

## **Please, No More Promises...**

Obama's budget director Peter Orszag recently pledged to "...*cut the deficit in half by the end of the president's first term.*" By 2013 he expects the deficit to be \$533 billion. Of course, Obama just signed into law a "stimulus bill" that will add \$787 billion to this year's deficit, and Secretary Treasurer Tim "*I forgot to pay my taxes*" Geithner talked about injecting another \$1.5 trillion or so into the banking system. Needless to say, the federal government hasn't got the \$787 billion lying around for "stimulus," let alone an additional \$1.5 trillion to give to people who borrowed more than they should have in the first place.

Those who say, "*But he's promised to cut the deficit in half! Isn't that a good thing?*" need to be reminded that cutting something in half that you ballooned in the first place is not much of an accomplishment.

Forget Washington, D.C. for a moment. Just put the scenario in real-life terms:

Teen-ager Susie racks up \$500 in charges on her cell phone. When her irate parents show her the bill she responds, "*I promise to cut that in half next month.*"

Jerry goes to the casino, has enough drinks to distort his judgment, and blows \$1,200 on slot machines. Ashamed, he tells his wife "*I promise to waste only \$600 next time.*"

Sandy goes shopping and returns home with \$5,000 in new clothes. To calm her angry husband, she promises she will "*cut that in half*" on her next trip to the mall.

You get the idea...

Yes, a lot of the blame goes to former President Bush, a Republican Congress (2001-2006) and a Democrat Congress (2007-2008), but the ball is now in Obama's court. We don't need a \$787 spending bill any more than Susie needs to waste \$500 on phone calls. No doubt Susie is stimulating the phone company's economy, *but Susie isn't the one who is paying the bill.* And Obama will be distributing that \$787 billion to his union supporters, ACORN thugs, abortionists, and bankrupt states run by inept legislators, but he isn't personally stuck paying the bill either.

Before giving the thug-in-chief too much credit for a future promise to cut the deficit in half, stop to remember that he's the one who is establishing the all-time deficit record from which he'll make that promised reduction.

Maybe we should be thankful he didn't promise to cut the deficit by 90 per cent...

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