

OBAMACARE – THE SUPREME COURT DECIDED

– Are you confusing “understanding” with “agreement”?

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Wow! That was Kinda’ Fun!

In my last report I made an effort to explain how I think Justice Roberts arrived at the place he did and voted with the majority to declare Obamacare constitutional under the power of Congress to tax. I also tried to explain how I think he was true to the impression he gave me during his confirmation hearings – that he is a supporter of “judicial restraint.” My goal here is to understand the man, in an objective and dispassionate way. **While reaching the conclusion that I did, I held to my fervent support for the dissenting opinion.**

Generally I received compliments and support for this report, but some feel I wandered into enemy territory. I was called an “apologist for Roberts,” in one instance. Another critic implied that if I could understand the “other side” that clearly, then I must be on the verge of agreeing – if I haven’t already “slipped over to that side.” **I’m surprised how many people confuse the ability to “understand” something with actual “agreement.”**

I think it is fine to be ideological, but **that carries with it the responsibility of retaining an objective approach to understanding all the arguments.** Only by explaining opponents can one demonstrate an understanding them! Why is that important? Because only by understanding them can we optimize our performance in the future “battle”!

Ask yourself whether your ideology may have blinded you to an understanding of your philosophical opponents. One conservative I know replied, when it was demonstrated how factually “off base” he was with his comments: “OK, that may be right! But I don’t care!” How does that attitude “advance the ball”? Take off those ideological blinders! They will hinder achieving an important victory!



Does the Market Like or Dislike what it Sees?

Initially I saw a “mixed bag” reaction in the stock markets. There has been a general improvement in the broad market, alongside a sluggish reaction for health care insurers. **At least that’s how I interpret it.** Obamacare supporters explain this by saying the market has already “discounted” the upside effects on the insurance industry.

My personal opinion is that this phenomenon indicates that the market is a little worried on behalf of the insurance industry, and a somewhat optimistic on behalf of the broader market. Why? Perhaps the market sees something in the Supreme Court decision that is a

negative for the insurance industry and a positive for the business community in general. **Hmmmm! I wonder what that could be?** (Stay tuned for my next report!)

A Government Solution Isn't the Only Way! Or Didn't You Get the Memo?

A couple things really irritate me! First, **Republicans provide few unambiguous endorsements of specific ways to “replace” Obamacare.** Second, **Democrats consider this Obamacare/governmental “cramdown” the only way to achieve reform.** Because of these two things, many in the general public who want health care reform only hear about the “governmental version,” and much of that is false or “spun” information.

There are several credible conservative approaches, but the “Obamacare loving” press doesn't publicize them, and Republican lawmakers seem reticent about vocally supporting specific reform provisions. There are confused and conflicting reports indicating that the public both “likes and dislikes” Obamacare. I believe that they like is the idea that health care can be reformed. They also like some of the goals of Obamacare – I do too. But what they don't like is the nature of the reform represented by Obamacare.

We must show the American public that there are better, cheaper, and overwhelmingly fairer, ways of accomplishing health care reform. And we can deliver all of the important and desirable objectives of reform. But first we need to stop the bickering about Robert's competence vs. incompetence, and whether the mandate payment is a penalty or a tax.

We must plant our pivot foot and **find out where we are and where we should go!**

Now, **ON WITH THE SHOW!**

Next, I will continue this analysis of “Where are we, and what's next?”

Then I will get down to some specifics of “What's next?”