

February 27, 2011

# Gov. Mitch Daniels on Budget Battle; Mike Huckabee Talks Presidential Politics | Fox News Sunday

With: Chris Wallace

**Special Guests** | Gov. Mitch Daniels, former Gov. Mike Huckabee

**WALLACE:** This week the president decided, decided that the Defense of Marriage Act, which bars federal recognition of same-sex marriage, is unconstitutional, and he directed the Justice Department to no longer defend DOMA, the Defense of Marriage Act, in court. You say that that could destroy the president. Isn't that over the top?

**HUCKABEE:** No. I'll tell you why. Maybe that's a hyperbole, but heck politicians are given a little hyperbole, as are talk show hosts. But here's what I mean by that. First of all, he alienated the African-American community. Overwhelmingly African-Americans support traditional marriages, more than Hispanics and more than whites. In the white community, it's about 56 percent, 65 in the Hispanic, 75 in the African-American community.

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You have African-American church leaders like Anthony Evans coming out saying of the 34,000 churches that he networks with, they are in arms about this. But secondly...

**WALLACE:** But if he believes that it's unconstitutional, I mean you would say give an honest answer.

**HUCKABEE:** Well, let's take a look at that. He said because some lower court decided that a part of DOMA was unconstitutional that he would not enforce it. OK. By

that logic, he should not try to implement Obamacare, because some lower courts have already decided that it's unconstitutional.

That's hypocritical. It's hypocritical and it's dishonest, because when he ran for president, Chris, he said he supported traditional marriage. He's on the record. Now, the question is was he dishonest then? Is he dishonest now? Or did he change his view, and if he did when and why?

**WALLACE:** If he did change his view, is that legitimate?

**HUCKABEE:** He better explain why because that's not why he got elected. And here's another thing I think he's got to explain. Why is it that on one hand, he has been saying that if this issue is addressed, it should be addressed legislatively, and now he's doing it not legislatively, not even judicially?

Judicially, it would go to the Supreme Court. He's doing it administratively. I don't think that what he's doing is constitutional. If a president begins to decide which pieces of the law he's going to choose to support or endorse or enforce based on a lower court decision, not because it's actually bubbled up to a final adjudication -- that is an unusual precedent for a president to take.

#### FNS Transcripts

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#### Gov. Mitch Daniels on Budget Battle; Mike Huckabee Talks Presidential Politics

Guests: Gov. Mitch Daniels, former Gov. Mike Huckabee

February 20, 2011

#### Gov. Scott Walker on Wisconsin Budget Battle; Sens. McCaskill, Coburn on Capitol Hill Spending Fight

Guests: Gov. Scott Walker, Sen. Claire McCaskill, Sen. Tom Coburn



#### Coming Up on FNS: February 27, 2011



Budgetary woes dominate the national conversation as the real fiscal fight takes place in the states. With state governments mirroring the efforts in Wisconsin, "Fox News Sunday" anchor Chris Wallace sits down with a Governor who's actually turned around his state's fiscal woes and is now considering a possible White House run.

**WALLACE:** He says he's going to enforce it. He just says that he's not going to defend it in court cases.

**HUCKABEE:** Well, but it's really the same thing. That he has decided that this is a part of the law he doesn't like, so he's not going to recognize it. I don't think a president in the executive branch can thumb his nose at a branch of government that is incomplete in its assessment of a law.

**WALLACE:** Ronald Reagan's 11th Commandment was thou shall not speak ill of any other Republican, and I would submit that you have been breaking Reagan's 11th commandment recently.

**HUCKABEE:** Oh, what have I done?

**WALLACE:** Well, in your book, you say of Mitt Romney's plan for Massachusetts, quote: "If our goal in health-care reform is better care at lower cost, then we should take a lesson from Romney care, which shows that socialized medicine does not work." Socialized medicine?

**HUCKABEE:** Well, that's what it is when the government runs the program. And by the way, I think there's a real difference in Ronald Reagan saying don't speak ill of another Republican and don't evaluate what another Republican's proposals are.

I mean, if you want to go by that, let's go back four years ago and look at all the different things that I was criticized for by my fellow Republicans, including Mitt Romney. The point is, policy differences are legitimate.

If we start attacking each other on integrity and character, I think that's a problem, which I haven't done. But I do think the Wall Street Journal's analysis of the Massachusetts health-care bill showed that it was exactly almost a carbon copy at the state level of what Obamacare was at the national level.

And it showed that costs have gone up, they are out of control. People are waiting longer to see a doctor and the quality of health-care is down, and the people of Massachusetts are less satisfied with their health-care than they were before the program went into play.

**WALLACE:** If Romneycare is, as it is, the signature issue for Mitt Romney, his signature accomplishment as governor of Massachusetts, and you say in your book it's an experiment that blew up. It is socialized medicine. You've just said harsh words now. What does that say about his fitness to be the Republican nominee for president?

**HUCKABEE:** I don't think it disqualifies him. Let me surprise you with this. I think the purpose of states are always to be laboratories of government. I wrote about this in the book and I quote Justice Brandeis from 1932, who talked about states as laboratories.

**WALLACE:** But is socialized medicine good, conservative--

**HUCKABEE:** It's not a good plan, but he attempted something that he wanted to see would it work. You know, I think his answer ought to be not hey, it's not what I really did, it's different -- because it really isn't that much different. I don't think he ought to try to say, well, it's the same plan but they didn't implement it the right way. I mean, why doesn't he just say, we tried it, it didn't really work like we thought, but that's what states ought to do and I'm willing to take a risk. That's what leaders do.

I don't have a problem with a governor in any state taking risk, trying something bold. But if it doesn't work, for heaven's sakes, let's not put it in all 50 states.

**WALLACE:** Sarah Palin, Michele Bachmann and Rush Limbaugh have all criticized Michelle Obama anti-obesity campaign as a nanny state run amok. You say they're all wrong, and in fact that we should all be thanking the first lady.

**HUCKABEE:** I didn't say they're all wrong. Let's be real clear, because then it sounds like I'm in a war with Sarah Palin, Michele Bachmann and Rush Limbaugh, and I'm not. I'm just simply saying that what Michelle Obama is proposing is not that the government tells you that you can't eat desert.

Segment 1: Gov. Mitch Daniels, (R) Indiana



Then, a former presidential candidate releases a new book, which some believe could be the blueprint for an impending 2012 campaign. Mike Huckabee weighs in on the potential Republican field and his own political future.

Segment 2: Mike Huckabee, Former Presidential Candidate (R) / Host, FNC's "Huckabee"



#### Wallace Watch

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Possible Republican presidential candidate, and current Indiana governor, Mitch Daniels joined "Fox News Sunday" to discuss his political future, ...

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What Michelle Obama has proposed is that we recognize that we have a serious obesity crisis, which we do. Seventy-five percent of the military eligible kids going into the Army can't qualify for the physical because they're either overweight or obese and can't meet the minimum Army standards.

That's serious. This is no longer just a health issue, an economic issue. It is becoming an issue of national security.

**WALLACE:** We got less than two minutes left. I want to ask you about two things. Two issues that you are going to face if you get back into that process of all the gotchas that you say you dread. If you do run for president, one of the issues you're going face is conservative fiscal groups said that you were a big tax-and-spender as governor of Arkansas.

Let's put up part of your record. Taxes went up a net of \$500 million during your years as governor, including an increase in the sales tax, increase in the cigarette tax, and a 3 percent income tax surcharge.

**HUCKABEE:** That surcharge I did not support or sign, and I did sign its repeal. So that's a misnomer.

Secondly, the half million dollars sales tax was because of a court-ordered education case that we had to deal with.

**WALLACE:** But you had another sales tax increase when you came in as governor.

**HUCKABEE:** That was a one-eighth for conservation, which meant that we were able to dedicate a significant portion of funds for the preservation of the natural state, which is the state's motto, natural preserves.

It was supported by the voters. It was on the ballot. Did I support it? Yes. But you know what, so did the voters, and they voted for it.

Now, here's what I did do. Cut 94 taxes, the largest number of tax increases -- tax decreases in the history of the state.

And in addition to that, we did some tax policies that really helped people at the bottom. We eliminated the marriage penalty. We improved the child care tax credit. We made sure that we cut the capital gains tax so that businesses could afford to keep going. That's a record that I am proud of.

**WALLACE:** You're going to decide when?

**HUCKABEE:** I'm waiting to see what kind of reaction. This book is my message. This book is what I stand for and what I believe. I want people to say, you know what, that guy has got ideas we can live with. Or maybe they're going to say this guy is a crazy fool.

**WALLACE:** So if the book tanks, you're out?

**HUCKABEE:** Well, it's going to give me an idea. You know what, if you can't sell your own message, then chances are there is not a big constituency out there. And to run for president, you've got to have people who believe in what you stand for.

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February 26, 2011

**On This Day: February 27, 1991**

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