



Frank Rich was in high dudgeon yesterday, and no one does it as well as he does.Â Yesterday his topic was the Pennsylvania debate/debacle from Wednesday night.Â Here is a sample, with some of my favorite lines:

In this one-size-fits-all analysis, Mr. Obama must be the new Dukakis, sure to be rejected by white guys easily manipulated by Lee Atwater-style campaigns exploiting race and class. But some voters who lived through 1988 have changed, and quite a few others are dead. In 2008, they are supplanted in part by an energized African-American electorate and the young voters of all economic strata who fueled the Obama movement that many pundits didnâ€™t take seriously before Iowa. And that some still donâ€™t. Cokie Roberts of ABC predicted in February that young voters probably wonâ€™t show up in November because â€œthey never have beforeâ€ and â€œtheyâ€™ll be tired.â€

However out of touch Mr. Obama is with â€œordinary Americans,â€ many Americans, ordinary and not, have concluded that the talking heads blathering about blue-collar men, religion, guns and those incomprehensible â€œYouTube young peopleâ€ are even more condescending and out of touch. When a Washington doyenne like Mary Matalin, freighted with jewelry, starts railing about elitists on â€œMeet the Press,â€ as she did last Sunday, itâ€™s pure farce. Itâ€™s typical of the syndrome that the man who plays a raging populist on CNN, Lou Dobbs, dismissed Mr. Obama last week by saying â€œwe donâ€™t need another Ivy League-educated knucklehead.â€ Mr. Dobbs must know whereof he speaks, since heâ€™s Harvard â€™67.

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Fine stuff there, Frank!