The Koch brothers’ money can be ascribed to many sources. Let’s start with $300 million—as Charles and David Koch did when their father, who founded Koch Industries, died in 1967. Since then, the Koch brothers have been recipients of corporate welfare; grazing cattle and harvesting timber on public lands, using the government-created power of eminent domain to obtain routes for their thousands of miles of gas and oil pipelines, and even taking advantage of direct government subsidies to produce ethanol.

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