Elected Wants and Community Reality The TEA Party Effect Conservatism on Steroids

Chairman Steve Brown - Administrator Steve Rapson











Tea Party Running the Show in Georgia County

"Most of Fayette County's elected leaders are Tea Partiers, shedding light on how Tea Party reformers -- **if given full control** -- might shape public policy and overhaul Republican politics at the local level."

April 2013 http://www.governing.com/topics/politics/gov-tea-party-running-show-in-georgia-county.html#previous

"Tea Party supporters are wealthier and more well-educated than the general public."

FACT: Fayette median household income is about \$81,000.

New York Times/CBS News poll, April 14, 2010 http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/15/us/politics/15poll.html?ref=teapartymovement& r=0



"Tea Party supporters tend to be Republican, white, male, married and older than 45."

New York Times/CBS News poll, April 14, 2010



That would be us!

Four newbies and one former gov't official

"They are also more likely to describe themselves as 'very conservative."

New York Times/CBS News poll, April 14, 2010





2012

Over \$7 Billion in Sales Tax

\$8 Million Public Relations Campaign





\$20,000 for advertising (10 counties)

More knowledge, better message

TEA Party – Community Reality

- More collaborative (Sierra Club/NAACP)
- More passionate about our values
- More grassroots
- Not intimidated by powerful State leaders
- Able to force change in the system

TEA Party – Elected Wants

2013 – TEA Party Majority Elected

- Fiscal responsibility
- Open/transparent government
- Maintain community character

TEA Party – Community Reality

- Stopped deficit spending
- Built efficiency in government
- More respect for the constituents
- More transparent government
- Independent thought leaders

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TEA Party – The Hard Part

- Can be uncompromising
- "Too open" for most gov't administrators
- Longer meetings/more public speech
- Can isolate themselves from Republicans and Democrats
- Don't make good politicians

Questions/Comments?

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