“Mirror, mirror upon the wall, Who is the fairest of all?”

The mirror answered – “Thou, O Queen, art the fairest of all,”

And the Queen was contented, because she knew the mirror could speak nothing but the truth,

Little Snow White – Grimm’s Fairy Tales

The queen in Snow White’s story got awfully upset when her magic mirror later noted that little Snow White was fairer than herself. This week, President Obama willfully played the role of the queen. He demanded of the American public, who is the fairest of all? He hit the campaign trail lauding the Buffett rule, which would require higher income earners to pay more taxes. [As the WSJ noted](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303815404577336010655038338.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop), the administration claimed that taxation is about fairness, not growth or revenue. The administration cannot run on its record of economic growth or balanced budgets. Nor can it run on a platform of a plan to create economic growth or reduce budget deficits. President Obama’s budget was defeated 414-0 in the US House of Representatives meaning that even members of his own party acknowledge he has no real economic plan. Instead, he plans on claiming that he is the fairest in the land.

Fair is in the eye of the beholder[. Public employees earn more than their private sector counterparts](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702304724404577295502528869614.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEFTTopOpinion). Is that fair? According to the BLS, women have accounted for 92% of job losses since President Obama took office. Is that fair? Mitt Romney used that statistic, [but MSNBC and others didn’t think the use of the statistic (though correct) was fair.](http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/04/11/11143794-fact-check-romneys-women-jobs-loss-claim-paints-incomplete-picture) [Surveyors have found](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052702303772904577335351919453764.html?mod=WSJ_Opinion_LEADTop) that over half of the American public believes that taxes on the wealthy need to be raised while simultaneously believing that lottery winners should pay no more than 10% of their winnings in tax. Apparently, if they earn the money, they should hand it to the government but if they blindly fall into money as a matter of luck, it should be theirs’ to keep. What’s not fair about that?

Fair seems to be forgiving student loan debt [for those who didn’t major in a marketable degree](http://www.obamastudentloanforgiveness.com/). Or [forgiving home debt](http://finance.yahoo.com/news/housing-secretary-pushes-mortgage-write-235316224.html) for those who buy a house they cannot afford. Fair, as used by the administration, is almost always associated with forced income redistribution. Unfair is almost always associated with people having to pay for their own consumption. [Medicare and Medicaid reforms, then are inherently unfair, and the President stated as much.](http://www.realclearmarkets.com/articles/2012/04/05/medicare_is_a_future_budget_buster_99602.html) Remember that fair elections to a politician from Chicago don’t mean the same thing to them as they do to the average American, which is why the administration so strongly feels that [requiring an ID to vote](http://www.statesman.com/news/texas-politics/holder-calls-for-review-of-states-voter-id-2030830.html) is an idea to be nipped in the bud.

Apple has been busy making money lately. They are almost single handedly driving stock growth. [Back Apple out of the S&P 500, and earnings growth drops from 7.8% to a mere 2.7%.](http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2012/04/11/where-would-we-be-without-apple.aspx) Of course, in the President’s fair world, it wouldn’t be fair for one firm to make so much more than others. So today, the Obama administration announced that it was suing Apple. [This from BBC News](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-17681137), “The lawsuit comes a day after Apple surpassed $600 billion in value. The increase affirmed its position as the world’s most valuable firm”. It doesn’t pay to stand out as superior in a fair world.

Maybe President Obama and I grew up singing different hymns. I sang “fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands” and I didn’t feel the need to cut down all the trees to make the landscape equally fair. One only wonders what will happen if the electorate doesn’t pronounce President Obama as the fairest in the land in the fall. We know what the queen in Snow White’s story did.