

Third Saturday Seminar 2012-2013
Humanity at a Crossroads
26 January 2013

Session 04

“Caveats”

(For the new year)

Abbreviated - Current Events Extended
Curt Gibby

ALL Program, Lone Star College – Montgomery
Conroe, Texas

Next General Election is Nov 4, 2014

That is only 647 days from now.

All 435 Members of House of Representatives and 33 Senators will be elected or re-elected.

All 150 Members of Texas House of Representatives and 31 Texas Senators will be elected or re-elected. One-half of the Senate membership is elected every two years in even-numbered years, with the exception that all 31 Senate seats are up for election for the first legislature following the decennial census in order to reflect the newly redrawn districts. After the initial election, the Senate is divided by lot into two classes, with one class having a re-election after two years and the other having a re-election after four years.

Change

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

Aldous Huxley

Accepting the challenge

Most 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 17 November 2012

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

- Next Meeting 16 February 2013

Definition of 'Caveat'

A Latin term that means "let him beware." Caveats have many applications in law and finance, pertaining to all parties involved being aware of all of the facts of a legal proceeding or transaction. Caveat is usually interpreted as a sort of warning or cautionary expression.

Investopedia explains 'Caveat'

Caveats are frequently applied in expressions such as "caveat emptor," which means "let the buyer beware." Another phrase is "caveat subscriptor," which means "let the seller beware." Caveats can also refer to formal notices that are submitted during legal proceedings that stop or postpone the proceedings until the filer of the notice addresses the court or judge.

Read more:

<http://www.investopedia.com/terms/c/caveat.asp#ixzz2J29e5LXr>

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. 4 Sessions. No fee.

LSC-M B102 February 16th, March 23rd (Need to check), April 20th, and May 18th 9:30AM-12PM Gibby

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

Introduction

The Universe seems to be dead set on keeping us Americans, if not entertained, off-balance and puzzled that those responsible for governing the last of the world's great superpowers, can seem to be so "out-to-lunch." Then they double-down on their stupidity and risk our futures with their blind incompetence. (Where did they go to school?)

We have just endured a major election when both sides used unlimited funds to convince the voters that their opponent was a no good crook. Obama and his people were the better game players in the winner-takes-all the state's electors rules of most states. Barack Obama handily won the majority of electoral candidates of (all) the battleground states, but to me the more telling indicator is that he won 50.68% of the popular vote.

Current Events

17 November 2012

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

Run, Hide, Fight

PSA video: "Run, Hide, Fight" during workplace shooting

comments | Like 388 | Tweet 38 | +1 15 | Share 13 | More +

By Manuel Bojorquez



http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505263_162-57486041/psa-video-run-hide-fight-during-workplace-shooting/

Naval Academy Class of 1961 marches in John Kennedy's Inaugural Parade



<http://www.jfklibrary.org/Asset-Viewer/Archives/JFKWHP-1961-01-20-B.aspx>

It was a nasty day



<http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/video/john-kennedys-inauguration-parade-1961-14325955>

26 January 2013

Caveats

12

Eisenhower's Farewell Address



Eisenhower Farewell Address (Full)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWiIYW_fBfY

<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/dwightdeisenhowerfarewell.html>

“In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. “

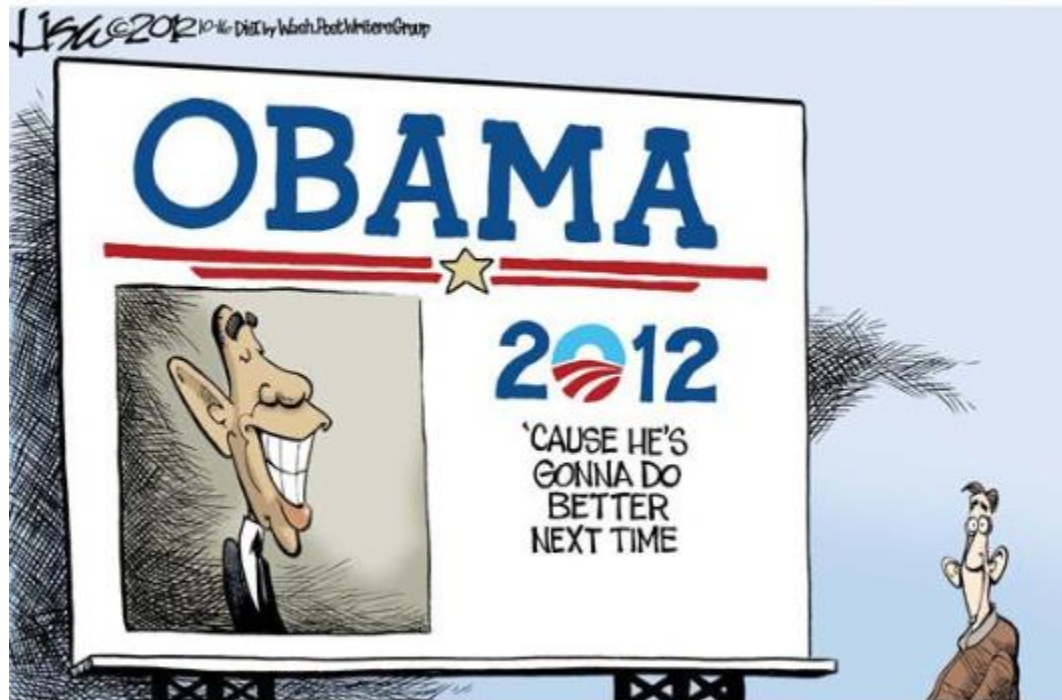




MARGULIES
©2012 THE RECORD
www.northjersey.com

Cartoons of the Week #5

Tuesday October 16th, 2012



Copyright Lisa Benson

By Lisa Benson

<http://ideas.time.com/2012/11/16/cartoons-of-the-week-november-10-16/photo/cartoon8-15/>



Not too hopeful

Houston Chronicle Dec 5, 2012

The fiscal cliff is a straw-bogeyman meant to titillate the small minds of the media and those who ingenuously choose to believe them.

What happened in 2009 was truly an economic supernova which has been made worse by the very economic holy men whose bad advice brought on the crash in the first place. So much for self-curing "free markets." Crooks will be crooks. If the sequestration provision goes into effect, it will only create a few small whirlpools in the space-time continuum. Cans will again be kicked down the road. Names will be withheld to protect the guilty and the chaos will continue. Nothing that is being discussed today will delay an economic disaster because that has already happened.

Not too Hopeful – Cont.

Raising taxes on the rich and lowering taxes on the middle class and closing a few loopholes will not have any real effect of getting the country's finances back into any kind of sustainable economic balance.

What it will do is burden the taxpayers (not the rich ones) and their children with a life of crushing debt that the banks will demand from us.

There is no interest in finding a real solution. Nothing that is being discussed even vaguely represents a plan with real and realistic goals and timing.

There is not a hint of a pending cultural change that would indicate a return to sanity, intelligence and integrity of government and the financial industry, nor the willingness of "We the People" to understand what has happened and why.

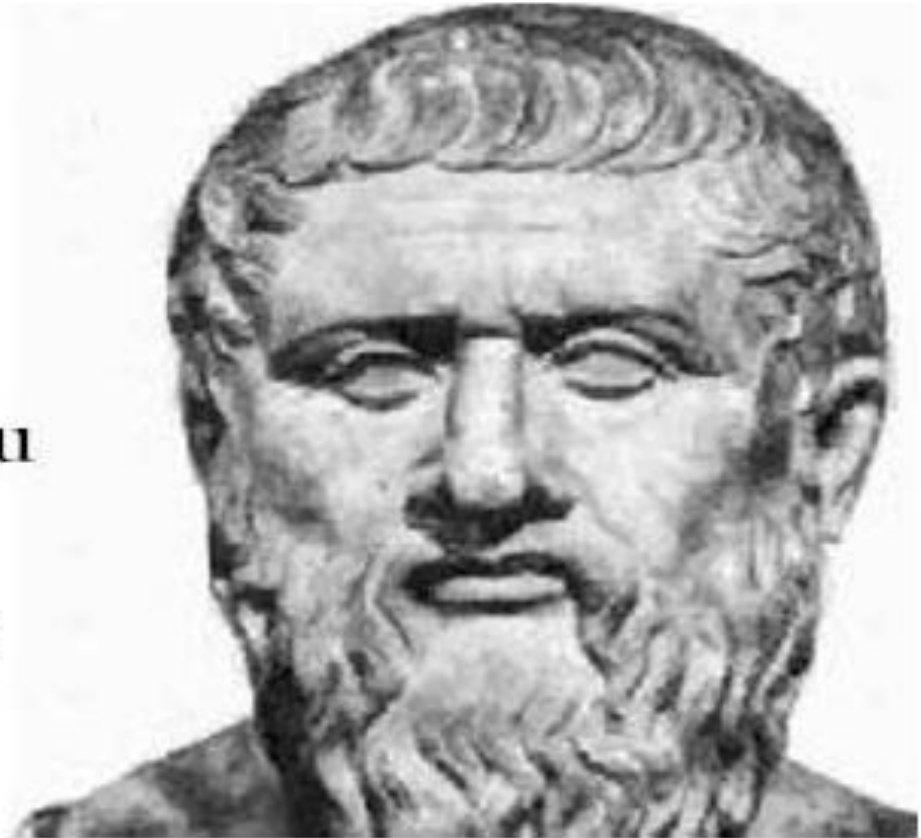
Curt Gibby, Spring

Read more: <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/opinion/letters/article/Letters-Grappling-with-the-fiscal-cliff-4091305.php#ixzz2EE6Dd1mD>

Inferior Government

One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics, is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.

Plato



Numbers

1 % income 225 times bigger than the wealth of the typical household. The believe the middle class should always bail them out if they screw up.

99 % (everybody who is not in the 1%)

62 % Obama's share of the electoral vote.

63 % of People want Roe v Wade to stand.

50.6 % Obama's share of the Popular vote

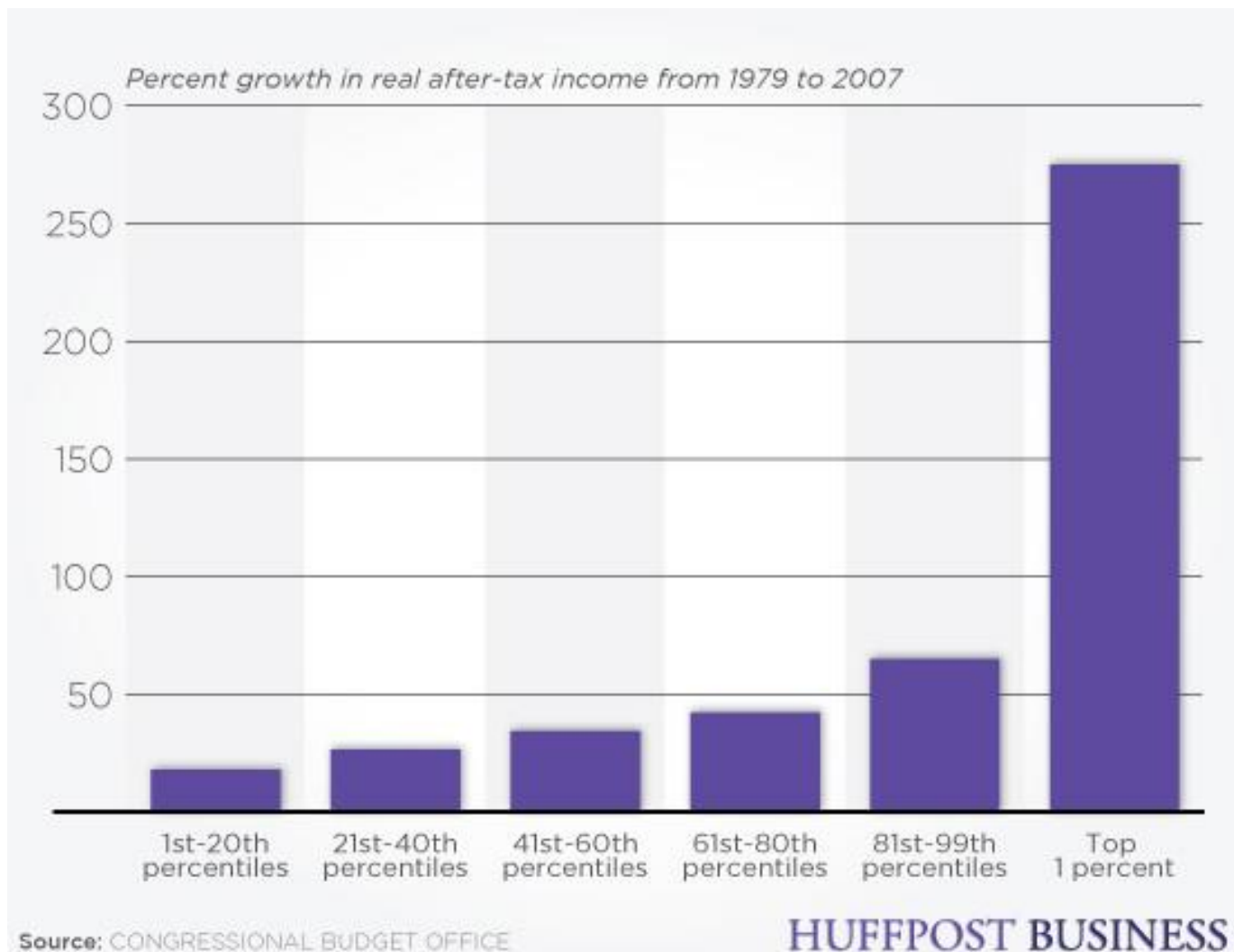
47.8 % Romney's share of the Popular vote

55 % Democrat in Senate

54% Republicans in House.

75 % of the people want illegal immigrants to leave (Chris Cuomo)

The 1% after tax income growth over 28 years



Who Are The 1 Percent

Brave New Foundation

In just the last generation, the richest 1% almost quadrupled their incomes.

The average wealth of the 1% is 225 times bigger than the wealth of the typical household – the highest it's ever been.

Three decades ago, CEOs made about 40 times as much as an average worker – now CEOs make almost 200 times as much as regular employees.

Last year, half of Americans earned less than \$26,000 while CEOs at top 500 companies raked in an average of \$11 million.

Over the past decade, earnings for middle-class Americans actually fell. In fact, working Americans' wages are now a lower percentage of our economy than they've ever been.

The divide between the richest and the poorest is worse in America than it is in nearly all of Europe and Asia and much of Africa. It's about as bad as in Rwanda and Serbia – and it's bad for our economy.

The 1% is not an accident – it is the result of policies our government chose to pursue.

Roe v. Wade

A [poll by the Pew Research Center](#) released last week found that over the past two decades, opinion on whether or not *Roe* should be overturned has barely changed. In 1992, 60 percent of those asked said the court should not overturn the ruling. Today that's up to 63 percent.

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/health/2013/01/22/169637288/roe-v-wade-turns-40-but-abortion-debate-is-even-older>

JAN. 25, 2013

Cold Snap Shakes Up Winter Weather Outlook



Image courtesy Shutterstock, blizzard

LISTEN NOW 

ADD 

Tweet

Like 11

Send

Unusual activity in the atmosphere over the Arctic Circle is triggering snow and frigid temperatures across Canada, the U.S., and parts of Europe. Climatologist Jeff Weber, of the University Corporation of Atmospheric Research, explains why this winter could pack a punch.

Produced by Denise Chow, Associate Producer

GUESTS

Jeff Weber
Climatologist
Atmospheric Scientist, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
Boulder, Colorado

26 January 2013

WEBER: Yes, the stratosphere and the troposphere are two layers of our atmosphere, and they're kind of inversely related. So as the stratosphere warms, the troposphere can cool. The real dynamics of this situation, though, is that as the stratosphere has gone through this Sudden Stratospheric Warming event, as the stratosphere warms, it tries to then, in the air in the stratosphere, it descends back into what we call the polar vortex, which is where all of the cold air over the Arctic kind of usually kind of pools up and sits during the winter months.

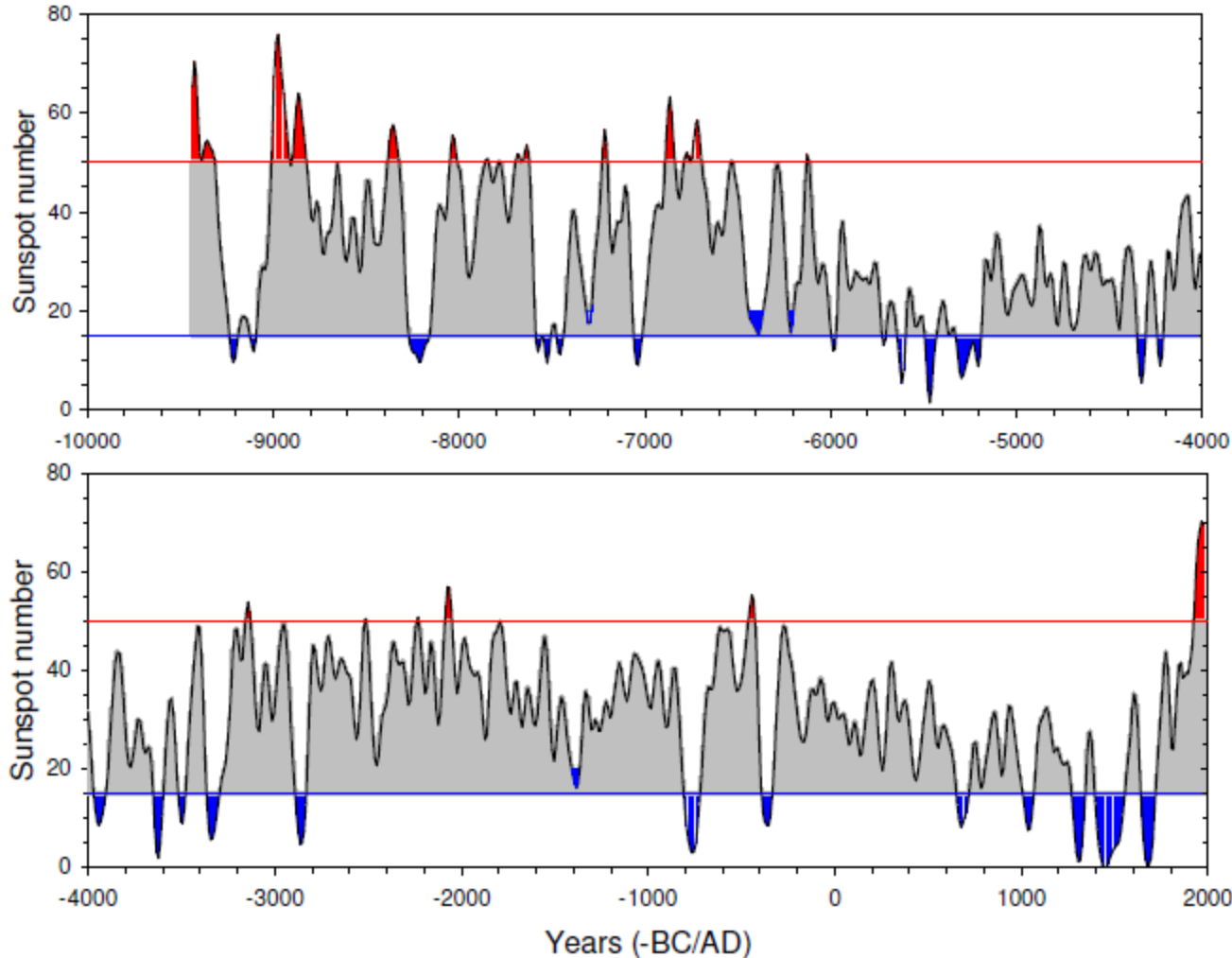
Now as that bubble of stratospheric air comes down and descends into the polar vortex, it disrupts the circulation, and all that very cold Arctic air is then able to spill out from the Arctic down into the Lower 48 or into Europe.

Caveats

25

A History of Solar Activity over Millennia

Ilya G. Usoskin, Sodankyla Geophysical Observatory (Oulu unit), University of Oulu, Finland



The paper examines records from two isotope proxies (Be10 and C14) and finds that solar activity at the end of the 20th century was at the highest levels of the past 1200 years.

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/video/index.html>

TUESDAY, Jan. 15, 2013

1. [White House Gun Proposals Expected This Week](#)
2. [The Wilderness After War: Living with PTSD](#)
3. [Metal Detectors to Bear Spray, Students Search For Gun Violence Solutions](#)
4. [New Initiative to Restrict Gun, Ammo Availability](#)
5. [News Wrap: Lance Armstrong Admits Doping](#)
6. [Delaware Gov. Jack Markell Addresses Gun Debate](#)
7. [California Makes Tough Choices to Balance Budget](#)
8. [NRA President Rejects Obama's Gun Law Proposals](#)
9. [What's Behind the 2012 Military Suicide Surge?](#)
10. [Talking Tech Trends With Harper Reed, Obama Campaign's Former CTO](#)

White House Gun Proposals Expected This Week

BY: CHRISTINA BELLANTONI AND TERENCE BURLIJ

Like 8



White House Gun Proposals Expected This Week

Demonstrators protest in front of the White House last week demanding for more gun control. Photo by Jewel Samad/AFP/Getty Images.

President Obama is set to receive Tuesday a list of recommendations from Vice President Biden detailing possible ways to reduce gun violence and within days is expected to go public with a comprehensive plan that contains legislative elements as well as executive action.

THE
MORNING
LINE

"I'm confident that there are some steps that we can take that don't require legislation and that are within my authority as President," Mr. Obama said

GUN CONTROL STATS

COMPARE TEN BIG "KILLERS" IN THE U.S.



*According to the FBI, the #1 weapon used in violent crimes... is a baseball bat.

WHY is there **NO** outcry to **RESTRICT** baseball bat ownership?

(Maybe because so many law-abiding citizens enjoy them safely, for sport? Hmmm...)

Deaths per year from selected causes. Source: Centers for Disease Control, FBI, U.S. Federal Government

US gun sales soar

US guns sales soar after Barack Obama's re-election

Gun sales in America are soaring in the wake of President Barack Obama's re-election with weapons retailers reporting AK-47s flying off shelves "like hotcakes."




In October the number of background checks on people applying to buy guns, an indicator of future sales, increased by 18.4 per cent. Photo: GETTY IMAGES




By **Nick Allen, Los Angeles**

5:58PM GMT 11 Nov 2012

 Follow 511 followers

 Print this article

 Share 28K

 Facebook 26K

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/9670585/US-guns-sales-soar-after-Barack-Obamas-re-election.html>

26 January 2013

Caveats

30

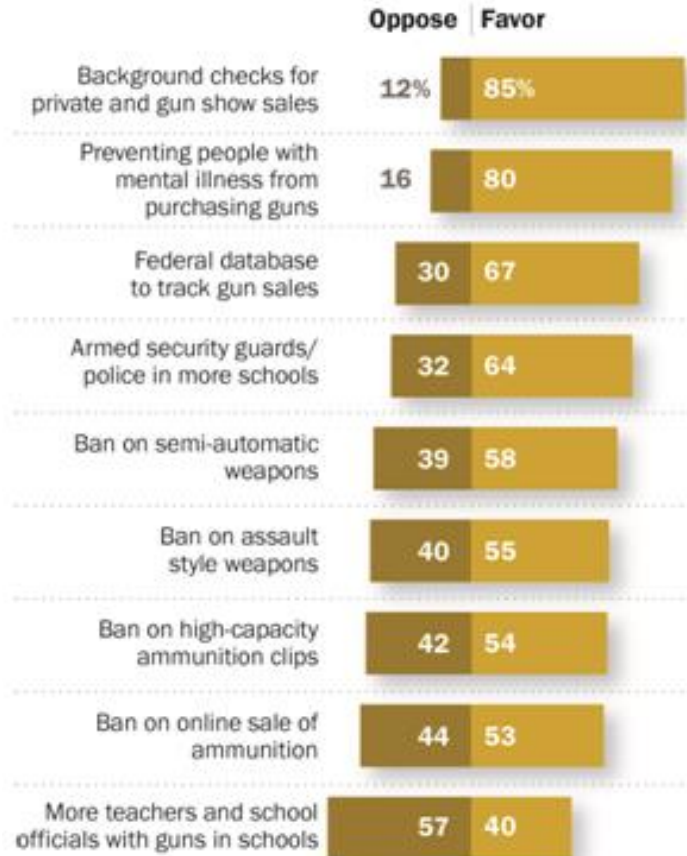
A Texas tan line . . .



I love my country,
It's the Government I'm afraid of.

Gun Control

Broad Public Support for Many Gun Policy Proposals



PEW RESEARCH CENTER Jan. 9-13, 2013.

The "Tree of Liberty" letter --- From Thomas Jefferson to William Smith, Paris, November 13, 1787

<http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/96oct/obrien/blood.htm>

“What country before ever existed a century & a half without a rebellion? & what country can preserve it's liberties if their rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance? **Let them take arms. The remedy is to set them right as to facts, pardon & pacify them. What signify a few lives lost in a century or two? The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots & tyrants.** It is it's natural manure. Our Convention has been too much impressed by the insurrection of Massachusetts: and in the spur of the moment they are setting up a kite to keep the hen-yard in order. I hope in God this article will be rectified before the new constitution is accepted.”

MILITARY -- January 15, 2013 at 1:21 PM EDT

The Wilderness After War: Living with PTSD

BY: LORI GRINKER

f Like 245



[The Wilderness After War: Living with PTSD](#)

*Photojournalist Lori Grinker profiled three former U.S. service members suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD. The video, which features Hart Vigas, Mark Wilkerson and Jessica Goodell telling their stories in their own words, was produced by Grinker for the **Dart Society**, an association of journalists who cover violence. The audio inconsistencies are due to the differing locations and modes of interviewing, including Skype. Some of the war images from this video may be too graphic for some viewers.*

Metal Detectors to Bear Spray, Students Search For Gun Violence Solutions

BY: THAISI DA SILVA



Universal background checks, armed officers in schools and changes to the country's mental health system are all ideas being floated as the nation searches for solutions to gun-related violence.

In the wake of the mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn., the NewsHour asked students from the 45 schools participating in its Student Reporting Labs about ways to prevent the next school shooting.

Here are some of their thoughts:



Students also reflected following the Dec. 14 shooting in Connecticut:

Metal Detectors to Bear Spray, Students Search For Gun Violence Solutions

New Initiative to Restrict Gun, Ammo Availability

REPORT AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

Obama to Announce Proposal for Restricting Availability of Guns, Ammunition



A video player interface showing a news anchor, Judy Woodruff, in a purple blazer sitting at a desk. The background is a blue-toned studio with a globe. A large 'PLAY' button is overlaid on the video. Below the video are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and email, along with a 'DVD' icon and a volume control icon. The video progress bar shows 00:01 / 04:24.

SUMMARY

One month after a mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Conn., the White House and various State legislatures forge ahead with proposals for legislation to strength gun control laws and penalties. Judy Woodruff reports on the unveiling of different measures to stem gun violence nationwide.

 Like  8

 4 Comments and 19 Reactions  Listen: MP3

JUDY WOODRUFF: President Obama will lay out his strategy tomorrow for stopping deadly attacks involving guns. That word came today, amid reports that he's considering 19 administrative policy changes, as well as congressional action.

It's been just over a month since 20 children and six adults died in the school shootings in Newtown, Conn. And now the president is ready to announce proposals on gun violence. They could include executive action, ordering steps such as stricter penalties for lying on a gun background check or tougher penalties for gun trafficking.

But spokesman Jay Carney said today that it's up to Congress to take more sweeping steps.

Oprah was satisfied

[News Wrap: Lance Armstrong Admits Doping](#)

OPRAH WINFREY,
"Oprah's Next Chapter": I felt that he was thoughtful. I thought that he was serious. I thought that he certainly had prepared himself for this moment. I would say that he met the moment. And, at the end of it, two-and-a-half -- literally two-and-a-half-hours, we both were pretty exhausted. And I would say I was satisfied.

REPORT AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

News Wrap: Lance Armstrong 'Forthcoming' on Doping in Oprah Interview



ARMSTRONG ADMISSION

Hari Sreenivasan @hari

PBS NEWSHOUR

00:01 / 06:41

Like 0

SUMMARY

In other news Tuesday, Lance Armstrong discussed doping in an interview with Oprah Winfrey months after the world famous cyclist was accused of using performance enhancement drugs to give himself an edge during competitions and stripped of his titles

26 January 2013

Caveats

37

Delaware Governor Goes Further

CONVERSATION AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

Delaware Gov. Jack Markell Discusses His State's Plans to Address Gun Control



SUMMARY

The White House is set to announce proposals for gun control laws, but some state governments aren't waiting for federal action. Jeffrey Brown talks to Gov. Jack Markell, D-Del., about Delaware's proposals to curb gun violence, including stricter background checks, a state-wide database of gun owners and an assault weapons ban.

CONVERSATION AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

Delaware Gov. Jack Markell Discusses His State's Plans to Address Gun Control

Proposed Delaware Gun Laws

- ▶ Requiring background checks for private firearm sales
- ▶ Banning the possession of military-style weapons and large-capacity magazines
- ▶ Banning the possession of a firearm within 1,000 feet of a school



SUMMARY

The White House is set to announce proposals for gun control laws, but some state governments aren't waiting for federal action. Jeffrey Brown talks to Gov. Jack Markell, D-Del., about Delaware's proposals to curb gun violence, including stricter background checks, a state-wide database of gun owners and an assault weapons ban.

[Delaware Gov. Jack Markell Addresses Gun Debate](#)

26 January 2013

Caveats

38

California Makes Tough Choices to Balance Budget

Then, in 2010, promising to fix the state, Jerry Brown, a Democrat, was elected governor, 30 years after he held the job in the '70s.

He faced a \$26 billion deficit and started making more cuts and changes, like transferring inmates from the state's overcrowded prisons to county jails and closing down local redevelopment agencies, using the money for the state budget. Meanwhile, the economy started to improve in fits and starts, bringing in more tax revenue.

But it all wasn't enough. Brown proposed to California voters a measure to raise income taxes on the wealthy and sales taxes for everybody, to the tune of \$5.6 billion. Brown campaigned vigorously from what was called Proposition 30 in last November's ballot.

ANALYSIS AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

California Gov. Jerry Brown Makes Tough Choices to Balance State Budget



SUMMARY

Gov. Jerry Brown has been able to turn in a balanced state budget for California by pushing for tax increases on the wealthy, hiking sales taxes for everybody and cutting many state services. But detractors have said Brown used fiscal tricks to achieve the balance. NewsHour correspondent Spencer Michels reports.

Like 563

NRA President Rejects Obama's Gun Law

Proposals

No, it is an attack on the Second Amendment. It is an attack on those Americans who purchased and legally use firearms, who have never committed a criminal act, who have never done anything wrong. And they can say that it doesn't infringe upon their rights, but, in fact, it does.

Now, every amendment -- the First Amendment -- you can't, famously, yell fire in a crowded theater. The Second Amendment is also subject to reasonable limits. The Supreme Court has held that. But they're strictly looked at.

And you have to demonstrate that they really impact things and that they're really necessary. And the problem that we have is that none of the things that they have suggested are going to do any good. They're asking the question, Judy, what do we do about guns? The question should be, what do we do to prevent the kinds of things that happened in Connecticut?

Caveats

40



26 January 2013

What's Behind the 2012 Military Suicide

Surge?

RAY SUAREZ: So what should we be on the lookout for? Is there any way that's reliable to separate out, to keep an eye on people who may be in real trouble when they come back from active duty?

STEPHEN XENAKIS: There's not one real technique or tactic you can use.

What we should recognize is that this is an epidemic, in the sense that it's across the Army. The whole Army has been -- and Marine Corps and the other services under -- have been a lot of stress. And the focus, I think, is on changing the culture and making and bringing the spotlight on to the individual and everyone being concerned for the kinds of stresses that they're showing and that may lead to the various problems.

CONVERSATION AIR DATE: Jan. 15, 2013

More U.S. Troops Died by Suicide Than in Afghanistan Combat in 2012



00:20 / 06:47        

SUMMARY

Suicides by active duty U.S. troops last year exceeded the number of servicemen and women killed in combat in Afghanistan. Ray Suarez talks to psychiatrist and retired U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Stephen Xenakis, who says more than half of the soldiers who killed themselves had already sought help from a mental health professional.

26 January 2013

Caveats

Talking Tech Trends With Harper Reed, Obama Campaign's Former CTO

By: [Hari Sreenivasan](#)

[Harper Reed's](#) unorthodox vibe has been [well-documented](#). His role in orchestrating the digital strategy for the re-election of President Obama as the campaign's Chief Technology Officer cemented his place in political history.



Harper Reed's unorthodox vibe has been well-documented. His role in orchestrating the digital strategy for the re-election of President Obama as the campaign's Chief Technology Officer cemented his place in political history. So when he popped into the NewsHour studios this afternoon, we had a wide-ranging conversation about the *other* things that interest him. What music is he listening to right now? What online sites and services intrigue him? Some questions were sent in over the transom by viewers after we sent out a call about this interview.

Sunday Cartoon by DickMorris.com cartoonist
Clayton Liotta.



*“I just want to notify the Bank that I am
raising my own Debt-Limit...”*

We're all niggers to the 1%

DICKERSON: Now, the duty of all black people who—especially those of us who came after the Civil Rights Movement, what are we being called upon to do? We don't have to go out and face Bull Connor. All we have to do is step into the freedom that our ancestors won for us

...**DICKERSON:** They're niggerizing white people. The great thing about that statement 'We're all niggers to the 1%' is that when I say that to white people in the movement they just go, 'Word,' you know, they get it.

STEELE: When we talk about poor we immediately jump to black or we immediately jump to Hispanic and what we need to talk about when we talk about poor is American people living in poverty regardless of the color of their skin.

LOPEZ: I think what's interesting, you know, about the Occupy movement is, is this language of the 99 versus the 1. Um and if people identify with the 99 that's a different type, that's a different type of consciousness altogether.

<http://race2012pbs.org/the-film/transcript/>

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.

Third Saturday Seminar 2012-2013
Humanity at a Crossroads
26 January 2013

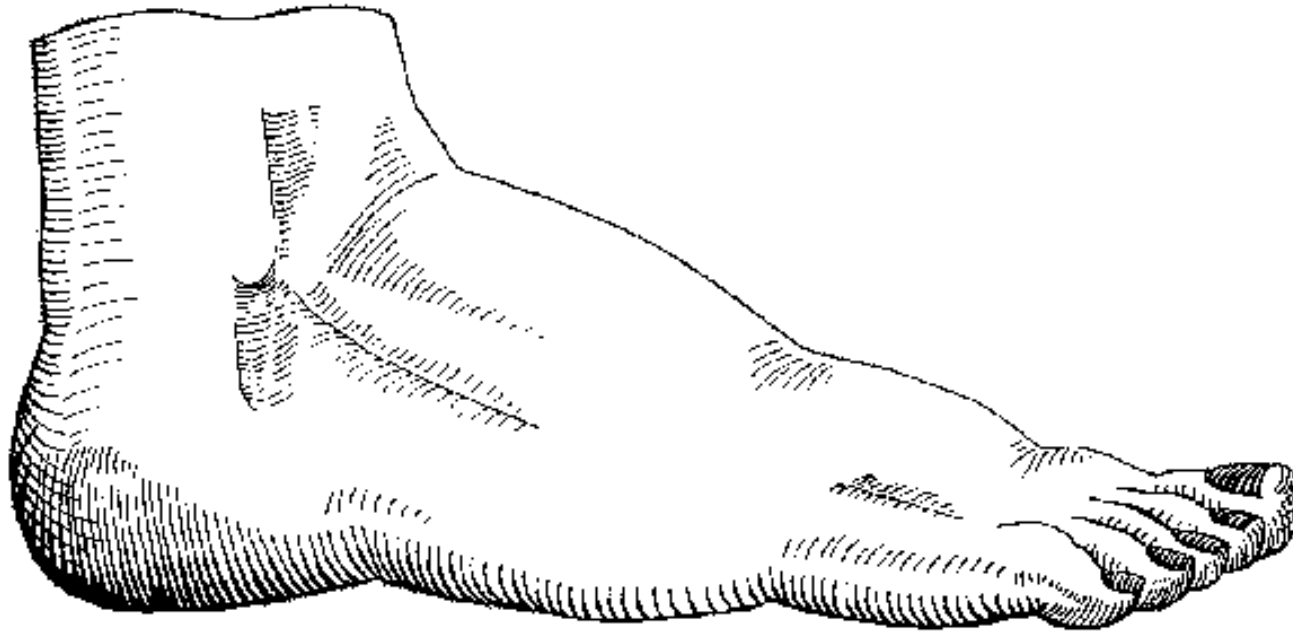
Session 04

NEXT

“A.L.L. Spring Open House”
Building A – The Commons

ALL Program, Lone Star College – Montgomery
Conroe, Texas

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.

Don't panic!

Don't be Panicked!

Welcome back to interesting times !



See You Next Time

Enrichment Material

Region Four

Never get elected to a board because you have a personal agenda to promote.

You will spend your term in a one-against-the-rest environment and you will probably not accomplish anything but interfere and possibly delay with important decisions.

http://www.tasb.org/services/lts/resources/board_candidates/candidate_training.aspx (5:40 min in)

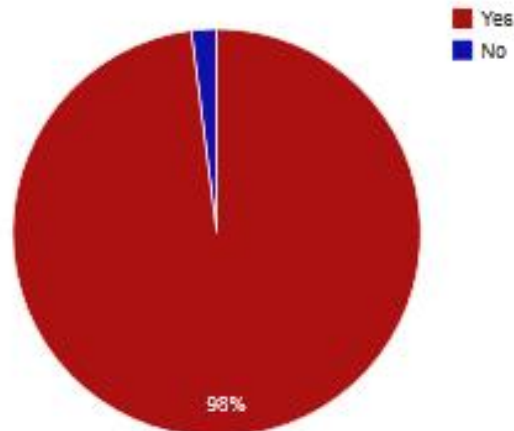
Too Many Secrets?



**IS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HIDING
TOO MANY SECRETS FROM THE PUBLIC?**

The United States sealed more than 2.3 million national secrets over the last 10 years.
Today, roughly 854,000 people hold top-secret security clearances.

Thank you for voting! Your vote has just triggered a shocking e-mail tomorrow from *Wall Street Daily* regarding a profound secret being kept by the U.S. government. We ask that you please not forward it, as it's creating quite a stir.



Percentage Of Total Votes

The watershed event

When will it happen.

We use drones to surveil insurgents and jihadists.

Will the hit orders eventually be carried out by drones.

At what point will the limit be lifted about killing the innocent without limit to get a bad guy?

Due process my ass.

One of life's persistent questions:

“Why do cockroaches roll over before they die?”



Undercover Austin officers' roles in Occupy protest here upend trial

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

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."



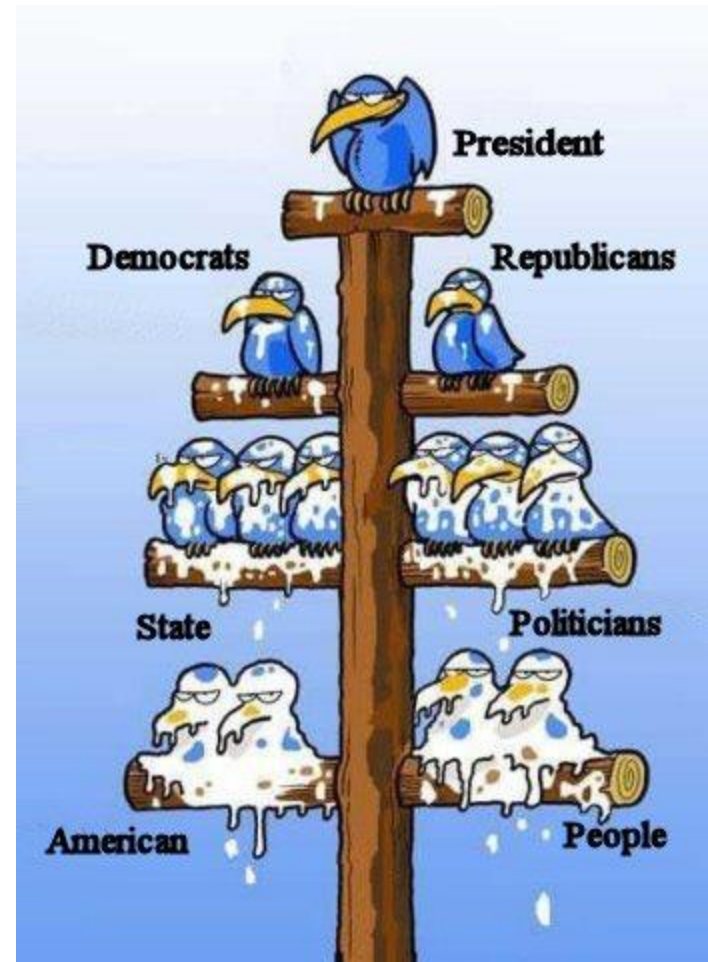
THE POLITICAL FLOW-CHART

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.**



\$ 048,851,172,464,012

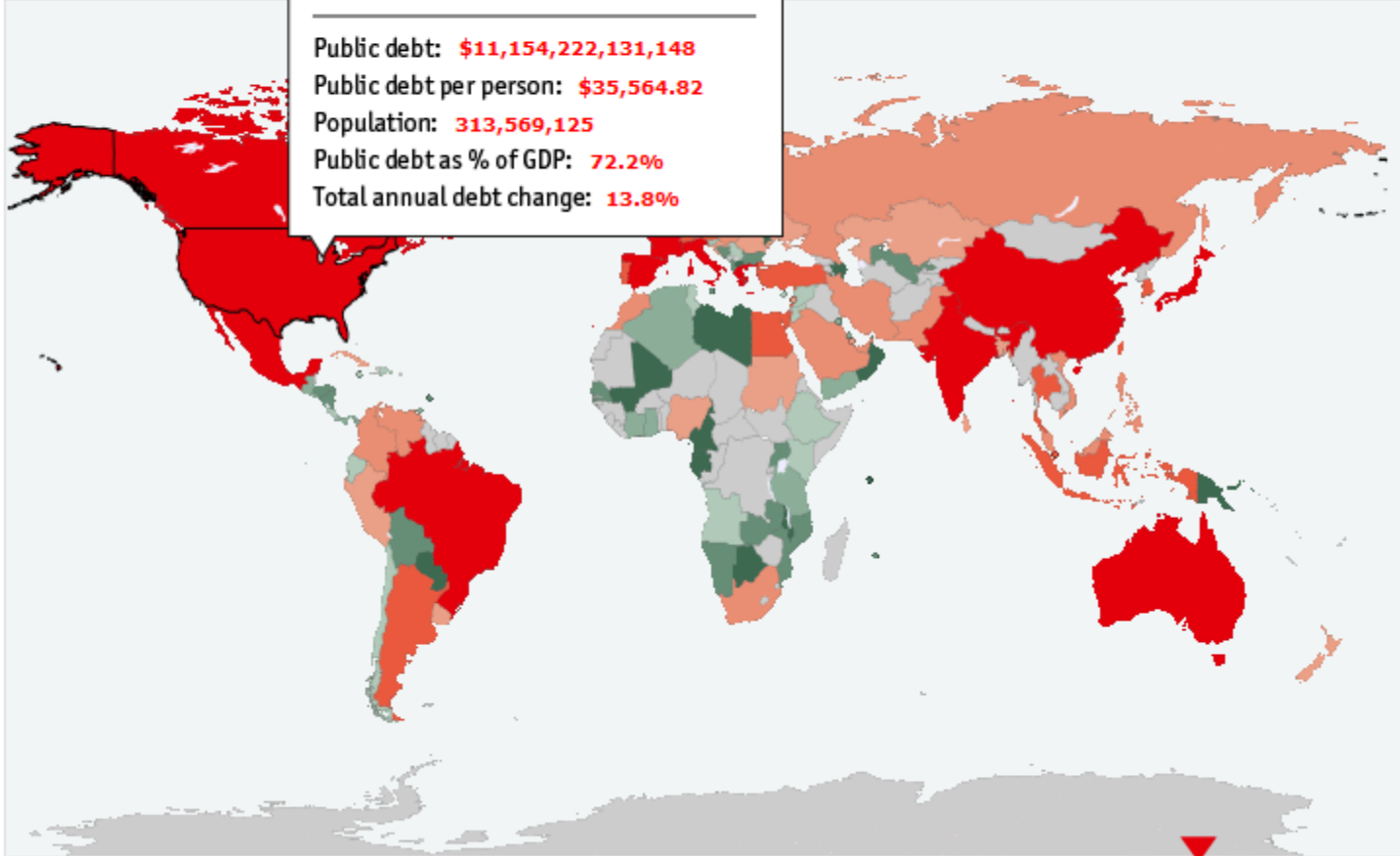
CURRENT GLOBAL PUBLIC DEBT

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 c

Choose a c

Choose a c

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

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.

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/>

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/>

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

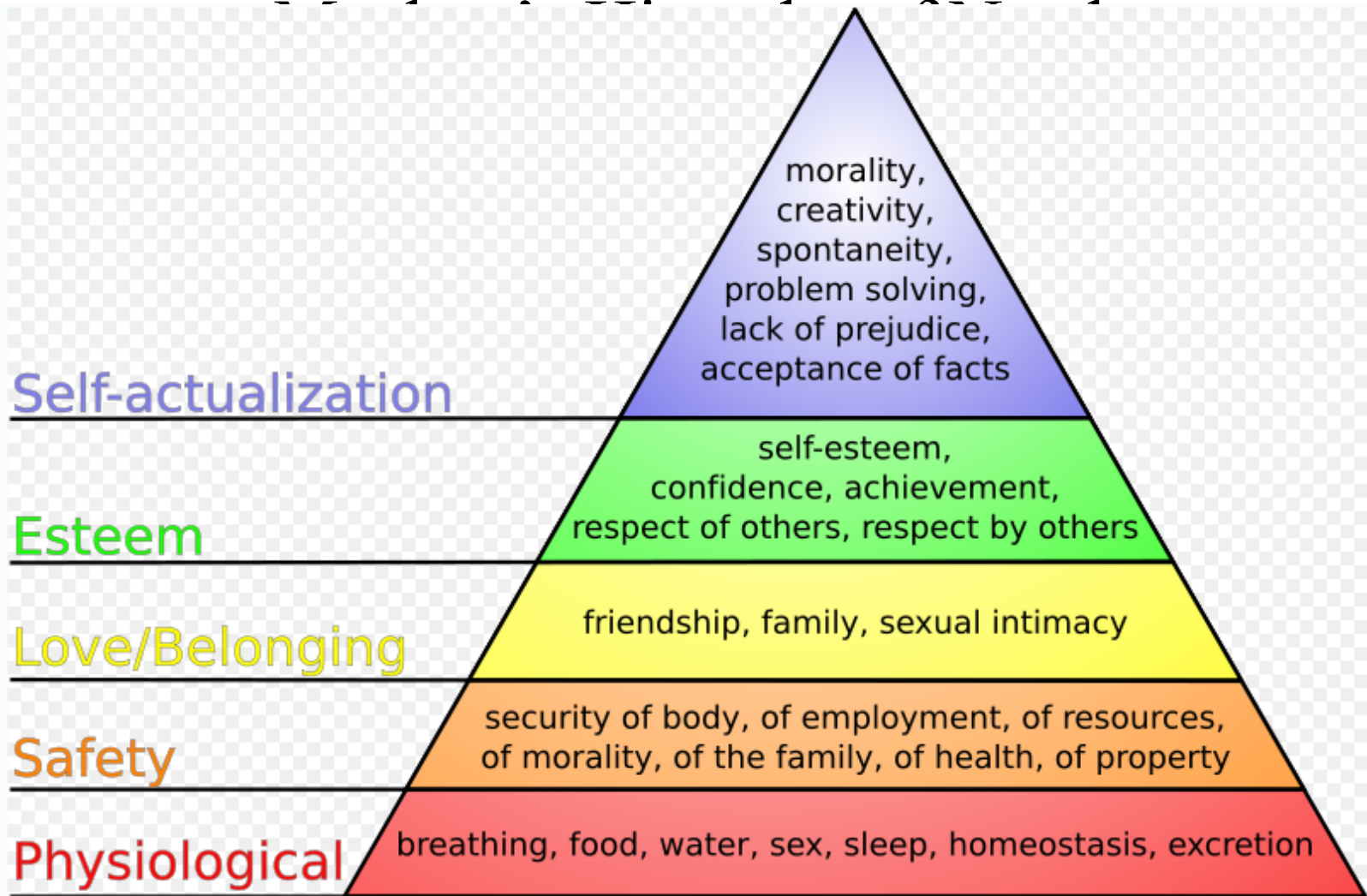
Our Middle Aged Brains

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.



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

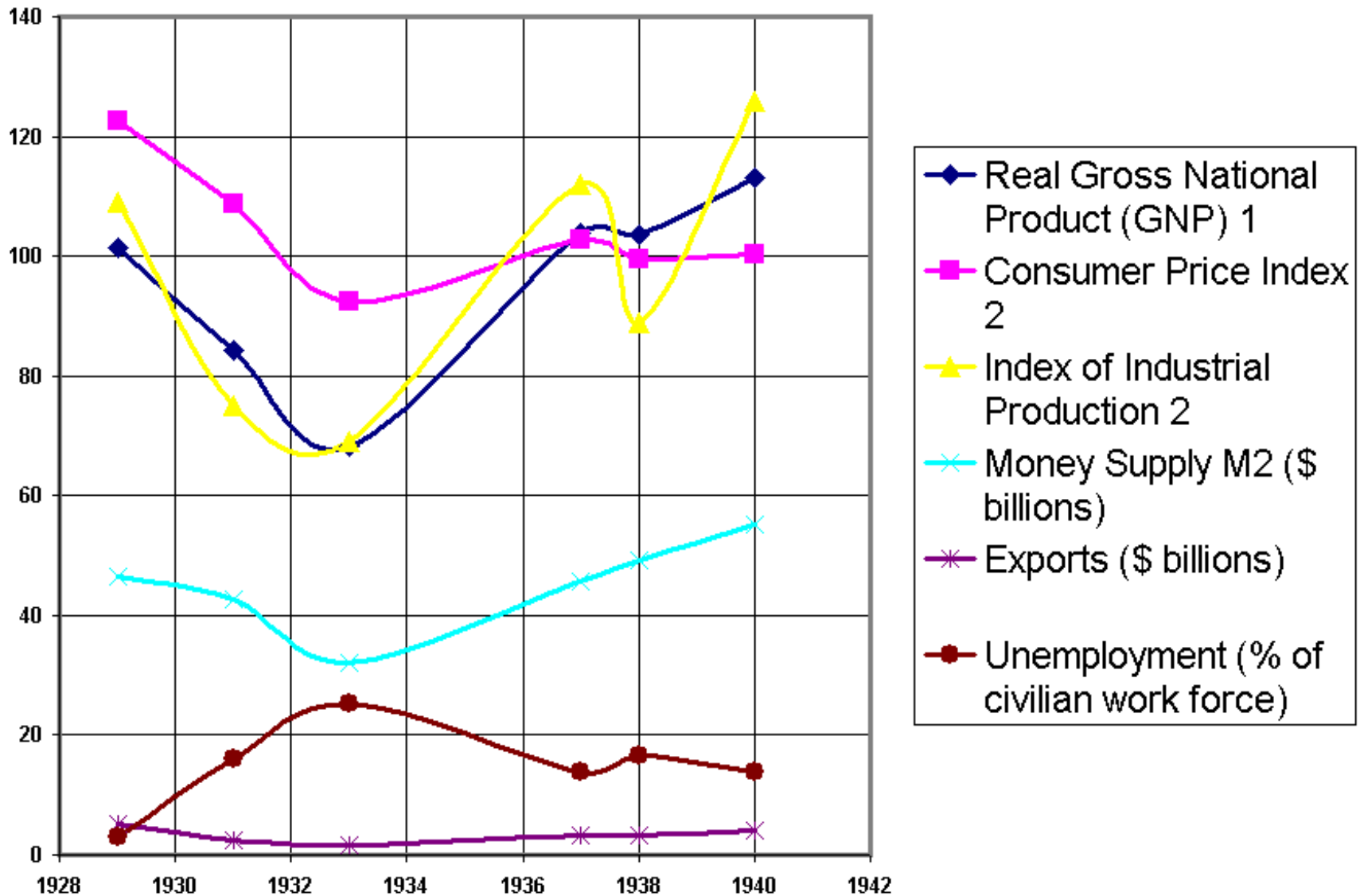
Unable to anticipate what looks obvious in retrospect

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.

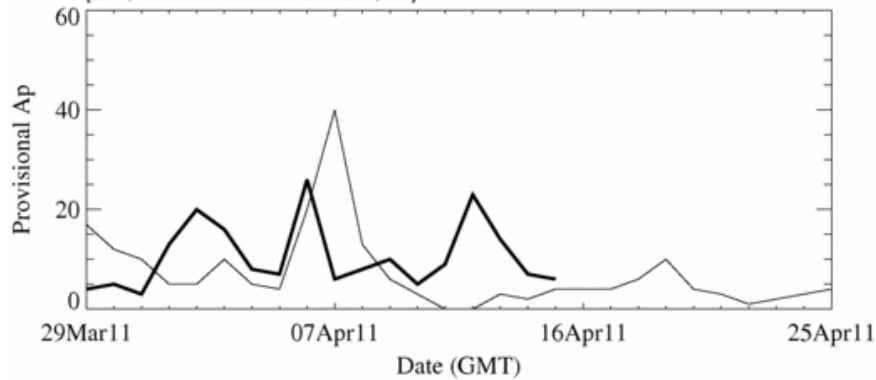
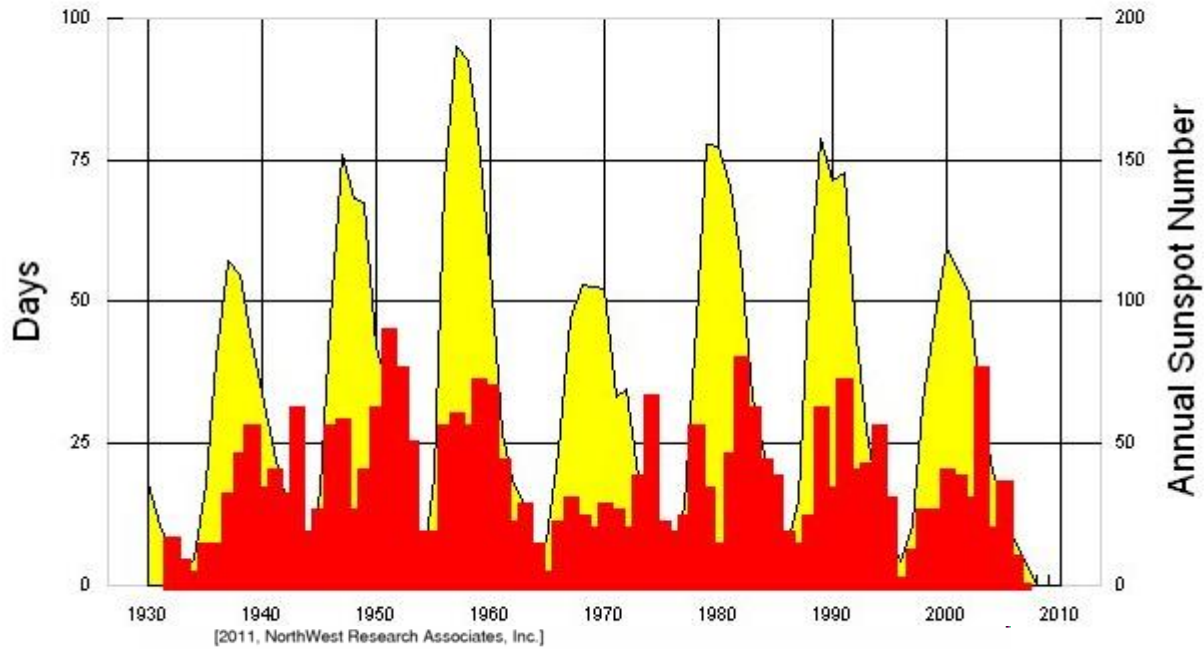
Fatigue - Fatigue is unavoidable in any situation so it is best to keep in mind that it can and will lower your mental ability. Remember that in an emergency situation this is often the body's way of escaping a difficult situation.

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)

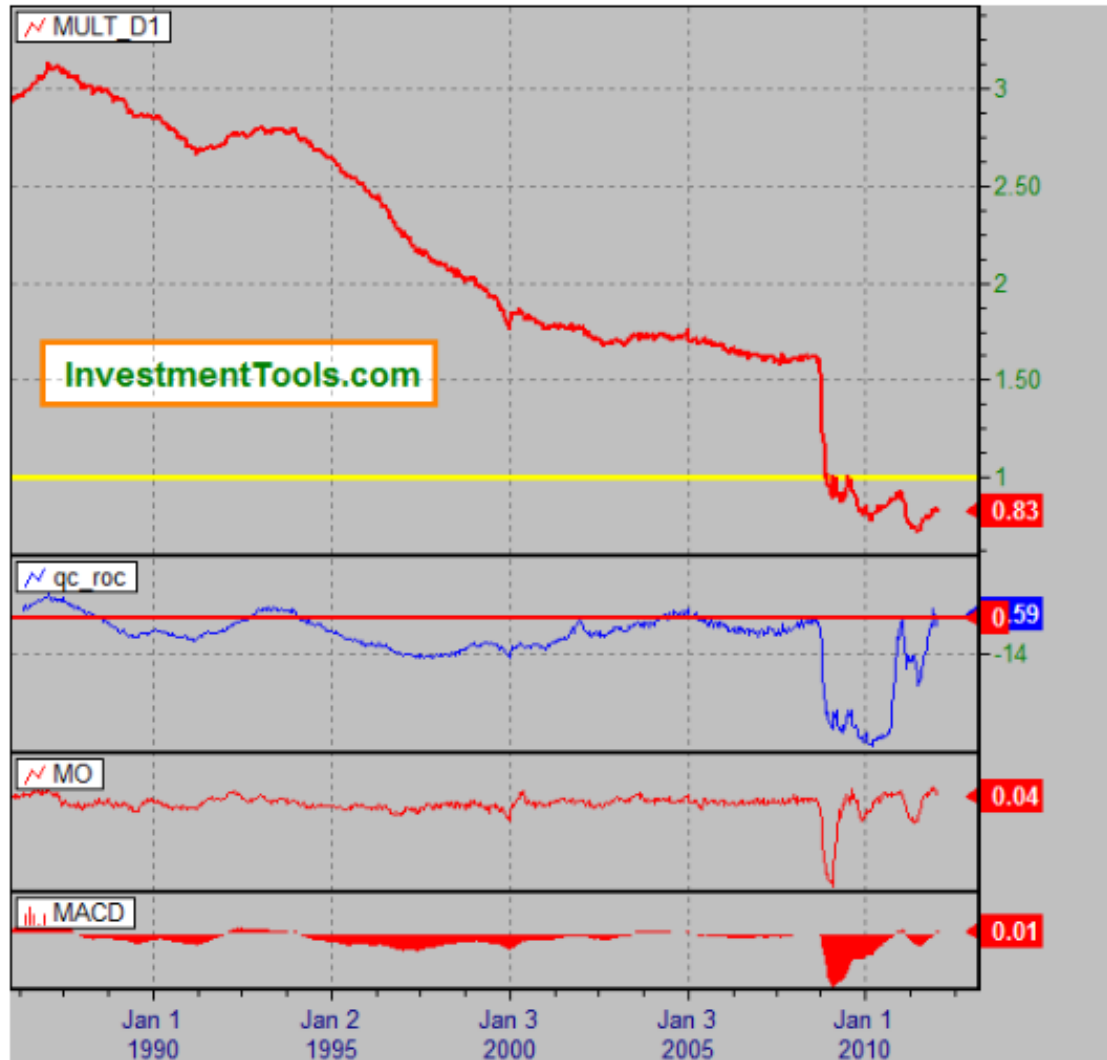


Chart created with NeoTicker EOD © 1998-2007 TickQuest Inc.

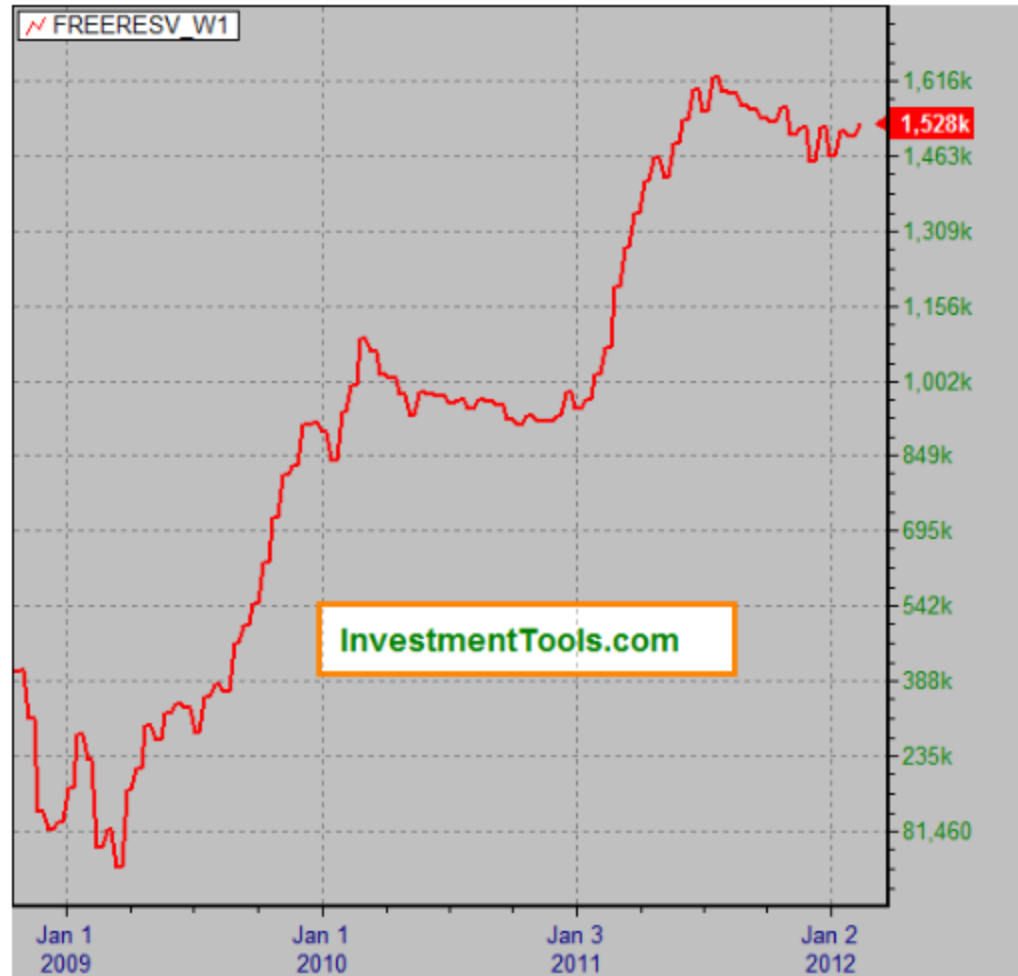
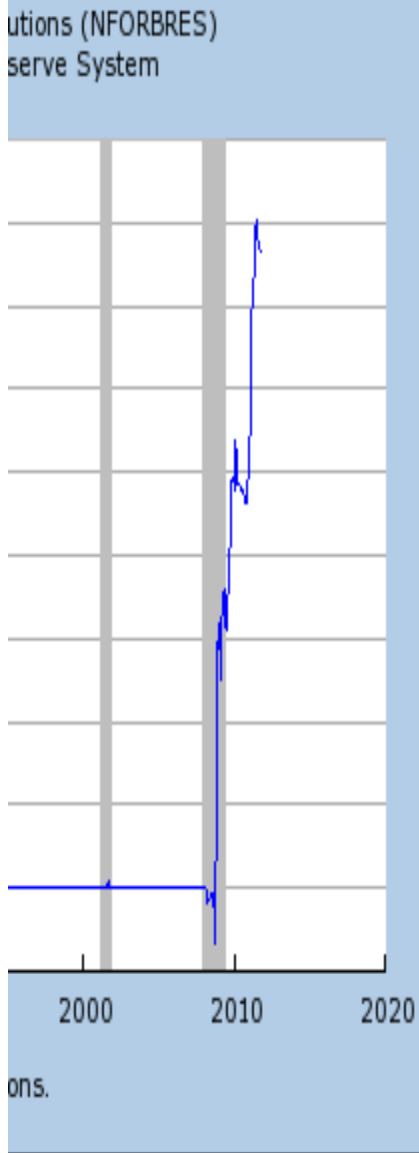


Chart created with NeoTicker EOD © 1998-2007 TickQuest Inc.

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

Intro - 2

That says that he has no strong mandate, except as allowed by the Constitution. In the popular election he squeaked by Romney, because Romney and his advisors couldn't separate confirmation bias from reality, and shot themselves in the foot with two major minorities, women and factory workers. (Why did they call them battleground states? Because, they were potentially fed up with the Obama administration, which the Romney camp correctly surmised as an opportunity, which it was. But then when you let you own dogmas blind you to reality.

Intro -3

We were so smart during the Carter Administration when we somehow enticed the Russians into invading Afghanistan, so it could become their Vietnam (Which it did and probably contributed greatly to the breakup of the USSR). What cruel irony that it is now us and our NATO Allies that have taken our own bait. We get to enjoy the Vietnam experience all over again. Fortunately(?) we have lost less than 10 percent of the troops we lost in Vietnam, but we are spending more and borrowing heavily to keep it going. Where will that lead us?