

Senator Alan Simpson

Alan Simpson is a former Republican Senator from Wyoming and Co-Chair since 2004 of Americans for Campaign Reform, a national, nonpartisan organization co-chaired by former Senators Bill Bradley, Bob Kerrey, and Warren Rudman.

A member of a political family — his father served both as Governor of Wyoming, and as United States Senator from — Al Simpson chose to follow in his father's footsteps and began his own political career in 1964 when he was elected to the Wyoming State Legislature as a state representative of his native Park County. He served for the next 13 years in the Wyoming House of Representatives, holding the offices of Majority Whip, Majority Floor Leader, and Speaker Pro-Tem.

In 1978, Al ran for, and was elected to, the United States Senate. After a successful term, he was re-elected in 1984 with 78% of the vote and then again in 1990 to a third term with 65% of the vote. Following his first term in the Senate, Al was elected by his peers to the position of the Assistant Majority Leader in 1984 and served in that capacity until 1994. In 1995, he was ousted from his position as Republican Whip by Trent Lott of Mississippi, and did not seek reelection in 1996. Unusual for a Republican, Simpson has been an outspoken advocate for abortion rights, gay rights, and feminist issues.

From January of 1998 until June 2000, Al was visiting Lecturer and the Director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. In the fall of 2000, he returned to his Alma Mater, the University of Wyoming, as a Visiting Lecturer in the Political Science Department. He is also a partner in the Cody and Denver law firm of Burg Simpson Eldredge Hersh & Jardine, P.C. and a consultant in the Washington D.C. government relations firm, The Tongour-Simpson Group. He continues to serve on numerous corporate and non-profit Boards and travel throughout the country giving speeches on a variety of subjects. In 2010, Simpson was appointed to co-chair the President's Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform with Erskine Bowles.

His book published by William Morrow Company, *Right in the Old Gazoo: A Lifetime of Scrapping with the Press*, chronicles his personal experiences and views of the Fourth Estate.