

‘A political corruption crime spree’

Who is Rod Blagojevich?	<p>Blagojevich's alleged crimes serve as an excellent illustration of gubernatorial power (a governor's power), and how the state's chief executive fits in with the federal system.</p> <p>Based on the video clips we watched in class today, list five powers that governors have – and that Blagojevich exploited.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
What was the “most appalling” conduct by Blagojevich, which would “make Lincoln roll over in his grave”?	
Why did Blagojevich even have that power?	
What did Blagojevich want in exchange for his influence?	
What do you think “pay to play” means?	<p>Answer of the following questions with a five-sentence paragraph on the back of this sheet.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is maintaining the integrity of public office so important? (i.e., what's the big deal?) 2. Explain how the U.S. attorney – acting on behalf of the judicial branch – functions as a check on executive (gubernatorial) power. 3. Frequently the press breaks this type of story, but this was announced by the U.S. (federal) Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald. How does a free press help to preserve democracy? 4. What makes the senate seat so “valuable”? 5. How does this development cast a cloud over Obama's potential replacement representing Illinois in the U.S. Senate?
What did President-elect Obama say in response to the news?	
What did Blagojevich say about the Obama camp in his taped conversations? (keep it clean)	