



Pictured from Left to Right Front: Allison Lattimore, Shayla Lawson, Melanie Snyder, Amy Tilley, Amy Butler, Tonya Howard. Back row Left to Right: Lisa Cable, Ariana Ownbey, Dahlia Guinn, Stephanie Phillips.

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# Jennifer's Corner

by Jennifer Martin



### The Destruction of the Economy

I'll admit it, I made a "C" in AP Macroeconomics in high school. I could not draw a graph for you now or tell you how anything works. On the AP test, I drew pictures and wrote a story for the AP grading board to enjoy. I literally called the day after the test to have my test scores canceled so that Lee University would never know my shame.

Now, I grow distressed as the economy weakens. Obviously, we're nearing that whole "Great Depression" stage. And as I hear about the bail-out plan, the libertarian in me is crying great big tears of sadness at the government.

No one here is dense. The economy is in awful condition. People need help – but from the government? Do you really want the government's grubby little hand in our wallets? No offense, but that's how it got there in the first place.

Republicans always say "no high taxes" and I say... okay, I agree. But whether it is this administration or the Democrat-controlled congress, government spending has not ceased. And here we are, bailing out businesses and banks? Printing money we don't have? Trillions of dollars in debt? It's an economic nightmare you read about happening to African countries or post-soviet east European ones. Certainly not the United States of America.

But we started the downward spiral when we decided that the dollar was no longer to be backed by gold. So the dollar is just...out of thin air. Inflation, anyone? Of course. And now, printing billions of dollars? Soon we'll be lucky if the dollar equates with the peso.

I hope Bob Corker and Lamar Alexander are reading this, because I want to say right now that I am vehemently against the bail-out plan. I know we have to do something – but people like Warren Buffett are on the right track by buying billions of dollars of stock. Where are the other American billionaires? Bill Gates and Steve Jobs, I'm looking at you. Buy some stocks – you have the means.

Don't make the government do it. More government money means more government control, and that means less freedom. Freedom is a dangerous thing with which to play. And a Democrat will say, let's just raise taxes! Okay, then businesses will charge more money to get the same profit they were getting before. People will be less driven to buy with the inflated dollar. You've already seen this with gas companies.

Let me take a moment to dissolve a very popular myth about Republicans. Guess what? We don't support giant evil corporations. We don't like paying for ridiculously expensive gas. We don't like overseas jobs for American companies. But we believe that freedom in enterprise belongs to everyone, in the same way that salvation is available from Christ even to murderers.

I'm just saying that people should be able to rely on each other at least more than the government. In my eyes, the government is just another corporation that's necessary, like gas companies. The difference with the government is that we actually get to hire who is involved. And I would never hire anyone who would support further weakening of the American company by printing billions of dollars that we don't have. Do you know how weak the American dollar is already?

Lastly, I encourage you who have more money than me to buy stocks. Doesn't matter where – maybe ask Mad Money Kramer about that one. They're cheap now, anyway. And it will stimulate the economy more effectively than any bail-out plan would.