

**Third Saturday Seminar 2012-2013**

**Humanity at a Crossroads**

**Session 01**

**15 September 2012**

**“Lone Wolves are Endangering Our Species”**

**Unleashing Your Wisdom in the Brave New World of  
Tomorrow may be a Challenge.**

**Curt Gibby**

**Current Events**

**ALL Program, Lone Star College – Montgomery**

**Conroe, Texas**

# Change

**There is only one corner of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that's yourself.**

**Aldous Huxley**

# Accepting the challenge

Many of you have in fact made real contributions during your lifetimes and careers. And now you feel you have earned a rest and start cashing in your chips and enjoying the good life.

Not so fast, I'm afraid. We still have work to do if we are going to still have the America we thought we were going to have, but we see disappearing.

## **Program for TSS Meeting 15 September 2012**

- 9:30 am Introduction & Current Events (45 Minutes +/-) – *Curt Gibby*
- 10:15 am - 10 Minute Break
- 10:25** am – Curt Gibby **Lone Wolves Endanger Our Species**
- 11:55 am Closing Remarks and Feedback

# Third Saturday Seminars

To refer to an ancient Chinese saying, our world is in interesting times and individual citizens are assaulted with a blinding array of propaganda from every conceivable source. The Third Saturday Seminar is about demystification of what is going on around is. Time will also be spent on current events. 3 Sessions. No fee.

Lone Star College-Montgomery BI02

**160199 2/18, 3/24, 4/21, 5/19**

**16020 9:30 a.m. – Noon Gibby**

<http://wwwapps.lonestar.edu/flipbook/ALL/montgomeryfall11/montgomery.html>

# Current Events

21 April 2012

**Don't***be***Panic***ked!*

**Correction from last session** . I had referenced the very popular work of Jonah Lehrer who claimed to include quotes from [Bob Dylan](#), one of the most closely studied musicians alive.

However , an article in Tablet magazine revealed that in his best-selling book, “Imagine: How Creativity Works,” Mr. Lehrer had fabricated those quotes from [Bob Dylan](#), one of the most closely studied musicians alive. Only last month, Mr. Lehrer had publicly apologized for taking some of his previous work from The Wall Street Journal, Wired and other publications and recycling it in blog posts for The New Yorker, acts of recycling that his editor called “a mistake

<http://mediadecoder.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/07/30/jonah-lehrer-resigns-from-new-yorker-after-making-up-dylan-quotes-for-his-book/>



LEHRER: So it's May 1965, and he's just returned from a grueling tour, six months tour. He's just finished touring the U.K., and he is burnt out. He doesn't know what kind of songs he wants to sing anymore. All he knows is that his old songs, these folks songs like "Times They Are A'Changing," "Blowing in the Wind," he's done with them. He's tired of being the poet of rock 'n' roll.

And so he tells the manager that he's quitting the music business, he's done with the singing, done with songwriting, he's going to move to a cabin in Woodstock, New York, doesn't even bring his guitar. He's going to be a novelist and a painter.

**He's there for a couple days when he is visited by this thing he calls the ghost. He gets a sudden urge to write, gets out his pen, gets out his paper and just begins to scribble. He later describes it as like this uncontrollable rush of vomit. And really what he's trying to capture there is just this feeling that you can't hold this back, it's just this rush of words that needs to be written down.**

And so he begins writing and writing and writing, writes dozens of pages, and within these dozens of pages is this chorus, and it's the chorus of "**Like A Rolling Stone.**" Four weeks later, he's in Studio A, Columbia Records, and after just four takes, they cut it on acetate, and that becomes his defining single, this six-minute single which really changes the sound of rock 'n' roll.



# Bits of Mystery DNA, Far From ‘Junk,’ Play Crucial Role

## By Gina Kolata, NYTimes

**Published: September 5, 2012**

Among the many mysteries of human biology is why complex diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure and psychiatric disorders are so difficult to predict and, often, to treat. An equally perplexing puzzle is why one individual gets a disease like cancer or depression, while an identical twin remains perfectly healthy.

“It is like opening a wiring closet and seeing a hairball of wires,” Mark Gerstein of Yale University said of the DNA intricacies.

Now scientists have discovered a vital clue to unraveling these riddles. The human genome is packed with at least **four million gene switches that reside in bits of DNA that once were dismissed as “junk”** but that turn out to play critical roles in controlling how cells, organs and other tissues behave. The discovery, considered a major medical and scientific breakthrough, has enormous implications for human health because many complex diseases appear to be caused by tiny changes in hundreds of gene switches.

## 'Empathy gap' keeping Obama in the 2012 race



**Charles Krauthammer** says by historical standards, the president should be well behind Mitt Romney because of the state of the economy.

## A news channel decides to takes sides in politics



**Kathleen Parker** says at the Democratic National Convention, it was clear that MSNBC has become an aggressively progressive channel.

**Subject:** Breaking News: Mitt Romney Accepts Republican Presidential Nomination

**From:** NYTimes.com News Alert <nytdirect@nytimes.com>

**Date:** 8/30/2012 9:52 PM

**To:** gcgconsult@n-star.com

## The world waited with eager anticipation for this breaking news alert ...

Breaking News Alert

The New York Times

Thursday, August 30, 2012 -- 10:44 PM EDT

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Mitt Romney Accepts Republican Presidential Nomination

Mitt Romney accepted the Republican presidential nomination on Thursday by making a direct appeal to Americans who were captivated by President Obama's hopeful promises of change, pledging that he could deliver what the president did not and move the country from its worst economic downturn since the Great Depression.

In his address on the closing night of the Republican National Convention, Mr. Romney asked voters to consider whether their lives had improved over the last four years and urged them not to feel guilty about giving up on Mr. Obama. He left little doubt about his chief argument against Mr. Obama in the fall, saying: "What America needs is jobs." But Mr. Romney not only delivered a forceful critique of Mr. Obama, he also used the marquee speech of his presidential campaign to make a case for himself, summoning people from each chapter of his life to paint a humanizing portrait in hopes of helping voters see him with a trusting eye. The effort underscored how Mr. Romney's path to winning the White House reached well beyond Republican activists gathered in Tampa, Fla.

Read More:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/08/31/us/politics/romney-vows-to-deliver-country-from-economic-travails.html?emc=na>

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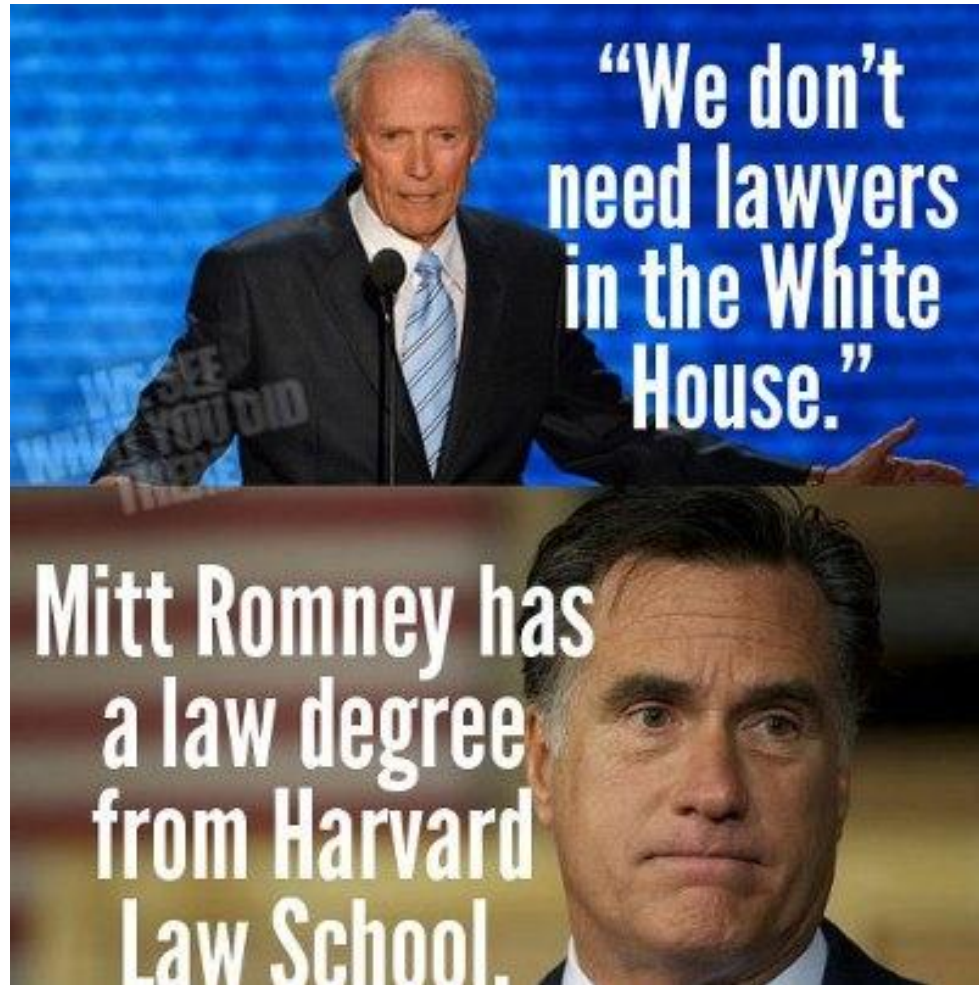
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New York, NY 10018

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Thks to Colin Chauret and  
cfk1982\_1982@yahoo.com





# Texas General Election 2012

- **Last Day to Register to Vote - October 9, 2012 (Tuesday, which is next business day after Columbus Day)**
- **First Day of Early Voting - October 22, 2012 (Monday, which is next business day after statutory deadline)**
- **Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail - October 30, 2012 (Received, not Postmarked)**
- **Last Day of Early Voting - November 2, 2012**

# Political Websites

- <http://www.realclearpolitics.com/elections/>
- <http://elections.nytimes.com/2012/electoral-map>
- [PBS Map Center](#)
- <http://www.pbs.org/special/election-2012/>



# RNC 2012 - The Road to Jeb Bush 2016 - We Can Change That

<http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/thu-august-30-2012/rnc-2012---the-road-to-jeb-bush-2016---we-can-change-that>

The Daily Show with Jon Stewart



Thursday August 30, 2012

### RNC 2012 - The Road to Jeb Bush 2016 - We Can Change That

John Oliver utilizes the Republican National Convention theme of "We Can Change It" to change facts, reality and the meaning of words in order to make a much larger point.

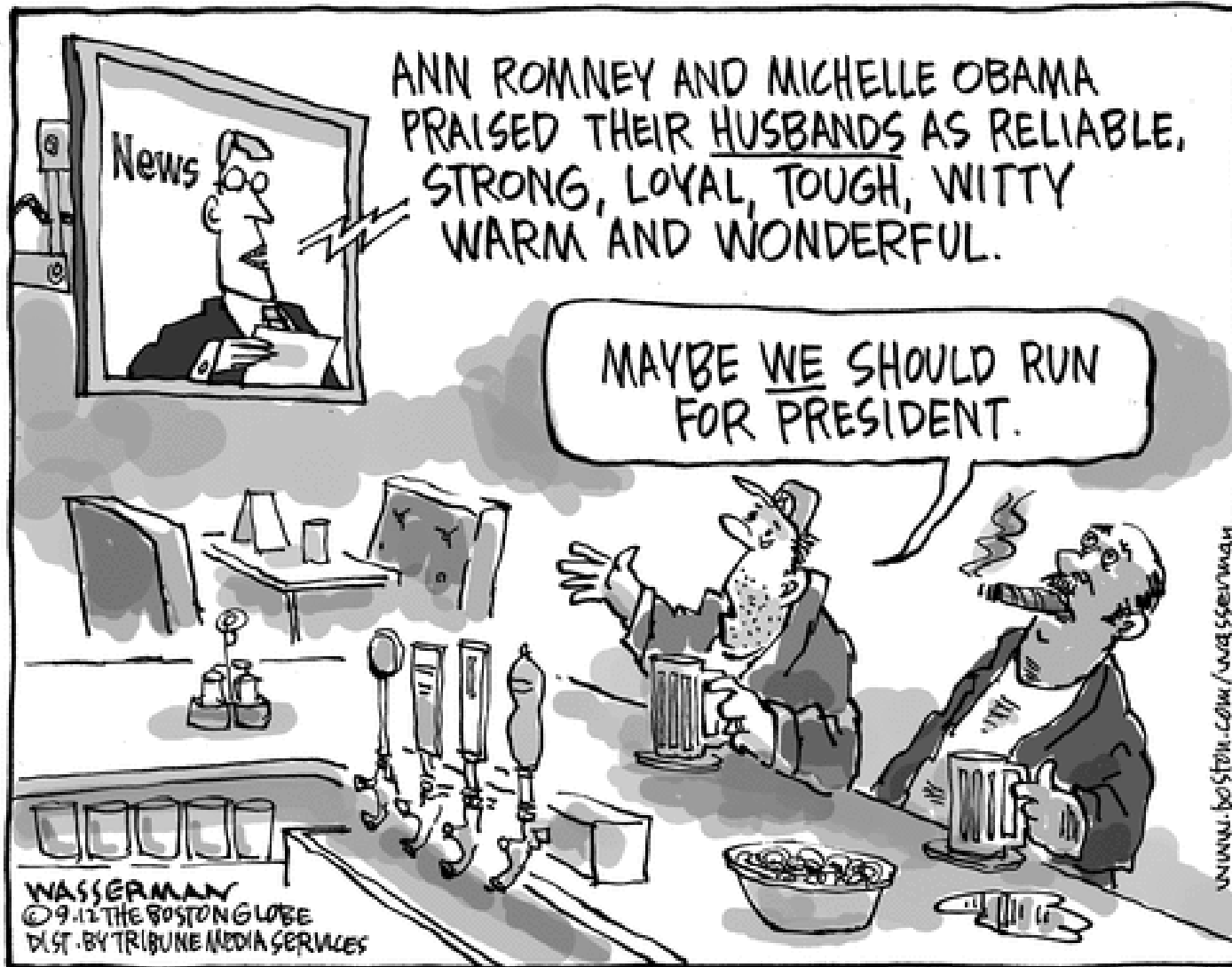
**Tags:** John Oliver, speeches, lying, fires, Barack Obama, socialism, dictators, Republicans, Indecision 2012, candidates, sex, sexual advances, awards, Rudy Giuliani, media, Republican National Convention, conventions



# Fact Check.org.

Here are some suggestions

- [Bill Clinton: Give Me a Break](#)
- [FactChecking Obama and Biden](#)
- [Our Clinton Nightmare](#)
- [A Campaign Full of Mediscare](#)
- [Romney's Big Night](#)
- [Ryan's VP Spin](#)



# FactCheck.org's Weekly Update for August 31, 2012

## **New Wire Items**

### **Romney's Sorry 'Apology' Dig**

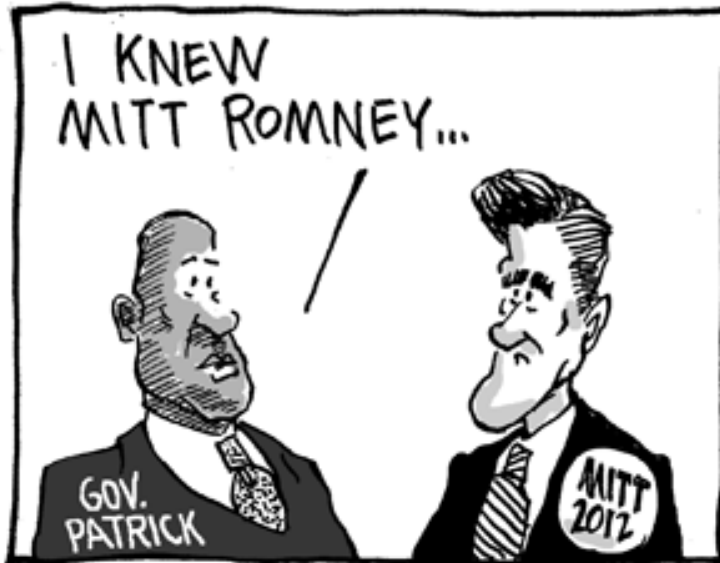
Mitt Romney wrongly accuses President Obama of going on an “apology tour” in foreign countries.

### **Romney's Big Night**

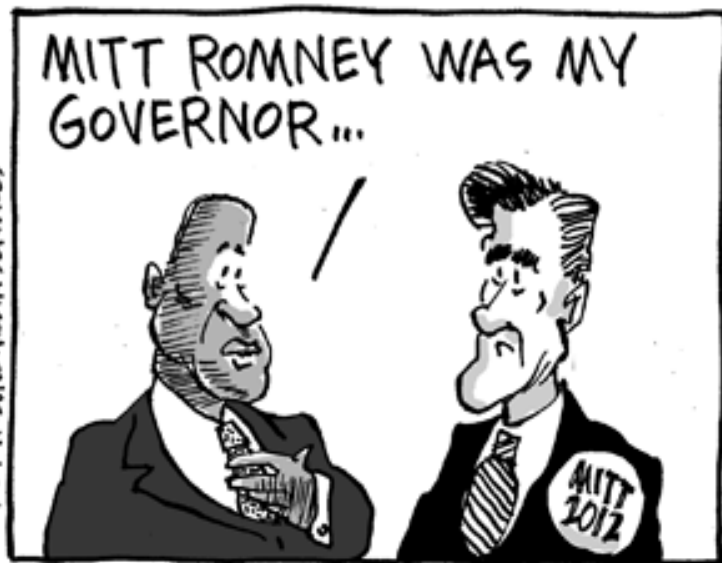
There were a few bits of exaggeration and puffery in his Republican convention speech.

### **Ryan's VP Spin**

Paul Ryan's acceptance speech at the GOP convention contained several false claims and misleading statements.



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## [Santorum's Distorted 'Dependency' Claims](#)

Rick Santorum faults Obama for 'almost half of America receiving some sort of government assistance.'

## [Christie's Fact-Free Keynote](#)

The New Jersey governor made some exaggerations in a speech heavy on generalities, opinion and platitudes.

## [Republican Retreads from Tampa](#)

The first day of the Republican convention saw a lot of exaggerated, misleading or downright false claims that we've heard before.

## [Spin Detectors: Help Us Monitor the Conventions](#)

We still want you to help us monitor the Democratic National Convention.

## [Winning? Super PAC Compares Republican to Charlie Sheen](#)

There is less to Majority PAC's claims about Connie Mack IV than meets the eye.

# THE ROMNEYS' HORSE RETURNS FROM THE OLYMPICS



# FactChecking Obama and Biden

<http://factcheck.org/2012/09/factchecking-obama-and-biden/>

[Home](#) • [The FactCheck Wire](#) •

Posted on September 7, 2012 , Corrected on September 14, 2012

—  
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — In a rousing double-header, Democratic delegates heard Barack Obama and Joe Biden both accept renomination on their convention’s final night. And we heard some facts being spun.

- President Obama boasted that his plan would cut the deficit by \$4 trillion over 10 years, citing “independent experts.” But one such analyst called a key element of the plan a “gimmick.”

- Vice President Biden quoted GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney as saying “it’s not worth moving heaven and earth” to catch Osama bin Laden. Actually, Romney said he’d target more than just “one person.”
- The president said U.S. automakers are “back on top of the world.” Nope. GM has slipped back to No. 2 and is headed for third place in global sales this year, behind Toyota and Volkswagen.
- Biden said “the experts” concluded Romney’s corporate tax plan would create 800,000 jobs in other countries. One expert said that. She also said the number depends on the details, and foreign jobs could grow without costing U.S. jobs.
- Obama quoted Romney as saying it was “tragic” to “end the war in Iraq.” What Romney was criticizing was the pace of Obama’s troop withdrawal, not ending a war.

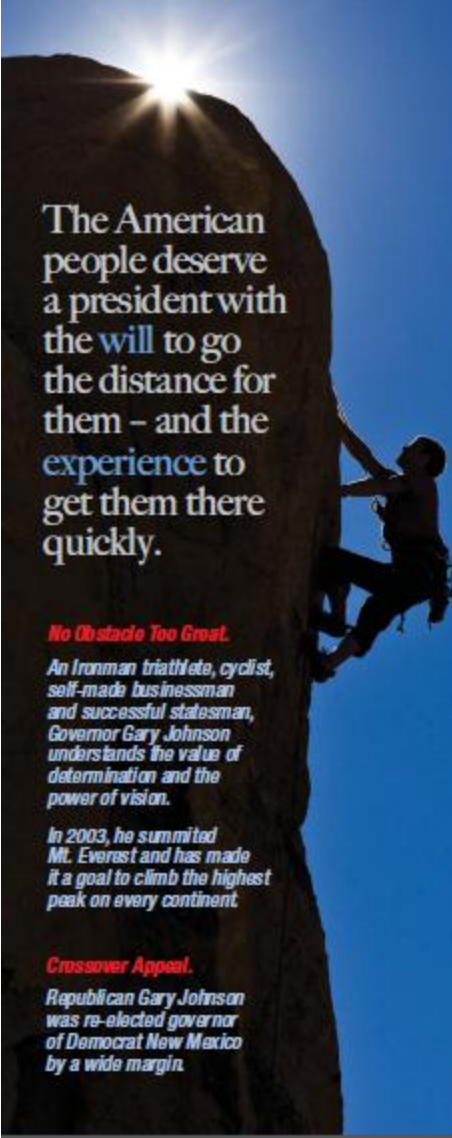


- Biden said Romney and running mate Paul Ryan “are not for preserving Medicare at all.” Actually, the plan they endorse would offer traditional Medicare as one option among many.
- Obama said his tax plan would restore “the same rate we had when Bill Clinton was president” for upper-income taxpayers. Not quite. New taxes to finance the health care law also kick in next year, further burdening those same taxpayers.

### **\$4 Trillion Deficit Reduction?**

- Biden claimed Romney “believes it’s OK to raise taxes on middle classes by \$2,000.” Romney actually promises to lower middle-class taxes.

Obama exaggerated when he claimed “independent experts” say his deficit-reduction plan would reduce the federal deficit by \$4 trillion over 10 years. Actually, one independent analysis criticized a central part of the president’s plan as a “gimmick.”



The American people deserve a president with the will to go the distance for them – and the experience to get them there quickly.

**No Obstacle Too Great.**

*An Ironman triathlete, cyclist, self-made businessman and successful statesman, Governor Gary Johnson understands the value of determination and the power of vision.*

*In 2003, he summited Mt. Everest and has made it a goal to climb the highest peak on every continent.*

**Crossover Appeal.**

*Republican Gary Johnson was re-elected governor of Democrat New Mexico by a wide margin.*

**Real Ideas. Real results.  
Proven In the real world.**

*Gary Johnson served two terms as New Mexico's governor and is best known for his common-sense, up-front and honest approach to public service. In 1994, he inherited a state government on the wrong end of every statistic. Within two terms, he had eliminated New Mexico's budget deficit and cut the rate of state government growth in half while reducing the state workforce by over 10% (without laying off a single qualified state worker). While in office, Gary Johnson vetoed 750 bills of wasteful legislation and had thousands of line items – earning him the nickname, "Governor Veto."*

*Gary Johnson didn't just talk about efficient, limited government.*

*He ran one.*

**Gary  
Johnson  
2012**

**THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT**

Participate in your freedom.  
[www.GaryJohnson2012.com](http://www.GaryJohnson2012.com)



If we want a different America, we have to start electing differently.

**The challenges now facing our nation didn't just happen. We elected them** one senator, member of Congress and president at a time. With our support, our elected officials have led us to record unemployment, a devalued currency, banking scandals, the mortgage crisis, drug crisis, economic crisis, loss of our nation's industrial might, entry into multi-national conflicts – and a long list of other reminders that our nation is off course. If we keep sending the same people back to Washington to do the same job, we'll keep getting the same result. Since Washington refuses to change, it's up to us to change Washington.

*President Obama is reportedly planning to raise and spend \$1 billion in a bid to remain in office. The Individuals and organizations donating all that money have a vested interest in keeping things exactly the way they are in America.*

**Are you satisfied with the America their money keeps buying them? Then join me.**

There is no THEY out there ready swoop in and set things right in our nation. There's you and me. It's up to us to take on the burden of liberty. We'll get a different America when we start electing our leaders differently.

*While I was their governor, New Mexicans enjoyed the longest period of improvement in the state's history – without a tax increase. I wasn't a Republican governor in a Democrat state. I was everyone's governor – working for the common good.*

**As your president, you'll always know where I stand. I stand with you.**

# For Vice President

Judge Jim Gray



## ABOUT JUDGE JIM GRAY

### WHO IS JUDGE JIM GRAY?

**Judge James (Jim) P. Gray is a nationally known and respected author and speaker who has long advocated reform of the nation's drug laws. A highly regarded jurist, Judge Gray served on California's Orange County Superior Court from 1989 to 2010. His hundreds of media appearances have included Fox News, ABC, C-SPAN and radio stations across the country. He is the author of three books.**

Family



### HISTORY & FAMILY

Raised in the Los Angeles area, Jim Gray's father, William P. Gray, was a Judge on the U.S. District Court. After earning his undergraduate degree from UCLA and his law degree from USC, Judge Gray served as a staff Judge Advocate and criminal defense attorney in the U.S. Navy's JAG Corps.

Following his Navy service, for which he was awarded Vietnam Service and Combat Action Ribbons, Gray worked as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles.

In 1983, Governor George Deukmejian appointed Gray to the Santa Ana Municipal Court, and in 1989, elevated him to the Orange County Superior Court. He retired from the Superior Court in 2010.

Judge Gray has been awarded an Honorary Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Western State University College of Law, as well as an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Chapman University School of Law.

Jim Gray is married to Dr. Grace Walker Gray and has four children, including an adopted Vietnamese son. They reside in Newport Beach, California.

# Russian Attack Submarine Sailed in Gulf of Mexico Undetected for Weeks

## Silent Running

*Russian attack submarine sailed in Gulf of Mexico undetected for weeks, U.S. officials say*

**BY: Bill Gertz, Washington Free Beacon**

**August 14, 2012**

A Russian nuclear-powered attack submarine armed with long-range cruise missiles operated undetected in the Gulf of Mexico for several weeks and its travel in strategic U.S. waters was only confirmed after it left the region, the Washington Free Beacon has learned.

It is only the second time since 2009 that a Russian attack submarine has patrolled so close to U.S. shores.

The stealth underwater incursion in the Gulf took place at the same time Russian strategic bombers made incursions into restricted U.S. airspace near Alaska and California in June and July, and highlights a growing military assertiveness by Moscow.

The fact that the Akula was not detected in the Gulf is cause for concern, U.S. officials said.

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<http://nation.foxnews.com/russia/2012/08/14/russian-attack-submarine-sailed-gulf-mexico-undetected-weeks>



[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akula\\_class\\_submarine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akula_class_submarine)

# Iran's navy aims to sail off U.S. shores soon

The Associated Press

Posted : Tuesday Sep 4, 2012 8:47:59 EDT

TEHRAN, Iran — The head of Iran's navy says the country aims to put its warships in international waters off the U.S. coast "in the next few years." The comments Tuesday from Admiral Habibollah Sayyari on state TV are part of Iran's response to Washington's beefed up naval presence in the Persian Gulf.

The U.S. Navy's 5th fleet is based in Bahrain — across the gulf from Iran — and the U.S. plans maritime war games later this month.

Iran has made similar claims in the past that its ships could soon sail into international waters off the U.S. coast.

Tehran and Washington have been at odds over Tehran's nuclear ambitions, which the West suspects are aimed at weapons. Iran denies the charge

<http://www.navytimes.com/news/2012/09/ap-irans-navy-aims-to-sail-off-us-090412/>

## **The Coming Accidental War with Iran**, by Lyric Hughes Hale 11 Dec '11 [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/lyric-hughes-hale/the-coming-accidental-war\\_b\\_1170574.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/lyric-hughes-hale/the-coming-accidental-war_b_1170574.html)

Now that America's withdrawal from Iraq has been formalized, and Osama **bin Laden**, Hosni **Mubarak**, Muammar **Gaddafi**, Ali Abdullah **Saleh**, and Zine el Abidine **Ben Ali** have all been vanquished, after a year of unbelievable changes throughout the Middle East, my prediction is that **Iran is about to regain center stage in the region**. As a result of the US withdrawal, Iraq could be prone to more violence, and the Iranian leadership must certainly have taken note that **none of the toppled leaders, including Saddam Hussein, possessed formal nuclear capabilities**.

The first act is already being played out in Syria, the only Arab state to align itself with Iran, and in the streets of Bahrain, its neighbor under Saudi control. The Saudis and the Israelis are mulling diplomatic as well as military options to stop Iran from developing a nuclear weapons capability ....

# Israeli leader calls for ‘red lines’ with Iran

<http://www.navytimes.com/news/2012/09/ap-benjamin-netanyahu-calls-for-clear-red-line-on-iran-090212/>

But U.S. opposes a unilateral Israeli strike

By Josef Federman - The Associated Press

Posted : Sunday Sep 2, 2012 12:59:47 EDT

JERUSALEM — Israel’s prime minister on Sunday urged the international community to get tougher against Iran, saying that without a “clear red line,” Tehran will not halt its nuclear program.

The tough language from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reflected differences that have emerged between Israel and its allies, particularly the U.S., over how to deal with Iran.

Israel has warned that the Iranians are quickly approaching weapons capability and that the threat of force must be seriously considered. The U.S. says sanctions and international diplomacy must be given more time to work.

Netanyahu, speaking to his Cabinet, said that a new report issued by the U.N. nuclear agency showing progress in the Iranian nuclear program bolstered his claim that international pressure is not working.



# **Leak Prompts Netanyahu to Cancel Security Cabinet Meeting on Iran Issue**

**By Isabel Kershner, Published: September 5, 2012 , N.Y. Times**

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu abruptly canceled a meeting of his security cabinet on Wednesday, saying information was leaked from the highly confidential deliberations, a security failure that **could undermine his efforts to project a unified front to the West about how to deal with Iran’s nuclear program.**

Mr. Netanyahu made the unusual announcement after the widely read newspaper Yediot Aharonot reported that someone participating in the first session of the meeting, on Tuesday, **had said there was no agreement among security officials “about the point at which Israel’s ability to damage the Iranian nuclear program loses its effectiveness.”**

It was not clear what set Mr. Netanyahu off, experts said, noting that signs of division might make it harder for the prime minister to hold out the prospect of a unilateral military strike. Or the move **might simply reflect his frustration at the lack of discipline among his senior ministers.**

Dore Gold, president of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, a research institute, said the “principle” **that there had been a leak was “much more important than any specifics that appeared in the newspaper.”**

# Japan Frets over U.S. Support in China Dispute

<http://nation.time.com/2012/09/14/84857/#ixzz26U5Gy8rT>

By [Kirk Spitzer](#) | September 14, 2012 | [50](#)

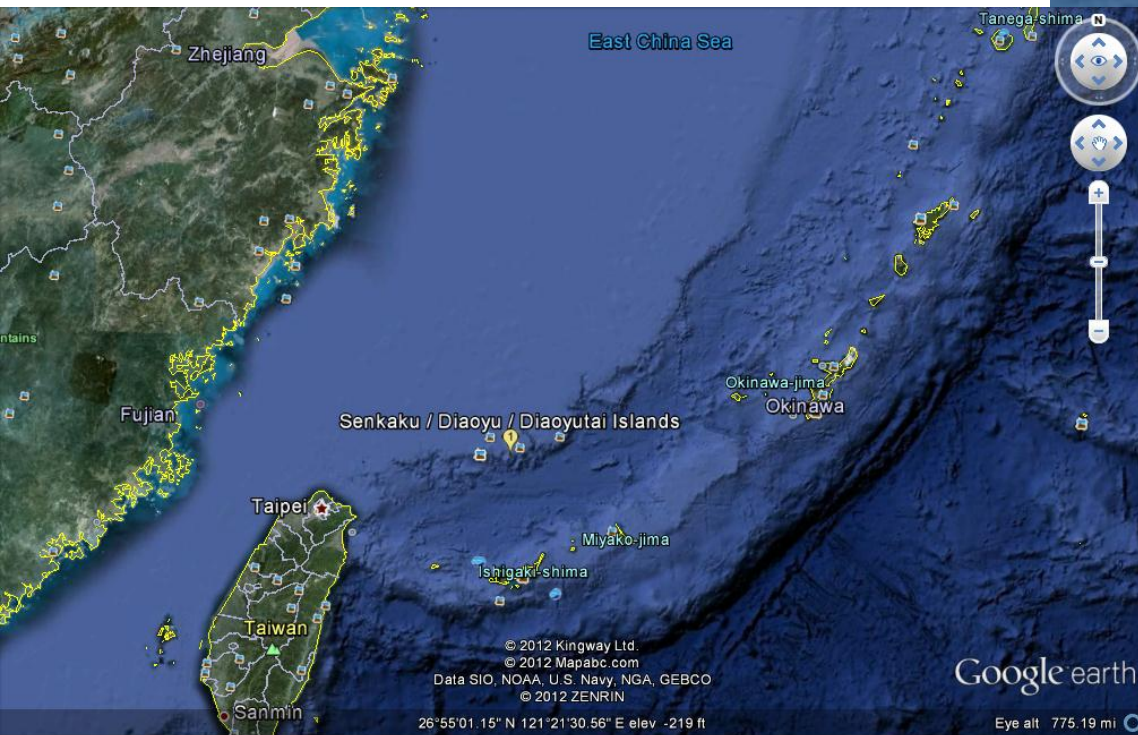
Reuters

A China marine-surveillance ship, foreground, is shadowed by a Japanese coast-guard vessel in territorial waters off the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands in the East China Sea on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012

**TOKYO** – When the U.S. Defense Secretary arrives in Asia this weekend, his biggest challenge may not be convincing China that America will give its full support to longtime ally Japan in the escalating dispute over islands in the East China Sea. His biggest challenge may be convincing Japan.

“There is a perception in Japan that the U.S. commitment is ambiguous,” says Yoichiro Sato, director of international strategic studies at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University in southern Japan. “If China thinks Japan will hesitate to respond or that America will hesitate, that will embolden the Chinese. It’s better that America sends a clear, explicit message now than have to respond to something worse later.”

A China marine-surveillance ship, foreground, is shadowed by a Japanese coast-guard vessel in territorial waters off the Senkaku/Diaoyu islands in the East China Sea on Friday, Sept. 14, 2012



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# Former Marine Explains What Led To The Recent Libyan Attack

Geoffrey Ingersoll | Sep. 13, 2012, |

After talking to a State Department Official, a few U.S. Marines, and journalist Matt VanDyke, the consulate assault and its context began to take shape beyond the sound bites we all saw on television.

**In June, a drone strike killed al Qaeda's second command.** (*al-Libi, who was Libyan by birth, was the biggest setback to Al Qaeda since the death of Osama bin Laden*)

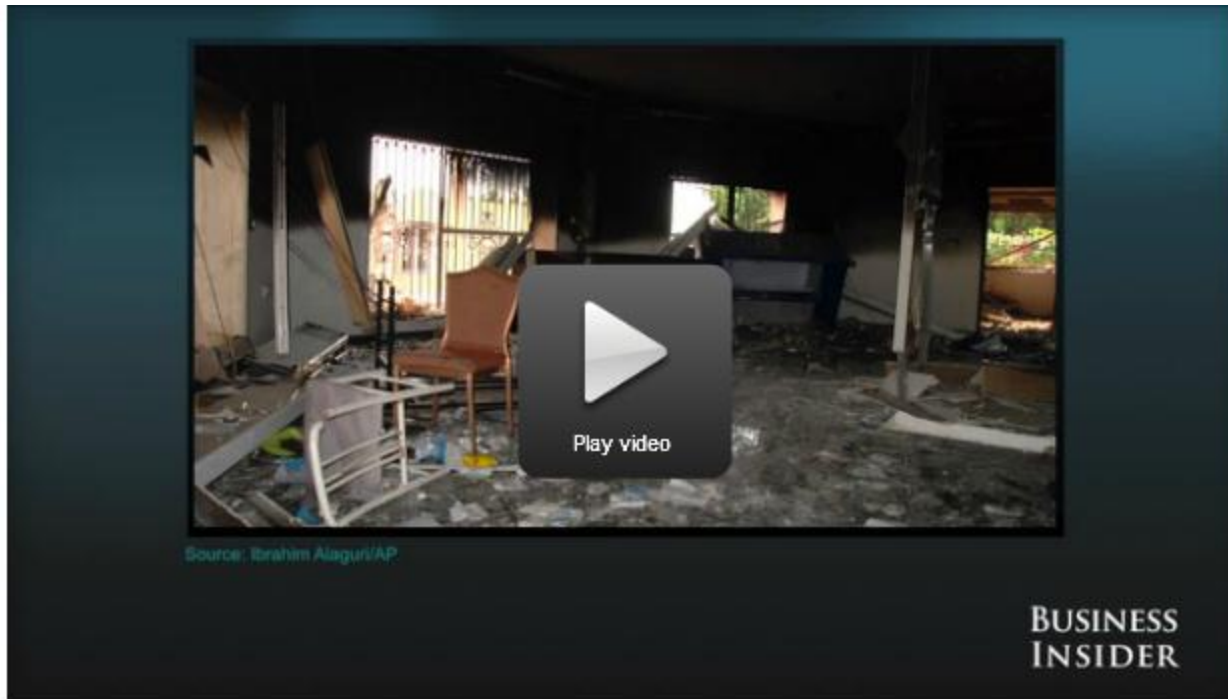
Since then, al Qaeda's affiliates have been calling for protests outside American embassies.

Fast forward to September 11, 2012 when an Egyptian Islamic pundit on a major TV network took to the airwaves, condemning the film for depicting Muhammed and Islam in a less than flattering light.

Protests erupted immediately. VanDyke, the journalist, calls it unplanned and opportunistic, while the State Department official confirmed a risky policy that puts Ambassadors in tough situations. The Marines followed up with me about their inevitable deployment to Tripoli to help clean up the mess.

The rest unfolds on hot night in Benghazi.

# Former Marine Explains What Led To The Recent Libyan Attack - Video



*Produced by Robert Libetti*

Read more: <http://www.businessinsider.com/video-on-what-really-happened-in-the-libya-consulate-arrack-with-matt-vandyke-2012-9#ixzz26RoXOhQf>

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# Muslim Protests

Across the globe, a 14-minute YouTube clip of an anti-Muslim movie is sparking protests against U.S. Embassies and institutions.



## Undercover Austin officers' roles in Occupy protest here upend trial

The bushy-haired, bearded protester called "Butch" didn't say much during the Occupy Austin planning sessions. Instead, he took members aside and pressed them to turn to more aggressive tactics, not a surprising strategy for a national grass-roots movement that has spawned hundreds of arrests. It turns out that Butch, however, wasn't some wild-eyed activist intent on bringing down the top "1 percent." He was actually Austin police detective [Shannon Dowell](#), working undercover with two other officers who had infiltrated the Austin branch of the protest movement.

"One of the things Shannon especially was doing, he would pull people aside from the general conversation and say debating isn't really the answer. We need to escalate the tactics and move to action," said Austin protester [Ronnie Garza](#). "That's the kind of character we're dealing with."

A judge lectured prosecutors Wednesday for not revealing that detective Shannon Dowell, at center in an Austin protest, and two fellow officers worked undercover advising Occupy protesters.



John Anderson / Austin Chronicle





Houston Chronicle 6 Sep12 James Pinkerson Austin Chronicle





# Here Are The New Taxes You're Going To Pay For Obamacare

<http://finance.yahoo.com/blogs/daily-ticker/taxes-going-pay-pay-obamacare-145413745.html>

- Well, Obamacare is now official, which means that a lot more people in the United States will have health insurance.
- And it also means a lot more people will be paying more taxes.
- (You didn't think Obamacare was free, did you?)
- Here are some of the new taxes you're going to have to pay to pay for Obamacare:

**A 3.8% surtax on "investment income" when your adjusted gross income is more than \$200,000 (\$250,000 for joint-filers).**

What is "investment income?" Dividends, interest, rent, capital gains, annuities, house sales, partnerships, etc. Taxes on dividends will rise from 15% to 18.8%--if Congress extends the Bush tax cuts. If Congress does not extend the Bush tax cuts, taxes on dividends will rise from 15% to a shocking 43.8%. ([WSJ](#)) **A 0.9% surtax on**

• **Medicare taxes for those making \$200,000 or more (\$250,000 joint).** You already pay Medicare tax of 1.45%, and your employer pays another 1.45% for you (unless you're self-employed, in which case you pay the whole 2.9% yourself). Next year, your Medicare bill will be 2.35%. ([WSJ](#))

• **Flexible Spending Account contributions will be capped at \$2,500.** Currently, there is no tax-related limit on how much you can set aside pre-tax to pay for medical expenses. Next year, there will be. If you have been socking away, say, \$10,000 in your FSA to pay medical bills, you'll have to cut that to \$2,500. ([ATR.org](#))

• **The itemized-deduction hurdle for medical expenses is going up to \$10,000.** Right now, any medical expenses over \$7,500 per year are deductible. Next year, that hurdle will be \$10,000. ([ATR.org](#))

• **The penalty on non-medical withdrawals from Healthcare Savings Accounts is now 20% instead of 10%.** That's twice the penalty that applies to annuities, IRAs, and other tax-free vehicles. ([ATR.org](#)) **A tax of 10% on indoor tanning services.** This has been in place for two years, since the summer of 2010. ([ATR.org](#))

• **A 40% tax on "Cadillac Health Care Plans" starting in 2018.** Those whose employers pay for all or most of comprehensive healthcare plans (costing \$10,200 for an individual or \$27,500 for families) will have to pay a 40% tax on the amount their employer pays. The 2018 start date is said to have been a gift to unions, which often have comprehensive plans. ([ATR.org](#))

- **A 40% tax on "Cadillac Health Care Plans" starting in 2018.** Those whose employers pay for all or most of comprehensive healthcare plans (costing \$10,200 for an individual or \$27,500 for families) will have to pay a 40% tax on the amount their employer pays. The 2018 start date is said to have been a gift to unions, which often have comprehensive plans. ([ATR.org](#))
  - **A "Medicine Cabinet Tax" that eliminates the ability to pay for over-the-counter medicines** from a pre-tax Flexible Spending Account. This started in January 2011. ([ATR.org](#))
  - **A "penalty" tax for those who don't buy health insurance.** This will phase in from 2014-2016. It will range from \$695 per person to about \$4,700 per person, depending on your income. ([More details here.](#))
  - **A tax on medical devices costing more than \$100.** Starting in 2013, medical device manufacturers will have to pay a 2.3% excise tax on medical equipment. This is expected to raise the cost of medical procedures. ([Breitbart.com](#))
- So those are some of the new taxes you'll be paying that will help pay for Obamacare.

# Here's How Much The Obamacare Penalty Tax Will Cost You

- Many Americans are furious that Obamacare will require them to buy health insurance.
- Most of these folks seem to hate the idea that Obama is forcing them to do something more than they hate the idea of shelling out money.
- But for those who also care about the money, here are the details.
- The good news is that, for most people, the "penalty tax" for those who choose not to buy health insurance will cost a lot less than health insurance.

basically, you're looking at penalties of approximately the following at the following income levels:

**Less than \$9,500 income = \$0**

**\$9,500 - \$37,000 income = \$695**

**\$50,000 income = \$1,000**

**\$75,000 income = \$1,600**

**\$100,000 income = \$2,250**

**\$125,000 income = \$2,900**

**\$150,000 income = \$3,500**

**\$175,000 income = \$4,100**

**\$200,000 income = \$4,700**

**Over \$200,000 = The cost of a "bronze" health-insurance plan**



Stantis - Chicago Tribune in Chronicle 120909

# The Middle Class Is Broke: Pew Study Reveals Real Problem With Economy

*By Henry Blodget / Daily Ticker – 23 Aug*

*<http://www.businessinsider.com/income-inequality-2012-8>*

One of the most important stories in the U.S. economy these days is the rise of extreme inequality.

Over the past 30 years, a [larger and larger portion of America's income growth has gone to those in the top 10%](#) of incomes, and especially those in the top 1%. This is a major change from the prior 60 years, in which the top 10% and the bottom 90% shared in the income gains.

A stark and startling example of this trend is the fact that, adjusted for inflation, "average hourly earnings" in this country have not increased in 50 years.

A recent Pew study confirms that America's middle class has recently experienced a "lost decade."

Since 2000, the Pew says, "the middle class has shrunk in size, fallen backward in income and wealth, and shed some—but by no means all—of its characteristic faith in the future." Pew cites statistics showing that middle class earnings and net worth have plummeted since the mid-2000s and that about 85% of the middle class say it is harder to maintain their standard of living than it was 10 years ago.

Collectively, the middle class represents enormous buying and spending power, and in the past 60 years this spending power has helped the U.S. economy become the envy of the world.



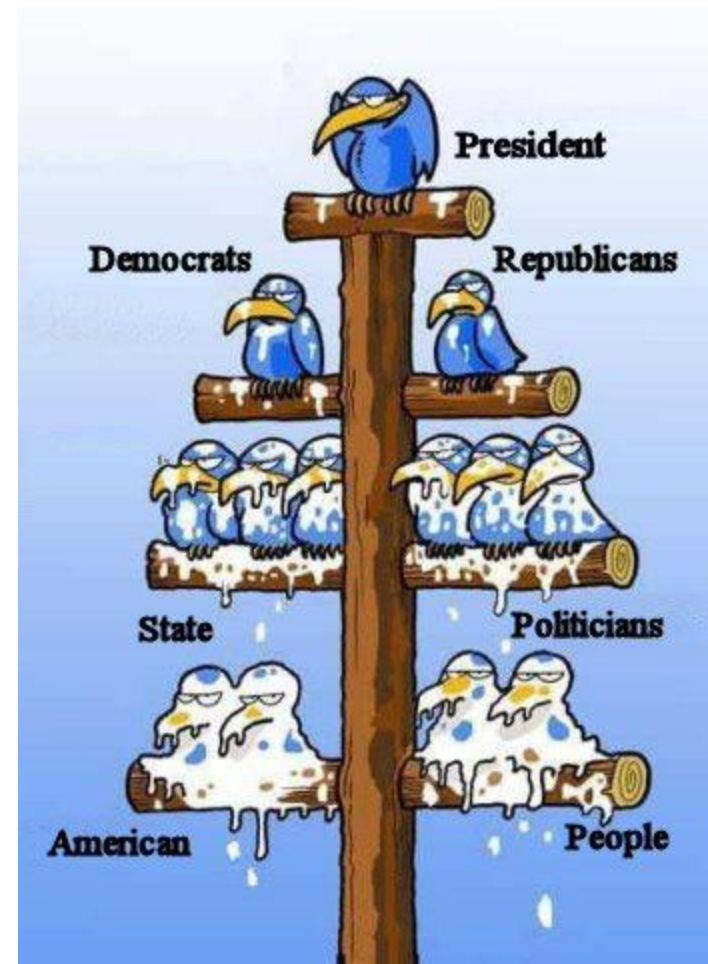
# THE POLITICAL FLOW-CHART

THE TRUTH WAS NEVER SO CLEAR AS THIS  
MESSAGE:

**When top level people  
look down,  
They see only shit-heads;**

**When the bottom level  
people look up,  
They see only ass-holes.**

**That describes politics so  
clearly.**



# U.S. Intel Head James Clapper on Greatest Threats in 2012



FBI Director Robert Mueller, Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and CIA Director David Petraeus appear before the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence on Capitol Hill on Jan. 31, 2012 in Washington, DC. (Win McNamee/Getty Images)

[http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-intel-head-james-clapper-worldwide-threats-2012/story?id=15479381#.Tz8P\\_IEpBFQ](http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/us-intel-head-james-clapper-worldwide-threats-2012/story?id=15479381#.Tz8P_IEpBFQ)



# **Greatest Threats in 2012**

**On Iran: We Don't Know If They'll Go for The Bomb, 'Concerned' About Attack on U.S.**

**On Terrorism: Al Qaeda 'Core' Weakening, Affiliates and Homegrown Terror Greater Threats**

**On Afghanistan: Taliban Still Has 'Safe Haven' in Pakistan**

**On North Korea: Too Early to Judge New Leader, Two Nuclear Weapon Tests**

**On the Arab Spring: Turmoil Will 'Challenge' U.S. Influence, Terrorists Could Exploit Unrest**

**On the Cyber Threat to the U.S.: Governments Can't Keep Up with Technology**

**On Drinking Water Resources: Shortages, Floods Will Hurt U.S. National Security**

# George Carlin – “Must die TV”

... suicide could become "the ultimate makeover" reality show - "Must die TV." He envisions mass suicide to capture ratings during the sweeps: homeless people (including half a million military veterans), condemned prisoners, self-selected depressed people with "hopeless minds," and the terminally ill. Sell it to the 18-to-24 male audience as "extreme living," featuring 500 of these losers "holding hands and jumping into the Grand Canyon," each wearing a hat with camera (for friends and family to watch the video afterward) and sponsor T-shirt. Perhaps fundamentalist Christians could be induced to "Jump for Jesus." If instead of cable TV you want the networks, go with advertising from Budweiser and automobile manufacturers (drink and drive responsibly) on FOX.

S&P 500 (^GSPC) - SNP

[+ Add to Portfolio](#)

**1,465.77** ↑5.78(0.40%) Sep 14

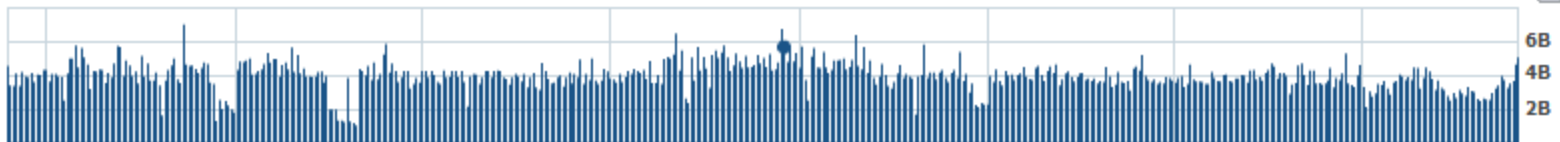
Enter name(s) or symbol(s) [GET CHART](#) [COMPARE](#) [EVENTS](#) [TECHNICAL INDICATORS](#) [CHART SETTINGS](#) [RESET](#)

Sep 23, 2011: ■ ^GSPC 1136.43 ■ EMA(50) 1,208.30 ■ EMA(100) 1,239.30 ■ EMA(200) 1,245.37



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■ Volume: 5,639,929,856



1D 5D 1M 3M 6M YTD 1Y 2Y 5Y Max FROM: Sep 14 2010 TO: Sep 14 2012 +30.74%



\$ 048,851,172,464,012

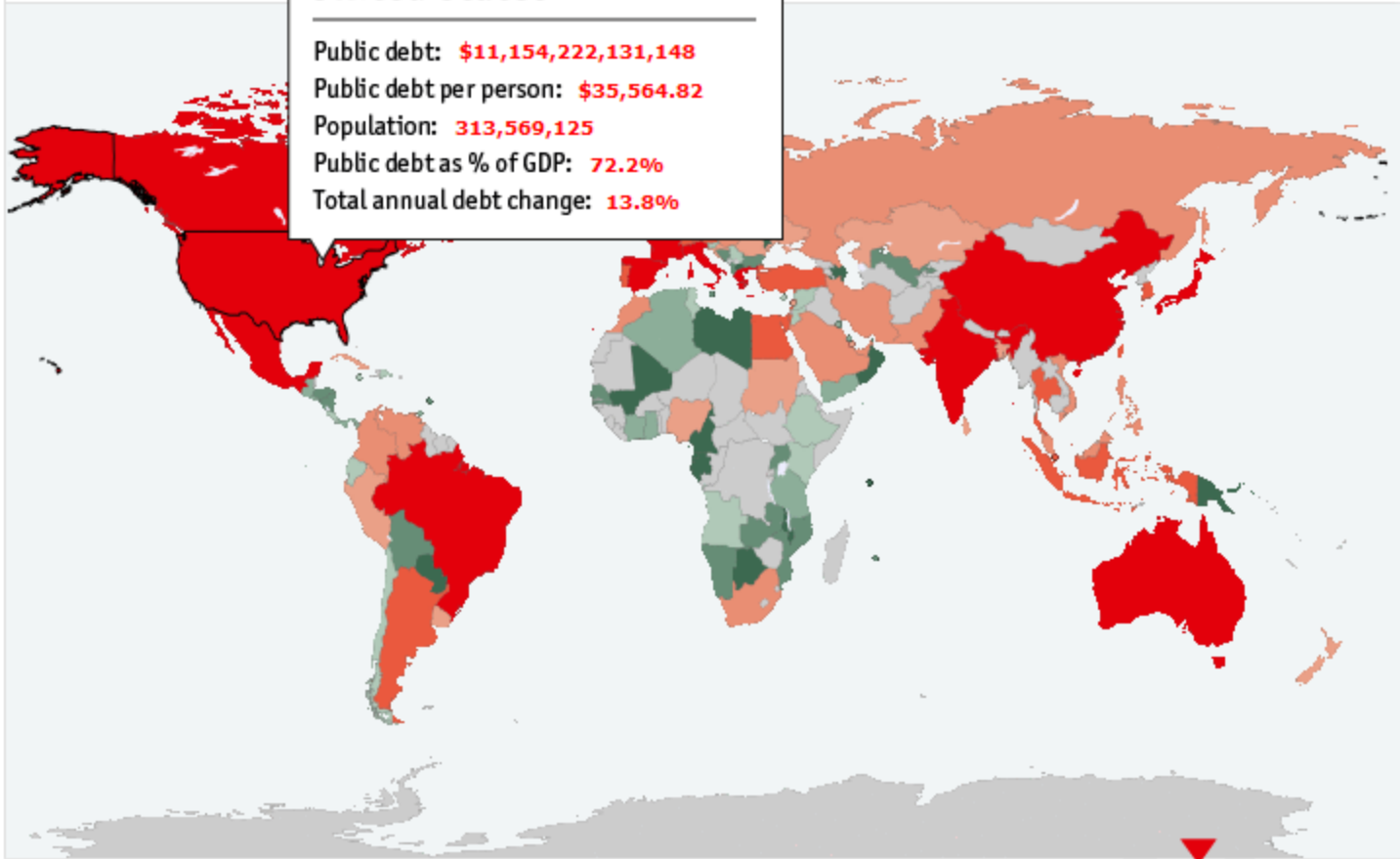
### CURRENT GLOBAL PUBLIC DEBT

Total public debt

#### United States

Public debt: **\$11,154,222,131,148**  
Public debt per person: **\$35,564.82**  
Population: **313,569,125**  
Public debt as % of GDP: **72.2%**  
Total annual debt change: **13.8%**

Lower debt



COMPARE

Choose a country

Choose a country

Choose a country

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

**Third Saturday Seminar 2012-2013**

**Humanity at a Crossroads**

**Session 01**

**15 September 2012**

**NEXT**

**10 Minute Break**

**Then**

**“Lone Wolves are Endangering Our Species“**

**Unleashing Your Wisdom in the Brave New World of  
Tomorrow may be a Challenge.**

**Curt Gibby**

**Current Events**

# **Don't panic!**

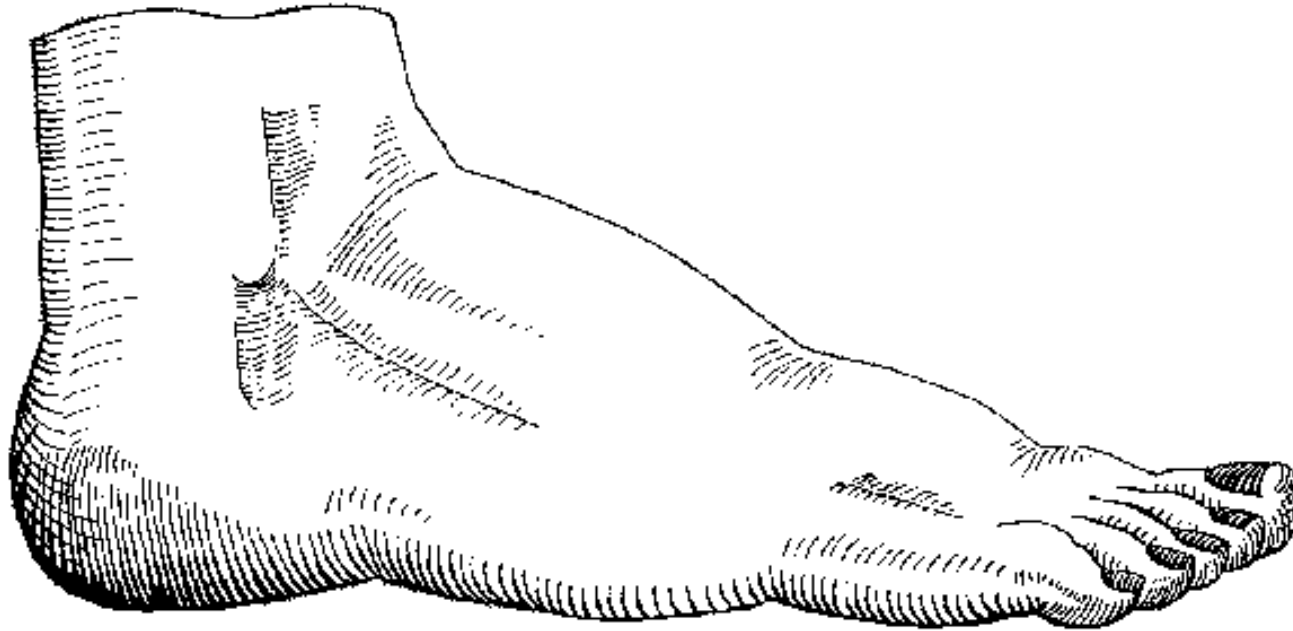
## ***Don't be Panicked!***

# **Welcome back to interesting times !**



## **See You Next Time**

The Monty Python Foot, a convenient way to end something that would seem to go on for ever accomplishing nothing.... (*See deus ex machina*)



The famous Python Foot can here be seen in its original format in the bottom left corner of "An Allegory of Venus and Cupid" by [Bronzino](#) (~1545)

When Monty Python had no ending for a skit, this foot would appear out of the sky and squash whatever was on screen with a rude noise. Allowing the show to move on.

# Enrichment Material



**One of life's persistent questions:**

**“Why do cockroaches roll over before the die?”**



# What makes you an Authority?

The word authority comes from the word *author*. And the word author has a Latin root. It means: “he who enables growth”.

So, the person whom you recognize as an authority is a person who enables your growth.

The others are the ones to decide if I am an authority to them or not.

## What makes you an Authority?

Your personal abilities:

1. Your Inner Power
2. Your knowledge

## Authority and Inner Power:

I just said the true Authority is the result of your Inner Power.

This means I would judge your sense of Authority as your Inner Power.

<http://www.luismartinssimoes.com/2009/07/how-to-be-respected/>

# Authority and Inner Power:

Yet, most people will judge your authority by **how you appear** and **how you act**.

We could call this your intrapersonal intelligence and your interpersonal intelligence.

People will confuse your Inner Power with your appearance and your acts, which are part of the ego.

This means that may you be totally genuine or totally faked, you will be an authority for someone.

Some will like a person's big ego and strong personality.

And he will be considered as an authority to them. That's their choice.

Some others will prefer another person's genuine vibration and ability to connect and recognize the source, and he will be considered as an authority to them.

It's always the others' choice.

<http://www.luismartinssimoes.com/2009/07/how-to-be-respected/>

# Authority and Knowledge:

You can be considered an authority for thousands of characteristics:

It can be because you are a good listener, or because you react calmly and softly to others' fragilities, or because you are good at saying, "No," or because you have no fears, or because you verbalize and observe your emotions...

If you are an individual who is very much identified with your ego, you will recognize authority to egotistic people.

If you are an individual who prefers to connect to the Source, to the I Am, you will recognize authority in spiritual people, for example, but not in egotistic people.

## Authority and Knowledge:

Your knowledge is your ability to master [Instruction on Matter](#).

People will like your knowledge in Economy, or in Finance, or in Law, or in Philosophy, or in Engineering, or in Astrology, or in Painting...

**This means authority does not claim for obedience, never!**

Only someone who feels that his authority may be at stake will claim for obedience thru the use of power.

**Power inspires fear.**

**Authority inspires respect.**

<http://www.luismartinssimoes.com/2009/07/how-to-be-respected/>

# **RETURN of the ELDERS UNLEASH YOUR WISDOM**

**It's time for the Return of the ELDERS! Previous successful societies relied on the councils of their ELDERS to offer WISDOM in times of confusion. Folks, we can't quit yet.**

# *Return of the Elders, Unleashing Your Wisdom*

## **Our Middle Aged Brains**

David Niesel and Norbert Herzog

**Ah... if only I could stay young... instead of faking it.**

**No kidding! It's actually true that our brains change with age. There was a report that said forty percent of your brain cells are lost with age but that's actually not true....**

**Something the middle aged brain is better at doing is recognizing the central idea or big picture. So if the brain is in good shape, it can build pathways that allow it to recognize patterns and their significance and find a solution faster than a young person.**

# What does Authority mean?

The true Authority is the result of your inner power. It's the wisdom that comes from within.

It has to do with your connection [to the source, to the I Am](#).

Authority has nothing to do with the verb to have, but rather with the verb to be.

You do not have authority. You are seen as an authority.

The big difference between the External Power and Authority lies in the fact that authority cannot be imposed, it needs to be recognized.

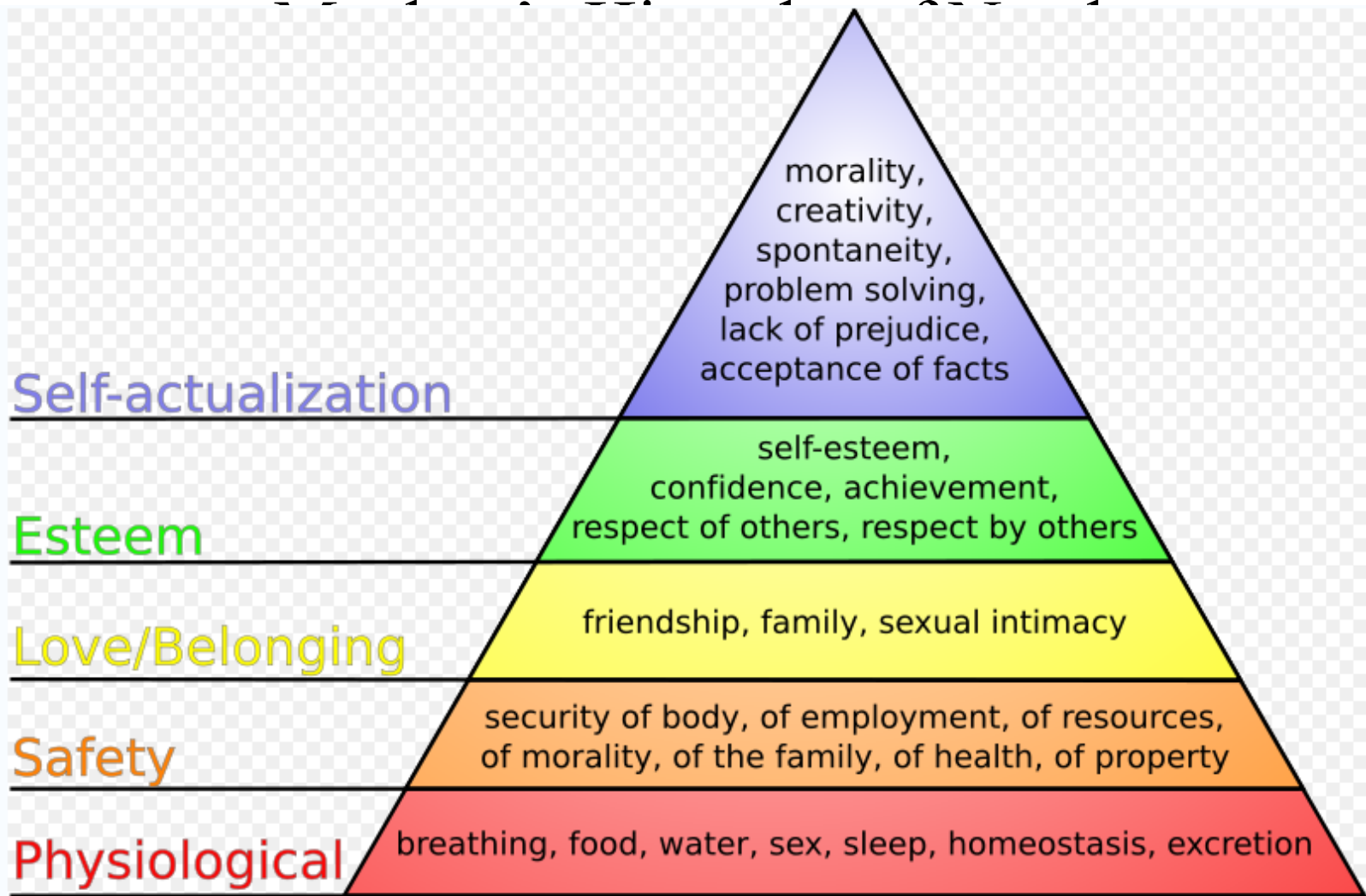
So your authority depends on those who look at you.

Some people may recognize your authority and some others may not.

And you cannot do anything about it.

This is why people who are very much identified with their ego, and thus seeking for others approval, can't stand those who do not recognize their authority and hence use power to submit them by force.

<http://www.luismartinssimoes.com/2009/07/how-to-be-respected/>



Maslow's\_hierarchy\_of\_needs.svg (SVG file, nominally 1,717 × 1,124 pixels, file size: 8 KB)



# **It all connects**

**Fear, War, Greed**

**To much capital in the hands of the few**

**Too little money in the hands of the consumers.**

**Credit is not a replacement for disposable income**

**Oil is a limited resource**

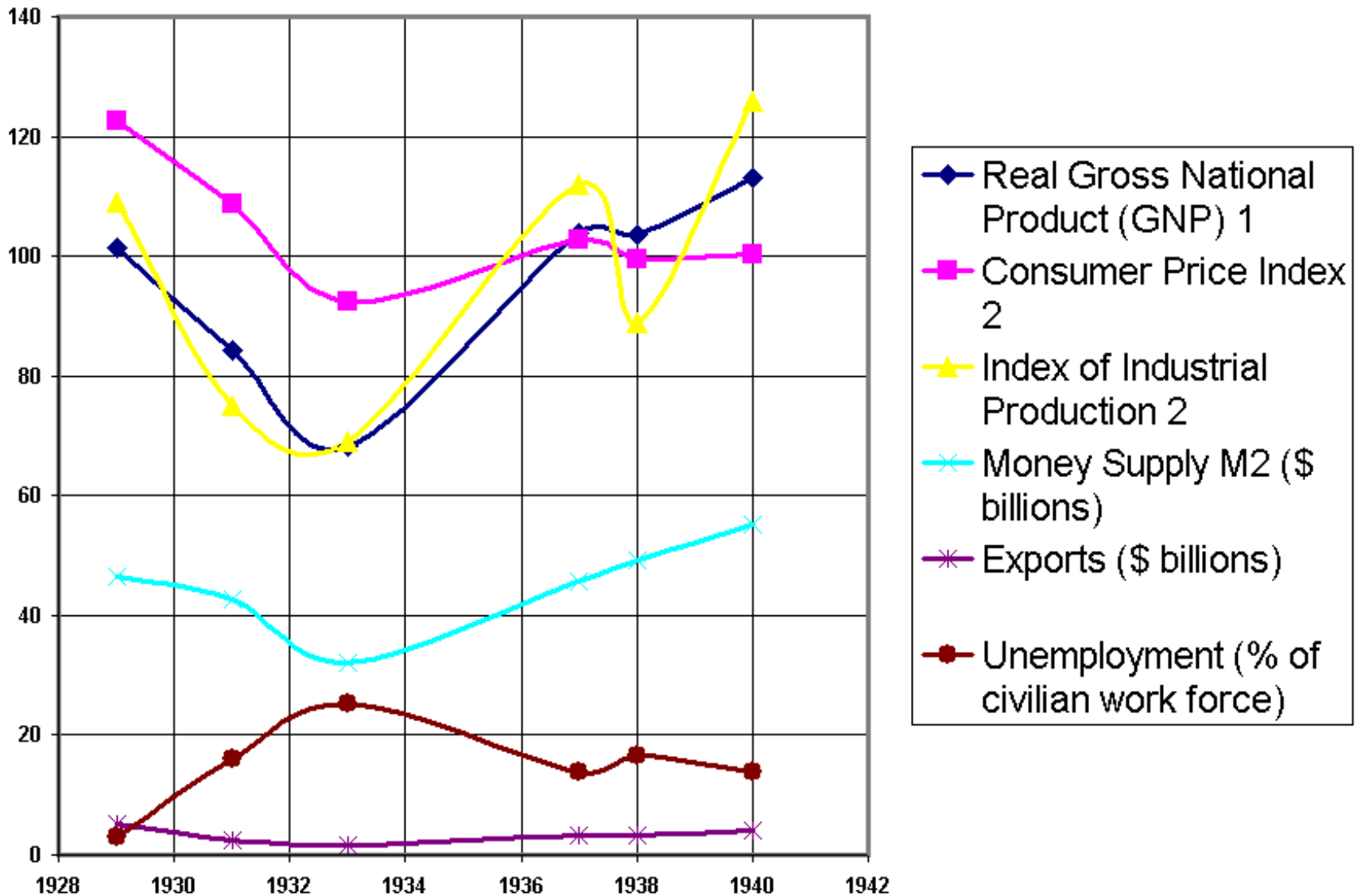
**Unable to anticipate what looks obvious in retrospect**

**Trusting of Authority**

**Lacking critical ability/Education**

**Etc.**

# The Years of the Great Depression



# **Don't just be a thermometer, Be a thermostat**

**Jill Carroll**

**“...we are the leaders we've  
been looking for.”**

*Grace Lee Boggs*

# Basic Wilderness Survival Skills

## From: **British Columbia Outdoor Wilderness Guide**

**Fear** - For anyone faced with a wilderness emergency survival situation, fear is a normal reaction. Unless an emergency situation has been anticipated, fear is generally followed by panic then pain, cold, thirst, hunger, fatigue, boredom and loneliness. It is extremely important to calmly assess the situation and not allow these seven enemies to interfere with your survival.

**Pain** - Pain may often be ignored in a panic situation. Remember to deal with injuries immediately before they become even more serious.

**Cold** - Cold lowers the ability to think, numbing the body and reducing the will to survive. Never allow yourself to stop moving or to fall asleep unless adequately sheltered.

**Thirst** - Dehydration is a common enemy in an emergency situation and must not be ignored. It can dull your mind, causing you to overlook important survival information.

**Hunger** - Hunger is dangerous but seldom deadly. It may reduce your ability to think logically and increase your susceptibility to the effects of cold, pain and fear.

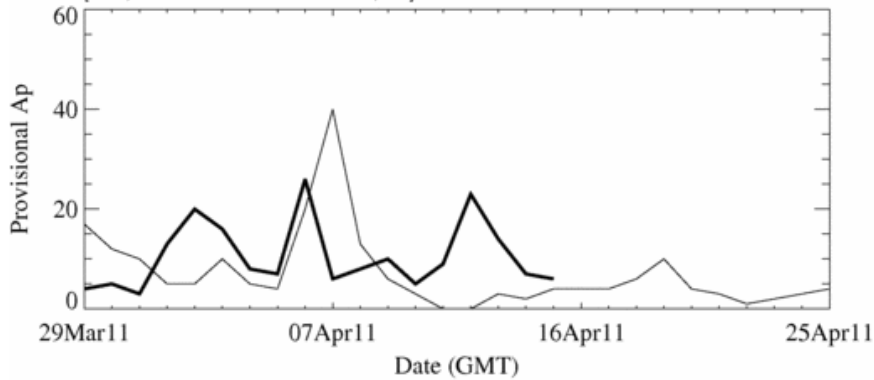
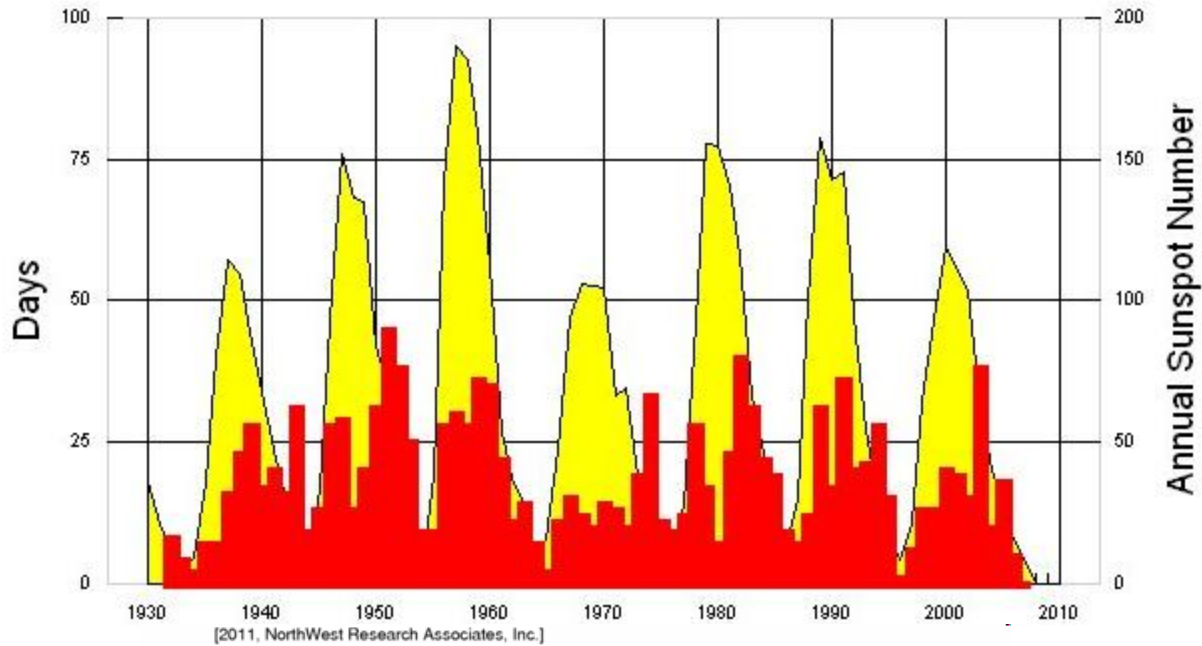
**Fatigue** - Fatigue is unavoidable in any situation so it is best to keep in mind that it can and will lower your mental ability. Remember that in an emergency situation this is often the body's way of escaping a difficult situation.

**Boredom & Loneliness** - These enemies are quite often unanticipated and may lower mind's ability to deal with the situation.

htt

### Number of Days Ap\* $\geq$ 40 1932 - 2007

07.jpg



Money Multiplier (seasonally adjusted) 52 two week ROC (Rate of Change) blue (the data is bi-weekly)

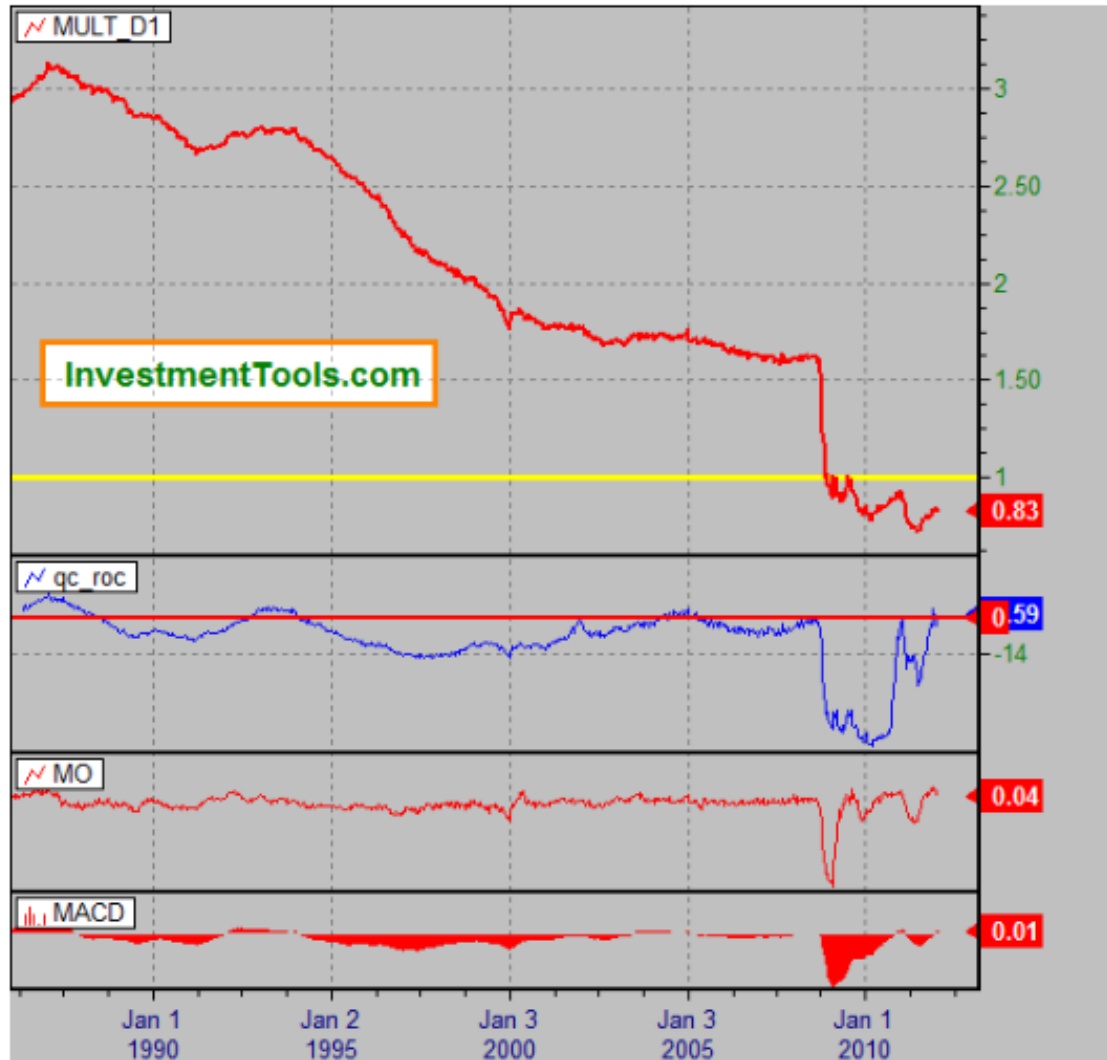


Chart created with NeoTicker EOD © 1998-2007 TickQuest Inc.



[http://www.investmenttools.com/thefed/federal\\_reserve\\_free\\_reserves.htm](http://www.investmenttools.com/thefed/federal_reserve_free_reserves.htm)

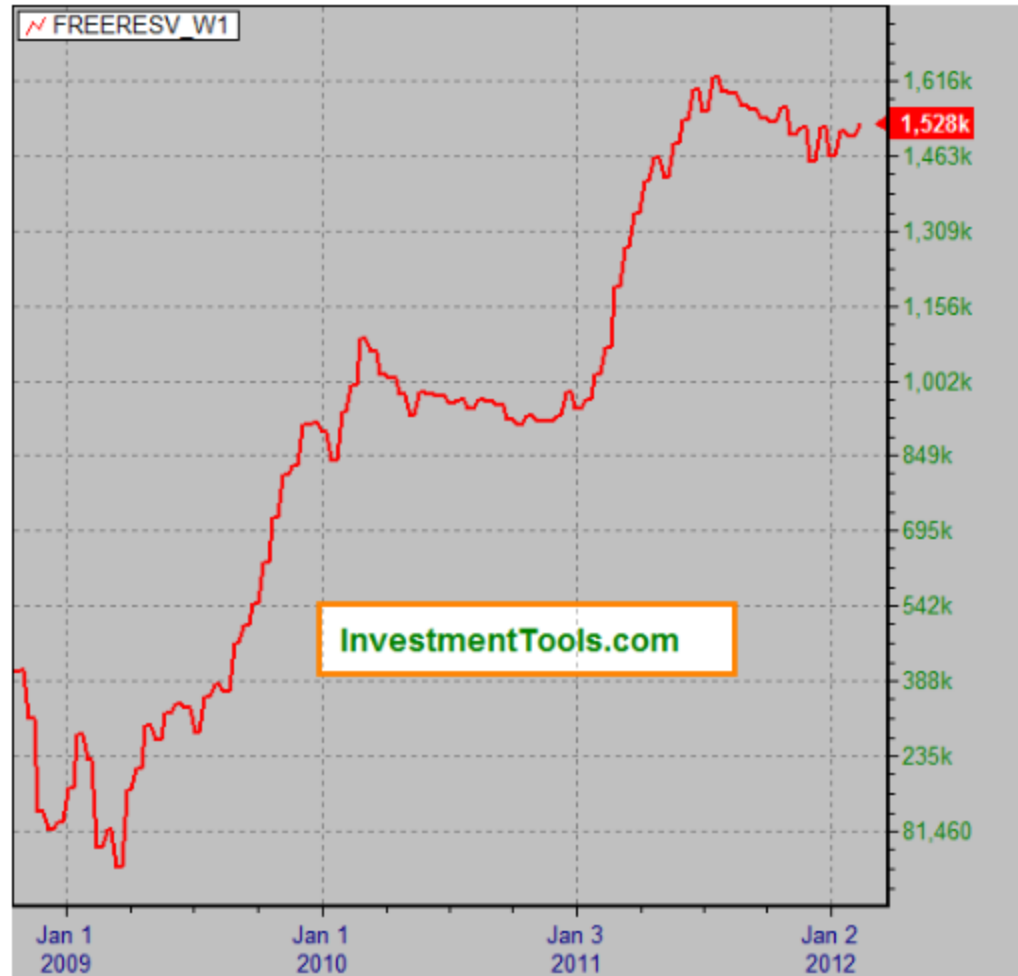
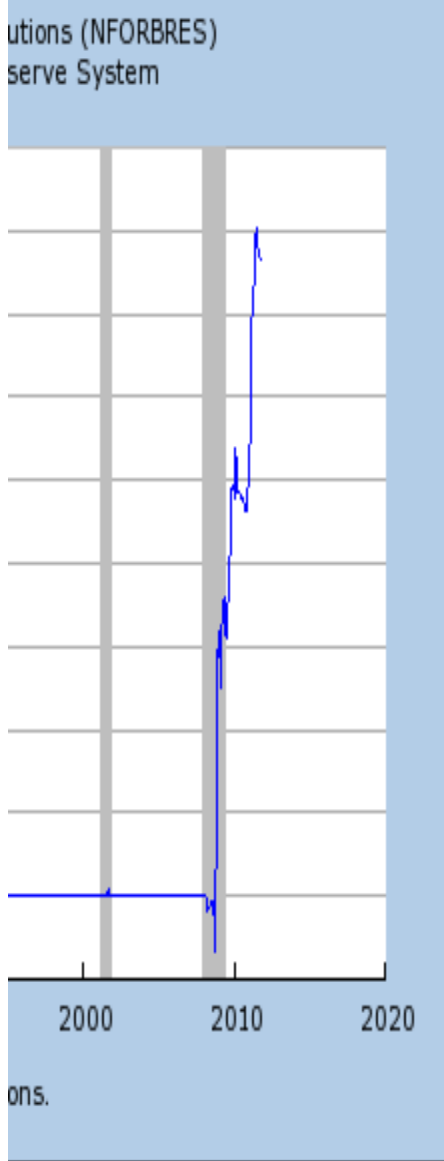


Chart created with NeoTicker EOD © 1998-2007 TickQuest Inc.

# Bad Credit - Cognitive Dissonance

The Daily Show with Jon Stewart



June 2, 2009  
**CRAIG T. NELSON**  
ACTOR

Tuesday May 8, 2012  
**Bad Credit**  
Instead of having to find reasons to criticize President Obama for things he's done right, Mitt Romney finds ways to claim those achievements as his own.

**Tags:** Osama bin Laden, Barack Obama, bailouts, Mitt Romney, lying, Republicans, assassinations, Indecision 2012, pundits, candidates, Donald Rumsfeld, photos, military, business, campaigns, montages, Joe Biden, war on terror, impressions, media, No Disrespect impression, Martin Luther King Jr., Craig T. Nelson, driving

<http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/tue-may-8-2012/bad-credit>

# Scalia: You don't count pregnant women twice.

"It has nothing to do with how I decide cases," Scalia replies.

"My job is to interpret the Constitution accurately. And indeed, there are anti-abortion people who think that the constitution requires a state to prohibit abortion. They say that the Equal Protection Clause requires that you treat a helpless human being that's still in the womb the way you treat other human beings. **I think that's wrong. I think when the Constitution says that persons are entitled to equal protection of the laws, I think it clearly means walking-around persons.**

**Justice Antonin Scalia, CBS 60 Minutes, Sept. 14, 2008**  
**[http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/04/24/60minutes/main4040290\\_page6.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2008/04/24/60minutes/main4040290_page6.shtml)**