

November 18, 2013

More on the disastrous news conference. This time from [Jennifer Rubin](#). *President Obama's just-completed press conference was arguably worse than the Obamacare rollout. Alternately confessing, apologizing and blame shifting, he inadvertently made the case against his own executive skills, Obamacare and big government in general.*

His announced fix is aimed at remedying the mass cancellation of individually-purchased insurance plans by letting insurance companies re-offer non-compliant policies. This makes clear that contrary to the statements from Jay Carney and [Valerie Jarrett](#), Obamacare and not the insurers were the cause of the cancellations. Obama let slip that this is one big blame-shifting exercise when he announced that no one would be able to say Obamacare caused them to lose insurance. It is of course false because it is unlikely all the canceled policies can be restored.

The fix undermines the essential premise of Obamacare, namely that young, healthy people need to be herded into the exchanges. Not only will this explicitly encourage many people to stay out but also will communicate that the entire program is in flux. Don't sign up now — the deal may improve as the president gets more desperate! ...

[Charles Krauthammer](#) with the reasons liberals are panicked about healthcare. *... Precisely when the GOP was returning to a more constitutionalist conservatism committed to reforming, restructuring and reining in the welfare state (see, for example, the Paul Ryan Medicare reform passed by House Republicans with near-unanimity), Obama offered a transformational liberalism designed to expand the role of government, enlarge the welfare state and create yet more new entitlements (see, for example, his call for universal preschool in his most recent State of the Union address).*

The centerpiece of this vision is, of course, Obamacare, the most sweeping social reform in the past half-century, affecting one-sixth of the economy and directly touching the most vital area of life of every citizen.

As the only socially transformational legislation in modern American history to be enacted on a straight party-line vote, Obamacare is wholly owned by the Democrats. Its unraveling would catastrophically undermine their underlying ideology of ever-expansive central government providing cradle-to-grave care for an ever-grateful citizenry.

For four years, this debate has been theoretical. Now it's real. And for Democrats, it's a disaster.

It begins with the bungled rollout. If Washington can't even do the Web site — the literal portal to this brave new world — how does it propose to regulate the vast ecosystem of American medicine?

Beyond the competence issue is the arrogance. Five million freely chosen, freely purchased, freely renewed health-care plans are summarily canceled. Why? Because they don't meet some arbitrary standard set by the experts in Washington.

For all his news conference gyrations about not deliberately deceiving people with his “if you like it” promise, the law Obama so triumphantly gave us allows you to keep your plan only if he likes it. This is life imitating comedy — that old line about a liberal being someone who doesn’t care what you do as long as it’s mandatory. ...

"Put the toothpaste back in the tube," orders the president. Craig Pirrong with the story.

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At which time Obama will turn on the insurance companies, and blame them. You can see this coming a mile away.

Not that that will help one individual who has lost coverage and can't get it back. But Obama really doesn't care about that. He is all about limiting the political damage.

Perhaps some insurance companies will challenge this in court, but I doubt it. They know that the administration can-and will-punish them if they have the temerity to fight back.

It is hard to have too much sympathy for the insurers. They made their bed, and they can't really complain about what's being done to them in it. ...

Mark Steyn is on it.

... as historian Michael Beschloss pronounced the day after Obama's election, he's "probably the smartest guy ever to become president." Naturally, Obama shares this assessment. As he assured us five years ago, "I know more about policies on any particular issue than my policy directors." Well, apart from his signature health care policy. That's a mystery to him. "I was not informed directly that the website would not be working," he told us. The buck stops with something called "the executive branch," which is apparently nothing to do with him. As evidence that he was entirely out of the loop, he offered this:

"Had I been I informed, I wouldn't be going out saying, 'Boy, this is going to be great.' You know, I'm accused of a lot of things, but I don't think I'm stupid enough to go around saying, 'This is going to be like shopping on Amazon or Travelocity,' a week before the website opens, if I thought that it wasn't going to work."

Ooooo-kay. So, if I follow correctly, the smartest president ever is not smart enough to ensure that his website works; he's not smart enough to inquire of others as to whether his website works; he's not smart enough to check that his website works before he goes out and tells people what a great website experience they're in for. But he is smart enough to know that he's not stupid enough to go around bragging about how well it works if he'd already been informed that it doesn't work. So, he's smart enough to know that if he'd known what he didn't know he'd know enough not to let it be known that he knew nothing. The country's in the very best of hands.

Michael Beschloss is right: This is what it means to be smart in a neo-monarchical America. Obama spake, and it shall be so. And, if it turns out not to be so, why pick on him? He talks a good Royal Proclamation; why get hung up on details? ...

Roger Simon keeps wanting the president to resign. Pickerhead doesn't think that's a good idea. Keep this going another three years, and the GOP can run against this idiot for decades to come. Or course that will mean we get people like those that started the EPA and funded the ethanol mandate.

If I were Barack Obama, I would resign as president. Forget all the temporary fixes and limited hangouts, I would be too ashamed of myself for having lied so blatantly to the American people — and on matters of such great significance.

Yes, I am a highly imperfect person. Yes, I have lied. But I doubt I would ever have done what he did, lie so repeatedly and manipulatively to my fellow citizens for my own aggrandizement or for what I personally believe is their better good (even if they don't).

I do not believe the ends justify the means, although, apparently, our president does. Why else would he have lied? People like Stalin do, as we know. They end up killing millions of their compatriots in the process. Obama is not even faintly that bad, but he is bad enough.

One thing is certain. He will never recover from this. Even if his numbers go up, even if the Democrats win in 2014 or 2016, he is an immoral person and will only be seen that way by honest historians. He has stained himself immutably.

How important is this? Consider where we are now. Health care reform is a serious issue, but we are engaged in something even more serious, negotiating nuclear weapons with the Islamic Republic of Iran. ...

We opened today with **Jennifer Rubin** and now she closes for us.

Maybe it was arrogance that convinced the president he could misrepresent his health-care plan to Americans and get away with it. Maybe it was laziness in not immersing himself in the nuts and bolts (as George W. Bush did on the surge and Bill Clinton did on everything). Maybe it was insecurity that prompted him to stock his administration in his second term with lackeys who were short on competence. Maybe it is his lack of real-world experience that deprived him of the knowledge that buying insurance is “hard,” and the government doesn't handle big technology challenges well. Whatever the cause, the president's blundering on the cherished, decades-old liberal dream of universal health care and his jaw-dropping news conference Thursday are a blow to those on the left who still cling to the notion that he is a man of immense talent.

It is (and has been) obvious to those not transfixed by him that he has one superb skill: weaving his own story in print (his books) and in speeches. It is a sleight of hand to create composite characters and lofty rhetoric. It is ephemeral in that the words have little deeper meaning and are devoid of effective ideas and lasting value. It requires no particular depth of knowledge or detailed comprehension of policy or history.

Winston Churchill wrote about the history of his people; Obama wrote about himself. Ronald Reagan reminded us communism was evil and freedom the birthright of all people; Obama told us he was a citizen of the world. Obama's closest confidante Valerie Jarrett told us Obama was bored all his life. That may have been because he was self-absorbed. ...

And the cartoons continue to be wonderful.

Right Turn

[The Obama-disaster news conference](#)

by Jennifer Rubin

President Obama's [just-completed press conference](#) was arguably worse than the Obamacare rollout. Alternately confessing, apologizing and blame shifting, he inadvertently made the case against his own executive skills, Obamacare and big government in general.

His announced fix is aimed at remedying the mass cancellation of individually-purchased insurance plans by [letting insurance companies re-offer non-compliant policies](#). This makes clear that contrary to the statements from Jay Carney and [Valerie Jarrett](#), Obamacare and not the insurers were the cause of the cancellations. Obama let slip that this is one big blame-shifting exercise when he announced that no one would be able to say Obamacare caused them to lose insurance. It is of course false because it is unlikely all the canceled policies can be restored.

The fix undermines the essential premise of Obamacare, namely that young, healthy people need to be herded into the exchanges. Not only will this explicitly encourage many people to stay out but also will communicate that the entire program is in flux. Don't sign up now — the deal may improve as the president gets more desperate!

But it really was the series of unbelievable lines for which this press conference will be remembered:

“We fumbled the rollout on this health-care law.”

“I completely get how upsetting this can be for a lot of Americans.”

“It is a complex process.”

“I was not informed directly [*How about indirectly?!*] that the Web site would not be working. . . . I don't think I'm stupid enough to go around saying this is going to be like shopping on Amazon or Travelocity, a week before the Web site opens, if I thought that it wasn't going to work.”

“With respect to the pledge I made that if you like your plan you can keep it. . . that there is no doubt that the way I put that forward unequivocally ended up not being accurate.”

“The Affordable Care Act is not going to be the reason why insurers have to cancel your plans.”

“The federal government does a lot of things really well. One of those things it does not do well is information technology procurement.”

“In terms of what happens on Nov. 30th or Dec. 1st, I think it’s fair to say that the improvement will be marked and noticeable.”

“What we are also discovering is insurance is complicated to buy.”

“There is no doubt that our failure to roll out the ACA smoothly has put a burden on Democrats, whether they’re running or not.”

“There have been times where I thought we were ... slapped around a little bit unjustly. This one’s deserved, all right?”

“These are two fumbles on something that — on a big game which — but the game’s not over.”

Obama’s answers were long, rambling and at times hard to understand. What is clear is there is no arguing Obamacare can’t be touched or that this administration knows what it is doing. It was a remarkable confession about his own and the federal government’s ineptness, a virtual ad against big government — especially ones dependent on IT procurement. In admitting this was about shifting blame to insurers, he made crystal clear that his conduct is and has been about damage control, not permanently fixing an unworkable bill. He certainly gave satisfaction to Republicans who have been making many of these arguments all along. And it will no doubt convince Democrats to run as fast and as far as they can from this hapless president.

Having rolled back his promise that the Web site will be running 100 percent by the end of the month and conveying that the law is likely to change some more, he has given people a disincentive to sign up on the exchanges, which may depress the already meager sign-up numbers.

This is a president adrift, confused and entirely over his head. He has, in essence, confirmed what his harshest critics have long been arguing: he is incompetent and unknowledgable about how the world operates. And we have three more years left of this.

Washington Post

[Why liberals are panicked about Obamacare](#)

by Charles Krauthammer

“Even if it takes a change to the law, the president should honor the commitment the federal government made to those people and let them keep what they got.”

— Bill Clinton, Nov. 12

So the former president asserts that the current president continues to dishonor his “you like your plan, you can keep your plan” pledge. And calls for the Affordable Care Act to be changed, despite furious White House resistance to the very idea.

Coming from the dean of the Democratic Party, this one line marked the breaching of the dam. It legitimized the brewing rebellion of panicked Democrats against Obamacare. Within hours, that rebellion went loudly public. By Thursday, President Obama had been forced into a rear-guard holding action, asking insurers to grant a one-year extension of current plans.

The damage to the Obama presidency, however, is already done. His approval rating has fallen to 39 percent, his lowest ever. And, for the first time, a majority considers him untrustworthy. That bond is not easily repaired.

At stake, however, is more than the fate of one presidency or of the current Democratic majority in the Senate. At stake is the new, more ambitious, social-democratic brand of American liberalism introduced by Obama, of which Obamacare is both symbol and concrete embodiment.

Precisely when the GOP was returning to a more constitutionalist conservatism committed to reforming, restructuring and reining in the welfare state (see, for example, the Paul Ryan Medicare reform passed by House Republicans with near-unanimity), Obama offered a transformational liberalism designed to expand the role of government, enlarge the welfare state and create yet more new entitlements (see, for example, his call for universal preschool in his most recent State of the Union address).

The centerpiece of this vision is, of course, Obamacare, the most sweeping social reform in the past half-century, affecting one-sixth of the economy and directly touching the most vital area of life of every citizen.

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Lastly, deception. The essence of the entitlement state is government giving away free stuff. Hence Obamacare would provide insurance for 30 million uninsured, while giving everybody tons of free medical services — without adding "one dime to our deficits," promised Obama.

This being inherently impossible, there had to be a catch. Now we know it: hidden subsidies. Toss millions of the insured off their plans and onto the Obamacare “exchanges,” where they would be forced into more expensive insurance packed with coverage they don’t want and don’t need — so that the overcharge can be used to subsidize others.

The reaction to the incompetence, arrogance and deception has ranged from ridicule to anger. But more is in jeopardy than just panicked congressional Democrats. This is the signature legislative achievement of the Obama presidency, the embodiment of his new entitlement-state liberalism. If Obamacare goes down, there will be little left of its underlying ideology.

Perhaps it won’t go down. Perhaps the [Web portal hums beautifully](#) on Nov. 30. Perhaps they’ll find a way to restore the canceled policies without wrecking the financial underpinning of the exchanges.

Perhaps. The more likely scenario, however, is that Obamacare does fail. It either fails politically, renounced by a wide consensus that includes a growing number of Democrats, or it succumbs to the financial complications (the insurance “death spiral”) of the very amendments desperately tacked on to save it.

If it does fail, the effect will be historic. Obamacare will take down with it more than Mary Landrieu and Co. It will discredit Obama’s new liberalism for years to come.

Streetwise Professor

[For His Next Ukase, Obama Orders All Toothpaste Back Into the Tube](#)

by Craig Pirrong

Today Obama allegedly announced a “fix” to the insurance cancellation problem. His alleged fix is that he will issue a ukase permitting insurance companies to violate the law that is commonly referred to by his name by restoring (or not canceling) policies that do not conform to the ACA requirements.

I guess since it’s “his” law, with his name on it and everything, he can change it at a whim or something. Lesley Gore should come back and record “It’s my law that I’ll change if I want to, change if I want to.”

So much for the faithfully execute the laws thing: did Obama teach that when he lectured about Constitutional law at Chicago? Or maybe there’s a secret annex to the Constitution that permits the president to suspend the law if it’s politically inconvenient, or he just feels like it. Maybe they tell the president about it right before inauguration, when they tell him about the secret nuclear codes. Funny that no other president seemed to be as familiar with this annex as Obama.

But even overlooking the illegality of the actions, what about the practicality? In fact, his ukase is obviously wholly impractical. Insurance companies, state regulators (which just tells us that there are other Constitutional issues here, namely federalism), and individuals have all made changes and adjustments predicated on the assumption that the ACA would be implemented as

written. Silly insurance companies. Silly regulators. Silly individuals. But having been silly, it is utterly impossible for them to restore the status quo ante.

In essence, Obama has ordered that toothpaste be put back into the tube. It can't happen and it won't happen.

At which time Obama will turn on the insurance companies, and blame them. You can see this coming a mile away.

Not that that will help one individual who has lost coverage and can't get it back. But Obama really doesn't care about that. He is all about limiting the political damage.

Perhaps some insurance companies will challenge this in court, but I doubt it. They know that the administration can-and will-punish them if they have the temerity to fight back.

It is hard to have too much sympathy for the insurers. They made their bed, and they can't really complain about what's being done to them in it.

Unfortunately, millions of Americans will pay for the corrupt bargain between insurers and the administration (and Congress). These are the wages of corporatism.

I wrote quite a while ago. *Obamacare delenda est*. Now more than ever. This is the only fix.

Orange County Register

[Obama orders his omelet unscrambled](#)

by Mark Steyn

It is a condition of my admission to this great land that I am not allowed to foment the overthrow of the United States Government. Oh, I signed it airily enough, but you'd be surprised, as the years go by, how often the urge to foment starts to rise in one's gullet. Fortunately, at least as far as constitutional government goes, the president of the United States is doing a grand job of overthrowing it all by himself.

On Thursday, he passed a new law at a press conference. George III never did that. But, having ordered America's insurance companies to comply with Obamacare, the president announced that he is now ordering them not to comply with Obamacare. The legislative branch (as it's still quaintly known) passed a law purporting to grandfather your existing health plan. The regulatory bureaucracy then interpreted the law so as to un-grandfather your health plan. So, His Most Excellent Majesty has commanded that your health plan be de-un-grandfathered. That seems likely to work. The insurance industry had three years to prepare for the introduction of Obamacare. Now the King has given them six weeks to de-introduce Obamacare.

"I wonder if he has the legal authority to do this," mused former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean. But he's obviously some kind of right-wing wacko. Later that day, anxious to help him out, Congress offered to "pass" a "law" allowing people to keep their health plans. The same president who had unilaterally commanded that people be allowed to keep their health plans indignantly threatened to veto any such law to that effect: It only counts if he does it – geddit? As his court eunuchs at the Associated Press obligingly put it: "Obama Will Allow Old Plans." It's Barry's world; we just live in it.

The reason for the benign Sovereign's exercise of the Royal Prerogative is that millions of his subjects – or “folks,” as he prefers to call us, no fewer than 27 times during his press conference – have had their lives upended by Obamacare. Your traditional hard-core statist, surveying the mountain of human wreckage he has wrought, usually says, “Well, you can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.” But Obama is the first to order that his omelet be unscrambled and the eggs put back in their original shells. Is this even doable? No. That's the point. When it doesn't work, he'll be able to give another press conference blaming the insurance companies, or the state commissioners, or George W Bush

The most telling line, the one that encapsulates the gulf between the boundless fantasies of the faculty-lounge utopian and the messiness of reality, was this: “What we're also discovering is that insurance is complicated to buy.” Gee, thanks for sharing, genius. Maybe you should have thought of that before you governmentalized one-sixth of the economy. By “we,” the president means “I.” Out here in the ruder provinces of his decrepit realm, we “folks” are well aware of how complicated insurance is. What isn't complicated in the Sultanate of Sclerosis? But, as with so many other things, Obama always gives the vague impression that routine features of humdrum human existence are entirely alien to him. Marie Antoinette, informed that the peasantry could no longer afford bread, is alleged to have responded, “Let them eat cake.” There is no evidence these words ever passed her lips, but certainly no one ever accused her of saying, “If you like your cake, you can keep your cake,” and then having to walk it back with, “What we're also discovering is that cake is complicated to buy.” That contribution to the annals of monarchical unworldliness had to await the reign of Queen Barry Antoinette, whose powdered wig seems to have slipped over his eyes.

Still, as historian Michael Beschloss pronounced the day after Obama's election, he's “probably the smartest guy ever to become president.” Naturally, Obama shares this assessment. As he assured us five years ago, “I know more about policies on any particular issue than my policy directors.” Well, apart from his signature health care policy. That's a mystery to him. “I was not informed directly that the website would not be working,” he told us. The buck stops with something called “the executive branch,” which is apparently nothing to do with him. As evidence that he was entirely out of the loop, he offered this:

“Had I been I informed, I wouldn't be going out saying, ‘Boy, this is going to be great.’ You know, I'm accused of a lot of things, but I don't think I'm stupid enough to go around saying, ‘This is going to be like shopping on Amazon or Travelocity,’ a week before the website opens, if I thought that it wasn't going to work.”

Ooooo-kay. So, if I follow correctly, the smartest president ever is not smart enough to ensure that his website works; he's not smart enough to inquire of others as to whether his website works; he's not smart enough to check that his website works before he goes out and tells people what a great website experience they're in for. But he is smart enough to know that he's not stupid enough to go around bragging about how well it works if he'd already been informed that it doesn't work. So, he's smart enough to know that if he'd known what he didn't know he'd know enough not to let it be known that he knew nothing. The country's in the very best of hands.

Michael Beschloss is right: This is what it means to be smart in a neo-monarchical America. Obama spake, and it shall be so. And, if it turns out not to be so, why pick on him? He talks a good Royal Proclamation; why get hung up on details?

Until Oct. 1, Obama had never done anything – not run a gas station, or a doughnut stand – other than let himself be wafted onward and upward to the next do-nothing gig. Even in his first term, he didn't really *do*: Starting with the 2009 trillion-dollar stimulus, he ran a money-no-object government that was all money and no objects; he spent and spent, and left no trace. Some things he massively expanded (food stamps, Social Security disability) and other things he massively diminished (effective foreign policy), but all were, so to speak, pre-existing conditions. Obamacare is the first thing Obama has actually done, and, if you're the person it's being done to, it's not pretty.

The president promised to “fundamentally transform” America. Certainly, other men have succeeded in transforming settled, free societies: Pierre Trudeau did in Canada four decades ago, and so, in postwar Britain, did the less-charismatic Clement Attlee. And, if you subscribe to their particular philosophy, their transformations were effected very efficiently. But Obama is an incompetent, so “fundamentally transformed” is a euphemism for “wrecked beyond repair.” As a socialist, he makes a good socialite.

But on he staggers, with a wave of his scepter, delaying this, staying that, exempting the other, according to his regal whim and internal polling. The omniscient beneficent Sovereign will now graciously “allow” us “folks” to keep all those junk plans from bad-apple insurers. Yet even the wisest King cannot reign forever, and what will happen decades down the road were someone less benign – perhaps even (shudder) a Republican – to ascend the throne and wield these mighty powers?

Hey, relax: If you like your Constitution, you can keep your Constitution. Period. And your existing amendments. Well, most of them – except for the junk ones...

Roger L. Simon

[Was Benghazi Not Enough? Obama Should Resign over Obamacare](#)

If I were Barack Obama, I would resign as president. Forget all the temporary fixes and limited hangouts, I would be too ashamed of myself for having lied so blatantly to the American people – and on matters of such great significance.

Yes, I am a highly imperfect person. Yes, I have lied. But I doubt I would ever have done what he did, lie so repeatedly and manipulatively to my fellow citizens for my own aggrandizement or for what I personally believe is their better good (even if they don't).

I do not believe the ends justify the means, although, apparently, our president does. Why else would he have lied? People like Stalin do, as we know. They end up killing millions of their compatriots in the process. Obama is not even faintly that bad, but he is bad enough.

One thing is certain. He will never recover from this. Even if his numbers go up, even if the Democrats win in 2014 or 2016, he is an immoral person and will only be seen that way by honest historians. He has stained himself immutably.

How important is this? Consider where we are now. Health care reform is a serious issue, but we are engaged in something even more serious, negotiating nuclear weapons with the Islamic Republic of Iran. Health care can be reformed, can be changed in various ways in a democratic

society, even if that change is inconvenient or painful. But once a country has nuclear weapons, it has them. That story is over. And the mullahs with nuclear weapons is something that should terrify a rational person.

Obama says he won't allow the Iranians to have nukes. But how could we possibly believe him now? How can we believe his intentions in these negotiations? We would have to be fools.

We all remember when the Green demonstrators were in the streets of Tehran, crying out to Obama for even the slightest moral support and he looked away (the most shameful moment I can remember in recent American foreign policy). What is he really doing now in these negotiations? What do he or his minions like John Kerry say to the French when they raise their objections about such "minor" omissions from the agreement as a heavy water reactor, which is a veritable plutonium bomb factory?

We should all hope Congress is paying close attention to this and the members take seriously their responsibility in this matter, not being afraid to override the administration and ratchet up the sanctions against the Islamic Republic and whatever else is necessary.

What we have in the presidency is a hugely selfish man disassociated from reality who has lied to such a degree few trust him. I realize he will never be impeached. The country does not want to go through such a trauma with all its attendant adverse reactions on race relations.

The problem is we have three years left to be led by a dishonest man. This is horrible situation for all of us on so many levels.

Barack Obama should resign for the good of the country. And for his own good. It is the only way to salvage his reputation. The limited fixes, such as the one he attempted on Thursday, are a waste of time and only dig a deeper ditch. They also have the unintended consequence of making people more fed up with government than they already are. Even I, as someone attracted to libertarianism, cannot take pleasure in that. Limited government should emerge from analyzing the pro and cons of political systems, not from the personal weakness of a liar.

Finally, I realize this isn't the first time I have called for Obama's resignation. I did it before over another [egregious lie](#). How many bridges make a bridge too far?

Right Turn

[Obama overwhelmed](#)

by Jennifer Rubin

Maybe it was arrogance that convinced the president he could misrepresent his health-care plan to Americans and get away with it. Maybe it was laziness in not immersing himself in the nuts and bolts (as George W. Bush did on the surge and Bill Clinton did on everything). Maybe it was insecurity that prompted him to stock his administration in his second term with lackeys who were short on competence. Maybe it is his lack of real-world experience that deprived him of the knowledge that buying insurance is "hard," and the government doesn't handle big technology challenges well. Whatever the cause, the president's blundering on the cherished, decades-old liberal dream of universal health care and his jaw-dropping [news conference Thursday](#) are a blow to those on the left who still cling to the notion that he is a man of immense talent.

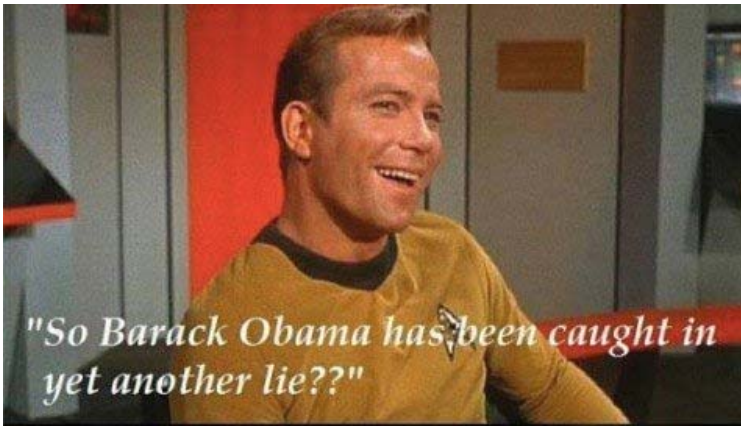
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Winston Churchill wrote about the history of his people; Obama wrote about himself. Ronald Reagan reminded us communism was evil and freedom the birthright of all people; Obama told us he was a citizen of the world. Obama's closest confidante Valerie Jarrett told us Obama was bored all his life. That may have been because he was self-absorbed. The true intellects, deep thinkers and innovators are rarely bored — they are in perpetual motion and intellectual discovery. The government is falling down around the president's ears, and the country, even Democrats in Congress, have lost faith in him.

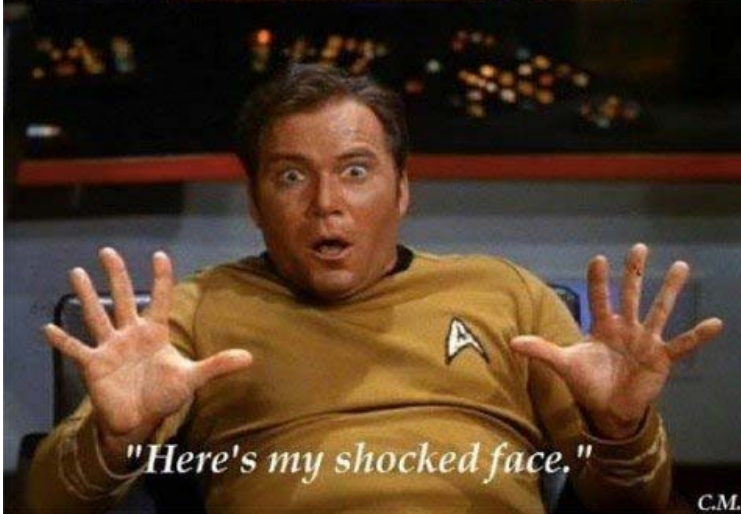
It is too late to redo the 2012 election, but looking ahead to 2016, Americans would be wise to be more selective. So here are a few guidelines for choosing the next president:

1. What has he or she accomplished other than getting elected? If self-promotion is the candidate's most striking attribute, look elsewhere.
2. Has the candidate solved knotty problems or gotten his or her hands dirty with the fine points of a big enterprise? If not, go look for someone with executive skills and leadership qualities.
3. How has this person reacted when things went awry? If he lied, made excuses or shifted blame, the country can do better.
4. How has the person handled defeat, hardship or failure? If he didn't acquire some humility or sense of his own failings, he's going to be trouble.
5. Has the person acted in ways that suggest he thinks the rules apply only to other people? If this is another person with a certainty about his own special qualities that allows him to defy norms other people follow, then run the other way.

It is fair to say what we saw yesterday was not merely a policy failure and indictment against liberal big government, but confirmation of his personal unfitness for the job. Nevertheless, he will be president for three more years, and it will be interesting to see how he stumbles through it.



"So Barack Obama has been caught in yet another lie???"



"Here's my shocked face."

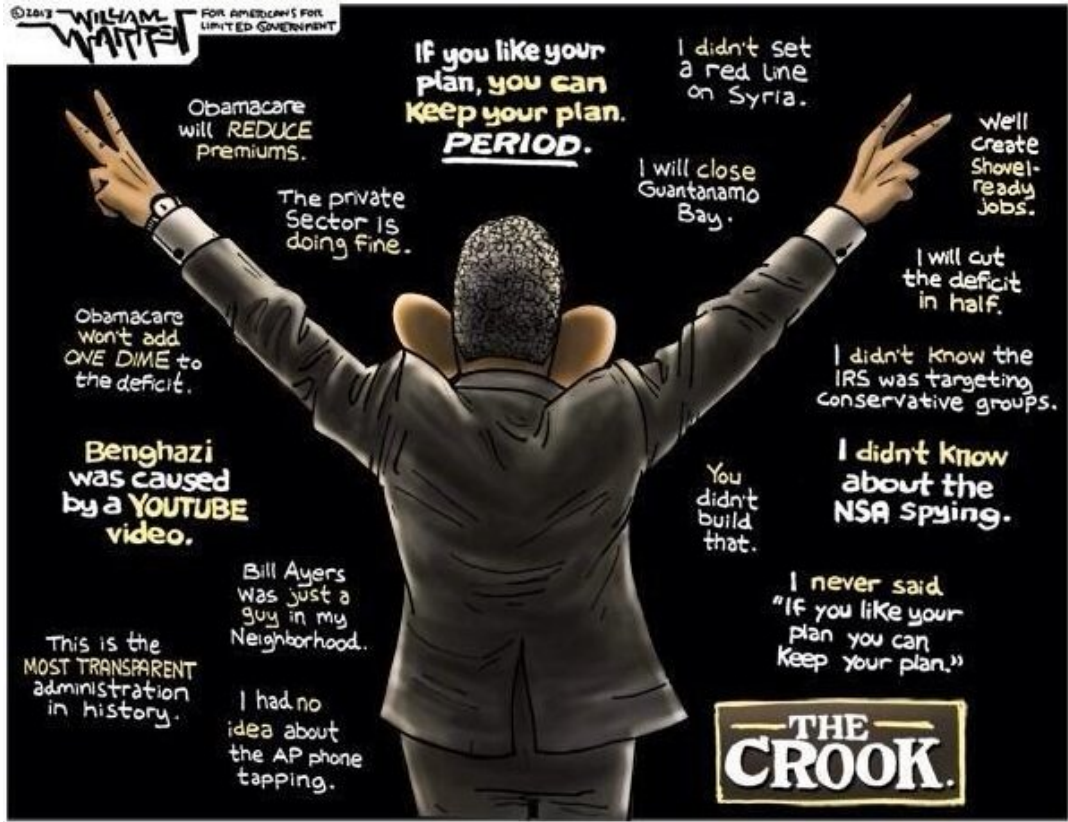
C.M.

LIBERAL QUARANTINE

In order to prevent further infestation of ridiculous liberal ideas and policies, liberals are being asked to stay put in their respective quarantine zones.



*If you wish to leave your zone because the taxes are too high, the schools suck and criminals run the place, remember, you voted for that crap. Just sit your ass back down and enjoy what you created.





**HEY LIBERALS WHO
LOST YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE**



**HOW IS THAT KOOL AID
TASTING NOW???**

Constance Koko