

The most important issues are the ones that impact everyday Americans the most.

1. The Economy.

a. It appears that the TARP and the Stimulus Bill are being repaid with interest. Thus, the “spending” should result in a return of the investment. I am over 60 and am old enough to have parents that grew up during the Big depression and grandparents who were adults and lived through it. By all reports, it was not fun. Hat being said, I personally agree with every financial expert that said that we were on the brink of another depression or major recession. If 10% unemployment is bad, wouldn't 30%+ be worse? Depending on who you believe, after a decade the Great Depression was finally over after the New Deal or World War II. Either way, there was major government spending and hiring. This emergency situation is no different. No one is spending money just to be doing it. And, no one is refusing the funds either; including local Republicans who attend ribbon cuttings and accept infrastructure road work. Further, independent reports indicate that normally high fraud, waste and abuse of funds has been all but eliminated.

b. Tax cuts should be for the 98% of people who make less than \$250,000 per year. They will spend the money. The 2% higher than that will sit on it and amass it. I do not believe that they will invest it at all unless and until they can maximize the fortune that they can obtain. I am not blaming them for doing that. But, I am not willing to abet it either.

2. Medical Reform.

a. It is never a good idea to totally deregulate an industry and give it a virtual monopoly at the same time. For instance, bills were passed to negate NAFTA unless certain triggers came into play, regarding pharmaceuticals. Also, major firms were given what amounts to a monopoly. Then regulations were lifted so that, if they wanted to, they could charge \$500 for a bottle of aspirin. It is so bad that they have Montel Williams on TV saying that they will help with prescriptions if you can no longer afford it. That is, if they are now so high that people are dying on the sidewalk. I don't want to hear, “If you cannot afford it MAYBE we can help.” I want a free, open market where prices will be back to normal.

b. Insurance companies, similarly are abusive. They have had to be made to spend 85% of their intake on patients!! They want to “invest” the majority and if they lose money, they simply raise premiums or refuse claims. OB-Gyn doctors are getting out of the specialty, or not going into it in the first place, because malpractice insurance is so high. Not because of errors but because insurance companies refuse to take a loss and gamble too much of their funds. I think that even 15% is too much for them. I am sure that everyone has heard of the two families that had babies. One was in Colorado and one was in Florida. One was an ounce under an arbitrary weight limit and one was over. The insurance company said that they were not going to insure any medical problems because of a pre existing condition. Are you kidding me? They were just born! They dropped the decision after it got nationwide exposure. But, weekly hundreds of people

die (hundreds) not because they don't have insurance but because they don't have enough or claims are refused due to bogus adjustments.

3. Adequate food, clothing, shelter.

These items constitute "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness." Along with medical care, food (including clean water) and shelter are essential for Life. Liberty insures that people can assemble and protest with free speech when they feel that their rights are being abridged. No one I know wants a free handout, just the right to earn a decent wage dictated by market and not artificial price/wage fixing. Not a handout or a hand up but a hand off artificially holding folks down for profit. The market includes labor. And not just moving to get higher wages but negotiating for them at their present location. The artificial hand should be removed by whatever legal means are necessary.

One cannot be guaranteed Happiness but one should be allowed to exercise education, judgment, hard work and grit to pursue it. I don't want anyone to give me anything. You don't even have to open the door for me to get it myself. I have two good arms. I just refuse to let the door be blocked by artificial, illegal, unethical or immoral means. And I feel that it is appropriate to move them any legal way I can. The playing field should be level with equal access.

4. Immigration.

The current Arizona law is a wedge issue item created to placate and garner adherents from a conservative constituency. I say this for two reasons. One, if anyone were serious about illegal immigrants, they would go after cheap labor employers. There is a reverse trend of illegals returning south of the border as jobs diminish. Thus, if employers faced substantial consequences like, say, \$10,000 per day fines, they would insist on documentation. Those that did not have documentation would likely return to get it. Two, if illegal immigration is the real issue, then why aren't we going after the full one third of illegals that are from Ireland?? Should we stop anyone with light brown to blonde hair, blue eyes and a last name that starts with O apostrophe? I don't recall hearing a word about that. I wonder what would happen if Massachusetts passed a 1070 law in that regard?

5. Reproductive choice.

We should focus on eliminating the need for abortion by serious efforts at eliminating all unwanted pregnancies. If there were no unwanted pregnancies, there would be no need for abortions. The tactics used since 1973 have done very little. There is no one who wants to see increases in abortions. Not pro life or, certainly, not pro life proponents. To change the situation, we must change the approach. This can be addressed by:

a. Improving education at home, church and school. Communities and parents could decide which and how much they want to employ. We must do something to counter the

influence of film, TV media, and internet. As it is, parents don't talk to kids and won't let clergy or teachers talk to them. So, they just talk to each other, which is the blind leading the blind. Support Right Choices for Youth and other organizations.

b. Improving prenatal and post partum care. Many expectant mothers feel that they have no choice and no help. Support Success By 6 and other organizations.

c. Encouraging adoptive options. Support the Bair foundation and other organizations.

Those that don't support at least one of the above are **not** pro life but are just likely "pro birth." And afterwards they throw mother and child on the trash heap by only, hypocritically, desiring to respect and preserve in vitro life and disregarding those that are already born.