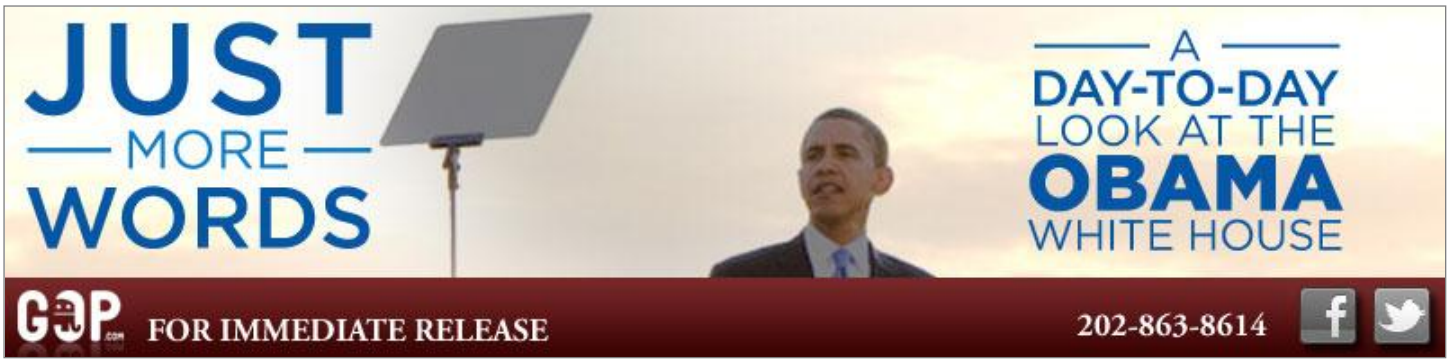
June 1, 2012



Schmooze Now, Govern Later

Obama Is Working Hard At Fundraising

"Obama Has Scheduled A Fundraising Blitz Friday In Minneapolis And Chicago." (Kasie Hunt, "Obama Calls Romney, Congratulates Him On GOP Nod," *The Associated Press,* 5/31/12)

FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK: OBAMA'S FRIDAY IS DOMINATED BY FUNDRAISING

Obama Will Be In Chicago For A "Series Of High Dollar Fund-Raisers." "President Barack Obama hits Chicago next Friday for a series of high dollar fund-raisers at the Chicago Cultural Center and private dinners and, I'm told, he will be spending the night. Obama fund-raiser Jordan Kaplan--with the Obama political fund-raising operation since Obama was an Illinois Senator--is handling the events." (Lynn Sweet, "Obama Hits Chicago June 1 For Fundraisers," *Chicago Sun Times'* "The Scoop From Washington," 5/25/12)

- **Obama Will Attend Three Chicago Events, With Tickets Ranging From $2,500 To $35,800.** "Obama hits the Chicago Cultural Center at 5 p.m. for a reception the campaign says will have 350 attendees paying at least $2,500. After that, two dinners at private homes, one with 55 people, the other with 60 attendees; each place at the table is $35,800." (Lynn Sweet, "Obama To Raise Millions Of Dollars In Chicago On Friday," *Chicago Sun Times'* "The Scoop From Washington," 5/30/12)

- **"The Private Dinners Are At The Home Of Jim Crown And His Wife, Paula And Tracey And Chaka Patterson."** (Lynn Sweet, "Obama To Raise Millions Of Dollars In Chicago On Friday," *Chicago Sun Times'* "The Scoop From Washington," 5/30/12)

Obama Will Hold Three Fundraisers In Minneapolis. "Obama will also hold three fundraisers while visiting Minnesota, all held at The Bachelor Farmer, a Minneapolis restaurant owned by Gov. Mark Dayton's sons." (Catharine Richert, "Obama Adds Public Event To Minnesota Visit," MPR News, 5/25/12)

- **Tickets To Obama's Minneapolis Fundraising Events Cost Up To $50,000 A Piece.** "President Barack Obama will attend three big-ticket fundraising events during his visit to Minnesota next week, according to a campaign official. Two smaller events at $40,000 and $50,000 a head are planned for Friday, June 1. Obama will also deliver remarks at a luncheon for approximately 100 people who've each paid $5,000 to be there, according to the official." (Catharine Richert, "Three Fundraising Events Planned For Obama's MN Visit," MPR News, 5/24/12)

OBAMA HASN'T HAD TO ADJUST HIS SCHEDULE SINCE SIGNALING THE START OF THE CAMPAIGN

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"With Election Day Five Months Off, The Campaign Increasingly Appears To Consume Mr. Obama's Days And His White House, Shaping His Schedule, His Message And Many Of His Decisions." (Peter Baker, "Obama Finds Campaigning Rules Clock," *The New York Times,* 5/28/12)

While Obama "Has Been Campaigning For Months" His Campaign Team Considered Obama's May 5th Rallies As The Campaign's Kick-Off. "Though the president has been campaigning for months, Obama's advisers billed Saturday's rallies in the battleground states of Ohio and Virginia as an opportunity to draw distinctions with Romney and the Republicans in ways he had not done previously." (Dan Balz, "Obama Launches Campaign Against Romney, But His Real Opponent Is The Economy," *The Washington Post*'s "The Take," 5/5/12)

- **With Tonight's Events, Obama Will Have Attended 147 Fundraisers For His Reelection Campaign.** (CBS' Mark Knoller, Twitter Feed, 5/10/12; CBS' Mark Knoller, Twitter Feed, 5/14/12; Emily Goodin, "The Week Ahead: Obama Heads West On Fundraising Swing," *The Hill,* 5/21/12; Lesa Jansen, "POTUS Schedule Thursday May 24, 2012 On The Road Again," CNN, 5/24/12; Lynn Sweet, "Obama To Raise Millions Of Dollars In Chicago On Friday," *Chicago Sun Times'* "The Scoop From Washington," 5/30/12; Catharine Richert, "Obama Adds Public Event To Minnesota Visit," MPR News, 5/25/12)

- **Over The Course Of Bush's Entire Reelection Campaign, He Attended A Total Of 97 Fundraisers, 57 Of Which Were For His Reelection Campaign**. "According to CBS White House Correspondent Mark Knoller, the unofficial keeper of White House statistics, Bush at this point of his reelection campaign had attended 49 fundraisers. And over Bush's whole reelection campaign, from May 2003-November 2004, he attended a total of 97 fundraisers, of which 57 were for his Bush-Cheney reelection campaign and the rest for the Republican National Committee." (Paul Bedard, "Obama's Numbers: Vacations 16, Golf 90, Fundraisers 100," *Washington Examiner,* 3/1/12)

- **And Obama Has Held More Fundraisers Than Bush In 2004, Often Working Fundraising Events Into His Official Presidential Trips**. "Mr. Obama has held more than a hundred joint fund-raisers since last spring, far more than President George W. Bush during his 2004 re-election, and has tucked fund-raising stops into many of his official presidential trips." (Nicholas Confessore and Derek Willis, "Obama Sees Steep Dropoff In Cash From Major Donors," *The New York Times,* 4/20/12)

Obama Is A "Full-Fledged Campaigner." "Friday marked another stage in president Obama's springtime metamorphosis into full-fledged campaigner: his first daylong trip out of the capital devoted solely to fund-raising." (Mark Landler, "Obama Parries Criticism As Fund-Raising Eats Into His Schedule," *The New York Times,* 3/17/12)

Obama's Schedule Is "Increasingly Crowded By Fund-Raisers" So That It Becomes "Harder And Harder" To Deny That He Is In Campaign Mode. "The White House insisted this week that Mr. Obama still spends 'the vast preponderance of his time on his official duties.' But with his schedule increasingly crowded by fund-raisers and speeches that could easily double as campaign rallies, that case is getting harder and harder to make." (Mark Landler, "Obama Parries Criticism As Fund-Raising Eats Into His Schedule," *The New York Times,* 3/17/12)

FOCUSING ON HIS RESPONSIBILITES? LET'S START WITH THE ECONOMY

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney: "We Are Still In A Situation Here Where He Will Be Focusing On His Responsibilities As President And The Work That Need To Be Done." CARNEY: "The campaign, as I said earlier, will ramp up its pace. The President's participation will increase as the weeks and months go by. But we are still in a situation here where he will be focusing on his responsibilities as President and the work that needs to be done, with Congress and through the administration's initiative, to grow the economy and help it create jobs." (White House Press Briefing, Washington D.C., 4/11/12)

Obama Can't Tout His Record

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***The Washington Post's* Fact Checker: "The Worst Numbers On Record Occurred Under His [Obama's] Watch" With Regards To Job Growth.** "The president said that policies from 2000 through 2008 produced the 'most sluggish job growth we've ever seen.' Perhaps so, but the worst numbers on record occurred under his watch." (Josh Hicks, "Obama's Remarks On Worst Job Growth: Did He End It Or Should He Own It?" *The Washington Post's* "Fact Checker," 5/21/12)

- ***The Washington Post's* Fact Checker: "Obama Comes In Either Last, Second-To-Last Or In The Bottom Half Among Presidents Since The Great Depression."** "But Obama comes in either last, second-to-last or in the bottom half among presidents since the great depression, depending on which way you look at the numbers." (Josh Hicks, "Obama's Remarks On Worst Job Growth: Did He End It Or Should He Own It?" *The Washington Post's* "Fact Checker," 5/21/12)

52 Percent Of Americans Disapprove Of Obama's Handling Of The Economy, While Just 43 Percent Say They Approve. (NBC News/Wall Street Journal, 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 5/16-20/12)

66 Percent Of Americans Say That Barack Obama Has Either Made Things "Worse" Or "Not Made Much Difference" With Regards To The Economic Downturn, While Just 31 Percent Say He Has Made Things "Better." (NBC News/Wall Street Journal, 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 5/16-20/12)

- **65 Percent Of Americans Expect The Economy To Either "Stay The Same" Or "Get Worse" In The Next Year, While Just 33 Percent Expect It To "Get Better."** (NBC News/Wall Street Journal, 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 5/16-20/12)

"Long-Term Unemployment Has Devastated The Ranks Of The Middle Class." "Long-term unemployment has devastated the ranks of the middle class, with many people losing their homes and forced to turn to food banks and government aid after they run through their savings. It takes nearly 41 weeks, on average, for the jobless to find new work. Also, the steep decline in home values has hurt many in the middle class." (Tami Luhby, "Middle Class Dropouts," CNN Money, 1/11/12)

- **Obama Has Failed To Produce The Middle Class Jobs He Campaigned On Creating.** "Barack Obama campaigned four years ago assailing President George W. Bush for wage losses suffered by the middle class. More than three years into Obama's own presidency, those declines have only deepened. The rebound from the worst recession since the 1930s has generated relatively few of the moderately skilled jobs that once supported the middle class, tightening the financial squeeze on many Americans, even those who are employed." (Mike Dorning, "Obama Fails To Stem Middle-Class Slide He Blamed On Bush," *Bloomberg*, 4/30/12)

- **62 Percent Of Americans Say That Barack Obama Has Either Made Things "Worse" Or "Not Made Much Difference" With Regards To Looking Out For The Middle Class, While Just 38 Percent Say He Has Made Things "Better."** (NBC News/Wall Street Journal, 1000A, MoE 3.1%, 5/16-20/12)

"More Than Half Of All The Jobs Created During The Past Six Months Have Been In Low-Paying Industries Such As Retail And Temporary Help, Joseph Brusuelas, Senior Economist At Bloomberg LP, Noted On Thursday." (Mark Gongloff and Bonnie Kavoussi, "Job Market Recovery Led By Low-Wage Sectors," *The Huffington Post*, 4/5/12)

- **"The Jobs Are Lousy, And There Aren't Enough Of Them."** "The job market these days is sort of like that old Catskills joke: The food is terrible, and the portions are so small. The jobs are lousy, and there aren't enough of them." (Mark Gongloff and Bonnie Kavoussi, "Job Market Recovery Led By Low-Wage Sectors," *The Huffington Post*, 4/5/12)

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