

O'BRIEN GREENE & CO.

i n v e s t m e n t a d v i s o r s

[Home](#) | [Who We Are](#) | [Straightforward Investing](#) | [Working With Us](#) | [Retirement Plans](#) | [Commentary](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Client Portal](#)



Who We Are

About O'Brien Greene
and Our History



Philosophy

Straightforward
investing with O'Brien
Greene



Strategy

Working with O'Brien
Greene

Straightforward Investing Since 1969

The investment advisory firm of O'Brien Greene & Co. provides independent investment management to a diverse clientele. Individuals, families, and corporate retirement plans make up the majority of clients, although longtime clients also include trusts, insurance companies, and charitable endowments. We seek the preservation and growth of capital through good and bad markets, and our investment strategy emphasizes several themes: simple, transparent, separate accounts; direct ownership of high-quality stocks and investment-grade bonds; diversification across the market; customized portfolios with a high degree of personal attention. The firm has more than \$270 million under management and its offices are located in suburban Philadelphia in the borough of Media, Pennsylvania.

Review & Outlook

Our take on the investing, financial, & economic themes of the day

Update on the Economic and Investment Outlook for May 13, 2019

14 May, 2019 by Mark O'Brien in [Commentary](#)

As I begin this update, the Dow is off 700 points. The drop is not as scary as that number might suggest. With the numerical base of the stock market now at 26,000, or thereabouts, a 700-point drop represents about 3%. For comparison, the Great Stock Market Crash of October 19, 1987, when the Dow lost 508 points, represented a 22% decline. The market had a much smaller base then. So it's the percentages, not the points, you want to watch. But a three percentage point drop is scary enough. That's because it follows on the heels of a 500 point-drop, or 2 percentage points, exactly one week ago. Three percentage points here and two percentage points there, these sell-offs add up. This is not the trend we want to see. What's behind the 700 and 500 point drops? The President threatens a trade war with China. To be sure, his threats (in the form of social media "tweets") lack the dignity of great statesmanship, but the underlying problem has been going on for a long time, and ... [read more...](#)

Beware Good News

8 May, 2019 by Mark O'Brien in [Commentary](#)

Beware good news. Yesterday's 450 point drop in the Dow is a good example of what can happen next. But first the good news part. On Saturday, May 4, 2019 I open my copy of the weekend edition of the Wall Street Journal and behold banner headlines: "The jobless rate hits a 50-year low." Now

this is good news, I thought, the market should really do well next week. The market had of course done well all year, up well over 15% year to date, but this bit about low unemployment looked like break-out material. We know what happened next. The President tweeted threats to the Chinese government that it had better play by the rules of international trade or else, where the "else" would mean tariffs as high as 25% on Chinese goods. This threat precipitated yesterday's 450 point drop. Fear of an all-out trade war, long-simmering just below the surface, broke out again, as investors took counsel of their worst fears. I don't think the President's tweet will lead to a trade war. [read more](#)

