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 **TODAY'S "QUICK HIT":**
POLARIZING THE
PROCESS WITH
SPIN AND NUANCE:
NO WONDER THERE'S
A BITTER DIVIDE!



By Stephen L. Bakke  April 28, 2017

Here's what provoked me:

There is sooooo much spin, nuance, and factual omission in the official media and other opinion leaders in politics and the general public. This response is self-explanatory.

Here's my response:

Polarizing the Process with Spin and Nuance: No Wonder There's a Bitter Divide!

Errors of omission, spin, or nuance polarize the political process. Examples:

- Your 4/27 editorial describes Republican's responsibility for finding a way to work with Democrats to avoid a government shutdown. In fact, any legislator showing intransigence in their position owns an equal, undivided interest in any government shutdown.
- Newspapers report lack of legislative progress during Trump's "first 100 days." Both Obama and Trump signed relatively insignificant legislation during this period, but the raw count is: Obama signed 7 bills; Trump signed 14.
- An April 28 writer states corporations are interested in "return on investment," rather than needing tax reform to be more competitive in their industry. Be aware that return on investment is one of the biggest ways companies compete – not for customers but for investment capital so they can be competitive.
- Other recent writers and your April 29th editorial complain that most tax cuts would go to the wealthiest, and that middle income earners are bearing too much of the tax burden. The public should know that almost 50% of all wage earners (the poorest) pay NO federal income tax. The middle "20%" pays only 4.2% of total individual income taxes, compared to the wealthiest "20%" which pays almost 87% of the total.
- Your April 29th editorial argues that tax relief will have an upward influence on the national debt, but it doesn't point out the entire result of "stimulative" tax reform which will also have a downward influence on the debt.

People need "the rest of the story"!