



American Tea Party protests signs are well known for often having spelling and grammar mistakes

# THE AMERICAN TEA PARTY

**October 18, 2014**

José Cruz: Your country's in the news a lot these days, too. At least maybe I'm watching too much American news but it seems to it's um, a lot of things are changing in America these days.

Albert Moe: Oh yeah, The United States has got **their nose stuck** into just about everything there is.

José: I um, I do notice tho' that uh, one place where I wish America would do uh more uh, or I- up to now I have wished America would do more is something that I saw some good news about recently.

Albert: And what is that?

José: Um uh, climate change. Uh, the Obama administration finally decided to act alone and bring in some legislation to try and change um, a pretty pressing problem.

Albert: Well President Obama doesn't have any choice but to act alone because of this "Tea Party" that they have in that country which blocks almost everything that he tries to do or the Democratic party tries to do, so as a result he has no choice but to act in his own capacity.

José: Um, this Tea Party. I mean- we could talk about that for a bit. This Tea Party, I don't know if a lot of people from other countries know exactly what's going with it. Do you

think you can, you can handle a quick explanation of what it's all about? For Americans obviously, it's it's, it's well known but I think a lot of people don't really understand how much effect it has on on American politics these days.

Albert: Well the only thing that I could comment on in regards to the Tea Party -I'm not an expert either, but they are right-wing, so-called Republican Party that founded under the "**hospices**" of the Reagan Administration and it's a holdover from that time. They probably, outside of President Bush, are the worst thing that ever happened to the United States.

José: Haha. You- you're sure you're not being just partisan when you say stuff like that?

Albert: I- I'm not sure that I'm not being partisan. Perhaps I am being partisan because I am a Democrat, yes, and probably tend to lean- well not to the left, but definitely to the middle. I am from the old Republican days. I was once a Republican, yes.

José: You were a Republican?

Albert: I was once a Republican.

José: But you're a Democrat- you lean towards the centre part of (Now) politics these days.

Albert: Exactly. I lean towards the centre, completely opposite of what this Tea Party group is trying to accomplish -or not accomplish. Their goal is not to vote for anything that the Obama administration brings up.

José: Um, can- what what can you point out specifically that that bothers you the most about what it is that they've been up to recently? Can you name a specific action or or name a specific kind of characteristic about them that that- I don't want to say "annoys", because that makes it sound almost petty but bothers you, concerns you the most?

Albert: Just that, that they are they're- they will block anything that is brought before the House. (Mm-hmm now you're) It's it's actually, it's actually worse than during the time of President Johnson when the Republicans were doing all of the filibustering and not allowing him to pass the

Bill of Rights, but he was able to work with the Republican Party at that time. So they still were a party for the nation. They were the party of Abraham Lincoln. (Mm-hmm) Today, I don't know really know what their true agenda is. It's seems almost as if they are out to, hmm,

José: "Destroy the country"?

Albert: Well, I wouldn't want to say destroy the country, but to bring back a severe Christian philosophy (Mmm) - extremist, extremism (Mm-hmm, mm-hmm). That that's my opinion of what they're trying to do. (Mm-hmm, mm-hmm OK)

Word count	Time	Words/Min.
646	4:24	146.82

Pointers:

**Hospices:** Albert wasn't sure if this was the right word to use so he inflects it upward as if asking a question. Actually he should have said "auspices" which would have been better.

Discussion:

Are you "left" or "right" in your politics?

Do you think there is any value in following politics?

Can you find all the different English problems in the signs above? There are eight in total.

VOA ARTICLE: "MAINSTREAM REPUBLICANS DEFEAT TEA PARTY, FOR NOW"  
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