

Romney's 47% and Stewart's 99%

by Mark Stewart

Democrat candidate for Connecticut Governor

I'm a candidate for the 99%. I represent those who are NOT largely dependent on government (by Mitt Romney's estimate 53%), and those who are dependent on government but uncomfortably so.

The wicked 1% are not those who are rich, but those who USE government as a club against others. The 99% who are in some way clubbed need to stand up for themselves. Until that's done in force, I and a few others will stand for you.

Mitt Romney slinked away from his "47% dependent" remark. He should have defended it. I'll defend it, and go further: many of those 47% are in the long run getting hurt. The dependent-by-choice are not just a drain on everyone who works to support them; they often denigrate their own selves. Many "disabled" who can work but begin getting relief checks become addicted to free money. It's hard to shun this government offer when you can be on a golf course while getting paid. The more you are addicted to leisure-without-work, the less likely you are to return to good work. You literally lose your capabilities.

Even if capable, a full year after being "on disability" far fewer employers want to hire you. The dependent include single mothers who could be building careers, but thanks to welfare checks and low-cost apartments instead stifle their careers and keep themselves from having better homes.

For every capable person who wrongly milks the welfare teat, there is a truly disabled person who can't. These people NEED others' help, but in the Big-Government-Big-Welfare system, remote bureaucrats can't discern the truly deserving from the fraudsters and the lazy. Though progressive leaders think we are all dependent on government ("you didn't build that!") in fact, none of us needs to be dependent on government, other than for the military, courts, and some aspects of the environment. Progressives wish to increase our dependency on government. It's my mission to show they are wrong and their thinking is dangerous.

I'll close with the consequence of reaching 50%. If and when 50% of our country feels dependent on government, we will then have extinguished representative government. That 50% then sees no consequences in voting for benefits that OTHERS pay for. They then have no tether to what is prudent for the country, only what keeps benefits flowing to them. Even at 47%, it means good legislation needs to contend against bad legislation with a huge "thumb" on the scale. Literally, to get 51% of the vote with 47% selfishly stacked against you, you need to win 51% to 2% among the non-dependent. No wonder fiscal conservatives don't win legislation any more. PLEASE vote for candidates who will roll back socialism, before we reach that 50% ledge.