

December 1, 2013

Charles Krauthammer says the administration will be remembered for its outbreak of lawlessness.

After indignant denunciation of Republicans for trying to amend “the law of the land” constitutionally (i.e. in Congress assembled), Democrats turn utterly silent when the president lawlessly tries to do so by executive fiat.

Nor is this the first time. The president wakes up one day and decides to unilaterally suspend the employer mandate, a naked invasion of Congress’s exclusive legislative prerogative, enshrined in Article I. Not a word from the Democrats. Nor now regarding the blatant usurpation of trying to restore canceled policies that violate explicit Obamacare coverage requirements.

And worse. When Congress tried to make Obama’s “fix” legal — i.e., through legislation — he opposed it. He even said he would veto it. Imagine: vetoing the very bill that would legally enact his own illegal fix.

At rallies, Obama routinely says he has important things to do and he’s not going to wait for Congress. Well, amending a statute after it’s been duly enacted is something a president may not do without Congress. It’s a gross violation of his Article II duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

A Senate with no rules. A president without boundaries. One day, when a few bottled-up judicial nominees and a malfunctioning health-care Web site are barely a memory, we will still be dealing with the toxic residue of this outbreak of authoritative lawlessness.

New York Observer has a piece from a fan of the president, who had his healthcare policy cancelled and was offered less coverage for 94% more. Call this the feel good story of the week. When will these fools learn the government always f**ks up?

We received the letter in the mail a couple months ago. The good people at Regence Bluecross Blueshield were pleased to inform us that due to Obamacare our current low-monthly premium, comically-high deductible medical policy would no longer exist come January 1, 2014. Pleased, because a new and better plan would be offered in its place. Old monthly premium: \$578 for a family of four (non-smoking, helmet-wearing, and paternally snipped). New premium: \$1,123. A 94% increase.

Once the sound of boiling blood dissipated, in my head I heard my Republican friends chuckling at the sight of a liberal Democrat hoisted ten stories high on his own petard. How’s the view up there, Obamacare Ollie?

For the past 15 years my wife and I have made our living as freelance writers. (To young readers, I say: Do not do this. Your bliss is marvelous, but its following will need to be supported by a banker, plumber, union machinist or tenured faculty member.) As such, our health insurance is our own concern. Over the years we’ve held on to our coverage by letting our co-pay and deductible rise and our covered procedures fall. You may be aware that the three-tiered state exchange policies are labeled Gold, Silver, and Bronze, reflecting their price and level of coverage. If our policy still existed it would fall into the column of Wood.

But Wood we had—and Wood we liked.

No more. O.K., into the state exchange we go. I voted for it. Fair enough. ...

... Last week the frustration of people like Peter and me—Obamacare supporters who lost their current plans—was heard by the White House, which promptly panicked. On Thursday, President Obama announced a policy change that would allow insurance companies like Regence to keep customers like me on the old Wood plan for one more year. To that I say: Hah! Thanks for nothing. ...

... seething at a President I helped elect. Out here in the Land of the Brand of You, we don't want cheap twelve-month extensions. We're willing to suck it up and pay our fair share for health insurance. We want the exchanges to work. We're not demanding a last-minute reprieve that threatens the stability of the entire system. What we're asking for is clarity and competence.

Which leads us to [Rich Lowry's](#) Politico piece on the "bad faith presidency."
At the end of the day, the root of President Obama's mendacity on Obamacare was simple: He didn't dare tell people how the law would work. He couldn't tell people how the law would work.

Forthrightness was the enemy. It served no useful purpose and could only bring peril, and potentially defeat. It had to be banished. Instead of candor, Obama made the sale on the basis of dubious blandishments and outright deceptions.

If this is the only way to pass your signature initiative—and a decades-long goal of your party—it ought to give you pause. But Obama was a natural at delivering sweeping and sincere-seeming assurances that weren't true. This kind of thing is his métier.

If he were awoken at 3 a.m. and told he had to make the case for nationalizing the banks by denying he was nationalizing the banks, he would do an entirely creditable job of it, even without a TelePrompTer. The salesmanship for Obamacare represents in microcosm the larger Obama political project, which has always depended on throwing a reassuring skein of moderation on top of left-wing ideological aims.

All politicians are prone to shaving the truth, giving themselves the benefit of the doubt and trying to appear more reasonable than they are. Obama has made it an art form. Bad faith is one of his signal strengths as a politician, and makes him one of the greatest front men progressivism has ever had.

He will never admit his deep bias toward the growth of the federal government for its own sake, or that he doesn't care that much if Iran gets the bomb, or that he is liquidating the American leadership role in the Middle East. No, no—he is just trying to make government work, giving diplomacy a chance and pivoting to Asia, respectively. ...

Even the left media think the administration lies. [Dana Milbank](#) posts on their control of photos.

Is the Obama White House airbrushing history?

It was a hallmark of the Stalin era: Fallen Soviet leaders vanished from official photographs. Nobody accuses President Obama of such subterfuge (well, nobody except for those who believe he forged his birth certificate), but a change in longtime practice in the White House has raised questions about the integrity of images Americans see of their president.

The White House has increasingly excluded news photographers from Obama's official events and is instead releasing images taken by in-house photographers, who are government employees. These photos often appear online and in newspapers, even though they lack the same standards of authenticity that govern those taken by photojournalists.

"As surely as if they were placing a hand over a journalist's camera lens, officials in this administration are blocking the public from having an independent view of important functions of the executive branch of government," the White House Correspondents' Association, joined by the [Associated Press](#) and other news organizations, wrote in a letter to White House press secretary Jay Carney last week. "You are, in effect, replacing independent photojournalism with visual press releases."

New York Times photographer Doug Mills likens the administration's actions to Tass, the Soviet Union's news agency.

The most famous of the photo press releases was the image from the White House Situation Room on the day [U.S. forces killed Osama bin Laden](#); the image was digitally altered so that material on the table in front of the secretary of state could not be seen.

Peter Wehner thinks the lies will cost him dearly.

... That deep well of sympathy—that willingness to give the president the benefit of the doubt and the attachment and connection voters felt for Mr. Obama—has been crucial to his success for his entire political life. He has always been viewed as a likeable and decent man, even when his campaign employed fairly ruthless tactics. But the days of broad public faith and trust in this president appear to be over. And no wonder.

The fact that the president knowingly misled the public on such a crucial element of his health-care program so many times, over such a long period of time, with such apparent ease, has penetrated the public consciousness in a way nothing else ever has. Incompetence has now been twinned to mendacity. And not surprisingly, that deep well of sympathy is drying up.

Mr. Obama will discover that trust, once lost, is hard to recover.

Andrew Malcolm with late night humor. Even Letterman can't avoid the failure.

Leno: *Did you see Obama stopped using 'ObamaCare' in speeches? Now its 'Affordable Care Act.' A really bad sign when Obama is running from his ObamaCare. 'No,' he says, "it's BidenCare now."*

Letterman: *OK, the Obama White House hired a consulting firm on ObamaCare. The consultants told him the website was not ready. Not ready. But the White House went ahead anyway. Turns out, the problem is the Obama White House doesn't know how to open emails.*

Letterman: *So now the Obama White House has hired a consulting firm to teach them to pay attention to consultants. All taxpayer dollars.*

Fallon: *Obama was asked how he finally reached the nuclear agreement with Iran. He said "With patience, compromise...oh, and we lied."*

Washington Post

An outbreak of lawlessness

by Charles Krauthammer

For all the gnashing of teeth over the lack of comity and civility in Washington, the real problem is not etiquette but the breakdown of political norms, legislative and constitutional.

Such as the one just spectacularly blown up in the Senate. To get [three judges onto a coveted circuit court](#), frustrated Democrats [abolished the filibuster](#) for executive appointments and (non-Supreme Court) judicial nominations.

The problem is not the change itself. It's fine that a president staffing his administration should need 51 votes rather than 60. Doing so for judicial appointments, which are for life, is a bit dicier. Nonetheless, for about 200 years the filibuster was nearly unknown in blocking judicial nominees. So we are really just returning to an earlier norm.

The violence to political norms here consisted in *how* that change was executed. By brute force — [a near party-line vote of 52 to 48](#) . This was a disgraceful violation of more than two centuries of precedent. If a bare majority can change the fundamental rules that govern an institution, [then there are no rules](#). Senate rules today are whatever the majority decides they are that morning.

What distinguishes an institution from a flash mob is that its rules endure. They can be changed, of course. But only by [significant supermajorities](#). That's why constitutional changes require two-thirds of both houses plus three-quarters of the states. If we could make constitutional changes by majority vote, there would be no Constitution.

As of today, the Senate effectively has no rules. Congratulations, Harry Reid. Finally, something you will be remembered for.

Barack Obama may be remembered for something similar. His violation of the proper limits of executive power has become breathtaking. It's not just making recess appointments [when the Senate is in session](#). It's not just unilaterally imposing a law Congress had refused to pass — the Dream Act — by [brazenly suspending large sections](#) of the immigration laws.

We've now reached a point where a flailing president, desperate to deflect the opprobrium heaped upon him for the [false promise](#) that you could keep your health plan if you wanted to, calls a [hasty news conference](#) urging both [insurers and the states to reinstate millions of such plans](#).

Except that he is asking them to break the law. His own law. Under Obamacare, no insurer may issue a policy after 2013 that does not meet the law's minimum coverage requirements. These plans were canceled because they do not.

The law remains unchanged. The regulations governing that law remain unchanged. Nothing is changed except for a president proposing to unilaterally change his own law from the White House press room.

That's banana republic stuff, except that there the dictator proclaims from the presidential balcony.

Remember how for months Democrats denounced Republicans for daring to vote to defund or postpone Obamacare? Saboteurs! Terrorists! How dare you alter "[the law of the land](#)."

This was nonsense from the beginning. Every law is subject to revision and abolition if the people think it turned out to be a bad idea. Even constitutional amendments can be repealed — and have been (see Prohibition).

After indignant denunciation of Republicans for trying to amend "the law of the land" constitutionally (i.e. in Congress assembled), Democrats turn utterly silent when the president lawlessly tries to do so by executive fiat.

[Nor is this the first time](#). The president wakes up one day and decides to [unilaterally suspend the employer mandate](#), a naked invasion of Congress's exclusive legislative prerogative, enshrined in Article I. Not a word from the Democrats. Nor now regarding the blatant usurpation of trying to restore canceled policies that violate explicit Obamacare coverage requirements.

And worse. When Congress tried to make Obama's "fix" legal — i.e., through legislation — he opposed it. [He even said he would veto it](#). Imagine: vetoing the very bill that would legally enact his own illegal fix.

At rallies, Obama routinely says he has important things to do and he's [not going to wait for Congress](#). Well, amending a statute after it's been duly enacted is something a president may not do without Congress. It's a gross violation of his Article II duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

A Senate with no rules. A president without boundaries. One day, when a few bottled-up judicial nominees and a malfunctioning health-care Web site are barely a memory, we will still be dealing with the toxic residue of this outbreak of authoritative lawlessness.

New York Observer

My Obamacare Cancellation

"Seething at a President I helped elect."

by Bruce Barcott

We received the letter in the mail a couple months ago. The good people at Regence Bluecross Blueshield were pleased to inform us that due to Obamacare our current low-monthly premium, comically-high deductible medical policy would no longer exist come January 1, 2014. Pleased, because a new and better plan would be offered in its place. Old monthly premium: \$578 for a family of four (non-smoking, helmet-wearing, and paternally snipped). New premium: \$1,123. A 94% increase.

Once the sound of boiling blood dissipated, in my head I heard my Republican friends chuckling at the sight of a liberal Democrat hoisted ten stories high on his own petard. *How's the view up there, Obamacare Ollie?*

For the past 15 years my wife and I have made our living as freelance writers. (To young readers, I say: Do not do this. Your bliss is marvelous, but its following will need to be supported by a banker, plumber, union machinist or tenured faculty member.) As such, our health insurance is our own concern. Over the years we've held on to our coverage by letting our co-pay and deductible rise and our covered procedures fall. You may be aware that the three-tiered state exchange policies are labeled Gold, Silver, and Bronze, reflecting their price and level of coverage. If our policy still existed it would fall into the column of Wood.

But Wood we had—and Wood we liked.

No more. O.K., into the state exchange we go. I voted for it. Fair enough.

It is our good fortune to live in Washington State, where our Democratic governor embraced the Affordable Care Act and set up a state exchange that is, according to those who've studied such things, the best in the nation. The website allowed me to find a plan that looked reasonable. Premera Blue Cross had a Preferred Bronze 5500 for \$889 a month. Okay. Not so bad. Downside: \$3,600 more in annual premiums. Upside: Free eyeglasses for the boy!

The state exchange number put me on hold. I hung up and called Premera. "You can sign up with us directly," a very helpful rep told me, "but if there's a chance your income could qualify you for a subsidy, it's best to go through the state exchange."

So: Back to the exchange website. Enter birth dates, zip code, tobacco use, yadda yadda, monthly income. Stop. Ponder.

Which month, brother? For that matter, which year? Do you want gross, net, before SE (self-employment tax, a k a Social Security payments) or after? AGI (adjusted gross income) from last year's 1040?

For every business futurist who hails the coming of the independent contracting economy, the future that is The Brand of You, there are thousands of us out here actually building The Brand of You. It ain't an easy hustle. If you want to get an idea of our monthly and yearly incomes, imagine a sine wave drawn by a drunken sailor. Last year my wife and I, we made out all right. This year's kinda lean. Which year did the exchange want? Unclear.

I went to a friend and colleague—let's call him Peter—for advice. He also had his individual medical policy cancelled because of Obamacare. "I'm stuck on the same question—income," he told me. Peter does a little writing, a little farming, a little this and that to keep the ship afloat. "I got through to the exchange, and the woman there told me to just estimate what my income would be this year." In other words: Make it up. If he overestimated, he'd be screwing himself out of a subsidy, Peter said. If he underestimated, he'd be hit with a big fat bill. He wasn't sure he wouldn't also be accused of fraud. So he called his accountant, who's also a lawyer.

That only got him so far. At a certain point in the conversation, the accountant/lawyer had to get off the phone. "I have to stop answering your questions," he told Peter. "I can't ethically advise you, because honestly I don't know the right thing to do. Nobody does. There are no answers. Right now it's a complete clusterfuck."

Last week the frustration of people like Peter and me—Obamacare supporters who lost their current plans—was heard by the White House, which promptly panicked. On Thursday, President Obama announced a policy change that would allow insurance companies like Regence to keep customers like me on the old Wood plan for one more year. To that I say: Hah! Thanks for nothing.

The idea that an insurer like Regence can, or will, spin on a dime and revive our ol' \$587 Woody within the next six weeks is absurd. It skews the market and undermines the entire premise of the Affordable Care Act – which is that by balancing the halt (allowing pre-existing conditions) and the hale (forcing robust young adults to get in the pool), the exchanges will over time produce a system that offers quality health care at a price my family can afford.

Even Mike Kreidler, the deep-blue Democrat who serves as my state's insurance commissioner, can't support it. Hours after getting off a conference call with the White House on Thursday, Kreidler announced that the State of Washington would tell President Obama to stuff it. "In the interest of keeping the consumer protections we have enacted and ensuring that we keep health insurance costs down for all consumers, we are staying the course," Kreidler said. "We will not be allowing insurance companies to extend their policies."

Which is how I found myself applauding Mike Kreidler and seething at a President I helped elect. Out here in the Land of the Brand of You, we don't want cheap twelve-month extensions. We're willing to suck it up and pay our fair share for health insurance. We want the exchanges to work. We're not demanding a last-minute reprieve that threatens the stability of the entire system. What we're asking for is clarity and competence.

Bruce Barcott is a former Guggenheim Fellow in nonfiction. His work appears often in National Geographic, The New York Times Magazine, Outside, and On Earth.

Politico

The Bad-Faith Presidency

by Rich Lowry

At the end of the day, the root of President Obama's mendacity on Obamacare was simple: He didn't dare tell people how the law would work. He couldn't tell people how the law would work.

Forthrightness was the enemy. It served no useful purpose and could only bring peril, and potentially defeat. It had to be banished. Instead of candor, Obama made the sale on the basis of dubious blandishments and outright deceptions.

If this is the only way to pass your signature initiative—and a decades-long goal of your party—it ought to give you pause. But Obama was a natural at delivering sweeping and sincere-seeming assurances that weren't true. This kind of thing is his *métier*.

If he were awoken at 3 a.m. and told he had to make the case for nationalizing the banks by denying he was nationalizing the banks, he would do an entirely creditable job of it, even without a TelePrompTer. The salesmanship for Obamacare represents in microcosm the larger Obama political project, which has always depended on throwing a reassuring skein of moderation on top of left-wing ideological aims.

All politicians are prone to shaving the truth, giving themselves the benefit of the doubt and trying to appear more reasonable than they are. Obama has made it an art form. Bad faith is one of his signal strengths as a politician, and makes him one of the greatest front men progressivism has ever had.

He will never admit his deep bias toward the growth of the federal government for its own sake, or that he doesn't care that much if Iran gets the bomb, or that he is liquidating the American leadership role in the Middle East. No, no—he is just trying to make government work, giving diplomacy a chance and pivoting to Asia, respectively.

In this vein, the things that the president couldn't say about Obamacare keep mounting. The *New York Times* [reported](#) the other day on how the term "re-distribution," which aptly describes the law's intent and effect, is anathema.

"These days the word is particularly toxic at the White House," according to the paper, "where it has been hidden away to make the Affordable Care Act more palatable to the public and less a target for Republicans, who have long accused Democrats of seeking 'socialized medicine.' But the redistribution of wealth has always been a central feature of the law and lies at the heart of the insurance market disruptions driving political attacks this fall."

Heaven forbid the president tell people that. The Times notes that the last time the president mentioned redistribution it was—of course—to say that he wanted nothing to do with it. "Understand this is not a redistribution argument," he said of one of his economic initiatives in a speech in April 2012. "This is not about taking from rich people to give to poor people. This is about us together making investments in our country so everybody's got a fair shot."

The president styles himself a committed pragmatist. At a fundraiser outside of Seattle the other day, he averred, "I'm not a particularly ideological person." He just happened to risk Democratic control of Congress to advance the cause of nationalized health insurance. And happened to insist on the left-most plausible version of the law. And happened to defend it with every power at his disposal.

In private, as I wrote [here](#), the president admits that he has kept his true ideological self carefully under wraps. According to Mark Halperin and John Heilemann, the authors of *Double Down*, Obama brought up climate change in a political strategy meeting in 2011 as an example of his undue caution. "Maybe I should just come out and say what I really feel about this," he said. "Maybe I should just go out and say what I think about everything."

As a crazy thought experiment, his aides let him dabble with heart-felt sincerity. He brought a list to the next meeting of causes dear to him, all of which were liberal clichés: climate change, immigration reform, poverty, Israeli-Palestinian peace, closing Gitmo, and gay marriage. Only the very last, gay marriage, made a major appearance in the presidential campaign because he couldn't bear any longer to hide what he really thought about it.

He knew the danger of too much forthrightness.

Rich Lowry is editor of National Review.

Washington Post

[Obama's photo policy smacks of propaganda](#)

by Dana Milbank

Is the Obama White House airbrushing history?

It was a hallmark of the Stalin era: Fallen Soviet leaders vanished from official photographs. Nobody accuses President Obama of such subterfuge (well, nobody except for those who believe he forged his birth certificate), but a change in longtime practice in the White House has raised questions about the integrity of images Americans see of their president.

The White House has increasingly excluded news photographers from Obama's official events and is instead releasing images taken by in-house photographers, who are government employees. These photos often appear online and in newspapers, even though they lack the same standards of authenticity that govern those taken by photojournalists.

"As surely as if they were placing a hand over a journalist's camera lens, officials in this administration are blocking the public from having an independent view of important functions of the executive branch of government," the White House Correspondents' Association, joined by the [Associated Press](#) and other news organizations, wrote in a letter to White House press secretary Jay Carney last week. "You are, in effect, replacing independent photojournalism with visual press releases."

New York Times photographer Doug Mills likens the administration's actions to Tass, the Soviet Union's news agency.

The most famous of the photo press releases was the image from the White House Situation Room on the day [U.S. forces killed Osama bin Laden](#); the image was digitally altered so that material on the table in front of the secretary of state could not be seen.

Maybe that alteration was an exception. And photojournalists don't expect to be granted access to the Situation Room. But the doctored image raises the question of whether other photo releases are altered, too; in the age of Photoshop, it's easy — at the start of the year, Rep. Nancy [Pelosi's staff \(clumsily\) altered a group photo of Democratic women in Congress](#) to add four absent members. And often, it's undetectable.

I asked Pete Souza, a White House photographer, whether other photos of his have been altered. He sent me to deputy press secretary Josh Earnest, who said that altering photos would be done only to protect classified information and that he didn't know of other instances. He defended the photo releases generally, telling reporters, "There are certain circumstances where it is simply not feasible to have independent journalists in the room when the president is making decisions."

Making decisions? Here are some of the big moments at which the White House replaced independent eyeballs with in-house eyeballs: The president and first lady waving to a sea of people, with the Washington Monument in the background, on the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's march; Obama swimming with one of his daughters in the Gulf of Mexico to show that the water is clean; [Obama embracing one of his daughters in Nelson Mandela's prison cell](#); the president touring the West Bank church on the spot where Jesus is thought to have been born (news photographers were allowed to shoot images when George W. Bush toured that location); [Obama alone on the Rosa Parks bus](#), sitting in the same row where the civil rights icon sat; Obama [shaking hands on Veterans Day with the oldest living World War II veteran](#); Obama shaking hands with Mitt Romney in the Oval Office; the first lady and the president [greeting kids](#) the day [White House tours resumed this month](#).

In the past few months, the White House has substituted in-house photography for independent images of Obama meeting with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the co-chairs of the [U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue](#), [Hillary Clinton](#), Israeli and Palestinian negotiators, [African American faith leaders](#), [Sens. John McCain and Lindsey Graham](#) and Pakistani human rights activist [Malala Yousafzai](#).

You don't have to alter photographs to make them misleading. Releasing photos selected to show the president in the most flattering way can also create a less-than-honest portrait of history. These often go out on the [White House's Flickr account](#) and are picked up for free and repackaged by disreputable news services and published by unsuspecting media outlets. News photographers are angry because it threatens their livelihood. We all should be concerned that it smacks of propaganda.

"To exclude the press from these functions is a major break from how previous administrations have worked with the press," the correspondents' association protested.

I doubt the Obama White House is heavily doctoring photos. But there are birther types out there accusing the White House of superimposing Obama into places where he wasn't. Why give them ammunition?

Contentions

Obama's Incompetence Now Twinned to Mendacity

by Peter Wehner

The news for President Obama continues to get worse.

According to a [new CNN/ORC International survey](#), only four out of 10 Americans believe Mr. Obama can manage the federal government effectively. Fifty-three percent don't view him as a strong and decisive leader. And 56 percent say he does not agree with them on important issues and he does not inspire confidence.

But the numbers on the president's personal characteristics should alarm the White House most of all. More than half (53 percent) believe he's not honest and trustworthy, while 56 percent say he's not a person they admire.

Each of these figures are all-time records for Mr. Obama in CNN polling.

In their fascinating behind-the-scenes book on the 2012 election, [Double Down](#), Mark Halperin and John Heilemann write that the campaign's research showed "that there was a deep well of sympathy for Obama among voters." In focus groups after the first debate, they write, "people offered excuse after excuse for his horrific presentation. In Florida, one woman said, almost protectively, 'I just bet you he wasn't feeling well.'"

That deep well of sympathy—that willingness to give the president the benefit of the doubt and the attachment and connection voters felt for Mr. Obama—has been crucial to his success for his entire political life. He has always been viewed as a likeable and decent man, even when his campaign employed fairly ruthless tactics. But the days of broad public faith and trust in this president appear to be over. And no wonder.

The fact that the president knowingly misled the public on such a crucial element of his health-care program so many times, over such a long period of time, with such apparent ease, has penetrated the public consciousness in a way nothing else ever has. Incompetence has now been twinned to mendacity. And not surprisingly, that deep well of sympathy is drying up.

Mr. Obama will discover that trust, once lost, is hard to recover.

IBD

Late Night

by Andrew Malcolm

Fallon: Last week, America's longest-married couple celebrated their 81st wedding anniversary. They were all over the news. When the couple saw themselves on TV, they said, "Good for them."

Letterman: The only good news out of this ObamaCare debacle is it's nice to know someone knows less about computers than I do.

Fallon: Toronto's troubled mayor Rob Ford now says he's getting professional help. The professional's name is "Cinnamon."

Leno: A Texas congressman says the Obama White House is master-minding a secret security force within ObamaCare. Really? Do these guys look like they could master-mind anything?

Conan: The government is developing technology to prevent cars from operating when owners are drunk. Here's how it works: The car automatically turns off if you go into a White Castle drive-thru at 2 a.m.

Conan: Obama urges Americans to enroll in ObamaCare via mail if necessary. Then he got back on his horse and rode off to spread the news in the next town.

Conan: Kanye West's new video features fiancée Kim Kardashian nearly nude on a motorcycle. The video is for his new song, "Please Respect Our Privacy."

Conan: The Oxford Dictionary names "selfie" the word of the year, edging "twerk." In related news, the funeral for the English language is this Saturday.

Conan: Toronto Mayor Rob Ford says he doesn't have a drug problem. He has a weight problem. And by that, he means he can't wait to do drugs.

Letterman: Last week was the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Only 272 words. It was supposed to be longer, but he kept thanking people and the band played him off.

Letterman: There's apparently a turkey shortage this year. But President Obama has just promised, "If you like your giblets, you can keep your giblets."

Letterman: Turkey shortage this year. Also a gravy shortage. The price has shot up to \$4 a gallon.

Letterman: OK, the Obama White House hired a consulting firm on ObamaCare. The consultants told him the website was not ready. Not ready. But the White House went ahead anyway. Turns out, the problem is the Obama White House doesn't know how to open emails.

Letterman: So now the Obama White House has hired a consulting firm to teach them to pay attention to consultants. All taxpayer dollars.

Conan: That smiling woman on the Healthcare.gov homepage had her picture removed after being cyber-bullied. She's now hiding where nobody can see her: Healthcare.gov

Conan: President Obama honored Bill Clinton with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Clinton thanked Obama and asked, "So, how much freedom are we talking here?"

Conan: Some Tea Party members are demanding President Obama's impeachment. He says he appreciates their views and is designing a new website for them to voice their opinions.

Fallon: Joe Biden turned 71 today. Biden wore a party hat, had balloons, ate cake. He was especially happy when he heard it was also his birthday.

Letterman: Joe Biden turned 71 this week. President Obama instructed the VP to attend his own birthday in the president's place.

Letterman: The Oxford Dictionary has picked "selfie" as this year's word of the year. Thank you, Anthony Weiner.

Letterman: The mayor of Toronto is in trouble for using crack. Have you seen this guy? Looks like the only substance he abuses is bacon.

Letterman: The U.S. is reported close to a deal with Iran. Here's how it would go: Iran shuts down its nuclear weapons program. And the U.S. disarms George Zimmerman.

Conan: A new study shows 88% of people disapprove of texting while walking. The other 12% have been killed.

Fallon: Obama finally had to admit that ObamaCare is a flop. It's just a mess. But get this - now the White House is coming out with a way for Americans to bypass the website and buy policies directly from insurance companies. It's part of this crazy new plan called, "The way things used to be."

Leno: Did you hear al Qaeda may have a sleeper cell in Kentucky? The good thing about that is you don't have to worry about shoe bombers.

Leno: Did you see Obama stopped using 'ObamaCare' in speeches? Now it's 'Affordable Care Act.' A really bad sign when Obama is running from his ObamaCare. 'No,' he says, "it's BidenCare now."

Fallon: A new dating site lets people rent out a spare bedroom to potential dates. People call it "fun," "creative" and "a future episode of 'Law and Order.'"

Fallon: The French car maker Renault just came out with a new feature that will turn off your car's battery if you forget to make a payment. It's all part of the company's new slogan: "Renault: You Should Buy A Different Car."

Fallon: Obama was asked how he finally reached the nuclear agreement with Iran. He said "With patience, compromise...oh, and we lied."

Fallon: Did you see the Patriots had six fumbles, were down 24-0 and still beat Denver in OT Sunday? As Obama put it, "Uhh, what's your secret?"

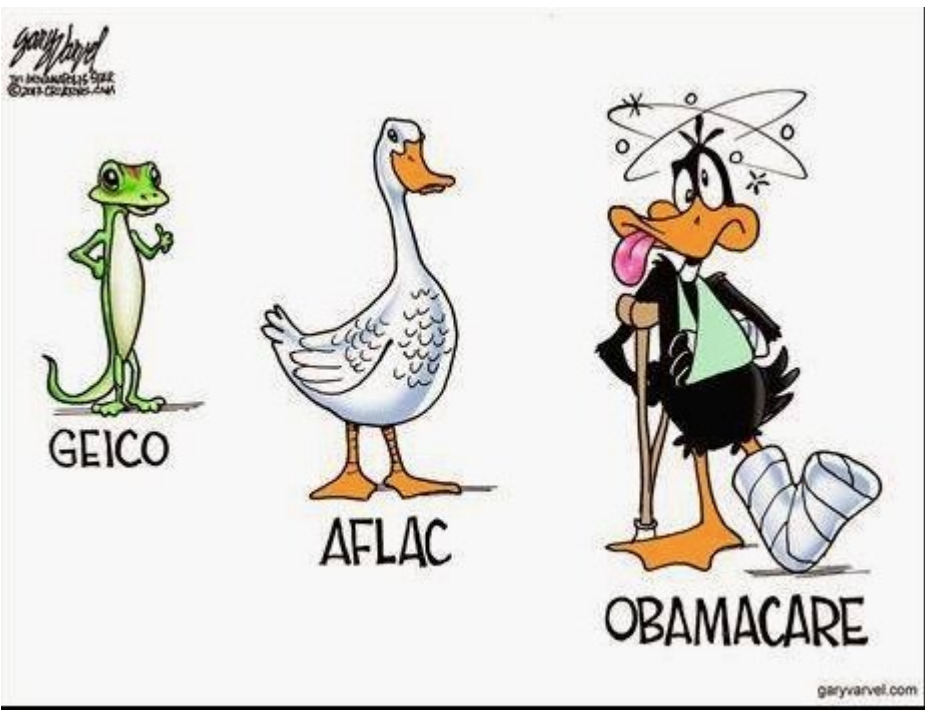
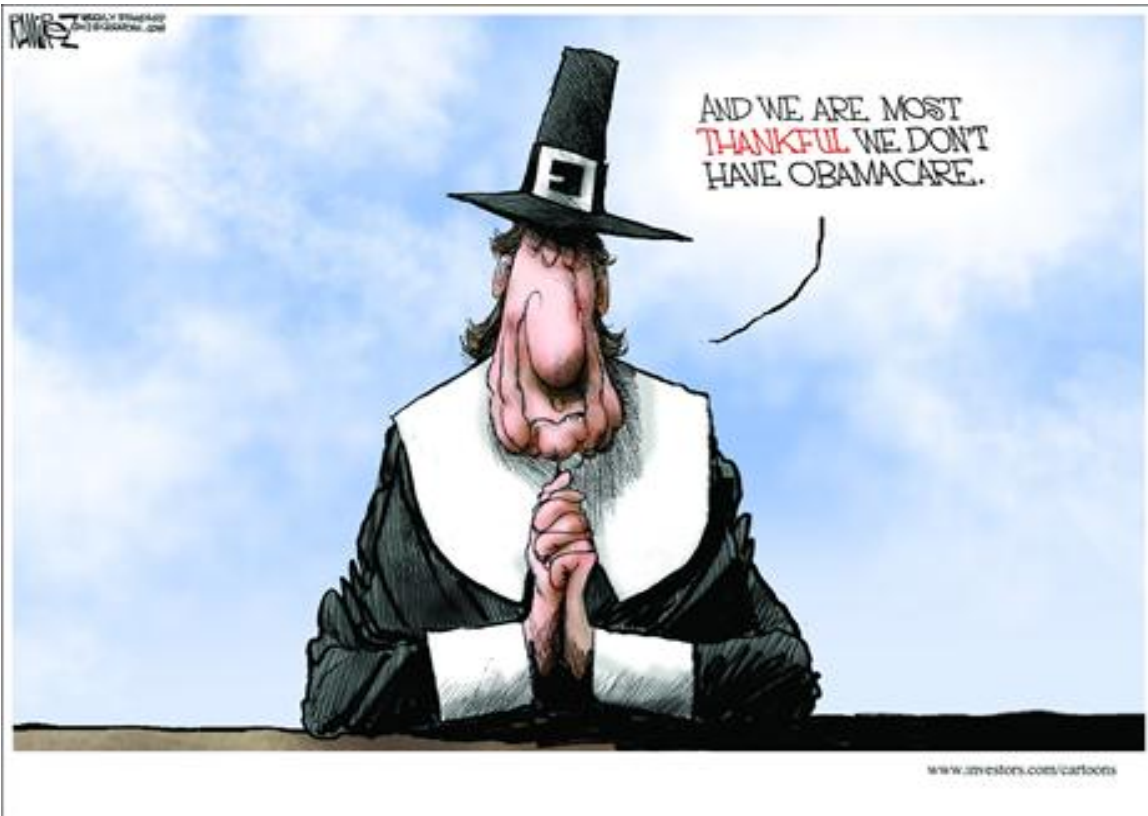
Leno: Iran finally agreed to a nuclear pact because President Obama said, "If you like your uranium, you can keep your uranium."

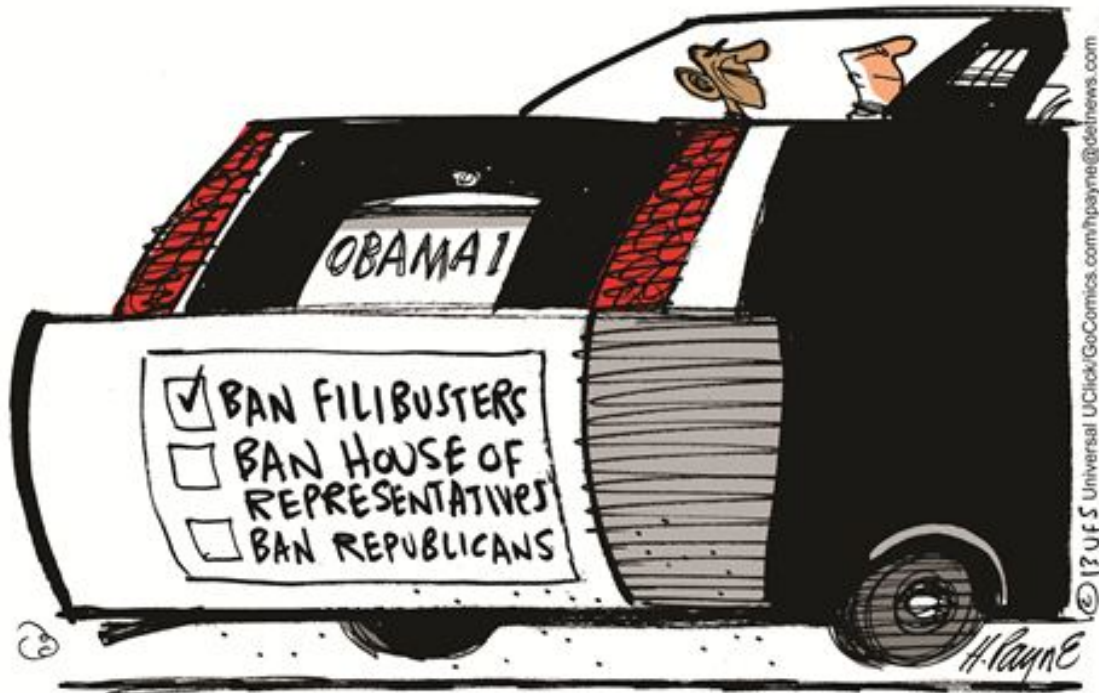
Leno: Did you see Miley Cyrus' outfit at last weekend's music awards? OMG! It's actually paid for under ObamaCare as a pap smear.

Leno: President Obama's approval rating is his lowest ever, 37%. It's so low that the turkey he's pardoning tomorrow said, "No pictures!"

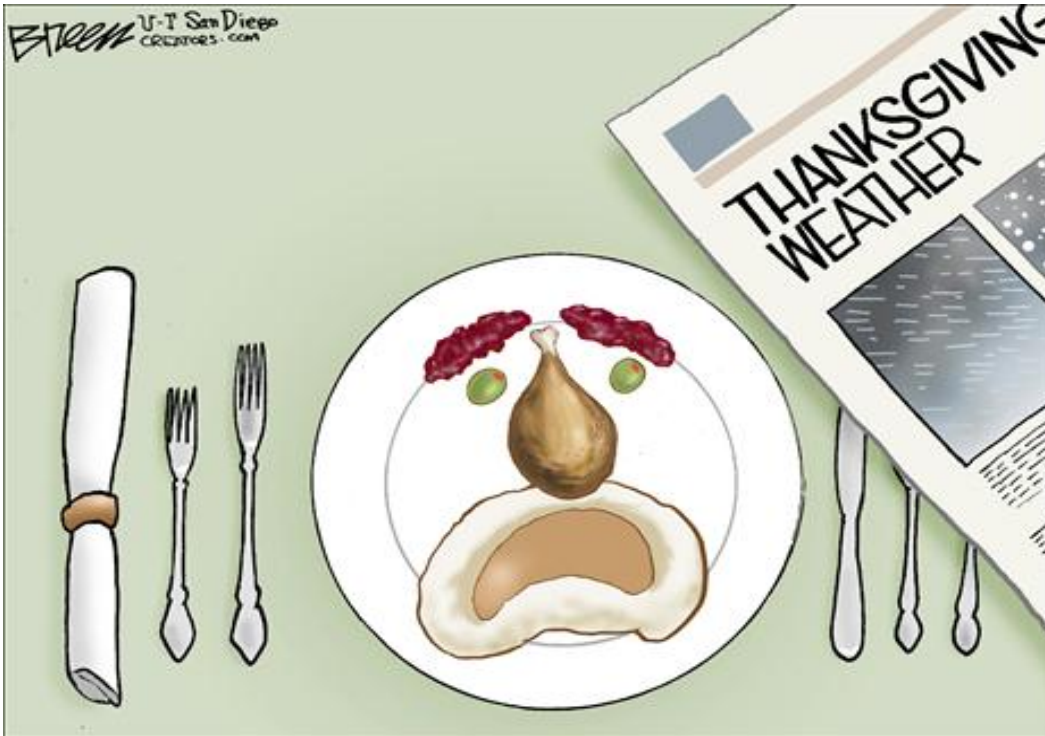
Leno: Iran agreed to the nuclear pact after Obama threatened to impose economic sanctions. Iran took one look at what Obama's done to the U.S. economy and said, "OK, sure. You bet."







"CHANGE IS SO MUCH EASIER WITH MAJORITY RULE."



"LAST MONTH THEY WERE LOBOTOMIZING PUMPKINS, NOW THEY'RE SHOVING BREAD UP A TURKEY'S ASS. THIS PLANET HAS ISSUES, BERT."

ALL IN WITH CHRIS HAYES

LIVE  snbc

SANDRA FLUKE
SOCIAL JUSTICE ATTORNEY

