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## Obama's Bust Tour USA: And the Spending Keeps Rolling Along

by Jason Mattera ([more by this author](#))

Posted 08/16/2011 ET

Updated 08/16/2011 ET



How do you have a conversation with someone so detached from reality?

Nah, we're not talking about those teeny boppers who insisted 'N Sync's Lance Bass was straight as an arrow.

We're talking about Obama and the hapless members of his Cabinet.

Rather than offer up real policies that thwart gargantuan government spending and incentivize business leaders to start hiring again, Dear Leader Barack is bulldozing through the Midwest on his gas-guzzling, [\\$2.2 million armored vehicle bus tour](#) (paid for by you!) to tell zombie crowds that he needs even more gargantuan government spending to set the economy on the right track.

“Now is not the time for us to not invest in infrastructure,” the Prez told an Iowan audience. No one in the crowd, and definitely not the media, asked whether the new proposed round of government “investment” would be shovel-ready this time around. [Shovel-ready didn't exactly mean shovel-ready](#) previously, you may recall.

Details, details!

BHO also touted “investments” in a “smart grid that transmits energy from solar panels and wind turbines to high-population centers” and other eco-princess hype. In fact, his Department of Agriculture today announced a \$510 million “investment” in biofuels.

While we're on the topic of investments, did you know that food stamps are delicious economic boosters we should welcome with open arms?

That's what Tom Vilsack, Obama's secretary of agriculture, told the MSNBC viewers. Yes, I know that more people play FarmVille on Facebook during their lunch break than watch MSNBC in an entire 24-hour period, but we at HUMAN EVENTS figured you should know that Monsieur Vilsack was bragging—yes, *bragging*—that the number of people on food stamps has gone up during the Obama administration.

“The reason why these numbers have gone up [one in seven Americans on food stamps] is we've done a pretty good job of working with states that have done a poor job in the past about the getting word out about this program,” crowed Vilsack.

Vilsack then continued the hallucinogenic claim that food stamps in fact help to jolt an economy back to life.

“Every dollar of SNAP benefits [food stamps] generates \$1.84 in the economy in terms of economic activity. If people are able to buy a little more in the grocery store, then someone has to stock it, shelve it, process it, package it, ship it. All of those are jobs.

It's the most direct stimulus you can get in the economy during these tough times.”

It's one thing to say that food stamps are needed to help destitute individuals in hard economic times, but it's entirely different to argue that food stamps are part of some vigorous jobs program. That's preposterous.

As Dan Mitchell of the Cato Institute explains, these models suggesting the positive ratio of government spending to economic stimuli are all bogus because the underlying assumption is that Uncle Sam gets its money as though it were manna from Heaven.

Poof! There it is!

(Side note: Ever curious what manna tastes like? Hopefully it was somewhat tasty if the Israelites had to eat it every morning.)

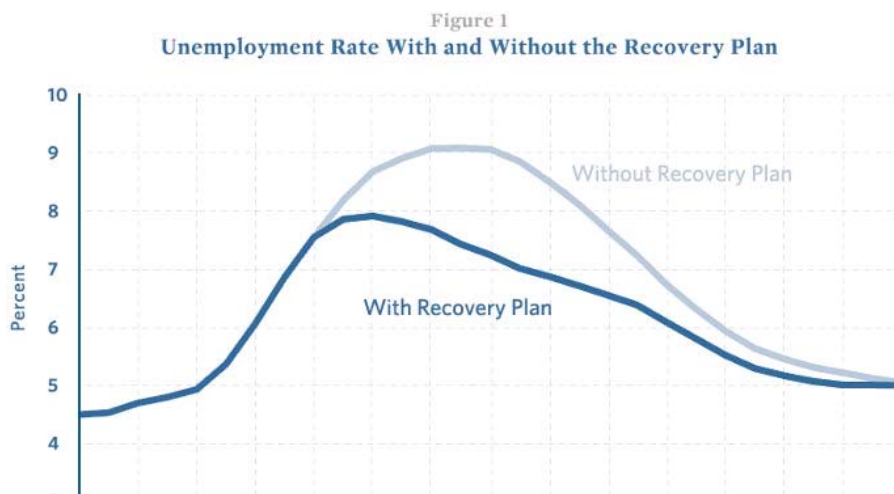
But back to the lib's Keynesian model.

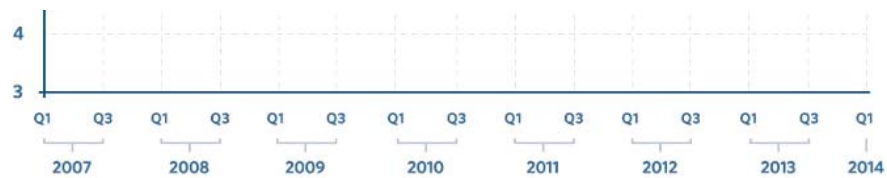
“It's the fatuous notion that you get yourself richer by transferring money from the economy's left pocket to the economy's right pocket,” noted Mitchell.

“It's the assumption that when the government spends money, it appears out of nowhere.”

This theory proved wrong under Presidents Hoover and Roosevelt, and now the reminder comes to us by way of Barack Obama. Remember the so-called stimulus? The one that should have reduced the unemployment rate to below 7% by now?

Yeah, that one:





As Mitchell put it, “That proved to be grotesquely wrong.”

But to the President, his policies apparently have nothing to do our sluggish economy. Nothing. You see, the problem is that there’s one-third of government (thank you, Tea Party) that is attempting to thwart Obama’s spending bender.

“The problem we have is not with our country,” said BHO, “the problem is that our politics is broken.” (At this point there was applause from the mindless seals [plants?] in the crowd.) “The problem is,” he continued, “that we’ve got the kind of partisan brinksmanship that is willing to put party ahead of country, that’s more interested in seeing their political opponents lose than seeing the country win.”

Nice try. But that excuse is about as bad as Al Sharpton trying to read a teleprompter.

Our country is not broken. As the last two-plus years have demonstrated, it is liberalism that is broken. It’s a worldview without any possibility of redemption.

[Speaking of Big Al](#), “Resist we much. We must and we will much, about that, be committed.”

Exactly.

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Mr. Mattera is the editor of HUMAN EVENTS and the author of [Obama Zombies: How the Liberal Machine Brainwashed My Generation \(Simon & Schuster\)](#). He also hosts [The Jason Mattera Show](#) on [News Talk Radio 77WABC](#). Previously, he was the Spokesman for Young America's Foundation and a TV correspondent for Michelle Malkin. Follow Jason on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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