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Introduction
Change Is Coming

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Change Is Coming



Americans want change. They elected the current President because he promised change. They elected TEA Party candidates because they promised change. Both electoral results are proofs that average American people want change. Granted, the changes they want are different, but they agree on one thing: America is in danger and someone must act to reverse course.

This book agrees with all Americans who believe we must change course, or face economic collapse, and potentially, the collapse of our constitutional democracy. Many understand our nation needs immediate change, but perhaps *not as many understand that our very future as the United States of America is at risk, if collapse occurs.*

Having watched talk of change for decades, since at least the election of President Ronald Reagan, and all the elections, reelections, and persons changing seats in the White House and the Congress, hearing all the talk today, the citizen who writes this book has come to one conclusion.

We are a people bound by and to the law. The highest law in our land is the U.S. Constitution. Every elected and appointed federal official and employee, and our U.S. military personnel, swears or affirms¹ allegiance to the Constitution, to uphold and protect it, which is a legal requirement for office.

¹ For religious reasons, some Americans will not swear to anything, so an accommodation is made for these by “affirmation” or agreement. Presidents Hoover and Nixon were Quakers and used affirmation.

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Since the U.S. Constitution is the highest law no one can avoid or evade—*if its articles and amendments become the clear will of the American People, who ratified it for self-rule*—then the only legal force for change is to amend the Constitution to (1) address and stop current problems and (3) prevent recurrence of them for the future.

The U.S. Constitution, amended to exert the will of The People—in legal ways that cannot be evaded or explained away by the Supreme Court, or lower courts—is the only legal solution to our current crises and affairs. Why? There are millions of American citizens who have given up that Congress will change, and who are preparing for their own change.

This book is driven by the changes we have experienced for decades, the changes occurring now, and the fact that changes are accelerating—whether you decide to act or not.

Our Government Will Not Change

Words require only air in the lungs and the working of the tongue. Words mean nothing apart from actions that show the truth of what speakers believe and are willing to do. Facts are what are most important, not words. We must look at the evidence for all those who talk about change by what they legislate, or fail to pass into law.

Both the Republican and Democratic parties have talked about change every election cycle, forever. This includes the problem of federal spending. Both parties have promised change, promised controlled budgets, yet spent beyond the taxes collected for thirty years.

Look at the facts of federal spending when both parties have held the White House and majorities in Congress, during the years, 1980-2010.² Look at the facts of year-by-year deficit spending. The respective years Republican or Democratic Presidents were in power will be designated.

U.S. Deficit Spending 1980-2010³
IN MILLIONS

YEAR	SURPLUS/DEFICIT
1980 (D - Carter)	-73,830
1981 (R - Reagan)	-78,968

² Fiscal Year 2012, HISTORICAL TABLES, Budget of the U.S. Government, Office of Management and Budget, found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2012/assets/hist.pdf>.

³ These numbers were taken from the report above, pp. 22-23.

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1982	-127,977
1983	-207,802
1984	-185,367
1985	-212,308
1986	-221,227
1987	-149,730
1988	-155,178
1989 (R – G.H.W. Bush)	-152,639
1990	-221,038
1989	-152,639
1990	-221,036
1991	-269,238
1992	-290,321
1993 (D – Clinton)	-255,051
1994	-203,186
1995	-163,952
1996	-107,431
1997	-21,884
1998	+69,270
1999	+125,610
2000	+236,241
2001 (R – G.W. Bush)	+128,236
2002	-157,758
2003	-377,585
2004	-412,727
2005	-318,346
2006	-248,181
2007	-160,701
2008	-458,553
2009 (D – Obama)	-1,412,688
2010	-1,293,489

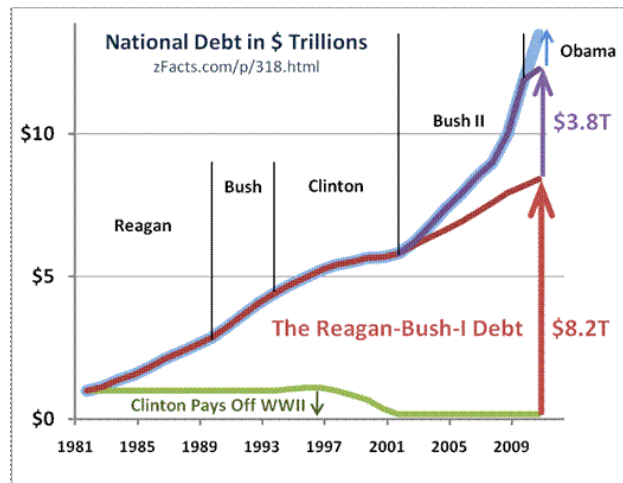
The chart⁴ below presents one economist's representation of which Presidents were responsible for the *relative magnitude* of today's federal debt.

⁴ <http://zfacts.com/p/1170.html>. The website, [zFACTS.com](http://zfacts.com), is owned by Steven Stoff, PhD, who describes himself in this way, at <http://zfacts.com/p/133.html>. "I'm a Ph.D. economist and my day job is consulting for electricity markets—California, PJM, ISO-NE. That provides 99.9% of the funding for this site.... At heart, I'm a scientist; that means I'm a skeptic. I don't trust easy answers especially from politicians. I also don't trust extremists, either left or right. But I don't think these are biases; they're based on observation. It's hard to know your own biases, but I believe openness, information, and clear thinking are helpful—maybe those are my bias.... I like to figure things out, and I don't like deceptions or misunderstandings, especially ones that harm people. So with zFacts, I get to investigate many of my interests and perhaps expose some deceptions and clear up some misperceptions."

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At the time this sentence is being written—August 12, 2011, 6:35 p.m. EST—our current federal debt is \$14.6 trillion dollars. The debt of the average U.S. citizen is \$47,000 dollars. Mortgage debt is \$13.6 trillion. Personal debt is \$2.5 trillion. Credit card debt is \$800 billion. The U.S. tax receipts are, at this minute, \$2.2 trillion. These numbers are taken from the *U.S. Debt Clock*.⁵

These numbers are rough approximations of debt. The “clock” is running 24/7/365, so no one actually can “capture” the real debt figures, except as they watch the clock, capture a number, and note it. Yet even the firmest, truest numbers tell only mass. The person noting the facts must draw conclusions from the numbers. For decades, our federal officials have told good stories to go with the budget numbers. These are facts.

Why Our Government Has Created the National Debt

There are three basic facts for this. (1) Both parties have put together and passed budgets *they knew at the time* were deficit spending beyond tax revenues. (2) Both parties passed budgets that either (a) included spending that helped those who elected them or (b) included tax reductions that helped those who elected them. (3) We, the American People, knew what they were doing and did not stop it, for at least some of the following reasons.

- We personally followed balanced budget principles, but passively let our government do what we ourselves did not do.

⁵ See <http://www.usdebtclock.org/> when you read the numbers current for your time.

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- We followed the same debt principles, and were not concerned the government did what we were doing.
- We ourselves benefitted from the Republican or Democratic spending, or tax reductions, so actively supported deficit spending or tax reductions.
- We were too busy with our lives—working, illness, crisis, having fun—to work to stop the process, write a letter, make a call, or join others.
- We falsely felt powerless to stop the process, so did not use the power we had to become involved actively in the political process.

With as many citizens as we have in this nation, the list of reasons could run into the millions as to *why we did not stop our own elected officials from taking us where we all knew we were headed.*

This book is about facts, not the defense or attack on any political party; not the common habit of pointing fingers at all levels of government, as if government exists on its own, without being elected by individual Americans who voted—or refused to vote; or, surely not the habit of leaving out our own responsibility.

Take Personal Responsibility

Leave the past behind. Do not dwell on it, or waste energy bemoaning it. Whatever you did or did not do now is past. Stop blaming others for what all of what has happened. Some bear blame, but they do not bear all the blame. Live in the present. Dwell on it, and devote all your positive energies and talents to it. Whatever you do today for good is the seed planted for your own future.

Change has been happening for a long time now. Changes are happening as you read this book. Change is coming, whether you participate to make it better than it otherwise would have been, or not. So why not participate now, today, in constructive change?

You likely will answer, *“I can do nothing to change the direction of my country.”* Let us allow that is true, though this false idea will be dispelled below. Let us assume you do all you can, but the nation continues towards what we all fear: economic and even political collapse.

What will be the final result, if all your work for good change is dissolved in the acid of greed, is strangled by some willing to do anything for their wealth or political power?

- You will have done all you could for your family. They need you. These already are tough times. Everything you do now, they watch and learn. When they see you work for positive, constructive, legal change—against the tide of division and greed—you create a legacy of patriotic courage. They may need that example after you are dead, to inspire them to do the right thing, if the nation is in chaos.

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- You will be a better person. You will have done what was right, for the right reason, though the odds were stacked against your individual efforts.
- Your stake in America's future, whatever it is, will be deeper and purer. You will have experience working against tough odds, opposition, yet keeping faith with yourself, your family, and nation. You will earn the right to call yourself a patriot. If you are a military veteran, you know what this means now.
- You will be a better guide for other citizens. When you have your own history of patriotic work and sacrifice, you have a track record to draw on. If times get really tough and crazy, and they well may, when other citizens want to give up, or want to engage in wrong, illegal, or destructive choices or actions, you will have experience rejecting those things. You can call upon your own experience to tell them what you learned, when you felt the same way. Your citizen neighbors will need you to lead them, and teach them, that unleashing emotions to do bad things tear down personal integrity, harm themselves and others. Start today.

If you feel powerless to make real change in this country, read this book. Everything in it is provided for you to know and use the power you have already, put into your own hands by your U.S. Constitution. You already are more powerful than you know.

The people ruining this nation do not want you to know that. They can only feed on feelings of hopelessness, passivity, cynicism, and withdrawal from your vote, well-cast for the right changes, to continue doing what they have been doing for decades.

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If you wish to make a financial contribution to get this and other essays published before the American people, please send me an email. We will make that happen. Regardless of that, may God bless you and your family, and our faltering nation, which has so many millions of good, honorable, and honest people.