



Frank Rich was in high dudgeon yesterday, and no one does it as well as he does. Yesterday his topic was the Pennsylvania debate/debacle from Wednesday night. 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 didn't take seriously before Iowa. And that some still don't. Cokie Roberts of ABC predicted in February that young voters probably won't show up in November because "they never have before" and "they'll be tired."

However out of touch Mr. Obama is with "ordinary Americans," many Americans, ordinary and not, have concluded that the talking heads blathering about blue-collar men, religion, guns and those incomprehensible "YouTube young people" are even more condescending and out of touch. When a Washington doyenne like Mary Matalin, freighted with jewelry, starts railing about elitists on "Meet the Press," as she did last Sunday, it's pure farce. It's typical of the syndrome that the man who plays a raging populist on CNN, Lou Dobbs, dismissed Mr. Obama last week by saying "we don't need another Ivy League-educated knucklehead." Mr. Dobbs must know whereof he speaks, since he's Harvard '67.

[Shoddy! Tawdry! A Televised Train Wreck! - New York Times](#)

Fine stuff there, Frank!