

We must find a way to deal with the deficit

Kudos to Jim Waters for his very insightful column in Monday's Daily News.

Although the entire commentary was on target, this is the particular passage that really caught my eye:

"But what the vice president and most politicians loathe is discussing where they get the money. But that's the 800-pound extension cord in the stimulus room that Americans can no longer ignore."

At the risk of sounding like a broken record – and I'm confident that many of you still get that reference – our federal deficit is approaching \$13.2 trillion. It is increasing at around \$4.12 billion per day. The inane mantra "deficits don't matter" ranks right up there with "the world is flat." It's naive and unrealistic. Deficits do matter and unless we make a course correction soon, we are all going to find out just how much.

In the very least, it should now be obvious to everyone that more government spending is not the answer.

I am not insensitive to the needs of my fellow citizens. I

believe we should lend a hand to those who legitimately need help during difficult economic times. But let's make sure we create dependable and realistic revenue streams for providing that assistance.

Finally, we need to realize that labels only serve to distract us from the underlying realities we are all facing.

Conservatives with staunch allegiance to political principles and no empathy for the less fortunate are just as clueless and dangerous as liberals with staunch allegiance to moral imperatives and no budgeting skills.

The deficit increasingly affects us all; we desperately need to find a way to deal with it before it gets any worse. We are not immune to what's currently happening in other countries that have been unable to rein in their government spending.

Good job, Jim. Keep writing.

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