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A critical choice for the middle class

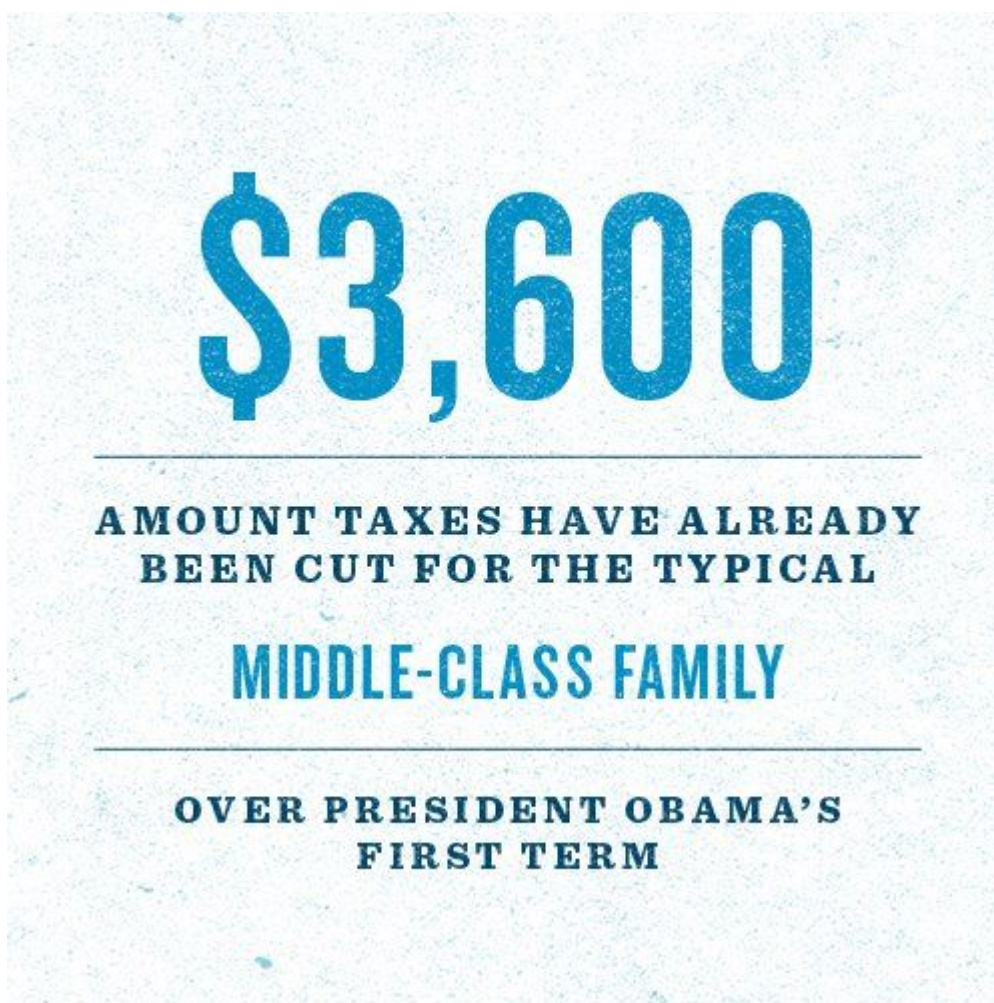
**Barack Obama**

October 13, 2012

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Americans face a critical choice this November—and that choice couldn't be clearer when it comes to our tax system.

President Obama knows we can only grow our economy from the middle out, not the top down. That's why he's fighting to make sure our tax system is fair for all Americans—while Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan would raise taxes on the middle class to give tax cuts to millionaires and billionaires.

Here's a by-the-numbers look at what's at stake for middle-class Americans this November:

\$2,200: Cost to the typical working family if President Obama's middle class tax cuts are allowed to expire

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Nearly **\$1 trillion**: Cost of extending the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy over the next decade

18: Small business tax cuts already signed into law by President Obama

97: Percent of small business owners whose tax cuts would be extended under President Obama's plan

[Learn more](#) about the difference between President Obama's and Mitt Romney's economic plans—then help spread the word.

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[Lucille M.](#), [Bhaskar G.](#), [Joelle M.](#), [PRABHAT P.](#), [Sabine N.](#), [Amy M. B.](#), [MOINUL H.](#), [Daniel L.](#), [Dorina G.](#) and [Felix N.](#) like this

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[David Crofts](#) A Critical Choice ... for anyone in the "middle" of their accumulated "life experiences" ... clearly not just a Critical Choice for anyone classified by the "dollar numbers" of their accumulated "wealth" as being in the "middle" ... Clearly I am not preoccupied with "dollar numbers" and "financial accumulations" but still recognize the wisdom of the "middle". Hence, anything applied to the "top" in the hope that it will then travel "down" is "out" of "centre" and hence "un-fair" "discrimination" against any and everyone who has not made it to the "top". I find the presidents reference of the term "economic" "growth" indicative of someone who un-fortunately, can not see past the "number" size of various "factors" that economist use to measure "qualities" that are really only of "interest" to other economists. The president says, move "forward", but I do not feel that what he is aiming this supposedly "desirable" "economic" "growth" "towards" takes the most important "factors" in ones life into account. Rather than simply trying to reach the "orgasm" by exploding some "number" measure of economic "growth" we should measure how "orgasmic" our life experience is through the measuring "factors" such as "gratification of our health care needs", "number of meals per day", "how well protected are we in terms of housing" ... To return to the subject referred to by the publisher of the presidents plan, I must say that "the tax system" should be the dominant topic of the discussion in this election, and we need to address the mechanisms of implementing a fair tax collection system for all, and not be concerned with how can we "discriminate" "un-fairly", toward or away from, the poor or the rich, we it comes to our taxes or the cutting of them. There exists a unique solution to the building of the ultimate fair taxation system and it has already been widely if only partially been adopted outside the US. It is known as a consumption tax, VAT or GST. No tax system can be fairer than a universal GST. 16 minutes ago



[Gokul - krishna G.](#) If one is practical and not hypnotized by false advertisements and glamor

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Diane G. I can't believe some of people's comments! The GFC has caused major problems all around the developed world and every government has coped with it in various ways. Your large banks suck - your lobby groups are far too strong and influential and heaven help America if the Republicans get a greater hold on government because the world will be a lot worse off. Diane G in NZ 54 minutes ago



Leonard Stanley P. Lets be clear about where the burden of tax lies with the American people----it rests fairly and squarely with the middle-class tax payers! ranting on about socialism is just plain stupid-----the higher thresh-hold income earners avoid tax like the plague and that is the plain truth. Tax cuts for the 'rich' is an incentive to grow revenue through indirect taxation--end user and other capital (capitol) methodologies. But, the 'buck' sits with the Democrats to get it right.....conservatism will result in a heavier burden being placed at the feet of middle America. The People will vote with their feet, either way! just an observer of the facts. 1 hour ago



soudi A. I have medical and one months active and 2months not active , I am 61 and I have to take Medicean every day because I don't have tiro-rid after 2 time surgery u know if I did I not take levotrixin u could not working . With this problem I am confuse how better for me Obama or Romney , I am republican . 1 hour ago



Michael H. Canada is not a socialist state. We just care about our fellow people. The Republican mind set is out of touch with what our world needs. We are in this together. Is that a slide down the 'Socialist' path or just plain common dignaty for the people of our world? 2 hours ago



Rdwagle R. REMEMBER YOUR NOBEL PRIZE FOR PEACE FOR WORLD. FOR USA, GOOD JOB; KEEP IT UP. SUCCESS IS YOURS. R D WAGLE 2 hours ago



John A. N. This President is so economically illiterate, it is disgusting. But then most Americans are just as clueless, so maybe its a match made in heaven. 3 hours ago



Amy H. Vote for Obama if you think Socialism is a good form of Government. 3 hours ago



John C. Try this: higher taxes on wealthy individuals, lesser taxes on wealthy businesses. Taxing a wealthy person is not necessarily punishing success, but hiking taxes on wealthy businesses is. Give a monetary incentive for wealthy business owners to not take enormous personal bonuses, but rather to invest that money back into their business. Don't just threaten all the wealthy with higher taxes. Separate wealthy business from wealthy individual. 4 hours ago



John C. Be careful about classifying a lack of tax hikes as a cost. Extending the Bush tax cuts for the wealthy over the next decade would "cost" nearly \$1 trillion, or it could be \$1 trillion that you would never have had. Whatever you plan to do, announce it early so that businesses can plan for it. The worst thing for businesses is not high taxes, but unpredictability. High taxes are right behind it, especially for small businesses, but tax unknowns are worse. 4 hours ago



Bhaskar G. Look at making America a destination for all ..Permit entrepreneurs to flourish and share technology/advancing science with all .Respect all classes at all places and promote peace in the true sense.USA is a part of this world,and must coexist with all .

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Johnny K. Create jobs first for food on the table and roof over your head. Security comes next and health after that. Get us back on the feet first before the Foreign Policy. Why spend so much money on that when the money can help the small business that can create jobs.

4 hours ago



Keith K. I think its great that charlie W is such a big fan ALL the way over in New Zealand. But when you live in the USA, having the money you work for deliberately invested in companies (not what taxes are for) that fail and distributed to welfare cases is not so great. Perhaps Obama can go ahead and run New Zealand since charlie W is such a fan.

4 hours ago



Waldo T. Let's see...Cut the deficit in half and now it is 50% higher. That's an \$11 Trillion dollar swing...hmm? At the current pace it will be over \$20 Trillion..way to go Mr. President. Gas up 100%...and climbing a hidden tax because of Obama's energy polices, Obamacare, healthcare up \$2500 not down \$2500 that's an \$5000.00 swing hmm? More regulations, more costs no improvements..just look at the new mortgage disclosure forms, Frank Dodd got rid of the APR disclosure, the only real way to compare mortgages. What Geniuses they have in Washington took 5 page form to 3 and got rid of the only accurate comparison. Now that really helps the consumer. Less people working today than when the President took office. The Libya COVER UP SCANDAL..testimony in congress that the state department knew just after the attack on our Benghazi embassy it was a terrorist attack...The President, Ambassador Rice, Secretary of State Clinton all advanced the LIE....that it was an obscure video.. and kept it up.. Disgraceful, manipulative, and spent \$70 Million on ads to the Muslim world to propagate this LIE....You cannot be trusted with our domestic policy or our foreign policy. Maybe Israel should go back to the 1967 borders as the President demanded as a negotiating starting point, which are indefensible then everybody in the Middle East will kiss and make up...PLEASE Go back to Chicago where lying, propaganda and thuggery are the political norm. How many Governor's and politicians in prison now? As soon as we the voters send you back to Illinois, we can request the return colonial power England's bust of Winston Churchill. Hope and change is now gloom and blame. There is nothing that has been fixed because only thing this administration is accomplished and expert at is fixing blame.

4 hours ago



Jawaid M. Mr. President your deficit projection is based on ten years while you are aging by the months and then ofcourse who will be in the office by then. Second, your tax cuts are tricky just as how the numbers are implimented in the private sector - that is what the employee actually ends up with.

4 hours ago



Randall B. The next debate is almost upon us. Seize the moment and do not let us down. We've come too far.

5 hours ago



Dorina G. Mr. President Obama, reduce taxes but also try to re-organizing the Gov. to reduce inefficiencies. Tax the products imported from China to ensure fair competition and work with Canada on pipeline and other projects that will ensure a reduced costs of energy.

6 hours ago



Sally G. Mr. Obama, be strong in the next debate and hammer these figures home where you can...you must find a way through the manipulative inaccuracies of your opposers. You are on the right path, both fiscally and socially. We cannot afford to loose you.

6 hours ago