



How Can We Reunite this Country and Get Government to Work?

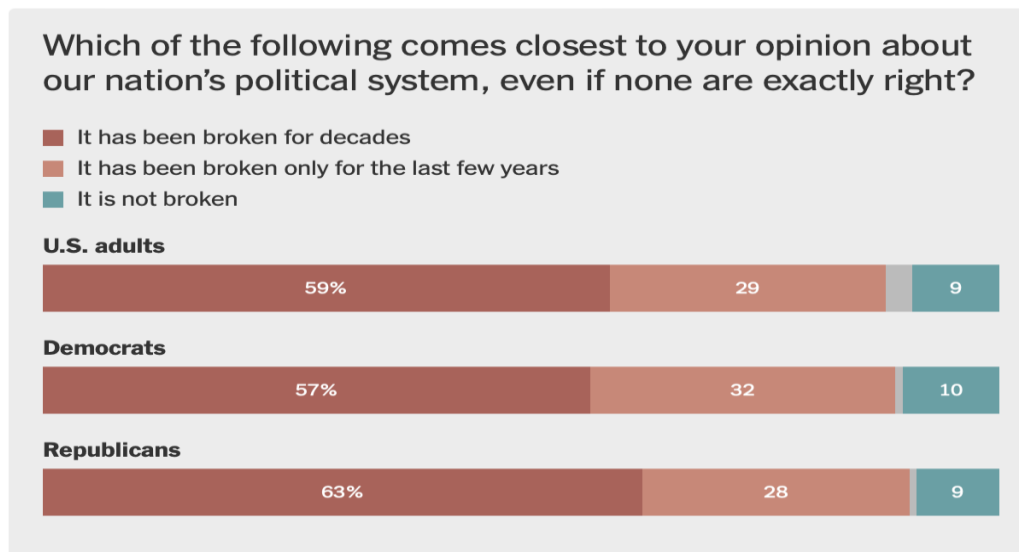
February 2025

As we enter Trump's second term, Democrats are shaking their heads, asking "How can someone with multiple felony convictions and bankruptcies be elected President again? Republicans are saying, "Biden was the worst President in history, and Harris did nothing but smile and tell us why we should vote against Trump." Independents are holding their noses and asking, "Is this the best we can do?"

With each election, our country becomes even more divided. Polarization in the House and Senate has surged to its highest level since the Civil War. (Visualizing Democracy) Most Americans don't like or trust their government.

- Biden and Trump both finished their terms with extremely low approval ratings.
- Congress's approval rating is 17%. (Gallup). As recently as 2001, it was 84%.
 - 69% of Americans say most members of Congress do not deserve to be re-elected. (Gallup) Yet of those who ran, 98.5% were re-elected. (Open Secrets).
- The Supreme Court's disapproval rating has soared to 51% from 25% in 2001.
- Most Americans have a negative view of our two political parties. (Statista)
 - Since 2000, more have registered as Independents or members of third parties than with the two major parties.

Look at the shocking results of a recent N.Y. Times-IPSOS Poll.



Note: The gray segment refers to the share of adults who did not respond or said they didn't know. Democrats and Republicans include those who identified with or leaned toward each party. • Based on a poll by The New York Times and Ipsos of 2,128 U.S. adults conducted from Jan. 2 to 10. • By June Kim

Americans may disagree on many things, but almost all agree **our government is broken** (N.Y. Times-Ipsos- Jan 18,2025). 88% of adults, 89% of Democrats, and 91% of Republicans say our government is broken, while only 9%, 10%, and 9% say it is not broken. How much more united can a country get on a specific issue?

59% of adults, 57% of Democrats, and 63% of Republicans say it has been broken for decades. 29%, 32%, and 28% say it has only been broken for the last few years. The 32% of Democrats is especially noteworthy since they have been in power for the last few years.

The reality is simple. Americans do not like their government or their political parties, and the government and the two parties are not working for Americans.

If you are a Democrat, an Independent, or a traditional Republican, it is easy to complain about Trump and his associates, but this will do you little good. Trump and his crew will be in power for at least the next 4 years. Given the make-up of the Senate and the House, and the lack of popularity of the Democratic Party, it is very likely that Republicans will remain in control of government far longer. Thus, merely deriding Trump and his entourage will not help solve our problems. The only beneficiaries will be manufacturers of anti-depressants, who will thrive.

Instead of having a stiff drink and hoping polarization will improve, now is the time to start asking how our political system could have failed us so badly.

- Why do we keep electing people who do not serve our interest?
- Why can't members of both parties work together to solve our problems?
- Why are there so many octogenarians in leadership positions?
- Why do the two parties serve their own interest instead of those of the people?
- Why have moderates almost completely disappeared from government?
- Why does the U.S. have the lowest Voter Turnout per Voting Age Population among all major Democracies?
- Why can't we come up with better choices for leadership than Trump, Biden, or Harris?

If you have the energy to be upset about the current state of our government, you should also have the energy to focus on how to fix our problems.

In the next several months, we will have a series of presentations that will focus on concrete steps that we can take now to create a government of the people, by the people, and for the people. Instead of driving yourself nuts with the current government, join us now to help improve it.

NOTE: We encourage you to forward this letter to those who might be interested. And if you are not already subscribed to our mailing list, please click the ["Join Us" link](#) on our homepage to sign up for future announcements.