

## The Deep State Is All Too Real

Congress and the courts have shirked their duty, letting bureaucrats make and interpret the laws.

By David Bernhardt

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There are two competing conceptions of American governance: the version students are taught in the classroom, and the one that exists in the real world. Grade-school civics teaches that Washington is designed to operate under a system of checks and balances, constrained by the Constitution and empowered by the consent of the governed. In practice, however, power has become concentrated in the executive branch and largely wielded by unaccountable career bureaucrats. The notion of a "deep state" isn't a conspiratorial talking point but a manifest political reality.

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