



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

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LOYALTY TO AMERICAN WORKERS SAID LACKING BY U.S. CORPORATIONS, WALL STREET, BANKERS AND THE CONGRESS

Phoenix, Arizona, November 8, 2011. It is a huge disconnect: the vast majority of Arizonans say they feel a strong loyalty to American workers but when these same people look at major financial institutions of this country and at the U.S. Congress, a whopping 60 to 70 percent opine that these institutions have little or no respect for American workers.

Both the Occupy Wall Street and Tea Party movement could be poised to tap into deep consumer and taxpayer concern that major U.S. institutions including bankers, Wall Street, the Congress and big business give only lip service to caring about the working stiff.

Whether these views will trigger higher levels of taxpayer participation in political action organizations such as Occupy Wall Street and the Tea Party is yet to be seen, but it is clear that they have drawn more public attention and participation than could have been imagined had they been organized ten or even five years ago. There is no doubt that confidence in the will of major American institutions of business and government to look after the interests of working people is now deeply eroded. The readings raise the question as to whether such intensely negative views may also signal greater public tolerance for regulation of Wall Street, banking and other financial institutions.

The concern that American workers are being left to dangle in the wind is not aimed just at Wall Street or the Congress. For example, nearly half say the U.S. Supreme Court, the Arizona Governor and the Arizona state legislature also have little or no loyalty to American workers. Even in the case of labor unions, significant proportions of the public, and particularly Republicans, question whether unions are loyal to American workers. Others, however are disinclined to question the respect labor unions have for workers – particularly younger voters, liberals, moderates, independents and Democrats. Overall, 26 percent give unions credit for have a strong loyalty to workers, another 40 percent say they have some loyalty, but fully 34 percent question union loyalty to American workers.

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When asked to assess the loyalty of small business owners to American workers, we find 45 percent characterize them as having strong loyalty, a level far stronger than the public's view of big business, Wall Street or the Congress. What is more, it is a view held by all sectors of Arizona society.

It is interesting to view responses to these questions as seen through the eyes of Democrats, Republicans and Independents as well as through the eyes of different generational segments of the Arizona society. When this is done we notice several patterns: The first relates to age. In general, belief that major American financial institutions of big business, banking and Wall Street, and the Congress, have little interest in the welfare of American workers intensifies as age increases. And because older voters have been a bastion of dependable support for the Republican party, the so-called party of business, one cannot help but wonder if the bond between the two is weakening.

The second pattern that emerges from this line of questioning is that while Republican voters are less inclined than other voters to label business, Wall Street, bankers and the Congress as disrespectful of working Americans, half or more of Republicans here currently hold that view. And the same is true of political conservatives.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2011-IV-05), is based on 700 interviews with adult heads of household statewide, conducted between October 13 and 24, 2011. Interviewing was conducted in English or Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both land lines and cell phones. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.7 percent of what they would have been had the entire voter population been surveyed. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
 Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
 RMP (2011-IV-05)

For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

“When it comes to American workers, would you say the following organizations or groups have a great deal of loyalty, some loyalty, only a little or no loyalty at all toward American workers?”

(OF THE 90% WITH AN OPINION)

	Great Deal	Some	Little or None
Yourself	65%	22%	13%
<u>PRIVATE SECTOR</u>			
Small business owners	45	35	20
Labor unions	26	40	34
American bankers	12	22	66
Big American corporations	10	30	60
Wall Street	7	22	71
<u>PUBLIC SECTOR</u>			
Your city government	14	49	37
Arizona’s Governor	21	32	47
Arizona State Legislature	14	39	47
U.S. Supreme Court	14	38	48
U.S. Congress	10	24	66

% OPINING THAT EACH INSTITUTION HAS
 “LITTLE OR NO LOYALTY” FOR AMERICAN WORKERS

	Big American Bankers	Big American Corporations	Wall Street	U.S. Congress	Labor Unions	Small Business Owners
TOTAL	66%	60%	71%	66%	34%	20%
<u>AGE</u>						
Under 35	63	50	66	55	18	21
35 to 54	61	61	66	67	38	11
55 +	72	62	80	72	45	20
<u>POLITICAL PARTY</u>						
Democrats	54	52	74	68	21	21
Independents	70	67	72	61	31	16
Republicans	70	51	53	58	50	24
<u>POLITICAL VIEWS</u>						
Liberals	69	64	74	67	17	23
Moderates	74	63	78	72	30	17
Conservatives	63	49	58	54	41	18

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LOYALTY YOU PERSONALLY FEEL TOWARD AMERICAN WORKERS

	A Great Deal	Some	Little or None
STATEWIDE	65%	22%	13%
<u>GENDER</u>			
Female	63	25	12
Male	68	20	12
<u>AGE</u>			
Under 35	67	20	13
35 to 54	58	26	16
55 +	66	19	15
<u>POLITICAL PARTY</u>			
Democrats	67	24	12
Independents	64	29	7
Republicans	64	22	14
<u>POLITICAL VIEWS</u>			
Liberals	59	25	16
Moderates	64	18	18
Conservatives	68	22	10

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