

Conservative Review

Issue #61

Kukis Digests and Opines on this Week's News and Views

February 8, 2009

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Too much happened this week! Enjoy...

The cartoons come from:
www.townhall.com/funnies.

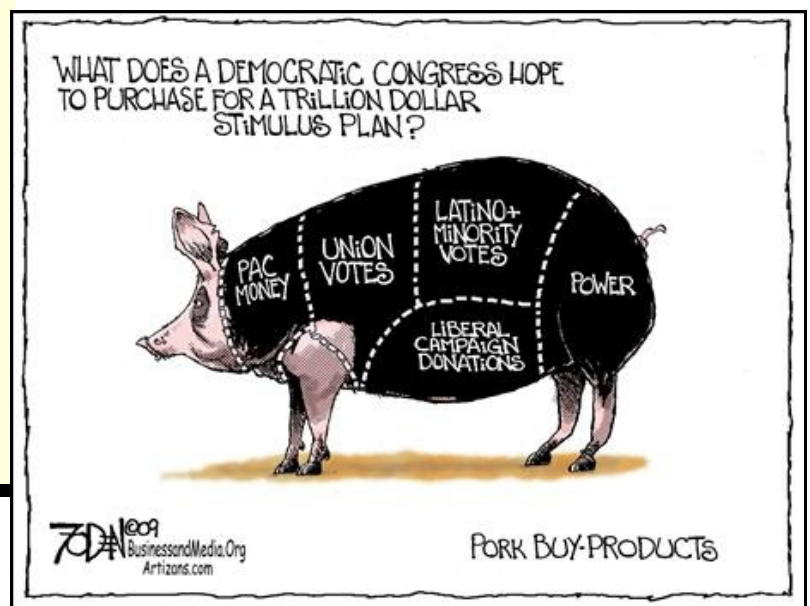
If you receive this and you hate it and you don't want to ever read it no matter what...that is fine; email me back and you will be deleted from my list (which is almost at the maximum anyway).

Previous issues are listed and can be accessed here:

<http://kukis.org/page20.html> (their contents are described and each issue is linked to) or here:

<http://kukis.org/blog/> (this is the directory they are in)

I attempt to post a new issue each Sunday by 2 or 3 pm central standard time. I do not accept any advertising nor do I charge for this publication. I write this principally to blow off steam in a nation where its people seemed have collectively lost their minds.



This Week's Events

The news is beginning to report a little more about the so-called stimulus bill; many sources, still, however, do not give many specifics. The public turned from having a plurality in favor of this bill to a plurality against the bill. It is possible that, as of this writing, a majority of the people oppose this bill.

Obama continues to speak about his stimulus bill (which neither he nor his aides wrote), warning of dire consequences unless we pass this bill. He uses words like *disaster* and *a recession from which we cannot recover*.

Ex-Vice President Cheney warns that, Bush put several safeguards and tools up to protect the American people from terrorists. He is accused of fear-mongering by Democrats.

Joe Biden, having joked about Chief Justice John Roberts making a mistake in administering the oath of office, flubbed administering a ceremonial oath to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (using notes).

Tom Daschle, a cabinet nominee of President Barack Obama removed his name from the running. He was very adamant about claiming that he removed his name, and was not asked to step down by Obama.

Blagojevich is impeached as governor of Illinois, so his media blitz has slowed to about nothing.



18 year old Sycloria Williams went in to a Florida clinic for an abortion. She was 23 weeks pregnant (5½ months). She was given a drug to dilate her cervix apparently by one of the clinic employees, as her doctor, Dr. Pierre Jean-Jacque Renelique, had not arrived in time for this appointment. Sycloria gave birth in the waiting room. One of the clinic owners cut the umbilical cord, and threw this living, breathing, born-alive baby into a medical waste bag to dispose of it. Sycloria William is suing the doctor and the doctor has had his license revoked. At this point in time, murder charges have not been charged against the clinic owner. These charges should be leveled against the clinic owner and against the greedy Sycloria Williams.



Buffalo State College hosted the national teach-in on Global Warming Situations today while the local temperature bottomed out at a minus 6 degrees. These conferences need to be held in the summer.

Quotes of the Week

Meagan McArdle said of the stimulus packages, "Mostly, Democrats took their wish lists, called



them "stimulus", and look set to inflict them on the American people."

Senator Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., told radio host and WND columnist Bill Press yesterday when asked about whether it was time to bring back the so-called "Fairness Doctrine" gave this answer: "I think it's absolutely time to pass a standard. Now, whether it's called the Fairness Standard, whether it's called something else - I absolutely think it's time to be bringing accountability to the airwaves. I mean, our new president has talked rightly about accountability and transparency. You know, that we all have to step up and be responsible. And, I think in this

case, there needs to be some accountability and standards put in place." Outstanding—reducing free speech = accountability, transparency and responsibility. Orwell's *1984* should have been called *2009*. Stabenow's husband, by the way, is the Vice President of Air America, a network of liberal talk show hosts whom no one will listen to.

Obama wrote an opinion piece for the Washington Post (which they did not decide to correct and ask him to resubmit), and in it was the following quote: "This recession might linger for years. Our economy will lose 5 million more jobs. Unemployment will approach double digits. Our nation will sink deeper into a crisis that, at some point, we may not be able to reverse."

Among Obama's many dire warnings, which he repeats almost endlessly, is the following: "if we don't move swiftly to put this plan [the nearly trillion dollar Stimulus Package] in motion, our **economic crisis** could become a **national catastrophe**. **Millions of Americans will lose their jobs, their homes, and their health care**. Millions more will have to put their dreams on hold." Once more, what is the definition of fear-mongering?

Remember, this is a man who has never run a business and, as far as we know, has never even taken an economics course. This is a man who has assured us that government spending is stimulus; *what do you think stimulus is?*

Missing Headlines

The Stimulus Bill is All on Obama

Obama Secretary of Energy: "No more farming in California by the end of this century."

3 Republicans Bribed for Stimulus Bill Vote?

Joe Biden Prophecy Watch

Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa orders U.S. Embassy official expelled.

On the day after Obama won the election, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev warned that he would respond to a planned NATO anti-missile shield by moving nuclear weapons to its western enclave of Kaliningrad. Just this past Tuesday, the Russian navy began joint exercises near Caracas with Venezuela's military. If you will recall the Cuban Missile Crisis, we may get to watch it one more time.

Iran warns the U.S. that, if we think we are going to get any face time with their high ranking officials, we had better publically apologize for our foreign policy first. Maybe President Bush's idea that not talking to Iran makes the most sense.



Must-Watch Media

Nancy Pelosi warns that, every single month, 500 million Americans lose their jobs. CNN

reports on both sides of this clip, apparently taking Pelosi's dire warning at face value.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVl2nqjLVeA>

Hannity interviews Rush (audio and video):

http://mfile.akamai.com/5020/wmv/rushlimb.download.akamai.com/5020/tv_archives/Hannity012109_B.aspx

Part two:

http://mfile.akamai.com/5020/wmv/rushlimb.download.akamai.com/5020/tv_archives/Hannity012209.aspx

Short Takes

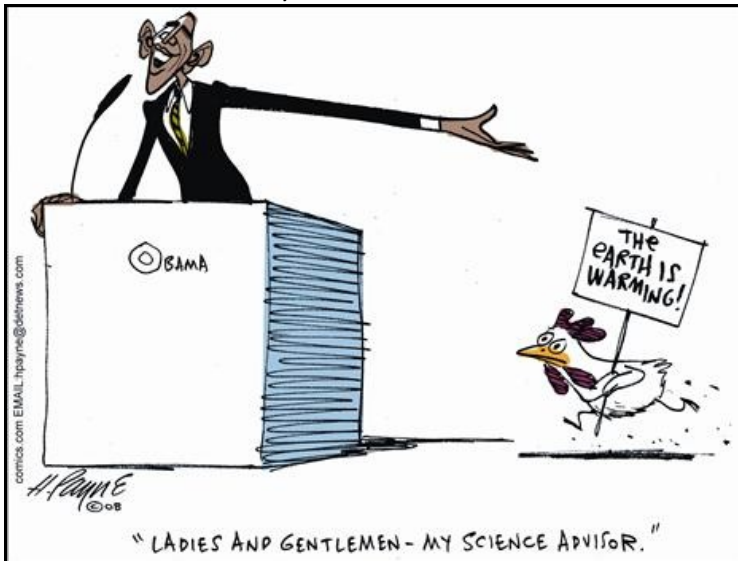
(1) I just heard on Natalie Arseno's program that 10 years after slavery was abolished, Black children had the same literacy rate as white children.

(2) The Congressional Budget Analysis has determined that the stimulus bill which is about to pass will stimulate nothing.

(3) If you watched Obama speak to Congressional Democrats at their retreat (heaven help the Wall Street executive who goes to a retreat), you will see that he is still campaigning. Delivering a speech well is something he could do. Overseeing the writing of a bill is not something he could do, so he left that to Pelosi and company.

(4) Steven Chu, global warming alarmist, and now Secretary of Energy, tells us that the worst case scenario on the horizon is that 90% of the Sierra snow in California will disappear due to global warming. This means no water to grow crops, and California, which produces about 20% of the food for the United States, will be unable to produce much of anything. This sounds like quite

an emergency to me, and I hope that Obama gives him executive power to ground all private jets in the Hollywood area as the first step in solving this grave crisis. After this, I think that a carbon footprint study must be done for every movie and television series and those which produce too much CO₂ just need to be shut down. After that, he needs to go after all of the paperwork generated by the Franchise Tax Board. This is a man with a mission, with a great vision, and I think he needs to go to work to show us how every state can become carbon neutral.



(5) By the way, are Chu's dire warnings fear mongering? Of course not. This is settled science. No need to discuss it anymore. Cut this man loose on California.

(6) Finally, I see an actual television news story on the drug wars in Mexico. Do you know that it is now safer in Iraq than it is in Mexican border towns?

(7) I do like the Obama limitation on CEO salaries for one reason only—maybe it will make them think twice before coming to Washington with their hand out.

(8) The U.S. has pledged to double its troops in Afghanistan (which, as Obama tells it, where the

real war on terror is going on). Germany, despite the fact that Obama is the most charismatic man in the world, will not be sending any additional troops. Hmm, I thought that once Obama became president, that our international relationships would suddenly improve?

(9) While listening to some NPR show with a panel, a very boneheaded remark made by Joe Biden was played. One of the gals on the panel said, adoringly, "We're gonna love Joe Biden [for the entertainment of his comments." Had Sarah Palin been VP and said the same thing, I suspect the remark would have been (in a huffy voice), "This is the level of intelligence we have come to expect from our present government."

(10) Didn't Bill Clinton try to pass a *massive* \$32 billion stimulus bill at the beginning of his presidency? Obama's bill is roughly 30x as large.

(11) I know myself that the present-day economic situation is not the worse disaster since the Great Depression. When Obama sings that song, over and over and over again, I know that I cannot trust him.

By the Numbers

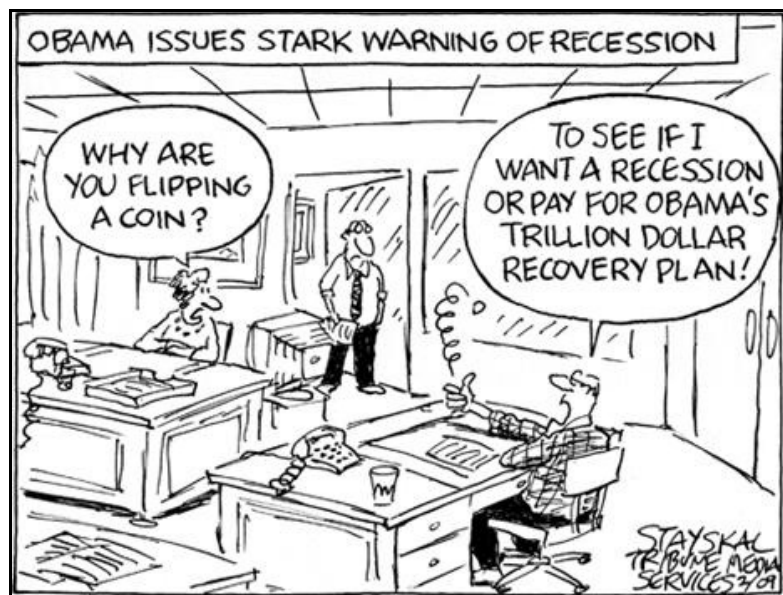
Mitch McConnell points out that, if you want to pay back this \$1 trillion debt we are going to incur, you could pay \$1 million/day and it would take over 2000 years to pay this back.

If all the money in the world was given to the United States, that would not be enough to pay off our entire national debt.

Let's say that you love Obama and the Democrats and you love this idea of this stimulus package. For the same cost, the government could send a check for \$2700 to every man, woman and child in the United States, which would certain inject cash into the economy. Which would you rather have, the \$2700, or whatever is in this stimulus

package? Which would benefit you the most? If I am going to incur the debt, then give me the money.

The longest post-war recession was 18 months. That means, we have about 6 more months, if President Obama and our Congress does nothing.



In the county where I live, Harris County, \$203,000,000 accrue each year as unpaid hospital debt. 80% of the babies born in our hospitals (I assume these are the county hospitals) are children of illegal aliens.

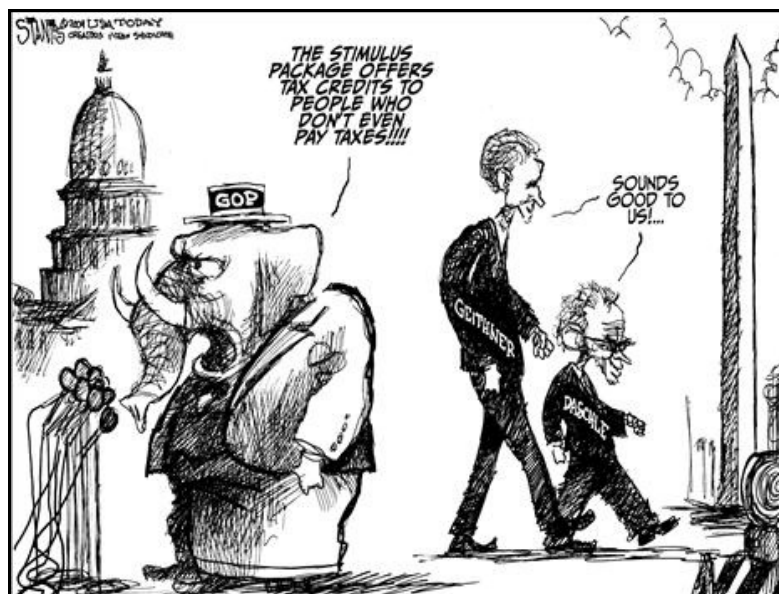
Last summer, Chris Dodd and Barney Frank got through one of the most important pieces of legislation passed by Congress (in their opinion). This was legislation to save 400,000 homeowners whose mortgage was in trouble. This would involve the government insuring \$300 billion worth of mortgages. The CBO (Congressional Budget Office) predicted that 35% of these mortgagors who are in trouble, would take advantage of this plan. The cost to us taxpayers: \$1.7 billion. I have heard the actual results, but cannot verify them with a web search. I have heard the numbers that, so far, 571 people have

applied and about 35 have been approved. Why is there not a story like this on the front page of every paper and every website to warn us, "Government cannot solve your problems."

Predictions

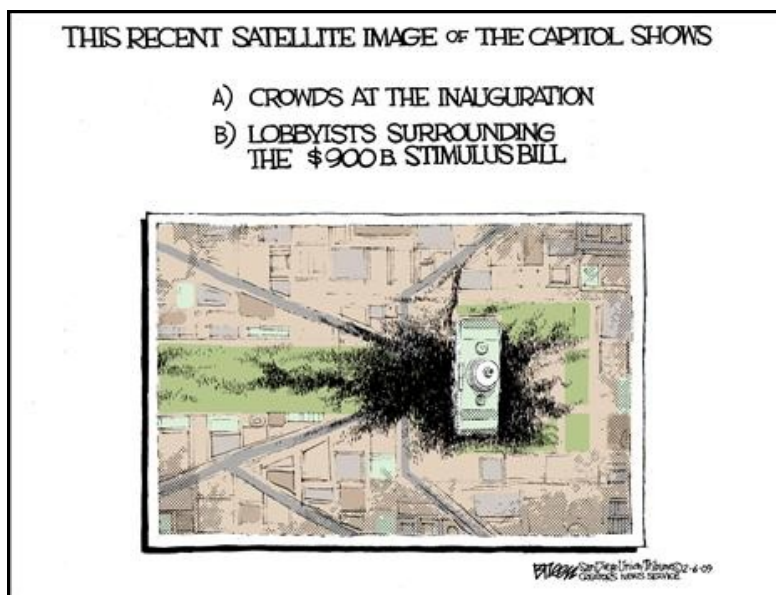
You may recall that Obama promised to go through the federal budget and remove wasteful spending surgically. He will fulfill this promise and the press will very likely hail is cost-cutting measures. For every dollar of *new* spending with Obama proposes, he will reduce federal spending by less than 10¢. Most news sources will not point this out, but they will point out how much more thrifty that Obama is compared to Bush because he is taking these cost-cutting measures.

Since some of the *tax cuts* are going to illegal aliens, Obama and the Congress will move to make these people citizens of the United States. It will be a one-time full amnesty program which will make citizens with full voting rights, ideally speaking, before the 2010 election, because the Dems know that, about late 2009, the moderates are going to become quite unhappy with President Obama and his mishandling of the economy.



Doing for Afghanistan what we did for Iraq is going to be a lot tougher. I don't think that Obama has the stomach for a war which will last much longer than the Iraq war. Once liberals began to protest this war in droves, Obama will fold.

The \$64,000 question is, will the Obama stimulus bill pass? I hope not, but Obama has a majority in both the houses; he has the 3 Republican votes that he needs in the Senate, and Obama has a 65% favorable rating. So every sign is, he will get it done. Not only will this bill half-ruin our economy for at least a decade, but Obama is going to lose a lot of credibility because this bill won't do what he says it will do. The only chance is for voters to call up their Senators and Congressmen and assure them, that, in next race, they will vote against anyone who votes for this bill.



Come, let us reason together....

Democratic Attack on Democracy

One thing which you need to understand about power is, some people lust after it and will do everything in their power to keep it. They may or

may not have good motives, but they want that power.

The Democrats, almost having a super-majority, are attacking and will attack conservatives and Republicans and try to render them politically ineffective. They have a five-pronged attack:

(1) Put the country into so much debt, that taxes will be raised no matter who comes into office. This so-called stimulus bill of Obama's is going to be the greatest spending bill in human history.

(2) Get more and more people working for the government. Although this new stimulus bill does not focus on federal jobs growth, it provides for it. Many of the programs and budget items will become ongoing expenditures. As we have come to find, once a federal program has been initiated, it is almost impossible to remove, no matter how meaningless or wasteful that program is. This is what has happened to California, and why California is going broke. Having lived there, over half of the people I know work for the state in one capacity or another. No state can sustain this kind of a workforce.

Obama will push for more entitlements for the middle class. The preferred approach is to send a check from the government, because that way, individuals remember that Obama sent them a larger check in the mail than did Bush.

(3) Rahm Emanuel is going to become heavily involved in redistricting, to attempt to isolate Republican votes.

(4) Illegal aliens will be made legal within the first 4 years of Obama's administration. For this reason, they will overwhelmingly support Obama in the next election (which he will need).

(5) There are two ways of attacking Talk Radio, which Obama sees as his greatest enemy. Eliminate Talk Radio and FoxNews and there is no more vocal opposition to liberal ideals. There is

the Fairness Doctrine (which Reagan struck down) and there is something called the application of local standards.

If 2 or 3 of these approaches are enacted, then this is going to solidify a Democratic rule and an Obama 2nd term. That is what they want to do. Like this stimulus bill, these things are going to be enacted in legislation which will be called something other than what it is, and the end result is going to be what they want, but different than what they claim it will be. I don't know that our news media will expose any of this. However, look for these things to happen fast. Obama may be an amateur, but he knows he needs to act while his popularity is high and while he has a majority in both houses of Congress.

What is Stimulus?

The rationale behind a stimulus bill is, the government pulls money out of the air (source to be determined as time goes on), and pours it into the economy, to jump start the economy. We do not have any real data to indicate that a stimulus package of any sort actually jump starts an economy.

The phrase often used is, a stimulus package must be targeted and temporary. Aim the package at the actual problems and set this up so that the stimulus is temporary.

Personally, I do not believe in stimulus packages, and we have no evidence of them working. Bush's stimulus package did not work (do you even remember this, from last summer?). Japan tried a set of stimulus packages and none of them worked.

Our biggest problem at this point in time is a loss of jobs. Although we are not anywhere near a crisis when it comes to those who are unemployed (unemployment was much higher in the Carter and Reagan terms), it is moderately

high. If we were going to stimulate anything, that would suggest that we ought to stimulate the job market. We have two places where jobs are created—by private businesses and by government. The government can hire anyone that it wants to hire at any point in time. They can add an extra year or two to public education and hire teachers; and they can hire people to dig ditches and to fill them up again. So, government jobs is easy. Just bear in mind, whatever the government does, it will cost 4x what it costs in the real world, and, the money will come out of your pocket and my pocket—it will not be money which is actually produced because of goods and services produced.



The alternative is for private enterprise to create these jobs. When a business is created or expands, it hires workers. Their salaries are whatever the market can bear and the money does not come out of your pocket unless you like what they produce and you purchase it.

So, how does government encourage business? It is simple—reduce taxes, corporate and individual, and capital gains. The second way—reduce all of the legal red tape which keeps certain things from being done: e.g., nuclear

energy (including those small, shed sized nuclear plants), additional drilling for oil, and additional exploration in places like ANWR. This sort of thing would cost little or no money, and it would increase the number of jobs in America. Allowing any of the big 3 American auto manufacturers to make the cars that sell and to function without the union, would save our auto industry and probably save a number of jobs.

Speaking of such things, the Obama so-called stimulus package contains none of these things. Many of the *tax cuts* are one-time checks being cut to people, whether they paid taxes or not. Some go to illegal aliens, by the way. If there is anything a Democrat knows how to do, it is to buy votes.

What is in the Stimulus Package?

This is a partial list:

\$100,000,000,000 for state governments who could not control their state budgets.

\$4,800,000 for a polar bear exhibit at the Providence, RI zoo.

\$1,500,000 for a water ride in Miami, FL.

\$20,000,000 for a minor league baseball museum in Durham, NC.

\$6,100,000 for corporate jet hangars at the Fayetteville, Arkansas, airport.

\$20,000,000 for renovations at the Philadelphia Zoo.

\$1,500,000 for a program to reduce prostitution in Dayton, Ohio.

\$6,000,000,000 to weatherize modest income homes.

\$16,000,000,000 to repair public housing and to make key energy retrofits.

\$6,000,000,000 to prove the Internet for businesses and individuals in rural areas.

\$31,000,000,000 to modernized federal buildings.

\$10,000,000,000 for transit and rail (read: Amtrak).

\$15,600,000,000 to increase Pell grant funding.

\$6,000,000,000 to modernize higher education.

\$20,000,000,000 for health information technology to prevent medical mistakes, provide better care to patients and introduce cost-saving efficiencies.

\$20,000,000,000 for increased food stamps.

\$300,000,000 in tax rebate checks for more efficient appliances for consumers.

\$600,000,000 to replace older vehicles owned by the federal government with alternative fuel automobiles that will save on fuel costs and reduce carbon emissions (new cars for governmental employees).

\$200,000,000 for a new grant program to *encourage* electric vehicle technologies.

\$2,400,000 for carbon capture and sequestration technology demonstration projects.

\$350,000,000 for *research* into using renewable energy to power weapons systems and military bases (notice that many of these projects do not actually do anything except *study* this or that problem).

\$400,000,000 to help state and local governments purchase efficient alternative fuel

vehicles to reduce fuel costs and carbon emissions.

\$500,000,000 for energy efficient manufacturing *demonstration* projects.

\$300,000,000 for grants and loans to state and local governments for projects that reduce diesel emissions, benefiting public health and reducing global warming.

\$209,000,000 for agricultural research facilities across the country.

\$650,000,000 to continue the coupon program to enable American households to convert from analog television transmission to digital transmission.

\$500,000,000 to rehabilitate and improve energy efficiency at some of the over 42,000 housing units maintained by Native American housing programs.

\$100,000,000 for competitive grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to remove lead-based paint hazards in low-income housing.

\$1,500,000,000 for the Emergency Shelter Grant program to provide short term rental assistance, housing relocation, and stabilization services for families during the economic crisis (although homelessness has *not* increased in most communities during this economic downturn).

\$726,000,000 to increase the number of states that provide free dinners to children and to encourage participation by new institutions by increasing snack reimbursement rates (after school meals). Why not arrest any adult who does not feed his own child?

\$200,000,000 to put approximately 16,000 additional AmeriCorps members to work doing national service, meeting needs of vulnerable

populations and communities during the recession.

\$80,000,000 to ensure that worker protection laws are enforced as recovery infrastructure investments are carried out.

\$3,100,000,000 goes to federal lands for improvements to visitor facilities, road and trail restoration, preservation of buildings of cultural and historic importance, rehabilitation of abandoned mines and oil fields, and environmental cleanup projects.

\$2,000,000,000 earmark to re-start FutureGen, a near-zero emissions coal power plant in Illinois that the Dept. of Energy defunded last year because the project was inefficient.

\$88,000,000 for the Coast Guard to design a new polar icebreaker (arctic ship)

\$448,000,000 million for constructing the Dept. of Homeland Security headquarters.

\$248,000,000 million for furniture at the new Dept. of Homeland Security headquarters.

\$400,000,000 for the CDC to screen and prevent STD's

\$1,400,000,000 for a rural waste disposal programs

\$125,000,000 for the Washington, D.C. sewer system

\$150,000,000 for Smithsonian museum facilities

\$1,000,000,000 for the 2010 Census, which has a projected cost overrun of \$3 billion. This includes a \$150,000,000 for expanded communications and outreach programs to minimize undercounting of minority groups.

\$200,000,000 for public computer centers at community colleges.

\$75,000,000 for salaries of employees at the FBI.

\$25,000,000 for tribal alcohol and substance abuse reduction

\$10,000,000 to inspect canals in urban areas

\$150,000,000 for Smithsonian museum facilities.

\$1,200,000,000 for "youth activities," including youth summer job programs.

\$88,000,000 for renovating the headquarters of the Public Health Service.

\$412,000,000 for CDC buildings and property.

\$500,000,000 million for building and repairing NIH facilities in Bethesda, MD.

\$160,000,000 for "paid volunteers" at the Corporation for National and Community Service.

\$5,500,000 for "energy efficiency initiatives" at the VA "National Cemetery Administration"

\$60,000,000 for Arlington National Cemetery

\$75,000,000 to construct a new "security training" facility for State Dept Security officers when they can be trained at existing facilities of other agencies.

\$110,000,000 to the Farm Service Agency to upgrade computer systems.

\$200,000,000 in funding for the lease of alternative energy vehicles for use on military installations.

Now, I am sure that you have heard that schools are getting some much needed infrastructure work from this bill. In Milwaukee, where schools

are being shut down, money will be sent to them for new buildings.

Or, instead, give every man, woman and child \$2700 and let them figure out how to deal with it.

Much of this came from a summary of this bill:

<http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/PressSummary01-15-09.pdf>

Some of these came from:

<http://www.tcotreport.com/noporkulus.html>



Investment During Inflation

One of the best investments that you can have during a time of high inflation is a house with a substantial mortgage on it. If you are moderately comfortable with your job, and expect to continue working, going out and buying a new house for yourself at the lowest rate you can get is the smartest move that you can make.

Let me explain how this works. Given that we have already sunk \$350 billion into the banks and have another \$350 billion to go, along with what

will probably be a \$900 billion stimulus package, where the money comes out of thin air, the government will either borrow or print the money. In either case, the value of the dollar will plummet, and cause widespread inflation. Remember when gas went up to \$4/gallon almost overnight? This is going to be quite similar, but not as dramatic (however, it will be in all sectors).

So, let's say you put \$10,000 in to purchase a \$100,000 house. The value of that house will go up driven by inflation. If inflation is 20%/year (which is what it was like under Carter, and Obama is repeated all of Carter's mistakes), that means that your \$100,000 house will be worth \$120,000 in the first year, \$140,000+ in the second. This, mind you, is all based on a \$10,000 investment.

Make no mistake about it; what President Obama and the Democratic Congress is doing is immoral unlike anything we have ever seen in our lives. This is the largest transfer of money in the history of mankind. However, you can make it work for you.

In addition, I recommend that you increase your skills. Learn a blue collar skill or some skill which is in short supply where you are...just in case. Obviously, you need to continue paying your mortgage and, since the Obama stimulus bill will not fix the economy or save any jobs, you need to be prepared for a very bumpy road ahead.

Double-Standard and Scandals

by Michael Medved

A flurry of recent scandals grabbed headlines across the country and highlighted an obvious double standard from the press. The newly-elected Mayor of Portland, Sam Adams, admitted that he'd lied for years about a homosexual affair with a teenaged boy while the Mayor of Hartford, Eddie Perez, was indicted on

bribery charges. The former Mayor of Detroit, Kwame Kilpatrick, was released from three months in jail for perjury and obstruction. The Governor of Illinois, Rod Blagojevich, was impeached and removed from office for trying to sell a US Senate seat to the highest bidder. The Governor of New Mexico, Bill Richardson, had to withdraw as Commerce Secretary because of a corruption investigation, while former Senate Leader Tom Daschle withdrew from his cabinet appointment because he underpaid taxes to the tune of \$140,000. The missing element in all coverage of these scandals was identification of each of the wrongdoers as a Democrat. When Republicans get into trouble the media make a big point of their party affiliation -- as in the cases of Mark Foley, Ted Stevens, Larry Craig and more. We heard all about a "Republican culture of corruption" and it became a major campaign issue. But with a flurry of jaw-dropping scandals involving Democrats, their party identification becomes suddenly irrelevant.

My comments: I think that it is important to add the relative unimportance of the Republican problems here—Mark Foley sent inappropriate emails to a page; Larry Craig danced his little heart out while sitting in an airport bathroom stall. Neither man actually did anything. Ted Stevens, the premier villain of these 3, had landscaping done at his house for free. Wrong, but nothing near what the aforementioned Democrats did.

Links

This is quoted from (hold your breath) an MSNBC article:

Lumped together, the House and Senate versions of the economic stimulus plan number some

1,400 pages, roughly the equivalent of the complete works of Shakespeare. And some of the language is just as artfully crafted. The [stimulus] package includes an insurance exemption - but only for companies that work on recreational boats longer than 65 feet. Another provision would lift a Medicare regulation affecting only three long-term care hospitals in the country. There's also language requiring the Transportation Security Administration to buy 100,000 uniforms from U.S. apparel makers.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29025047/>

Are some of you liberals listening to this?

Warning to all Republicans who think there might be some way to compromise with this bill:

<http://www.tcotreport.com/noporkulus.html>

(I personally warned my two Senators and one Congressman, 12 days ago, that if they voted for this bill, I would vote for anyone else but them).

If I was listening only to NPR, I might think the stimulus bill was pretty good:

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=100304449>

Obama and company keep telling us that all the major economists agree on this stimulus bill; how come every economist I listen to says the exact opposite? Obama's own Congressional Budget Office warns that this bill is not going to be stimulative:

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/feb/04/cbo-obama-stimulus-harmful-over-long-haul/>

Will a reporter have the guts to ask about this?

One of the largest environmental disasters of our time, caused by government:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123396593942758989.html>

NY Time journalist has a dream about Obama in the shower, and writes a column about it:

<http://warner.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/05/sometimes-a-president-is-just-a-president/>

And even though the message from the White House is, *every economist that we talk to, both liberal and conservative, tell us that we need a stimulus bill and it needs to be huge.*

Not what we hear, particularly from the Wall Street Journal, where they may know a thing or two about business:

It is *not* a stimulus bill:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123377005964748499.html>

Obama's approach to bailing out the banks is dangerous:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123371119661046143.html>

What exactly is Congress stimulating?

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123379617394050229.html>

This article is simple and to the point, and outlines why the Obama bill is more of a tragedy than our present-day economy. If you have not had much time to study this situation, this is the best article to start with. If you are on the fence on this bill, you will see why strong support for this bill has turned into strong opposition in just 2 weeks time:

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123396623933859023.html>

The Rush Section

Rush was gone this week. However, I do have:

Hannity Interviews Rush

HANNITY: I spoke exclusively with the one and only Rush Limbaugh.

BEGIN VIDEO

HANNITY: So we have a new president now. Abraham Lincoln or FDR or Barack Obama, obviously. First of all, what are your general thoughts about him as a person?

RUSH: Well, I.... (sigh) This is really tough, you know, because I've never met him. I don't know him except how and what I've seen on television. And I'm suspicious. When I see the media and the entire establishment on the left lay down and become cult-like and not examine who he is, what he's done; and not really examine what he says, but just praise him because of how he says it; my antenna go up. I'll tell you, a lot of people right now, they're just absorbed in the historical nature of this: "first black president" and so forth. Well, that is wonderful. That's great. But I got over that months ago after he won the election. I mean, Sean, he is our president now, and he's not black. He's not from Mars. He's our president. He's a human being. We're a country comprised of human beings that the Democrat Party and the left have attempted to arrange into groups of victims, and that's who he appeals to, and the victims are the people waiting around for some grievance to be resolved. They're waiting around for something to happen for them, and he is parlaying that. So I think the fact that he's African-American -- his father was black -- to me, it's irrelevant. This is the greatest country on earth. We want to keep it that way. It is that way for specific reasons. Now I look at the things that he has said, and I'm very much concerned that

our greatness is going to be redefined in such a way that it won't be great, that we're just going to become average.

We cannot have this large a government role in the private sector with so many people thinking that just because they're Americans they're entitled to things, that this guy is going to be passing them out, and keep this country great and innovative, full of entrepreneurs. These things concern me. Now my critics, and yours, when they hear me say things like this, they have knee-jerk reactions. They're not listening or parsing my words, either. They're just, "Well, Limbaugh is not with the program. Limbaugh doesn't get it! Limbaugh is not sensible." He's president of the United States. It doesn't matter to me what his race is, what his ethnicity is. What matters to me are his policies and what his plans are, and I only know what he has said he's going to do based on what he has done and how he's voted. And in terms of what I would use to define the greatness of the country, he's not it.

HANNITY: All right. Let's take that a step further here because all throughout the election, we all talked about the Chicago way: his radical friends, associates, et cetera.

RUSH: Yeah.

HANNITY: His past voting record. By the way, I brought it up a lot. You brought it up a lot. We all talked about it. What...? Do you think he really is that and people either ignored it, people don't care, or is he just somebody who is politically expedient? That's what he had to do in Chicago.

RUSH: We don't know. See, this is the thing. Now, normally a mainstream media would have vetted this guy and we would know this. We don't know what he is. That's the whole point. People don't care what he is. They don't care who he is. They care that he's black. They care that he's historic. They care that they think he's an intellectual because of the way he speaks. It's all about how he speaks. I look at some of the facial expressions

of people when they're watching the guy, and it's frightening. But I'm a thinker. A lot of people, I guess, aren't. People are emotional and they react emotionally to things, and if he makes them feel good, especially in economic bad times, then that's all they're really going to care about. I have to assume that he is who he is and his radical associations are certainly things that have defined him.

If you look at the executive orders that he's promised to issue, he's going to overturn the abortion law that has guided who we fund overseas in terms of "family planning," and that's been a roller coaster. You know, Clinton imposed it. Bush rescinded it. Obama's going to re-impose it and so forth. He's going to issue an executive order to close Guantanamo Bay, but it isn't going to happen for four years. I think... You used the word "expedient." He plays both sides. He's going to placate the far left fringe kook base, his website people will say, "Okay, he's going to close Guantanamo." But he's not going to close Guantanamo, and he's not going to get out of Iraq in 16 months. He's going to say so, but he's not going to saddle himself with defeat of our forces in Iraq or Afghanistan, and he's certainly not -- I can't believe that he will willingly release people at Guantanamo who will come back and revisit terrorist acts in this country. Not on his watch. They would have loved for that to have happened during Bush. They would have loved surrender in Iraq when it's on Bush's shoulders, but I don't think he's going to do it. But he's got to say things that make his fringe kook base think that he is being true to his campaign promises.

HANNITY: All right, let me... So then this raises this question. You're the leading voice of opposition, conservative, and have defined conservatives for over two decades. You celebrated your 20 years on the air, by the way, nationally syndicated, congratulations.

RUSH: Thank you.

HANNITY: Coming off record-ratings year for you, but you are a passionate conservative. You've defined conservatives for many people in this country for years. He represents the antithesis in terms of his worldview. So then the question becomes: Do you want him to succeed?

RUSH: Now, this... (turns to camera) I am so glad that he asked me that question. (turns back to Hannity) I am so glad that you asked me this question.

HANNITY: I'm glad to. (chuckles)

RUSH: I'll tell you why. I am hearing many Republicans say that very thing. "Well, we want him to succeed," and prominent Republicans! "Yes, we want him to succeed." They have laid down. They have totally. They're drinking the Kool-Aid, too. They have no guts to stand up for what their beliefs are because they're afraid of criticism. They're afraid of being called racists. They're afraid of not having gotten with the program. Now success can be defined two ways. I said earlier, "I don't know about this guy." I really don't. I've got my suspicions and they're pretty close to convictions, but we're going to have to wait to see what he does. Now if he turns out to be a Reagan, if he adds Reagan to his recipe of FDR and Lincoln --

HANNITY: (laughing)

RUSH: -- and if he does cut some taxes --

HANNITY: Yeah.

RUSH: -- if he does not eliminate the Bush tax cuts, I would call that success. So yes, I would hope he would succeed if he acts like Reagan. But if he's going to do FDR -- if he's going to do The New New Deal all over, which we will call here The Raw Deal -- why would I want him to succeed? Look, he's my president. The fact that he is historic is irrelevant to me now. It matters not at all. If he is going to implement a far-left

agenda... Look, I think it's already decided: a \$2 trillion in stimulus? The growth of government? I think the intent here is to create as many dependent Americans as possible looking to government for their hope and salvation. If he gets nationalized health care, I mean, it's over, Sean. We're never going to roll that back. That's the end of America as we have known it, because that's then going to set the stage for everything being government owned, operated, or provided. Why would I want that to succeed? I don't believe in that. I know that's not how this country is going to be great in the future; it's not what made this country great. So I shamelessly say, "No! I want him to fail." If his agenda is a far-left collectivism -- some people say socialism -- as a conservative heartfelt, deeply, why would I want socialism to succeed?

BREAK TRANSCRIPT

HANNITY: You want your country to succeed, and you believe that his views implemented represent failure, predictable failure, and conservatism would represent predictable success.

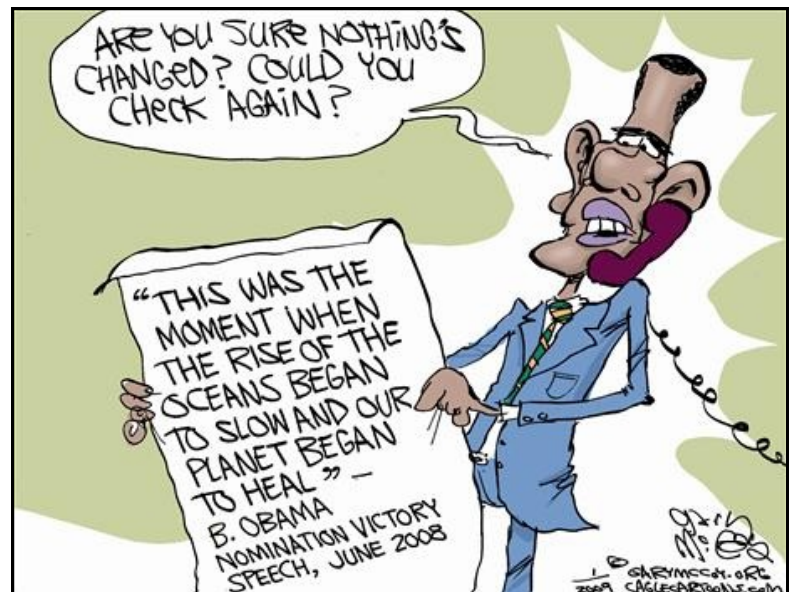
RUSH: Well, I don't know where what he wants to try has worked. It didn't work in the Soviet Union. It doesn't work in China. They're having to become like us in China in order to survive. It hasn't worked in Cuba. It hasn't worked! It didn't work when the Pilgrims arrived. They tried socialism. Remember, they had a plot of ground, they shared what they produced, and the slackers figured out they didn't have to produce anything to get goodies. So William Bradford said, "The heck with this," and he said, "Okay, you get to keep everything you produce, and you're not sharing it." So everybody had to work. They were really giving thanks to God for the lesson that socialism failed. It has never worked. The New Deal didn't work. You know, Hoover was president through the Depression for one year. FDR prolonged the depression for seven or eight years, and yet he's given credit for ending the Depression. It didn't happen! World War II ended

the Depression. The New Deal didn't work. This is New New Deal. It doesn't work. If it works, it will be the first time that it works, but it never has, and I don't think this is going to be the record breaker.

HANNITY: So I'm guessing you didn't get your Obama commemorative dinner plates, Rush.

RUSH: (laughing)

HANNITY: It's gotten so bad, did you notice they had the commemorative Obama thong? I mean, what do you make of the...? You talk about a cult-like personality or you use the term "messiah," "the anointed one," he descended from the heavens at INVESCO Field. What do you make of this Obama Worship Syndrome, Obama-mania?



RUSH: Well, it is cult-like depending on the people you're talking about, but let's examine the Drive-Bys, the media.

HANNITY: You've got to explain "Drive-By." Maybe one or two people have not heard of it.

RUSH: The Drive-By Media. It's a like a drive-by shooter except the microphones are the guns --

HANNITY: (laughing)

RUSH: -- and they drive into groups of people they report a bunch of totally wrong libelous stuff about people. They create a giant mess. Sometimes people get really harmed. They go out and try to destroy people's careers. Then they get in the convertible, head on down the road and do it all over again, while people like you and me are left to clean up the mess with the truth. So I call them the Drive-By Media.

HANNITY: Right.

RUSH: While they are praising Obama at that Grant Park acceptance night, they're out in Denver when he accepted the nomination, I listened to Jon Meacham and somebody else at Newsweek say, "You know, this is creepy. It's creepy! It's like he ascends after the speech and watches us watching him."

HANNITY: (laughing)

RUSH: They call him "creepy" for a few brief moments, but yet at the same time he's The Second Coming. Charlie Rose and Tom Brokaw one night on Charlie Rose's show, I think in preparation for the fact that they don't know what he's going to do either, got into a long discussion about how neither one of them know him. "Well, I don't know who he is," Tom said. "I don't know what books he's read. I really don't know who his role models are." Charlie Rose is echoing the same sentiment. I'm shouting at the TV, "Tom, you're at NBC! Dispatch a reporter! It's your job! Find out who he is." They didn't. They only cared... See, Sean, they've got an investment. He's too big to fail. They wanted him elected because they wanted to reassert their power, the media here, in being able to sway public opinion to the result that they wanted. So they were going to cover up the Jeremiah Wright and all these things that give indication of radicalism of Obama. Cover that up. Portray him as he wants to be portrayed: somebody who's

not to be questioned, somebody who's not to be doubted.

We're just supposed to accept and trust because most of these guys came alive and came of age in the civil rights battles of the 60's. It defines who they are. They've trained the young Drive-Bys to look at events through the same prism. You know, racism in this country is the exclusive problems of the left. We're witnessing racism all this week that led up to the inauguration. We are being told that we have to hope he succeeds; that we have to bend over, grab the ankles, bend over forward, backward, whichever; because his father was black, because this is the first black president. We've got to accept this. The racism that everybody thinks exists on our side of the aisle has been on full display throughout their primary campaign. So I think they've done a great job, the media has, of covering up his deficiencies. He's too big to fail, and so whatever goes wrong, blame it on Bush, blame it on... I mean, MSNBC's new life will be criticizing you and me, because they can't criticize him.

HANNITY: But you're really saying here is you're in the "I want America to succeed. I want the right policies for America." It's not about The Messiah or the anointed one or any one individual. Any wrong-handed policies that's going to take America off a course of success which is what we've been on -- and this is something you've talked about for years-- individual responsibility, liberty, freedom. You know, we all have choices in America. It's the antithesis of where we're headed.

RUSH: Yeah, and the freedom is important to understand in the founding of our country. But it's individual, not group. You're exactly right. I'm 58 years old now, and I don't devote. I don't have hero worship. You know I have my idols, but even they had flaws that I recognized, and I didn't agree with them hands-down no matter what. But I'm not into hero worship. That's what's happening here with Obama. I do care about the

country. I care about what made it great. I want it to remain great and continue to be great for people that follow after me -- nephews and nieces. I don't have any kids. But, you know, we've inherited a country with a great opportunity for ourselves. We want that to be passed on. The country is bigger than any one human being, any one presidency and so forth. I think a lot of people have put that aside or else they have assumed that this is the new direction that we're going to go that's going to get everybody fixed and solve everybody's problem, and there will be no more pain. There will be no more suffering.

HANNITY: (chuckles)

RUSH: There'll just be contentment and utopia and happiness.

HANNITY: It's time for part two of my exclusive interview with nationally syndicated radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh.

RUSH: The Republican Party's making a big, big -- the conservative movement, too, making a big, big -- mistake in planning for the future. You hear things like: "Well, the Republican Party needs to identify the middle class, the Wal-Mart voters, and come up with policies for them; and then we've gotta come up with policies for the Hispanics, because they hate us due to illegal immigration." That's the way the Democrats do this. You put people into groups, then you victimize them and give the victims power over the majority, because they then have grievances that are nonexistent, that have been made up; and the majority gets cowed into fear 'cause they don't want to be complained at and they don't want to be blamed.

"Okay, okay! Whatever you want. If you want health care, fine. Go get it." What made this country great is the recognition by our Founders that individuals are all created equal, endowed with certain inalienable rights: life, liberty, pursuit

of happiness. If you look at the Democrat Party, are they for life? Folks, they're the party of abortion. Liberty? Uh, these are the people that are trying to pass any law they can to restrict where you can go, what you can do when you get there, where you can eat, what you can eat, what you can smoke, when you can't smoke, what kind of baby you can have, all these things. Pursuit of happiness? I have yet to see a happy liberal.

HANNITY: (laughing)

RUSH: I've yet to see a happy Democrat. They're always angry about things. What we need to be doing is Reagan. Very simple. He made the people of this country understand that its greatness is due to them. They're the ones that make the country work. Not policies, not laws, not committees in Congress and so forth, and not cult heroes or personalities, but individual freedom: people excelling, doing whatever they wish, to whatever desire they wish to work, hard work, to become the best they can be. Self-interest is different than selfishness. People working in their own self-interest benefits the family, the neighborhood, the community, the state, city, the whole bit. And this is what I think the message that the Republican Party and conservatism has lost. The blueprint for landslide electoral victory is right there, and the Republican Party and the conservative movement just washed it away.

HANNITY: I keep reading that guys like Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity and conservative Mark Levin -- The Great One, our friend -- that we're taking the party, pulling the party way far to the right, and that the real answer is to moderate.

RUSH: Yeah, yeah. (laughing)

HANNITY: The David Brookses of the world.

RUSH: (laughing) You know, I read those things, and I listen to these Wizards of Smart on our side

go on these cable networks and say, "Yeah, well, the problem is that Limbaugh and Hannity are moving the party too much to the right." And Colin Powell says, "Yeah, the Republican Party should stop listening to Limbaugh." Well, excuse me. We haven't pulled the party to the right at all. This party has gone to the left; it's gone to the center. We haven't done this. They got the candidate they wanted. I know Senator McCain's a friend of yours. But they got the candidate they wanted. They got the campaign they wanted, and they lost huge. And the reason they lost huge is because in a contest of group politics, the experts are going to always get group votes before the pretenders will, and we were pretenders trying to get the group. "We gotta go get the Hispanic. We gotta be moderate. We gotta prove we can walk across the aisle. The era of Reagan is over." I never hear Democrats talking about walking across the aisle. I never see any of them praise each other or brag about the fact that they do it. They brag about the Republicans that they destroy. They brag about the Republican bills, legislation that they defeat. The people that are running our party now have such a defeatist inferiority complex. They want to be accepted by people that hate 'em. They want to be accepted by people that despise 'em. It makes no sense to me.

HANNITY: What about all these so-called conservatives that met with Obama? Were you invited to that dinner?

RUSH: No, I wasn't.

HANNITY: (chuckles) I wasn't invited, either. But wait. Back to John McCain. I've always liked John McCain. I admire his life story. He's not a conservative, Rush.

RUSH: Right.

HANNITY: They did get the candidate. The people that thought that the Republican Party needs to moderate and move away from being the party

of Reagan, they got the candidate they wanted. It didn't work out too well.

RUSH: No. The blueprint's there. Here's what's going on in the Republican Party, and it's really not new. These people that we're talking about -- the Northeastern blue-blood Rockefeller country club types -- they didn't even like Reagan. Reagan was an embarrassment. They believed that he was the dunce, an amiable dunce. But what it's about, Sean, is abortion. These Northeastern, moderate, liberal Republican types all have wives. I know this is gonna sound pedantic and simplistic. But I have experienced it, and this is how I know it. These guys that we're talking about -- and they're big money people. They are contributors, donors, fundraisers. They're just embarrassed to be in the same party with people in the (southern accent) South who are pro-life and who go to NASCAR races, and that's at the heart of this. They go to the convention, Republican convention with these people they think are hicks and hayseeds -- 24 million of them, without whom they couldn't win. So it really is about that. They won't say so publicly. It's not just that, but that's a large part of it. The Obama dinner. It's a great example, if you have time for me to analyze this.

HANNITY: We have plenty of time, Rush.

RUSH: (addressing the camera) Does anybody, anybody, with even half a brain, really believe that Barack Obama went to dinner with a bunch of conservatives to have his mind changed?

HANNITY: Good point.

RUSH: If he did, there are some genuine conservatives he coulda talked to. He coulda invited us; he could have gone to Human Events; he could have gone to some people at the Heritage Foundation. He doesn't want his mind changed. He's co-opting these people. He's bringing them in. He wants the establishment media, inside the Beltway punditry and so-called journalism, to be afraid to criticize him. I mean, if

he's broken bread with them and he's made them feel good about themselves and given them an inside view of exactly who he is, it's going to be very difficult for these people to criticize him. I don't think for a minute that he cared to have his mind changed.

HANNITY: Mmm-hmm.

RUSH: Would you?

HANNITY: No.

RUSH: Would you invite a bunch of liberals over to dinner at your house for the express purpose of having them change your mind? If you did it, you would be trying to talk sense into them.



HANNITY: And continuing now with my exclusive interview with Rush Limbaugh. Let's say we had a \$700 billion bailout -- \$850 billion is the stimulus number; some Democrats want more than that. So there's a lot of money on the table here. It's the largest, you know, transfer of wealth and control to the government in the history of this country, as you were pointing out earlier here. If that is implemented -- if he meets with rogue dictators; if he doesn't come out with moral clarity and back, say, Israel; if he doesn't

stand up to Ahmadinejad, which, this is, all his statements -- what happens in four years with an Obama presidency?

RUSH: Well, who can know? I do think that he is going to overreach. I think the Democrats are going to overreach. This thing that happened all day Sunday was the Wellstone memorial on steroids.

HANNITY: (laughing) Oh, boy.

RUSH: And they overreached on that. I don't know that he's going to do all of those things. I think he's going to say he's going to do all those things. He's going to placate. I think he's going to face a whole different set of realities once he actually gets in the Oval Office and starts doing things. But the financial stuff's done. And we're looking at a trillion-dollar deficit this year even before a stimulus package. I don't know where we're getting the money for this. But this hasn't... I just... Sean, it wasn't six months ago that the Democrats were out ripping Bush for deficit spending. It was horrible; it was rotten. Now, of course, the question is, "Can we spend it fast enough to save America?" It's a bill of goods, and a lot is going to depend on how long the media sticks with this. I think they can't let him fail. And there are enough Americans who are simple sponges that watch news twice a week, believe what they see, and are done with it. The culture, we've lost the culture, Sean. We have lost pop culture. It is unrealistic to expect that people watching MTV, going to see the rot Hollywood's putting out, listening to the rot music is today, that every four years are going to go in a voting booth and vote Republican or conservative. And this is something that we haven't even addressed publicly in an electoral way, strategic way. But that's going to have to be done as well. But if he's a big failure in reality, will the media portray it that way?

HANNITY: At some point, it's gotta become him.

RUSH: No, wait, see? I get into arguments with people about this. To this day, FDR is still a hero --

HANNITY: That's true. Good point.

RUSH: -- and Hoover is the idiot. Hoover is the guy that broke the country. If the media wants to prop somebody up, they will do so. Liberalism in the media is a series of myths. One of the myths is that the Kennedys are smart.

HANNITY: (chuckles)

RUSH: Caroline Kennedy, "you know."

HANNITY: "You know." (chuckles)

RUSH: (throws hands in the air) "You know."

HANNITY: "You know."

RUSH: There's so many myths that liberalism is built on that have to be covered. Liberalism cannot stand the -- or cannot deal with -- the light of truth being shined on it.

HANNITY: Let me ask you this, 'cause we have Geithner, we have Eric Holder, we have Carol Browner. We have conflicts of interest with Hillary Clinton. Just where are the Republicans standing up? You know, in the past, anybody that had an illegal immigrant problem had to withdraw. Geithner has an illegal immigrant problem and a tax cheat problem. If Rush Limbaugh doesn't pay his taxes, why do I doubt Harry Reid and Dick Durbin and Chuck Schumer are going to say, "You know, Rush is a good guy. He made an honest mistake"? It's not going to happen.

RUSH: It's two sets of rules. The Democrat Party has never claimed to have standards. Only once in my memory have they claimed to have ethics, and that's when Pelosi promised the most ethical Congress in 2006 after the elections. If they actively promote no standards for themselves, then how can they violate them? As far as the liberal media's concerned, Geithner is too important to fail. "He's the only man who can fix this." Hillary ethics? What is this? There's no ethics violation. It's not possible for Democrats to create these. It's all under the rubric here of Obama is too big to fail. People don't care about that. The only Democrat, as you know, that has got an ethical problem is Blagojevich -- and that's only 'cause he was foolish enough to be taped, acting as Democrats do, selling the Senate seat in Illinois. But I think it's a waste of time to focus on the Geithners. You point it out. We can point it out. We can point out the conflicts of Hillary, but it's not going to change voters' minds about who they are. There are two sets of rules: one for the dominant left, and one for everybody else. Geithner, for example, you use him as an example, "He's too important. He's the only guy that understands this." So this is just, "Everybody does it." That's the constant excuse. "Everybody has sex with their intern! Everybody, you know, leaves a stain on a blue dress. Everybody does this!"



HANNITY: If Rush Limbaugh did it, it would be a different story. Let me ask you about the outgoing president. I appreciate the fact that George W. Bush went for an NSA program, a Patriot Act, enhanced interrogations -- used all his political capital, sacrificed any public opinion approval numbers -- and at the end of the day, reformed our national security and kept the country safe. You don't hear a good word about him. Nobody talks about him. What are your thoughts?

RUSH: Well, I think he's a decent man. He's a decent man. He had a reverence for the office. That's why he didn't get partisan. He thought it was irreverent to turn the Oval Office, or the Office of the Presidency, into a partisan strategic battle place. He just didn't want to do it. He was content to let history be the judge. I think... I heard Rove say even on your network that they miscalculated in not firing back on some of these things often enough because the president is the leader of his party and, as such, the leader of his troops. And while he's being criticized to smithereens, everybody who voted for him is at the same time, and those people need leadership. The American people crave leadership. Our side doesn't offer any electoral leadership. There's not one elected official that is offering our side any leadership. That's one of the things Obama does: He makes people think he's leading them. He inspires confidence in them. We have to admit that. And it's not going to help us to continue to cave and invest our hopes in him. I know what our strategy is. They're hoping he fails, so that they can go back and say, "We wanted him to succeed. We gave it everything we got. We worked with him, but..." That's not how it works, because whenever they fall out of unison with him, if they do, the attacks on them are just going to be vicious.

HANNITY: It's coming.

RUSH: It's coming. They should know that it's going to happen no matter what they do, so do

the right thing. But Bush? He's a decent man, and his father. I don't think people understand: You're president of the United States, 9/11 happens. You don't know what's going to happen the next two hours, that night, the next day. You take the oath of office, defend and protect the Constitution and the people. Obviously they had to focus exclusively on that. That's the job, as he determined it, and we haven't been hit since in this country. Yeah, you know, domestic policy, he did some things that puzzled us -- creating a new entitlement, the whole immigration thing, signing campaign finance reform -- but he's a good man. He's not hated by people.

Rush's Bipartisan Stimulus Plan

ERIN BURNETT: The fear is that Washington's new spirit of cooperation is already gone. Now, sit down. Prepare yourself. You see this, "My Bipartisan Stimulus"? This was written by Rush Limbaugh making a bid to keep bipartisanship alive. That's the op-ed he wrote this morning. He joins us on the news line. Rush, a lot of people are skeptical with a headline from you: "My Bipartisan Stimulus."

RUSH: Why skeptical? I'm just trying to build bridges and roads to the administration for genuine bipartisanship and cooperation and fairness. The president says that he still wants to work with Republicans.

MARK HAINES: (snorting)

RUSH: Here I am. We can work together and do what's best for the American people.

BURNETT: And you call --

HAINES: (interrupting) I -- I -- I'm sorry, but, ah, wait a minute! A week after the inauguration you said you hope he fails. Are -- are you now admitting that that was a stupid and mean-spirited thing to say?

RUSH: No, it was an accurate thing to say. It was an honest thing to say, and it came --

HAINES: Then how is that bipartisan!

RUSH: Well, if you'll let me explain...

HAINES: (snorts) Well, so far you haven't.

RUSH: (laughing) You're being contentious with no reason. It came after a thorough explanation of my belief that liberalism, which is what Obama represents --

HAINES: Aw jeeeeez!

HAINES: I -- I -- I just listen to you, Rush. I don't read anybody! I listen to you, and what I hear is hypocrisy.

RUSH: You hear hypocrisy?

HAINES: Yeah! I hear hypocrisy. You're saying in this -- in this piece, you say, uh, you know, "our economy doesn't know the difference...this is about jobs now...leave politics aside," and yet the first thing out of your mouth is politics! About liberal and conservative, Republican and Democrat!

RUSH: Exactly. But I am trying to show this. You know, this vote that happened in the House yesterday is actually a failure. The bipartisan vote was the defeat: 11 Democrats joining Republicans. The partisan vote was all Democrats. This is going to have trouble. You know, he wants Republicans on the bill, Mark, because he knows this isn't gonna work. He wants Republicans so that he has cover so that they can't run for reelection saying they opposed this debacle. I'm trying to propose something here that will work with the best interests of the country at heart.

HAINES: (clearing throat)

RUSH: How can that possibly be hypocritical?

BURNETT: All right. Rush, let me just get in. I want to give people a chance to understand your plan. You're calling it the Obama-Limbaugh plan, and you took the vote that the country voted for Obama, who voted for him and who didn't, and that's how you broke it down, right?

RUSH: Yeah.

BURNETT: So his share of it goes to spending, and the other share goes to tax cuts, right?



RUSH: -- destroys the free market, destroys capitalism. I think this stimulus plan with about re-FDRing America, the New New Deal, and as a conservative I want liberalism to fail. I want the country to succeed, and that's what I meant, and that's what I said over and over again. You've gotta stop reading these left-wing liberal sites that take me out of context.

RUSH: Exactly, and he gets to choose how he wants to spend it with the Democrats on Capitol Hill, and the Republicans and me get to determine the tax cuts.

BURNETT: And you're going to cut the corporate tax rate in half, right?

RUSH: Precisely, and we'll suspend the capital gains tax to incentivize new investment for a full year and then reestablish and re-implement it at 10% -- and probably some tax cuts in the area of real estate, too. That's an area that needs to come back. See, I don't... Obama said yesterday -- I don't know if you guys were still on the air or not, but he had a meeting at the White House with the CEOs, and he came out and he sounded like Ronald Reagan. He was talking about how it's the people who make the country work; it's the people out there who are going to revive the economy. And twenty days ago, he said government is the only entity -- there's your hypocrisy, Mark -- that can revive this economy. Yesterday what he said is exactly right, and I totally support that when he sounds like Ronald Reagan.

BURNETT: So, Rush, it sounds like what you're saying, 'cause -- and Mark's picking up on something, as you know, that got a lot of coverage -- that you said, "I would be honored if I was headlined all day long 'Limbaugh: I Hope Obama Fails.'" What you meant to say there was, "I hope liberalism fails, and if he is going to emblematic of that, I hope he fails."

RUSH: Yeah. Yeah.

BURNETT: But as Obama, you're not trying to hope he fails, right?

RUSH: No, I support the president. I just don't support his policies.

HAINES: (snickering)

RUSH: Erin, I said --

BURNETT: Yes, Rush?

RUSH: I said that on purpose, because everybody was falling in line behind this plan like a bunch of lemmings, and the media wasn't even examining the specifics. Somebody had to get somebody's attention on this, 'cause it's a debacle.

HAINES: Here's -- here's -- here's something I find interesting, Rush. Ah, you -- you talk about the vote being roughly -- you know, you -- you do a little fiddling to -- to even up -- the vote was roughly 54-46 in favor of, uh, Obama, so therefore divide the stimulus plan 54-46. I -- I find that a -- a refreshing breath of air from you because when the vote was 51-49 in favor of Republicans, I don't remember you being this concerned about bipartisanship.

RUSH: I think bipartisanship's a joke, as it's defined. Bipartisanship --

BURNETT: (laughing)

HAINES: (shouting) I don't remember you proposing that any program be split reflecting that vote!

RUSH: We've got limited seconds here, and I want to get to this answer. Bipartisanship, as it's defined in Washington, is Republicans caving to what Democrats want. That's what bipartisanship is; that's what they wanted yesterday. My column in the Journal today is truly bipartisan; and I'm willing, if that's the definition of it, full speed ahead for bipartisanship.

BURNETT: Bottom line, Rush. You're saying as an individual, you hope Barack Obama succeeds, right? He's your president, too?

RUSH: Yeah. I want him to succeed in bringing the country around, but the policies he's announced

are not going to do it. I want the policies to fail; I want America to succeed. I love the country.

BURNETT: Thank you very much, Rush Limbaugh.

RUSH: It's an honor.

BURNETT: A lot of people saying your bipartisanship here, this plan makes some sense. Mark, there's some things in this plan that make a lot of sense, that corporate tax cut.

HAINES: Oh, yeah.

BURNETT: Yeah.

Rush on Fox and Friends

GRETCHEN CARLSON: Joining us on the phone from Palm Beach, Florida -- where it's probably really warm and toasty (laughs) --

STEVE DOOCY: Beautiful.

CARLSON: -- is Rush Limbaugh. It's great to speak with you, Rush!

RUSH: Thank you for having me on, you guys. It's always a pleasure. Gretchen, you look great this morning, too, by the way. You other guys are holding up your end well.

CARLSON: (laughing)

BRIAN KILMEADE: Oh, thank you!

CARLSON: Thank you for the compliment. Somebody else who's been giving you compliments, in a different kind of way --

KILMEADE: Backhanded.

CARLSON: -- is President Barack Obama. I find it fascinating, Rush, that you -- obviously you have a ton of listeners and you're very famous, but

now you're being mentioned in the first week of his presidency?

RUSH: Well, it is funny if you look at it in a lighthearted sort of way. I don't think it was funny at all. I think it was calculated and strategic. Now, we know that Barack Obama's mentors were many. One of them was Saul Alinsky, a community organizer and rabble-rouser, a pure radical in Chicago. He wrote a book called Rules for Radicals. Number 13 for the rules for radicals is "Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it."

DOOCY: Mmm.

RUSH: I think what Obama was trying to do by naming me was to cause a bunch of Republicans -- he was hoping they would also denounce me so that he could establish that what is mainstream conservatism is something fringe --

CARLSON: Mmm-hmm.

RUSH: -- and get these Republican to vote with him on his porkulus bill.

ANCHORS: (laughing)

RUSH: And it didn't work because conservatism is not fringe, but it was a calculated effort. It was a calculated attempt to do this. It wasn't something just lighthearted. He was trying to drive a wedge between me and Republicans on the Hill.

DOOCY: So, Rush, if he's trying to marginalize you in the first week, who's next? Is it Hannity? Is it Fox News? Is it Fox & Friends?

RUSH: I think it's going to be an ongoing thing. You know, they'll back off for a while now. Now he's trying to make nice with Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in Iran, but this... You know what happened in this vote with the House of Representatives on the porkulus bill, this is very crucial what happened here. I want to present a

theory to you. We supposedly have a bill authored by Obama and the Democrats that's going to save this country. It is going to bring us back. Everybody's going to have a job. We're going to have Utopia! We're going to have the schools painted! We're going to have all of this. Global warming is going to be beat. Why does he need Republican support? Why wouldn't he want the Democrats to have all the credit for that?

The fact that they want Republicans on this means they know -- and they've said so -- that even if this thing passes, unemployment is going to go up to about 10% in the next year or so. They are fully aware that this isn't going to work. This is not about stimulating the economy. They want the Republicans to not have cover. Why do you think most of the spending in this thing doesn't start until 2010? That happens to be a reelection year. There's nothing about the economy in this bill. This is about enhancing, entrenching Democrat power as FDR did back with the New Deal, and I tell you: These Republicans, they are heroes with their voters, and that's what counts first. You have to have a solid base if you're going to have a chance to win elections and reelections. Obama owns this now, and I'm just laughing at the media ripping the Republicans for being "obstructionists." They didn't obstruct anything! He didn't need one Republican vote to get this debacle passed.

KILMEADE: Right. Rush, that's a good point. Rush, um, this is Brian. I'm the guy without the blond hair.

CARLSON: (giggling)

RUSH: (laughing) Heh. Heh. Yeaaaas. Yes.

KILMEADE: I listen to you and watched you with Sean Hannity, and Sean Hannity and your theory was they're looking to divide the Republican leadership from you and (cause) a schism, and it happened, not among one of the congressmen. Congressman Phil Gingrey of Georgia. He said

that we should listen to Mitch McConnell and John Boehner and not you, and then he apologized. He says, quote, "I regret and apologize for the fact that my comments have offended and upset my fellow conservatives. That is not my leadership's intent. I am also sorry to see that my comments in defense of Republican leadership read much harsher than they were intended to," and went on to say that he agrees with you and Sean Hannity on just about everything. He says, "I am one of you." Do you accept his apology?

RUSH: Oh, yeah. See, this is exactly what Obama wanted. The Obama administration loved that Politico headline about the Gingrey story which said, "GOP Leader to Rush," colon, "Back Off."

KILMEADE: Mmm-hmm.

RUSH: That's exactly what Obama wanted. He was hoping Boehner or McConnell would be the ones to do this. He called, and I accepted his apology. He's in a safe district. Seventy-percent is the percentage of the vote that he got. I know what upset him, but I'm watching one of your competitors that has about five viewers --

CARLSON: (giggling)

RUSH: -- and Andrea Mitchell, NBC News in Washington, actually said, "The Democrats have Obama and the Republicans have Rush Limbaugh," and she said that's the paradigm. That's got to upset them up there.

CARLSON: Yeah.

KILMEADE: Sure.

RUSH: When I say that I'm more important -- and I jokingly say this -- than McConnell or Boehner, it has got to make these guys mad because they think they're taking the arrows when actually I am.

DOOCY: Sure.

CARLSON: Right, and that's what I wanted to ask you when we come back, if you'll stick around, Rush.

RUSH: Sure, I'd be happy to stay around. Where am I going to go? I'm in my radio studio.

DOOCY: Just sit still.

CARLSON: You're in sunny Florida, for gosh sake!

RUSH: It's gorgeous down here, by the way.

CARLSON: Thank you for rubbing it in, Rush. But what I want to ask you when we come back is whether or not Barack Obama should be more concerned with things like the economy and maybe Al-Qaeda -- if in fact we are still in a war on terror -- than you.

DOOCY: That's right. Plus, Rush has got a great... He's got his own stimulus plan. He writes about it today in the Wall Street Journal, and he talked about it on the air this week on his show. More with Rush from sunny Palm Beach in just a moment.

DOOCY: All right, we're back with Rush Limbaugh who joins us on the phone from West Palm Beach, Florida, as he prepares for his big show.

RUSH: Ah! Ah! Ah! Ah!

DOOCY: Palm Beach, Florida!

RUSH: Palm Beach, yes.

DOOCY: Sorry. I added a direction. It's a completely different town. Rush, really quickly: In the Wall Street Journal you write about something you've been talking about for the past week, and that is the Obama-Limbaugh stimulus package. You take a look at the margin by which the presidential election was determined, and that's how you divvy up the dough with the stimulus?

RUSH: Exactly right, because Obama's plan is not bipartisan. The Democrat plan is not bipartisan. The way they define "bipartisan" is when Republicans cave and agree with them and vote with them so they can say it had bipartisan support. My plan is an olive branch to our magnanimous leader offering the president a way out of this labyrinth he's created for himself. I am offering him a way to implement the plan, get the political credit for it, get public support for it. I don't care who gets credit. This is about America not failing, but succeeding for all of our sakes. It's about jobs, and jobs don't know liberal, conservative, moderate, independent. The economy doesn't either.

DOOCY: Right.

RUSH: It's about jobs and prosperity. So I have selflessly offered this plan -- which is genuinely bipartisan, genuinely fair -- and it has the added bonus: It will work.

CARLSON: All right. Hey, before we went to break, I said something about the fact that in his first week in office that Barack Obama chose you as his enemy instead of, like, Al-Qaeda or possibly putting the economy on a higher platform, and so we came up with this new photo. Did you know that you're now on Mount Rushmore?

RUSH: (laughing) Not officially. Can I see it?

CARLSON: Do you see it? It's on your screen. Look how good you look there!

KILMEADE: Yeah. Lincoln's got nothing on you.

RUSH: That looks like it's been there all along.

CARLSON: (giggles) What do you make of the fact that you have been listed as somewhat...

DOOCY: Public enemy number one.

CARLSON: Yeah. In the first week.

RUSH: As I said, I don't think this was accidental. I think Obama does look -- you know, I think the Democrat Party as a whole, and Obama, look at conservatives as a bigger threat to what they want to get done than say Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. I really do. He's willing to extend an olive branch to Ahmadinejad. He's going to send him a letter. I don't think he'll send me a letter. I don't think he'll invite me to have adult beverages at the White House as he did other Republicans and so forth, but this is what America is. That's fine. We have always been a partisan political culture. We've always been fighting for what we all believe principally, and this is what the Republican vote was all about.



DOOCY: Yep.

RUSH: They held to principles last night. Look, Clinton mentioned me all over the place, too. So, they know that I am the direct route to conservative voters, and if they can discredit me and marginalize me, they think they have Republicans out of the way.

DOOCY: All right. Rush Limbaugh, thank you for joining us. We know you have to get ready for your show. If people would like to read about the Obama-Limbaugh stimulus package, program for

2009, go to Rush Limbaugh.com. It's also at Wall Street Journal today.

RUSH: Thank you. Thanks very much you guys. And we'll keep the pool ready for the show Monday morning.

KILMEADE: (laughing) All right!

CARLSON: All right. We'll look forward to it, Rush. Thanks.

DOOCY: Thanks, El Rushbo.

RUSH: I've got bikinis for Gretchen.

CARLSON: (laughing)

KILMEADE: That was in the break, Rush, (laughing) we were talking about it.

DOOCY: Shhhh!

RUSH: Sometimes those are the most interesting parts of the show. (laughing)

CARLSON: Thanks for spicing it up.

Rush Speaking at Hillsdale College

RUSH: Larry told me I have five minutes. [Laughter] Thank you all very much. This receiving an award like this is beyond my comprehension. [Laughter] You always check yourself when there's a camera around. Please bear with me, folks. I've got a case of bronchitis and a little fever, and I'm going to try to suppress my coughing spasms. But I see Fred Thompson. I don't know how it's possible. Let me tell you. I was in the air flying up here from Florida at about 4:30 and I'm over Raleigh, North Carolina, well right between Raleigh and Durham. And I'm -- well, I want to be fair with the nondiscrimination stuff, so -- [Laughter]

And I've got Fox News on. And there's the Cavuto show and Fred Thompson is on Cavuto show and he was in New York, right? So he's in New York at 4:30. He's not dressed like he is now. And I just recently got here. I landed at Dulles about 5:50. It took an hour and 35 or 40 minutes to get in here because the tree lighting ceremony and my temporary security guy, who is an order of fries short of a Happy Meal, got the route all wrong. [Laughter]

He had to get all the way to LaGuardia. And I assume you shoveled it to National? And you didn't hit traffic, it's amazing. Somebody told me you were going to be here and I said, "He can't be, he's in New York." I was in this hotel one time prior to this. It was in 1987. And I was working in Sacramento at the time. And I had never, you know, I did not do guests. I had constantly sworn off on doing guests on the radio, because everybody else did. And the, excuse me, local management was so insistent that I do guests that they sent me here for a week if I would do guests. And the ABC Studios are right across the street on Desales Street, and that's where we did the radio show for a week. And so I lined up a bunch of guests. I lined up George Will. I lined up Sam Donaldson, Judge Bork, a number of other people. And one of them that I lined up was Vitaly Churkin. Now, back in 1987, Vitaly Churkin was a regular. He was almost a cohost of Nightline. And he was at the Soviet Embassy. And he was one of these KGB guys that spoke perfect English, looked as American as anybody at Hillsdale College. [Laughter]

And you just watch this guy. And, you know, back in those days you had Gorbachev and that birthmark. And as Soviet expansionism took place, so did that birthmark grow. And Churkin is just a propagandist. So I decided, I'm going to call the Russian embassy. I wanted to see if I could get him as a guest on the radio program. And he got on the phone, which stunned me. And he said he would do it. And I, the night before he was scheduled to come on, I went out with some

friends. I consumed some adult beverages, perhaps more than I should have, and got back to the room and I pretended that it was bugged by the Soviet Embassy. So I kept looking in the lamps and I was looking in the corners and chandeliers and so forth. "Mr. Churkin, do not cancel on me." That's my memory of the hotel. Look, I really do have limited time. And I do want to say just a few things about the future of the country as I see it. And I probably, not knowing the full spectrum of the makeup here in the ballroom tonight, and it's probably a safe bet with me, I'll irritate or offend some of you. This is what happens when you invite me. [Laughter] It is not done on purpose. We have our problems with the Obama Administration. Frankly -- pardon the sniffles -- I'm still, the jury's still out on what kind of president he's going to be. I thought I had him figured out. Then I didn't think I had him figured out. Then I thought I did, then I didn't. And I'm back now to I'm not sure. I really -- I don't know how much of Obama just wants to "be" President and not really do anything. Just "be" President. I read a story recently that when David Axelrod, quoted, when he came down to pedal the medal time in deciding whether to run at all, that it was Michelle Obama who said, "Barack, why do you want to do it?" and his answer was, "Well, after I take that oath of office, the world will have more respect for us, and America's children will feel proud of their country again." And Axelrod told the story, [clapping] "You could be very proud of that. That's a great reason to be President." To me, it's purely symbolic.

It is nothing but imagery. And I look at who he has appointed in his cabinet and it's the Clinton Administration third term. And he's got as many kook fringe leftists angry at him as some of us were at him during the campaign. My instincts are the guy is who he is. We know who he is because of his associations, we know the things he said he wanted to do during the campaign. But, for example, you know the Democrats are not going to saddle themselves with a military

defeat. So we're not going to pull out of Iraq until we've won it. I don't think he's going to be able to close Club Gitmo as quickly as he wants to. I think all that stuff was campaign rhetoric. You look at the Saxby Chambliss results when Obama wasn't even there, this is just -- it's so tragic. We could have beaten the guy. We could have beaten the guy if the Republican Party had the guts to be the Reagan Republican Party that he turned it into that's a blueprint for landslide victory. [Loud cheers and applause]

And it's just we kept hearing, "Obama is who he is and he's going to be whatever he is. We're going to have to deal with it." But we have a bigger battle coming up, and that's defining who we are as a Party.

Now, the conservative movement has to have a political arm. It has to have a political identity. That has always been the Republican Party. But there's a battle now within the Republican Party over who's going to lead it and who's going to define it. And even during the Reagan era, a lot of you in this room were prominent then. You know that there was a lot of resentment for Ronald Reagan among the quote/unquote "elitists" in our own party because he wasn't properly educated, he didn't come from the right geographical areas, you know, all the things that elites use to distinguish themselves. And plus he wasn't smart. We have -- well, that's what they thought. He was a bumbling dunce, they agreed with Tip O'Neill. But in the meantime, while they had never been able to secure more than 135 seats in the House and go Bob Michel is our leader, and Nelson Rockefeller getting drunk at the '76 convention in Kansas City, falling off his chair is about as far as they ever took us. Reagan comes along, two landslides. And using the same thing that Reagan knew, we took over the House in 1994. And all of us in the Republican Party saw "that era is over." And I never hear the Democrats say "the era of FDR is over." Not only are they trying to revive FDR, Obama is trying to say he's Lincoln, too. [Laughter]

We're sitting around deciding among ourselves, how are we going to approach the Walmart voter? And how are we going to go out and get -- we're into an argument now amongst ourselves, "we have to be for Big Government, too. We have to be for spending to create voting blocks that will vote for us. We have to, because that's what the American people want." Well, what's left to spend? Seriously, what is left to spend? We can't spend any more than we are unless we start printing, and I'm convinced that we're not already doing that. We don't have this money we're using to bail out left and right. It's just tragic to see what has happened. Right before our eyes. Now look at these poor automobile execs. I find it difficult to believe that every automobile executive for 35 years has been an idiot. When you look at what's happened to the business, you figure: There's got to be something. Why don't we look at what is wrong with it? And why don't we look at what's wrong with the mortgage industry? [Laughter] And why don't we look at what's wrong with the housing industry? Why don't we look at what's wrong with -- and, you know, everywhere you look at what's wrong with this or that, guess who you see? Barney Frank, Chris Dodd, Bill Clinton, Jimmy Carter. You see Democrats. [Applause.]

Without exception. If, during the first bailout of the mortgage business, Fannie Mae/Freddie Mac, if they could have found a Republican to blame it on, he would be in Guantanamo Bay right now. [Laughter] After they had done hearing after hearing after, they could not find a Republican. So they had to circle the wagons. And of course we get the impressions, Republicans, "well, these people are losing their homes. We can't have them -- no, of course we can't have any suffering in America anymore. We can't have any suffering, can't have any discomfort. Government's going to solve all that. There will be no difficulties whatsoever. Government can fix all of this."

We have, I think, as conservatives, a golden opportunity here to reintroduce to people --

because this isn't going to work. Down the line it isn't going to work. Central Planning -- like, I don't know if you were following the stock market, poor old Ben Bernanke, every time he opens his mouth, folks go sell because the market jumps down 200 points. Happened today. No matter what he says -- and of course Hank Paulson, I'm sure they're trying their best. It came out today, the magic number, the magic number for mortgage interest is 4 1/2 percent. Central Planning says so. Central Planning: 4 1/2 percent. Where do they pull this stuff out of? This is not going to lead to prosperity for anybody except liberal Democrats who want as much control over people's lives via the government as possible. I look at the auto execs, to get back to them for a moment. And I look at the big oil execs. And I look at -- to me, the most insulting, incompetent, insufferable, arrogant people on these House and Senate Committees lecturing these people. I don't know of one Senator who could produce a drop of oil for anybody's gas -- I don't know a Senator -- Herb Kohl may know how to win in the NBA, but I don't. These guys don't know diddly-squat. The people that are up there being queried and being interrogated on losing money for their companies are being interrogated by people who are the most irresponsible with other people's money I have ever seen in my life! The members of Congress! [Applause.]

So, I've had this fantasy. Let's say I'm Rex Tillerson, ExxonMobil. And because of whatever market conditions, the price of oil's up there at 147 and that means on cue it's time for the Barney Franks of the world and the Chris Dodds and the Harry Reids to start hollering and yelling about excess, obscene profits and so forth. I would love it if Rex Tillerson, being grilled, would say "Senator, I want to change seats with you. You need to be asked questions by people in my industry, such as why in the hell are you standing in the way of us exploring and discovering for more of the product that you want us to deliver to the people of the world?" [Applause.]

You! Can you believe? How bad has it gotten when the CEO of General Motors drives a Malibu to the hearings? He can't even fit in one! [Laughter] It's all PR. It's all smoke and mirrors. Yeah, because Harry Reid went out there and said they had the audacity to fly in their corporate jets. I don't see Harry Reid giving his up and I don't see Nancy Pelosi giving hers up. [Applause.]

But, more importantly, to force these men who are running corporations that have values and worths larger than some countries in the world to reduce the value of their time in a meaningless PR -- these people have business interests all over the world. They have corporate fleets. They have to get executives to these places to do business. Why do we tell people -- why do we not educate people as to the realities of the world instead of all this PR pandering? It's because these guys are scared to death and they've come up with their hands out and they want money and so they're bending over forwards and grabbing the ankles in front of people like Barney Frank. This is dangerous. Asking for money. [Laughter] [Applause.]

What I really wish, I wish these guys would come up and say, "How about you give us the money we need and then you leave us alone for six months? No requirements on CAFE standards. Tell us we don't have to produce hybrids. People aren't buying them. They're available. They're not going to buy electric cars. Let us build cars people want to buy and you people stay out of our business." That's what I want. The people have lost courage. Everybody is scared to death of government because government has stopped serving people. People have begun to serve government. And it's got to stop. And we're the ones, folks, we're the only ones that believe this has to stop. [Applause.] And it's going to take -- it's going to take courage. And, unfortunately, it's going to take a little time for what's happening now to seep in and really screw things up. Because we can tell people how bad it's going to get and that's not going to be enough. They're

going to have the problem is, it's all going to be blamed on George Bush. Well, it is. Politically, it's all going to be blamed on George Bush, as far as the media's concerned, Obama is too big to fail. They've got too much invested in the guy. Historic nature of his candidacy, his election. This guy can be -- he could end up being the most bumbling, incompetent, dangerous, worst president we've ever had, he'll be covered for because "he's too big to fail." And it's going to get blamed on the Republicans, whatever happens. Like right now, I can't believe that we're sitting by and letting this mortgage business get blamed on Bush. The one person who actually tried 12 different times to come up with some stronger regulations to stop the farce that was Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac was shut down by Barney Frank and Chris Dodd. And today they get to redefine how we fix this and break it even further.

And we're not going to redeem the principles of our founding as Americans or as conservatives -- excuse me, again, I'm sorry -- if we get into a debate with Democrats over who can be Big Government the smartest, which is where too many of our so called intelligentsia on our side in the media and elitists in our party want to go because they think that the public has determined they want Big Government and that nothing is going to change that. Gone are the days of teaching people that that's wrong. I mean, I forget the old quote. You all are more informed than I. It's been said by more than one or two statesmen. Once people figure out they can vote themselves whatever they want and that number's over 51 percent, it's over. And when you look at the few percentage of people paying income tax, we're dangerously close to that circumstance. And as easily as they have spread class envy throughout our culture, I mean, the auto execs drive to this latest round of hearings and somehow that's supposed to improve their public image? I bet they didn't sell one damn new car over what they would have just because they drove a Malibu, carpooled to

the hearings. But this is what people think is substantive these days. I do love this. It's going to offend some people, but again that's why I'm here. [Laughter] We just got the candidate and the campaign that the elitists in our party and the smarter-than-everybody-else-in-the-room media in our party said is the future of our party. We got a candidate to go out and get Democrats. And we had a candidate go out and attract moderates. We had a candidate go out and get Hispanics. We had a candidate to go out and get the this or that. We had a candidate who had no core beliefs, no principles. [Applause.]

And if he had them, he didn't know how to express them. And so with what were we going to attract independents? "Well, I can work. I can work with Democrats." [Laughter] Well, if I'm a Hispanic, I'll go for the real thing. "Well, I could attract the moderates." Yeah, that's why Bill Weld endorsed Obama and that's why Colin Powell endorsed Obama. All these moderates that were supposed to be on our side, this was their candidate, this was their campaign; this was their blueprint. And if it weren't for Sarah Palin, my friends, it would have been a double digit loss. [Loud cheers and applause]

I was chosen by Barbara Walters as one of her 10 most fascinating people in the country the other night. It don't matter. [Laughter] And it's like that, Clarence? [Laughter] You know, do you know what a thrill it is? I have to tell you. I'm just like Larry Arnn said, I'm from this big metropolis, Cape Girardeau, Missouri. Do you know what a thrill it is for me to be able to refer to an Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court by his first name, Justice Thomas? That is such a thrill to know you that well to be able to. [Applause.] Now, many of you think I've lost my place. Many of you hopefully think I've lost my place. Barbara Walters asked me -- she criticized me during the interview. I don't know if this will make the cut on her show tonight. But like everybody on that side of the aisle, just really hammered me on Sarah Palin. And she said,

"What do you see in her?" I said, "She's smart. She's enthusiastic. She's got a core belief system." I said, "Barbara, she has lived a rich and genuine American life. She defines what American life is all about. And she has thousands of people who will vouch for it." Obama had to hide everybody who can vouch for his life [laughter and applause] until after the election. And she kept hammering me. And I said "What is your problem with her?" And Barbara Walters said, "She's uninformed." I said, "One interview. One interview with Katie Couric." And I said "You, of all people," I said, "I would think that you would be looking at this woman, who is maligned viciously by other women, I think people like you would be coming to her defense. She's being treated the way she is because she is effective." [Applause.]

Saxby Chambliss. Now, Saxby Chambliss is a fine American and he's a wonderful man, but if it weren't for his varicose veins, he would be totally colorless. [Laughter] Uh oh. I thought Dr. Arnn was walking out in protest. [Laughter] And Obama threw everything at Saxby Chambliss he had. He threw Ludacris. He threw Jay-Z. He threw everybody but Plaxico Burress and a loaded gun. [Laughter.] Of course, Obama himself didn't go down there because he couldn't risk losing. It was Sarah Palin that pulled that out down there, and Saxby Chambliss, God love him, Saxby Chambliss said the day afterwards, this proves we got to get back to our Reagan roots. There it is. [Applause.]

Reagan roots. Reagan roots is not anti-Communism and low taxes and the Laffer Curve and all the other things that Reagan was dealing with at the time. Reagan roots are the roots of our founding. And the primary leg on that stool is individual liberty. This is a nation founded on the concept that we are individuals. We are not a collective. We are individuals. And that we do our best when we are working in our own self interest, not selfishness, but our own self interest, improving our lives, our families'

lives; improves everybody's lives around ours in our communities, cities, towns, the nation at large. Individual liberty will never go out of style because as our founders correctly noted, it is part of our creation. It's what sets this country apart from every other collection of human beings in the history of the world. We have acknowledged that our creation comes from God, not from government, that our freedom is a natural yearning of our creation. And that is the natural yearning of our spirit, to be free, all humanity, all human beings. And as such, liberty will never go out of style. Freedom will never go out of style. We will never, ever say hopefully "the era of freedom is over." We will never say "the era of liberty is over." And as such, we will make a huge mistake if we fall in line with these dummkopfs, who think they're the smartest in our room, who say "the era of Reagan is over." Because the era of Reagan is basic Conservatism 101 which believes, what? The best in everybody. It does not look across a room of people with contempt. It does not look and see incompetence. It doesn't see black, white, male, female, gay, straight. It sees human beings.

Conservatism sees Americans, sees potential, sees great opportunity, sees an opportunity for people to be the best they can be using whatever ambition and desire they have. Reaganism conservatism does not need to be adapted to issues of the day. There's no such thing as the conservative version of Big Government. That is a sellout of conservatism. [Applause.] What we need to stand true on -- we have to have the courage to continue to teach people that sometimes the way they're going and the way they're voting is not good for them, not good for their family, not good for the country. It may feel good at the moment. It's always going to be a battle. I forget who said this, but it's true. Any group of two people or more, any organization that is not, by definition, conservative, will be liberal. Because liberalism is the most gutless choice you can make. Liberalism's following a cult figure. Liberalism is following a demagogue.

Liberalism is doing whatever thinking -- you have to do anything with a liberal, you just have to think in a way that makes yourself feel good. Walk outside the hotel tonight. See a couple homeless people on the grate and go, "Oh, that's so bad. Wow, am I a great person, I care." Yeah? What did you do for them? Well nothing, but I care. Yeah, well where's your homeless ribbon? I don't see it. Conservative looks at them and says, "What can we do about this? That's unacceptable. What can we do about it?" We have to come up with solutions. Liberals don't. All we have to do is make people think they care. And all liberals apparently have to do is sound intelligent while they don't know diddly-squat.

You know, we do have a problem. This is a media age. And we need, this is what's so great about Fred. Fred, Senator, that night, the Wednesday night at the Convention was the highlight of the Republican Party this year. You. [Applause.] Stand up. [Loud cheers and applause] Because that's the night that the McCain campaign gave to us Senator Thompson. Rudy Giuliani was on fire. I mean, having more fun laughing about community organizing. That was just the whole night. It was so great that I actually -- I didn't have anybody's e-mail address on the campaign because I don't presume -- I would never presume to tell them what to do, just as I don't really like people telling me how to do my radio show. I'm the expert. And I've not run a campaign. So I don't try to find out who these people are and stay in touch with them and so forth. But on this one occasion, I called Mary Matalin and said can you get me so and so's e-mail address. I just want to send an e-mail. So she got it for me. And I sent an e-mail. I said, "Please, please, it's one night. Just one night. Please on Thursday night do not -- do not have Senator McCain talk about working with Democrats, please? It will destroy everything that happened on Wednesday night." And of course on Thursday night we got, "And I can work with Democrats." So, how many times have you heard Barney Frank or Chris Dodd or Harry Reid

or Pelosi or Ted Kennedy or whoever the hell else campaign on the basis they can work with us? How many of them go out -- why are we so damned defensive that we think the American people have to -- we can work with these schlubs. I don't like being on defense all the time. And that's why I don't like what's going on with this bailout stuff, watching serious American businessmen and others kowtowing to these Little Lord Fauntleroy's. [Laughter] Anyway, folks, we have -- I know you got to go. You've been sitting here a long time. I have to fly back to Florida.

AUDIENCE: No!

RUSH: Seriously, with the security guy I have tonight, it will be an hour and a half before I get back to Dulles. [Laughter] Actually, it is my regular security guy. And I am always using him in Washington because I'm immensely safe. He looks just like Stalin. Larry, come stand here on the steps. No, come stand here on the steps. Come stand here on the steps. Come stand on the steps. There you go. [Applause.] I tell you, New York, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, walk with him and you're safe. In fact, they want your autograph. Anyway, we've got, I think, a challenge. There will be little meetings. You know, the smartest people in the room on our side will have these little meetings and these little hideaways, they're going to discuss what went wrong and how to fix it and so forth. The answer's right in front of us. The blueprint's there. We don't have to reinvent who we are. We just need the courage to once again be who we were. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. Appreciate this, Larry. [Applause.]

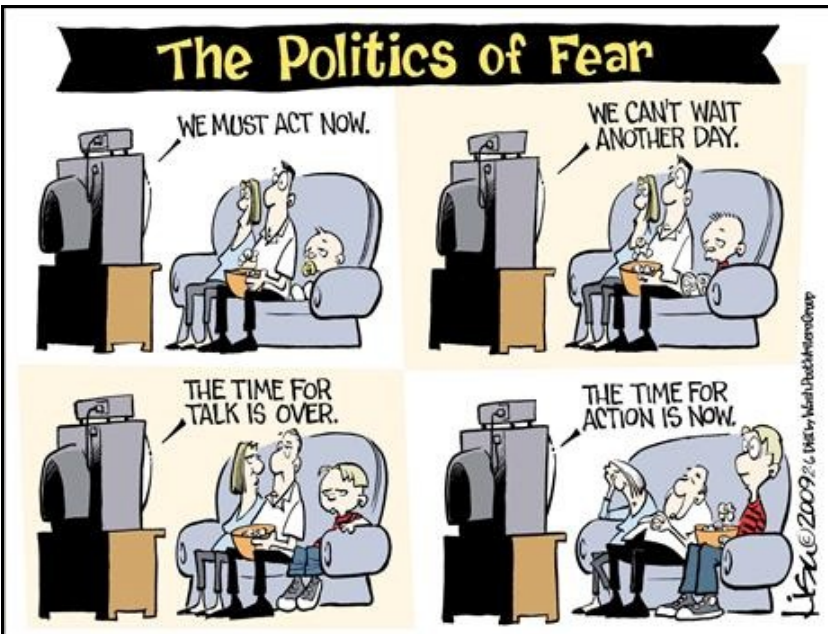
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When you go after the rich, and poo poo executive bonuses, there are a lot of businesses which do not do well as a result. However, in our economy, Wal-Mart has been doing great business:

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