

A Few minutes with the Boss

By: Joseph Andalina

Editorials: Not for us

Still they go on—the seemingly never-ending editorials from newspapers, policy, and union groups demanding pension reform. Their heads are swollen with the thinking that somehow we, as public sector workers, have to fix this. We have to pay up to resolve the screw ups and ineptness of the government. That includes state and local leaders, too.

After all, it was their decision to divert pension money, reduce it by actuarial studies, or maybe even just forget about their contributions. Let some other sap politician down the road worry about it. My, my, my.

Even when the press does acknowledge that the politicians are at fault, the onus and burden are still on our backs. Doesn't seem fair, does it? And still the press rants about the poor public. Forgetting that yes, we, the public sector worker, are part of that public.

They lament that the poor public whoever they are don't like that the workers who clean up all their garbage and make their lives better received some pay raises while many in the private sector have endured years of no raises and have even seen health costs rise.

Hello? Hello? What are they talking about? Is it not common knowledge that many cops and public workers have gotten laid off? Wages frozen? Concessions? Increases in our health care and pension costs have risen, too. The press is so disingenuous it makes me gag.

Then I read in the *Chicago Tribune* how the taxpayers have sacrificed with a 67 percent hike in their income tax. That just about made me hurl.

Did they for a moment consider that **all** public sector workers still working or laid off, or gave concessions or took a pay freeze, have sacrificed also because they too have to suffer that 67 percent tax hike? Does the press think we got a freebie on that?

It's still their desire to influence policy and shift the blame to obtain their own jaded idea of reform. Well, how are these editorial pinheads doing? Financially troubled, or they just diverting attention away from themselves? Seems to be a common tactic nowadays.

Anyway, I just returned from Disney World! I saw no sad faces there. And I saw lots of wallets out. Maybe everyone who still has a job or a salary or a pension was there. They can't all be doctors, lawyers, or drug dealers.

Write your representatives, folks. Don't let them destroy your pension. Election time is upon us.

Vita è bella