



INTERESTING INTERVIEW: CHARLIE ROSE PBS (WGBH BOSTON)

With: Warren Buffett

- Berkshire Hathaway encompasses 70 businesses – ALL are improving steadily.
- The U.S. corporate tax rate approximates 35 – 37%; almost the highest in the world – causing not only jobs to be lost, but also corporate legal headquarters (G.E. pays a 6% rate to the U.S!).
- Says he should be paying more personal tax – his rate is lower than his staff.
- Has never seen a good investment idea, to make money, impeded by a tax rate. It's about the idea!
- When Obama was facing Boehner in a game of 'chicken', he saw the Republicans throw their steering wheel out the window!!
- The housing crisis (leverage remains a four-letter word!) was so bad, and so pervasive, it will take another couple of years to recover! At which point the unemployment rate will fall below 7%!
- On the Euro, etc., "I don't know".
- VERY optimistic that the U.S. will revive, as long as some discipline and job incentives evident – "nobody believes the far out promises and numbers."

NOT Buffett

FYI: The former leader of FANNIE MAE, seeing that his compensation was determined by mortgage volume, and backed by Uncle Sam, consistently lowered underwriting standards. Ten years later, he left a broken agency, with \$100 million in his jeans!

RECOMMEND: Put Buffett and the Tea Party in a locked room – don't let them out until all have passed an economics test.

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