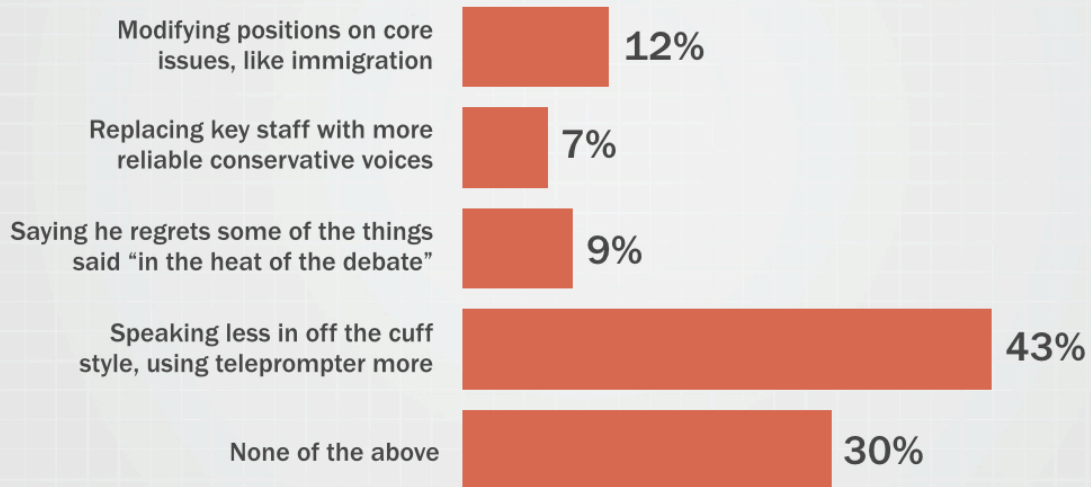# INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll

for the week of 26 August 2016

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE
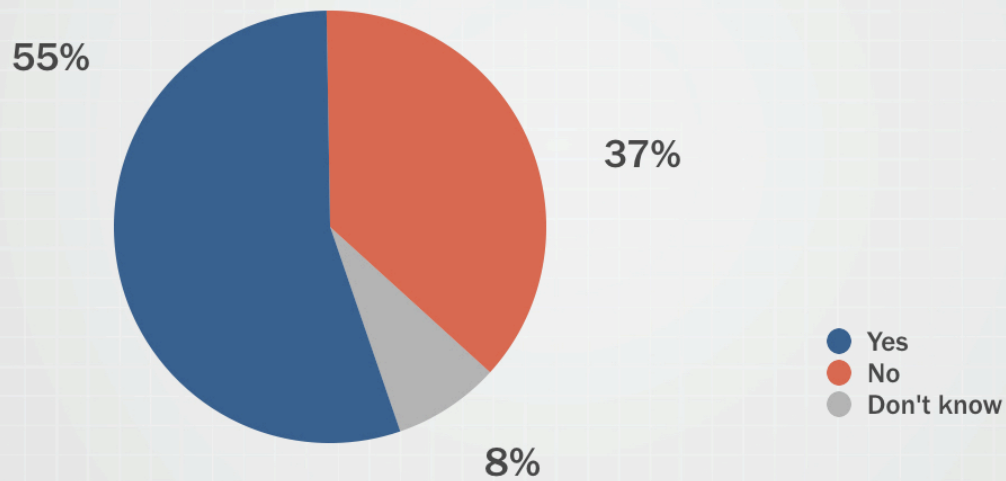
Which of these tactics gives Donald Trump the best chance to regain momentum?

Modifying positions on core issues, like immigration — **12%**

Replacing key staff with more reliable conservative voices — **7%**

Saying he regrets some of the things said "in the heat of the debate" — **9%**

Speaking less in off the cuff style, using teleprompter more — **43%**

None of the above — **30%**

Inside Intelligence is an informal survey of political and government insiders in Texas and is not meant to measure public opinion.
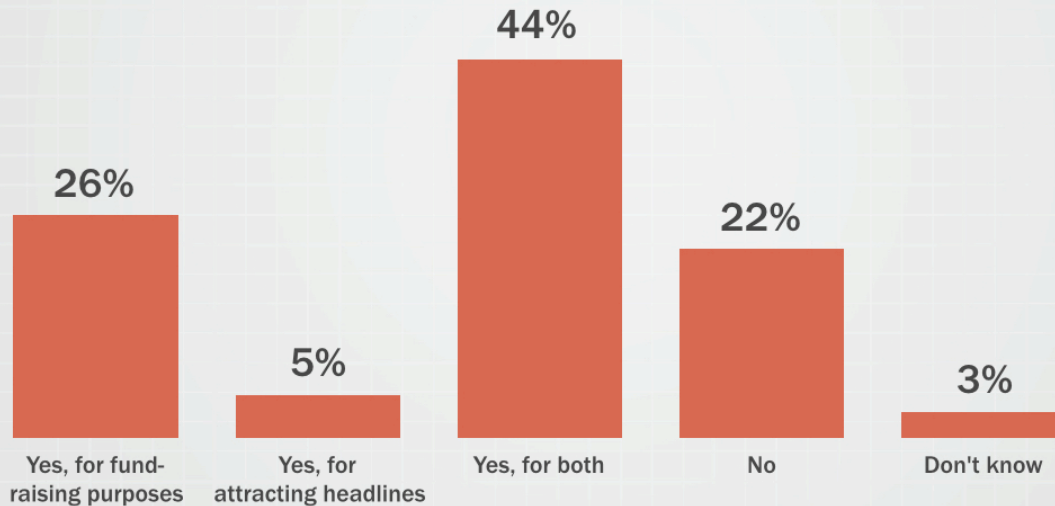
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE: The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll for 26 August 2016

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Does Trump benefit from a reboot?

55%

37%

8%

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

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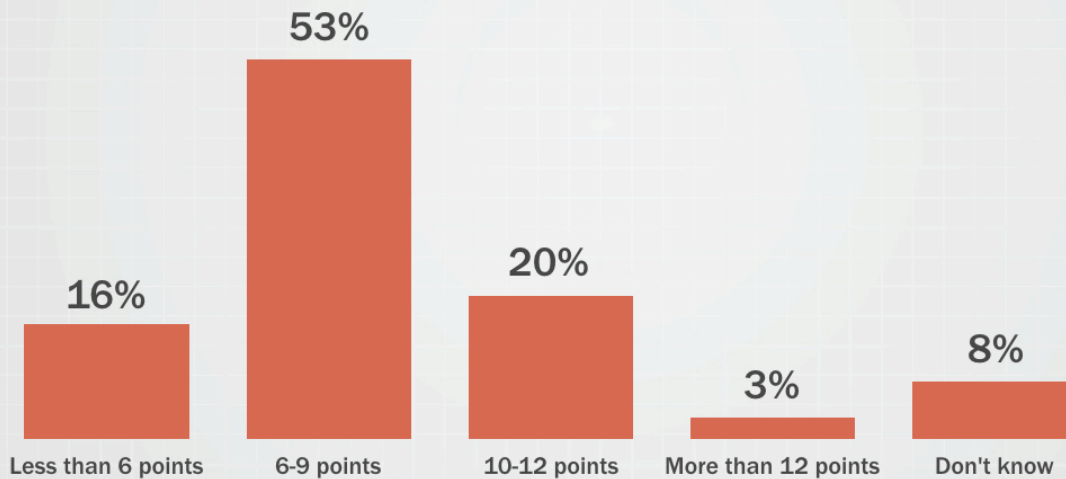
INSIDE INTELLIGENCE: The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll for 26 August 2016

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

Was the choice by Trump to travel to reliably red states like Texas and Mississippi this week a good gambit?

26%
Yes, for fund-raising purposes

5%
Yes, for attracting headlines

44%
Yes, for both

22%
No

3%
Don't know

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INSIDE INTELLIGENCE: The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll for 26 August 2016

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A recent survey by Public Policy Polling puts Trump's lead in Texas at 6 points. Where would you put it?

- Less than 6 points: 16%
- 6-9 points: 53%
- 10-12 points: 20%
- More than 12 points: 3%
- Don't know: 8%

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Which of these tactics gives Donald Trump the best chance to regain momentum?

• "Being unpredictable"

• "He will continue to do and say what he wants."

• "Get rid of Rick Perry."

• "Maybe he can stop putting his foot in his mouth and campaign on issues."

• "Needs to keep focus on HRC email and Foundation scandals. Outreach to disaffected GOP would only be modestly successful at this late point."

• "Watching Hillary crumble under the sheer weight of her own problems."

• "You just have to let Trump be Trump."

• "It is impossible to assure a majority of voters that he has the character and temperament to be president."

• "Too late now."

• "He's made the campaign about himself. So he himself ought not talk or tweet, and sue anyone who runs any

past video or newspaper comments or his TV shows and quit making goofy facial expressions. That would be a good start."

• "He owes an apology to Ted Cruz, Rafael Cruz and Heidi Cruz."

• "Trump can't regain the momentum. I don't even think he wants it. He wants to go down as a colorful martyr. The Presidency is a bitch of a job. It's way less fun than game shows."

• "It's too late and the only momentum he would regain is with white, over 50 men. There aren't enough of them to get him elected."

• "The winning strategy is making the election about Hillary instead of about him. If the mainstream media doesn't go soft on her and continues to cover the scandals it will matter less who he is — Americans will start thinking, can we elect someone who has made herself rich off public office and lied to us every step of the way?"

• "Time has run out for Trump. What got him the nomination will not win the

election. If he becomes more presidential now, he could disappoint his base — the very people that got us into this mess and are responsible for the election of Hillary Clinton."

• "He has no chance."

• "If he modifies positions, then he'll likely lose confidence of early supporters and still won't gain new support. He's worthless when scripted. Staff ain't the problem — the candidate's the problem. Tall Tale Trump probably regrets nothing he's said — ever."

• "Nada. He's toast, and he's been toast since he won the nomination. The GOP bought a pig in a poke."

• "If he moderates positions, he loses what little base he has. He can't speak of the cuff because he's a fool. If he takes back what he says, he loses his mind. And staff can't control him, so why bother?"

Does Trump benefit from a reboot?

• "Everyone is still talking about Trump."

• "A leopard does not change its spots."

• "He will benefit from limiting his daily rants to maybe two per week. Doing so, will leave the media with no choice than to cover the Clinton scandals."

• "He benefits, but not enough."

• "He would if he could only pull it off."

• "He might as well go down swinging. Changing now wouldn't gain new support, just lose his current enthusiasts."

• "Too late."

• "Trump needs the support of true conservatives. He's never been one, so

he must reach out to us, starting with the Cruz family."

• "He can only benefit."

• "You only get one chance to reset. If he tries to reset now, it will be the second or third? It's hard to keep up with them."

• "In the short run, yes; but in the long run, chances are that he will revert to form."

• "Reality is he can keep saying what he wants and win. The little people are pissed and there are more of them than the elites. Let's start with a key political indicator, Brexit..."

• "He has no chance."

• "Maybe if he chose a different shade of orange..."

• "There is so little time left."

• "Yes, but miles to go if he is to have even a remote chance in November. Perhaps the best the Rs can hope for is to lessen the potential down-ballot damage?"

• "Let Trump be Trump."

• "The election is over, folks."

Was the choice by Trump to travel to reliably red states like Texas and Mississippi this week a good gambit?

• "He left Texas with more money, more votes, and more press than Hillary had this week."

• "All media is good media. And he needed the boost of confidence that is bestowed to him in those regions."

• "The national media will follow him wherever he goes."

• "Three million dollars"

• "Risky as it attracts criticism and sheds continued media light on his campaign's problems."

• "Why spend time in states he's likely to win?"

• "Classic 'preaching to the choir.' No upside for him when he's already got the people he's speaking to."

• "Ground game is important, but the candidate's appearances are national. As long as one is having a fundraiser, why not go meet the troops? The concept of a candidate limiting his or her travels to 'battleground' states, at least in August or September of an election year, seems outmoded to me."

• "Doesn't matter where he is — he will be covered."

• "He has no chance — except in racist places like Mississippi and Texas."

• "Smart to pick up as much cash as possible in friendly states, assuming he plans to be in the swing states in the fall."

• "If you're already here for fundraising, why not stay for the press? Who cares if the event is in Texas or Mississippi?

Coverage will be national. Of course, that only helps him if he doesn't say anything stupid, which is highly unlikely."

• "I think his only hope is to motivate and turn out people who usually don't vote."

• "Unconventional strategy for an unconventional candidate."

• "Waste of money and time. Then again, he can't win, so what's the loss?"

A recent survey by Public Policy Polling puts Trump's lead in Texas at 6 points. Where would you put it?

• "If Trump can't win Texas, the GOP is in for its worst defeat in the modern era. And this is to the biggest liar the Democrats have nominated in my lifetime."

• "Did you see the crowd at the rally in Austin? No one knew there were that many Republican voters in Travis County!"

• "I believe there is a large percentage of voters that want Trump on that wall, that need Trump on that wall, but refuse to admit in public they are voting for him."

• "Trump's margin over Clinton in Texas is less than six points right now, but it seems reasonable to assume that the margin will increase a bit before voting begins. However, that assumes that Trump doesn't do too many more phenomenally stupid things, so I'm not giving odds."

• "Even the Ds know that that poll was an anomaly, so I figure he is, at the very least, 10-12 points ahead."

• "I wish Trump wouldn't get as many Republican votes, but he will. It's Texas after all."

• "Liberals don't trust Hillary."

• "Even Republicans don't like him."

• "Someone I respect said, 'If I lived in a swing state, I may have to vote for Trump. In Texas, I do not.'"

• "He has no chance."

• "How am I supposed to answer this? I've not seen ANY other publicly shared polling in Texas concerning Trump, and I've not personally commissioned a poll that includes Trump. I know, instead of making a reasonably informed decision, let me pull a number out of thin air!! The thing is, 99.5 percent of respondents are in the same boat as I. Those who answer 10-12 points or more than 12 points should have to sit in Time Out."

• "At the end of the day, a large number of poll respondents who claim today that they are not voting for Trump will end up voting for him only because Hillary really is 'that bad.'"

• "At 6 points."

• "That's about right. And it's comically low for a GOP candidate."

• "Lots of Rs stay home, or skip the first choice on the ballot."

• "He'll win Texas, but the Libertarian candidate is likely to get significant support."