

FixUS – Restoring America Now



The background of the image is a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in a warm, reddish-brown color palette. The text is centered over a white rectangular area.

It's time for us to engage in a
conversation about how to **make**
healing our fractured nation a *top*
national priority – *FixUs at 33777*



OUR GOAL

Make healing our fractured nation and fixing our broken political system a *top national priority that our leaders cannot ignore.*

OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

- ★ Healing our divided nation is the defining challenge of our time
- ★ Extremism on both sides of the political divide have led America into a deepening crisis
- ★ A revitalized citizenry is the key to fixing our broken political system and preparing our nation to face the serious challenges ahead
- ★ We value compromise over conflict, discussion over divisiveness, and progress over partisanship
- ★ Americans share a common destiny; working together we can secure a future of freedom, justice and prosperity for future generations

THREAT FROM WITHIN



“

When I walked out of the Pentagon after 28 years in uniform, I never thought I'd say this, but what is going on politically in America today is a far graver threat than any our nation faced during my career, including the Soviet Union. And it's because this threat is here and now, right at home, and it's coming from within us. I guess the irony of being a great nation is the only power who can bring you down is yourself.

- Colonel Mark Mykleby, *USMC (Retired)*

(Source: The New York Times 10/2/18)



OUR NATION IS AT A CROSSROADS

PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON

FOUR GREATEST THREATS



- ★ **Hyper-Partisanship**
- ★ **Foreign Intervention in Domestic Affairs**
- ★ **Fiscal Irresponsibility**
- ★ **Absence of Civic Education**

AMERICA FACES DAUNTING CHALLENGES

LOSING FAITH IN INSTITUTIONS



78%

of Americans believe it's important
that Republicans and Democrats
work together

19%

think they're doing a good job of it



Trust in...

The Presidency
is down 54%

Congress is
down 81%



Essential to live in a democracy?

72% of those born in 1930s think
so... compared to **30%** of millennials
(those born since 1980)

EXHAUSTED MAJORITY

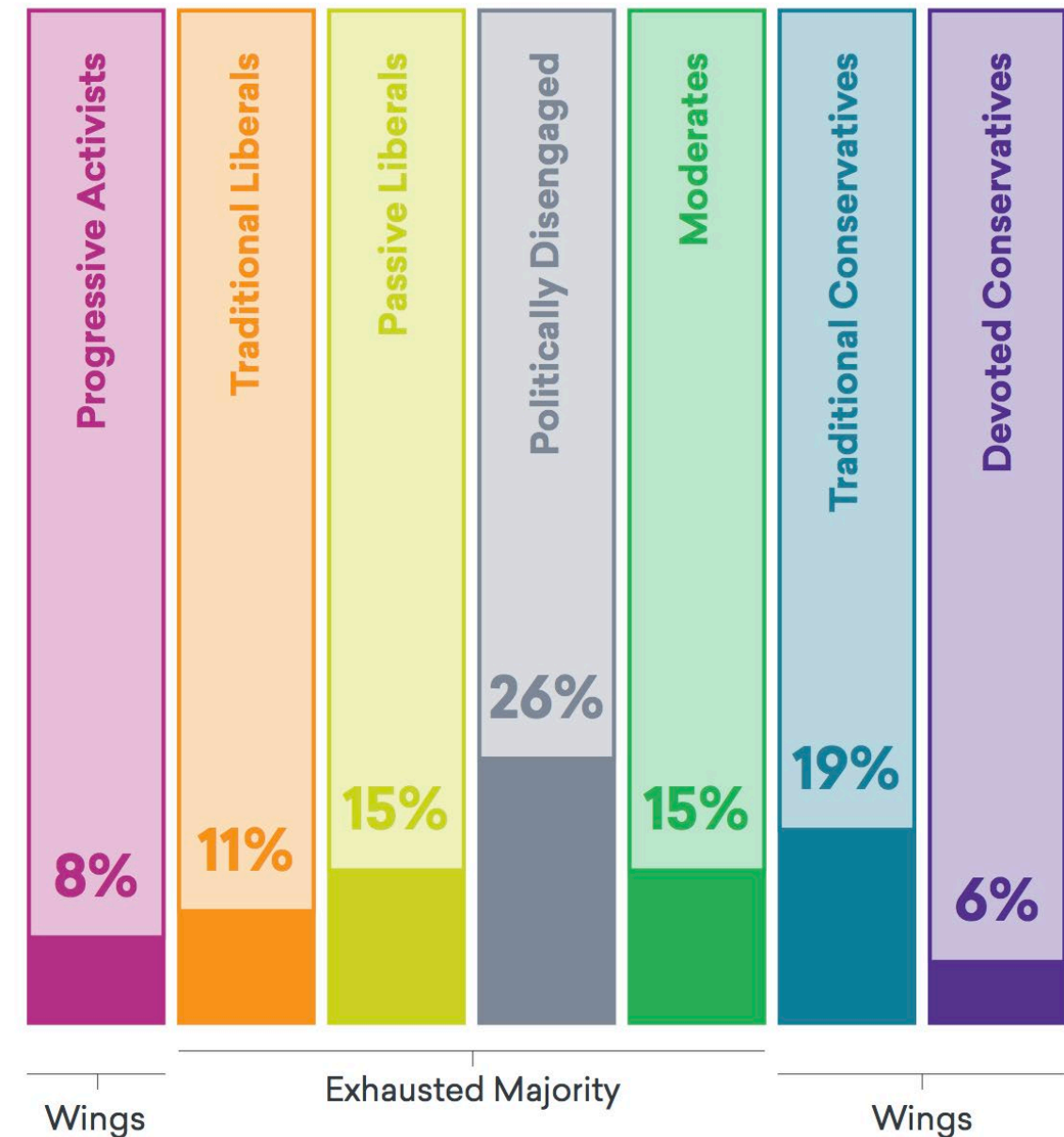


Members of the Exhausted Majority are considerably more ideologically flexible than members of other groups. While members of the “wing” groups (on both the left and the right) tend to hold strong and consistent views across a range of political issues, those in the Exhausted Majority tend to deviate significantly in their views from issue to issue.

- More in Common, 10/18

(Source: More in Common)

The Hidden Tribes of America





A STUDY OF AMERICA'S POLARIZED LANDSCAPE

MORE IN COMMON SURVEY



**Progressive
Activists**

8%

Younger, highly
engaged, secular,
cosmopolitan, angry

**Traditional
Liberals**

11%

Older, retired, open
to compromise,
rational, cautious

**Passive
Liberals**

15%

Unhappy, insecure,
distrustful,
disillusioned

**Politically
Disengaged**

26%

Young, low income,
distrustful, detached,
patriotic

Moderate

15%

Engaged, civic-minded,
middle-of-the-road,
pessimistic, Protestant

**Traditional
Conservatives**

19%

Religious, middle
class, patriotic,
moralistic

**Devoted
Conservatives**

6%

White, retired, highly
engaged, uncompromising,
patriotic



OUR NATION IS AT A CROSSROADS

CONSEQUENCES OF THE CURRENT PATH



- ★ **Paralysis** in Washington **on critical issues**
- ★ Policy **instability and uncertainty**
- ★ **Vulnerable** to foreign influence
- ★ Rising public **discord and unrest**
- ★ **Disenchantment** with government and democracy

HOW DID WE GET HERE?



87% of Americans say *political polarization* is threatening our way of life

ECONOMIC

- ★ Growing economic disparities
- ★ Anxiety over rapid economic changes in technology, globalization, and the gig economy
- ★ Frustration over lack of upward mobility
- ★ System viewed as “rigged” or “corrupt”

POLITICAL

- ★ Politicians incented not to solve problems, due to gerrymandered districts, partisan primaries, etc.
- ★ Increased money in politics skews the system
- ★ Congressional rules encourage partisanship
- ★ Ideological polarization of parties

SOCIAL & CULTURAL

- ★ Fragmented and polarized media and social media environment
- ★ Persistent racial, ethnic, and geographic divides
- ★ Rising social isolation and decline of religious and civic institutions
- ★ Declining civility and civil discourse

THE GOOD NEWS A MOVEMENT IS BLOSSOMING



Efforts devoted to:

- ★ Supporting candidates and elected officials who have committed to working in a bipartisan manner to solve problems
- ★ Reforming the incentives of our political system, including but not limited to:
 - ★ Redistricting reform
 - ★ Electoral and primary reform
 - ★ Ballot access changes
 - ★ Campaign finance reform
- ★ Advancing bipartisan economic policies to address the structural trends contributing to economic anxiety
- ★ Promoting cultural and societal changes, including:
 - ★ More civility in political and public discourse
 - ★ Enhanced civic engagement and education
 - ★ New or improved media platforms to give voice to the ideologically homeless

A GROUNDSWELL OF EFFORTS



Affinity partners:



OPENPRIMARIES



ABRAHAM LINCOLN



“It is not ‘can any of us
imagine better?’ but,
‘can we all do better?’

- Annual Message to Congress, December 1, 1862

WHAT YOU CAN DO

JOIN FixUS



★ Sign up by texting **FixUS** to **33777** or going to **www.FixUSNow.org** and receive opportunities to:

- ★ Help identify and learn about our political problems & possible fixes
- ★ Join discussions about these issues with like-minded Americans (in person event, online, teleconferences)
- ★ Connect you with organizations and efforts trying to heal our divides
- ★ Engage your local community on these issues (via letters to the editor, hosting events, and recruiting others to join)