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Poll of the American Public

August 19, 2010

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: May 14-25, 2010
Sample Size: 598

Margin of Error: +/- 4.0 percentage points

STATEMENT: This study is being conducted by a University program to better understand citizens' views of government.

Q1 to be released separately.

Q2. In general, how well do you think elected officials in the Federal government understand the views of most Americans:

	5/10	5/99
Very well.....	3%	5%
Republicans.....	1	
Democrats	5	
Independents	3	
Somewhat well.....	30	30
Republicans.....	21	
Democrats	41	
Independents	24	
Not that well.....	42	33
Republicans.....	41	
Democrats	44	
Independents	40	
Not well at all	25	31
Republicans.....	37	
Democrats	10	
Independents	32	
Refused/Don't know	1	2

Q3 through Q14-GP1 to be released separately.

Q14-GA2. Would you say this country is pretty much:

	05/10	WPO 1/08
Run by a few big interests looking out for themselves	81%	80%
Republicans.....	86	
Democrats	76	
Independents	83	
Run for the benefit of all the people	17	19
Republicans.....	13	
Democrats	21	
Independents	17	
Refused/Don't know	2	1

Q15. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statement: The goal of Congress should be to make the decisions that the majority of Americans would make if they had the information and time to think things over that Congress has.

	5/10	5/99
Agree.....	84%	85%
Republicans.....	84	
Democrats	86	
Independents	78	
Disagree	14	12
Republicans.....	13	
Democrats	13	
Independents	19	
Refused/Don't know	2	3

Q16-GA3a. How much is this country governed according to the will of the people? Please answer on a scale of 0-10 with 0 meaning "not at all" and 10 meaning "completely."

	5/10	WPO 1/08
Mean	3.8	4.0
Republicans.....	3.5	
Democrats	4.3	
Independents	3.6	

Median	4.0	4.0
Republicans.....	3.0	
Democrats	5.0	
Independents	4.0	xx

Q17-GA3b: Using the same scale, how much do you think this country should be governed according to the will of the people?

		WPO
	5/10	1/08
Mean	7.5	7.9
Republicans.....	7.6	
Democrats	7.4	
Independents	7.4	
Median	8.0	8.0
Republicans.....	8.0	
Democrats	7.0	
Independents	8.0	

Q18 through Q31 to be released separately.

Q32-F33. Which concerns you more about the government?

		5/10
It is becoming too big	23%	
Republicans.....	44	
Democrats	9	
Independents	12	
It is not following the will of the people.....	54	
Republicans.....	46	
Democrats	62	
Independents	54	
Neither.....	21	
Republicans.....	9	
Democrats	27	
Independents	32	
Refused/Don't know	2	

Q33 through Q36 to be released separately.

Q37-F30. In regard to the Tea Party protests that have sprung up around the country over the last year would, how would you say you feel about them:

5/10

Very sympathetic	19%
Republicans.....	38
Democrats	5
Independents	11
Somewhat sympathetic	33
Republicans.....	37
Democrats	28
Independents	38
Somewhat unsympathetic	22
Republicans.....	16
Democrats	29
Independents	21
Very unsympathetic	18
Republicans.....	4
Democrats	32
Independents	18
Refused/Don't know	7

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Age

	5/10
18-29	22%
30-44	26
45-59	28
60+	24

D2. Education

	5/10
Less than high school.....	13%
High school	31
Some college.....	28
Bachelor's degree or higher	27

D3. Race

	5/10
White, Non-Hispanic	69%
Black, Non-Hispanic.....	11
Other, Non-Hispanic	6
Hispanic	14
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	1

D4. Gender

	5/10
Male	48%
Female.....	52

D5. We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Presented below is a 7-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged. Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about this?

	5/10
Extremely liberal.....	2%
Liberal	9
Slightly liberal.....	9
Moderate or middle of the road	22
Slightly conservative.....	12
Conservative	18
Extremely conservative.....	5
Haven't thought about it	21
Refused	2

D6. Are you a registered voter?

5/10

Yes 84%

No.....15

Refused/Don't know1

D7. Did you vote for a candidate for President in the last election in 2008?

5/10

Yes 76%

No.....23

Refused/Don't know1

Question D8 to be released separately.

D9. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a:

5/10

Republican 28%

Independent.....20

Democrat.....32

Other2

No preference.....17

Refused*

[ASK ONLY THOSE WHO SAY "INDEPENDENT" "OTHER OR "NO PREFERENCE"]

D9a. Do you think of yourself as closer to the:

5/10

Republican Party 25%

Democratic Party23

Neither.....50

Refused2

D9-D9a. Party ID

5/10

Republican 38%

Independent.....21

Democrat.....42