

The Delray Democrat

Is the Economy That Good?

Steve Fradkin

The Trumpies are fond of telling us that the economy is booming. But is it really? Not according to *Fortune Magazine's* December cover story, "Why Trump is Bad for Business." Here are some **talking points** to share with your friends and neighbors. (*Quotes from the Fortune article*)

"Despite several seemingly pro-business policies . . . the first career-businessman President has become bad for business."

"The fear among many businesspeople is that...he's doing more harm than good."

"Today, shares of all America's major steelmakers are trading below where they were before Trump's election," despite his promises to bring the steel industry back.

Trickle down? "The Congressional Research Service found no indication of a surge in wages in 2018 either compared to history or relative to GDP growth." Instead, corporations have spent much of their increased spending power to buy back stock, to the tune of over a trillion dollars.

"The stock market boom has evaporated...adjusted for inflation [since January 2018], the gain is less than 2%."

Anticipated GDP growth for next year is just 2% -- "in line with growth since 2000, which has averaged 2.1%."

"Trump's highest-profile policy prescriptions, reducing trade and immigration, have long been opposed by economists across the political spectrum."

Immigration reform? Deportations are down (276,000/yr.) compared to Obama's 383,000/yr. But legal immigration is down sharply (200,000 last year vs. over a million in 2014), which "is bad news for American business and industry...America's technology sector is unimaginable without immigrants...71% of tech employees in Silicon Valley are foreign-born."

"The Congressional Budget Office forecasts...trillion-dollar annual deficits for at least the next decade...[assuming] no recession," thanks to the **don't-tax-but-spend-anyway** Republicans.

So when your friends and neighbors rave about how good Trump has made our economy, you can set them straight. More than the buffoon we may think he is, Donald Trump is bad for America, plain and simple. Spread the word. ***Help make the blue sun shine on the Sunshine State.***