

Calling For a Straw Man Candidate to Enter the Presidential Race

✘ I've never been a big fan of third-party candidates running for president. I tend to believe that if voters are unhappy with both major parties, there's a productive way to change that. They can work to bring the party they're ideologically closest to over to their way of thinking. The Tea Party, for example, did this successfully in 2010 by electing fiscally conservative candidates into office. The result was the Republican take-over of the House of Representatives. The other alternative, of course, is to vote for a Ross Perot, a Ralph Nader, or a Gary Johnson out of pure principal. The problem with that, however, is that the vote gets split between common ideologies and the benefactor ends up being the candidate most feared by the voters who supported the third-party candidate.

This year, however, I'm willing to make an exception. A third-party candidate might actually add some clarity to the race. I often hear or read of people complaining that there just isn't much difference between the Republicans and the Democrats. For those people who want a truly unique party that offers truly unique positions, I think there's one out there that just might deserve some attention.

After all, it seems that President Obama has been dead set on running against this party for about four years now. I'm talking about a party he seems to rake over the coals at every opportunity. Just last week as a matter of fact, he accused these people of holding some sort of animosity toward bridges and roads, and chastised them for thinking they are smarter and work harder than those who don't own their own businesses. The interesting thing about this party is that they have yet

to push back against the president's criticism of them. They've remained utterly silent in their own defense.

I'm talking, of course, about the *Straw Man* party... and I think it's time they enter the race.

You see, the *Straw Man* party really seems to be the people that President Obama has the biggest problem with – not so much Mitt Romney and the Republicans. The president speaks out against the Straw Men at numerous events and he apparently despises them so much that he won't even give them the satisfaction of calling them by their name. Instead, he typically refers to them as "Some people" or "There are those who".

For example, President Obama says things like, "There are those out there who want us to go down the same old path – the path where we just throw up our hands and say, 'We can't do anything about education. It's too hard. We can't do anything about health care – it's too tough.'"

You see, *that's* a unique position if there ever was one. I can't say as though I've ever heard ANYONE say that our country can't do anything about education and health care because it's "too hard". I want to hear more about this from the Straw Men, and I want to know if they're really that lazy or if there's some genius idea behind their proclaimed laziness.

President Obama speaks before auto-industry employees like those at General Motors, and tells them, "There are some who see this pain and suggest that somehow it's inevitable – that the only way for America to get ahead is for communities like yours to be left behind."

That's another interesting take. I'd like to hear the logic behind the belief that our country can't move forward unless General Motors closes its doors. I've certainly never heard that viewpoint. Obviously, that viewpoint has to exist.

Otherwise, President Obama wouldn't say such a thing. Right? In the interest of *the marketplace of ideas*, I want to hear the *Straw Man* party elaborate on this.

When talking about how to address our economic problems, the president has said things like, "There seems to be a set of folks who – I don't doubt their sincerity – who just believe that we should do nothing."

Nothing? Now that's a gutsy approach! There have been a plethora of suggestions coming out of Washington over the past four years aimed at increasing U.S. economic growth and creating jobs. They've ranged from the president's failed stimulus program to tax reform, tax cuts, reduced federal spending, entitlement reform, etc. So, the "do nothing" approach is certainly interesting. Let's hear more about it from the *Straw Man* candidate at the presidential debates!

I want to hear the *Straw Man* party defend and articulate all of the ideas that President Obama has told us they have, including why they want to raise taxes on the middle class, why they don't want women to have contraceptives, why they like "gas guzzling cars", why they want to take away social security benefits for senior citizens, why they want to harass Hispanics in Arizona for taking their kids out for ice cream, why they want women to earn less money than men, why they don't want poor people to have access to healthcare, why they're complaining about "how fast" the president is cleaning up the economy, why they don't want the president to discuss the Middle East with students in Istanbul, why they embrace an economic strategy of "anything goes", why they insist that people be "defined by their differences", and why they are "anti-Science".

When there's a party out there that has such radically different viewpoints from a president whose approval rating is underwater, I think they deserve a national platform! It's clear that voters want a definitive choice, so it just doesn't

seem right for the *Straw Man* party to just sit on the sidelines during the 2012 election.

Really, President Obama should *want* the Straw Men to enter the race. Otherwise, all of the talking-points he's used against them over the past four years might come across as nonsensical. Well, that is unless he tries to apply them to Mitt Romney and the Republicans instead. But he surely wouldn't do that, would he? That would be dishonest and would really only have a chance of working if he had the national media committed to his re-election.

It's a good thing we don't have to worry about that happening, right?