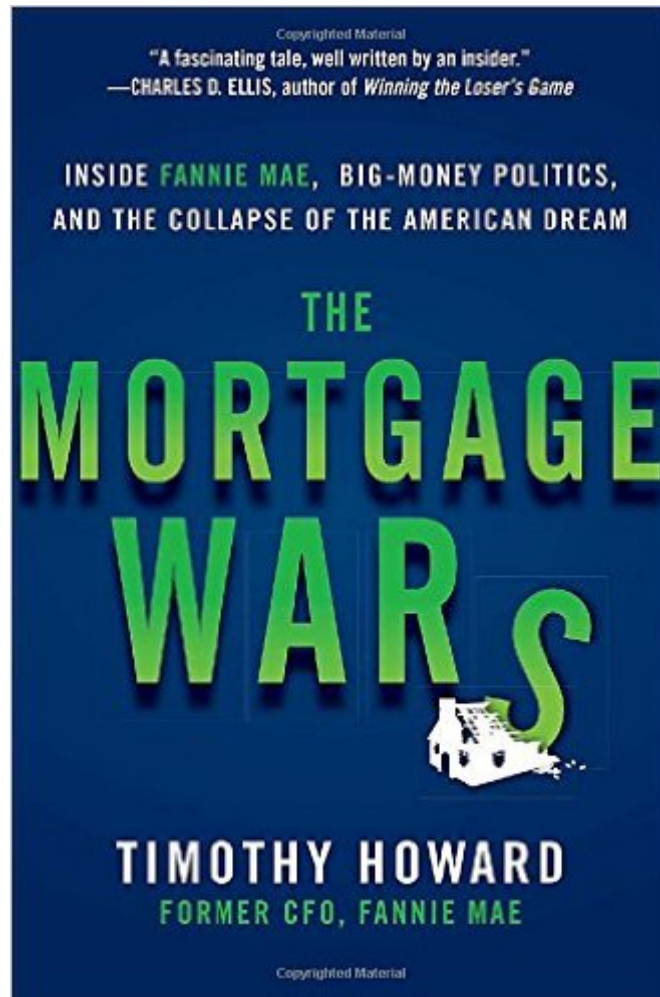


The book was found

# The Mortgage Wars: Inside Fannie Mae, Big-Money Politics, And The Collapse Of The American Dream



## Synopsis

THE REAL STORY OF THE MELTDOWN THAT LED TO THE FINANCIAL CRISIS "Required reading" • -- SeekingAlpha.com Many books have been written about the financial crisis and its causes, but none of them has been written by one of the key figures intimately involved in the drama. At last, one of those top insiders tells the complete story of the mortgage wars that almost destroyed the global economy. In this no-holds-barred account, Timothy Howard exposes the perfect storm of money, power, ideology, and politics that led to the crisis. Howard was the CFO of Fannie Mae until 2004. At its peak, Fannie Mae was responsible for more than one out of every four home loans in the United States. But by the mid-2000s, what seemed to be the most successful mortgage finance system in the world completely broke down. What happened? Howard takes you behind the scenes to show the dramatic struggles between the corporations and the politicians that led to the meltdown. In *The Mortgage Wars*, you'll learn: How Fannie Mae was born and evolved into the largest mortgage lender in the world How Fannie Mae survived the financial turmoil that killed the thrift industry How the subprime market grew, with very little oversight, and eventually exploded How political and financial jockeying sparked the mortgage wars What we must do to prevent a similar financial crisis from ever happening again At long last, this inside account tells the unvarnished truth about some of the most controversial subjects of our time, including the disturbing new norm of unsafe and unsound business practices in the finance world and the huge problems that arise when politicians try to pick winners in the global markets. *The Mortgage Wars* tells the real story for the first time, showing how an \$11 trillion dollar industry really fights its battles, for better or worse. Timothy Howard also shares his insights on how to keep the mortgage finance system safe, offering invaluable, prescriptive advice for all of us as we move forward into an uncertain future.

PRAISE FOR THE MORTGAGE WARS: "An essential contribution to understanding the roots of our most recent financial crisis, enriched by a deeper review of the history of American home financing." -- Kirkus Reviews "With great attention to detail, Howard charts business decisions over a five-decade span and leading up to the company's downfall." -- Publishers Weekly "Howard, with 20 years as a senior risk management executive, is in a unique position to examine the beginning of the mortgage wars and how they escalated and spun out of control, with disastrous results for the American homeowner. . . . For anyone wanting the other side of the story"™ and anyone who does not believe everything the media and politicians tell us." • -- Library Journal "A fascinating tale, well written by an insider, that shows forcefully how dangerous it can be to combine big politics with big money and big ambitions in a big hurry!" -- CHARLES D. ELLIS, author of the bestselling *Winning the Loser's Game* "In this fascinating and revealing book, one of

the inside players in the struggle over the American home financing market tells the full story for the first time. Full of dramatic stories of partisan government and big business fighting to the finish, *The Mortgage Wars* is riveting--an essential read for anyone who wants to know how we can avoid another meltdown like the devastating financial crisis of 2008." -- JUNHENG LI, Founder and Head of Research, JL Warren Capital; author of *Tiger Woman on Wall Street* "Timothy Howard gives you the inside scoop on the battle for control of the U.S. mortgage market, a 'war' that was at the center of the global financial crisis. Understanding the fundamental cause of the crisis we are still recovering from is essential to avoid repeating past mistakes. I learned a lot from *The Mortgage Wars* and I highly recommend it." -- JENS NORDVIG, Head of Fixed Income Research Americas, Nomura Securities; author of *The Fall of the Euro* "Timothy Howard is the new rock star of financial exposés. *The Mortgage Wars* reveals how Washington placed an \$11 trillion dollar bet on the American dream and pushed our nation to the brink of economic collapse. Required reading for anyone with an interest in the capital markets." -- NORB VONNEGUT, author of *The Trust*.

## **Book Information**

Hardcover: 304 pages

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Education; 1 edition (November 26, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0071821090

ISBN-13: 978-0071821094

Product Dimensions: 1 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviewsÂ (34 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #123,346 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Industries > Financial Services #36 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Real Estate > Mortgages #111 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Processes & Infrastructure > Government & Business

## **Customer Reviews**

This is a very important book to hear another version of the cause of the Great Recession and the role of FNMA/FHLMC in our mortgage market. Tim Howard was the former CFO of FNMA during the early 80s to 2004 and brings an entirely different perspective with benefit of this history. First it must be remembered that these were quasi govt entities, actually they were both private companies with an "implied" govt guarantee of the debt. What this book does a great job of detailing is a more full history of FNMA when they were struggling in the early 80s with high interest rates that very

nearly took them under. From this weak financial background Howard details their survival, their enhanced risk structure, the creation of callable agencies that allowed for more perfect matching of assets/liabilities but also the mechanism to leverage and grow their balance sheet no matter the demand for mortgages. Howard builds a compelling case which was mirrored in my history selling up to \$1 billion of mortgages per year, none with loan to value ratios above 80% w/o mortgage insurance. Howard confirms this is a charter requirement for their existence. His discussion later shifts to the uncontrolled growth of private label mortgage securitizations where total incentive was for profit. But this is only done after the exhaustive history of FNMA. I have viewed a study from 2001-08 showing that the highest severe delinquent for agency securitizations was under 7% while private label securitizations (subprime & jumbo loans) was over 32%. But why does the public continue to try to make this a political issue vs an issue of unbridled Wall Street greed that I see? Sadly, we are a simplistic and polarized country searching for a simple answer when the real problem is much more nuanced.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Mortgage Wars: Inside Fannie Mae, Big-Money Politics, and the Collapse of the American Dream  
Fateful History of Fannie Mae, The: New Deal Birth to Mortgage Crisis  
Fall Money: Saving Money: The Top 100 Best Ways To Make Money & Save Money: 2 books in 1: Making Money & Saving Money (Personal Finance, Making Money, Save Money, Wealth Building, Money) Passive Income: The Death of Money and Passive Income. How to Make Money Online and Survive in the Economic Collapse (Passive income, financial freedom, ... online, free money) (collapse, shtf Book 1) The Death of Money: Best Tips How to Survive in Economic Collapse and Get out of Debt (dollar collapse, prepper supplies, prepping, debt free, free money) ... self help, budgeting, money free Book 3) How to Get Approved for the Best Mortgage Without Sticking a Fork in Your Eye TM: A Comprehensive Guide for First Time Home Buyers and Home Buyers Getting a Mortgage Since the Mortgage Crisis of 2008 The Death of Money: Currency Wars in the Coming Economic Collapse and How to Live off The Grid (dollar collapse, debt free, prepper supplies) (Prepping, preppers guide, survival books) (Volume 1) Nora Roberts Dream Trilogy CD Collection: Daring to Dream, Holding the Dream, Finding the Dream (Dream Series) The Death Of Money: Economic Collapse and How to Survive In Global Economic Crisis (dollar collapse, preppers, prepper supplies, survival books, money) (SHTF Survival) (Volume 5) The Death of Money: How to Survive in Economic Collapse and to Start a New Debt Free Life (dollar collapse, prepping, death of dollar, debt free, how to ... how to make money online, shtf Book 1) Mortgage Ripoffs and Money Savers: An Industry Insider Explains How to Save Thousands on Your Mortgage or Re-Finance The Death of Money:

The Prepper's Guide to Survive in Economic Collapse and How to Start a Debt Free Life Forver (dollar collapse, how to get out of debt) (Preppers, self help, budgeting Book 1) The Death of Money: Currency Wars and the Money Bubble: How to Survive and Prosper in the Coming Economic Collapse (SHTF Survival Book 3) The Death of Money: Currency Wars and the Money Bubble: How to Survive and Prosper in the Coming Economic Collapse Star Wars: The Clone Wars - Defenders of the Lost Temple (Star Wars Clone Wars) Mortgage Marketing on a Budget: 30 Free and Low Cost Marketing Ideas for Mortgage Loan Officers, Brokers, and Bankers How to Get Approved for the Best Mortgage Without Sticking a Fork in Your Eye: A Comprehensive Guide for First Time Home Buyers and Home Buyers ... Since the Mortgage Crisis of 2008 (Volume 1) The Mortgage Encyclopedia: The Authoritative Guide to Mortgage Programs, Practices, Prices and Pitfalls, Second Edition The Mortgage Professional's Handbook: Succeeding in the New World of Mortgage Finance: Secondary Marketing and Financial Management Mortgage Reduction Made Easy: How to Pay Off Your Mortgage Early

[Dmca](#)