

10 Things Conservatives Don't Want You To Know About Ronald Reagan



Tomorrow will mark the 100th anniversary of President Reagan's birth, and all week, conservatives have been trying to outdo each others' remembrances of the great conservative icon. Senate Republicans [spent much of Thursday](#) singing Reagan's praise from the Senate floor, while conservative publications have [been running non-stop commemorations](#). Meanwhile, the [Republican National Committee](#) and former GOP House Speaker [Newt Gingrich](#) are hoping to make a few bucks off the Gipper's centennial.

But Reagan was not the man conservatives claim he was. This image of Reagan as a conservative superhero is myth, created to unite the various factions of the right behind a common leader. In reality, Reagan was no conservative ideologue or flawless commander-in-chief. Reagan regularly strayed from conservative dogma — he raised taxes eleven times as president while tripling the deficit — and he often ended up on the wrong side of history, like when he vetoed an Anti-Apartheid bill.

ThinkProgress has compiled a list of the top 10 things conservatives rarely mention when talking about President Reagan:

1. Reagan was a serial tax raiser. As governor of California, Reagan "[signed into law](#) the largest tax increase in the history of any state up till then." Meanwhile, [state spending nearly doubled](#). As president, Reagan "**raised taxes in seven of his eight years in office,**" including four times in just two years. As former GOP Senator Alan Simpson, who called Reagan "a dear friend," told NPR, "Ronald Reagan [raised taxes 11 times](#) in his administration — I was there." "Reagan was [never afraid to raise taxes](#)," said historian Douglas Brinkley, who edited Reagan's memoir. Reagan the anti-tax zealot is "false mythology," Brinkley said.

2. Reagan nearly tripled the federal budget deficit. During the Reagan years, the debt increased to nearly \$3 trillion, "[roughly three times](#) as much as the first 80 years of the century had done altogether." Reagan enacted a major tax cut his first year in office and government revenue dropped off precipitously. Despite the conservative myth that tax cuts somehow increase revenue, the government went deeper into debt and Reagan had to raise taxes just a year after he enacted his tax cut. Despite ten more tax hikes on everything from gasoline to corporate income, Reagan was [never able](#) to get the deficit under control.

3. Unemployment soared after Reagan's 1981 tax cuts. Unemployment [jumped to 10.8 percent](#) after Reagan enacted his much-touted tax cut, and it took years for the rate to get back down to its previous level. Meanwhile, **income inequality exploded**. Despite the myth that Reagan presided over an era of unmatched economic boom for all Americans, Reagan [disproportionately taxed](#) the poor and middle class, but the economic growth of the 1980's did little help them. "Since 1980, median household income has risen only 30 percent, adjusted for inflation, while average incomes at the top have tripled or quadrupled," the New York Times' [David Leonhardt noted](#).

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4. Reagan grew the size of the federal government tremendously.

Reagan promised "to move boldly, decisively, and quickly to control the [runaway growth of federal spending](#)," but federal spending "[ballooned](#)" under Reagan. He [bailed out Social Security](#) in 1983 after attempting to privatize it, and set up a progressive taxation system to keep it funded into the future. He promised to cut government agencies like the Department of Energy and Education but ended up *adding* one of the largest — the [Department of Veterans' Affairs](#), which today has a budget of nearly \$90 billion and close to [300,000 employees](#). He also [hiked defense spending](#) by over \$100 billion a year to a level not seen since the height of the Vietnam war.

5. Reagan did little to fight a woman's right to choose. As governor of California in 1967, Reagan signed a bill to liberalize the state's abortion laws that "[resulted in more than a million abortions](#)." When Reagan ran for president, he advocated a constitutional amendment that would have prohibited all abortions except when necessary to save the life of the mother, but once in office, he "[never seriously pursued](#)" curbing choice.

6. Reagan was a "bellicose peacenik." He wrote in his memoirs that "[m]y dream...became a world free of nuclear weapons." "This vision stemmed from the president's belief that the biblical account of Armageddon prophesied nuclear war — and that apocalypse could be averted if everyone, especially the Soviets, eliminated nuclear weapons," the [Washington Monthly](#) noted. And Reagan's military buildup was meant to crush the Soviet Union, but "also to put the United States in a stronger position from which to establish [effective arms control](#)" for the the entire world — a vision acted out by Reagan's vice president, George H.W. Bush, when he became president.

7. Reagan gave amnesty to 3 million undocumented immigrants. Reagan signed into law a bill that made any immigrant who had entered the country before 1982 eligible for amnesty. The bill was sold as a crackdown, but its tough sanctions on employers who hired undocumented immigrants were removed before final passage. The bill helped 3 million people and [millions more family members](#) gain American residency. It has since become a source of [major embarrassment](#) for conservatives.

8. Reagan illegally funneled weapons to Iran. Reagan and other senior U.S. officials [secretly sold arms to officials in Iran](#), which was subject to an arms embargo at the time, in exchange for American hostages. Some funds from the illegal arms sales also went to fund anti-Communist rebels in Nicaragua — something Congress had already prohibited the administration from doing. When the deals went public, the Iran-Contra Affair, as it came to be know, was an enormous political scandal that forced several senior administration officials to resign.

9. Reagan vetoed a comprehensive anti-Apartheid act. which placed sanctions on South Africa and cut off all American trade with the country. Reagan's veto was [overridden](#) by the Republican-controlled Senate. Reagan responded by saying "[I deeply regret](#) that Congress has seen fit to override my veto," saying that the law "will not solve the serious problems that plague that country."

10. Reagan helped create the Taliban and Osama Bin Laden. Reagan fought a proxy war with the Soviet Union by training, arming, equipping, and [funding Islamist mujahidin](#) fighters in Afghanistan. Reagan funneled billions of dollars, along with top-secret intelligence and sophisticated weaponry to these fighters through the Pakistani intelligence service. The Taliban and Osama Bin Laden — a prominent mujahidin commander — emerged from these mujahidin groups Reagan helped create, and U.S. policy towards Pakistan [remains strained](#) because of the intelligence services' close relations to these fighters. In fact, Reagan's decision to continue the proxy war after the Soviets were willing to retreat [played a direct role](#) in Bin Laden's ascendancy.

Conservatives seem to be in such denial about the less flattering aspects of Reagan; it sometimes appears as if they genuinely don't know the truth of his legacy. Yesterday, when [liberal activist Mike Stark](#) challenged hate radio host Rush Limbaugh on why Reagan remains a conservative hero despite raising taxes so many times, Limbaugh flew into a tirade and demanded, "[Where did you get this silly notion that Reagan raised taxes?](#)"

 **UPDATE** Salon has more in their series "[The Real Reagan](#)," including how he cared

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more about UFOs than AIDS and how Reagan destroyed respect for the social compact that rebuilt America after World War II.

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- *Anonymous*
Quote from a movie:

"When a legend becomes truth, print the legend."

- *Anonymous*
Republicans: deluded or liars?
How about deluded liars. And that becomes more obvious when they yell, scream, and bully, like Limbaugh, when confronted with the truth.
- *mhandrh*
The myth of Ronald Reagan — extrapolation of fact into something unrecognizable in reality.
- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/Zoocy>
11. Reagan was suffering from Alzheimer's disease for at least half of his eight years in office.
- <http://twitter.com/rationalrevo> R. G. Price
To be fair, the net result of Reagan's impact on taxes was lower federal income taxes on the wealthy. raising taxes a little after signing in a huge cut isn't exactly the same thing as "raising taxes" The fact is that upper income tax rates were lower when he left office than when he went into office, so its hard to really claim that he "raised taxes"

What is better to point out is that the total tax burden on the bottom half of the income spectrum was in fact higher when he left office than when he entered office.

Saying that someone raised or lower taxes is meaningless, what's meaningful is raised or lowered taxes on whom.

Reagan dramatically cut taxes on the rich and raised taxes on the poor, end of story.

See also my article on Reagan: How Reagan Sowed the Seeds of America's Demise : http://www.rationalrevolution.net/articles/recession_cause.htm

- *mhandrh*
Frankly, I am sick, sick, sick of the adoration of Reagan; a man who was a grade B movie actor and a Grade B president.
Republicans – and much of the public – seem to have forgotten the truth. I was a working mother, preoccupied with my young family, and gathering information on the periphery of my day-to-day activities during that period yet he struck me then as a phony politician who painted a Polyanna picture of America, totally unrelated to historical fact.
I remember arguing with my in-laws about him.
- *Anonymous*
Myth: Reagan won the cold war, it was the Pope who inspired the Polish people to seek freedom, which inspired the rest of the people in eastern Europe to overthrow the communists.
- *Anonymous*
Truth: Reagan taught everyone... that the Jelly Belly is so much better than the ordinary jelly bean.
- *Anonymous*
Ronald Reagan did more to destroy the middle class, thus the economy, of this country than any other president in history. Followed closely by George W. Bush. One more republicum president like that will finish us off for good.
- *Anonymous*
I give up, Rush. Where did you get the idea that he didn't raise taxes? Oh? Pulled it out of your conservative ass?

Color me not surprised.

- http://disqus.com/Kenneth_R_Mackie/ Kenneth R. Mackie
This article obviously has not been vetted by the Ministry of Truth!
- *Anonymous*
Rush pulls a lot out of his conservative ass, and that's a lot of ass to pull stuff out of. He pulls out everything but his head.
- *Anonymous*
Never were truer words said... er... typed.
- *Anonymous*
To quote Lilly Tomlin in her persona of Ruth Ann:

"And that's the truth. Phhhbtt!"

- *Anonymous*
Ronald Reagan was the worst president in modern American history until George W. Bush showed up. Reagan should be shunned for his stance on apartheid alone, but there's so much more...
<http://www.sunstateactivist.org>
- *Leftside_Annie*
Heh...perhaps they prefer the dead Ronny Raygun to the live version. That way they can make up any shit they want about him.
- *Anonymous*
It's really hard to make a judgement call as to the worst between The Gipper and W. It's almost a photo finish.
- *Leftside_Annie*
Heh. Grade B? I think you're being overly generous – on both counts.
- *Anonymous*
They prefer the physically dead version over the brain-dead version, that's for sure.

- *Anonymous*
Hearing about the conservatives trying to out-do their colleagues in singing praises of Reagan reminds me of a chapter from "Catch-22" where reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, singing the national anthem, etc., becomes required for every menial activity – even getting food at the canteen becomes a ludicrous exercise of "patriotism."
- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/> Zoey
Nancy had to hire a guard to stand over Ronnie's grave. Repiggies kept digging him up so they could make sweet sweet love to the corpse.
- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=650030631> Scott Grotyohann
There has been a false idea of him created, just like Kennedy. People choice to believe what they hear and only remember his incredible public speaking abilities.
- *Anonymous*
This seems like the perfect chum for attracting the goofballs...
- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=650030631> Scott Grotyohann
I wouldn't go that far.
- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=650030631> Scott Grotyohann
Bingo.
- *Anonymous*
They want to take him on the NeverEnding Reagan Tour. Much like the Elvis worshipers.

Oh, WOW!! A double bill, Reagan's best performance ever!

- *Anonymous*
We'll have to let the history books decide. But, not the ones in Tejas.
- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=650030631> Scott Grotyohann
Rush and Beck continue to teach their version of History to the hardworking folks that were too busy to pay attention during his terms. They also lacked the many media outlets we have today and only had 3 news channels.
- *Austininc4*
11 "REAGAN AIDSGATE"

Reagan Administration Delays AIDS Research, Funding

Despite enormous documentation and the public records of Surgeon General, Reagan supporters continue to claim that his administration acted morally and ethically when first made aware of the disease and the population that it was first identified in. Columnist Brent Bozell wrote: "A 1998 PBS program on Reagan claimed: 'AIDS became an epidemic in the 1980s, nearly 50,000 died. Reagan largely ignored it.'" CBS "Sunday Morning" TV critic John Leonard sneered that Reagan "took this plague less seriously than Gerald Ford had taken swine flu. After all, he didn't need the ghettos and he didn't want the gays." He added, as Reagan's legacy: "By 1992, 194,364 American men, women, and children were dead."

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ac/20110204/pl_ac/7781186_ronald_reagans_notable

- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=650030631> Scott Grotyohann
He'll spin it one way or another and he's listeners will not question it.
- *Anonymous*
or what they have been taught to believe. Why do we insist on telling our children that chop down the cherry tree fairy tale....
- *Austininc4*
I would give Reagan a Grade F , For FAILURE!!
- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/> Zoey
Tell a lie often enough...
- *S.D.*
What bothers me is: all of this is public knowledge.
Anyone who could read would know all of this...
- *Anonymous*
oh poor kenneth obviously
"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."
Martin Luther King, Jr.
your intellectual dishonesty reeks of hypocrisy.
- *Anonymous*
Rush and Beck teach NOTHING!! They LIE, they INDOCTRINATE, they OBFUSCATE, but, they definitely DO NOT teach. If you believe anything that comes from their blow holes, then I really feel sorry for your kids.
- *Anonymous*
... and Osama bin Laden and the muhijidin who bankrupted The U.S.S.R. paving the way to collapse. BTW, why are we there?
- *mhandrh*
I try to be kind. :)
He really was a lousy actor and a lousy president.
- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/> Zoey
Please don't confuse the issue with facts, S.D. The repiggies have an idol to worship...
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41 sandy h
Reagan has become a bigger fable for conservatives than Washington. Neither one of them were as simple or militant about their principles as the Far Right think tanks have lead people to believe through their propaganda.

Thanks for reminding us that there are no saints in American politics.

- *Anonymous*
And he was still more effective than Carter and Obama combined. Isn't that something.
- *mhandrh*
One could say that in this era, Dumbya saved Reagan's ass by being even worse.
- *mary lacewing*

Especially point #10!

- [http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/ Zooley](http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/)
Just because you believe a lie told over and over, doesn't make it true.

Run along. Surely you've been invited to the party, no?

- [http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/ Zooley](http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/)
Ohhh, the irony...
- *Badmoodman*
 - • Pure Reaganosity: <http://reaganboner.tumblr.com/>
- *Anonymous*
What would be something would be if you would follow through with the evidences you refelcted upon before you drew your conclusion...
- *Leftside_Annie*
Ooops. Look like we have number 12 to add to our list...
- [https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy h](https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h)
My taxes went up whatever way he did it.
- *Leftside_Annie*
Heh. If Rush's head happened to actually be up his ass, he'd never find it again.

And that would not be a bad thing.

- [https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy h](https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h)
It started long before that...when he forgot he was a Democrat and was manipulated by Cheney & Company to become their stooge.
- *Anonymous*
More effective in destroying the middle class. Check
More effective in waging phony war. Check
More effective in conducting illegal activities. Check
More effective in dividing the nation's politics Check
- *Austininc4*
People who believe LIES, have no interest in finding the TRUTH.
- [https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy h](https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h)
Effective in destroying the middle class and our military strength?. I think not.
That was the Far Right's main accomplishment.
- *Anonymous*
"A few months ago, I told the American people I did not trade arms for hostages. My heart and my best intentions still tell me that's true, but the facts and evidence tell me it is not."
- Ronald Reagan, admitting the Iran-Contra Affair, March 1987

Facts and evidence.....oh that's right, rethugs don't put any credibility into facts or evidence.

- *Badmoodman*
 - • From *Tumblr*: It is well known that Ronald Reagan is a time traveler who once won a drinking contest versus Thor and Zeus and bedded Aphrodite and Helen of Troy- at the same time. He lives among us still, selectively solving problems. If shit is fucked up anywhere in the world, he knows about it and can solve it. If he's not solving it, it's because the solution is still trickling down. Be patient!

A tribute to American's greatest undead deity!

- [http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/ Zooley](http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/)
That's great, badmoodman. :D
- *Anonymous*
"created to untie the various factions of the right "

Should probably read "unite." Great article!

- *Anonymous*
Yeah that whole golden era under Kennedy was equal to the devastation raygun laid on us.
- *Austininc4*
That's a LIE, and you can add that to the many MYTHS about Saint Ronnie Reagan.
- *Badmoodman*
 - • Check *The Zoo*, Zooley ;)
- *Anonymous*
"Heh. If Rush's head happened to actually be up his ass, he'd never find it again."

It would be lost among all of the other crap that's up there. (pun most definitely intended.)

- [http://www.laughinginpurgatory.com/ Andrew Hall](http://www.laughinginpurgatory.com/)
Reagan has become a saint in the eyes of the Right. Just like a saint Reagan has morphed into something that has little resemblance to his actual life.
- [https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy h](https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h)
Those around him were so bad, they made him look super good?
- [http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/ Zooley](http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/)
Oh god, I remember that speech. My chin was just hanging down after that, and if I'd heard of Alzheimer's disease at that point, I would have know what was happening.

Just stunning...

- [https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy h](https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h)
Isn't it odd that the Religious Right feel the need to have idols to worship?
- [http://twitter.com/geosmh06 George Smith](http://twitter.com/geosmh06)
there they go again, distribution of wealth, think thats 13
- [http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/ Zooley](http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/)
Love that avatar!
- *Anonymous*
"Republicans: deluded or liars?"

Yes. In fact, change one word to heighten the accuracy by an order of magnitude: 'Republicans: deluded AND liars?'

- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/> Zooey Authoritarians always need a father figure. God, Ronnie, whoever...
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h They tear down Amerika better than they have ever been in saving it from progressives. Why do they persist in trying when they just don't have the smarts to accomplish their goals?

The rich pay them to do it? Check

- <http://twitter.com/geosmh06> George Smith he not only painted a polyanna picture of USA, but what about his hair, painted that as black as could be
- *Anonymous* If by "effective" you mean finding new and unique ways to destroy what was once a prosperous and productive country, then yes, Reagan was "more effective than Carter and Obama combined."
- *Anonymous* Ronny "Monkey Sidekick" Raygun also perpetrated a fraud on the public by claiming we could have a "Star Wars" missile defense system. That was one of his greatest cons. We gave millions of dollars to the MIC for a boondoogle.

His 200 ship Navy was also a huge waste of taxpayer money. We didn't need 200 ships, but, he wanted to give away money to the MIC again and again.

- *Anonymous* I have been thinking about getting rich off a commorative line of ketchup that I will hawk to goobers from a mobile freedom fry shack shack that I will tow behind an F150 to flea markets, carnivals, and tent revivals...
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h As the conservative super heroes could never fight their way out of a paper bag, their rich patron saints created Rove and Atwater to fend for them?
- *Anonymous* These 10 blatant Reagan anomalies may provide a clue to why President Obama has studied his Presidency. Reagan's art of misdirection is going to come in handy in the next two years when Obama will have to enhance revenues under the banner of tax cutting and stimulate the economy behind a smoke screen of budget cutting.
- *Anonymous* Yesterday afternoon, Randi Rhodes played a clip from fatass limpball's show where a caller asked him why cancervatards fellate the corpse of reagan at a regular basis. The caller cited that raygun cut and ran from lebanon, raised taxes and was involved in iran-contra. fatass limpballs couldn't do anything when confronted with the facts but drool all over his "golden microphone" and sputter, "you wouldn't understand". no wonder fatass only takes calls from his "dildoheads", otherwise, he exposes himself as the know-nothing he is.
- *Anonymous* TODAY'S REPUBLICANS LACK "CHRISTIAN" VALUES LET ALONE CONSERVATIVE ONES

They don't believe they are their brother's keepers. They don't believe in humanity or the teachings of Jesus Christ. They don't believe in social equity or moral equality. They have no sympathy for the sufferings of Americans less fortunate than themselves.

They think "free" trade means they are "free" to ship American jobs overseas... and "free" to claim that denying jobs to American workers is "good" for America. Driving jobs out of America and Americans out of their homes is "just business"; nothing "personal". The consequences to American families have no "personal" implications for "them".

Corporations must be given the same first amendment free speech rights as individual citizens so they can "buy" political candidates and elections, despite the fact that works against the best interests of working class Americans and diminishes their political influence.

Pollution, global warming and deforestation are all improvable "myths" of egg-head/tree-hugger scientists who are "socialist" enemies of "over-regulated" capitalism. The earth, which right wing fundamentalist claim is less than 6,000 years old, will miraculously heal itself! All we have to do is "pray".

For today's self-focused/consumed Republicans, it's not about right or wrong, good or bad, fair or unfair, rational or irrational. They want what they want for no other reason than they WANT it, regardless of the consequences to themselves and everyone else! Somehow, that makes "them" feel good about themselves...makes "them" feel superior...makes "them" feel safe.

- *Anonymous* Damn, who knew? Reagan is more powerful than Chuck Norris, even.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h Kennedy didn't really challenge us to go to the moon. What would be the point? It's made of cheese. Rush told us so.
- *Badmoodman*
 - • **The Choice** (and remember, death is *not* an option):

The trickle down economic policies of the 82 year old, yet jet-black haired Reagan or the repressive social policies of the 82 year old, yet jet-black haired Mubarak?

- *Anonymous* Cancervatards have to create a cult of personality around their dead leaders. it's the only way their failed ideology can succeed.

- *Anonymous*
That caller was Mike Stark and you can listen to the call here:

<http://crooksandliars.com/karoli/mike-stark-punks-limbaugh>

- *Leftside_Annie*
Kinda like how the wingies prefer their own version of the Constitution, which bears only the most minimal resemblance to the REAL Constitution...
- *Leftside_Annie*
"Facts are stupid things." – Ronny Raygun
- *Anonymous*
hehehehehehehe, you just made my morning. perhaps I'll set that to be my cellphone tone.
- *Austininc4*
Doing Reagan's Tenure as President he never mentioned the word AIDS in public, nor in Speeches, nor in Press Conference, or any topic. It's was like the disease didn't exist.

And to prove a point, he refused funding to NIH, CDC, and all related agencies for AIDS research.

Funding for AIDS research began under the Bush Administration.

- *Anonymous*
he was great,

as long as you don't look past his campaign ads.

- *Anonymous*
The worst presidents in the twentieth century were all the Republican presidents with the exception of Teddy Roosevelt and Dwight Eisenhower. The worst president in the twenty-first century had better remain the century's first, Republican George W. Bush, because if any come along worse than him, America goes down in flames. Guaranteed.
- *Anonymous*
Raygun moonies also conveniently leave out the fact miss nancy invited "psychics" to the white house which, would explain the disasterous foreign policy of ronnie
- *Anonymous*
Right, cause those things worked so well for raygun that we wound up in a recession.

Don't interpret Obama reaching out with him thinking raygun was anything special.

- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VWV.FQZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
His ditto heads are probably hired actors like Reagan. Most of the Reagan Democrats are either in a nursing home or looking for a job. Don't have a means to call in anymore?
- *Anonymous*
Every time I hear one of these idiots drooling all over their beloved Saint Ronnie — people who never actually met him — I feel like my head is going to explode.

I never met him, but my father and my grandmother both did. In a professional capacity. Neither one had anything good to say about him.

- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VWV.FQZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
Maybe he had AIDS confused with Alzheimer's and didn't want to admit he was sinking slowly away? Confronting it would make it a fact. Thus "Facts are stupid things."?
- <http://tpzoo.wordpress.com/Zoey>
Bacon!
- *Anonymous*
Where's your proof? And don't bother citing the Berlin Wall. East Germany was already in its death throws. Ronnie just happened to be in the right place at the right time.
- *Anonymous*
term-for-term,

isn't Obama rocking stronger #'s right now, than ronnie was??

pretty sure i saw that somewhere recently.

- *Anonymous*
The republicans have a big problem here. It's essential for them to have an historical figure to rally around and to have a model that reflects their "vision" for America during their campaign season. Therefore, they have been turd-polishing for decades to fashion Ronnie RayGun into their false idol.

For all his obvious flaws, the one thing that is abundantly clear is that there isn't enough turd-polishing in the entire world that could mold Poppy Bu\$h or GDumbya into a mythical "great president". What a sad commentary for what was once an important national political party.

- *Anonymous*
America has become the B movie Reagan used to act in.

Actors like Boner, McConnell, empty hats from Texas & Southern rednecks have turned political discourse into romper room rants. They've actually convinced much of the public that tax cuts create jobs, for example, while claiming health care reform kills jobs. WTF?

Ronnie, you started something here, but it sure isn't freedom or justice.

This 'Weekend at Bernie's' conservative moment may find them propping up a dead Reagan with people kissing his ring & pretending he's not dead.

- *Anonymous*
better psychics than man-escorts disguised as reporters though, huh??
- *Anonymous*
Or he thought it was the weight reduction product of the time called Ayds. 8-))
- *Anonymous*
Obama created more jobs in 2 years than GW Botch did in 8.
- *Anonymous*
if you can clear the intellectual property hurdles, i think you'd be shocked by the revenues that operation would generate.
- *Anonymous*
considering g w bitch had a negative net gain in job creation by the time he was done...
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
Do you remember that SNL skit shortly before the Rehnquist SCourt decision?

Looking into the future, they showed Bush with Washington burning through the Oval Office window behind him as he addressed the country. I think it was Will Ferrell doing the imitation.

Bush was desperately trying but failing to keep it together as he told the nation everything was under control. He kept getting phone calls with more bad news. Things kept blowing up outside or falling apart in his hands.

We got the real version in the ensuing eight years.

- *Anonymous*
regretting they ever "went there", like my mother in law, who'd never vote R again.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RZ5GPNF4RTRQLZOU5B5TMEKMW4_ProFazor_Abdul
And let's not forget that the Deified Reagan also had Saddam Hussein on the payroll during his presidency (as long as he was killing Iranians.) I wonder if Reagan's special envoy to Iraq, Donald Rumsfeld, devoted a chapter to this in his new book.
- *Badmoodman*
 - • One of my favorite Tea Party/Reagan myths:

Louisianan Jeff Crouere, told the Tea Partiers — not accurately — that it was Reagan's 1981 tax cuts that created 21 million jobs, and that President Barack Obama had created more debt in three months than all of the presidents who came before him, which not only was not true but overlooks the record run-up in debt that occurred during Reagan's presidency.

- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
She should have called medical experts for Ronnie and a pest control company to rid the White House of Cheney and the boys. DeLay obviously needed the practice.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
And didn't know how he got there.
- *Anonymous*
Reagan was a movie star with the ability to fool many with his act...fooling still lives on.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
Chris Matthews was saying the other day ago that Reagan confronted may problems like a bad marriage that wasn't his fault. I'm thinking Jane Wyman has been given a bum rap, because everything else they say about him was obviously a lie.
- *Anonymous*
Another issue not talked about:

For profit health care war born during the Reagan administration.

- *Anonymous*
Reagan said: "Government is not a solution to our problem, government is the problem." He had that half right. Government is the problem when Republicans are in charge.
- *Anonymous*
What is amazing is that people seem to have forgotten the deal America made with respect to Reaganomics (reiterated during the early years of W's administration). In exchange for tax cuts for the wealthy, everyone else was to get jobs and a share of the wealth created. After over 30 years of such nonsense, we now realize that no real jobs were created as a result of such policies, and most of the income and wealth generated as a result inured to the top couple of percent of Americans.

We got neither the jobs nor a share of the wealth. And now, the current crop of Republicans are saying the only way to create jobs is continue tax cutting, while pulling the safety net out from under the middle and working classes. Amazing. Truly amazing. Not only did we not get the benefit of the bargain, but now we have to pay for it as well.

- http://www.google.com/profiles/phelicityMB_phelicityMBYour_Name
Living in LaLa land as I do, I'm 'up' on "Movie Star:" The art of being a reserved presence. Offer one's self to the people and yet keep private the hidden unguessable sources of that self. Ronald Reagan, Movie Star.

So why do ostensibly smart people believe what they believe about him, or anything else, for that matter? Because 'smart' people are tremendously skilled at defending beliefs they arrived at for non-smart reasons.

- *Leftside_Annie*
Sorry, Mike, that's Edith Ann.

"My name is Edith Ann and I'm 5 years old..."

- *mary lacewing*
You might want to call your F150 'The Patriot' or something. Oops, I think there's

already a jeep called that.

How about 'The Truck of Liberty'? And call the catsup 'Liberty Sauce'?

- *Leftside_Annie*
No, that was the fault of the *astrologers*. They totally missed the cosmic shift, man.
- *Leftside_Annie*
Clinton's too.
- *Ron*
Watch for reports of Reagan sightings.
- *Ron*
Conservative worship of Ronald Reagan is nothing more than SELF-worship.
- *Anonymous*
I hear at this year's CPUNK convention they're going to have a ronnie raygun look-a-like contest. My money's on angry mAnn coulter.
- *mary lacewing*
My electricity supplier just began adding an "Economic Transition Charge" to my bill.
- *Anonymous*
Excellent Idea. Afterward I wanna piss and moan about being a self made small business owner being shackled by big government....
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_UAYWWQ6PIS523OZNUGILXEGOPU *Patty*
As a young lass, my Father was in awe over the 'Gipper'. Sure, dear old Dad admits Reagan busted the unions and was in love with Big Business, BUT he thought he was a God on Foreign Policy. Me and Grandma knew better. As soon as Ollie North was tossed under the bus, we knew Reagan far from Godlike.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_UAYWWQ6PIS523OZNUGILXEGOPU *Patty*
Oh God! I think I'm gonna fuc*ing puke. Did you guys check out Queen Sarah's remarks about Reagan? How she loved to ride horses on his ranch? With the wind blowing in her face? The woman is like a bad acted soap opera with a tired, sappy plot.
- *Anonymous*
Do ya think he ever made out with Maggie Thatcher when Nancy wasn't looking?
- *Anonymous*
is there any proof their paths actually crossed?
- *Anonymous*
Maggie thatcher always came across as more of a "top" to me....
- *Anonymous*
I remember Ronnie reading Peggy Noonan's "presidential speeches" like a B actor and thinking he had some OK patriotic points. Then after watching him try to handle his rare press conferences, I felt embarrassed for him and the country. The old Republican ploy of hiring a "name" and telling him what to say, made one wonder who was really running the country.
- *Anonymous*
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- *Anonymous*
pretty pathetic when over on youtube, of the "featured videos" for saint ronnie's birthday, the most popular has only 6,000 hits
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_UAYWWQ6PIS523OZNUGILXEGOPU *Patty*
OFF TOPIC.....Bush Swiss visit off after complaints of torture. It's seems Georgie Boy can leave the Country. How fitting he is basically resigned to live life secluded in his McMansion. While Clinton, Gore and Carter can freely travel the World with the good wishes of millions of supporters. Seems quite apt, don't you think?
- *Anonymous*
I say we take up a collection and buy him and pickles and all-inclusive paid trip to europe. make it a two-fer and send tickets to the cheneys too
- *mary lacewing*
I remember one speech in which Reagan clearly lost his train of thought, looked totally lost for an awkward amount of time, leaned down to Nancy who had a big smile plastered on her face, she whispered into his ear, and he picked it up from there.

As you said, if I'd heard of Alzheimer's by then...

- *Anonymous*
I'll pay for all the pretzels.
- *mary lacewing*
Ah, the missile defense 'shield'. What was the projected cost, even back then? A mere Trillion dollars? And people didn't even blink, "If it keeps us safe, fine!"
- *Anonymous*
I think Raygun probably just gave him a reach around, no kissing.
- *Anonymous*
John Rothman during 11pm hour last night on <http://kqoradio.com/> encouraged his audience to call in concerning Reagan. Normally both sides equally call in during his show... BUT only one caller in probably 20 had a positive remark with a smear added on to those disapproving of Reagan.

Rothman quoted 4 major polls all of which put Reagan in the top 10, some as the #2 most likable president.

My opinion and according to the callers on Rothman's show, Reagan is one of the worst and most destructive presidents we have seen.

- *mary lacewing*
I think you should "piss and moan" about big government before, during and after! You'd probably sell a lot more Liberty Sauce.
- *mary lacewing*
When her astrologers flipped the Death card over when she asked if she could trust Cheney, they hid it from her to avoid upsetting her.
- *Anonymous*
The Reagan Administration was also easily the most corrupt administration of the 20th century. It was

the first administration in American history to have a sitting cabinet member indicted.
the first administration in American history to have an Assistant Secretary of State indicted.
the first administration in American history to have an Assistant Secretary of Defense sent to prison.
the first administration in American history to have over 100 members of an administration charged with crimes.
the first administration in American history to have more members of his administration charged with more crimes than the cumulative total of all other presidents in the twentieth century.

The Reagan posse racked up more convictions and forced resignations BY FAR than any Administration in U.S. history—except George W. Bush, who was never really President.

To put it in perspective: the Reagan administration sometimes racked up more convictions and forced resignation *in a single day* than the Clinton Administration managed in its entire eight years. This is definitely stuff the Right have to ignore.

- *Anonymous*
I'm willing to bet she didn't ride any horses on his land while he was alive. Assuming she even knows how to ride.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_6QJN63EZMOFSKAIQCF3W2XOGRO *MargaretD*
You forgot add that Reagan took social security, and independent fund and added it to the government funds. This way he could use the funds to balance the budget. And this is the cause of all the "so called" social security deficit today..
- *mary lacewing*
Re: GWB's planned address to the group called the United Israel Appeal:

"Protest organizers had called for participants to each bring a shoe to the rally outside the lakeside Hotel Wilson where the dinner was to be held. The shoe was meant to recall the one an Iraqi journalist threw at Mr. Bush during a news conference in 2008."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/02/06/world/europe/06bush.html>

- *Ritorna Vincitor*
11. Ronald Wilson Reagan = 666
- <http://www.thezxbecollection.com/zxbe>
This is an excellent post. Great facts to use against the talking-point class.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FQZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
It was the first step in trying to bring down the safety nets the middle class now depend on after the Bush Great Recession and bank failures. What a really dastardly way to accomplish your political ends while weakening the economy long-term.

It's a good thing he died before the truth came out about him.

- *Anonymous*
Iv'e tried to think of one Democratic Prez who made any mistakes, and you know what? I can't think of any. hahaha God we're good.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FQZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
I think we all know. He ran the country from 2000 to 2009, too.
- *Ron*
Replace the word "government" with the word "conservatism" and you have a statement of truth.
- *pete*
Alas, they seem to be peculiarly immune to facts. In fact, all too often, they simply make up their own in order to preserve their illusions.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FQZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
Nancy would have shot her for trespassing. May still shoot her if she continues to tie herself to Ronnie.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_F7WXY3AS2K6DTI4TKLJMDGU2T1 *Douglas*
Didn't Reagan raid the social security trust fund to pay for his budget? And if I recall he did lower taxes for the upper brackets but when this was found to hurt government revenue, he raised taxes on the middle class and poor.
- *Ritorna Vincitor*
Reagan was the one who started taxing unemployment benefits. Reagan was the one who pushed up the Social Security retirement age from 65. Reagan was the one who closed the income tax deduction for credit card interest, forcing higher taxes on the middle class in particular. Reagan was a union buster. He was a homophobe who could have gotten a handle on the exploding AIDS crisis if he had acted early. He declared ketchup to be a vegetable so California wouldn't have to add a vegetable to its school lunches. And speaking of

vegetables, he was senile long before he left office. Other than that he was just a bad actor.

- <http://twitter.com/francie57> Frances Ryl
Wow, Reagan..the nukes thing and women's right to chose...not a neo-con notion, however his nickname when he was governor of CA was, Ronnie Ray-gun!
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
Both of his sons said that he kept to himself. Michael said he never had a real conversation with him as an adult. Little wonder if he was suffering from the first stages of Alzheimer's.

But Palin remembers being a close friend?

- *Ron*
I actually like the word "untie" in this context. I hope it eventually works.
- *Ron*
A stunning quote, to this day.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/yEaYBB431esiJnCqKIPRmU4VW.FOZ_Pv#adb41_sandy_h
They can if the corporate media is still ignoring the facts they are paid to forget.
- *Anonymous*
I was trying to imagine what you MORONS would be doing tomorrow when Obama grovels and sucks up to O'Really on FOX, and they pay tribute to Ronald Reagan during the uniquely American spectacle of the SuperBowl.

Then I realized that some of you would be here attempting to show each other how clever you are and the majority will be watching the girly-boyz figure skating on the other network.

- *Anonymous*
And what is it that you are attempting to accomplish? That stuff about figure skating gives you away....
- *Anonymous*
You live in a drug induced cartoon world.
- *Anonymous*
Next you are going to tell me the crackpot liberal War on Poverty started by LBJ has been a failure. ... with more people on food stamps right now than anytime our history.

... you mean the lefty welfare/nanny/entitlement state is bankrupt?

Say it ain't so, Joe.

- *mary lacewing*
It was thanks to Reagan that my employer had to add their reimbursement of college tuition to my W-2 as income back in the late 80's.
- *Ritorna Vincitor*
You were right, and they were wrong.
- *Anonymous*
America's Elderly are, in most cases, NOT living in Poverty Now....a statement you could not make before LBJ.

And food stamps are a Subsidy to Farmers and Grocers. Poorly fed Americans get sick.. and do poorly in school...which costs society MORE.

- *Anonymous*
In 1964, my father worked at KPFK, and was assigned to cover the Democrats' and Republicans' election night parties at the Ambassador Hotel.

After Goldwater gave his concession speech, the Republicans, almost to a man, went across the hall and partied with the Democrats.

Almost to a man. My father found Reagan huddled in a back room, crying. In the interview, Reagan acknowledged that Goldwater had been far behind in the polls (Johnson won with 486 electoral votes to Goldwater's 52). But he had convinced himself that, at the last moment, the American people would "come to their senses" and elect Goldwater. Reagan could not understand why that didn't happen.

Was Reagan an idiot? Deluded? Both?

- *Anonymous*
you need to shitcan that loser mentality, dookles.

America is the can-do country, not the can't/won't country.

- *Anonymous*
fuzz - you realize that reagan really sucked, don't you?

remember how he gave all those illegals a free pass?

millions of them???

- *Anonymous*
Reagan was never a movie star. He was a grade B actor appearing mostly in Grade B movies. Can you say "Bedtime For Bonzo"?
- *Anonymous*
What... no positive remarks about Reagan... only smears, put downs and name calling towards the libs?

shocked.

- *Ritorna Vincitor*
Reagan is a Republican saint. And saints usually get their images tidied up quite a bit. The missionary who slaughtered and repressed indigenous peoples becomes the heroic saint who shared the faith with the grateful needy.
- https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzyW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAAdj8-#92739_heubler
"with more people on food stamps right now than anytime our history."

With an expanding populace it's to be logically expected. But logic was never your strongpoint.

- *Anonymous*
he was the first official sockpuppet of the anti-New Deal oligarchy,

so naturally, he kicked off the program of smear and sabotage that carries on to this day.

- *Anonymous*
Reagan Pardoned Merle Haggard, when he was Governor of California,

There.... a positive remark.

- *Ritorna Vincitor*
An economic system that was doomed to failure didn't hurt either.
- *Ritorna Vincitor*
Or to paraphrase: "My heart and my best intentions still tell me that's true, but my heart and best intentions don't know what truth is."
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNJ57BQ25VCY buffsr
He was not the 1st choice of the anti-New Deal fascists. That would be G.H.W. bush. They couldn't sell him to the republican base and so they got behind Reagan. He was a familiar face to most people from his films and his "Death Valley Days" hosting gig. He also traveled the country for G.E. giving anti-union speeches to corporate execs.

Ask any actor working in the 60s about how they were fooled by his SAG presidential campaign and then sold the union out to the major studios.

Dan Moldea's book "Dark Victory" is an eye-opener about this traitorous punk.

- *Anonymous*
Just think how sad it is that this fraud and failure, Ronnie Raygun, is touted as the best thing the GOP has ever had. ROFLMAO!
- *Anonymous*
Merle Haggard was Governor of California??

[Sorry, couldn't resist, please forgive! But when I wondered how many rednecks just had an orgasm at the very notion, it got scary scary!]

- *Ritorna Vincitor*
I remember when Reagan first started placing physical distance between himself and the press, so that they had to shout out questions to him. And I remember one shouted question for which Reagan didn't have an immediate answer. Then Nancy could be heard telling him, "We're working on it." Reagan immediately shouted back to the press, "We're working on it."
- <http://www.facebook.com/brandon.barker1> Brandon Barker
The worst president of the 21st century is currently in office.
- *Anonymous*
In the last near 38 years since LBJ, 24 years and five Republican Presidents have seen that Johnson's dramatic success was reversed. Afterall, look what they have done to the single most influential guarantee of a strong middle class, organized labor, during that timeframe. bankrupt, not so much. That is a RW meme that is in fact a falsehood.
- <https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzyW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAdcj8-#92739> heubler
Bush. Nuff' said.
- *Anonymous*
Thompson?
- *Anonymous*
rightwing memes are, by definition, all falsehoods.
- *Anonymous*
"with more people on food stamps right now than anytime our history."

Perhaps your memory is failing you. Bush started 2 phony wars, gave tax breaks to the wealthy not to mention 40,000 factories were shipped over seas.

Maybe this will help you remember:

March '03 Shock and Awe: 4000 bombs dropped in a 48hr time frame, on a pop of half under the age of 16, an already war torn country AND PUT THIS ON TV FOR ALL TO SEE KNOWING IT WAS OVER A LIE. They even gave notice when it would happen so all could get their popcorn ready.

Are you now recalling the rest of the nightmare ?

- <https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzyW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAdcj8-#92739> heubler
And lest we forget, Reagan's zero drug tolerance policy created the overcrowded prison systems, which must release felons to function. Before Reagan, that never happened in America's history.
- *Anonymous*
more recently, Merle panned W, and suggested that people get off Obama's back.

pretty cool, coming the writer of "Okie From Muskogee".

- *Anonymous*
A media whore like Sister Sarah would have photos of herself with Ronnie. Which she would have flashed before now. If she actually had any.
- *Anonymous*
No, not since January 20, 2009 when Bush helicoptered out of town. There was an election in November 2008, see, and the Republican lost. Saved our ass. If we can keep that trend alive for another hundred years we may still have a chance.
- <https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzyW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAdcj8-#92739> heubler
That song was a total sham. I spoke with Muskogee teens, once at Lake

Tenkiller, and they said that the week the song became famous, the cops raided Muskogee High for drugs.

- *Anonymous*
Wow! Yep, I'm surprised and impressed! Has he been banned in Muskogee yet?
- *Anonymous*
i always took it as satire, and i think that's how it was written; though to confess it at the time would've cost Haggard dearly.
- *Anonymous*
Informed, fact based political pundit: Reagan was a serial tax raiser.

Typical republican: La-la-la-la-la, I can't hear you.

Informed, fact based political pundit: Reagan nearly tripled the federal national debt.

Typical republican: La-la-la-la-la, I still can't hear you.

Informed, fact based political pundit: Unemployment soared after Reagan's 1981 tax cuts.

Typical republican: That's blasphemy.

Well Nancy, you know the rest... ;)

- *Anonymous*
No, we mean the **Conservative Nanny State**.

Read and learn Mr. Puke:

<http://www.conservativenannystate.org/cns.html#2>

- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY buffers
I think you're right about that. I always thought so too.
- *Anonymous*
I'll forgive you and work on my Sin Tacks.
- *Anonymous*
Unemployment jumped to 10.8 percent after Reagan enacted his much-touted tax cut, and it took years for the rate to get back down to its previous level. Meanwhile, income inequality exploded.

It would appear, that every time a tax is cut a person gets laid off work. (The exact opposite of "Every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings." ; -)

- *Anonymous*
I shared this over at the Zoo this morning and thought I'd share it with everyone here. Something I recorded late last night after having a crappy night.

Imagine <http://www.youtube.com/user/InsidiousProphet#p/u/6/yVXANNgyZJ8>

- *Anonymous*
You forgot the fingers in the ears.
- *Anonymous*
Yeah, but since we've privatized the prisons, someone's making money for their pockets.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY buffers
This was a reply to tombaker1 a few minutes ago.
- *katy*
*
just opened to ThinkProgress and see this piece...

Thank you!

Thank you!

Thank you!

... necessity being the mother of invention, it's obvious their necessity of having to invent a hero out of this man...

... and why the facts must be made available!

- *Anonymous*
Didn't Bush keep the cost of those wars off the books?

Why, yes, yes he did.

- <https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzyW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAdcj8-#92739> heubler
One of Reagan's first acts was to gut successful employment education programs, like CETA. And there was Reagan's welfare-to-work programs, that encouraged those on welfare to work part-time jobs, while seeking full time employment – but really resulted in masses of demotivated, time-wasting clock-punchers.
- *Anonymous*
Well, when you can't fight facts, what else have you got?
- *Anonymous*
Start the documentation. I want to see the evident to support your claim.
- *Anonymous*
What planet do you spend most of your time on?

Oh, I get it!

Bush was never really elected, so Obama's the ONLY 21st century President.

COOL!

- *Anonymous*
I remember working for CETA as a youth. Great program, it's what the youth today could use! Hey Obama...!
- <https://me.yahoo.com/a/ixscEZV9nIkzW2F6Zz3uNY4qAAdcj8-#92739> heubler
Me too.
- *Anonymous*
Sarah's facts equal Reagan's memory.
- *Ritorna Vincitor*
Yes Reagan most definitely did ignore the exploding AIDS crisis when leadership was needed most. While his fellow Republicans shook their heads in disgust at the dying and loudly proclaimed that AIDS was God's punishment upon gays, he was silent. He never even mentioned the term "AIDS" until 1987, well into his second term, when over 25,000 had already died. Education on AIDS and how it is spread was desperately needed. Reagan avoided the subject..
- *Anonymous*
By default, he would also be the best, but not ranked as his predecessor, 38th all time by 300 plus Presidential scholars.
- *Anonymous*
Wait. Your father was a young lass? ;-)

(Couldn't resist.)

- *Anonymous*
I always thought it should be: Inefficient Government is the problem (which BTW usually has Republicans in charge).
- <http://www.youtube.com/Bizarrobrain> Bizarrobrain
11. Reagan didn't ride into soviet Russia on a white stallion, draped in the American flag to single handily defeat the communists with American exceptionalism beams.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY buffsr
In the next town just south of where I am they wanted to re-name a street for Reagan. The howls of protest from the residents made them change their mind. Is that a hopeful sign?
- <http://www.youtube.com/Bizarrobrain> Bizarrobrain
"Read and learn"
—
Implying Duke can do either, hahaha.
- *Anonymous*
But, if you go back 45-50 years, there weren't food stamps. Not anyplace I lived.
- *katy*
...Regean destroyed respect for the social compact that rebuilt America after World War II.

"destroyed RESPECT for"???

hell, he damn near DESTROYED it, PERIOD.

and the acolytes are still working to that end even after benefiting themselves...

- *Anonymous*
That was the best! Mike Stark Rules! If only we had more MSM journalists like Mike Stark.
- *Anonymous*
I'm thankful for just one thing about Reagan...he's dead.
- *Anonymous*
A revival pilot FS program, modeled after Depression Era food stamps was implemented in '61 on a small scale and that continued until '64 when a larger scale program as a result of the FS Act of 1964 replaced it. The '64 program only server 500,000 but it grew rapidly from that.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY buffsr
That's right Katy. The war against the New Deal was going badly in the 60s. Johnson's policies were actually improving the lives of the poor and working class. Reagan became the face (reluctantly, they wanted Bush senior) of the New Deal haters. They've been leading ever since. I used to think they were winning but lately I think they're just leading. But, we, the American people, are gaining on them again.
- *Anonymous*
President Obama has interviewed with O'Reilly before. After the interview O'Reilly expressed new found respect for BO. This interview will be a piece of cake for the president. After all, remember he took on the republicans in a televised HCR debate last year, and he so obviously cleaned their clocks. That's why wherever the president wants to have another televised debate, the republicans run to Fox and call it a photo-op. They know they can't beat him at his game, so they lie. That's all they have, and that's all you have to contribute here. You can't argue on the merits of a post, so you have to create a distraction to avoid facing the truth that Reagan is not the greatest American president the republicans have been telling you he is.

Another Fact: The 2010 Presidential Scholars List ranked President Obama at #15, two space ABOVE St. Ronnie, and he did it in less than 2 years.

Facts are fact whether one wants to believe them or not.

- *Anonymous*
Simple minded whining. Perhaps you could back up your accusation with actual reasons. Please no fox/gop/frank luntz talking points. If you list a reason, include a link to back it up.
- *Anonymous*
I b e g i n s....Of course Ronald Wilson Reagan was the spawn of the devil; just look at the number of letters in his name...666. That proves it with no further evidence necessary.

Sure...he had Alzheimer as well as being evil incarnate. Even though all three(?) White house doctors present during his administration vehemently deny it; as well as those who treated him afterward. There is also the pesky lack of

corroborating evidence supporting R junior's claims. Like considering the fact he recounted surgeries that his father never had.; on dates where he was never even in a hospital. Last but not least he was in effectual leader. He just happened to be in the right place at the right time for eight years and two landslide victories later. What luck.

Never mind. Carry on.

- *Anonymous*
Are you worried that you won't get your food stamp card?

It's okay. President Obama took care of that in the tax compromise package the republicans agreed to in December 2010.

- *Anonymous*
yeah, yeah, yeah...Reagan as the spawn of evil is just as ridiculous as Obama being the Anti-Christ. I think we both can agree on that...right.
- <http://thebookofcletis.blogspot.com/> *Cletis*
Which half? I couldn't tell the difference.
- *Anonymous*
I understand your hatred for the man and I respect your comments but this comment really wasn't necessary nor does it help progressives.
- *mhandrh*
Yes, I believe I was right then and we here are all right today – but knowing we are right is small consolation when I see the condition of our nation and its people after things that he started have gained momentum and support from republicans around the country who eventually brought us GWBush and all that that implies, and took us to the edge of disaster — yet they still want to double down.
- <http://thebookofcletis.blogspot.com/> *Cletis*
Unfortunately, a lie is halfway around the world while the truth is still putting his boots on.
- *mhandrh*
I remember his stating that — and having a WTF reaction.

Meaningless double-talk.

- *Anonymous*
Yes he most certainly did. He played right into the republicans hands...again.

Funny, the republicans should be loving Obama, he has been pro-business, he gave tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans, he cut behind closed door deals with big pharma, Gitmo is still open, we are still in the two wars started by Bush, the financial regulatory reform bill was very weak, hell, if Obama keeps it up he will become the best republican president since Bill Clinton..

- *Anonymous*
so,

skip the substance of the article,

and mince and snipe about a few individuals' comments instead?

nah.

- *Anonymous*
I can go a few steps further than that; both men are patriots who have/had the best interest's of their country in mind. I would extend that to all past presidents, despite whether I agreed with them or not.
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY *buffsr*
And wasn't that the one yesterday decrying the lack of civility and reason?
- http://pulse.yahoo.com/_RCKZH47NK6BZKRNMJ57BQ25VCY *buffsr*
That's better.
- *Anonymous*
high road. white horse?

so handsome today, in your western regalia.

- *Anonymous*
all convenience.

no conviction.

- *mhandrh*
Thanks, Patty,
Here's the story from WaPo.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/02/05/AR2011020502822.html>
- *Anonymous*
Again I agree with you Bradycardia. In my opinion they all love our country and are patriots, it's just that many of them seem to be tools for corporate interests or banking interests or the interests of Wall Street, the MIC, the oil companies, etc, etc, etc....All are far from perfect.
- *Anonymous*
"Reagan and other senior U.S. officials secretly sold arms to officials in Iran, which was subject to a an arms embargo at the time, in exchange for American hostages."

They claimed it was for the release of the Beirut hostages, but that's impossible since the arms flow to Iran began before the Beirut hostages were taken. It was for the release of the Tehran hostages, who were released minutes after Reagan took the oath in Jan 1981. A secret deal before Reagan was president.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/October_surprise_conspiracy_theory

"...former Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr,[2] former Naval intelligence

officer and National Security Council member Gary Sick; and former Reagan/Bush campaign and White House staffer Barbara Honegger—have stood by the allegation.”

- *mhandrh*

This followed by ten years or so, the resignation – due to pending impeachment – of Richard Nixon – some of his cabinet members were also criminals.

The republicans have such a poor record of performance in every area of government, it is astonishing that they still manage to garner the support that they do – money can buy anything.

- <http://medjhiesco.wordpress.com/Hoodathunk>

Wellllll, at least they didn't dip him in wax and build a shrine to him on the DC Mall.

- *Anonymous*

I wish I could become a puppet dictator put into power by the United States government, so I could than get run out of the country with \$70 billion. But be rough. We must stop supporting dictators at any and ALL costs!

- *Anonymous*

“And wasn't that the one yesterday decrying the lack of civility and reason?”

bussr: We as Americans are blessed with the rich Lexicon known as The English Language. Considering the amount of money tax payers spent teaching it to you it would be nice if you made full use of it. I never “decried” anything...I pointed it out. I is called an observation.

- *Anonymous*

spiffy implied ad hominem, mr. cardia.

but it kinda clashes with your gleaming stetson.

- <http://bucknacktssordidtdawdryblog.blogspot.com/Craig>

IT was during reagan's presidency that I was arrested at the cia for taking part in a non violent protest against his illegal covert wars in Central America. I still remember the event that outraged me enough go to the protest and be arrested. Benjamin Linder was a 27 year old American performing humanitarian work in Nicaragua when he was murdered on 28 APR 1987 along with two Nicaraguans, Sergio Hernandez and Pablo Rosales by cia supported contra rebels. To me, this represented the real reagan, someone who would be smiling at you while sticking a knife in your gut, and then walk away laughing. His administration was evil, corrupt and served the greedy interest of the wealthy and the military-industrial complex. We can thank God our Republic survived his administration. Check out these articles...

<http://blog.sojo.net/2011/02/03/reagans-legacy/> &

http://www.liberationtheology.org/library/ben_linder_remembrance.htm

- *Anonymous*

The distorted/lying fakedrhuntbrady:

Sure...he had Alzheimer as well as being evil incarnate. Even though all three(?) White house doctors present during his administration vehemently deny it; as well as those who treated him afterward

“Nancy devoted most of her time to caring for her ailing husband, diagnosed in 1994 with Alzheimer's disease.”

It would seem that those who ‘treated him afterward’ forgot to seek fakedrhunt for a second opinion.

Here's the man himself (st. ronnie)

“I have recently been told that I am one of the millions of Americans who will be afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease... At the moment I feel just fine.”

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ronald_Reagan#Alzheimer.27s_disease

- *Anonymous*

Gary Sick wrote a book that's well worth the read. It's called “October Surprise”

- *Anonymous*

“I is called an observation.”

Seems that English Language thingy didn't work out for you.

- *Anonymous*

Having lived through the Reagan tax increases just as I was coming out of college and having my FICA raised by Reagan, it got my attention. But looking back, it was the right thing to do. I didn't care for Reagan as a President. I didn't vote for him in 1980 but I did in 84. But then again, no one voted for Mondale then, he was a pretty weak candidate after Gary Hart's Monkey Business tanked his candidacy. But I always got the impression that Reagan, like GW Bush many years later, was not really in charge, that he was playing a part and was “acting” Presidential.

But Reagan was also a Democrat for Truman and he was in favor of all the things that made this country great. If you haven't heard it before, give this a listen:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJDhS4oUmOM>

With such passion in this speech, to later turn around and spout the opposite viewpoint in hi later speeches, leads me to conclude that he really wasn't much of a person of conviction.

Just my opinion, of course, and with nothing more than my observations of the man to back it up in addition to living through some pretty tough economic times for a recent graduate. But that is how I viewed Reagan then and my opinion of

him hasn't changed much since. It is also what concerns me about the Right wanting to put Sarah Palin in that driver's seat. (But thank goodness that she has damaged her own brand enough by now that it won't happen.)

- *Anonymous*
"The distorted/lying fakedrhuntbrady"

He left office in 1988. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer in 1994. Before that he fell off his horse and subsequently had to have fluid drained from his skull to reduce the pressure on his brain. Doctors found no physical signs then, years before he was diagnosed.

Next.

- *Anonymous*
so it's OK to hold him fully responsible for all the criminal activity in his administration?

good.

i was sick of people giving him a free pass for feeble-mindedness anyway.

- *Anonymous*
Total national debt 200 years before Reagan was \$0.9 Trillion.
Total national debt after 12 years of Reagan and GHWB was \$4.1 Trillion.

Before Reagan, US had world's greatest trade surplus.
About 2 years into Reagan, US had world's greatest trade deficit.
His administration rewarded corps for sending jobs overseas.

Before Reagan, US #1 in world's standard of living.
After Reagan and GHWB, US was #16.

- *Anonymous*
dixieblood: Do you gender identify as a man or woman?
- *Anonymous*
Nicely played!
- *Anonymous*
No, but they did rename Washington National Airport after him.
- *Anonymous*
that high road act gets boring pretty quickly,

doesn't it?

- *Anonymous*
Right. That's what the link goes to. :)
- *Anonymous*
Tom. you're spreading yourself out way too thin. You should unplug and get some fresh air.
- *Anonymous*
I'm thinking you're a little boy. Am I right?
- *Anonymous*
I identify as male. How about you?
- *Anonymous*
resorting to "the pee wee" so soon?
- <http://themoneygoround.com> muckdog
Ronald Reagan signed a law declaring Martin Luther King Jr's birthday a national Holiday in 1983. It was first celebrated in 1986.
- *Anonymous*
do you species identify as snake or human?
- *Anonymous*
Does it matter what dixie's gender is?
- *Anonymous*
and, very notably, loved tooting the dogwhistle of "states' rights" to neo-segregationist R's in the deep south.

guess those kinda cancel each other out, huh?

- *Anonymous*
Ronald Reagan kicked off his first presidential campaign in the Mississippi county where the workers registering African-Americans to vote were murdered.
- *Anonymous*
he sure did.

and the symbolic weight of that gesture did not go unnoticed.

- *Anonymous*
I'm pretty sure MLK Jr. and his family celebrated his birthday almost all of his life.
- *Anonymous*
Reagan as president like to tell the press the story of being at the liberation of the death camps at the end of WWII. His handlers would always cringe. Truth was he never left Hollywood during WWII.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> muckdog
President Carter failed to do it.
- <http://medjhiesco.wordpress.com/> Hoodathunk
Must have been those back lot death camps.
- *Anonymous*
Reagan's budget director David Stockman acknowledged last year, Reagan produced red ink as far as the eye could see:

"[The] debt explosion has resulted not from big spending by the Democrats, but instead the Republican Party's embrace, about three decades ago, of the insidious doctrine that deficits don't matter if they result from tax cuts."

Reagan expanded America's National Debt more than the previous 200 years of American History. And we are still paying the interest on that debt.

- *Anonymous*
big whoopee
- *Anonymous*
liberty lover: I don't like to upbraid women..it just doesn't feel right. I don't have much use for men, so I have no problem giving them a reality check when appropriate. If a woman runs her mouth I just shrug it off. They bring me great happiness, so I don't mind letting foibles go.
- *Anonymous*
losing traction rapidly.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
Liberals love to talk about equal rights and ending racism. But it takes a Republican to get something done. That's the lesson learned from President Reagan.

Thank you President Reagan, for honoring the great Martin Luther King Jr.

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
During Reagan's presidency, federal income tax rates were lowered significantly with the signing of the bipartisan Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981. Real gross domestic product (GDP) growth recovered strongly after the 1982 recession and grew during his eight years in office at an annual rate of 3.85% per year.
- *Anonymous*
In his first presidential campaign, he said that TREES are responsible for more pollution than all the vehicles in the US. At his next stop there was a sign on a tree saying "Stop me before I kill again".
- <http://medjhiesco.wordpress.com/> *Hoodathunk*
Sniff. I love that picture of Reagan. I believe it was taken just as he was about to have a Metamucil Moment.
- *Anonymous*
Sorry to disappoint you again, Tom. I am straight. I do appreciate your compliments..except..picturing me on a Stallion sporting a Stetson is a little..much. Let's dial back the homo erotic visualizations of me, hmmm? It kind of creeps me out.
- *Anonymous*
#1 is misleading (he raised taxes many times but the net was still a cut) and a bad argument since the real crime is #2 and #4. Repubs believe tax cuts pay for themselves. But they don't and that's why Reagan blew up the deficit. But if Reagan actually raised taxes then you lend credence to their myth.

#3 is unfair because unemployment skyrocketed because of Reagan-Volcker disinflation. They inherited a very serious double-digit inflationary situation and did what they had to do. The Fed was strangling the money supply so naturally unemployed went up, especially considering it's a laggard. (Look at Obama, he's got the Fed pumping in money plus a huge stimulus and tarp to boot and still unemployment barely budges.) But then the Fed started easing, tax cuts kicked in, and Reagan went deficit spending and unemployment went down to around 7% by election day.

#5 and #6 and #7 aren't bad things, which leaves 8, 9, and 10. 8 is fine, but 9 and 10 were a product of the cold war and communism ended under his VPs watch. Are you going to complain that FDR allied us with Stalin in order to defeat the Nazis? Apartheid was evil but at least it was a foreign evil. In contrast, FDR was in bed with the Jim Crow regime, maintaining the gentleman's agreement within the dem party to ignore segregation and lynching and reaping the political benefits of his collusion.

- *Anonymous*
Uh, he caused a much more severe recession.

Remember read my lips bush 1?

History makes you look weak.

- *Anonymous*
OT/

dubyer forced to cancel big speechifyin' event.

...folks was all plannin' to bring extra shoes with'em.

- *Anonymous*
prone to accept myth as fact, anyway.
- *Anonymous*
Income tax rates were lowered at first, yeah. But if that results in a quadrupling of the national debt the previous 200 years and raises unemployment from 7% to 10.8%, then it is a BAD thing—not a GOOD thing!

Our taxes are currently at the lowest overall rate since Truman and conservatives are squealing about how high taxes are!!!

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
No he didn't
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
Unemployment peaked in 1982-3 (the same time the tax cuts were being implemented) and then dropped steadily down to 5.2% in 1989.
- *Anonymous*
you think smearing me is going to get you where, exactly?

why do you think that?

- *pete*
It sounded, to me, more like they want to throw him in the clink.
- *Anonymous*
Can I call you Upbraidy?

I wish you could come over tonight and give me another tongue lashing.

- *Anonymous*
carter and clinton?

greeted the world over as heroes.

the bush boys?

consigned to hiding out in Kenne-bunker-port.

- *Anonymous*
Homophobe.
- *Anonymous*
flail

game over.

- *Anonymous*
wouldn't surprise me - i just happened to catch the bit about the shoes.
- *Anonymous*
the last thing in the world Republicans want is equal rights!!!
- *Anonymous*
It depends. Are you a Woman? Are you attractive? Do you stay fit? How well can you cook?
- *Anonymous*
Aiding terrorists. Check.
- *Anonymous*
can't even manage to stay in character now, can you?

wig all askew, notecards jumbled, frustration building...

- *Anonymous*
"you think smearing me is going to get you where, exactly?"

"smearing"? Homophobe.

- *Anonymous*
SFW?
- *Anonymous*
11. He cared more about UFO's than he did about AIDS. He was almost silent on the AIDS epidemic, which started in the 1980's. From Reagan? Crickets.

http://www.salon.com/news/politics/war_room/2011/02/04/reagan_aides_ufos/

12. The prime rate (interest rate) shot up to 21.5% during his tenure, the highest ever.

(I had a mortgage then that was running at 23% at the time, because of his policies.)

13. He coined the term "welfare queen".

- <http://themoneygoround.com> muckdog
That's probably a talking point that's been fed to you from the Soros' blogs over the years.
- *Anonymous*
those acme brand traps don't work any better now than they ever did, mr. coyotia.
- *Anonymous*
Not to mention that he was a chickenhawk who shrank from combat duty in WWII to make propaganda films for the military. FU St. Ronnie.
- *Anonymous*
@13, i think that was an atwater product. something he felt deeply ashamed of as he lay dying, and something he apologized for in no uncertain terms as his fate drew near.
- *Anonymous*
It's Ok Tom. I just think it's sad to be self loathing over something that is perfectly natural.
- *Anonymous*
#1. The net result was tax cuts for the rich and tax increases for all others to pay for it but the debt exploded.

The rest is history.

- *katy*
well i can think of a few at least...

oh, but, maybe you were being facetious...

no no no... (R)s can't do satire... or humor.

- *Anonymous*
His average unemployment rate was higher than Carter or Clinton. His job creation rate was worse than Carter or Clinton. Would you like to talk about his deficits??? We are still paying the interest on them.
- *katy*
RANDI RHODES put up a good list on her homework page:

RESEARCH: Mythbusting Ronald Reagan

<http://www.randirhodes.com/pages/rrnews.html?feed=393046&article=8135424>

- *Anonymous*
Your statement, although I am sure you meant it as a complement, "they bring me great happiness, so I don't mind letting foibles go" - is pretty darn offensive, my friend. I can't imagine a woman of any substance or intelligence appreciating

your deference. Most women on this site can hold their own in an argument and their opinion should not be considered "foibles."

Your statement is a backhanded slap whether you meant it that way or not.

- *Anonymous*
Something like Star Wars would be useless defensively, but when I think about an array of lasers stationed at strategic points around the globe in the hands of Dick Cheney, it gives me the cold grues.
- *Anonymous*
Ronnie was nothing more than a front dummy for the early edition of the NeoCons.
- *Anonymous*
Brady, had an EKG lately? You seem worked up!
- *Anonymous*
snort
- *Anonymous*
Closet misogynist
- *http://themoneygoround.com muckdog*
I blame the Congress for deficits/surpluses, as they're the ones who spend the money. Look it up.

But neither party has a good track record on cutting government spending.

Among Reagan's best quotes: "The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: 'I'm from the government/and I'm here to help.'"

- *Anonymous*
Not in the closet. It's pretty much out there for the world to see.

I am sure that he is able to get women. The difficulty, I suppose, is in keeping them. I've met his kind before. He is the type that is probably attracted to (or married to) Asian Women (foolishly) thinking that they are so much more submissive than American Women.

- *Anonymous*
I stand corrected. Ruth Ann was a girl that I had a crush on from kindergarten through 12th grade. 44 years later I still get a little tongue-tied when I see her.
- *Anonymous*
mail-order, and russian.

risky, sure – but more aryan in appearance.

- *Anonymous*
Rush, Beck, O'Reilly, Palin, etc., etc., have all the proof necessary. You just have to listen to them.... if you can stand doing so.
- *Anonymous*
I've heard those statements a million times. They don't fit reality. What happened when we went from Pres Ford to Pres Carter with a Dem congress? Job creation far better. Wages better. Deficit improves for 2 years, then returns to what Carter inherited. What happens with Reagan? Was spending increased on liberal programs? Or increases on weapons and subsidies to such as to GE and AT&T? Records are kept. Spending passed with all Repubs in favor plus enough conservative Dems (like Phil Gramm) to get the majority. There is a huge myth that there was liberal spending under Reagan. Prove it. .
- *Anonymous*
RayGun changed how unemployment was tallied. The rate only dropped because he shoved people off the rolls and stopped counting them.

Next lie, retard?

- *Anonymous*
So then Bush's deficits are the fault of Republican Congress? Got it!
- *Anonymous*
yes he did. the facts have a liberal bias, is that why you only lie?
- *Anonymous*
raygun was a notorious race baiter who solidified the GOP as the party of white KKKon bigots.
- *Anonymous*
There are eight that are orders of magnitude more terrifying than those nine. They are: "I'm a conservative and I'm here to help."
- *Anonymous*
carter was opposed to racism, but raygun used coded racist statements his entire presidency. next bullsh!t remark?
- *Anonymous*
February 05, 2011 3:39 PM EST
VENTURA, Calif. (AP) — A Secret Service agent assigned to protect Nancy Reagan is recovering after accidentally shooting himself in the hip at a sheriff's department shooting range.
- *Anonymous*
... as the deficit soared.
- *Anonymous*
kkkons would have to believe in government before they could ever be competent enough to run it..
- *Anonymous*
and unemployment and gdp growth rates remained the same as the predecessor despite reckless financial management and deregulation that is at the heart of every economic disaster of the past 30 years.
- *Anonymous*
Understand, though, that all the women in his life that brings him great happiness are inflatable dolls. As you note, no "woman of any substance or intelligence" would ever waste her time on him.
- *Anonymous*
hot air is the only "substance" kkkons are ever full of anyway. why would their "mates" be any different?

- *Anonymous*
LBJ signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1965. Last I heard, he wasn't a Republican (even though with his actions in re his stupid and unwarranted escalation of US presence in Vietnam he acted like one there for a spell).
- *Anonymous*
When a known Nazi sympathizer calls someone else a homophobe, he is lying.
- *Anonymous*
You are not anyone to be accusing anyone else of homophobia. You are a well documented liar and Nazi sympathizer. You are a barbarian.
- *Anonymous*
"... reduce the pressure on his" what?
- *Anonymous*
"hot air is the only substance" kkkons are ever full of anyway. why would their "mates" be any different"

You can't put hot air in inflatable companions..trust me. They float off. Which can be very embarrassing as well as inconvenient when you are chasing your now airborne lover through town desperately trying to bring her down by with well placed shot from a Red Ryder. Then you have to invest in a bottle of "Nu Vinyl". Do they still even make that stuff?

Good comment though.

- *Anonymous*
I seriously doubt that Reagan was aware of the Iran Contra deal when it was made or maybe even after it became public knowledge. I believe his Alzheimers had taken hold by then and others were running the government.
- <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=58404436> Josh Zorich
If someone hasn't pointed it out already you need to edit the bold title of #5 from 'chose' to 'choose'
- *Anonymous*
2-2-11 I said:

Politifact says Bureau of Labor Statistics says:
average annual percentage increases in jobs for each postwar president:

Harry S. Truman (Democrat): increase of 2.95 percent a year
Dwight D. Eisenhower (Republican): increase of 0.50 percent a year
John F. Kennedy (Democrat): increase of 2.03 percent a year
Lyndon B. Johnson (Democrat): increase of 3.88 percent a year
Richard M. Nixon (Republican): increase of 2.16 percent a year
Gerald R. Ford (Republican): increase of 0.86 percent a year
Jimmy Carter (Democrat): increase of 3.45 percent a year
Ronald Reagan (Republican): increase of 2.46 percent a year
George H.W. Bush (Republican): increase of 0.40 percent a year
Bill Clinton (Democrat): increase of 2.86 percent a year
George W. Bush (Republican): increase of 0.1 percent a year

Then, you said "(Reagan's) average beat all but Clinton on your list. As a matter of fact, so did all the Republicans except for Nixon and W. "

How can you come to a conclusion like that?!?! It is utterly wrong! I even tell you which presidents are which party, in case you did not know! Do you think the lower the number the better? No, that does not fit, either. How in the *&%# did you reach that conclusion?

- *Anonymous*
fakedrhunt:
you had written that physicians who treated him(RR) during and AFTER(WARD) his administration. The only interpretation to that is – after he left office. As has been proven – he WAS diagnosed with the disease AFTER he left office.

YOU ARE a sniffing, trifling fool. DISMISSED.

Sure...he had Alzheimer as well as being evil incarnate. Even though all three(?) White house doctors present during his administration vehemently deny it; as well as those who treated him afterward

- *Anonymous*
The thing about Reagan raising taxes is simply push-back against what has become a right-wing item of faith – that taxes should NEVER be raised. Yes, overall Reagan left taxes lower than when he found them (which led to a massive explosion in deficit spending and accumulated debt) but his very first tax cut was so drastic that it nearly wrecked the economy overnight. So he and his advisors recognized that maybe they overdid it, and they followed with a massive tax HIKE.
- *Anonymous*
Orifice: Why is your entrance always precipitated by a loud, continuous klaxon followed by the incessant barking of tracking dogs?

You should love Reagan..he let you out of the asylum. Despite the concerns echoed by numerous mental health experts.

- *Anonymous*
that's a spirited defense of the man you offer, neon.

"he was demented so it wasn't really his fault."

- *Anonymous*
trickle down responsibility.

That's the ticket

- *Anonymous*
Attempting to insult me by calling me "Orifice" is just childish, and does not

excuse you from your Nazi sympathizer ways. You are a barbarian that deserves to spend the rest of your life in prison so you do not kill any 9 year old children when you go off the deep end.

- *Anonymous*
There were six(count 'em) SIX years after he left office BEFORE(now this is important..follow along) he was diagnosed with the disease.

"as well as those who treated him afterward"

Of course I meant before 1984,I just assumed it would be apparant. Why would I deny something that is irrefutable,common knowledge?

Try again.

- *Anonymous*
Nah, any companion with a head on its shoulders, inflatable or otherwise, would float off at the soonest opportunity, immediately upon learning that she/he is hanging out with a Republican, or a neocon, conservative, teabagger, or just a plain wingnut.

It is written. Yea verily.

- *Anonymous*
You do not get to decide what is "irrefutable,common (sic) knowledge".
- *Anonymous*
Of course Frugal. Inanimate objects can think, feel and rationalize.

Boy..you people are some real slow coaches when you're sober.

- *pete*
Oh sure. Ol' Ronnie didn't know anything about anything. (spit!)

In think it's much more likely that he knew everything, until his mind started going fuzzy, and he and everyone under his command lied their asses off to cover themselves. Remember the truckload of documents that Ollie shredded before he jumped on the proverbial grenade? Frankly, I was kind of a Reagan fan until he pulled that "i was at the meeting and remember who was there but I don't remember what was discussed" crap. It screamed "LIAR" then and does until this day. He was as crooked as they come.

- *Anonymous*
You seem to know a lot about inflatable companions.
- *Anonymous*
Great. So Reagan being diagnosed with Alzheimers in 1984 is conjecture?
- *Anonymous*
Thou shalt not bear false witness.
- *Anonymous*
TODAY'S REPUBLICAN "VALUES" ARE ANTITHETICAL TO "CHRISTIAN" VALUES

Republican leaders don't believe "they" are their brother's keepers. They don't believe in humanity or the teachings of Jesus Christ. They reject social equity and moral equality. They have no compassion for the sufferings of Americans less fortunate than themselves.

They think "free" trade means they are "free" to ship American jobs overseas... and "free" to claim that denying jobs to American workers is "good" for America. Driving jobs out of America and Americans out of their homes is "just business"; nothing "personal". The consequences to American families have no "personal" implications for "them".

Corporations must be given the same first amendment free speech rights as individual citizens so they can "buy" political candidates and elections, despite the fact that works against the best interests of working class Americans and significantly diminishes the influence of their individual votes.

Pollution, global warming and deforestation are all improvable "myths" of egg-head/tree-hugger scientists who are "socialist" enemies of "over-regulated" capitalism. The earth, which right wing fundamentalist claim is less than 6,000 years old, will miraculously heal itself! All we have to do is "pray".

For today's self-focused/self-consumed Republicans, it's not about right or wrong, good or bad, fair or unfair, rational or irrational. They want what they want for no other reason than they WANT it, regardless of the consequences to themselves and everyone else! Somehow, that makes "them" feel good about themselves...makes "them" feel superior...makes "them" feel safe.

Matthew 25: 34-40

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'"

Leviticus 25: 35

"If one of your countrymen becomes poor and is unable to support himself among you, help him as you would an alien or a temporary resident, so he can continue to live among you."

- *Anonymous*
Reagan hid his agenda behind charisma. So did Kennedy and Roosevelt and Clinton. Obama is capable of doing the same, but seems too honest to do so... so far... but he may be changing.
- *Anonymous*
Why don't you tell that to your butt buddy NumbNutilis. He says Raygun had the disease before Iran-Contra.

You stupid ass trolls can't even get your shit straight. Maybe if you all stop blowing Mark Koldys and letting Eric Odom play your "B" side things would improve for you moronic shitheads.

- *Anonymous*
Wow, this makes a lot of sense.

<http://www.net-privacy.at.tc>

- *Anonymous*
As a Canadian all I have to ask is: why the hero cult worship of Ronald Reagan? What is the big deal?
He did what, and why, and at what cost?

He was charismatic, super. He was a man. This dead icon worship is something out of ancient Rome.

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
You must have never heard of Tip O'Neil. I'm probably misspelling his last name, but who cares.

And Ford was there after Watergate and the end of the Vietnam war, then Carter came in and blew up the economy. What did interest rates peak at, about 18%? Yeah, Carter sure was a genius. NOT. Combine those 18% rates with oil and the Iran hostage crisis, and the country was stuck in a rut.

Anyway, like I said, neither party has a good track record on cutting spending.

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
Say, that's how the unemployment rate just fell from 9.4% to 9%! 2mil fell off the roles, while Obama only created 36K jobs. LOL.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
I agree with that. And the wars.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
No he didn't.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
You'd have to prove that.

And if it were true, why did he make MLKjr day a holiday?

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
A conservative would never say that. It'd be more like "Put down the f'n bottle of malt liquor, get your butt off the sofa, and do something!"
- *Anonymous*
I have no idea. Whenever I hear his name I usually tune out whoever it is talking. You can't win. Either it's someone on the right lionizing him or someone on the left spewing lies about him.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
"Coded racist statements," eh? Really? Is that what you truly believe?
- *Anonymous*
Please flag all of bradycardia's posts. He is not here to engage in any sort of discussion. He is here to propagandize his fascist lies. Treat him like the Nazi sympathizer that he is.
- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
<http://cdn2.creditwritedowns.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/Rolling-12-Month-Federal-Surplus-Deficit.jpg>
- *Anonymous*
Yes.. I am sure neonnautilus has inside knowledge on Reagan's medical records.

BTW-Can you try and be a little more foul mouthed? I mean this is "Think Progress", not Denny's. Just let yourself go.

- *Anonymous*
Woo Hoo! you finally worked in "Fascistthist"!(you have to lisp when you scream it. Like a true leftist).

Good dog.

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*
The complete list of the 21 Democrats who opposed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 includes Senators:

- Hill and Sparkman of Alabama
- Fulbright and McClellan of Arkansas
- Holland and Smathers of Florida
- Russell and Talmadge of Georgia
- Ellender and Long of Louisiana
- Eastland and Stennis of Mississippi
- Ervin and Jordan of North Carolina
- Johnston and Thurmond of South Carolina
- Gore Sr. and Walters of Tennessee
- H. Byrd and Robertson of Virginia
- R. Byrd of West Virginia

- *Anonymous*

So calling me "Orifice" is not foul mouthed when you do it but you disingenuously accuse others of being foul mouthed? You have no concept of the difference between right and wrong. Your parents failed you.

- *Anonymous*

I was wondering if their world view is shaped by gaming. Perhaps they think words are like strange avatars. 'Type this, get this response.' Points for being offensive, mass postings expand power rating...

I can see it.

- <http://pickwaynesbrain.wordpress.com> *Wayne A. Schneider*
ThinkProgress has compiled a list of the top 10 things conservatives rarely mention when talking about President Reagan

With all due respect, TP, the number one thing conservatives do not want you to know about Ronald Reagan is that he is dead. (Apologies if I have repeated the obvious.)

- <http://themoneygoround.com> *muckdog*

You may have forgotten, but the discussion was about the stock market. And Reagan beat 'em all except for Bill Clinton.

And Clinton had the Internet bubble! Remember the Ameritrade ad followed up by the spot with the actor and Bill Clinton? "Click it on in there, Mr. C!"

- <http://AMERICABlog.com> *Rab*

Truth really hurts repug, doesn't it?

- *Anonymous*

Today Reagan would get RINO tagged.

- *Anonymous*

The difference being that FDR, JFK, Clinton, and Obama had/have minds backing up their charisma. Reagan was a B-movie actor, and not really very good at that either.

- *Anonymous*

I did not have to "work in" the word fascist. That is what you are, and what every Republican criminal is. Your homophobia is exposed when you claim leftists speak with a lisp. Calling me a dog does not excuse your being a Nazi sympathizer, and no insults will spare your soul from eternal damnation.

- *Anonymous*

Well, of course that's different Levi/s

The known liar just flails and fails.

- *Anonymous*

Inanimate objects can think, feel and rationalize.

Which is where they have it all over Republicans and fake Dr.'s.

- *Anonymous*

I respect your comments, too.

You don't have a clue, though, about my hate for this man or why, nor will it be discussed here.

- *Austininc4*

Bradycardia, is an "ATTENTION WHORE". He was Ignored as a child, and it warped his personality. Typical of someone suffering from sociopathic behavior

- *Anonymous*

But, he was able to fool a lot of people. That is the sad part. No matter how many times he was caught in a lie, he would back and fill and go onward. I never liked the man. I always felt he should never have been president. Anyone here ever read "Tear Down This Myth" by Will Bunch. I keep my copy where I can get to it when someone starts telling lies of how great the 40th President was.

- *Anonymous*

Heh. Orifice doesn't necessary mean rectum....Orifice. I could just be implying that you have a big mouth.