Abstract: toward an informed vote

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This article reviews economic information from a variety of government sources. The information is summarized in a figure and table that accompany the article. All sources of information are referenced. Results indicate that, contrary to popular belief, history shows that:

- cutting taxes does not necessarily create jobs, but does increase the National Debt;
- the size of the National Debt relative to the size of the economy has not been as large as it is today since 1950; and
- most of the current size of the National Debt can be directly attributed to the tax and spending policies of the Reagan and the two Bush Administrations.

Results also show that:

- Republicans have been no better than Democrats at either growing the general economy or creating jobs;
- Republicans have increased the size of government more than Democrats;
- Republicans have contributed substantially more to the National Debt than Democrats; and
- since World War II, it is only Republicans who have increased the National Debt faster than the size of the economy, which makes it more difficult for us to pay.

The article concludes that we need to elect representatives who recognize the need to:

- create jobs in a manner that does not grow the National Debt faster than the economy and that cutting taxes does not necessarily create jobs; and
- find better ways to fund or finance the social programs that are run by the Federal Government (such as Social Security and Medicare) so that they can be made sustainable.