

# What In The World Is Going On?

## 9<sup>th</sup> District GOP Event April 25, 2007

Have you ever used that expression as an exasperation when you were confronted with chaos or unexplained circumstances? Most of us have. But today, when I ask “What In The World Is Going On?” I pose it as a serious question; the answer to which we must all seek to understand.

Surely, the events of the national election last year should cause all Republicans to ask “What in the World is Going On?” Why would the American people remove control of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate from the Republicans? After all, Republicans had done great things, they had reformed a welfare system that had fostered the worst social blight on our nation since the abolition of slavery; they had enacted two major reforms on our tax system that resulted in the largest tax cuts in the history of our country; they mobilized the nation after the attacks of 9/11 and vigorously mounted a war on terrorism at home and abroad.

So why, in light of these historic efforts would the people of this great nation choose to go in a different direction?

Much of the blame can be laid at the feet of Republicans. First of all, leadership in the White House and in Congress failed to maintain financial discipline. After the initial success of the Contract With America, which resulted in the first balanced budget in more than four decades, the desire to do more was stronger than the desire to spend less. Certainly, much of the spending was necessary to rebuild our military that had been allowed to deteriorate under President Clinton, and even more was needed to create and fortify Homeland Security, which had never been a priority since World War II.

As a result, people who claimed to support the Republican cause joined with Democrats in complaining about levels of spending, and as result, the American people bought it and polls before the 2006 election showed that they trusted Democrats more than Republicans when it came to controlling federal spending. Well, let me tell you what they have gotten from their misplaced trust. On March 27, 2007 the Democrats passed a

budget for fiscal year 2008, without a single Republican vote, that will produce a tax increase over the next 5 years of almost \$400 billion, and possibly as much as \$900 billion, the largest tax increase in history. 48 million married couples will see their taxes increased by almost \$3,000 per year as the marriage penalty will reappear. 42 million families with children will pay almost \$2,200 more per year because the child tax credit will be cut in half. Elderly couples will see their taxes increased by 156%, and taxes on 26 million small businesses will increase by almost \$4,000 per year.

So what will these new taxes be used for? First of all, increases in non-defense discretionary spending for next year alone of \$22.5 billion. Increases in entitlement spending that will soon reach 60 cents out of every dollar.

So, for those who think Democrats can control spending better than Republicans- Think Again- these figures are only what their first budget looks like- it will only get worse every year they retain control. That is why the elections of 2008 are so important. Georgia came very close to electing 2 more members of the House of Representatives last year. Next time the White House will be up for grabs. Can you imagine what will happen if the Democrats control the executive and the legislative branches?

We have some good candidates for president who have already announced and several more in the wings. They will need all our support. Let's just hope the Democrats nominate Hilary or Obama, the Britney Spears and Sanjaya of Presidential Politics.

Well, What In The World Is Going On? Quite a lot. Speaker Nancy Pelosi is jet setting around the world meeting with the heads of nations that are state sponsors of terror, but can't find time to meet with our own President. Harry Reid, the Democrat leader of the Senate, has declared that we have lost the War in Iraq, and he and the Democrats in both Houses want to tell the generals how to run the war and let our enemies know when we are going to pull out. That makes about as much sense as mailing a notice to a known burglar telling him when your house is going to be vacant.

What In The World Is Going On?

Let me tell you what is going on in the world. Here are a few facts from Samuel P. Huntington's book, *The Clash of Civilizations. Remaking of World Order*:

- Muslims constituted about 18% of the world's population in 1980, over 20% in 2000 and 30% by 2025.

- Islam is the second largest religious group in the world and will soon overtake Christianity.
- The population of youth in the Muslim world (that is those 15-24 years of age) exceeds 20% of the population. They are the recruits for Islamic political and terror organizations.
- Muslim states have a high propensity to resort to violence in an international crisis. From 1928 to 1979, Muslim states resorted in violence in 53.7% of the cases compared with the use of violence by the U.S. in only 17.9% of the cases.

Huntington is one of the most provocative writers of our age. You may not like or even agree with his conclusions, but this is what he concludes is the answer to the Question: What In The World Is Going On?:

“Much evidence exists in the 1990s for the relevance of the “sheer chaos” paradigm of world affairs: a global breakdown of law and order, failed states and increasing anarchy in many parts of the world, a global crime wave, transnational mafias and drug cartels, increasing drug addiction in many societies, a general weakening of the family, a decline in trust and social solidarity in many countries, ethnic, religious, and civilization violence and rule by the gun prevalent in much of the world. In city after city- Moscow, Rio de Janeiro, Bangkok, Shanghai, London, Rome, Warsaw, Tokyo, Johannesburg, Delhi, Karachi, Cairo, Bogota, Washington- crime seems to be soaring and basic elements of Civilization fading away. People speak of a global crisis in governance. The rise of transitional corporations producing economic goods is increasingly matched by the rise of transitional criminal mafias, drug cartels, and terrorist gangs violently assaulting Civilization. Law and order is the first prerequisite of Civilization and in much of the world- Africa, Latin America, the former Soviet Union, South Asia, and the Middle East- it appears to be evaporating, while also under serious assault in China, Japan and the West. On a worldwide basis Civilization seems in many respects to be yielding to barbarism, generating the image of an unprecedented phenomenon, a global Dark Ages, possibly descending on humanity.”

So, When Someone Asks: What In The World Going On? The answer is a lot. For those who think we can simply cut and run in Iraq and not damage our standing in the

world order, they are simply wrong. For those who think that Western Civilization is merely a history course taught in high school or colleges, they are wrong. We are indeed engaged in a world wide Clash of Civilizations, and we cannot appease and accommodate those who would seek to destroy us in this international encounter. For those who see no need to secure our borders and prevent the dilution of our culture which is a vital part of our cumulative civilization, they are wrong. When one out of every ten births in this country is to someone who has illegally entered our borders, and when citizenship is given to that child, it will not be long until the power to vote in our representative democracy will create a great altercation to our culture. If Western Civilization is to survive, it will require that our leaders and our people appreciate the challenges it faces.

Most scholars agree that there have been 12 major civilizations in the history of mankind, seven of which no longer exist. Since the United States is the central power of one of the remaining great civilizations, we must do all within our power to make sure it does not disappear.

I realize that these are large concepts that do not register with the instant media that is focused on momentary sensationalism, or in the Halls of Congress that are dominated by petty party bickering, but somehow, somewhere and soon, we must all reach a consensus and act like Americans and understand What In The World Is Going On.