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# Worth<sup>®</sup>

THE EVOLUTION OF FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE

## THE 100 MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN FINANCE

WORTH FOR

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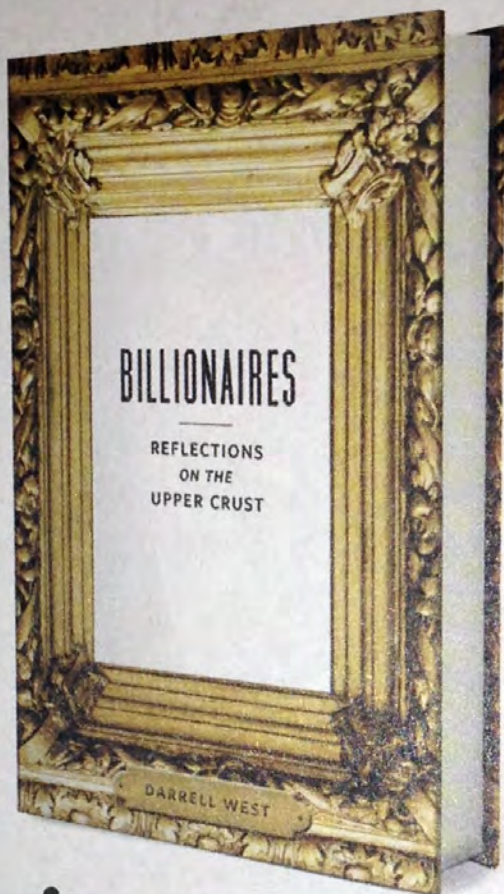
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NAME CHECKS →

Among the billionaires examined are Sheldon Adelson, Michael Bloomberg, the Koch brothers and Bill Gates.

← GLOBAL REACH

There are 1,645 billionaires in the world; 492 are in the U.S.

# Billionaires

## Reflections on the Upper Crust

➔ IN A BOOK FILLED WITH ANECDOTES, DARRELL M. WEST ANALYZES THE GROWING POLITICAL AND SOCIAL POWER OF THE WORLD'S BILLIONAIRES.

BOOKS

➔ Darrell M. West is VP and director of governance studies at the Brookings Institution, where he founded the Center for Technology Innovation and is editor in chief of its blog TechTank.



**Q: Other than being richer, what sets billionaires apart from the rest of the wealthy?**

**A:** The billionaires I know are creative, visionary and forward-looking individuals. The two-thirds of them who are self-made earned their fortunes by seeing some niche in the marketplace that was not being served by existing companies and coming up with a new product or service that filled that niche.

**Q: Are American billionaires different from those in other countries?**

**A:** Like billionaires around the globe, they try to convert economic power into political power. But American billionaires have pioneered new models of political engagement combining electioneering, issue advocacy and philanthropy that advances their policy viewpoints.

**Q: Shouldn't billionaires be able to express their viewpoints just like anyone else?**

**A:** Billionaires have the right to fight for their ideas, but some of them are doing this in secret with no required public disclosure. The combination of income concentration and secrecy is toxic for democratic political systems. We have to make sure that our system promotes transparency.

BROOKINGS INSTITUTION PRESS, SEPTEMBER 2014, \$27, 256 PAGES

INDEXES

APIx

➔ Pieces of art disintegrate over time, but it's hard for laypeople to know the sustainability of works they're interested in buying. Created by an art conservator and an investment banker, APIx is a ratings system that judges the likely longevity of artwork.

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APPS

iFunding

➔ The real estate crowdfunding platform iFunding has created an eponymous mobile app for investors. Users can browse opportunities, interact with other investors and complete transactions. FREE, AVAILABLE VIA THE APPLE STORE AND GOOGLE PLAY, [IFUNDING.CO](http://IFUNDING.CO)

BOOKS

### Only Retire Once: How to Avoid the 9 Deadly Mistakes of Retirement

By Roy Williams

➔ Williams, CEO and principal owner of Prestige Wealth Management Group, takes a levelheaded approach to retirement. Insisting on a rigorous look at possible hurdles, from the financial needs of family members to potential healthcare costs, Williams helps readers make a proper assessment of what their needs will be—then gives valuable advice for creating a plan to meet them. WILLIAMS FAMILY PRESS, \$24.95, 184 PAGES

# INDEXES

## APIx

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