

State of the Union SotU, 2012, 2013, 2014, & 2015 <http://www.whitehouse.gov/live>

Enhanced Online video with charts and graphs

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/state-of-the-union-2012>

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

The president's speech before a joint meeting of Congress
from the **House Chamber of the US Capitol, Washington, DC**

Room capacity is
over 600 people.

42
slides

Max Beauregard
HCC Govt 2305



The US Congress
is the elected, legislative body
(*bicameral* chambers)

**for the American people. It meets in the
Capitol in Washington, DC**

**US House of
Representatives
435 members**

**US Senate
100 members**



Max Beauregard

**West façade of the
US Capitol, facing The Mall on
Inauguration Day, January 20, 2012**



The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave
<http://www.whitehouse.gov>

The official residency for the President and Family is The White House. Both the **Oval Office** (housed in the West Wing) and the private residence are contained within the compound. It is the official social location for state dinners and entertaining foreign dignitaries and heads of state.



Enhanced 2014 online speech with charts and photos:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/01/13/get-ready-president-obama-s-2014-state-union-address>

Tuesday, January 28, 8pm, all channels. Tune in early for pre-show commentary, introduction of players, and afterwards for the Republican Response (PBS and cable stations).

What will be the 2014 theme?

“OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL”

Additional job creation

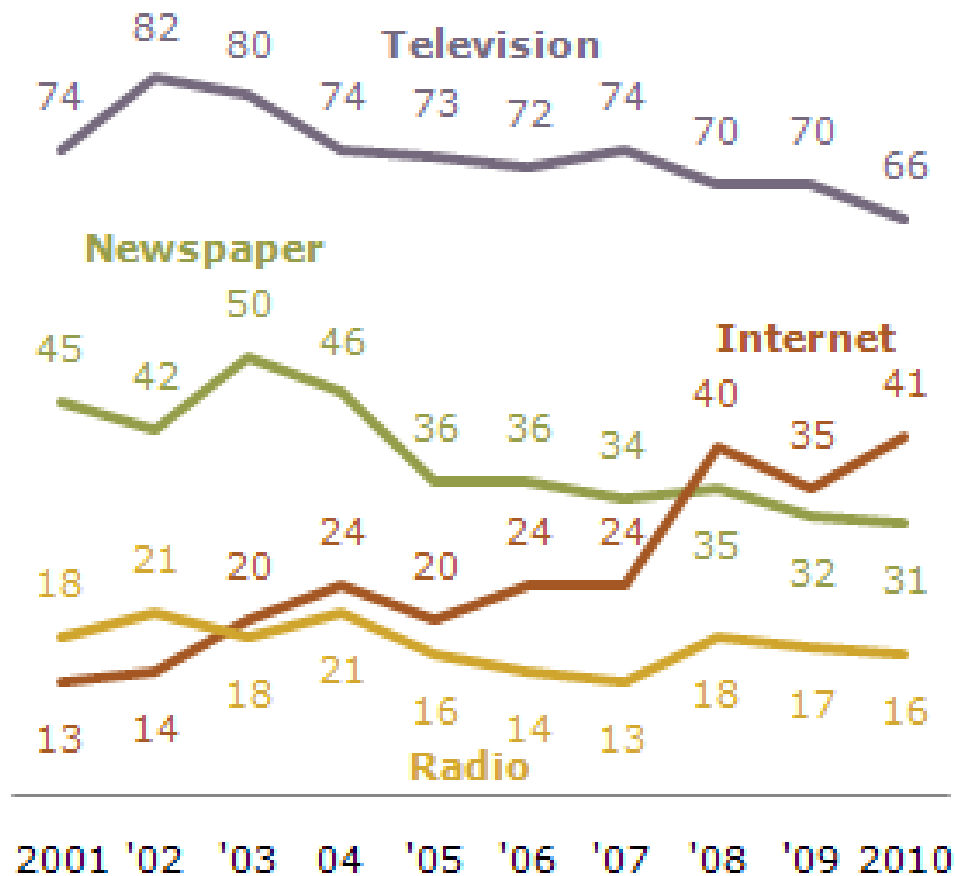
Raising the minimum wage to \$9.

Reducing the expanding wealth gap

Immigration reform

????

Where Do You Get Most of your News About National and International Issues?



Where do we get our news and information?

Availability and expansion of cable news has specialized in public affairs topics and provides intimate details and background for the public and students.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER Dec 1-5, 2010. Figures add to more than 100% because respondents could volunteer up to two main sources. If asked more than once in a calendar year, trend shows final datapoint from each year.

President Barack Obama works on his ***State of the Union Speech, SotU*** with Director of Speechwriting Jon Favreau in the Oval Office, Jan. 24, 2011. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



Favreau is 29 y/o and represents Obama's confidence in youth.

President Barack Obama talks with Ben Rhodes, Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communication, and Director of Speechwriting Jon Favreau.



Table of Contents

- **Introduction, Procedure, and Purpose**
- **2013 Theme: Fairness**
- **Economic background**
 - **Job losses**
 - **Recession**
- **Small business**
- **Global economy**
- **Republican & Tea Party Response**

JOHN A. BOEHNER
OHIO
SPEAKER



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
H-232 U.S. CAPITOL BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-0600

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

December 19, 2014

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest
Washington, DC 20500

Ritual, tradition, and protocol are important aspects of SotU and here is Speaker Boehner's official invitation to Obama to come to the Capitol to make his 2015 address.

Dear Mr. President:

The new year will bring a new American Congress, and with it, the opportunity to continue our work to build a stronger economy and secure a better future for our country. In that spirit, it is my honor to invite you to address a Joint Session of Congress on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 so that you may fulfill your duty under the Constitution to report on the state of the union and recommend measures for our consideration. Your report will inform our efforts to address the people's priorities.

I look forward to your response, and Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John A. Boehner".

John A. Boehner

Very important slide.

State of the Union speech is the President's goals, master plan, and **action agenda of programs (steps or "laundry list")** for the coming year. It also recaps his past year's accomplishments and any disappointments.

The Budget is the **implementation plan, costs, and timeline** whereby the steps of the plan can be *put into action* and with sources of financing for the programs described in SotU. The 2015 budget has already been passed by Congress before Christmas and signed into law.

Typically within a few months after SotU, the President again returns to Capitol Hill to present his **budget**, which is the payment plan for the actions he has outlined in SotU.

Together these two actions are the most powerful tools he has to lead and to achieve his goals for the country.

"Bully Pulpit" is his speaking ability to persuade Congress and the people to support his ideas and his action plan.

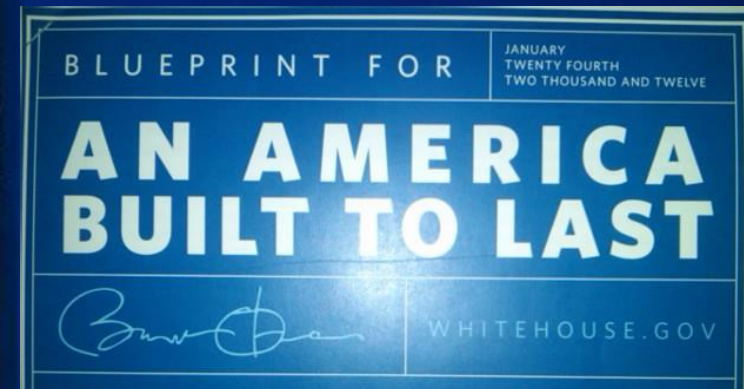
State of the Union speech is mandated by the US Constitution and now occurs annually in January or February. Similarly, all other government leaders present a “conditions report” of their institution. Thus, the Governor delivers ‘**State of the State**’; the Mayor ‘**State of the City**’; county judge ‘**State of the County**’; the school superintendent ‘**State of the Schools**’, etc.



Vice Pres.
Joe Biden

House Speaker
John Boehner

2012



STATE OF THE UNION – ENHANCED PRESENTATION
JANUARY 24, 2012

Joint Session of Congress

9 groups in the audience at SotU include:

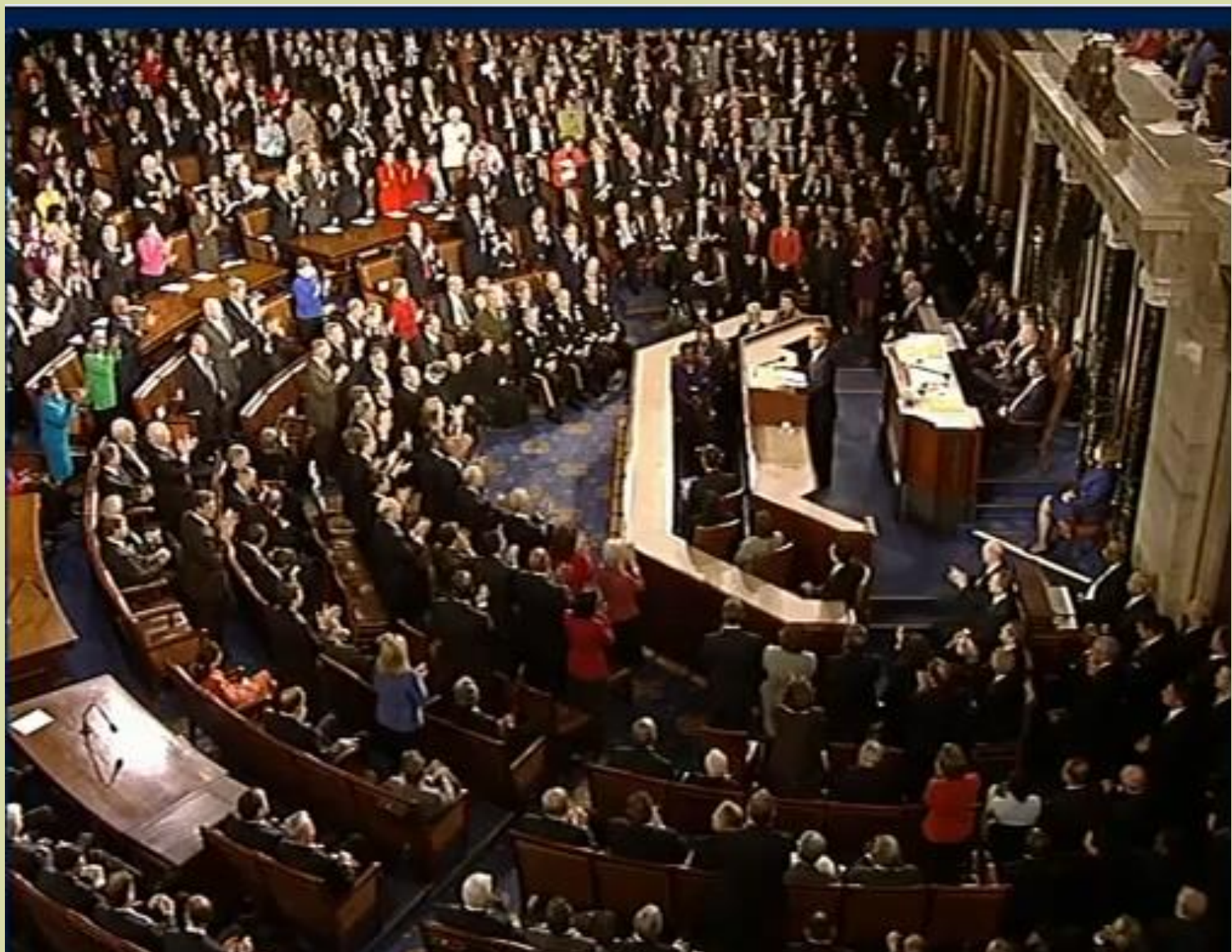
- **House of Representatives, 435 members**, elected by the people, from single member districts (everyone's neighborhood from across the country).
- **100 members of the Senate** (2 from each state)
- **9 Justices of the Supreme Court** (appointed by the President for life)
- **15+ Cabinet members** (advisors chosen by the President and confirmed by the Senate)
- **5 star Military Generals**, commanding officers from each branch of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, & Coast Guard)
- **Consular Core** (Dignitaries of foreign governments with offices in DC & other major US cities, including Houston.)
- **First Lady's Special Guests** (in the balcony)
- **The American people**, watching on TV
- **Media**, analysts, historians, commentators, & global media

**Learn these groups
for the test.**

Since these are the highest level government officials assembled in one location, one Cabinet member must be secluded elsewhere to honor the **Rule of Secession** in case there is a disaster requiring them to assume the Office of the Presidency.



The Chamber was flooded with intense light from above, so to maximize the use of high definition cameras located in the balcony which shot across the Chamber to capture the detail of everyone's faces. The intense light created an aura shining on their heads and making their faces glow. Quality of the broadcast was amazingly high.



The intense light created an aura from above and illuminated everything, so to capture the details of the Chamber, people, and everyone's faces. Women wear bright clothes to stand out in the crowd.

Podium and Gallery of the US House of Representatives, the only chamber large enough to hold 600+ government officials. Typically members sit divided by Party, but there is a proposal to show bipartisanship by mixing the seating for themselves.

Purpose of *State of the Union* speech is to review his accomplishments of the preceding year and outline his plan for the coming year. It is his master plan for the country.



Many of the Congressmen arrived early to get a prized seat on the aisle to greet the dignitaries as they entered, and **most wore bright colors to be easily seen by their constituents at home.** Local Houston Congressmen were obvious throughout the broadcast and arrived early to get prize seats on the aisles so to be easily seen on camera.



Cable media provide valuable commentary through the broadcast to explain historical details and introduce the most powerful government officials.

Tune in early so not to miss all the pomp and procession of one of the most important speeches of the year.

The White House provides LIVE streaming video (source of this Ppt.) with photos and charts to support the facts presented in the speech.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/state-of-the-union-2012>

Shelia Jackson Lee (Houston) is among the last of the 'Aisle Hogs'

Each year, Sheila Jackson Lee stakes out an aisle seat many hours ahead of the State of the Union address. She says it's "working on behalf of my constituents." It also gets her on TV when the president passes by. She is one of the most recognized Congresswomen of all.



Resplendent in emerald green.

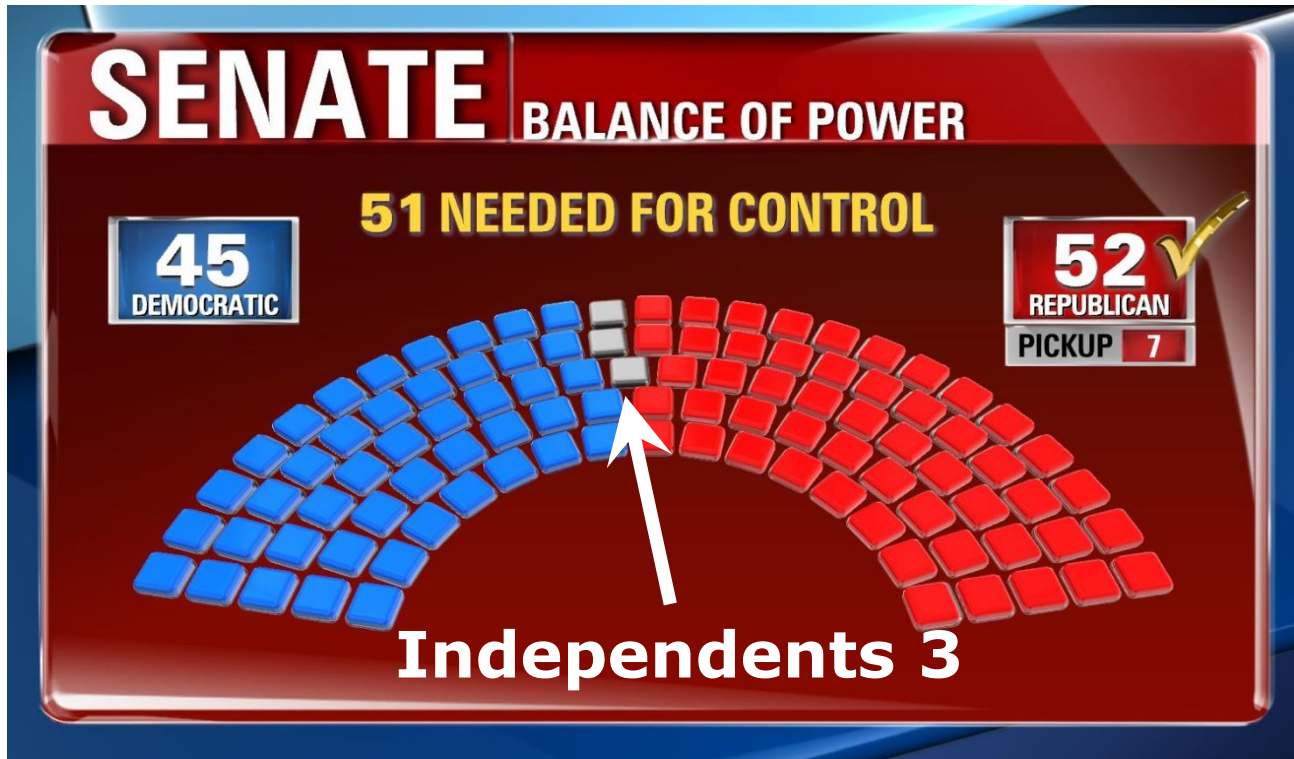
<http://blog.chron.com/txpotomac/2013/02/sheila-jackson-lee-queen-of-the-aisle-hogs-at-sotu/#9913-1>

Senate by Party Affiliation

Republicans dominate

Democrats 46

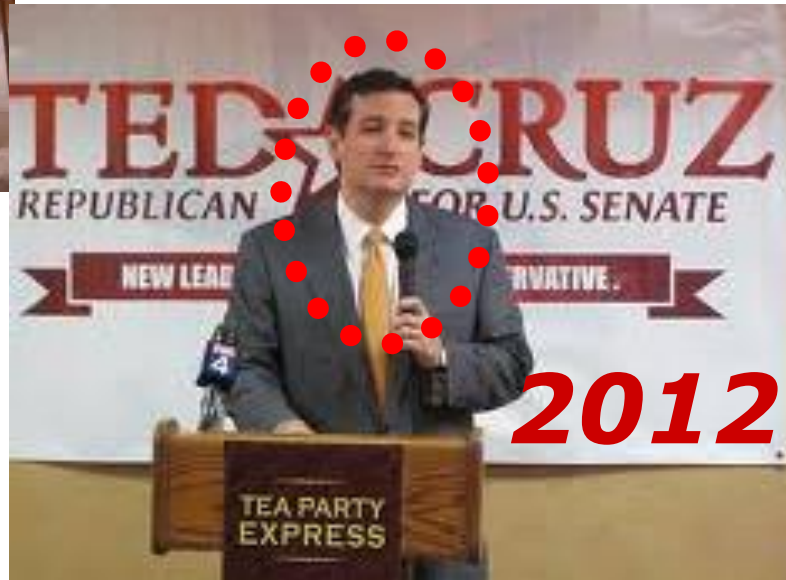
Republicans 54



It takes a “super majority” of 60 in the Senate to disallow a filibuster. Currently Democrats hold only a slight majority of 9, with Harry Reid as the leader. VP Biden presides as the administrator, but it is McConnell who has the real power. VP can only vote in case of a tie.

2 US Senators are elected from each state regardless of state size. Texas Senators are elected at-large or by voters statewide; there are no single member districts.

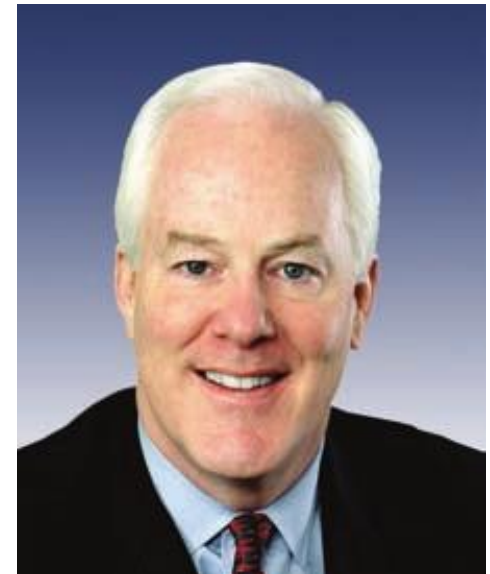
An open seat in 2012 brought forth LT. Gov. Dewhurst and businessman Ted Cruz, Tea Party. This resulted in a brutal Republican Primary, and July Runoff where Tea Party Cruz defeated a longstanding, proven conservative.



2012



Easily re-elected in **2014**



**John Cornyn,
San Antonio**

2015 House Members by Party & Leader



**Nancy
Pelosi,
(D-CA)**



Republicans dominate both chambers

Houston Congressional Delegation

Find your Congressman based upon your 9-digit zip code at www.House.gov

District 18 (D)

Sheila Jackson-Lee (D)

central county



**District 4
(R) Ted Poe**

Kingwood,
Heights



District 22

Gene Green

central county



District 7 (R)

John Culberson

Montrose, west county



District 9 (D)

Al Green



**District 8
(R) Kevin
Brady**

Woodlands



**District 22 (R)
Pete Olsen**

Ft Bend, Brazoria

**District 14 (R)
Randy Weber**

Pearland

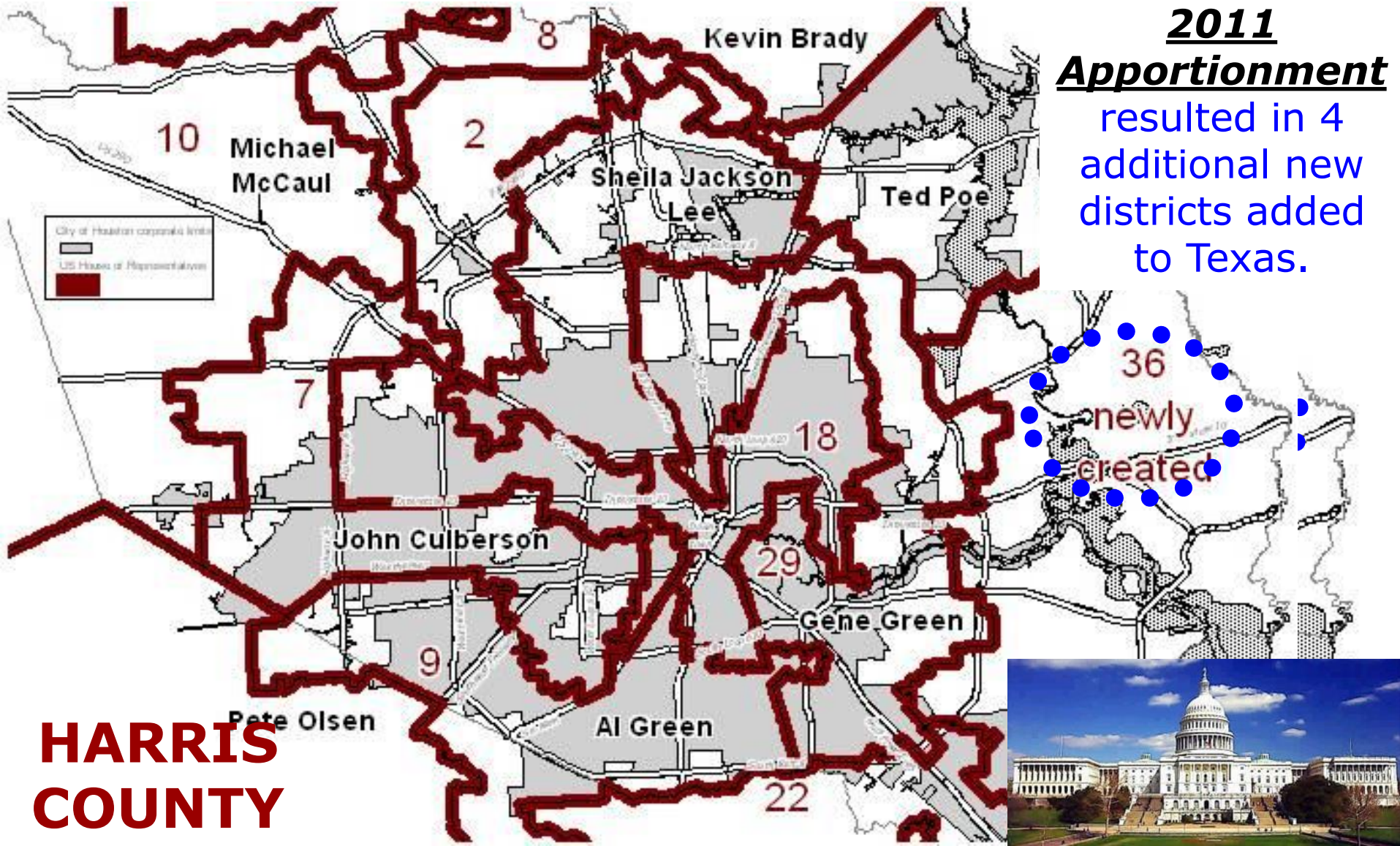


**District 10 (R)
Michael McCaul**

Austin, W Houston



Single member districts are neighborhood boundaries from which US Representatives are elected by voters. Population of each boundary is the same as all others, so to honor the concept of "1 man; 1 vote."



Find your Congressman based upon your 9-digit zip code at www.House.gov

ASSIGNMENT & TEST QUESTION:

Demographic
composition of
Congress:



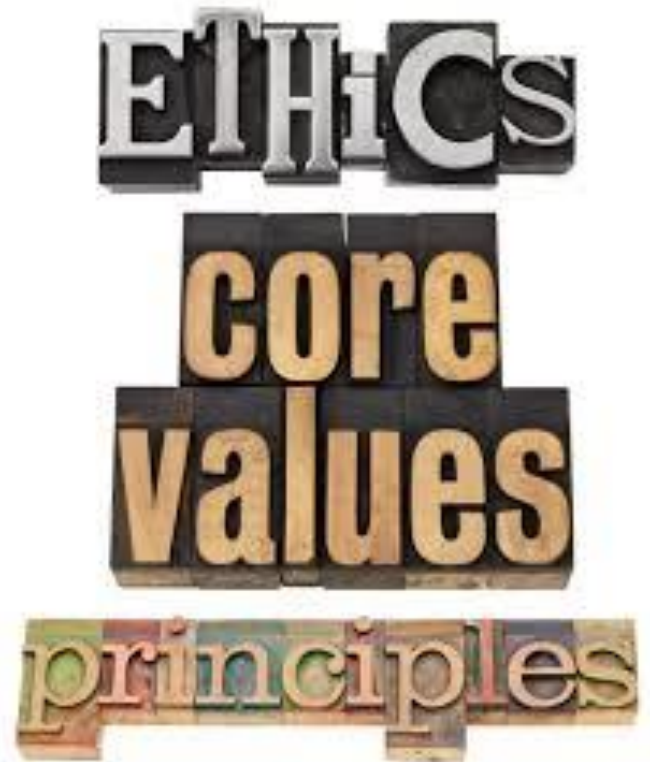
Your Congressman is elected by voters from YOUR neighborhood to represent YOU in the US House of Representatives in Washington DC. This is the fundamental concept of democracy specified in the Constitution:

.....of the people, by the people, for the people.

So what are **ETHICS**?

ETHICS is a branch of philosophy that involves recommending concepts of right and wrong conduct, often addressing disputes of moral diversity. Philosophical ethics investigates what is the best way for humans to live, and what kinds of actions are right or wrong *in particular circumstances.*

The *REAL* question is who decides what is right or wrong for everyone else, *because we are all different?*



Unfortunately several Congressmen have questionable and unethical backgrounds that cast a stain on their public service



Rocker Ted Nugent is a known pedophile and Tea Party activist.



**Congressmen
behaving badly!!**

Houston area Tea Party Congressman Steve Stockman has been ordered to remove his hallway display of Obama's "failed" jobs record. He also invited controversial rocker Ted Nugent to *SotU*.

This is a cheap publicity stunt to support Stockman's race against John Cornyn for Senate. However, it is disrespectful to the President, unAmerican, based on faulty logic, and just bad taste.

Stockman votes with his feet at the State of the Union

Posted on January 28, 2014 | By David McCumber, Washington Bureau Chief

2014

Steve Stockman walked out of the State of the Union address like it was a bad movie.

"Tonight I left early after hearing how the president is further abusing his constitutional powers," Stockman said.

"I could not bear to watch as he continued to cross the clearly-defined boundaries of the constitutional separation of powers. Needless to say, I am deeply disappointed in the tone and content of tonight's address."

The 36th District Republican, who is running against incumbent Sen. John Cornyn in the GOP primary, added, "After five years in office Obama refuses to admit his policies have failed. He instead demands we double down on the bitter class warfare that has left Americans jobless and hopeless. Obama's plan for higher taxes and more spending is a blueprint for perpetual poverty. The last thing America needs is more of the Democrats' class warfare that has left our economy a barren landscape."

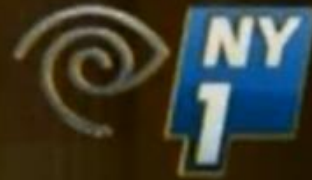


Rep. Steve Stockman walked out of the State of the Union speech.

Congressmen behaving badly!!

Capitol Hill

6:33 AM ET



**Congressmen
behaving badly!!**

Rep. Grimm: "Let me be clear to you. If you ever do that to me again
I'll throw you off this f---ing balcony."

NEW THIS MORNING

**NEW
DAY**



CONGRESSMAN GRIMM THREATENS REPORTER
NEW YORK REPUBLICAN: "I'LL BREAK YOU IN HALF"

Congressman Grimm (R-NY) uses vulgarity and physically threatens a reporter in the Capitol after 2014 SotU because he does not like the question being asked. Such actions are bullying, unethical, unprofessional, and can result in sanctions against the Representative by the House. He later apologized.

Freshman Congressman from Florida resigns after a cocaine bust and pleading guilty to tax evasion.

**"I struggle with
the disease
of alcoholism,**

**Congressmen
behaving badly!!**

DEVELOPING STORY

U.S. REP. BUSTED FOR COCAINE

REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN IN COURT

House Republican Majority Whip Steve Scalise confirms he spoke to white supremacists in 2002

Rep. Steve Scalise (R-La.), the House majority whip, acknowledged in 2014 that he spoke at a gathering hosted by white-supremacist leaders while serving as a state representative in 2002, thrusting a racial controversy into House Republican ranks *days before the party assumes control of both congressional chambers.*

December 29, 2014

**Congressmen
behaving badly!!**



Annual State of the Union Speech (SotU), January 2011



Houston
Congressman
Gene Green

Supreme
Court Justices

Cabinet Sectys
Geithner &
Shinsecci

STATE *of the* UNION

Watch President Barack Obama deliver
the State of the Union Address live on
Tuesday, January 25 at 9:00 P.M. EST.

Immediately following the speech,
senior White House officials will answer
questions in a live online event.

Every high level government and military official is present at this event. *What would happen if there was a terrorist attack or natural disaster?*

Who would take over and run the government?

As a contingency plan, one of the Cabinet members does not attend the meeting and is held by security in a secure location to assume the presidency if any disaster should occur.



For 2012, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsak was the designated official.

Presidential Succession:
*the process of orderly transfer of power
if the President is unable to serve.*

Who takes over and serves if the President is incapacitated?

There is a plan to insure orderly transfer of power.

TABLE 8.2 **PRESIDENTIAL LINE OF SUCCESSION:** (Cabinet members)

1. Vice President	10. Secretary of Commerce
2. Speaker of the House	11. Secretary of Labor
3. President Pro Tempore of the Senate	12. Secretary of Health and Human Services
4. Secretary of State	13. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
5. Secretary of the Treasury	14. Secretary of Transportation
6. Secretary of Defense	15. Secretary of Energy 2014
7. Attorney General	16. Secretary of Education
8. Secretary of the Interior	17. Secretary of Veterans Affairs
9. Secretary of Agriculture 2012	2015??

The Secretary of Homeland Security has not been put into the line of succession. Senate Bill 442, approved by the Senate in July of 2005, would place the Secretary of Homeland Security eighth in the line of succession, after the Attorney General, if it becomes law. A similar House bill, House Resolution 1455, is currently pending before the House Judiciary Committee.

High level officers of the government (and large corporations) always travel on separate planes to protect the order of succession in case of death of a leader eligible to become President or CEO.



'Designated survivor': Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz was chosen to watch Obama's speech from an undisclosed location in 2014, to guarantee the continuity of government if the rest of America's leading officials were attacked and killed when they gathered in a single place.

Typically the First Lady chooses guests who have demonstrated acts of heroism over the last year to sit with her in the balcony. Details: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/01/02/first-ladys-box-seats-2014-state-union>



Childhood inventor, NBA player who came out as gay.



Boston bomber survivors, DC teacher of the year



1st female CEO General Motors Co., GA school official who stopped a shooter



War veteran who was injured in this 10th tour of duty

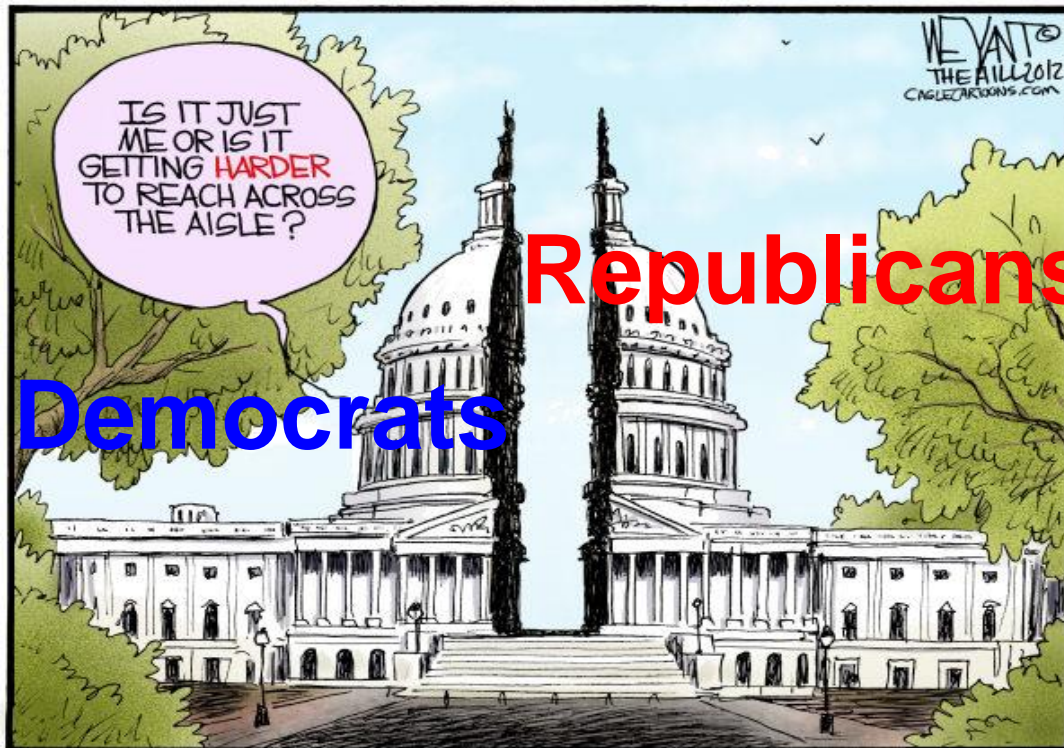
The Opposing Party Response to SotU:



The reality of divided government and the mounting degree of extreme partisan divide became especially apparent through the increased level of disrespect shown towards the President.

During a 2009 joint session, South Carolina Tea Party Congressman Joe Wilson disrupted the entire speech by shouting out “you lie” when Obama mentioned healthcare.

This outburst is unprecedented in American history. Wilson was rebuked by the House Speaker and he later apologized, but resentment towards the President has continued to grow amongst his critics, both publically and underground.



Outcome of the 2014 election was a Republican landslide that allows them to hold their control of the US House; and also to win the US Senate. Thus, the concept of ***“divided government”*** is now redefined to mean the split in philosophical beliefs between Democratic beliefs of President Obama in the White House and the Republican Congress.



DIVIDED GOVERNMENT

PRESIDENT OBAMA VS. GOP CONGRESS

THIS SUNDAY
#MTP

MEET  THE PRESS
WITH CHUCK TODD

Republican Response, 2013

SotU is the partisan strategy proposed by the ruling Democratic Party, but equally important is the Republican Response that is delivered after the address. This the opposite perspective on the President's plan offered by the opposing Party to give Americans balance to the solutions presented.

**Senator
Marco
Rubio**



Rubio, elected to the US Senate in 2010, is one of the Republican Party's rising stars and widely considered to be one of the top contenders for the GOP presidential nomination in 2016. He is also the GOP's most prominent Hispanic American and a member of the Senate group crafting a bipartisan immigration proposal offering a pathway to citizenship for millions of illegal immigrants. Rubio is of Cuban heritage, but was born in Canada and now live in Florida.

Tea Party Response

**Senator
Rand Paul,**
son of Houston
area Congressman
Ron Paul



Mark Wilson

Tea Party is a fringe branch of Republicans who hold extreme views on reducing the debt and are unwilling to compromise.

Previous years brought forth other rising young or distinguished Republicans to enhance their national visibility and launch their careers on the national stage. Some like Paul Ryan (2012 VP nominee) have succeeded and others like Bobby Jindal bombed.



Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels gave the Republican response in 2012.

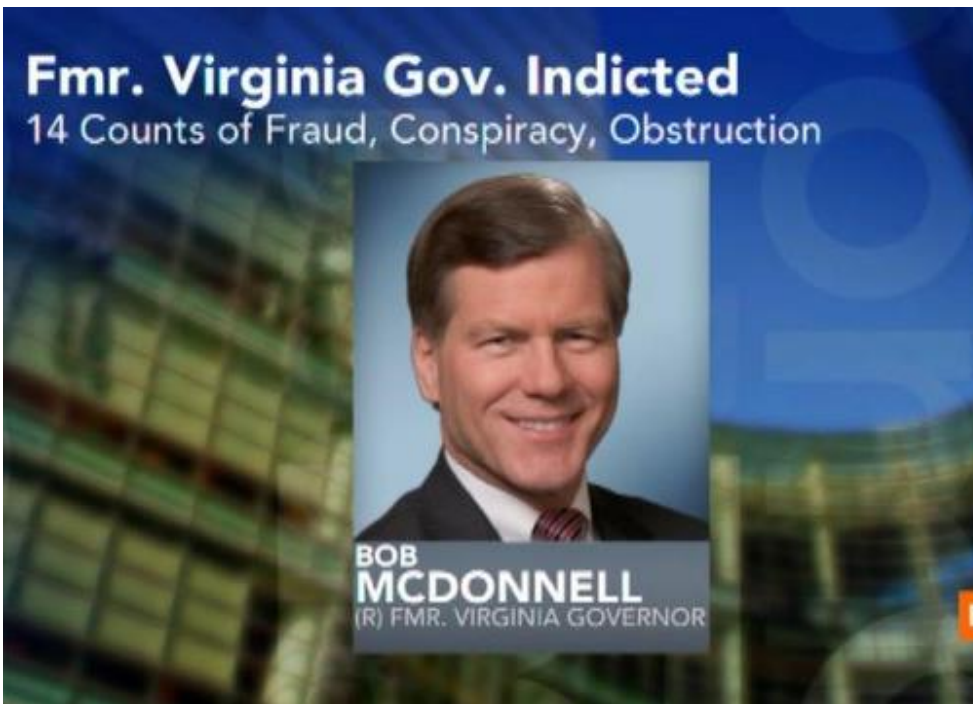


Wisconsin Rep. Paul Ryan delivered the GOP response in 2011 and later became VP nominee.



Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal (born in India) self destructed in 2009. Both Democrats and Republicans alike panned Jindal's rebuttal in terms that were decidedly harsh: "amateurish," "laughable" and, most commonly, "a missed opportunity."

In 2010, the SotU Response emphasized “*family values*” and was given by Bob McDonnell, Governor of Virginia. However, in January 2014, he & his wife were indicted in multiple counts of corruption and wrongdoing.



Bloomberg GOVERNOR "FAMILY VALUES"

McDonnell was sentenced in Sept. 2014 to 24 months in a minimum security prison for his corruption conviction on 11 different counts related to conspiracy to commit fraud.



2014 Republican Response to SotU

Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.), the most powerful woman in the US House (4th ranking of all), will deliver the GOP State of the Union response.



Its purpose is to allow equal time from the opposing Party to the views of the President.

GOP has been criticized for being unfair to women, so it is no accident that a woman has been chosen for this prestigious appearance.



House Majority Leader Eric Cantor & House Speaker John Boehner

Can Cathy McMorris Rodgers resurrect **compassionate conservatism?**

Republicans typically believe in personal responsibility, independent motivation, competition with others (**capitalism**, survival of the fittest, etc.), “keeping what you earn”, and with **minimal involvement of government or its programs.** Their focus is **smaller government; especially lower taxes** that can result because funding for these programs can now be eliminated.

Compassionate conservatism is a philosophy that originated after 1979 (Reagan Administration), but was fiercely promoted during the W. Bush period, 2001-2008. It sees social problems such as poverty, lack of education, health care, or immigration as issues that are better solved through cooperation with private companies, charities and religious institutions rather than directly through government departments. It is the theory that the government should encourage the effective provision of social services without providing the service itself.“

B. Clinton described it as: "I want to help you. I really do. But you know, I just can't" or similar variants of this **ideology.** Others believe "the only difference between compassionate conservatism and conservatism is that under compassionate conservatism they tell you they are NOT going to help you, *but they are really sorry about it.*"

The word cloud features the following words and phrases:

- Ideology** (largest, light blue)
- thought** (large, dark blue)
- actions** (large, red)
- structure** (large, orange)
- expectations** (large, red)
- vision** (large, red)
- goals** (large, yellow)
- society** (large, yellow)
- worldview** (large, white)
- see** (large, yellow)
- system** (large, yellow)
- politics** (large, white)
- social** (large, yellow)
- form** (large, white)
- interaction** (large, white)
- normative** (large, white)
- reproduction** (large, white)
- play** (large, white)
- definition** (large, white)
- grows** (large, white)
- minuses** (large, white)
- neither** (large, white)
- carburide** (large, white)
- study** (large, white)
- meaning** (large, white)
- tendency** (large, white)
- consciousness** (large, white)
- everyday** (large, white)
- received** (large, white)
- make** (large, white)
- compare** (large, white)
- systems** (large, white)
- around** (large, white)
- usually** (large, white)
- members** (large, white)
- looking** (large, white)
- abstract** (large, white)
- whether** (large, white)
- adherence** (large, white)
- world** (large, white)
- offer** (large, white)
- other** (large, white)
- central** (large, white)
- way** (large, white)
- seed** (large, white)
- practices** (large, white)
- locus** (large, white)
- serve** (large, white)
- thus** (large, white)
- politics** (large, white)
- worldview** (large, white)
- see** (large, yellow)
- system** (large, yellow)
- certain** (large, white)
- strategy** (large, white)
- implicitly** (large, white)
- right** (large, white)
- every** (large, white)
- socialization** (large, white)
- materiality** (large, white)
- class** (large, white)
- constitutes** (large, white)
- behind** (large, white)
- product** (large, white)
- possibility** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- intellectual** (large, white)
- tendencies** (large, white)
- proposed** (large, white)
- philosophical** (large, white)
- fundamentalist** (large, white)
- things** (large, white)
- Meta-ideology** (large, white)
- already** (large, white)
- choices** (large, white)
- public** (large, white)
- coherent** (large, white)
- relativistic** (large, white)
- basis** (large, white)
- may** (large, white)
- Political** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- latter** (large, white)
- vigor** (large, white)
- assumptions** (large, white)
- wrong** (large, white)
- organization** (large, white)
- ideological** (large, white)
- human-social** (large, white)
- Marxist** (large, white)
- either** (large, white)
- persuasion** (large, white)
- According** (large, white)
- sense** (large, white)
- events** (large, white)
- range** (large, white)
- dominant** (large, white)
- relying** (large, white)
- logical** (large, white)
- categorizing** (large, white)
- exploit** (large, white)
- structure** (large, orange)
- purposes** (large, white)
- localities** (large, white)
- purpose** (large, white)
- thought** (large, dark blue)
- actions** (large, red)
- role** (large, white)
- concepts** (large, white)
- links** (large, white)
- main** (large, white)
- internal** (large, white)
- subjective** (large, white)
- factual** (large, white)
- manifestation** (large, white)
- profoundly** (large, white)
- reality** (large, white)
- whom** (large, white)
- instrument** (large, white)
- exclusive** (large, white)
- common** (large, white)
- change** (large, white)
- applied** (large, white)
- matrices** (large, white)
- set** (large, yellow)
- true** (large, white)
- believers** (large, white)
- may** (large, white)
- proposed** (large, white)
- tendencies** (large, white)
- intellectual** (large, white)
- comprehensive** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- product** (large, white)
- possibility** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- content** (large, white)
- behind** (large, white)
- several** (large, white)
- collection** (large, white)
- certain** (large, white)
- implicitly** (large, white)
- strategy** (large, white)
- constitutes** (large, white)
- class** (large, white)
- materiality** (large, white)
- socialization** (large, white)
- perspective** (large, white)
- see** (large, yellow)
- politics** (large, white)
- thus** (large, white)
- worldview** (large, white)
- see** (large, yellow)
- system** (large, yellow)
- certain** (large, white)
- strategy** (large, white)
- implicitly** (large, white)
- right** (large, white)
- every** (large, white)
- socialization** (large, white)
- materiality** (large, white)
- class** (large, white)
- constitutes** (large, white)
- behind** (large, white)
- product** (large, white)
- possibility** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- intellectual** (large, white)
- tendencies** (large, white)
- proposed** (large, white)
- philosophical** (large, white)
- fundamentalist** (large, white)
- things** (large, white)
- Meta-ideology** (large, white)
- already** (large, white)
- choices** (large, white)
- public** (large, white)
- coherent** (large, white)
- relativistic** (large, white)
- basis** (large, white)
- may** (large, white)
- Political** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- latter** (large, white)
- vigor** (large, white)
- assumptions** (large, white)
- wrong** (large, white)
- organization** (large, white)
- ideological** (large, white)
- human-social** (large, white)
- Marxist** (large, white)
- either** (large, white)
- persuasion** (large, white)
- According** (large, white)
- sense** (large, white)
- events** (large, white)
- range** (large, white)
- dominant** (large, white)
- relying** (large, white)
- logical** (large, white)
- categorizing** (large, white)
- exploit** (large, white)
- structure** (large, orange)
- purposes** (large, white)
- localities** (large, white)
- purpose** (large, white)
- thought** (large, dark blue)
- actions** (large, red)
- role** (large, white)
- concepts** (large, white)
- links** (large, white)
- main** (large, white)
- internal** (large, white)
- subjective** (large, white)
- factual** (large, white)
- manifestation** (large, white)
- profoundly** (large, white)
- reality** (large, white)
- whom** (large, white)
- instrument** (large, white)
- exclusive** (large, white)
- common** (large, white)
- change** (large, white)
- applied** (large, white)
- matrices** (large, white)
- set** (large, yellow)
- true** (large, white)
- believers** (large, white)
- may** (large, white)
- proposed** (large, white)
- tendencies** (large, white)
- intellectual** (large, white)
- comprehensive** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- product** (large, white)
- possibility** (large, white)
- conformity** (large, white)
- content** (large, white)
- behind** (large, white)
- several** (large, white)
- collection**

Political Ideology

An ideology is a set of beliefs, aims and ideas, especially in politics. An ideology can be thought of as a comprehensive vision, as a way of looking at things, as in common sense or philosophical tendencies. It is a set of ideas *proposed by the dominant class of a society whose main purpose is to offer change in society through a normative or abstract thought process.* Ideologies are systems applied to public matters and thus make this concept central to politics.

"Political Ideology"

- ❑ An individual's ideas, values, and beliefs about the issues, problems, purpose, and scope of government.
- ❑ Thus these ideas prompt citizens to support a certain political party, policy programs (solutions), and influence the government in the decision-making process.
 - 35% say they are moderate,
 - 30% say they are conservative, and
 - 29% say they are liberal.

How does anyone know what others think or believe?

Other Tea Party Response views were given by Mike Lee, Rand Paul, & Ted Cruz. AP Photos

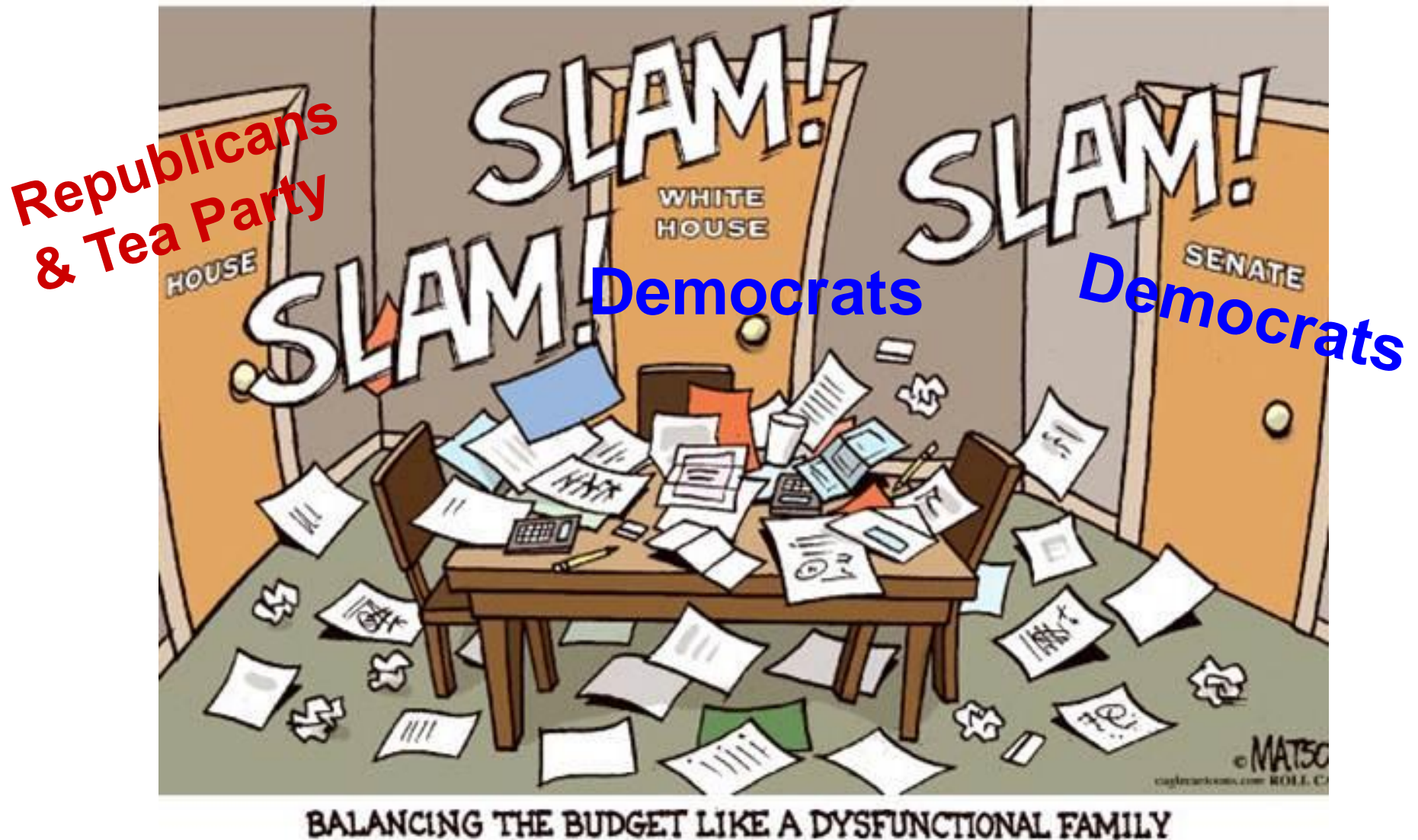


Senator Mike Lee (R-Utah) will give the Tea Party Response. **The practice of having the president's opposing party provide an official response was meant to centralize an opposing point of view. Now that so many opposing points of view are part of the conversation — and opposed to each other too — they're making it ever harder for any of them to stick out.**

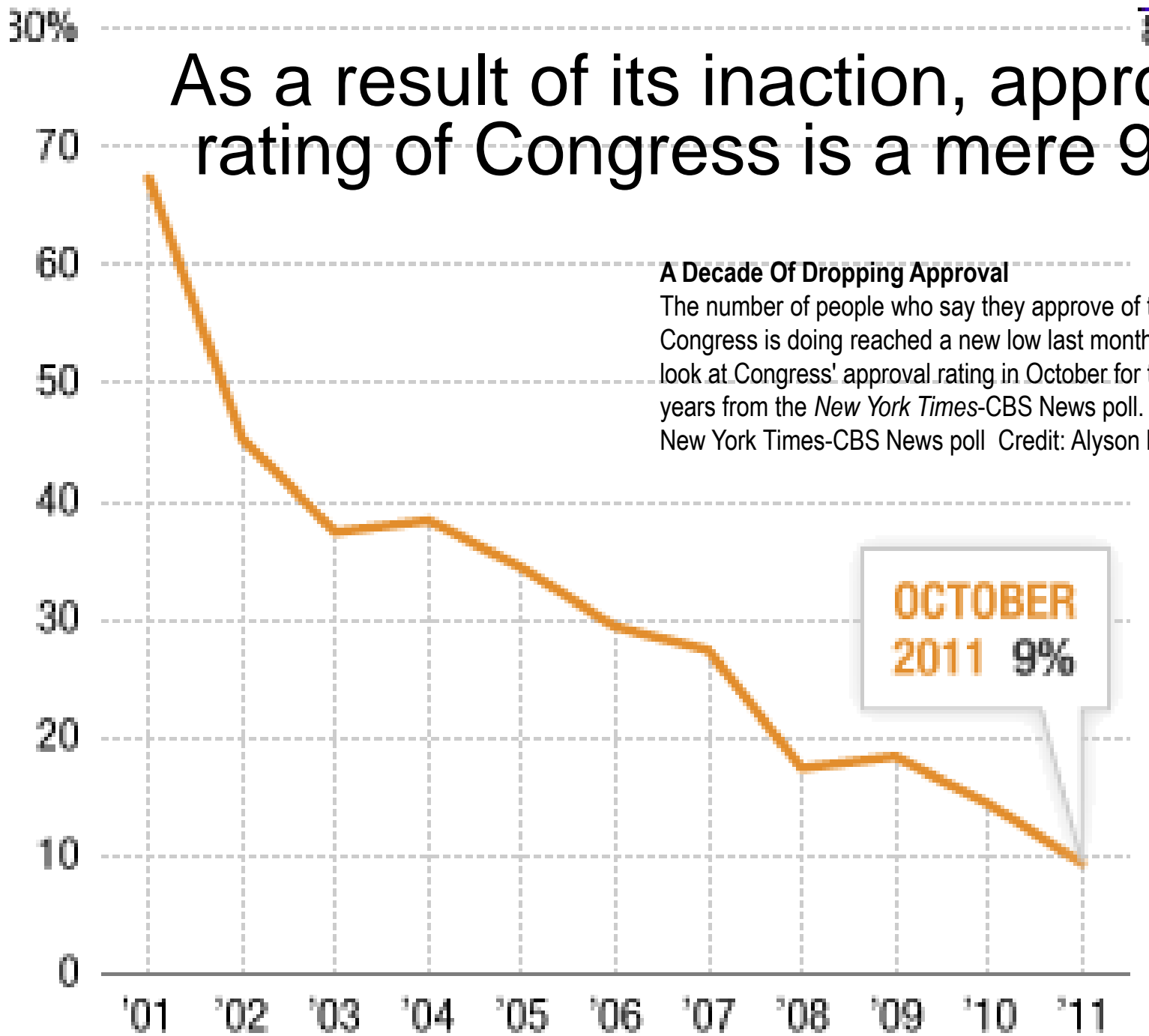


Obama is flanked on the left by VP Joe Biden (D), Leader of the Senate, and on the right by John Boehner (R), Speaker of the House. These two are next in line to assume the presidency as described by the *rule of presidential succession*.

Never before has the US had such **divided government** and as a result, there is deliberate resentment to compromise which is essential in reaching a mutual decision on everything!



As a result of its inaction, approval rating of Congress is a mere 9%.



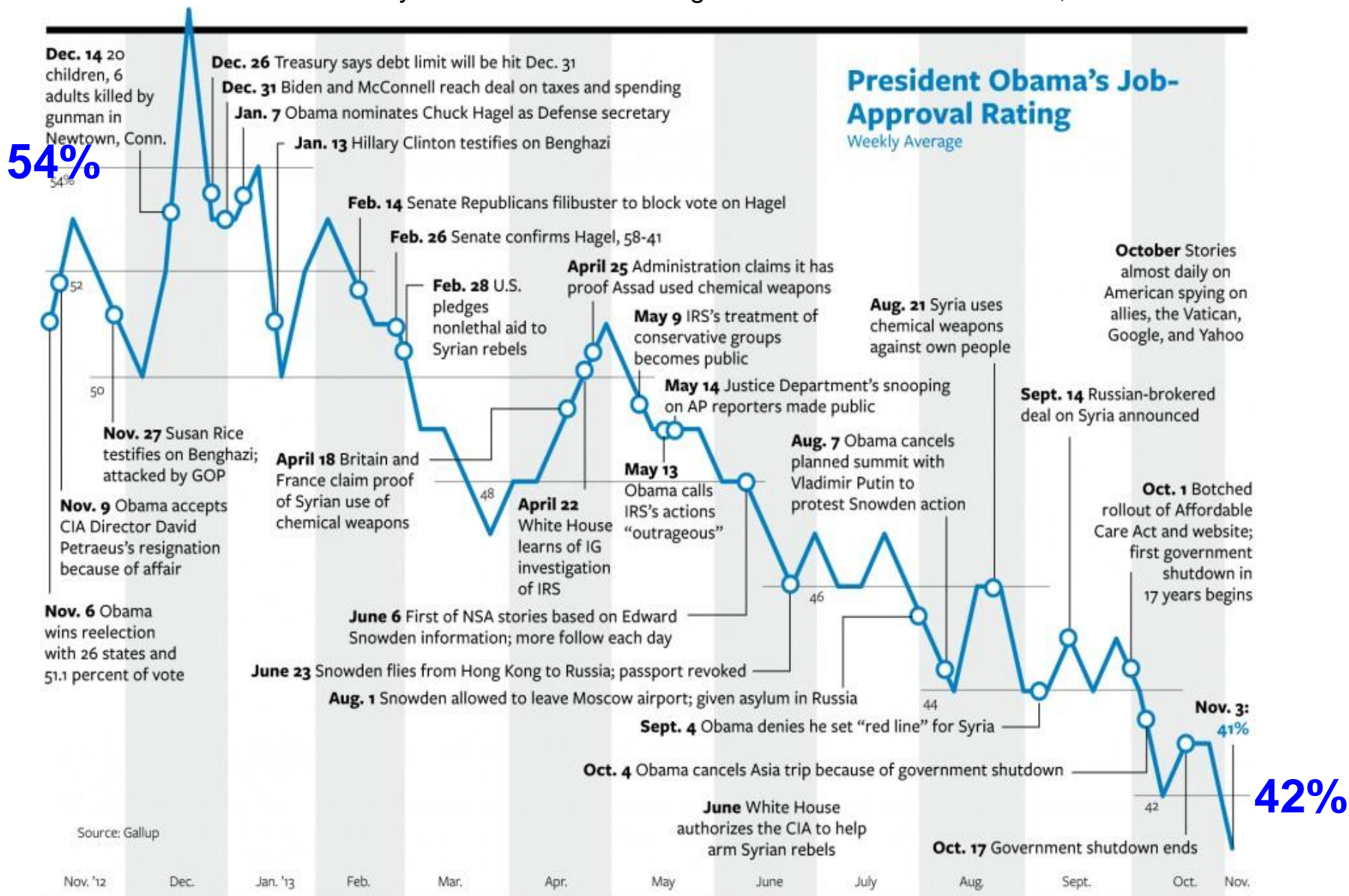
A Decade Of Dropping Approval

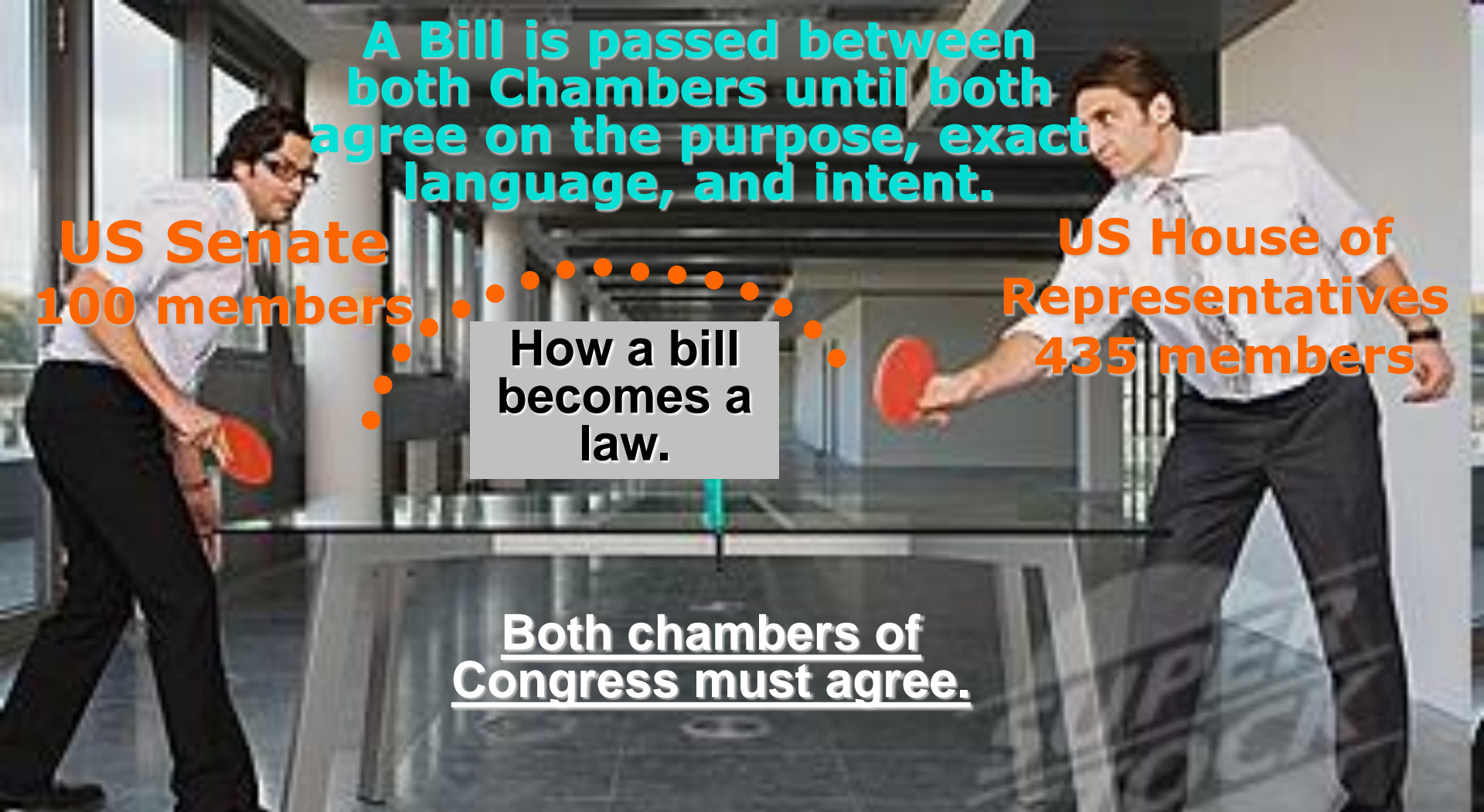
The number of people who say they approve of the job Congress is doing reached a new low last month. Here, a look at Congress' approval rating in October for the last 10 years from the *New York Times*-CBS News poll. Source: New York Times-CBS News poll Credit: Alyson Hurt/NPR

**OCTOBER
2011 9%**

Why Obama's Approval Rating Is Down Since Re-election:

The president's approval rating has fallen as much as 16 points since mid-December. By Brian McGill and George E. Condon Jr. November 8, 2013





A Bill is passed between
both Chambers until both
agree on the purpose, exact
language, and intent.

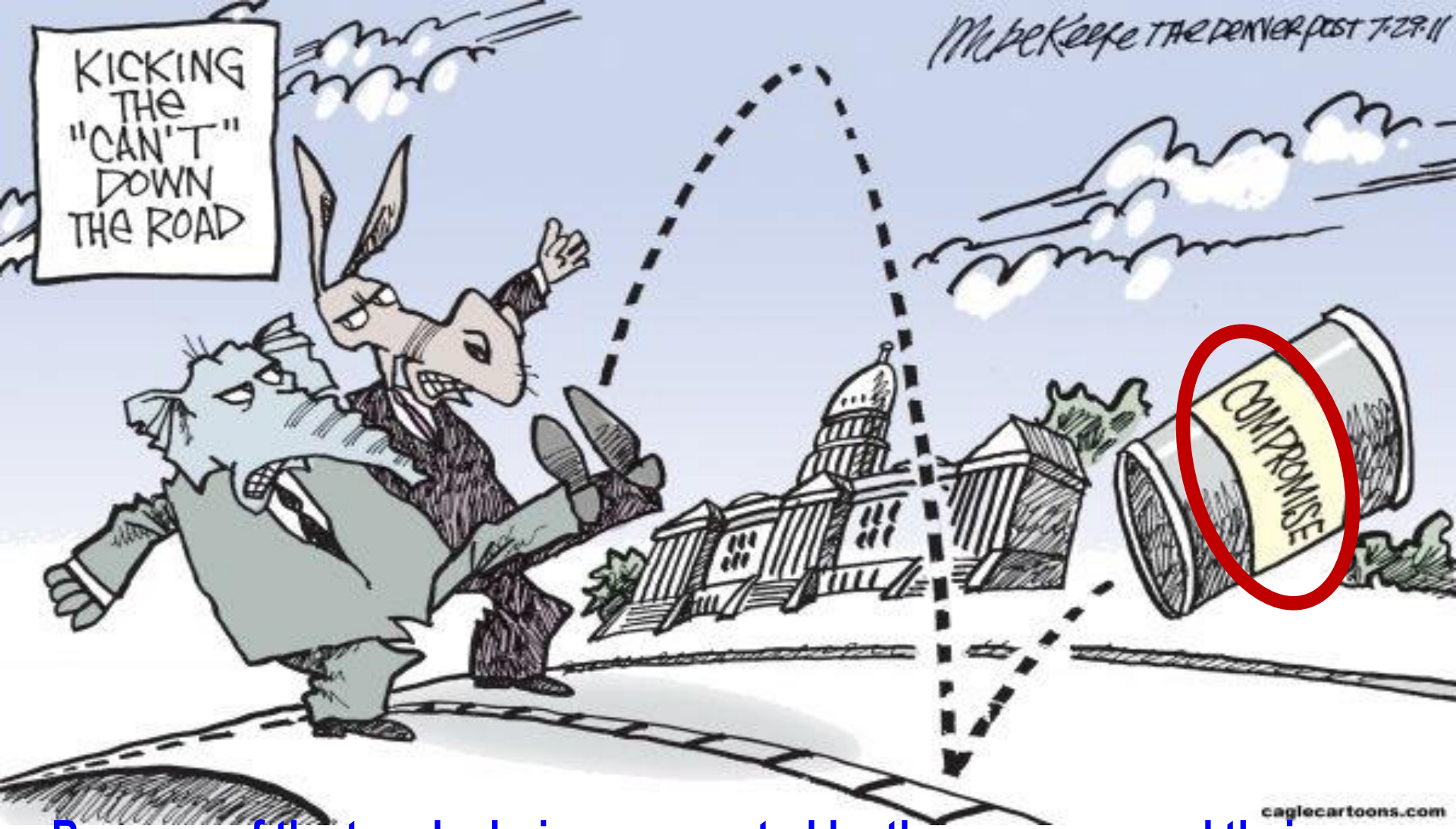
US Senate
100 members

**US House of
Representatives**
435 members

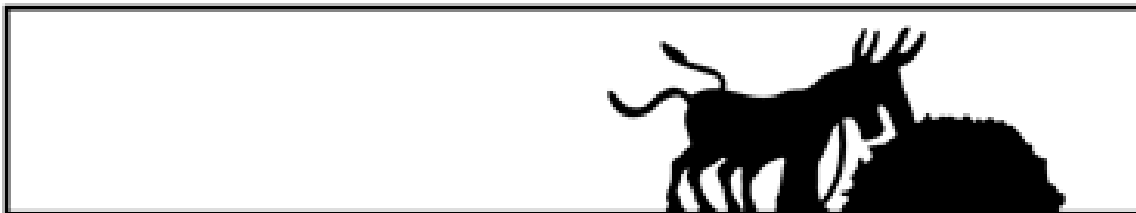
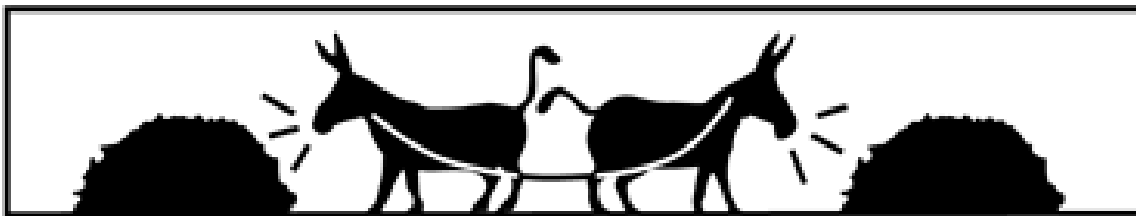
How a bill
becomes a
law.

Both chambers of
Congress must agree.

Passage of legislation is deliberately difficult so to insure that only important items are included and that there is agreement by all parties. Compromise occurs on the language of a bill as it is modified in committee and shifted between both Chambers for agreement; similar to ping pong. Ultimately a final version is agreed, passed, and sent to the President/Governor for signature into law.



Because of the tough choices presented by the economy and their differing philosophies, leaders have neglected to compromise or make difficult financial decisions, esp. spending cuts to balance the budget. This leaves us with the current situation of doing nothing, aka “kick the can down the road” which delays making a decision until later. Procrastination is never a solution or a good method!



Compromise
is the key to
solutions for
complicated
problems,
especially when
each of us has
different goals or
interprets things
differently.

Unfortunately
divided govern-
ment prevents
compromise
from taking
place.

If Congress continues to be uncooperative, the President has the option to use **“executive orders”**, which are declarations signed into law using his presidential powers that circumvent the democratic process of approval by Congress. This is not typical, and not desirable because it is not the will of the people, but when there is no willingness to compromise, he has this option.



‘America does not stand still, and neither do I’.

This power is vested in the President by the Constitution, so for him to use it, is NOT abusive or wrong, as is now being portrayed by Republicans and cartoonists. It is a last resort, but it is a fair and just procedure.

These **“orders”** are not permanent laws however, and they can be undone by the next president. Although almost any law can be “undone” or repealed by the Supreme Court or Congress, it is not likely.

Historical context for “executive orders”:

PRESIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE ORDERS

HARRY TRUMAN	907
DWIGHT EISENHOWER	484
JOHN F. KENNEDY	214
LYNDON JOHNSON	325
RICHARD NIXON	346
GERALD R. FORD	169
JIMMY CARTER	320
RONALD REAGAN	381
GEORGE H.W. BUSH	166
BILL CLINTON	364
GEORGE W. BUSH	291
BARACK OBAMA	168



THIS DICTATORIAL
POWER GRAB IS
UNCONSTITUTIONAL!!



Stockman walked out because he believes Obama will abuse this privilege, but this chart (FACTS) shows there is no evidence of that.

Policy Making Through **Regulation** or LAWS

□ **Executive Orders:**

- **A rule or regulation issued by the president that has the effect of law, without requiring approval of any other legislative body. They are usually implemented to save time.**
 - Presidents typically make them as they leave or enter office to make immediate changes in the ways things are done.
 - Truman ordered an **end to racial segregation in the military** via an executive order.
 - **Affirmative action** was institutionalized as national policy through Executive Order 11246 by L.B.J. in 1966
 - Executive orders
 - **2001 Ban on stem cell research** using federal funds by G.W. Bush
 - **2009 Lifting the ban on stem cell** research by Obama because the science had changed

Executive orders are typically not used (especially on controversial subjects) because they do NOT employ the democratic law-making process of the people via the Congress (i.e. utilizing the people's representatives "one man, one vote"), to achieve agreement / consensus on enacting the law. Laws should be made through group decisions and "the majority rules", not through any individual power (dictatorship).

June 2012, Obama uses an **executive order** to lift deportation threats to students, aka ***The Dreamers***, thereby allowing them employment opportunities. However, executive orders are not permanent and can be rescinded by future presidents.



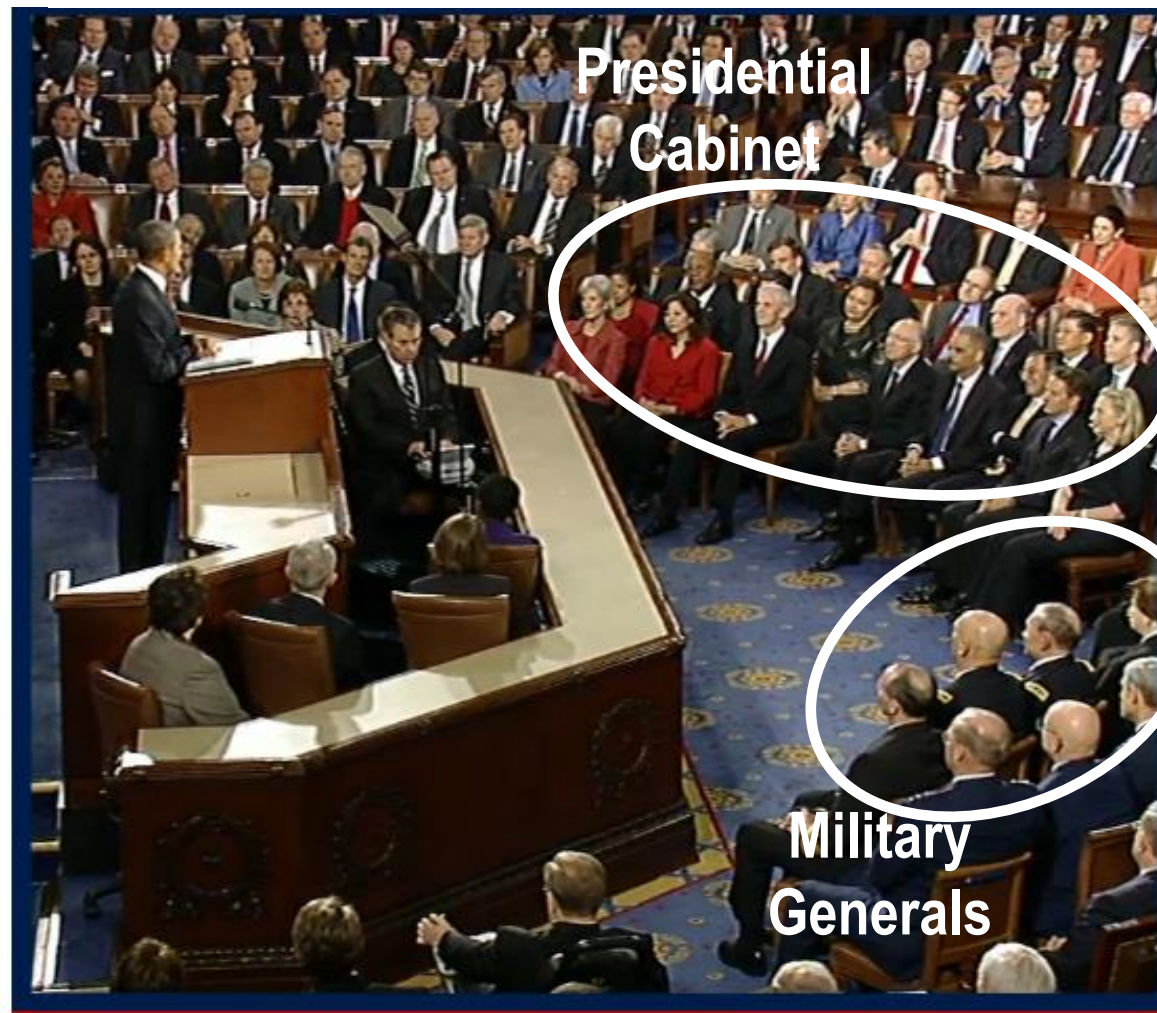
UT Austin diploma; but cannot get a job because he is a non-citizen.

Gov. Perry authorized in-state tuition for undocumented students to create an educated labor force, but this policy may not be continued under the 2014 Abbott/Patrick Administration.

Loren Campos, poses for a portrait in his home. Campos graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a civil engineering degree, but Campos has been unable to find work in his field because he is undocumented Tuesday, June 12, 2012, in Katy.

Photo: James Nielsen, Chronicle / © Houston Chronicle 2012

Obama lectured the Congressmen on their failure to agree to pass legislation and appealed to their sense of professionalism to work together as they should. But it did no good because Tea Party blocked the 2013 budget and invoked a government SHUTDOWN that lasted 16 days and cost \$24.B



Divided Government achieves no purpose for anyone.

Senate Chamber

House Chamber





“We don’t have to agree
ON EVERYTHING
to agree it’s time to do
DO SOMETHING.”

BARACK OBAMA

*calling on Congress to take
action to reduce gun violence*

Pre-tax household income

1979-2007



Growth of the Wealth Gap since 1980 and Decline of the Middle Class

If you are in the bottom 80 percent of American households, you've gained essentially no economic ground in the past three decades.

There is very little growth in real income for Americans in the last 30 years.

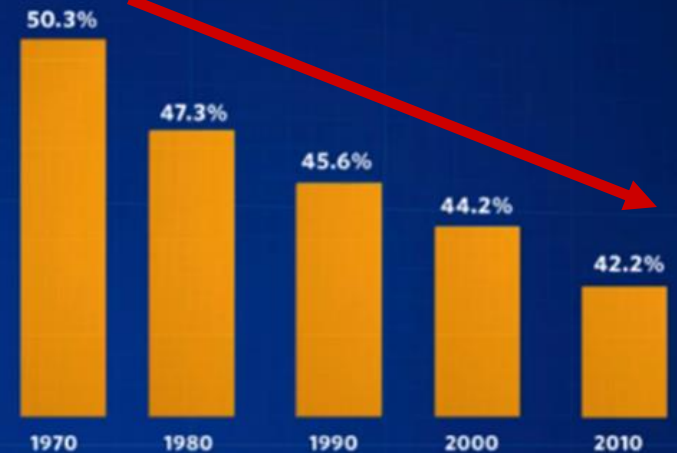
Poverty is at an all time high for all age groups.

In tandem with the growth of the 1%, is the decline of the middle class over the last 40 years.



THE SHRINKING MIDDLE-CLASS

Percentage of households with annual income within 50% of the median

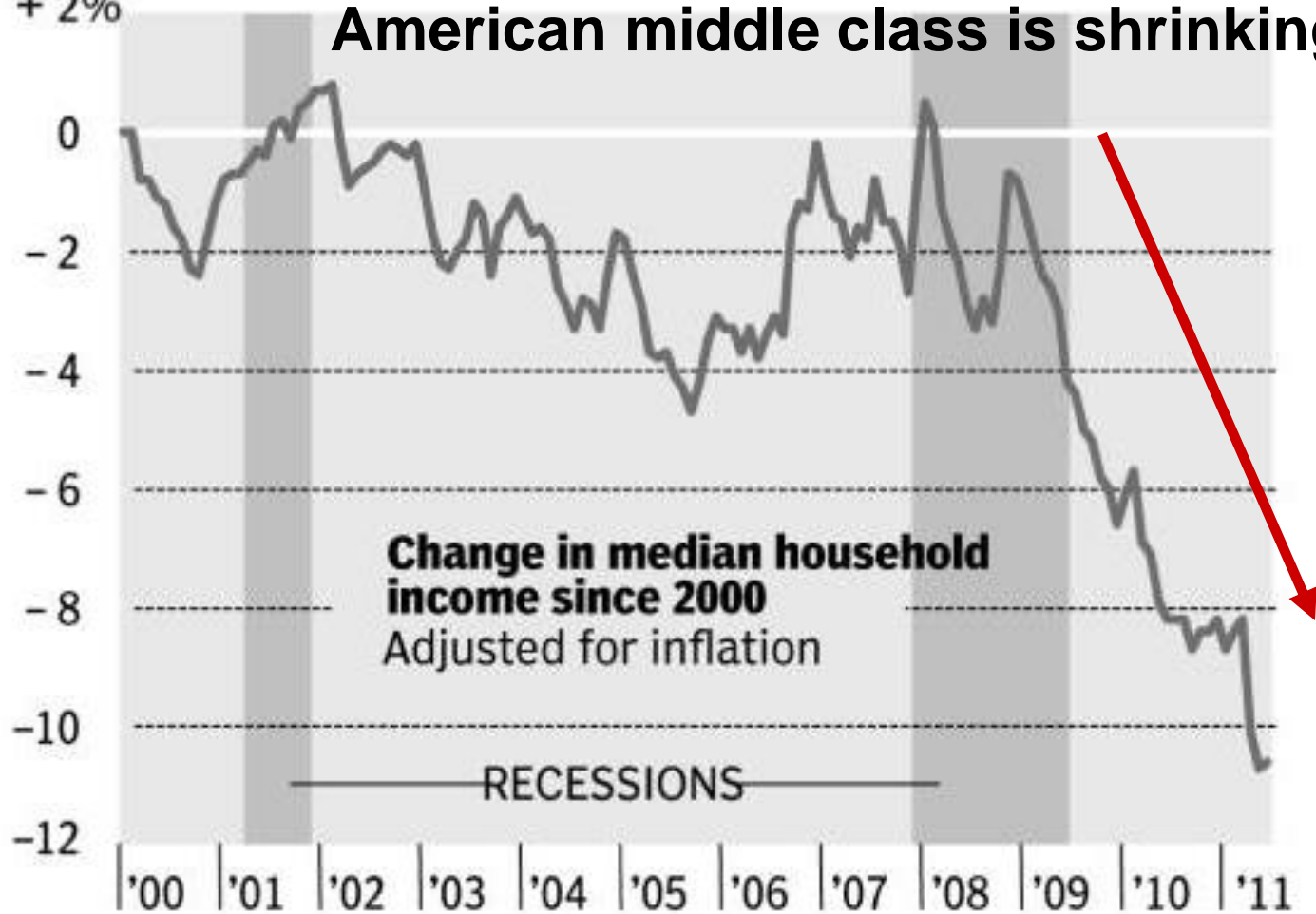


DECLINING INCOME

Real household income has fallen by about 10 percent since the start of the last recession, with a greater decline after the recession ended.

+ 2%

American middle class is shrinking !!



THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sources: Analysis of Current Population Survey data
by Gordon W. Green Jr. and John F. Coder, Sentier Research

2012 Speech Summary

- **Issues:** Jobs, Economy
 - Obama has some success, but not great, so he cannot gloat (all he can say: “*it’s better than it was*”)
- **Strategy:** *Shift the focus* to what he can do and that will help solve the problems of the country.
 - **Speech Theme:** Fairness, “Class Warfare, 1% vs. 99%; Occupy Wall St.”, Tax Reform to achieve fairness
- **Broken/Divided Govt:** Congress is ineffective (House/Tea Party vs. Senate Dems vs. Pres/Dem)
- **2 Sides:** Republicans heard 1 thing; Dems different vision
- **NO mention of the debt other than tax reform;**
this is the major philosophical between Repubs & Dem

OTHER TOPICS OF THE SPEECH INCLUDED:

- 1% & 99%: increasing wealth gap; declining middle class; need for tax reform to achieve **fairness**
- Job losses and recovery; auto industry recovery
- Promote business development; Bring outsourced jobs overseas back home by giving incentives and tax breaks
- Education and college /financial aid
- Border security and immigration reform
- Ending subsidies to oil companies
- Increased funding for alternative fuels and renewable resources (solar, wind, biofuels, etc.)
- Reduce government regulations and repeal obsolete laws
- Global diplomacy to promote peace and good will
- Ending the wars and support the troops at home; redirecting funding for domestic uses
- Keep the military strong and fight terrorism

March 2010 brought passage of his **HEALTHCARE BILL** by the Congress, much to the resentment of Republicans. However, every industrialized country of the world has guaranteed healthcare. Only in the US can you be forced into bankruptcy by medical bills, so fairness includes medical security. Republicans abhor this basic “right” and demand its repeal.

BECAUSE OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

2.5 million more Americans under the age of 26 have insurance through their parents' plan

Millions of seniors have received a 50% discount on medication when they hit the prescription drug donut hole, saving them \$2 billion

Uninsured people in all 50 states with pre-existing conditions now have insurance options

Warren Buffett is a multi-billionaire (the richest man in America living in Omaha), an investor who surprisingly volunteered to pay more taxes because he felt the rich could afford it.



Buffett's secretary (sitting in the balcony with Michelle) pays a higher tax rate than does he. Logically to be fair, Buffet should pay more.



“ [I PAID] ONLY 17.4 PERCENT OF MY TAXABLE INCOME — AND THAT'S ACTUALLY A LOWER PERCENTAGE THAN WAS PAID BY ANY OF THE OTHER 20 PEOPLE IN OUR OFFICE. ”
- WARREN BUFFETT

BUFFETT RULE

MAKE OVER **\$1,000,000 PER YEAR**
PAY AT LEAST **30% IN TAXES**

| Currently, a quarter of
| millionaires pay a lower
| tax rate than millions of
| middle-class families.

\$1,000,000

As a part of his tax reform efforts, Obama plans to raise taxes on the rich using the new

“Buffett Rule”.

Ironically, Romney released only 1 year of his taxes, only to show his rate was a mere 14%.

Most middle Americans pay **25%-30%**. Thus, the Buffet Rule would double Romney’s taxes. Romney refuses to release other years’ taxes probably because he paid NO taxes whatsoever.

Tax cuts must also be extended again by March by the Congress, else the middle class will again incur a increase.

A close-up photograph of a hand holding several US dollar bills. The bills are fanned out, showing the portrait of Andrew Jackson on the front of a \$20 bill. The serial number IF 21297589 is visible on the bills.

If Congress doesn't act by

03/01/2012

roughly 160 million Americans
will see less money in each
paycheck

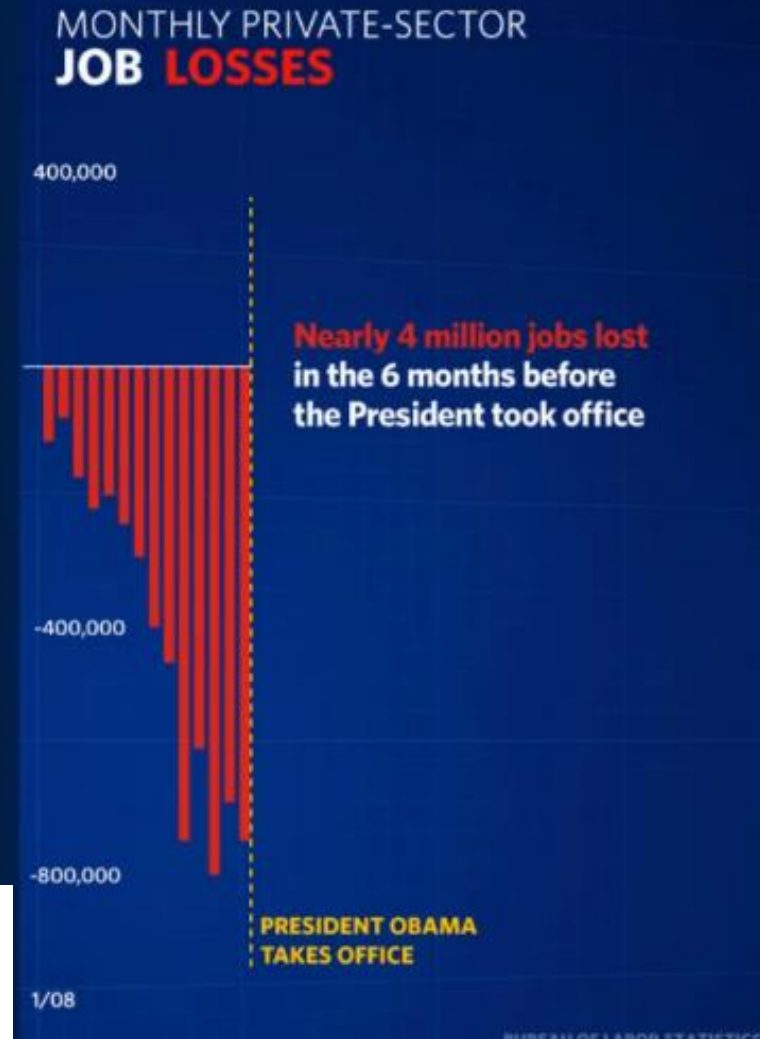


#40DOLLARS

Recession began in 2008 during the Bush Administration when 4 million people lost their jobs. In the most severe month, over 750,000 Americans lost their jobs. It takes 150,000 new jobs/month to keep pace with population growth.

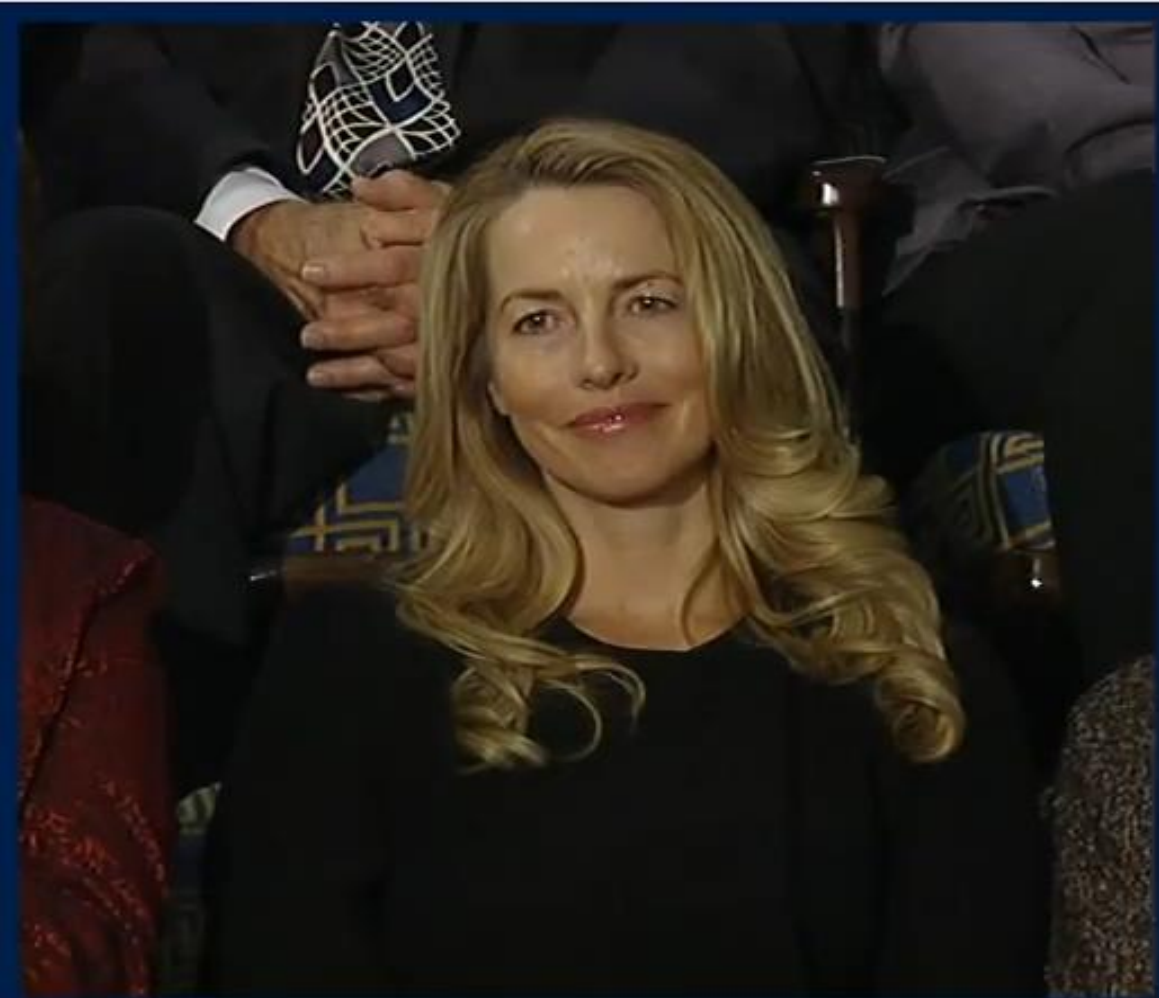


Job Losses



Obama's **Stimulus Package** saved jobs that otherwise would have been lost and created new ones by funding infrastructure and construction projects such as Houston METRO, which is building the light rail system linking Northline to UH-D and other rail corridors across the city.

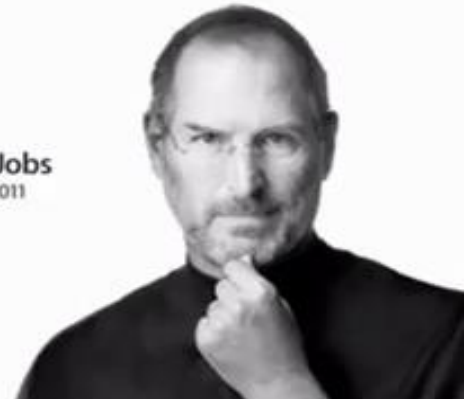




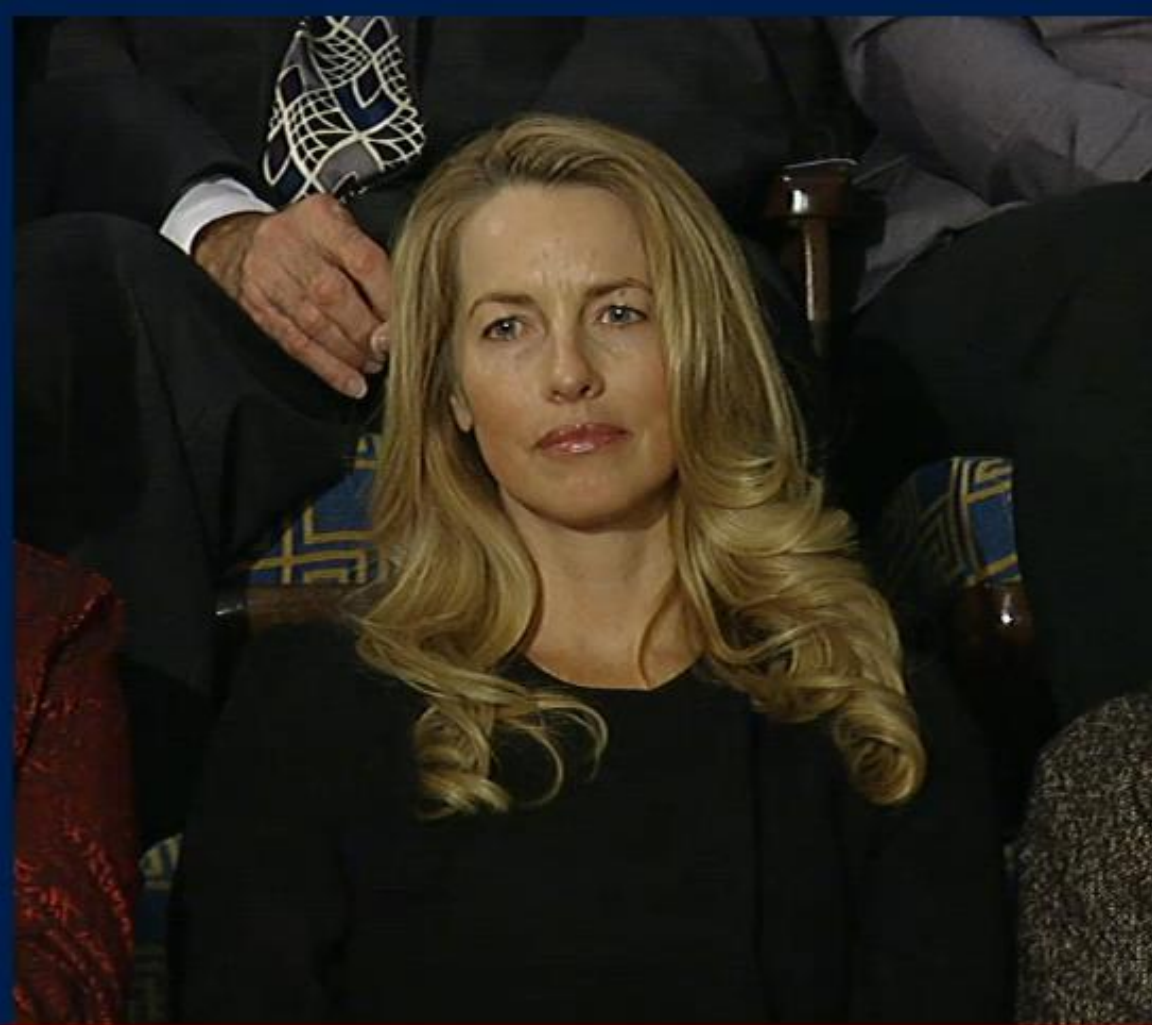
"The world has lost a visionary. And there may be no greater tribute to Steve's success than the fact that much of the world learned of his passing on a device he invented."

– Barack Obama

Steve Jobs
1955-2011



The widow of Apple founder Steve Jobs (after his death) was amongst Michelle's guests as Obama emphasized the importance of American ingenuity to create additional jobs. Apple began as a small business in the garage of the founders.



64%
**OF NEW JOBS OVER
THE PAST 15 YEARS
CAME FROM
SMALL
BUSINESS**

Apple Computer was started as a small business in the garage of its founders.

“Mom & Pop” businesses are small neighborhood establishments that are the core of the American economy and should be supported by the local people instead of corporate operations and big business like Walmart and chain stores.
Two of 3 jobs are created by small businesses.

**WHEN YOU BUY FROM A MOM OR POP BUSINESS,
YOU ARE NOT HELPING A CEO BUY A THIRD
VACATION HOME.**

**YOU ARE HELPING A LITTLE GIRL GET DANCE
LESSONS, A LITTLE BOY GET HIS TEAM JERSEY,
A MOM OR DAD PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE,
A FAMILY PAY A MORTGAGE, OR A STUDENT PAY
FOR COLLEGE.**

**OUR CUSTOMERS ARE OUR SHAREHOLDERS AND
THEY ARE THE ONES WE STRIVE TO MAKE HAPPY.**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES!

2015: Obama pledges to provide free community college tuition to everyone, it funding remains undefined, and with a GOP Congress, it is unlikely. Likewise, states must pay for ¼ of the cost, and in Texas, this is highly unlikely.



The White House

14h ago

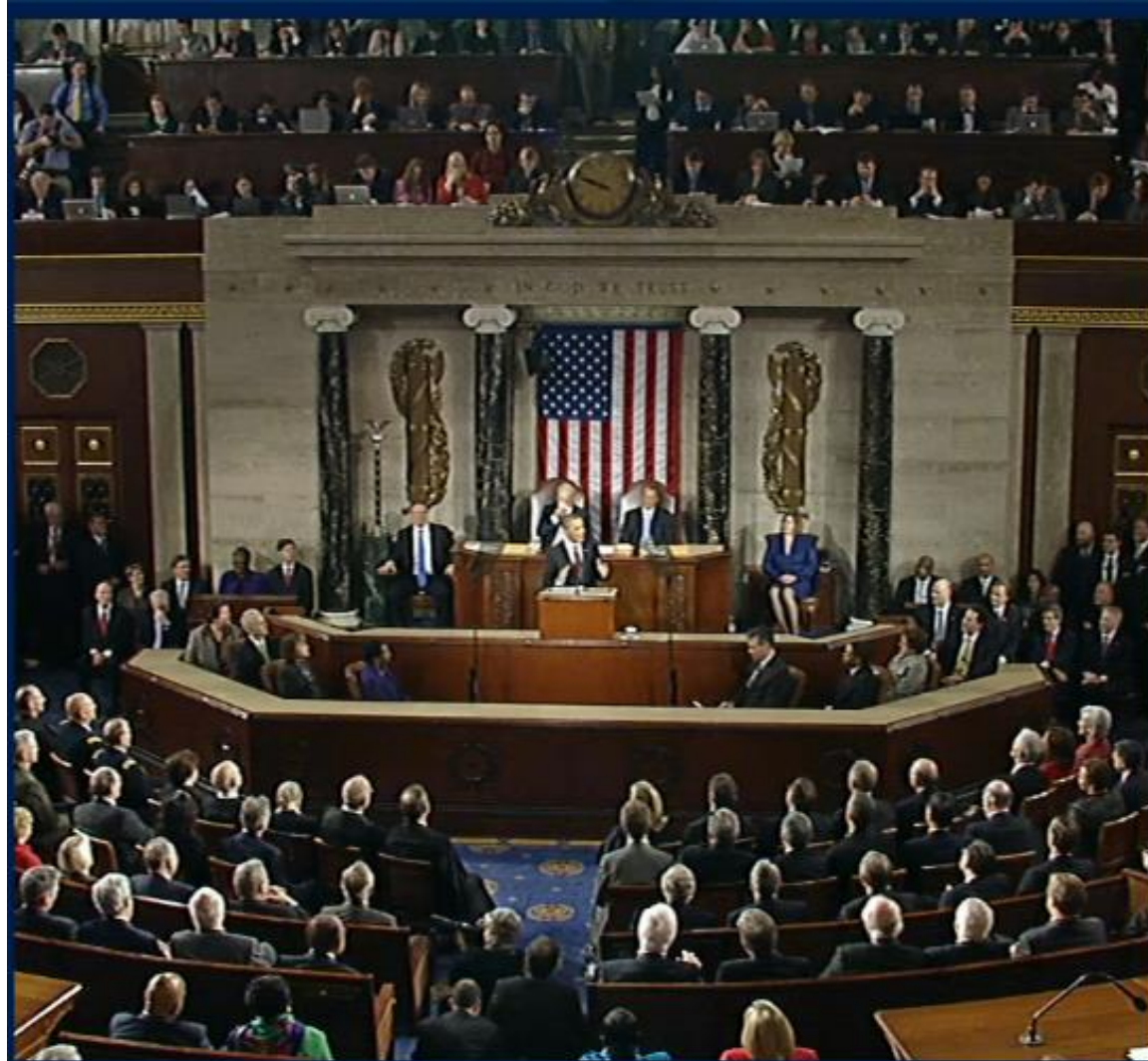


BREAKING: Watch President Obama announce his [#FreeCommunityCollege](#) proposal.

4,973 Likes · 1,538 Retweets · 455 Comments



1,672,293 Loops



End