

**Subject:** FW: November

All concerned:

We have another election in front of us. Times have been tough, and there are many families hurting. Many people are supporting to throw out all incumbents. I offer the following for your consideration.

We did not get in this mess overnight, and it cannot be corrected overnight, even though there are some who lay the blame of the current financial situation on President Obama. That's just not an accurate assessment.

By now, all of you have received the UTU News, and it advocates that you should look at the whole picture as you cast your vote, and you should especially look at your pocket book.

Elections are about power and setting policy. Gun control and abortion are important, but they are used to get folks to vote those issues when the real agenda is control of capital. Capital is wealth, and wealth is created through policy

Here are some thoughts.

When the republicans took over in 2000, we were running a surplus; welfare was under control. Since the Republicans took over.

They drove up record deficits to pass tax cuts for the wealthy at the expense of the middle class.

And now they want to do it again. If they take over Congress, Republicans have promised to go back to the "exact same agenda" that drove our economy into a ditch.

You can't make this stuff up. The exact same agenda.

For months, the Republicans were obstructionist while the President and our allies in Congress moved America forward. We were on the brink of another Great Depression. Remember, things got so bad that it was George Bush that came up with the stimulus package. It is true that president Obama supported it, but it was the republicans that floated this plan, and they needed to. Without it, I am convinced that we would be seeing the bread lines that were prevalent in the early 1930's.

Republicans are still clutching that same political playbook.

And folks like Sharron Angle in Nevada, Ron Johnson in Wisconsin, and Tom Corbett in Pennsylvania want to go beyond the failed policies of the past. Backed by millions in special interest money, some Republicans want to cut the minimum wage, gut Social Security, and end Medicare as we know it.

President Obama and VP Biden don't believe economic growth in America has to come at the expense of the middle class.

They believe we're only making progress when hard-working families are doing better -- and, with your help, we're getting there.

Thanks to health insurance reform, no one will have to choose between keeping their home and getting the care they need.

Thanks to student loan reform, more parents can send their kids to college -- even if it looked out of reach in years past.

Thanks to new investments in clean energy, entrepreneurs are creating jobs and writing a new energy future for this

country.

That's change we can all believe in. That's change that doesn't discriminate between Democrats, Republicans, or independents. That's the kind of America I believe in.

As a veteran, I insist that you exercise your right to vote. I encourage you to consider the foregoing as you cast your vote. Who is in control does matter. The balance of power affects how the railroads negotiate because they are afraid of policy decisions that would affect their bottom line. This does not mean that they roll over; it does mean that they will bargain in good faith.

In Florida, one of the candidates (Rubio) advocates raising the retirement age to 70; that means some of you would have to work 50 years on the railroad (if you live that long or can survive the disciplinary action.) He advocates tort reform. Let me translate; we'll let you sue, but limit and damage to \$200,000.00. Let's see, if you're 25 years old, that amount should you carry you to age 70. The only reason that safety is at the level that is in the railroad is because that it is too costly not to be. If the railroads can lower the economic impact of an injury, it will do less to make the workplace safe. It is just simple economics 101.

This same candidate is against high speed rail – we can't afford it, but we can spend billions fighting war that one good bomb would take care of. I'm not saying that we should let terrorist go unchallenged, but I do questioned the method and lives of our children when one good old bomb would do the trick. However, one good bomb would put Halliburton (a Dick Cheney corporation) not getting all that money. I think I understand.

Brothers and Sisters, Vote and think about your vote. Set prejudice aside and vote for the good. We cannot afford to let Wall Street do us in like they did between 2000 and 2008.