The State of the Union in 2014

by neo

Why did America only collapse into a Great Recession instead of another Great Depression when the economic disparity in 2008 reached the level, last achieved in 1928?

Why no long soup lines, starving people sleeping under overpasses, and 25% unemployment this time?

Because FDR's administration instituted social security, welfare, medicare, unemployment insurance, government work programs, and took other actions which redistributed the wealth of society. These safety nets were still in place in 2008 and kept America from sinking to the depths it experienced during the Great Depression.

But Republicans, working on behalf of the richest Americans, want to eliminate all those social programs and turn our nation back over to its "rightful owners."

The Citizens United Supreme Court decision of 2010 pretty much guaranteed the demise of our Democracy. The Plutocracy, which now gives us our elected officials, will continue to chip away at our freedoms and our prosperity until ... wait ... there is no "until" because they never stop chipping away. How much is enough? To the rich, the answer is ... that no amount is ever enough.

There is only one answer: critical thinking skills.

As long as they can keep the masses buried in their holy books and distracted by sexual and moral issues, they will continue to be free to pick our pockets until ... well, like I said: there is no "until."

Note

Like every group of people, there are good rich people and bad rich people. Being successful and rich, even 1% rich, doesn't mean they are necessarily included in the "greedy rich." It is imperative to be able to distinguish between the good and the bad.

Most Democrats fight for the rights of the poor, sick, and elderly (but Citizens United may change that). The Republicans fight for the rich against the poor, sick, elderly, and any other non-rich group. So while party affiliation is a rough measure of gauging which rich people belong to which category, individuals within either party may not fit their party's mold.

The masses (non 1%) who are manipulated by the rich, are the ones who must be targeted, and somehow trained in critical thinking skills. I say "somehow" because if you have ever argued with a Fox News fanatic - you have a rough idea of just how much work we have ahead of us.

But against the power of money, there is no other weapon.