



TIME TO GET TOUGH

Making America #1 Again

DONALD TRUMP

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General Overview:

Democrats, weak Republicans and especially President Barack Obama have turned America into a mess like has never been seen before:

- America's debt is \$15 trillion and soaring – even if Washington could save a billion tax dollars every day, it would still take 38 years to pay off the debt without even taking into account interest.
- China is bilking America of hundreds of billions every year by manipulating its currency.
- One in seven Americans is now on food stamps.

It doesn't have to be this way. America didn't become the most prosperous nation in history by accident and it's time for this nation to once again get tough and make the hard choices. We need a President who will step up to the plate and act more effectively as this nation's dealmaker-in-chief.

"I love America. And when you love something, you protect it passionately—fiercely, even. We are the greatest country the world has ever known. I make no apologies for this country, my pride in it, or my desire to see us become strong and rich again. After all, wealth funds our freedom. But for too long we've been pushed around, used by other countries, and ill-served by politicians in Washington who measure their success by how rapidly they can expand the federal debt, and your tax burden, with their favorite government programs. America can do better. I think we deserve the best. To fix the problem, we've got to be smart and tough."

*** Please Note:** This political book summary does *not* offer judgment or opinion on the book's contents. The ideas, viewpoints and arguments are presented just as the book's *author* had intended.

TAKE THE OIL

“We’ve spent blood and treasure defending the people of the Middle East, from Iraq to Kuwait to Saudi Arabia and the small Gulf states. And if any country in the Middle East won’t sell us their oil at a fair market price—oil that we discovered, we pumped, and we made profitable for the countries of the Middle East in the first place—we have every right to take it.”

In September 2010, the Government Accountability Office produced a report which highlighted the fact the Iraqi government will run a budget surplus of \$52.1 billion in 2011 alone and yet when we suggest they should share some of the \$1.5 trillion cost of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq recoils at the very idea. This is preposterous. To the victor go the spoils and we need negotiators who will represent our national interests with titanium spines and big brains. If Iraq won’t play ball, then America should seize its oil and get it on to the market. This will force the price of oil to fall to its natural market price of \$40 - \$50 a barrel at the most.

The Obama Administration has openly stated its goal is to raise America’s price of gasoline at the pump to the levels in Europe in order to appease those who accept the pseudo-science of global warming. This is crazy. Like it or not, the lifeblood of the American economy is oil. Until oil is bought back down to a reasonable and sustainable market price, America’s economy will suffer. We might be all for alternatives to oil but in 2012 and for the foreseeable future, America runs on oil. Getting the price of oil down should be a national priority – and that’s what America’s leadership should be focused on delivering.

It’s also time for America to get tough with OPEC – the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries who control 80 percent of the world’s accessible oil. These guys sit around a table and collude to set the price of oil. Fixing prices like this is illegal in America and yet we sit idly by and let them squeeze us out of every penny they can get. This is sheer lunacy. We need to be suing OPEC for violating antitrust laws. A bill currently before Congress will amend the Sherman Antitrust Act to make it illegal for foreign governments to act collectively to limit production or set prices. It’s time to get this through and then to sue OPEC. This is the only way we will ever get free market prices for oil which are closer to the \$15 it actually costs to produce a barrel of oil. It’s past time for the United States to take on the oil thugs of the world.

In addition to introducing cost-sharing plans with nations whose wars we fight and hitting OPEC in the wallet, the third thing the United States must do is drill more at home to take advantage of our own nation’s vast reserves of natural gas. The United States is literally the “Saudi Arabia” of natural gas but we don’t use this to our advantage. We have enough domestic natural gas reserves to power America’s energy needs for the next 100 years. We should be using natural gas while we work on developing the newer, more efficient, cleaner and cheaper fuels of the future. So let’s get drilling. It’s time to show some political leadership and liberate the oil companies from the unrealistic demands of the environmental lobby. When the oil exploring nations see us get serious about drilling in America, they will get the message loud and clear America won’t stand idly by and let them pick our pockets. The more domestically produced oil and natural gas we can get on to the market, the lower the price of a barrel of oil will go. So let’s drill already.

“We don’t owe the Middle East any apologies. America is not what’s wrong with the world. We’re an example of freedom to the world. No one can match America. We have big hearts—and the courage to do what’s right. But we’re not the world’s policemen. And if we have to take on that role, we need to send a clear message that protection comes at a price. If other countries benefit from our armed forces protecting them, those countries should cover the costs. Period. Take the oil, sue OPEC, and drill domestically—if we do these three big things, we’ll be on the right track to rebuild American strength, wealth, jobs, opportunity. Will it be tough? Sure. But that’s what makes us Americans: we do hard things, and we do them well . . . if we have the right leadership.”

TAX CHINA TO SAVE AMERICAN JOBS

“Get it straight: China is not our friend. They see us as the enemy. Washington better wake up fast, because China is stealing our jobs, sending a wrecking ball through our manufacturing industry, and ripping off our technology and military capabilities at Mach speed. If America doesn’t get wise soon, the damage will be irreversible.”

Economists suggest by 2027, China will overtake the United States as the world’s biggest economy. That seems conservative – it could happen by 2016 if America doesn’t act fast. This should hardly be a surprise because for one thing the Chinese have been coming for decades now and for another one out of every six people on the planet is Chinese. Their population outnumbers us by roughly four to one so they have a huge pool of talent from which they can build businesses, staff manufacturing facilities, fill educational institutions and equip an enormous military.

So what should we do about China? It’s time for the President to get tough and threaten serious sanctions if China doesn’t cease its three most obvious threats:

- China’s massive ongoing manipulation of its currency to boost exports.
- China’s systematic attempt to destroy America’s manufacturing base.
- The blatant industrial espionage and cyber warfare China is waging against America.

President Obama’s approach to these threats has been: “So we’ll continue to look for the value of China’s currency to be increasingly driven by the market, which will help ensure that no nation has an undue economic advantage.” That’s crazy because it’s an approach drenched in weakness. Instead, we need to get tough, get smart and stand up for America by sticking it to the Chinese. What we should be doing is simple:

- Threaten to slap a 25 percent tax on all China’s products which get sold in the USA unless they set a realistic market value on their currency. Most analysts agree China’s currency is massively undervalued and that a revaluation of just 20 percent would create 300,000 to 700,000 American jobs over the next two to three years. We want those jobs. The 25 percent tax should do the trick.
- Encourage more American companies to replace outsourcing with onshoring – brining manufacturing jobs back home where they belong. A great way to do this would be to sign into law legislation which allows our government to calculate taxes based on how much the manufacturing country’s currency is undervalued. Create a level playing field and American manufacturers will respond.
- Act decisively to crack down on intellectual property theft by Chinese companies. Make certain everyone understands industrial espionage will be prosecuted to the full extent of international trade laws. Do something about the fact China demands American companies which want to enter the Chinese market have to transfer their technology to Chinese companies – a practice which has been labeled by the World Trade Organization as unfair and illegal. We need to stand up and stop this happening right here right now. China needs to know the United States will not tolerate the wholesale thievery of U.S. technology and trade secrets.

“China is our enemy. It’s time we start acting like it . . . and if we do our job correctly, China will gain a whole new respect for the United States, and we can then happily travel the highway to the future with China as our friend. We need a president who will sign the bipartisan legislation to force a proper valuation of China’s currency. We need a president who will slap the Chinese with a 25 percent tax on all their products entering America if they don’t stop undervaluing the yuan. We need a president who will crack down on China’s massive and blatant intellectual property theft that allows China to pirate our products. Most of all, we need a president who is smart and tough enough to recognize the national security threat that China poses in the new frontier of cyber warfare.”

IT'S YOUR MONEY – YOU SHOULD KEEP MORE OF IT

“The paradoxical truth is that the tax rates are too high today and tax revenues are too low and the soundest way to raise revenues in the long run is to cut rates now.”

– President John F. Kennedy, 1962

“The more government takes in taxes, the less incentive people have to work. What coal miner or assembly-line worker jumps at the offer of overtime when he knows Uncle Sam is going to take sixty percent or more of his extra pay? . . . Any system that penalizes success and accomplishment is wrong. Any system that discourages work, discourages productivity, discourages economic progress, is wrong. If, on the other hand, you reduce tax rates and allow people to spend or save more of what they earn, they'll be more industrious; they'll have more incentive to work hard, and money they earn will add fuel to the great economic machine that energizes our national progress. The result: more prosperity for all—and more revenue for government.”

– President Ronald Reagan, 1990

President Obama is totally clueless when it comes to taxes. He needs to wake up, stop taking so many vacations and learn how the real world of business operates. People are smart and it's time for the United States to have a tax system which encourages growth, savings and investment rather than punishing hard work and accomplishment. Unlike Obama, I believe the government already takes more than enough of your hard-earned money and therefore I propose a five-part tax policy:

1. *Kill the death tax* – because it's immoral for the government to seize a portion of your assets on which you've already paid taxes. Killing this tax alone will create 1.5 million jobs and expand investment.
2. *Lower the tax rate on capital gains and dividends* – so businesses of all shapes and sizes have incentives to create jobs and make more investments.
3. *Eliminate corporate taxes in order to create more American jobs* – because a zero percent corporate tax rate would create the largest jobs boom in history. Millions more taxpayers would materialize overnight as American companies would keep jobs here and foreign companies would scramble to relocate. This would be a massive shot in the arm for the United States economy and it makes good sense to do it.
4. *Mandate a 15 percent tax for outsourcing jobs and a 20 percent tax for importing goods* – so we reward companies which stay loyal to America. Those companies who have outsourced and then bring jobs back to America should pay zero tax. Create incentives and don't provide free admission to the biggest show on the planet any more.
5. *Enact a simple 1-5-10-15 federal income tax plan* – because the existing tax code is so complicated Americans waste 6.1 billion hours of productive time a year just trying to figure it out. We need to restore sanity to the tax code by having a clean and simple income tax plan anyone can figure out:
 - Up to \$30,000 of income, you pay 1 percent.
 - From \$30,000 to \$100,000, you pay 5 percent.
 - From \$100,000 to \$1 million, you pay 10 percent.
 - On \$1 million or above, you pay 15 percent.

“Government needs to stop pick-pocketing your wallet. Every time it does, it slows growth and kills jobs. It's also immoral. We need to get back to doing what we know works. President Reagan had it right: lower taxes produce more freedom and opportunity for all. Everyone knows that—except in Washington. It's time we send the politicians a big message loud and clear. As Senator Everett Dirksen once said, “When they feel the heat they'll see the light.” It's time we turn up the heat.”

A GOVERNMENT WE CAN AFFORD

“The economic idiocy of this presidency has been truly astounding. And that’s why America desperately needs a president who understands and appreciates the businesses and entrepreneurs that create opportunity and jobs. But Obama spits in the face of job creators every chance he gets.”

The United States has a government with a spending problem, not a revenue problem. The undeniable fact is every day, your government takes in \$6 billion in revenue and spends \$10 billion. To state the obvious, any business that operated that way would go under, but politicians just kick the can down the road and shrug. It’s time to get tough and stop the insanity.

Whenever this topic comes up, everyone talks about entitlement programs as the main culprits – Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. We must take care of our own people and these programs are a pledge to those who have worked hard and paid taxes all their lives. If the United States will just get tough with OPEC and China, almost a trillion dollars a year which is now flowing out of the United States economy would be retained making the funding of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid no problem at all.

So how do we come up with a government we can afford? The solutions here are obvious:

1. *We must recognize that thanks to advancements in medicine and wealth, Americans are living and working longer* – and therefore we should slowly increase the full retirement age to seventy. The best and most sustainable way to save all entitlement programs is through America’s ongoing economic success so let’s let older Americans help make that happen.
2. *We need to get Americans back into jobs* – because this will save on employment benefits plus boost tax revenues all at the same time.
3. *We need to enforce a zero-tolerance policy for the kind of brainless government waste Americans have become all too accustomed to coming from Washington* – by streamlining systems to eliminate waste. Every week there are reports on how the federal government has spent billions on wasteful overlapping programs. Let’s cut through all this carnage and work smarter. Even something obvious like streamlining and consolidating the government’s own 2,100 data centers would save \$200 billion over the next decade. It’s time to stop wasting money.
4. *We need to get tough on the criminals and con artists who are defrauding taxpayers of more than \$243 billion a year* – aggressively prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law so we can recoup some of these hundreds of billions of hard-earned taxpayer dollars.
5. *Restore fiscal sanity to government expenditure* – by negotiating smarter and ensuring the President is this nation’s dealmaker-in-chief. The Democrat’s response to anything and everything is to raise taxes. It doesn’t work because all that does is create a Social Security trust fund the government big spenders raid. It’s time for someone to put Americans back to work so the economy (and the tax base) will grow.

“Look, here’s the deal: Barack Obama has been a total disaster. He has spent this country into the ground and destroyed jobs and economic growth. If something isn’t done soon, programs Americans depend on, like Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, are going to go up in flames. It doesn’t have to be this way. We can return America to her former greatness if we get tough and act smart. It starts with China and OPEC. The hundreds of billions of dollars they steal from us each year must end right away. We need a president with a titanium spine who will stand up to these shakedown artists and demand that they get their greedy hands out of our pockets effective immediately. That one action alone will result in a windfall of hundreds of billions of dollars to help us pay down our debt and meet our commitments.”

STRENGTHEN AMERICAN MUSCLE

National security threats to the United States are growing but Americans have been too busy obsessing over the ravages of the Obama economy to notice what a colossal disaster the Obama administration has been in responding to these threats. President Obama's performance as commander-in-chief has not even risen to mediocre levels.

"I believe that any credible American foreign policy doctrine should be defined by at least seven core principles:

- 1. American interests come first. Always. No apologies.*
- 2. Maximum firepower and military preparedness.*
- 3. Only go to war to win.*
- 4. Stay loyal to your friends and suspicious of your enemies.*
- 5. Keep the technological sword razor sharp.*
- 6. See the unseen. Prepare for threats before they materialize.*
- 7. Respect and support our present and past warriors."*

Even conservatives support a strong and well-funded military because they know that all freedoms flow from national security. A person's civil liberties mean nothing if they're dead. This is why the single most important function of the federal government always has been and always will be to provide for national defense. That's why we need a new President who will be prepared to get tough in the more obvious hot spots of national security:

- China – who are spending the \$300 billion they rip us off for every year on building their military might. The United States must beef up its military funding and apply it in smart ways to respond. China must be stopped from using money as a weapon against the United States.
- Russia – who have been given the outrageous promise America will back off developing a new missile defense system if Moscow helps stop Iran from developing long-range weapons. The Russians aren't stupid. They responded by selling Iran anti-aircraft missiles and other technology through intermediaries rather than doing it directly. This has to be addressed.
- Iran – who are actively developing nuclear weapon capabilities while we sit on our hands and do nothing. Obama's solution has been to suggest installing a telephone hotline between America and Iran.
- Pakistan – who take billions of dollars in aid every year from the United States and then turn around and do everything they can to help terrorists who attack the United States. They even went so far as to hide Osama bin Laden near their most prestigious military academy.
- Libya – where the United States spent more than \$1 billion on removing the Qaddafi regime without extracting a single benefit for the country in return.

The clock is ticking in all of these hotspots right now and the commander in chief must step up to the plate and make some very tough calls. President Obama's track record in doing this is abysmal and his judgment and instincts to apologize for American might are downright dangerous. The nation cannot survive another term of monumental foreign policy missteps.

"America deserves a commander in chief who respects the challenges and realities our Armed Forces face in our dangerous world. Specifically, our military deserves the best equipment, the best training, and the best weapons. They also deserve to be paid well for the dangerous and heroic work they do. They more than earn it."

A SAFETY NET, NOT A HAMMOCK

“America became a powerhouse because of our deep belief in the virtue of self-reliance. As Thomas Jefferson said, “I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.” Government wasn’t created to take care of us. Generations of Americans believed they should be responsible for themselves. When hard times hit, churches and neighbors pitched in and pulled together to help. But in the end, the Founders believed that government should only do those few things individuals couldn’t do for themselves. We are rapidly losing that self-reliant spirit that made America great.”

Welfare spending in the United States has been so jacked up by the Obama administration today it swallows almost \$1 trillion a year – which is around 6 percent of GDP. That’s not only totally outrageous but also completely unsustainable and immoral. The next President America elects must be committed to overhauling the welfare system and winding back the more than 8 million people who have been added to the welfare rolls on President Obama’s watch thus far.

So how exactly do we combat the welfare mentality? In a way, all we need do is go back to the future. In 1996, Congress forced President Clinton to sign the 1996 Welfare Reform Act which tied welfare to work. Liberals were up in arms but the results were dramatic: welfare caseloads went down by 60 percent, 2.8 million families made the transition from welfare to work and the families of around 1.6 million kids climbed out of poverty. The whole “secret sauce” behind this was to get a welfare check, people had to prove they were enrolled in job training or were actively trying to find work. This is the exact type of reform which is needed again and there is currently a bill before Congress entitled The Welfare Reform Act of 2011 which will do that. I believe this must be passed into law.

The Welfare Reform Act of 2011 creates a program called Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). TANF recipients must take and pass a drug test to keep getting welfare assistance. The civil libertarians will be up in arms but it’s insane to ask taxpayers to foot the bill for someone else’s drug habit. Furthermore, millions of hard-working Americans go through drug testing year after year to keep their jobs. The bill’s bottom line is: you do drugs, no welfare check. End of story. Let’s get it done.

“Finally, it’s time to get tough on those who cheat and defraud taxpayers. The Obama-fueled welfare “crime wave” must end fast. Otherwise, it will further spread the mindset that says, “Who cares if I cheat the system, it’s not my money. I deserve free stuff.” That means punishing violators, not turning a blind eye like the Obama administration has done. And that includes punishing corrupt bureaucrats who run scams and leave taxpayers holding the bill. Also, no more millionaires getting welfare checks. That’s outrageous and must be stopped immediately. America has a big heart. We believe in helping our fellow citizens when they are down on their luck, become seriously disabled, or reach an age when they can’t care for themselves. For those folks, the safety net is necessary and totally appropriate. Yet for too many people, welfare has become a way of life. There’s nothing “compassionate” about allowing welfare dependency to be passed from generation to generation. Kids deserve better. America deserves better. President Reagan put it best: “Welfare’s purpose should be to eliminate, as far as possible, the need for its own existence. I believe America can restore herself to greatness. But we need the right kind of change to tap the massive potential locked inside our great country. The so-called “ruling class” in Washington needs to be replaced with people committed to the Constitution and the values of fair play, hard work, and sparking the innovation and entrepreneurship that has made America great.”

REPEAL OBAMACARE

“Former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi said Congress had to pass Obamacare so we could find out what’s in it. Now we have. And what’s inside those 2,733 pages is a job-killing, health care-destroying monstrosity. It can’t be reformed, salvaged, or fixed. It’s that bad. Obamacare has to be killed now before it grows into an even bigger mess, as it inevitably will. Obamacare takes full effect in 2014. If it’s not repealed before then, it will be more than just another failed government entitlement program—it will be the trillion-ton weight that finally takes down our economy forever.”

Socialized medicine is not the answer to any of America’s problems or challenges. In fact, Obamacare is more likely to be the straw that breaks the camel’s back. It creates a trillion-dollar millstone around the nation’s economy and repealing Obamacare will be one of the most important and consequential actions our next President takes.

The problems with Obamacare are blatantly obvious:

- It will drive small businesses to the brink of oblivion by creating huge fines (\$3,000 per employee) if the health-care benefits they offer aren’t to Obama’s liking. Some companies estimate Obamacare will eat up 55 percent of their net income after 2014. That’s insane.
- Health insurance premiums have risen \$2,393 per year for the average family in America because the insurers have been forced to pass on the high compliance costs of Obamacare.
- Obamacare destroys the patient’s right to choose the insurance and doctor they want.

If we’re lucky, the Supreme Court may yet declare Obamacare to be unconstitutional but it remains to be seen whether or not the court will rule properly. Regardless, America’s next President will need to make the tough decisions required to bring down health-care costs and make health insurance more affordable for everyone. So what should replace Obamacare?

- There needs to be more competition between insurance companies – by allowing citizens to purchase health-care plans across state lines. Competition always makes everything better and more affordable and there is no reason to suspect health-care will be any different. We need to pass laws to encourage this.
- The other logical way to reduce health care costs is to finally undertake tort reform. The simple fact is doctors order lots of expensive tests and procedures out of the very real fear of being sued for malpractice. This accounts for at least 10 percent of all medical costs. If the United States were to cap damages for “pain and suffering” at \$100,000 and at the same time enact “loser pays” laws where the loser is required to pay the winner’s legal bills for frivolous and baseless cases, the ambulance chaser lawyers would go away, the courts would become unclogged and health-care costs would fall by at least 10 percent overnight. This is something which is long overdue.

“There’s a reason most Americans oppose Obamacare: it’s a total disaster. Barack Obama has put us so deep in the debt hole that America can’t afford another one of his \$2 trillion spending programs. Obamacare is already making health-care costs rise, and the thing hasn’t even gone into full effect yet. Worse, it’s absolutely slaughtering jobs. No businessperson with a brain would consider serious expansion with this regulatory nightmare hanging over them. Whether through a Supreme Court ruling or a presidential election, America must repeal Obamacare once and for all. Destroying the world’s finest health-care system so that Obama can have his socialized medicine program is reckless and foolish. The proper way to bring the cost of health-care down is to make insurance companies compete nationally and get defensive medicine under control through serious tort reform that includes loser pays provisions. We need a president who will get tough and repeal Obamacare on day one. When they do, they will have accomplished more with one stroke of the pen than Obama has accomplished in his abysmal presidency. 2012 can’t come soon enough.”

IT'S CALLED ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION FOR A REASON

“Illegal immigration is a wrecking ball aimed at U.S. taxpayers. Washington needs to get tough and fight for “We the People,” not for the special interests who want cheap labor and a minority voting bloc. Every year taxpayers are getting stuck with a \$113 billion bill to pay for the costs of illegal immigration. That’s a bill we can’t afford and wouldn’t have to pay if people in Washington did their jobs and upheld our nation’s laws.”

The embarrassing reality is too many Washington Republicans turn a blind eye to illegal immigration because their business supporters want cheap labor. Meanwhile, Democrats look at illegal immigrants as a potential voting block of the future. In the meantime, ordinary tax-paying Americans get shafted. The taxpayer picks up the bill for their criminal acts of illegal immigrants as well as paying through the nose to fund educating the children of illegal aliens. This is crazy. Both sides of the political spectrum need to grow up and put America’s interests first – and that means making decisions which are right for our economy, our national security, and our public safety.

It’s time to get tough and to get this illegal immigration mess sorted out once and for all. Fortunately, a great model exists in Canada where a smart, merit-based immigration plan is in place. America should adopt the Canadian model with some minor improvements. A realistic four-point plan for creating a smart and humane plan to get America’s illegal immigration under control is:

1. *Secure our borders* – by either continuing to build the physical border fence or by developing “virtual fences” which use lasers as trip wires to alert the authorities of illegal border crossings. Until we have secure borders, it’s pointless to do anything else. America must hire another 25,000 border patrol agents and give them the tools they need to do the job.
2. *America’s existing laws need to be enforced* – meaning the more than 300,000 illegal immigrants now slated for deportation must be sent home. Failing to do this sends the signal you can jump the queue by breaking the law. Illegal aliens must not be treated like they are legal because they are not.
3. *Obama’s insane ICE recommendations which turn illegal immigrant detention facilities into resort-like accommodations must be overturned immediately* – because this is absolute insanity of the most blatant kind. All these recommendations are achieving is it is making America into a laughing stock for illegal aliens. Our next President must stop ICE dead in its tracks.
4. *The so-called DREAM Act must be opposed* – because the Development, Relief and Education (DREAM) proposal which grants in-state tuition benefits at public colleges and universities to illegal immigrant’s children is bizarre. It’s an attempt to reward those who defy our laws. Not only that, legal citizens attending an out of state college have to pay more in tuition than the children of illegal immigrants. How insane is that? America’s next President must veto the DREAM Act immediately.

“Democrats need to respect our laws, respect the fact that Latino Americans are as interested in the rule of law as anyone else, respect the immigrants who are patiently and lawfully standing in line for legal citizenship, and most of all respect our own citizens who should not have the rule of law, their jobs, even their lives and their nation’s future put at risk by irresponsible Washington politicians. That’s the sort of “hope and change” we need, not a commander in chief who thinks border security and the rule of law is a joke.”

“Americans dream big and do hard things. It’s who we are. It’s what we do. When our country is unchained, we’re unstoppable. But we need smart leaders, people who understand how the world works and have the guts to get tough. With proper leadership, we can rebuild the shining city on a hill we once were. When we do, we should boldly and proudly celebrate America’s power and dominance in the world. The way I see it, greatness need not apologize for itself. Ever. If we do that, we can, together, make America #1 again.”

THE AMERICA OUR CHILDREN DESERVE

“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn’t pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.”

– Ronald Reagan

The greatest work of America’s next President will be to unwind the damage Barack Obama has inflicted on this nation. We have to get tough and make the tough calls so the country can become great again:

- We have to get tough on OPEC. This is an illegal cartel which is draining hundreds of billions of dollars out of the U.S. economy year in and year out. These oil thugs are ripping us off and it must end. No more free military support. If nations want us to defend them, we take their oil in return.
- We have to get tough on China. Either they agree to play by the same rules as everyone else and trade fairly or they don’t trade at all. Their currency must be properly aligned and we must put a stop to their blatant theft of our military and technological secrets. The Chinese can be reigned in easily right now because we are, after all is said and done, their biggest customer. We must stand up to them, not bow down.
- We have to get tough on the very notion the government is the solution to every problem. It clearly is not. Ronald Reagan got it right: “Government isn’t the solution to our problem. Government is the problem.” Barack Obama was elected on a mandate he would “fundamentally transform America” by “spreading the wealth around.” The results are after three years, America looks like an economic wasteland. One out of five men are out of work. Every seventh person is on food stamps. Forty-six million Americans live under the poverty line. Businesses are failing. Foreclosure rates are at historic highs. The United States has lost its triple-A credit rating for the first time in this nation’s history. Gas prices have doubled. The national debt is like a runaway train. There are no jobs or economic growth in sight. Is this the change we hoped for when President Barack Obama was elected?

“How can we feel good about handing over this mess to our children and grandchildren? How can we think about the hundreds of thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who have died for our freedom and way of life and not be ashamed at how we’ve allowed their gift to be trashed and abused? It’s a total disgrace. If we’re going to turn this thing around, we have to do it fast. It’s time to get tough. The time is now. But maybe my biggest beef with Obama is his view that there’s nothing special or exceptional about America—that we’re no different than any other country. If a guy is that clueless about the character of America, he has no business being the leader of America. Our country is the greatest force for freedom the world has ever known. We have big hearts, big brains, and big guts—and we use all three. In the past our free market capitalist system has created more wealth and prosperity than any government-controlled economy could ever dream of doing. Because of that wealth, we give more in charity than any other country, and twice as much as the second most generous nation. Obama thinks America would be better off if we acted more like European socialist countries—many of which are in default and economic freefall. I think America would be better off if we ditch the community organizer experiment and get back to being the America we’ve been since our Founding Fathers risked their lives to create our country. In 2012, our nation needs to send Barack Obama a message. We need to say loud and clear: Mr. President, we’re not interested in your utopian vision of “fundamentally transforming America.” We like the vision our Founding Fathers and the Constitution created just fine. If that’s what you meant by “hope and change,” you can keep the change. We’re not interested.”

– Donald Trump