

Debt

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daggers, knives and other kitchen utensils defining the nasty Irish immigrant gang fights during the Civil War. This time, it's red meat conservative activists threatening political coup d'états in hotly contested primaries dominated by tea party faithful.

Underscoring that was the latest ABC/Washington Post poll in which only 44 percent of tea party supporters feel a

government default "would harm them financially." Only 34 percent of that same group wants to see compromise as opposed to 62 percent of Americans who believe in a compromise of cuts and tax increases.

A closer look at a recent YouGov poll released to The Philadelphia Tribune also shows widening gulfs of political perceptions based on race, ideology and region

that could be driving hardheaded Republicans from compromising with the president. Nearly 40 percent of whites strongly disapprove of the president's performance compared with just four percent of Blacks. Disapproval numbers diverge sharply, as well, according to ideology: 68 percent of conservatives strongly disapprove of the president. And, it doesn't look

good for the president in the South, Midwest and West where an average of 37 percent of Americans strongly disapprove.

These are demographics representing the most ardent opponents within the House Republican caucus of Boehner's legislation — and those most opposed to any deal making with President Obama.

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