

Teenager has advice for Republicans

BY PAUL KIRALY

It's time for a new generation to take control of the political future of America. This was exactly what happened when 11 youth delegates appeared on a panel at the California Republican Party convention last weekend.



KIRALY

The youth delegates, including myself, had a town hall meeting describing the kind of America we envisioned and what the state and national Republican Party needs to do to attract youth — future voters ranging from ages 14-19. We discussed issues concerning the economy such as the debt and job creation, along with social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage. Hard questions were asked on delicate topics, but honest and necessary answers were all given.

Speaking with politicians

We were fortunate to have discussed our concerns with the new state chair, Jim Brulte, and the Republican legislative leaders, Assemblywoman Connie Conway and Sen. Bob Huff, both of whom spent a considerable amount of time at our panel.

The youth delegates' objective was to state what we thought was needed to make the California Republican

GUEST OPINION

Party relevant and included our views on the social issues in the current state and national platform. We believe that emphasizing social issues infringes on individual liberty, which is a core Republican principle.

What we care about is whether we will have a job in the future; stopping the growing debt, which is now more than \$50,000 for every man, woman, and child in America; and a financially stable U.S. We want minimal government so that citizens can prosper from their own accomplishments. If our wishes are carefully examined, there is one topic relating to all the problems we would like addressed, and they are all related to our economy.

It's about the economy

We all agree that Republicans are losing elections because of the platform stances on social issues. We all have friends who, say "How can you be a Republican? They don't want gay people to marry each other or adopt children." Or, "Republicans don't want women to make their own decisions when it comes to their own bodies." "This is what you represent."

No, we don't represent this platform. We represent a platform that expresses our concerns of finding a job and dreaming big to be successful

and making it on your own. You never hear, "Republicans lose elections because they want a stable economy and don't want to bury future generations in debt."

Therefore, we have come to the conclusion that the Republican Party must rid their platform of social issues because this generation has different views from past generations. Youth today won't adapt to the Republican Party. The Republican Party must adapt to the youth.

Another issue that we agreed on was to abolish divisions in our society, especially divisions caused by what I think is "racial profiling." Our youth delegation is as ethnically diverse as it gets. We have every racial community represented — African-American, Asian, Caucasian, Hispanic and Middle Eastern, but we don't look at each other like that. We share common values, and one of them is individual liberty. None of us cares about what your background is, your religion, sexual orientation, race, age, gender — none of it matters.

We are all Americans

Just because you're Hispanic, Asian, or African-American doesn't mean that you cannot be a Republican. Some of the Hispanic youth delegates have personally experienced backlash, in which people have actually told them

that they can't be Republicans because they're Hispanic. This thinking is offensive to anyone who is a person of color. We are all Americans. It's time that we move on to real issues relating to our economy and stop stereotyping people to be part of one party based solely on race.

We are creating a white paper for the California Republican Party to eliminate social issues in their platform and emphasize the issues that will affect future generations. We want a socially liberal but fiscally conservative party.

Free market

With the social issues taken out of the picture, the core Republican ideals will be illuminated, with limited government interference in our personal lives. We want to keep the free market and let our capitalist system dominate the world's economy. Our free market built the strongest economic powerhouse in history. We want our economic prosperity to continue, and we need a free market to do so.

As representatives of the future of America, we want the Republican Party to emphasize our core principles of individual liberty, economic freedom, and fiscal responsibility.

Paul Kiraly, age 15, is a sophomore at Sequoia High School and lives in unincorporated West Menlo Park.




Say Goodbye to Fees and Hello to the Stanford Way!

We have a checking account to meet every need.

Get your \$100 bonus coupon at <http://bit.ly/13DN8my> and open our account today!

Take your coupon to any Stanford FCU branch location or enter your coupon promo code, if you open your account online.


STANFORD
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Progressive. Personal.

Federally insured by NCUA

www.sfcu.org • (650) 723-2509 • (888) 723-SFCU (7328)



Note: To qualify for the \$100 bonus, you must open a new SFCU personal checking account with a minimum \$50 balance and establish a monthly recurring direct deposit of at least \$500 to your new checking account. The \$100 bonus is not considered part of the minimum opening balance. The first recurring direct deposit must be posted to your account within 60 calendar days of your account opening date. Offer does not apply to second or multiple checking accounts and/or existing checking members and is limited to one bonus per household. The checking account must remain open a minimum of three months. Bonus of \$100 will be credited to your account within 10 days after satisfaction of conditions. Taxes due on the bonus deposit are the sole responsibility of the recipient. SFCU will report the bonus deposit to the appropriate state and federal agencies as required by applicable law. Offer not valid in conjunction with any other Stanford FCU promotion. You must present the coupon code at the time of opening to receive \$100 bonus. Offer subject to change. \$100 Checking Bonus start date is March 8, 2013 and expires on March 31, 2013.



Auto & home insurance together make sense.



Call today to find out how much you could be saving!

Steve Fox CA License #0C26663

(650) 328-1000

abcosales@alliedbrokers.com

630 Cowper St, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Visit us at www.alliedbrokers.com

