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President Barack Obama speaks during a campaign stop in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, September 22, 2012.

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Republican presidential candidate and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney speaks at a campaign fundraising event in Del Mar, California, September 22, 2012.

Kent Klein

September 22, 2012

TEXT SIZE

WHITE HOUSE — Six weeks before the U.S. presidential election, President Barack Obama and his Republican opponent, Mitt Romney, spent Saturday campaigning and raising money. Each candidate made the case for his plan to revive the American economy.

In the north central state of Wisconsin, the president told supporters in the city of Milwaukee his economic blueprint will better serve middle-class Americans than Governor Romney's plan.

"Top-down economics never works," said Obama. "The country does not succeed when just those at the very top are doing well. We succeed when the middle class gets bigger, when it feels greater security."

Romney, in his weekly podcast, said the president's economic policies depend too much on government and do too little to help the private sector.

"Under President Obama, we have a stagnant economy that fosters government dependency. My policies will create a growing economy that fosters upward mobility," said Romney.

Romney spent Saturday in California, not looking for votes but raising money at events in Los Angeles and San Diego.

Obama is widely expected to win California, the nation's most populous state.

The president was visiting Wisconsin for the first time in nine months. His wife Michelle is expected to campaign there in the coming days.

Public opinion polls in Wisconsin show Obama leading by at least seven points.

At one of his three stops in Milwaukee, the president acknowledged the anti-American unrest in a number of Muslim nations, and said the United States must meet its foreign policy challenges.

"This is a world still full of serious threats. We are going to have to work to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon. We are going to have to make sure that not only our diplomatic posts are safe, but we go after folks who threaten or try to kill Americans," said Obama.

Romney's vice-presidential running mate, Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan, sharply criticized Obama's foreign policy on Saturday.

ON THE RECORD

What have the people vying for the White House said about your country? What statements have they made on hot-button issues like the economy, immigration or Iran?

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Romney's Surge

Campaigning in Florida, Ryan said the president has made America weak.

"By gutting defense, by showing we want to cut defense, by being equivocal, by not speaking up forcefully and clearly for American values of freedom and individual dignity and individual rights and religious freedom, we are projecting weakness abroad," said Ryan.

Ryan also told Cuban-Americans in Miami that the Obama administration is too soft on the Castro government in Cuba.

Romney is expected to campaign more heavily in swing states in the coming days. The president will visit two college campuses in Ohio in the coming week, and also is likely to visit more swing states.

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Comments

by: **Ed** from: **Wis**

September 24, 2012 3:29 PM

[Reply](#)

Obama has tripled the National Debt since in has been charge and yet he stills blames Bush. I guess Obama never took any English or common sense courses. We have more unemployment in the nation since he has been in Office. Our Gas prices are the highest ever and climbing. He has defaced the American Flag by removing the Stars and they have replaced in with Obama, He calls the massicure at Fort Hood a "Work Place Incident" and the list goes on an an on. This guy HAS GOT TO GO. He has destroyed America so bad I only hope and pray we can repair ALL the damaged he has done. Wake up America, we can't afford this guy in another 4 years.

by: **David Crofts** from: **Melbourne, Australia**

September 23, 2012 10:06 PM

[Reply](#)

Mitt Romney advocates less government "control", believing that as a consequence of this, there will be a more positive "controlling" hand applied to the "controlling" of things outside the "control" of government. (i.e. the private sector.) With less "government" to unite it, the United States will become a band of loosely connected financially opportunistic rabble !!!!

by: **Tom G** from: **CT**

September 22, 2012 9:32 PM

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Republicanism is bankrupt. The Romney fundraiser tape shows that the same idea - that Republicans are the only people that work - animates the GOP from top down. Doesn't matter that your son died for this country or you paid more INTO Social Security than you paid for your house. They want to go back to the good old days, when people got drunk and shot themselves as soon as their medical bills got out of control.

In Response

by: **jonathon**

September 24, 2012 3:35 AM

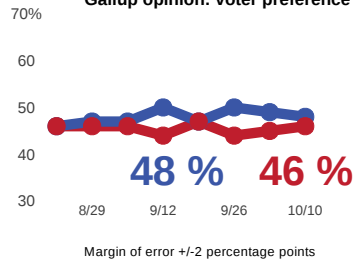
Tom G:

I seem unable to find quotes of Romney saying any of the things you posted. Perhaps the ideas are of your own making?
Government is bankrupt, and neither Democratism nor Republicanism will fix that, only reining in Socialism and the application of some decades, perhaps even generations of Conservatism is the ONLY solution to the problems we now face. That is not going back to the "good old days", but simply going forward employing economically sound practices, like living within your means, balancing your budget, avoiding debt which cannot be repaid, etc.

Romney's Resurgence

POLL NUMBERS

Gallup opinion: voter preference



VIDEO

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Analysts: Both Biden, Ryan Are Strong in Vice Presidential Debate

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