

## **“You Didn’t Build That” and Income Redistribution**



Written by [Ralph R. Reiland](#) on July 27, 2012

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trained and competed time and again at winning and losing.”

Romney then says the following, allegedly delivering the same message President Obama delivered in Roanoke: “You Olympians, however, know you didn’t get here solely on your own power. For most of you, loving parents, sisters or brothers, encouraged your hopes, coaches guided, communities built venues in order to organize competitions. All Olympians stand on the shoulders of those who lifted them. We’ve already cheered the Olympians — lets’ also cheer the parents, coaches and communities.”

There’s a difference, however, between what Romney and Obama said. Romney was saying nothing more than what is standard at graduation ceremonies — a public thanks to parents, spouses and teachers, a recognition that individual accomplishments are often helped along by others.

President Obama, instead, was arguing for more spreading around of the nation’s wealth, more income redistribution, more societal leveling.

Romney, in contrast, wasn’t trying to make a case for a redistribution of medals.

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