

Democrats try to switch topics

Michael Costello/Lewiston Tribune

After capturing power in 2008, the Democratic Party gave us the stimulus package (a total failure). They gave us Obamacare, a failure of such proportions that Democratic pollster Celinda Lake urged her party's candidates to run from it this fall. They have given us a childishly naive foreign policy, which has given us the so-called "Arab Spring" with all its horrors, and enabled a newly aggressive Russian imperialism.

Democrats have given us "green energy" policy that has imposed higher energy prices, higher food prices and a string of government-underwritten bankruptcies.

Student loan debt has surpassed \$1 trillion and unemployment for college graduates hovers at an historic high.

The International Monetary Fund predicts that China will surpass the U.S. as the world's largest economy before President Obama leaves office.

Mission accomplished.

Since Obama's election, the percentage of Americans who qualify as long-term unemployed has nearly doubled. And, if that weren't bad enough, a new study produced by Princeton economists, and published by the left-leaning Brookings Institution, predicts that if you fall into that category, there's a strong probability you'll never find work again.

Democratic occupation of the executive branch has given us the Fast and Furious gun-smuggling scandal. It has given us an Internal Revenue Service that targets and harasses Obama's critics. Obama has spied on our phone calls and emails. He has invoked the Espionage Act more than all previous presidents combined, and he abused those powers to spy on the Associated Press and Fox News. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius used her office to raise money from companies that her department regulates. Obama's administration secretly re-wrote Freedom of Information Act laws to give itself the power to deny FOIA requests for entirely political purposes. Obama's Department of Justice is easily the most politicized in history. The Obamtons veiled their incompetence in the Benghazi tragedy with lies about a cruddy YouTube video. Obama has stalled the Keystone XL oil pipeline construction for five years, destroying jobs and maintaining U.S. dependence upon anti-American oil-exporting nations. Obama's Federal Communications Commission tried to insert overseers into newsrooms to monitor editorial decisions. And Obama has surrendered U.S. supervision of the Internet to despots.

So naturally, Democrats want to change the subject. And so, even though income disparity has grown considerably worse under their stewardship, they have chosen to make that their central issue in the upcoming campaign. Are Americans really going to believe that Democrats were innocent bystanders as their standard of living has declined while the Democrats' biggest contributors have gotten wealthy?

And who are they going to blame for all of this? They've committed millions of dollars to attack two libertarian brothers whom most Americans have never heard of - Charles and David Koch.

The Koch brothers' crime is that they seek to restore the Jeffersonian liberalism enshrined in the U.S. Constitution.

Could anything be more dangerous to the republic?

This strategy is so ludicrous that the only hope of success is that the mainstream news media squanders what shreds of credibility it has left promoting the meme. The Washington Post is eager to help. The Post published an article claiming that the Keystone XL oil pipeline would primarily benefit the Koch brothers. This was demonstrably false, as the authors themselves ultimately confessed.

The Koch brothers have correctly identified government over-regulation and crony capitalism as impediments to economic growth. In truth, if it weren't for the rapid growth in the politically incorrect fossil fuel industry, the U.S. economy would still be in recession. And the Democrats have declared war on that one viable sector of the economy.

It's not as though Democrats are opposed to big money in politics. Democrats are ecstatic that billionaire Tom Steyer has pledged to spend \$100 million on the upcoming election to fight global warming. And why not? He filled his money bin with federal green energy subsidies. Of course he wants the spigot left open.

Democrats have no objection to George Soros spending money on their behalf. The old Nazi collaborator declared the billion he made by betting against the US economy in 2007-2008 as the highlight of his career as a currency speculator.

The Republicans have to keep the election's focus on substance. The Democrats' only hope is to induce attention deficit disorder upon the American people with their sideshows.

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