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110th KZGN News Talking Points Editorial
By: Tom Wiknich

Obama blames “we the people” for Washington gridlock in his state of the union speech.

Yesterday, I reported on president Obama’s last state of the union speech. I’ll admit that, for me, it was very painful. When it ended, I clapped with a sigh of relief because was his last state of the union speech.

Already, many fact-check organizations have fact checked his speech and found up to ten lies he told. Of course, to be nice, we could just call them little distortions of the truth. The big one that hit me was when he was discussing his supposed one regret for his presidency. He said, that he regretted that he was not able to bring the two sides together more and that there was no willingness to compromise. Have you noticed that it is always him wanting the republicans to compromise, and that he was willing to compromise?

The definition of a compromise is that both sides give in to their position to reach an agreement. That is not what he sees as compromise. He believes that everyone should just give in to him and his position. Here is where it gets good in his speech. He said that he has talked to many in congress, and many of them have told him that they are willing to compromise, but if they did, then they would be taken to task by their constituents back home and maybe be voted out of office.

Did you catch the main point there? Some congress people would be willing to compromise, but they fear our criticism and maybe even be voted out of office. Hello! How quick do they forget? They are our representatives. They are to represent us in Washington. They are not there for their own gain or ideology. They represent us. They ultimately have to represent the majority of their constituents. I know they can’t please everyone, but “we the people” have the right to expect them to represent our thoughts and ideology, not the president’s. They are there to fight on our behalf. Now, before anyone starts in on me that our representative can’t represent everyone one of us, I know that. He or she must represent the majority of their constituency. The president has a 54% disapproval rating. Sixty-five percent of the people believe the country is headed the wrong direction. Congress hovers around a 10% approval rating, and we are to blame for that?

Last time I checked, if there is a 65% disapproval about the direction the country is headed, a sane person would reevaluate his performance and try and do better. Instead, this president, in true elitist style, tells us that he knows better than the 65% that disapprove, and will do what only he and another 35% believe is the right thing to do. That arrogance will never bring the two sides together, Mr. President. He should look back when this divide took the major hit. It was when he started his push for Obama care. The republicans were invited once to the White House to discuss his proposal. When they told him they were not willing to support his proposal as he presented it, that was it. The president offered nothing in compromise. From then on, he and a democrat-controlled congress just pushed ahead in what the elitists in Washington felt was the right thing to do. They shoved it down the throats of the republicans. Not even allowing them 72 hours to read the bill before they passed it. Never allowed one amendment. Even some democrats complained of not having time to read the bill. None of them voted to stop approval until they read the bill. The president shoved it down their throats too. In fine, blind allegiance to the party, they voted to approve it. That, Mr. President, is what set the tone of total divide in the congress. That made it worse than is was when you took office. That caused the democrats to lose control of the house in the next elections. Then the democrats lost control of the senate. One man caused that to happen. You, Mr. President, drew the line in the sand that you were going to do whatever you felt was right. The rest of us could just go to blah, blah. That’s what caused the major split in our country. Too bad your line in the sand then wasn’t like your line in the sand when dealing with foreign policy. Since then he has done nothing to reduce that arrogance, to heal that wound, or to heal that divide. It’s been his way or the highway. It still is.

He has used more major executive orders than any other previous president. I am talking about major law changing executive orders. I’m not talking about the quantity of orders. I’m talking about the content of them. Content that goes around the authority of congress. He even issued executive orders delaying implementation of certain provisions of his own Obama care. His illegal executive orders forced the congress and individual states to take him to court to block his illegal acts. Many of those court challenges have been successful in blocking him. The courts blocked his dream act executive order. And what did he do? He issued another one expanding the one that the courts just blocked. That, Mr. President, is elitism and arrogance at the highest level. Again, to just do what he believes is the right thing to do, not the other 65% of us that don’t agree. Compromise isn’t even in his dictionary. If it is, it has to be a different version with a definition the other 65% of us don’t have. No, Mr. President, the divide in Washington and the country is worse because of you. Don’t try and blame “we the people”. The other 65% and I will not accept your failure as our fault.

In conclusion, the president once again tries to assert that his one major regret isn’t even his fault. It’s not congress’s fault either. It’s “we the people” that are the problem. We have the audacity to expect the people we elect to represent our opinions on how government should be run. I say to you, Mr. President: No, Mr. President, it’s all your fault. Don’t try and push your failure on “we the people”.

I’m Tom Wiknich, and that’s what I think. I’d like to know what you think. If you have any comments about this editorial, or would like to discuss or recommend a topic, I’d like to hear from you. Please email them to info@kzgn.net.