

Former president Bush says son Jeb should be third Bush in White House

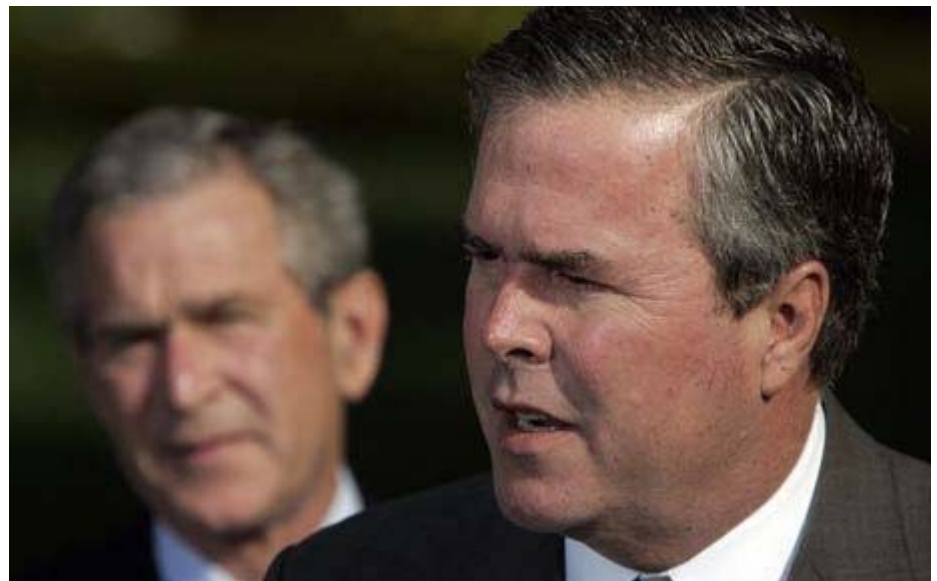
The former American president George H.W. Bush has brushed aside the criticism for his son George W and said he would like to see his second son Jeb become president one day.

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Mr Bush, who was president from 1989-93, said on Fox News that Jeb Bush, a former Florida governor, was well qualified to rise to the highest position in the land.

"I'd like to see him run," said Mr Bush. "I'd like to see him be president one day, or senator, whatever, yes I would."

However, acknowledging that the family have controlled the White House for 12 of the past 20 years, he said: "Right now is probably a bad time. We've had enough Bushes in there."



Jeb Bush, flanked by his brother, George W. Photo: AFP

Jeb Bush, 55, recently said that he was mulling a new run to become a Florida senator in the 2010 elections because the incumbent is stepping down.

Mr Bush defended the legacy of his son, George W Bush, who will step down as president later this month with historically low opinion ratings.

"The fact that everything that's a problem in this country should be put on his shoulders, that's not fair," the former president said. "He ran a clean operation, having kept this country strong and free after unprecedented in history attack, 9/11, and he'll have a lot to be proud of. He'll come home with his head high."

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