

Gene Sperling – Biography

Gene Sperling previously served as Director of the National Economic Council and National Economic Advisor to President Clinton. He currently serves as a Senior Economic Advisor to Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

As Director of the National Economic Council, he was in charge of coordinating the President's economic cabinet on both domestic and international economic issues. Mr. Sperling played a lead role in the 1993 Deficit Reduction Act, the 1997 Balanced Budget Agreement, the expansion of such key Clinton initiatives as the Earned Income Tax Credit, a doubling off Head Start funding, higher education tax relief, debt relief for poor nations, and the creation of the New Markets Tax Credit and the GEAR UP Early Mentoring program.

Mr. Sperling currently is a Senior Fellow at the Center for American Progress and is a Bloomberg columnist and commentator. He has spoken on economic issues on such outlets as Bloomberg Television, CNN's Late Edition, Meet the Press, This Week, Good Morning America, CNBC and NPR ' Marketplace, All Things Considered and morning Edition. For four years Mr. Sperling was also a consultant and contributing writer for the television show *The West Wing*.

Mr. Sperling also plays a prominent role in policy analysis and advocacy for education for children in Africa and other poor nations, as founder and Director of the Center for Universal Education at the Council of Foreign Relations. In this same field, he also serves as Co-Chair of the Education Partnership for Children of Conflict; Chair of Global Campaign for Education, US Chapter, and head of the Education Track at the Clinton Global Initiative.

He is the author of the book *The Pro-Growth Progressive: An Economic Strategy for Shared Prosperity* (Simon & Schuster) and his article, "Rising Tide Economics," appears in the fall 2007 issue of *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*. Over the last six years, he has published articles calling for a Universal 401 (k) in such publications as the *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and *Financial Times*. He is also co-author of "What Works in Girls Education: Evidence and Policies from the Developing World" (Council on Foreign Relations 2004).

Mr. Sperling graduated from the University of Minnesota, *summa cum laude*, in 1982, received his J.D. at Yale Law School in 1985, where he was Senior Editor of the Yale Law Journal, and also attended Wharton Business School. He lives in Washington D.C. with his wife, Allison Abner, and their two children.

While Mr. Sperling is affiliated with two think tanks and several organizations, he will be speaking only in his personal capacity.