

Lincoln savings and  
loan association  
(from wikipedia, the  
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**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

Savings and Loan Association of Irvine, California was the financial institution at the heart of the Keating Five scandal during the 1980s Savings and Loan crisis. Up through the early 1980s, Lincoln was a conservatively-run enterprise, with almost half its assets in home loans and only a quarter of its assets considered at risk. [1] It had slow growth at best, and had shown a loss for several years until it made a profit of a few million dollars in 1983. [1] Lincoln then became headed by Charles Keating, who as chairman of a home construction company, American Continental Corporation, purchased Lincoln in February 1984 for \$51 million. [2]

Keating fired the existing management. [1] Over the next four years, Lincoln's assets increased from \$1.1 billion to \$5.1 billion. [2] Such savings and loan associations had been deregulated in the early 1980s, allowing them to make highly risky investments with their depositors' money, a change of which Keating took advantage. [2] Alan Greenspan sent a letter in February 1985 to officials of the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco supporting an application for an exemption for Lincoln to a bank board rule forbidding substantial amounts of some investments. [3] When American Continental Corporation, the parent of Lincoln Savings, went bankrupt in 1989, more than 21,000 mostly elderly investors lost their life savings. This total came to about \$285 million, largely because such investors held securities backed by the parent company rather than deposits in the federally insured institution, a distinction apparently lost on many if not most of them until it was too late. [4] The federal government covered almost \$3 billion of Lincoln's losses when it seized the institution. Many creditors were made whole, and the government then attempted to liquidate the seized

assets through its Resolution Trust Corporation, often at pennies on the dollar compared to what the property had allegedly been worth and the valuation at which loans against it had been made. Charles Keating was sent to prison for fraud.