



Obama vs. Santorum a worrisome match-up

As this 2012 presidential election approaches, I fear that we could end up being trapped between a rock and a hard place. The thought of choosing between President Obama and former Sen. Rick Santorum makes me think of a choice Trotsky and Savonarola.

Leon Trotsky was a Soviet revolutionary who argued for a tight interconnection between the state and the unions, as well as state ownership and control of all means of production and matters affecting the economy, education and health care.

Does this sound like President Obama?

The more President Obama kowtows to the unions (think Boeing in South Carolina and the auto bailouts), wastes money on "green" pipe dreams (think Solyndra), prevents projects like the Keystone Pipeline, pushes unnecessary education (do bus drivers need a PhD?), the more I'm convinced that the United States cannot take four more years of President Obama.

Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498) was an Italian Dominican Friar who is credited with responsibility for the "Bonfire of the Vanities" in 1497 Florence, and with making sodomy a capital offense. For those who may have forgotten their Italian Renaissance history, the "Bonfire of the Vanities" was the burning of unapproved art works and books, musical instruments, fancy clothing, jewelry, mirrors, cosmetics, etc.

Does this sound like Rick Santorum?

As I listen to Rick Santorum, I am left with the feeling that he is much more concerned with "social

and family values" than with the economy and defense. I'm old enough to remember Blue Laws in Pennsylvania and don't see the need to go there again. I'm just not convinced that we need anymore social or moral restrictions placed upon us.

This scenario (Obama vs. Santorum) helps me to understand why those Buddhist Monks in Hu' and Saigon chose self-immolation rather than participate in their elections.

So, Republicans, please vote in the primary for a candidate that we need not be scared to vote for in November.

Tom Glidden, Jr., Rapho Township

Tired of being told to 'go online'

"Go online."

These two little words I have grown to dislike, and so have many others when I discuss the subject with them.

You're watching the news, then are told for further details or pictures, go online and visit a website.

The IRS doesn't mail booklets; you can go online to print one or go to their office, but it might take several trips until you get everything you need.

Doctor offices tell you to go online to make an appointment rather than wait on the phone or to have someone call you back.

Some of the shopping networks have specials but can only be viewed on their website.

Employers have mandatory direct deposit. However, they don't give out pay vouchers. Therefore, you need to go online and visit their website to find your deposit amount.

The unemployment office tells you to file your claim online rather than to call. They don't have enough employees to handle the workload.

These are just a few examples. There are many more -- think how many times have you heard the words, "You can go online."

People, wake up. Identity theft is on the rise. Where do you think the hackers are getting their information?

I have worked with computers for more than 25 years. I went to computer seminars and was told that, once the information is put into cyber space, it is there forever. It may be deleted from your computer, but do not think because you are using a secure site you can't be hacked.

With computers, no one talks anymore, it's emails and Facebook.

Are we that busy that we can't call family or friends to say hello? How sad.

Barbara Hanna, Mountville