

# Mitt Romney: The Secret Video: August 2012

This video made the news in mid-September 2012 with [Mitt Romney](#), presidential candidate for the Republican party in the US for the November 2012 elections. It was filmed at an exclusive \$50,000-a-plate dinner for supporters, but became controversial for his apparent dismissal of 47% of Americans as being dependent on government handouts and therefore not likely to vote for him in the forthcoming US presidential elections.

The video is from the liberal [Mother Jones website](#). The transcript is from [NBCnews](#).

You can find the full video there.

Mitt Romney:

we speak with— with voters across the country about their perceptions. Those people I told you, the 5%, to 6% or 7% that we have to sort of bring on— on our side? They all voted for Barack Obama four years ago.

So— and, by the way, when you— when you say to them, “Do you think Barack Obama is a failure?” they overwhelmingly say, “No.” They like him.

But when you say, “Are you disappointed that his policies haven’t worked?” they say, “Yes.” And— and because they voted for him they don’t wanna be told that they were wrong. That he’s a bad guy. That he did bad things. That he’s corrupt.

The— these— those people that we have to get, they want to believe they did the right thing but he just wasn’t up to the task. They love the phrase that he’s over his head. But if

we're— when we— but, you see, you and I, we spend our day with Republicans. We spend our days with people who agree with us. And— and these people are people who voted for him and don't agree with us.

And— and so the things that animate us are not the things that animate them. And the— and the best success I have in speaking with those people is saying, you know, “The president's been a disappointment. He told you he'd keep unemployment below 8%. Hasn't been below 8% since.

“50% of kids coming out of school can't get a job. 50%. 50% of the kids in high school in our 50 largest cities won't graduate from high school.

What are they gonna do?” And the— these are the kinds of things that— that I can— I can say— to— to that audience that— that they nod they head and say, “Yeah, I think you're right.”

What he's gonna do, by the way, is try and vilify me as someone who's been successful. Or who's— or who's, you know, closed businesses or laid people off and this is an e— an evil bad guy. And that may work.