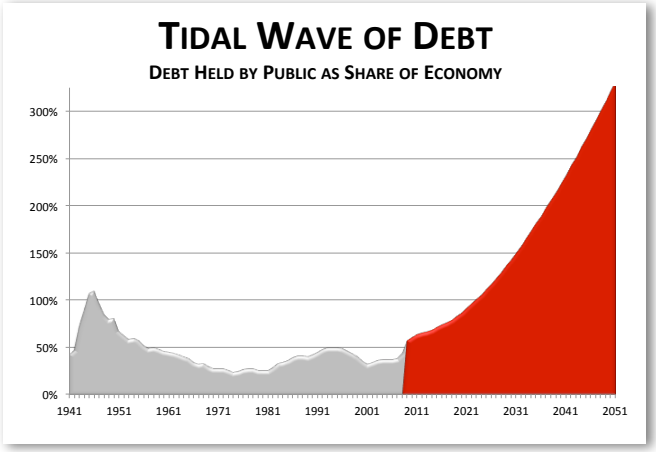
THE FACTS ABOUT OUR DEBT

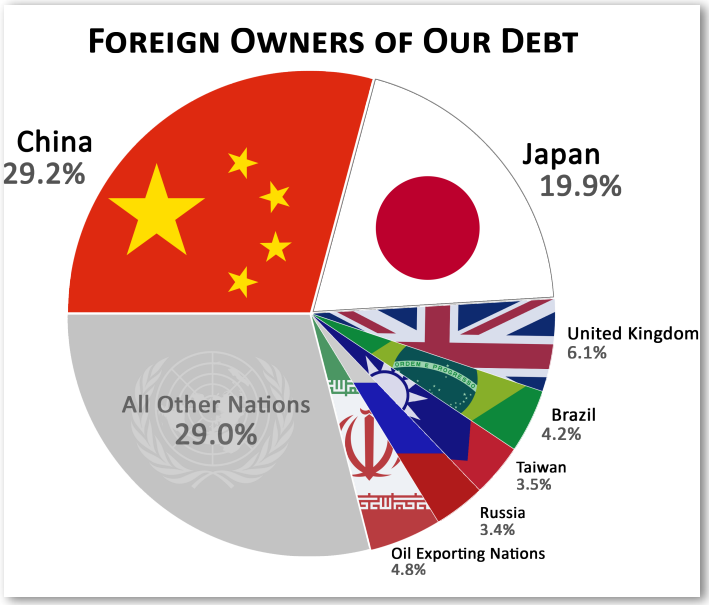
1. We Have A Debt Crisis Facing Our Nation.

Our nation's debt currently stands at over $14 trillion, which amounts to a $45,500 "birth tax" for every child born in America this year or $120,500 for every household.

The federal government is borrowing more than 42 cents on every dollar it spends. In other words, all spending after July 27 of this year is borrowed spending.



2. The Debt Crisis Threatens Our Job Growth, Our National Security And Sovereignty, And Our Nation's Children.



Today, almost half (47 percent) of our public debt is owned by foreign sources, more than a 240 percent increase in the last 20 years alone. China owns more than any other nation - 29.2 percent of our debt.

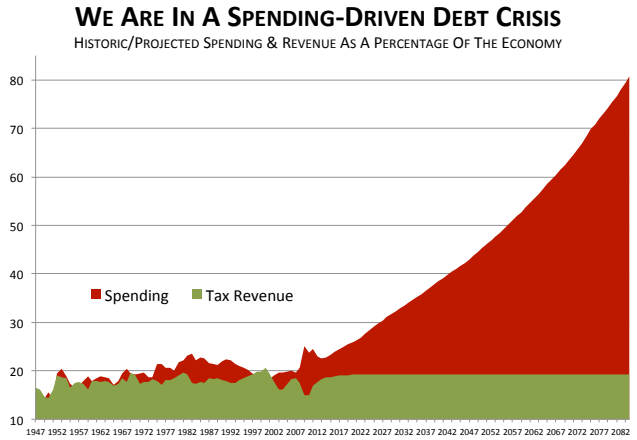
With the interest we pay to China on our debt, China can afford to buy 3 new Joint Strike Fighters every week – with $50 million per week left over.

> "If we continue this kind of a policy, we're dead in the water. Because [small businesses] don't know what's coming."
>
> Bernie Marcus, former Chairman & CEO of Home Depot (255,185 employees)

3. We Have A Debt Crisis Because Washington Spends Too Much, Not Because Washington Taxes Too Little.

Since 1946, spending has averaged 19.7 percent of the economy, and tax revenue has averaged 17.7 percent of the economy. While tax revenues are predicted to remain near historic levels of the economy, spending is projected to rise to more than 80 percent of the economy, driving historic deficit and debt.

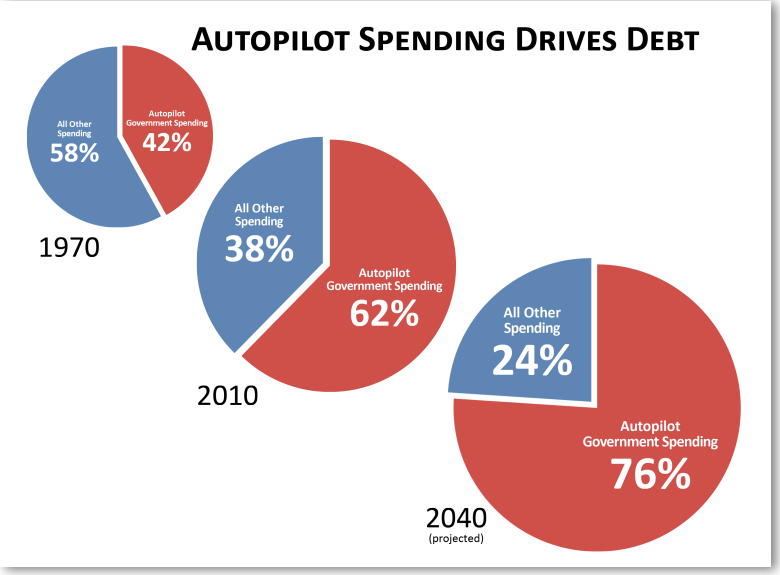
According to Stanford Economist John Taylor, simply to balance the budget in 2019 would require an immediate 60 percent tax increase across the board. Can you afford a 60 percent tax increase?



4. The Spending Is Driven By Retirement And Health Security Programs.

While we hear so much about waste, fraud, abuse and duplication in Washington, our nation's retirement and health security programs, coupled with our debt payments, are the real drivers of our debt crisis.

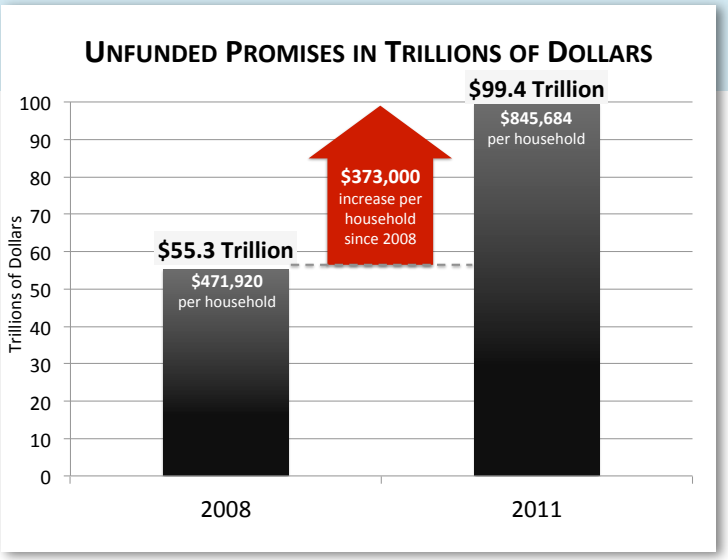
While this autopilot spending has been on an explosive path for years, President Obama has only made it worse by adding more autopilot spending, more deficit spending and new autopilot spending into the budget.



5. The Cost Of Doing Nothing Is Unacceptable.

By ignoring the facts and kicking the can down the road, we are making the problem even worse. You deserve to know that in just the last three years, the promises that Washington can't afford to keep have grown by 80 percent.

The Social Security and Medicare Trustees have said that if nothing is done, Social Security benefits will be cut by 22 percent.



6. Principles To Save And Strengthen Medicare, Medicaid And Social Security.

House Republican Principles:

- Spur Job Growth and Prosperity
- No Changes for Seniors
- Fulfill the Mission of Health and Retirement Security for All Americans
- Lift the Crushing Burden of Debt

7. What We Can Do Today

- Share The Facts With Your Family, Friends, Neighbors And Co-Workers
- Let Them Know Ignoring The Problem Will Only Make The Problem Worse
- Be Part Of A National Solution And Give Your Ideas