

REVIEW—BARRON'S

They Said What?

We asked the experts: How should the U.S. tame its budget deficit?

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In the final minutes of the final debate between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, the focus turned to cutting the national debt. Neither had a complete plan.

How should the U.S. tame its budget deficit?

Don Rissmiller

Chief economist, Strategas Research Partners

The best way to address the budget issue is to pursue pro-growth policies that keep the American economy near full employment and help boost productivity and potential gross domestic product.

David A. Levy

Chairman, Jerome Levy Forecasting Center

Fiscal tightening in the next few years would probably backfire...There'd be trouble if rates rise, return expectations fall, or systemic financial problems emerge. The federal budget would widen, regardless.

Douglas A. Kass

President, Seabreeze Partners Management

Taming the deficit requires fundamental cooperation between the parties. It's difficult to envision a smooth, calm, and undivided election outcome, even if...Hillary Clinton's victory is expected to be quite large.

Jonathan Golub

Chief U.S. market strategist, RBC Capital Markets

We need to have an honest conversation on how we can logically expect the government to provide [beneficiaries'] retirement benefits potentially decades after their retirement dates.

That's the starting place, and we can't make this up in higher taxes.

— *Lawrence C. Strauss and Avi Salzman*