

Hello, this is Tom Cookman with a Community Comment

Here we are about to say goodbye to yet another year. It seems that the political environment is getting more and more crazy every election. The line between a Democrat politician and a Republican politician is blurred, if not, completely nonexistent. Being in the government is profitable. Most of the people asking for our vote at the federal level are multi-millionaires. They tell us what we want to hear and once they have the power they do whatever they want. When President George W Bush took office we had an astronomical national debt of \$5,000,000,000,000.00. Eight short years later that debt ballooned to nine trillion. President Obama took over and when he leaves office it will be twenty trillion dollars. The last two presidents have quadrupled our national debt and what do we have to show for it? The gap between the rich and the poor is bigger than it has ever been. The taxpayer is being forced to pay more at every level of government and yet the services we receive are deteriorating. Every single government agency has increased in size and yet we are getting fewer benefits. The politicians have taken our tax dollars and bailed out huge banks and corporations. These businesses failed and they were allowed to keep their doors open with the same management, management that paid themselves huge bonuses with our money. Oh yeah, they also donated millions of dollars to the campaigns of the very politicians who voted to bail them out. We just let it happen. We talk politics with our friends, families and co-workers and argue the details we perceive each of our particular party has. We get passionate about this candidate or that candidate. We believe the rhetoric we hear in their debates, advertisements and on the nightly news. Once elected, they head to Washington DC and get sucked into the quicksand of the political machine that does

nothing but promote themselves and line their own pockets, and the pockets of those who got them elected, all with our tax dollars. It is comical to hear people talk about the great economy we had during the Clinton Presidency. Sure there was lots of money to be had. Unfortunately, the housing bubble that created such vast amounts of wealth was a house of cards. After the Great Depression, there were banking laws put in place to protect our economy from repeating such an economic disaster. This protective legislation was abolished by Congress and signed into law by Bill Clinton. This single stroke of the pen led to the housing collapse of 2008. Under Clinton, the stock market was dominated by the .com industry. Companies had billions of dollars in stock without any assets. Yes, the economy was good under Bill Clinton, but it was a false economy. I strongly believe Hillary Clinton will be our next President and the out-of-control debt accumulation will continue. We are on a path that leads to destruction. We cannot sustain this debt. I don't think Donald Trump is electable, but our country needs a President with an economic background, not a political one. If any business or individual had the debt percentage our government has, they would be bankrupt. It is often said that we are kicking the debt can down the road and our grandchildren are going to be responsible, well we've run out of road and this debt is going to bury all of us if we continue with politics as usual. Happy New Year and 2016 will be the craziest election cycle this country has ever seen. Enjoy.

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