Weekly Worksheet #3:

Rockefeller vs American Government

From:

Michael McGerr, “Controlling Big Business”

Read the excerpt for this week and try to give a paragraph for each question.

1. What are the five strategies a government can take when confronting massive business? (hint: the first one is to do nothing at all). What does each one mean? Try to give at least two historic examples discussed in the book.

2. What was the Sherman Act and why was its 1904 application to Rockefeller’s trust rather ineffectual?

3. What was Rockefeller’s estimation (view/attitude) of his own business practices? Did he see himself as a political threat? As an exploiter of employees? Or how? (hint: think especially about what happens at the end of the reading).