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Reason.tv: PJ O'Rourke: "Where was the government with Studebaker?"—The best-selling author on bailouts, easy women, the ruination of the U.S. auto industry, and his new book, *Driving Like Crazy*

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P.J. O'Rourke is a 21st-century H.L. Mencken—a libertarian satirist and quote-machine who's deeply suspicious of most any office-holder ("Politics is the attempt to achieve power and prestige without merit").

Since the 1970s, O'Rourke has written for all kinds of publications, including *Playboy*, *Esquire*, *Vanity Fair*, *Automobile*, and *The National Lampoon*. He is the H.L. Mencken Research Fellow at the Cato Institute, a regular correspondent to for *The Atlantic Monthly*, and the best-selling author of 12 books, the latest of which is *[Driving Like Crazy: 30 Years of Vehicular Hell-Bending](#)*.

In June, Reason.tv's Ted Balaker sat down with O'Rourke at the Peterson Automotive Museum in Los Angeles. Topics include: bailouts, who ruined the U.S. auto industry, politicians' love affair with trains, how easy women made O'Rourke a youthful socialist and how getting a paycheck turned him into a libertarian.

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Approximately 15 minutes. This interview produced by Ted Balaker. Director of photography is Alex Manning, editor is Nate Chaffetz, and associate producer is Paul Detrick.
