

In Defense of the Tea Party

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Just as the original Tea Party of December 1773 changed the course of America, the tea party movement of 2009 made a dramatic impact on U.S. politics. The 1773 Tea Party led to two documents that are revered by the tea party of 2009: the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution.

Any political or social movement will come under attack by its detractors. So did the tea party.

The spark that started the current tea party was “Taxed Enough Already”, hence, TEA. Many Americans were tired of the ever-growing government demanding more of their hard-earned property. This unrest finally coalesced into thousands of individual grass roots groups throughout the country. It was not regional. It occurred in blue and red states.

Interwoven in the tax issues was the realization that the U.S. Constitution was being ignored and even assaulted.

The missions of the thousands of tea parties general agree on a few principles:

- Smaller government
- Lower Taxes
- Rule of Law
- Honor the U.S. Constitution
- National sovereignty and security

In the past 5 years, this has not changed, although some groups have added other drivers to their organizations, e.g., voter fraud, pro-life issues, energy, immigration. All these issues focus on some violation of the U.S. Constitution.

Has the Tea Party lost its momentum?...Not at all. In the early years, we were very visible at tax rallies and protest gatherings. Today's tea parties are more organized.

Calling the Tea Party “toxic” or “racist” is ridiculous in today's terminology. In contrast, we are good for the nation because we defend the liberty of all, regardless of color. In fact, we are more inclusive than our liberal friends.

Political Correctness is rampant amongst the left as they try to silence reputable movements. Liberals are the masters of moving language to accommodate public perception. How has the NAACP lasted so long with “Colored People” in its name? Are Roman Catholics to change their name because of their negative press. Of course not. Yes, many great conservative tea party groups do not have tea party in their name, but have similar principles.

The "Tea Party" is amorphous, leader less, passionate, law abiding.... We are not anarchists, like the Occupy Wall Street groups. We leave our rally grounds cleaner than when we found them.... Again, unlike the Occupy groups. Criticism.... To older people wisdom is said to come with age. Enthusiasm is common among the young; measure of the passion of the tea party movement is that the older generation is taking up the charge.

We have a challenge of getting the word out [i.e., communications] about our events, our opinions, and our efforts.

To fulfill our mission, we need to compete with the successful efforts of our liberal friends by networking and communicating with our own conservative groups.