

# How Smart People Deal with Difficult People

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DeDe Church



1

## TRUE OR FALSE

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# Quiz!

1. 1 in 10 Americans stopped talking to a family member/close friend because of the 2016 election. (Reuters)

**FALSE: 1 in 6**

2. Americans take a more discriminatory view of those in the opposing party than they do people of different races. (Stanford & Princeton study 2015)

**TRUE**

2

2

## TRUE OR FALSE

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3. We are now defining ourselves by the groups we hate (“othering”).

**TRUE**

*We secure our own identity by stigmatizing the identity of someone else creating a hard line between “us” and “them.”*

Arthur C. Brooks, [Love Your Enemies](#)

*“Can there be any greater evil than discord and distraction and plurality where unity ought to reign? Or any greater good than the bond of unity? There cannot.”* Plato’s *The Republic*

3

3

## TRUE OR FALSE

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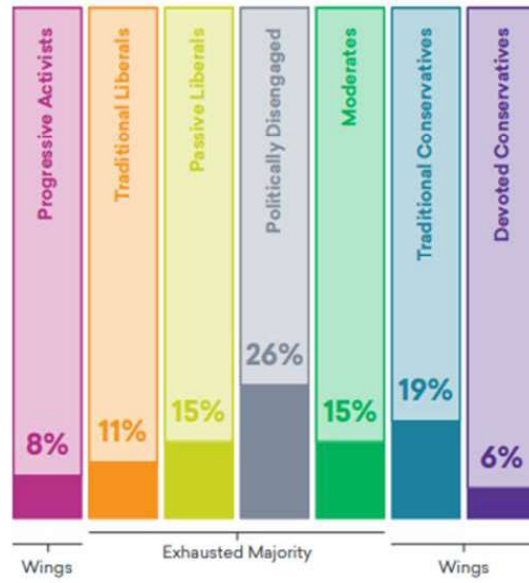
4. 93% of Americans are tired of how divided we have become as a country. (More in Common)

**TRUE–  
“exhausted  
majority”**

4

4

## The Hidden Tribes of America



“American Fabric: Identity and Belonging,” More in Common, December 2020

5



Question: How Do We Ethically Dislike Others?

*How many people do you dislike?*

6

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17<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar session  
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