

# Bill Clinton

Waiting to Inhale  
Forty-Second, 1993-2001



**Nicknames:** "Slick Willy", "The Comeback Kid"

**Birth:** August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1946, Hope, Arkansas

**Death:** Still living as of the time of writing

**Significant Events During Clinton's Terms:** World Trade Center Bombing ... Waco / Branch Davidian Fiasco ... O.J. Trial ... Oklahoma City Bombing ... Desert Fox ... Punitive Sanctions Against Iraq ... Puerto Rico Rejects U.S. Statehood ... Y2K ... Battle of Seattle ... Columbine School Shootings ... Disputed Bush/Gore Election

**Quotes:** *"I did not have sexual relations with that woman."* -- Bill Clinton

*"Indeed I did have a relationship with Ms. Lewinsky that was not appropriate. In fact it was wrong."*  
-- Bill Clinton

*"As the case of military service makes most clear, these different positions are, in fact, more than mere flip-flops. They reflect a fundamental element of Governor Clinton's character: the triumph of expediency of convenience over truth. Governor Clinton says he is the candidate of change, but he truly is the changing candidate."* -- Dan Quayle

*"The only major criticism I have [of Clinton] is the obsession with Osama."*  
-- Robert Oakley, advisor to Ronald Reagan (#40) and George W. Bush (#43)

**How his term ended:** After two terms, Clinton retired from the presidency and supported his Vice President Al Gore in 2000, who, some think, lost to George W. Bush in that election.

**Other Professions:** Lawyer, Lecturer on Law

**Worst Mistakes:** Clinton can be at least tangentially implicated in the deaths of untold Iraqis, as a result of the economic sanctions he imposed against that country. These sanctions, which reduced the amount of food available to Iraqi citizens, did not directly harm Saddam Hussein and his partners in tyranny--who continued to live in the lap of luxury, of course (as national leaders always do). Hussein and company continued to eat "high on the hog" (so to speak) regardless of how much the common folk, for whom they shed no tears, suffered.

In a similar vein, Clinton bombed Iraq as recompense for an alleged assassination plot against George H.W. Bush (#41), during which a suburban neighborhood was struck, killing civilians.

Another black mark on Clinton's mismanagement of affairs was the Waco fiasco. As a bit of background information, the BATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms) was up for review as to how much money they would be allotted in the future for operations, and they wanted to prove that they needed a lot. Doing something "big" that cost a lot of money would be one way of proving their "worth." The BATF's reaction to the Branch Davidians outside of Waco seemed quite heavy-handed. The end result was several deaths on both sides. The BATF employed psychological warfare against the people inside (including children) by illuminating their compound throughout the night (making it difficult to sleep, with its attendant problems), and also by broadcasting a "witch's brew" mixture of Christmas music, Tibetan chants, and recordings of rabbits being slaughtered. Finally, the BATF directly attacked the compound, using very toxic CS gas on them, possibly killing many of the children (twenty-four children died of suffocation, which could have been caused by the smoke from the fires as the compound burned, but could have also been caused by the CS gas).

Clinton could have prevented this from happening, but refused to. He put the matter in

Attorney General Janet Reno's lap, and let her handle the decisions as well as the fallout.

The U.S. military intervention in Somalia also worked out badly. Army Rangers killed tribal elders there, which led to a spirit of revenge against them by the locals. This resulted in the infamous results of the "Black Hawk Down" raid.

On Clinton's watch, the United States called for reduction of the U.N. forces in Rwanda while Civil War (mass slaughter) raged there, resulting in an escalation of the genocide. At least a million Rwandans died while the world carelessly looked on.

The bombing of Yugoslavia, sponsored in part by Clinton, killed many civilians there.

Clinton and his cohorts also sold American (and Canadian, and Mexican) workers "down the river" with the implementation of NAFTA which, as part of globalization, facilitates the "haves" becoming "have-mores" and those without getting even less (while working longer hours). Globalization (or "globaloney," as some refer to it) may make the world flat, as Thomas Friedman says, but it is also tilted, as Greg Palast points out, with the wealth flowing down into the open pockets of the privileged class and away from those whose backs bear the actual burdens. Thus, the "Haves" have even more, and the "Have Nots" have the little that they used to have halved.

And then, of course, there's the Monica Lewinsky "affair." Not only did Clinton commit adultery with the young intern, he then lied about it, too, even while under oath. Grover Cleveland (#22,24) was at least man enough to admit to his "indiscretions" flat out, and from the git-go.

**Saving Graces:** As Governor of Arkansas, Clinton improved education in that state, and also hired more women and minorities as employees of the State Government than any other Arkansas Governor had done.

Clinton's environmental record was better than most, and appears downright saintly when compared to the abysmal and abominable record of his successor.

**Notes:** At birth, Clinton's full name was William Jefferson Blythe IV. His father, the 3<sup>rd</sup>, died in an automobile accident shortly before the future President's birth. Clinton learned to read before he was three years old.

Clinton is the only President to have been a Rhodes Scholar.

In addition to the proven dalliance with Monica Lewinsky, for years numerous rumors of other affairs have swirled around Clinton. One of the women allegedly involved with him was a nightclub singer named Gennifer Flowers. Also, a former workmate (or shall we say colleague), Paula Jones, accused him of sexual harassment, vindictively blocking her advancement at work after she had refused his amorous overtures; many other women who worked with Clinton in the Arkansas government lodged the same or similar complaints.