

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**  
**FAILED PRESIDENCY?**  
**LET ME**  
**COUNT THE WAYS!**

By Stephen L. Bakke  May 5, 2015



*Here's what provoked me:*

*A letter appeared that gave a brief sample of how successful the Obama Administration has been since taking office. Obviously it was way off base.*

*Here's my response:*

**Failed Presidency? Let Me Count the Ways!**

A letter from Brad Turek (Obama worst president ever? – May 3) points out a few successes of Obama's presidency to refute the "worst" accusation. But he is wrong – first addressing some of Turek's points:

- Oil and gas production is higher in spite of Obama's policies to restrict production. Virtually all the gain has been from private production beyond Obama's reach.
- Unemployment is down because people have given up looking for jobs, so the labor participation rate is the lowest in 36 years.
- The deficit reduction is largely the result of the caps and sequester. Obama's wanted to pass much larger deficit creating budgets.

Let me add:

- According to the CBO, the level of those insured under Obamacare will be about 25 million under estimates. When medical subsidies and all costs of administration are considered, Obamacare costs will be way over their predictions.
- Relations with international adversaries have warmed while, sadly, becoming much cooler with old friends.
- Dodd-Frank (bank controls) made it harder for first-time homebuyers to qualify for loans.
- Expanded welfare and social insurance have led to a declining desire to work.

There are many more, but I have limited space.