



Written by [Staff](#) on August 22, 2016

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Letters to the Editor

Congress' Corruption

Regarding your article "Is Gridlock Really a Bad Thing" (July 18 issue), it's important to realize that real gridlock — also known as checks and balances — is rare because of congressional rules, combined with unconstitutional spending. In his book *Extortion*, Peter Schweizer describes how both the Democratic and Republican Parties have set dues quotas for each member of Congress in order for them to be selected for a powerful committee assignment such as the House Ways and Means Committee or Financial Services Committee. Schweizer also states that the National Republican Congressional Committee posts the price tag for each Republican on a wall with a red marking to indicate those persons failing to make their quota. This perverse incentive program is likely to result in the more corrupt members of Congress ending up in the leadership positions.

Members of Congress have an incentive to sell their services to the K Street lobbyists in return for campaign donations so as to make their dues quota.

Per USDebtClock.org every taxpayer is in hock by \$858,839 to the federal government's Ponzi scheme for the federal debt, including the unfunded liabilities, as of July 2016. The Federal Reserve, with the help of the Treasury Department, funds the Ponzi scheme by essentially issuing a credit card with a floating credit limit, a limit Congress always hikes.

Despite the fact that Americans do not have enough assets to pay this debt, Congress continues to magnify the Ponzi scheme by extravagant spending, far in excess of the government's income. All Ponzi schemes eventually implode, and I believe our current crop of representatives will wait until the financial house of cards collapses and then point the finger of blame at the party sitting in the president's chair at the time of the meltdown.

Middle-class Americans are being sledge-hammered by the recession, tax hikes, and the shrinking purchasing power of their earnings due to Congress' lack of spending restraint. The growth of inefficiencies is like the plaque that builds up in the arteries: It triggers a heart attack as inefficiencies build up. Owing to the ballooning of federal spending, the economy eventually will have a heart attack. Americans must revolt and replace corrupt members of the state Central Committees of the Republican Party with virtuous persons, since the Central Committee vets the candidates, or support a third party focused on ending the corruption in Washington and re-establishing the 10th Amendment.

Gary Woodburn

Sent via e-mail

Life at Home

Let's talk about life as if your spouse followed examples set by our federal government.

In such a situation, your front door would remain unlocked so that strangers could wander in and stay because they were unhappy in their previous homes. Your refrigerator would be stocked, open, and available to your uninvited guests. Additional beds and cots would be purchased for the guests.

More monies would be borrowed from your bank, increasing your present (already large) debt. Then the funds would be given to the guests, and termed "welfare."



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Everyone would have an equal say in making family decisions.

Any complaints or criticism of the unwanted guests would be rebuked and deemed “bias,” leaving you ostracized and badmouthed to the neighbors. The same would happen for calling the unwanted invaders “unwanted invaders.”

Sleep might be difficult to obtain because you worry about your guests trying to kill you or your loved ones or worry about the effect they are having on the living situation of your house.

William E. Mathews

Valparaiso, Indiana



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