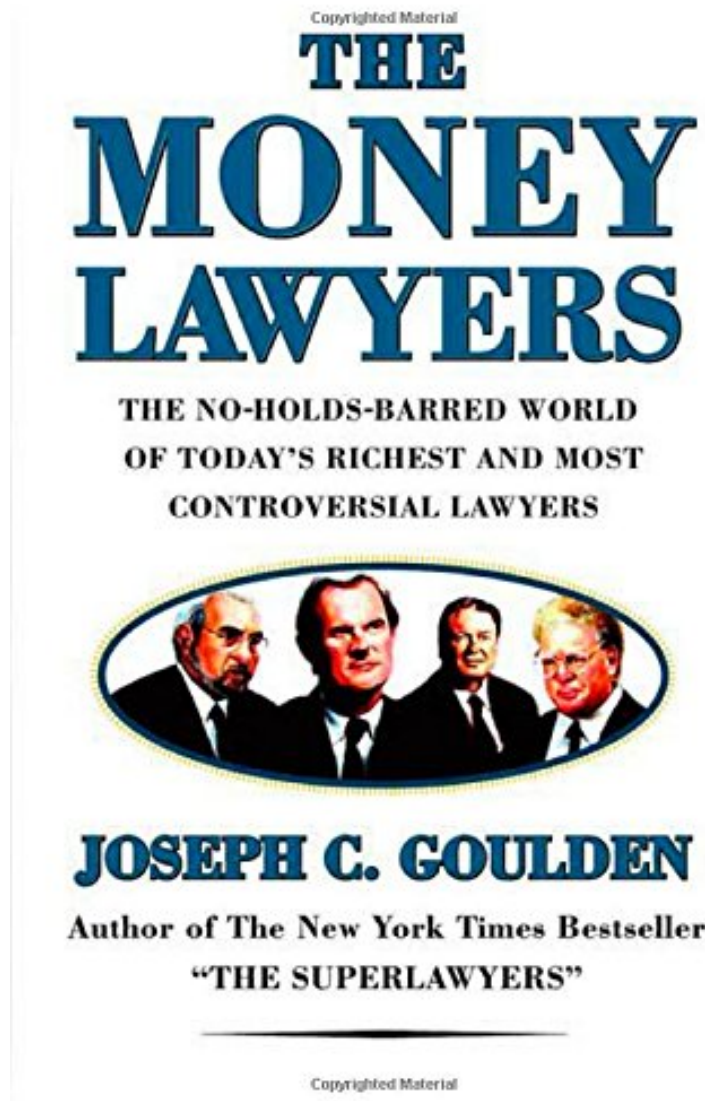


(Mobile book) The Money Lawyers: The No-Holds-Barred World of Today's Richest and Most Powerful Lawyers

## **The Money Lawyers: The No-Holds-Barred World of Today's Richest and Most Powerful Lawyers**

*Joseph C. Goulden*

*DOC | \*audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



#768982 in Books 2005-12-27 2005-12-27 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.45 x 1.55 x 6.251, #File Name: 0312205554448 pages | File size: 68.Mb

**Joseph C. Goulden : The Money Lawyers: The No-Holds-Barred World of Today's Richest and Most Powerful Lawyers** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Money Lawyers: The No-Holds-Barred World of Today's Richest and Most Powerful Lawyers:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. **The Money Lawyers.** By Jusuf Hariman This book vividly describes how lawyering has become a money-driven business, not just a profession. It explores the lucrative world of class-action litigation where plaintiff-lawyers- "The Class-Action Club"-garner billions of dollars in damages and fees through suits against manufacturers of items such as breast implants, asbestos, and diet pills. Also featured are the new superlawyer David Boies of IBM/Florida vote fame; the Washington DC., lawyer-lobbyist Tom Boggs; and the messy divorce of securities "strike-suits law" William Lerach of San Diego and Melvyn Weiss of New York. Additionally, the dark side of "white-shoe law" is detailed in an account of how a Wall Street firm cast out partners so that survivors could make more money, and the price the firm paid for its blatant loyalty.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. **So, So - No Great Insights!** By Loyd Eskildson Goulden points out that a 2003 Manhattan Institute study concluded that litigation settlements exceeded \$200 billion/year, about 2% of GNP, and far more than any other country. (Eg. Dow Chemical sets aside \$1 in 160 for litigation in the U.S., \$1 in \$40,000 in Europe.) Lawyers get about \$40 billion of this. Two questions immediately come to my mind: 1) Is this true? The current administration has made great claims on the costs of malpractice suits on medical costs - more objective sources, however, dispute those findings. 2) Do malpractice lawsuits serve a valuable need? Repeated studies have found enormous amounts of error in healthcare - neither laws nor economic incentives to-date have helped. In fact, economic incentives are a large part of the problem - the more errors, the more revenues and profits! However, rising malpractice costs persuaded anesthesiologists to substantially improve their practice - clearly a benefit. Regardless, "The Money Lawyers" then goes on to cover several leaders in the field, starting with David Boies, of Microsoft and the 2000 Presidential election fame. His background, early cases (eg. defending CBS against General Westmoreland in a slander suit, defending IBM against monopoly charges), case selection logic, and questioning approach are summarized for readers. Another titan covered is Thomas Hale Boggs - leading lawyer lobbyist - his firm representing 225 or so entities and collecting more in fees than any other lawyer lobbyist firm in '04. Particular strengths include free trade, Alaskan oil drilling, finding federal funding for eg. universities and Iraq reconstruction firms. Boggs' start was undoubtedly helped by being the son of the Democratic House majority leader, and he prides himself on having a bipartisan staff with expertise in a wide range of areas.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. **Very interesting and thought-provoking, but needs editing** By K G RI liked this book a lot. It covers a variety of lawyers and law firms to give the reader a representative view of various law practices with seemingly questionable morals or ethical practices. It runs the full gamut, from Plaintiffs lawyers dealing with diet pills and breast implants, to securities class-action litigation, to lobbying, to white shoe law firms and David Boies. All these different lawyers are used to show much of what is wrong with many of the major players in the legal system today. On another note, this book appears to have been very poorly edited. Typos abound, and transitions are done very poorly. Goulden jumps around between lawyers and topics, and does not stay very focused at times. The book also should have been a bit more comprehensive, e.g. discuss what's right with the legal system, problems with conservative jurists and lawyers, etc. But on the whole, I liked it.

The Money Lawyers vividly describes how lawyering has become a money-driven business, not just a profession. It explores the lucrative world of class-action litigation, where plaintiff lawyers - "The Class-Action Club" - garner billions of dollars in damages and fees through suits against manufacturers of items such as breast implants, asbestos, and diet pills.

From Publishers Weekly It's hard not to feel outraged at the politico-legal complex when reading Goulden's brief profiles of some of the country's highest-paid lawyers. As he tracks the exploits of such superstars as David Boies, who sued Microsoft as a special counsel to the Justice Department and defended Al Gore during the 2000 election, and Thomas Hale Boggs Jr., a Washington "superlobbyist" whose law firm has gotten rich from its involvement in many government deals, including NAFTA and accords that allowed for increased oil drilling. Boggs, he writes, "has come to epitomize the enormous power, the awesome power that money exerts on government." Goulden, a journalist best known for his 1972 bestseller, *The Superlawyers*, writes well and he's got great access to his subjects. He makes a strong case in pointing out other flaws in the legal system, particularly the proliferation of profitable (for lawyers) class-action lawsuits that he says are clogging the courts. But some have argued just as strongly that these cases protect the individuals against powerful businesses and government. Still, Goulden's portraits of "dollar-drive" lawyers are sharp and highlight the power of money to distort the legal system. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Eye-opening and timely. Goulden gives us a close look at some of the nation's most powerful lawyers. Both friends and foes will learn a great deal."--Walter K. Olson, author of *The Litigation Explosion* and *The Rule of Lawyers*