

 **TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC"**

**A BRUTAL LESSON IN  
GOVERNMENT MATH!**

**- 3 minus 1 equals 3**

**..... SOMEHOW?!**



By Stephen L. Bakke  December 10, 2014

*Here's what provoked me:*

*A letter bragging about all of Obama's "good numbers" put me over the brink of patience. Given the limited space permitted for a letter to the editor, I had to choose only two of them to address in my response.*

*Here's my response:*

**A Brutal Lesson in Government Math! - 3 minus 1 equals 3 ..... SOMEHOW?!  
(Clever description courtesy of CNBC)**

In the Robert Goss letter of 12-9 - "Obama's good numbers," there are no less than five very misleading Democrat talking points. Here are just two:

- (1) Goss referred to the new unemployment report unemployment rate of 5.8% as an example of Obama's "good numbers." But with 321,000 jobs being created, the unemployment rate DIDN'T IMPROVE! Why? Well ..... there were ONLY 4,000 MORE AMERICANS WORKING because 119,000 more Americans were in the job market while 115,000 more were unemployed. AND!! the U.S. saw 150,000 fewer full-time jobs and 77,000 more part-time jobs. Sadly, we still live with the labor participation rate (percentage of workers in the labor force) lingering at a 36-year low of 62.8%!
- (2) Goss sees the low oil prices as another Obama success, thus eliminating the reason for the Keystone XL Pipeline. Prices are down because private interests have increased production of oil and gas at a record pace. Obama was an obstacle, putting up barriers that were overcome! Also, OPEC felt threatened so they liberally released oil to the world market (check it out), and the price came down.

We Americans should all settle into faithful reliance on facts to choose policies to support!