

Snapshot

The man is not an asshole,
and indeed something of an antiasshole.
For many progressives, this is a problem, as we
can see from their objections: he pulls back from
using the powers he clearly has; he fails to
respond to the opposition, allowing it to define
the debate; he is too eager to listen, to
understand, so as not to offend, to the point
of being dragged away from his convictions
by people stubborn in theirs; he makes
preemptive concessions in approaching the
bargaining table and then further concessions
down the line; he favors compromised policies
that absorb everyone's concerns and that
do much less good than they could.
In short, progressives wish Obama
could behave a lot more like an asshole.

Barack Obama portrayed by Aaron James