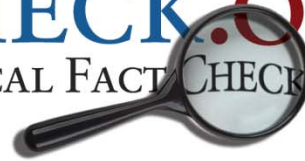




**FACTCHECK.ORG**  
ANNENBERG POLITICAL FACT CHECK



**JUST THE FACTS!**

**TITLE: "REZKO, REED, & REALITY"**

**EPISODE #: 32**

**HOST**

Welcome back to Just the Facts, the weekly vid-cast from FactCheck.org, I'm Emi Kolawole and we have a lot to cover this week so we're going to start with a little picture show:

**GRAPHIC: OBAMA BIRTH CERTIFICATE MONTAGE**

We've received more requests than we care to count from readers asking us to check and see if Illinois Senator Barack Obama's birth certificate is the real deal. Some have claimed the original scan cannot possibly be accurate because it fails to show a raised seal or a signature among other details people have cited in an attempt to prove the scan was not genuine. But we sent two staff members to Obama's campaign headquarters in Illinois to see for themselves. And they came back with these pictures, which show that Obama's birth certificate has a raised seal, signature, and everything the U.S. State Department requires to prove U.S. citizenship by birth.

**HOST**

So, in the words of The Boss, Barack Obama was "born in the USA." For more on this be sure to check out our detailed report at [www.factcheck.org](http://www.factcheck.org).

**VIDEO: OBAMA AD "NEVER"**

**HOST**

This next ad from the Obama campaign ties disgraced Christian Coalition leader and former Jack Abramoff associate Ralph Reed to John McCain:

**ANNOUNCER**

But when the Senate investigated, the senator in charge never even called Reed to testify. And that senator? John McCain. And who's now raising money for McCain's campaign? Ralph Reed.

**HOST**

There's a lot missing from this ad. It's true McCain never hauled Reed in front of the

Senate Indian Affairs Committee while investigating Abramoff. But McCain's , report tht high-lighted details of Reed's lobbying for casinos was both personally and professionally devastating for Reed. And, as for his fundraising for McCain? McCain has said: "I neither seek nor want his support."

#### **VIDEO: JOHN MCCAIN AD "HOUSING PROBLEM"**

But the guilt-by-association finger-pointing doesn't stop there. This next ad from the McCain campaign attempts to counteract the political fall-out of McCain's multiple homes by highlighting Obama's history with Antoin "Tony" Rezko:

#### **ANNOUNCER**

One of his "biggest fundraisers" helped him buy his million-dollar mansion. Purchasing part of the property he couldn't afford. From Obama, Rezko got "political favors" including "\$14 million from taxpayers."

#### **HOST**

It's true that the Obamas bought a plot of land from Rezko's wife, to extend their existing property line. But she sold it for a profit, and the Obama's paid market value for their home. In fact, they had to raise their bid twice before the seller would agree. And as for the \$14 million "favor," that was to build low-income senior citizen housing. And both Rezko and Obama say Rezko never requested the letter Obama in favor of the project.

#### **VIDEO: MCCAIN AD "TINY"**

Now, in this next ad from John McCain, the quote butcher strikes again:

#### **ANNOUNCER**

Obama says Iran is a "tiny" country, "doesn't pose a serious threat."

#### **GRAPHIC: OBAMA QUOTES COMPARISON**

#### **HOST**

Now, let's listen to what Obama actually said:

#### **VIDEO: OBAMA OREGON RALLY**

#### **OBAMA**

I mean think about it. Iran, Cuba, Venezuela – these countries are tiny compared to the Soviet Union. They don't pose a serious threat to us the way the Soviet Union posed a threat to us.

**HOST**

For the record, Obama is factually correct. The former Soviet Union had over seven thousand nuclear warheads attached to intercontinental ballistic missiles. Iran still has no nuclear weapons.

**GRAPHIC: OBAMA AIPAC QUOTES**

Furthermore, in a speech to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee Obama said “the danger from Iran is grave” and “real” and that his goal would be to “eliminate the threat.” For more on these ad attacks, and to read about our take on the “infanticide” debate, be sure to check out our website at [www.factcheck.org](http://www.factcheck.org). I’m Emi Kolawole, thanks for watching. And see you next week.