**Why don't Republicans care that they appear both stupid and evil?**

**The Congressional Budget Office's report on the Minimum Wage:**

**Why the Republicans lied about it**

**Remember when Republicans misrepresented the Congressional Budget Office report by trying to claim that the report said that raising the minimum wage would result in 500,000 lost jobs?**

**Since Republicans had to know that it would soon be pointed out that they had misrepresented the report ... why did they do it? Why take a position they couldn't win, and one which could only end up with them standing there with egg on their faces?**

**Think ...**

**Why?**

**The only reason that they would embarrass themselves was because they had to hide the conclusions in the report that they didn't want people to know about:**

**1) CBO finds that raising the minimum wage to $10.10 per hour**

**would directly benefit 16.5 million workers.**

**2) CBO finds that raising the minimum wage**

**would increase income for millions of middle-class families, on net,**

**even after accounting for its estimates of job losses.**

**3) CBO also found that raising the minimum wage**

**would lift 900,000 people out of poverty.**

**Now you know why the Republicans were willing to have their faces splattered with eggs - it was a distraction meant to hide the conclusions of the report by focusing all the attention on their misrepresentation.**

**(By the way, did you notice how well it worked?)**

**Now, 5 days pass**

**...**

**and then it finally becomes clear to me why Republicans are distracting us.**

**What's Really Behind Republican Lunacy**

**How are pickpockets able to steal your watch, wallet, jewelry, and other valuables while you are standing there talking to them, face-to-face?**

**There is only one way they can do that ... by distracting you.**

**Distraction is, and has always been, the favorite tactic of politicians who were attempting to do something that went against the public good (but was very good for them and their friends).**

**Now let's concentrate on the year 2010 in the United States.**

**2 huge events occurred near the beginning of that year:**

**the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare)**

**http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Affordable\_Care\_Act**

**and**

**the Supreme Court case known as "Citizens United"**

**http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizens\_United\_v.\_Federal\_Election\_Commission**

**Analysis**

**Obamacare is projected to help about 30 million Americans eventually. The ones who will benefit most are the sick, the elderly, and young poor people. The goal was to enroll about 7 million the first year. So out of 300 million Americans, we are talking about helping 2% of the population (and eventually up to 10%); and the brunt of the expense for helping them would fall on the Federal government and insurance companies ... not on the rich.**

**So why did Republicans threaten to crash the American economy, which would have also had disastrous worldwide consequences, just to prevent the poorest, sickest Americans from getting help? Why were they willing to destroy millions of lives and cause thousands of deaths over something that wouldn't really cost them much at all? Why did they refuse to expand Medicaid, in states under their control, which will hurt thousands of Americans (including Republicans) and would have cost them nothing? Why were the most evangelical Christians in America willing to look like anti-Christians in an effort to stop Obamacare? Why did Republicans not care how cold and heartless they appeared? Why did they publicly promote lie after lie even though they had to know that their lies could easily be debunked, leaving them looking stupid, at best, and dishonest at worst?**

**Is there an explanation that answers all these questions and ties together all these seemingly bizarre actions?**

**This Is Why**

**The Citizens United decision effectively ended our democracy and handed control of our government over to the rich. They will now choose our government officials ... and they will control them.**

**To keep America from becoming another Egypt and falling into revolt, the rich had to find a way to keep Americans distracted on another issue, and keep them from focusing on what had just happened to their democracy.**

**That explains why Republicans concentrated all their efforts on Obamacare: they were distracting America; and it worked better than they ever could have imagined in their wildest dreams.**

**The rich are picking our pockets. They have decimated America's middle class. The 1% now own half of everything there is to own, and they show no signs of stopping there. Their distraction has worked perfectly.**

**This is the only conclusion that answers ALL of the questions above.**

**What Must Happen**

**Until the general public develops the critical thinking skills necessary to protect themselves from manipulation, they will continue to be mere puppets for the rich, and will willingly contribute to their own demise.**