

# Current event summary- 2012 us presidential elections

[People](#), [Barack Obama](#)



Current Event Summary- 2012 US Presidential Elections Whether it is about taxes, spending, the bailouts, the debt ceiling or entitlements, a fundamental source of disagreement between Republicans and Democrats is whether the federal government should be a support system for the country or play an extremely limited role in business, social and day-to-day life. The tea party wing of the Republican party has used reducing the size of government as a rallying cry while progressive Democrats decry it as an elimination of the traditional safety net responsibilities of the federal government. President Obama, like many in the Democratic party, believes that the federal government has an important role to play in shaping the lives of the people, building infrastructure, regulating and helping to grow business. During his first term as president, he backed a number of measures that increased the role of government including the health care reform bill sometimes called "Obama care." President Obama also pushed forward a federal stimulus plan, an over \$800 billion injection into the U. S. economy in 2009 that was aimed at helping the U. S. economy recover from the 2008 bank failures. His critics from the right, many of whom believe in small government and less federal government interaction, said that the Stimulus Plan was an example of government overreach and was going to make the country's financial situation worse by pushing the country further into debt. President Obama also supported a 2009 bailout of the auto industry, despite critics who believed that the government should stay out of free enterprise and let the cards fall where they may. Obama was criticized for comments in the summer where he said in Roanoke, Virginia in July: " If you are successful, somebody along the line gave you some help. There was a great teacher

somewhere in your life. Somebody helped to create this unbelievable American system that we have that allowed you to thrive. Somebody invested in roads and bridges. If you've got a business, you didn't build that." In comparison, Republicans have traditionally believed in smaller government, lower taxes and encouraging a free market economy. Mitt Romney is no exception. Romney has advocated for less federal government in many respects, save Social Security, which he believes should remain at the federal level. Romney has advocated for lower taxes for just about every income level of Americans, including wealthier earners who make in excess of \$250, 000 a year. While he believes that marriage is a union between a man and a woman, when asked as Massachusetts governor, Romney said that the people and not the courts should decide the definition of marriage. The former Massachusetts governor also said that it would be a good day when Roe v. Wade was overturned, leaving the issue to the states. He has advocated for a smaller federal work force, in an effort to reduce federal spending. And a successful businessman and founder of Bain Capital, Romney has advocated for lower corporate tax rates and less regulation, including repealing health care reform. He thinks that should also remain a choice at the state-level, as was the case under his own health care plan in Massachusetts. Over the summer, Romney took advantage of comments the president made about the role of government in business to distinguish himself from Obama. In Roanoke, Virginia in July, Obama told a crowd, " If you are successful, somebody along the line gave you some help. There was a great teacher somewhere in your life. Somebody helped to create this unbelievable American system that we have that allowed you to thrive.

Somebody invested in roads and bridges. If you've got a business, you didn't build that. " Romney later attacked Obama's use of the phrase " you didn't build that" in campaign ads and rallies. Source: <http://www.presidentialelection.com/>