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Who Elected Scott Brown and Bob McDonnell? Well, You Know That It Was You And Me...

Nick Gillespie | April 20, 2010

Writing at Politico, David Boaz and David Kirby explain the "centrist" swing vote that seems to be eluding definition by the MSM:

A careful look at polling data shows these voters may be less mysterious than analysts think.

Libertarians seem to be a leading indicator of this trend in centrist, independent-minded voters, based on an analysis of many years of polling data. We estimate that libertarians compose from 14 percent to 23 percent of voters nationally. They are among the few real swing voters in U.S. politics.

Libertarian voters are often torn between their aversion to the Republicans' social conservatism and the Democrats' fiscal irresponsibility.

These days, they are angry about spending, deficits and government takeovers — but less motivated by social issues. Libertarians are slightly more likely to be male, white, independent and moderate than the general public.

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robc | 4.20.10 @ 9:45AM | #

If Republicans make big gains in 2010 with libertarian votes, we could be hearing about a "libertarian revolution."

Nope. Isnt gonna happen.

[reply to this](#)

robc | 4.20.10 @ 9:46AM | #

The big gains probably will, but it being labeled a libertarian revolution wont.

[reply to this](#)

MP | 4.20.10 @ 9:48AM | #

More Libertarian optimism. I'm too jaded at this point.

[reply to this](#)

Dec 31, 2010,
if not sooner.
How can I preserve
my legacy and
promote liberty at
the same time?

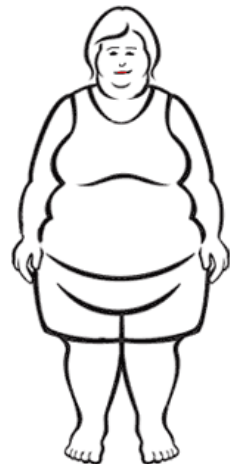
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1 Rule of a flat stomach :

Cut down a bit of your stomach fat every day by obeying this 1 weird old rule.



Tip



Suriously | 4.20.10 @ 9:53AM | #
Everyone's a libertarian as far as cutting the government benefits of others go.

http://www.boston.com/news/loc.....ing_views/

My favorite excerpt:

"When asked why her family used state-subsidized health care when she criticized people who take handouts, Valerie Shirk said she did not want to stop having children, and that her husband's income was not enough to cover the family with private insurance.

"I know there's a dichotomy because of what we get from the state," she said. "But I just look at each of my children as a blessing."

reply to this

JohnD | 4.20.10 @ 10:10AM | #
Your blessing is my curse! Stupid bitch.

reply to this

Dan T. | 4.20.10 @ 9:54AM | #
Just "slightly" more likely to be white and male than the general public?

Good one! I needed a laugh this morning.

reply to this

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 9:58AM | #
What 'cha laughing at? I, for one, am proud to be more male (if only slightly) than the general public.

reply to this

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:00AM | #
To be exact, I have 47 percent more testicles than the average American.

reply to this

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:01AM | #
As for Dan T., I'm guessing 13 - 17 percent, tops.

reply to this

Suriously | 4.20.10 @ 10:07AM | #
Oh, get a room and compare each others balls, you freaks.

reply to this

Sir Groovus Maximus | 4.20.10 @ 10:22AM | #
Indeed. Let's hope CN doesn't have elephantiasis.

reply to this

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:24AM | #
Only 47 percent more than average, SGM. That's all I'm claimin'.

reply to this

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:27AM | #
And given that the Average American has slightly less than one, I don't think my claim should be so hard to believe.

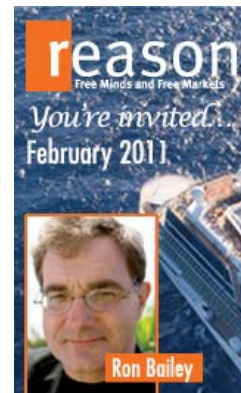
reply to this

Xeones | 4.20.10 @ 9:57AM | #
Libertarians are slightly more likely to be male, white, independent and moderate than the general public.

Racists, all of 'em! Right, Dan T.?

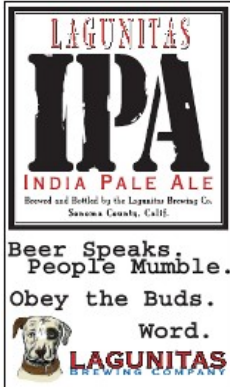


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[reply to this](#)

Dan T. | 4.20.10 @ 9:59AM | #

Not necessarily racists, but white males tend to have the required \$\$ and "I did it all myself" attitude that defines libertarians.

Besides, white males probably make up 25% of the American population. Do you think 75% of libertarians are women or minorities? Really?

[reply to this](#)

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:04AM | #

You're right Dan T. I've got mine, so fuck the little people!!

You can have 'em!!! Go do whatever the fuck you want to with 'em!!! Fuck, saddle 'em with Obamacare for all I care! No skin off my ass!!!!

Bwahahaha!

[reply to this](#)

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:06AM | #

Actually, why the fuck do we rich, self-made libertarians even bother to come here and decry "injustice"?

Oh, that's right -- we're trying to save an extra 2 - 3 percent on our marginal tax rates. Carry on.

[reply to this](#)

John | 4.20.10 @ 10:09AM | #

Because brown people never have any money or any kind of a self reliant attitude.

My God that was a racist comment. So racist that I think Reason should delete it as offensive.

[reply to this](#)

JohnD | 4.20.10 @ 10:12AM | #

Contrary to popular belief, people do NOT have the right to not be offended.

[reply to this](#)

John | 4.20.10 @ 10:14AM | #

I know that. But if Reason had such a policy, Dan T's only white men are self reliant comment would qualify.

[reply to this](#)

Groovus Maximus | 4.20.10 @ 10:25AM | #

It was in poor taste, but that is the type of comment in the real world that **will** get your ass kicked (deservedly so). It is also misogynistic because Dan T. neglected to include women (of any ethnicity) in his blanket statement.

You are the foulest of creatures Dan T.

[reply to this](#)

virginia | 4.20.10 @ 10:14AM | #

offensive

offensive + senile?

[reply to this](#)

Pro Libertate | 4.20.10 @ 10:05AM | #

I'm not sure about any truly libertarian surge, but there's certainly a major wave of anti-government sentiment growing. Where that will lead is anyone's guess at this point. Reminds me somewhat of the lead up to the Reagan election.

[reply to this](#)

Suriously | 4.20.10 @ 10:11AM | #

Which led to unprecedented government, debt, and deficit enlargement.

Yeah, go Reagan!

[reply to this](#)

John | 4.20.10 @ 10:11AM | #

It is not a libertarian surge. I don't think they want to radically reduce the size and scope of government the way doctrinaire Libertarians do. They would just like to reduce to maybe 1980s levels, which to the media makes them some kind of radical.

[reply to this](#)

Suriously | 4.20.10 @ 10:23AM | #

I don't think that raising taxes, increasing the deficit and the size of the government would be popular with the taxed enough already crowd.

Remember, Reagan's speeches and his actual policies were vastly different.

[reply to this](#)

John | 4.20.10 @ 10:26AM | #

Reagan didn't raise taxes in 1982 nearly as much as he cut them in 1980. And the 1986 tax reform was the best start at a flat tax the government has ever had.

Seriously, if you are going to talk about history, at least try to know the facts.

[reply to this](#)

John | 4.20.10 @ 10:27AM | #

Do they even teach history in schools anymore?

[reply to this](#)

Groovus Maximus | 4.20.10 @ 10:29AM | #

Hell John, remember in the Clinton Years, "A cut isn't really a cut".

We're not spending as much as budgeted, even though the amount we are spending is more than last year's budget. And the press had kittens over that stuff.

[reply to this](#)

Suriously | 4.20.10 @ 10:05AM | #

The reason so many white heterosexual males are in the tea party movement is because they've finally realized that the US government and corporate America don't give a fuck about them and see them as grist for the mill.

Everyone else figured that out a long time ago, but white and straight males were privileged for a long time, so it took them a while to understand that they are just as disposable as the rest of us.

[reply to this](#)

JohnD | 4.20.10 @ 10:14AM | #

White, straight males will NOT be easy to dispose of. I will not go peacefully or quietly.

[reply to this](#)

CoyoteBlue | 4.20.10 @ 10:26AM | #

See, they've been fairly successful at keeping the urban brown people from owning guns (for their own good, of course). But the crackers keep clinging to their guns.

[reply to this](#)

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:14AM | #

Scott Adams has a nice line, something like -- yes, the world is ruled by a group of white men, but 99.999 percent of white men aren't a part of that group.

[reply to this](#)

Seriously | 4.20.10 @ 10:26AM | #

A lot of white, straight men think that they are.

Deficits are OK as long as a white, wanna-be cowboy rack them up.

When an uppity community organizer took over and did the same, that's when they decided to go out and protest.

[reply to this](#)

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:31AM | #

So seriously, Seriously, do you think that if Colin Powell had won the Republican nomination and had continued the Bush policies, the tea partiers would still be on the street?

[reply to this](#)

TP | 4.20.10 @ 10:16AM | #

Libertarian voters are often torn between their aversion to the Republicans' social conservatism and the Democrats' fiscal irresponsibility.

Yeah, and the War on Terror, the Patriot Act, detainees, the wars in the Middle East, where do Libertarians stand on those issues?

And since when are the republicans fiscally responsible? And speaking of social conservatism, what about all of the "Nanny State" crap the Democrats are pushing through? These people just don't get it. Not even close.

[reply to this](#)

Bilbo | 4.20.10 @ 10:19AM | #

The white males were more likely taught responsibility and self reliance. They were taught that they were important. Now, in a feminized America, they realize their importance is to be worker ants and warriors, and give their production to the colony, and to listen to women complain.

Women did not march on Trenton on a cold Christmas eve in 1777 to get the right to vote. It was handed to them, without them firing a shot. Now that's power!

[reply to this](#)

Citizen Nothing | 4.20.10 @ 10:22AM | #

Sounds like Bilbo misses the good ol' days when you could slap your broad around when she got mouthy.

[reply to this](#)

grrgle | 4.20.10 @ 10:31AM | #

um yeah handed to them 150 years later, but whatever.

[reply to this](#)

P Brooks | 4.20.10 @ 10:30AM | #

Libertarian voters are often torn between their aversion to the Republicans' ~~social conservatism~~ fiscal irresponsibility and the Democrats' fiscal irresponsibility.

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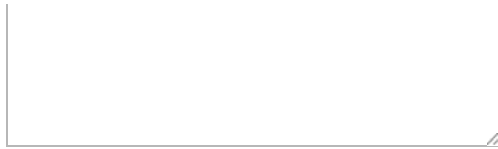
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