



**WILSON RESEARCH STRATEGIES, INC.**  
 1601 Northwest Expressway, Suite 300  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73118  
 405.286.6500  
 www.W-R-S.com

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**  
 Questionnaire No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**HILL\_ POST ELECTION SURVEY\_MQ\_061110**  
**NOVEMBER, 06**

**SAMPLE:**  
 n=831  
 NO CODE/ASK ALL QUESTIONS  
 \*\*\*All totals may not equal 100% due to rounding or multiple responses\*\*\*  
 Note: Percentage less than 0.5 printed as \*

1. Which of the following best reflects your opinion of the 2006 Election?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Democrats gained and Republicans lost as much as I thought .....	18%	27%	19%	22%
2. Democrats gained and Republicans lost less than I thought .....	5%	3%	3%	4%
3. Democrats gained and Republicans lost more than I thought .....	77%	69%	74%	73%
4. Unsure/none.....	-	1%	4%	1%

n=422

2. In the House, who will be Majority leader?

1. Nancy Pelosi .....	59%
2. Steny Hoyer.....	26%
3. John Murtha.....	8%
4. Rahm Emanuel.....	2%
5. Unsure.....	2%

n=422

3. In the House, who will be Minority leader?

1. John Boehner.....	35%
2. Mike Pence .....	17%
3. Dennis Hastert.....	5%
4. Roy Blunt.....	3%
5. John Shadegg .....	1%
6. Unsure.....	29%





n=422

4. In the Senate, who will be Majority leader?

1.	Harry Reid .....	87%
2.	Richard Durbin.....	2%
3.	Hillary Clinton.....	1%
4.	Charles Schumer .....	1%
5.	Joe Biden .....	1%
6.	John Murtha.....	1%
7.	Nancy Pelosi .....	1%
8.	Ted Kennedy.....	1%
9.	Unsure.....	5%

n=422

5. In the Senate, who will be Minority leader?

1.	Mitch McConnell.....	50%
2.	Trent Lott.....	7%
3.	Bill Frist .....	4%
4.	Lamar Alexander .....	2%
5.	Richard Durbin.....	1%
6.	Elizabeth Dole.....	1%
7.	John McCain .....	1%
8.	Unsure.....	25%

6. Do you believe Nance Pelosi, as the new speaker, will run the House in a more partisan or less partisan fashion that Denny Hastert did?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. More partisan .....	73%	9%	26%	37%
2. Less partisan .....	8%	74%	51%	44%
3. About the same .....	19%	17%	23%	19%

7. Do you believe the new Congress will be more or less productive than the current Congress?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. More productive .....	9%	84%	61%	51%
2. Less productive .....	62%	3%	14%	28%
3. About the same .....	30%	13%	24%	21%

8. Do you believe the new Congress will pass substantive legislation?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Yes.....	17%	83%	49%	51%
2. No .....	69%	6%	27%	34%
3. Unsure.....	13%	11%	24%	14%



9. Giving your best guess, how many vetoes will President Bush issue over the next two years?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. More than 25.....	7%	11%	9%	9%
2. Between 15 and 24 .....	15%	12%	16%	14%
3. Between 5 and 14.....	37%	51%	46%	44%
4. Less than 5 .....	37%	24%	28%	29%
5. Zero .....	4%	2%	2%	3%

10. Over the next two years, do you expect there will be more compromise in Congress or more gridlock in Congress?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Compromise.....	20%	69%	46%	45%
2. Gridlock .....	73%	17%	37%	42%
3. Unsure.....	7%	14%	17%	12%

11. Some have argued that this election will be of strong benefit to Republicans and help them in 2008. Others dismiss that notion. In your opinion, which party was the long term winner of this election?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Republicans.....	41%	1%	18%	20%
2. Democrats .....	25%	71%	46%	48%
3. Both.....	6%	8%	11%	7%
4. Neither .....	19%	9%	15%	14%
5. Unsure.....	10%	11%	11%	11%

12. Who will be the 2008 Democrat Presidential nominee?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Hillary Clinton.....	71%	30%	45%	48%
2. Barack Obama .....	9%	18%	21%	15%
3. Al Gore.....	2%	10%	8%	7%
4. John Kerry .....	3%	1%	-	2%
5. John Edwards.....	7%	21%	14%	14%
6. Other.....	9%	20%	12%	14%

13. Who will be the 2008 Republican Presidential nominee?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. John McCain .....	38%	63%	51%	51%
2. Rudy Giuliani.....	14%	12%	11%	13%
3. Condoleezza Rice .....	2%	2%	3%	2%
4. Mitt Romney.....	22%	13%	21%	18%
5. Newt Gingrich .....	14%	3%	5%	8%
6. Other.....	9%	6%	10%	8%



Please rate the following issues and their national impact on the election on a scale of 0-10 where zero means they had no impact on the election and 10 means they had a significant impact on the election

		Total Impact	Strong Impact	Some Impact	Not Much Impact	No Impact	Total no Impact	Unsure
14. Mark Foley and the congressional page scandal	Rep.	82%	33%	48%	16%	3%	18%	-
	Dem.	95%	41%	55%	4%	-	5%	-
	Ind.	84%	36%	48%	15%	-	15%	1%
	Total	88%	37%	51%	11%	1%	12%	-
15. Runaway spending and fiscal irresponsibility	Rep.	87%	57%	30%	11%	2%	13%	-
	Dem.	89%	57%	32%	10%	1%	11%	-
	Ind.	91%	62%	29%	7%	2%	9%	-
	Total	89%	58%	30%	10%	2%	11%	-
16. Disengaged Republican base	Rep.	86%	43%	43%	10%	4%	14%	-
	Dem.	77%	29%	48%	18%	5%	23%	1%
	Ind.	75%	36%	40%	18%	5%	23%	2%
	Total	80%	36%	44%	15%	4%	19%	1%
17. Democrats finally learning to turnout their voters	Rep.	46%	14%	32%	38%	14%	52%	2%
	Dem.	81%	28%	52%	17%	2%	19%	1%
	Ind.	60%	19%	41%	27%	9%	36%	3%
	Total	64%	21%	43%	27%	8%	35%	2%
18. Liberals and Centrists uniting against Christian conservatives	Rep.	43%	16%	28%	34%	21%	55%	2%
	Dem.	61%	26%	35%	31%	7%	37%	2%
	Ind.	49%	16%	33%	29%	20%	49%	3%
	Total	52%	20%	32%	31%	15%	46%	2%
19. Voter fatigue over the War in Iraq and the War Against Terror	Rep.	92%	57%	35%	6%	2%	8%	-
	Dem.	98%	90%	8%	1%	1%	2%	-
	Ind.	94%	80%	14%	5%	-	5%	1%
	Total	95%	75%	20%	4%	1%	5%	-
20. Corruption in DC/the Jack Abramoff Scandal	Rep.	83%	39%	43%	16%	2%	17%	-
	Dem.	95%	58%	37%	4%	1%	5%	-
	Ind.	90%	49%	41%	9%	1%	10%	-
	Total	89%	49%	41%	9%	1%	11%	-
21. Lack of a cohesive Republican message to counter the Democrats' "Time for a Change" theme	Rep.	79%	50%	29%	13%	7%	20%	-
	Dem.	52%	21%	31%	33%	14%	47%	1%
	Ind.	51%	24%	27%	30%	18%	48%	1%
	Total	62%	33%	30%	25%	12%	37%	-

n=422

22. In your opinion, what was the main reason that Republicans lost seats in the House and Senate?

SEE APPENDIX

n=422

23. In your opinion, what was the main reason that Republicans lost seats in the Governorships?

SEE APPENDIX

24. In your opinion, Who do you believe deserves more blame for the losses this year, Republicans in Congress or President Bush and the White House?

	Rep.	Dem.	Ind.	Total
1. Republicans in Congress .....	60%	19%	34%	38%
2. President Bush and the White House .....	30%	73%	59%	54%
3. Unsure .....	10%	7%	8%	8%



25. The Hill / Wilson Research Strategies Ad Review is comprised of select individuals from specific industries within the political arena. Which of the following best describes where you work?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Retired.....	5%	6%	-	4%
2. Political/Public Affairs Consultant.....	4%	1%	1%	2%
3. Education.....	5%	2%	5%	4%
4. Private Consultant.....	1%	4%	7%	4%
5. State/Local Government.....	7%	5%	5%	6%
6. Legal Professional.....	7%	9%	11%	8%
7. Political Activist.....	6%	4%	3%	4%
8. Association/Government Relations Executive.....	3%	9%	4%	6%
9. Senior Capitol Hill Staff.....	8%	11%	5%	8%
10. Lobbyist/Senior K Street Executive.....	7%	6%	9%	7%
11. News Media.....	18%	19%	26%	21%
12. Other.....	30%	24%	24%	27%

26. Which of the following best describes your political affiliation?

1. Republican.....	37%
2. Democrat.....	41%
3. Independent.....	18%
4. Other.....	4%

27. Which of the following best describes your political ideology?

	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Ind.</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Combo conservative</b> .....	<b>83%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>37%</b>
1. Very conservative.....	40%	1%	7%	17%
2. Somewhat conservative.....	43%	3%	14%	20%
3. Moderate.....	14%	25%	34%	22%
4. Somewhat liberal.....	1%	37%	18%	19%
5. Very liberal.....	-	30%	15%	16%
<b>Combo liberal</b> .....	<b>1%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>35%</b>
6. Other.....	3%	4%	11%	6%



## APPENDIX - VERBATIMS

22. In your opinion, what was the main reason that Republicans lost seats in the House and Senate?

Failure To Address A Long Term Plan For Iraq

No Strong, Unified National Leadership With A Definitive Plan For The Next Two Years. To Some Extent, The War In Iraq But More Importantly The Distrust And Dislike Of Sec. Donald Rumsfeld. If Rumsfeld Would Have Resigned 6 - 9 Months Ago It Could Have Made A Substantial Difference In The Election In Several States.

Bush's Blind Support For The War In Iraq.

Lack Of Information And Encouragement To The American People Concerning The Accomplishments In Iraq. Allowing Imbedded Reporters In Middle Of War Zones. Failure To Protect Borders Sooner. Pork Spending During A Time Of War.

Lack Of Accomplishments/Progress On Their Main Issues.

Because They Became Fat Cows With Huge Egos And Greedy. And Accomplished Next To Nothing Because Of That Even Though Both Houses And President In One Party ONLY HOPE IS TERM LIMITS But None Of Them Want To Ever Give Up Their Great Jobs

Fed Up

Failed War / Occupation Of Iraq

Iraq

Harsh "Talking Points" Rather Than Hearing & Responding To Voters Concerns.

Weak Leadership/Scandals

Lack Of Productivity In Iraq

Lack Of Trust In George Bush And The Republicans

Iraq

Pushed The Envelope On What They Thought Was Their Mandate. Public Was Bored With Their Values And Ideals Message. Katrina Exposed Their Lack Of Connection With Public Needs And Wants. Poor Leadership And Corruption On Iraq War.

Scandal

Iraq

The Public Is Distrusting Of The Administration And All That Follow Them.

Absolute Power Corrupts Absolutely.

Out Of Control Spending (Bridge To Nowhere Syndrome)

Bush

The GOP Forgot Why It Was Put In Power In The First Place. Runaway Spending And Amnesty Completely Depressed The Base.

A General Dissatisfaction With The Direction The Country Is Headed, Made Up Of A Number Of Things--Including The Iraq War, Deficits, Foreign Policy Crises, Republican Scandals, Questions About The Economy, And A Sense That The Republicans Really Didn't Get What The Average American Cares About.

The War In Iraq

They Continued To Be Ruled By The Vocal Conservative Minority In Their Party Instead Of Listening To The American People.

Fatigue Over 'Stay The Course' Mantra In Iraq.

Iraq

People Are Ready For Change And Recognize That Current Congress Is Unresponsive And Not Representing Them Well.

Iraq But Also Local Conditions And Demographic Changes

Distant With President Bush & His War Spending. His Privatizing Of Social Security. His Non Support Of Jobs In This Country.

Corruption And Arrogance

When People Saw The Schiavo Mess, Followed By The Katrina Mess, They Realized That The Rightwing Theocrat Numb Nuts Could Actually Affect Their Lives.

Tired Of The Same Old

President Bush

The Iraq War, Scandals And Foley Episode

The Iraq War And A Widespread Public Perception That Congressional Oversight Had Been Foregone In Favor Of Partisanship.

Voter Anger Over Hubris, Corruption And Abuse Of Power.



Iraq

Electorate Upset About Iraq And Many Smaller Issues. Foley Was The Straw That Broke The Camel's Back.

Support Of The President's War

War In Iraq

Iraq Coupled With The Increase In Scandals

Desertion Of "Contract (94)" Provisions

Iraq, Mainly

Iraq

Loss Of Belief In Their Base.

They Forgot How They Got There In 1994.

Finally, A Tipping Point Was Reached, With A Sufficient Number Of Swing Voters Fed Up With The Republican's Arrogant Incompetence, And The Right Wing Fundamentalist Base Softened Up By Sex Scandals.

Iraq

Iraq And The Incompetence Of The Bush Administration

Bush And War

They Became Run Of The Mill Politicians With No Backbone And A Taste For Pork.

Betrayed Principles Of Smaller Government

The American People Are Sick Of Politicians Placing More Importance On Personal Power Than On The Interests Of The Country. In All Ways: Partisan Abramoff Etc. Regulatory And Tax Giveaways To Corp.'S And The Wealthy.

Iraq, Corruption

The War In Iraq, Which Appears Disorganized And Hasn't Been Explained In A Way That It Makes Sense.

The Party In Power, As Any Party In Power For Six Years, Did Not Meet The Expectations Of The Public. Iraq Was An Example Of This Sort Of Failure, But I Think The Feeling Was More General. Hence, The Vagueness Of The Democratic Slogan.

Lost Touch With The American People. Not True Republicans

Corruption And Total Disregard For The Majority Of The Electorate

Republicans For Got Their Core Values, Less Government And Lower Spending.

People Are Sick Of The Iraq War.

Republican Failure To Accentuate The Positives: Strong Economy, Security, Etc.

Current Insensitivity To Issues On The Minds Of Americans And Inability To Work Constructively With Democrats In Congress Toward Policies That Work For Most Americans.

Corruption And Abandonment Of Their Fiscal Conservatism

IRAQ WAR

Poor House Leadership – Inability To Agree And Get Legislation Passed.

They Turned Their Backs On Their Base And Became Big Spending Corrupt Politicians Just Like The Democrats.

The War

Several Corruption Scandals In Recent News.

There Appeared To Be A "Perfect Storm," Of Sorts: Allegations Of All Sorts Of Corruption, Perversion, Hypocrisy, Greed, And Racism Combined To Form An Overwhelming Wave That Apparently Disgusted The GOP Base, Motivated Democrats To Go To The Polls, And, Probably Most Importantly, Made Up The Mind Of The Fence-Sitters Who Didn't Know Which Way They'd Vote.

Iraq

Three Reasons: Iraq, Iraq, Iraq.

Dissatisfaction With Iraq And President Bush.

The War In Iraq

Six Year Itch And Iraq

Iraq And Inability Of The Republicans To Consider Other Opinions

Lack Of Resolving Issues Important To Americans Mean-Spirited Partisanship Instead Of Productive Leadership.

Iraq & Bush

They Did Not Respond To Voters Concerns, Republicans Were More Concerned On Keeping Power Than Solving Problems.

I Think Mismanagement Of Iraq, The Revelations Of The Fallacy Of Why We Invaded. The Revelations Of Corruption, Which Republicans Could Not Longer Deny.

Voter Perception Of Gross Incompetence Of The Republican Administration On All Fronts, War, Katrina, Etc.

Abandoning The Principles Of The Party.

Inflexibility Of Bush Administration



Corruption.

Scandal Fatigue

They Ignored Their Base.

Iraq And The Financial (Abramoff) And Moral (Foley) Corruption Scandals.

Have Not Fulfilled The Commitment To Their Base - Morally, Fiscally, Or In Terms Of Iraq

The Anti-Sex Party Got Taken Out By A Wave Of Discontent Triggered By A Sex Scandal.

Corruption

Iraq, Corruption, Lack Of Leadership

Strayed From Message Of Smaller Government, Lower Taxes And Strong National Defense.

Iraq

Lack Of A Central Message.

Iraq, Runaway Spending, Perception Of Corruption.

Foley And Corruption

Iraq

Did Not Articulate The Message That If Not Fighting Terror In The Middle East We Would Have To Fight It On Streets Of US Cities.

Scandal, Iraq, Disengaged

Their Focus On Preserving A Republican Majority Rather Than Address Issues Relevant To All Americans

Not Real Conservatives, Bad Track Record

Years Of Overreaching Without Producing Good Government And An Increasingly Unpopular War

Corruption. The Obvious Connection Between The Decision Makers And The Profit Takers

Pork Barrel Spending, Getting Away From The Conservative Values That Got Them There In The First Place.

Immigration Reform Was Another Key.

Failure To Listen To The Public

Lack Of Visionary Leadership

Corruption, Iraq, Cronyism In The Bush Administration.

Lack Of Accomplishments And/Or Progress.

Iraq

Iraq

Iraq

Lack Of Fiscal Responsibility

War And Debt

The Sixth Year

Iraq And Bush Lack Of Reality About What Voters Demand.

Loss Of Focus - Runaway Spending Failing To Protect Borders

Arrogance Of Leadership - Didn't Try To Even Appear That They Would Work With Democrats.

Iraq

The War

Iraq War

They've Become Fat & Lazy. Their Image Of A Party Of Small Government And Fiscal Responsibility Is Gone.

The Presidents Unwillingness To Change Direction On Iraq, Rumsfeld

Time Was Spent On Putting On The Agenda Hearings And Debate On Conservative Issues To Provide Cover With Their Voter Base And Not Addressing Deficit And Major Social Issues.

Arrogance Of Power ... They Forgot The Lessons That America Sent Them Into Power With In 1994.

Their Adherence To Long Failed Policies And Doctrines.

Acting Like Pre-1994 Democrats.

Corruption And Iraq

IRAQ

They Lost Their Base Over Illegal Immigration And Their Spending And Their Immoral Behavior

The Strong Dislike Of The Bush Administration--Being Labeled Republican Hurt Many Good Candidates.

Over Confident

Iraq

Inability To Convey Message Through MSM.

They Failed To Convince A Majority Of The Country That Their Policies On Issues Like Iraq Were Effective.

Iraq



Iraq  
The War.  
Iraq, Corruption  
No House And Senate Leadership On Issues And No Knowledge Of How To Use Issues In The Election And Unpopularity Of Bush  
Bush, Iraq  
A Hated War, A Refusal To Acknowledge The Concerns Of The People  
Corruption  
Media And Voter Turnout  
They Were Acting Like The Democrats Pre-1994. So The Voters Put In Real Demo Instead Of Fake Ones.  
Corruption  
Arrogance And Incompetence  
The Liberal Media Supported The Democrats Regardless And In Spite Of Any Democrats. Scandals. I'm Surprised Any Republican Can Get Elected With The Liberal Media Against Them.  
The Forgot Or Ignored Who Sent Them To Washington In The First Place.  
Incumbent Backlash!  
The War In Iraq.  
Iraq, Fiscal Irresponsibility, Religious Right Left Behind  
The Republicans Weren't Doing Anything In Congress.  
Iraq  
Iraq, Iraq, Iraq, 15 Members Under An Ethical Cloud Of Some Sort And Iraq.  
Republican Mishandling Of Iraq And Other Katrina Like Screw Ups  
A Huge Anti-GOP Sentiment, Fueled Primarily By The War, And Dean's 50 State Strategy.  
Iraq And Corruption  
Frustration With Iraq  
They Betrayed True Conservative Principles, They Overreached And They Were Arrogant.  
WAR  
Corruption, Fiscal Irresponsibility, Lack Of Oversight, Iraq War  
Too Much Power, Too Much Corruption, Went To Their Heads, Thought They Could Do Whatever They Wanted. Lost Their Base.  
Rejection Of Bush's Arrogance  
Their Incompetent And Idiot Leader-The President Of The USA Is Making Them Look Even Worse Than They Already Are  
Wide-Spread Republican Corruption  
President Bush And Iraq  
Low Republican Turnout And Iraq  
Lack Of Discipline, War Fatigue, No Strong Presence Form President, Media Bias,  
Because Too Many Of Them Are 'Republican' In Name Only, And The Party Illegally Spent Too Much Time, Money, And Political Capital On Pushing 'Moderate' Liberals Over True Conservatives In The Primaries.  
War In Iraq As A Symbol Of Total Republican Inability To Manage, To Govern  
War  
Unhappiness With The War In Iraq  
Lost Their Conservative Principles Lack Of Message  
Out Of Touch  
Inability To Enact Real Legislation That They Were Elected To Do . They Did Not Use The Majority The People Gave Them.  
They Forgot The Reason Why They Were Sent There In The First Place!  
The War Was Number 1 And The President Should Have Been Smart Enough To Dump Rumsfeld BEFORE The Election. Had He Done That The Republicans Would Still Have Both House Of Congress. He Should Have Pulled The Trigger A Month Ago If He Was Going To Do It At All, Not The Day After He Loses The Election.  
Main Stream Media Never Reported GOOD News About Economy, Good News In Iraq, Low Unemployment Never Mentioned  
The Republicans Lost The '06 Elections Because They Are Crazy People With Bad Policies That Have All Failed. They Started A War Based On Bullshit, And Then They Quite Literally Made A Bloody Mess Of It. Also, They're Completely Corrupt And Incompetent, Self-Righteously Religious, Willing To Gay Bait And Race Bait, And Generally All They Do Is Tell Lies And Act Like Total Weasels And Whine About The Phony Bugaboo Of The "Liberal Media."



The Biased Media And Most Voters Do Not Know The Issues.

The Mess In Iraq

War In Iraq

The Behavior Of President Bush And His Administration.(My Way Or The Highway)

Disgust With The War In Iraq And With Bush's Inability To Compromise And Sound Like An Intelligent Leader

Congress Being Run By Far-Right-Wing Ideologues

Trapped In Inflexible And Unpopular Position On Iraq. Atmosphere Of Corruption And Abuse. Middle Class Not Happy With Economy Despite Hype Over Stock Gains. War, War, War. Independents Grown Weary Of Iraq Rhetoric Serving As Screen For Conservative Agenda (Majority Of Flipped House Seats Went To Democrats Who Ran To The Left Of The Incumbent Republican Who Often Was Viewed As A Moderate).

Iraq And Scandals

"It Was Bush, Stupid!" – To Borrow A Phrase From The James Carville's "It's The Economy, Stupid." It's Not Just The Iraq War – It's The Many Ways In Which Bush And Cheney Have Steered This Country In The Wrong Direction – Deficits, Ignoring Laws And Sacred Principles Of Our Founding, Tax Cuts For The Rich, Special Deals For Powerful, Ignoring The Problems Of The Middle Class.

They Didn't Have A Unified Message/ List Of Accomplishments

They Abandoned Their Conservative Principles And Their Conservative Base

Voter Disenchantment And Republican Overconfidence. However, Democrats Didn't Win By As Large Numbers As They Should Have.

Not Exciting Their Base.

Iraq

The High Coverage Of Just Went Wrong In Iraq And Whatever Mistakes The Republicans Made.

Bad Policies (Fiscal, Emergency, And Nat Guard Are Examples) Have "Trickled Down" To The Local Level.

Did Not Articulate Conservative Message. Spent Too Much Money. Did Not Articulate The Reasons For The GWOT Including Iraq Well. Liberal Media Bias. Combined With Above, A High Percentage Of Voters Were Fooled Into Voting For The Democrats.

Corruption, Iraq, Voter Disenchantment With National Republicans

Iraq, Corruption, Economy And Strong Democrats Running

Bush

You Nailed It In A Prior Question...The Perceived Strategy That We Should "Stay The Course" Even If It Is The Wrong One.

They Lost Sight Of Their Goals And Took Their Base For Granted. They Became Corrupted By Power

Frustration With The President Over The War In Iraq.

They Forgot Why They Were Elected They Went To Washington And Acted Like Democrats.

Lack Of Immigration Reform To Include Enforcement, Runaway Spending/Earmarks, Abramoff, Attitude Of Congressional Leaders.

The War In Iraq And Afghanistan

Total Disorganization

They Did Not Stay The Course On Conservative Issues And They Did Not Focus On The Robust Economy.

The Combination Of Problems In Iraq, The Poor Handling Of The Mark Foley Scandal, And A Large Turn Out Of Moderate Voters.

Because Of The War In Iraq And Their Cuts To Social Programs Such As Veterans, Education And Bush's Insistence On Privatizing Social Security. In Addition This Congress Was All For Corporation And Not The Working Man.

Did A Bad Job Of Getting The Base Out...Needed To Spend A Lot More On Key Areas To Better Control The Message And Silence The Other Party's Crap

Did Not Have A United Theme.

Hypocrisy, Arrogance, Sense Of Entitlement Rather Than Obligation

Corruption And The Take Over Attitude Of The Executive Office It Was Nazi Like.

Scandals & Iraq

The Liberal New York Times And Mainstream Media Won This Election.

Loss Of Ideology

Public Desire For A Balance Of Power

The American People Have Seen That The Whole Conservative Philosophy Of Governance Has Failed. It Has Failed Katrina, Iraq, America, And The World. And They Saw That The Democrats Have It Right: We Need To Take Care Of Our Workers And Our Sick And Our Businessmen. It Wasn't Just Republicans Failed America, It's That Democrats Articulated A Clear Vision For A Better Tomorrow.



The Media Portrayed A Biased Picture Of The War In Iraq Which Played For The Democrats. Not Enough New Selling Points For The Republican Party Michael Foxx  
Republicans Have Lost Their Way. Blindfolded You Would Not Be Able To Tell One Whit's Difference In Them And The Democrats In Congress  
Deficit Spending Iraq War  
Voters Tired Of Iraq War  
Lack Of Production In A Conservative Manner.  
6 Year Itch And A Dismal Record, Coupled W/ Iraq And Scandal.  
Corruption, Unfettered Spending, And Gridlock  
Runaway Spending Perception Of Corruption Debacle In Iraq  
Corruption, Iraq  
Dissatisfaction With The Answers Regarding The War  
Iraq  
Poor Campaigns(Ex: Allen) Republican Corruption Highlighted, Democratic Buried (Jefferson-La. Menendez)By Lazy Voters Use And Predominance Of Main Stream Media. A Non Issue Campaign-Macaca To Foley To Fox To Other No Substantive Issue. Failure Of Administration To Explain War On Terrorism And Battle For Iraq  
Distrust Of And Disgust With Politicians In Power... I.E. The Arrogance, Justification Of Lying, Oligarchs Benefiting From Decisions Via Contracts  
Their Arrogance And Deaf Ear To The Dissatisfaction Of The Electorate With The Administration  
The War In Iraq  
Dissatisfaction With The Iraq War/Bush Policies  
The Lack Of A Cohesive Conservative Message To The Voters  
Voter Discontent Much Like 12 Years Ago When The Democrats Were Ousted  
Historically Poor Performance During Midterms By The Party In Power Compounded By The War In Iraq, The House Scandal And Handling Policy Issues Ham Handedly.  
Corruption/War In Iraq  
They've Proven To Be Inept, Corrupt And Out Only For The Top 1/10 Of 1% Of This Country.  
They Were The Only Patriotic And Knowing Group  
The Lack Of True Conservative Leadership. The Undecided Chose To Elect Democrat Candidates Who Ran On Conservative Themes.  
The Country Tired Of The Continue Bad News Regarding Those In Leadership (I.E. The Republicans)  
Iraq And Corruption  
Time For A Change.  
Deficits, Iraq, And Corruption  
Fiscal Irresponsibility--They Became Democrats Trying To Stay In Power By Spending And Presiding Rather Than Governing By The Principals That Brought Them To Power In 1994.  
They Were Too Tied To Bush For Too Many Years, B/C Of Their Vaunted 'Party Discipline'. By The Time They Saw This Was A Negative, It Was Too Late.  
Lack Of Leadership For The Country. Where Are The Citizen Leaders Instead Of Career Politicians? I Am Fed Up With Both Parties.  
Instead Of Trying To Change The Subject Or Their Views On It, The GOP Ran Towards The Iraq War And The President's "Stay The Course" Position. In Essence, They Focused On Motivating Their Base And Found That Much Of Their Base (As Well As The Vast Majority) Was Not Impressed.  
The Sex And Corruption Scandals Combined With The Iraq Disaster Was The One-Two Punch That KO'd The Republicans. Yet!  
More Than Just Iraq. I'd Say The Incompetence That Is Best Shown By Iraq  
Ethics -- Combined Wallop Of Foley, Abramoff, Delay, Haggard.  
Media Constant Barrage On The President And His Policies  
Scandal And Corruption  
Bush Is Incompetent  
Failure To Tell Their Story  
Because 109th Congress Is The WORST Congress Ever, And The Republicans Have Nobody But Themselves To Blame. Unchecked Executive Branch And Willingness To Give White House A Blank Check In Terms Of Spending And Passing Legislation Which Benefited Corporate Backers Instead Of The American People, Not Paying Attention To President Bush's Low Approval Rating, Obvious Corruption And The Fact It Infected The Legislative And Executive Branches Of Government And Unwillingness To Deal With It, Out Of Touch With The American People, Iraq, Iraq, Iraq.



Very Weak Leadership From Both The White House And The Congressional Leadership.  
Perception Of Corruption Within The Republicans  
The Voters Were Fed Up With One Party Rule That Didn't Seem Like They Were Listening To The People But Just Cared About Preserving Power.  
Disengaged W/Constituents, Or No Real Agenda  
They've Governed Disastrously And Didn't Get ANYTHING Right...Not For Their Base, Not For Americans In General. I Don't Believe It Was Just One Thing, But Rather A Confluence Of Things From SS Privatization To Iraq.  
Voters Finally Woke Up To The Damage Caused By Republican Sheep In Congress  
Their Control Of Both Houses And The Presidency Created Arrogance. This Arrogance Lead Them To Believe They Did Not Need To Work With The Democrats Or Moderates To Pass Legislation And Policies That Most Americans Want And Can Support.  
Corruption, Iraq, Being The Same Party As Bush.  
PENDULUM SWINGING THE OTHER WAY.  
Ineffectiveness Of The House And Senate In Passing Legislation. At The Same Time The Failure Of The "Party In Charge" To Explain The Exit Strategy For Iraq.  
They Didn't Listen And We Were Pissed Off.  
Lack Of Effective Legislative Initiatives  
Conservatives Did Not Stand Up To President Bush And Tell Him He Was Wrong About Tax Cuts For The Super-Rich While Not Paying For The War In Iraq About Rushing To War Without Proper Men And Vehicle Amour Continuing The Flow Of American Jobs To Other Countries To Help Wealthy, Non-Working Americans At The Expense Of American Workers And Families And For Not Really Doing Much For His Conservative Base Except Saying He Is On Our Side  
Lack-Luster Message About Maintaining Status Quo  
A Compilation Of Factors Which Alienated The Two Core Pieces Of Their Base. Christian's Saw An Unethical Party Playing Lip Service To The Their Agenda, Tainted By Scandal. Business Conservatives Saw An Undisciplined Party Spending Recklessly For Their Own Political Gains.  
They Didn't Carry Out A Conservative Agenda Ignored Their Base And What Republicans Should Stand For. Stay The Course...On Iraq, Immigration, Gay Marriages, Stem Cell Research, No Child Left Behind And Ethics. Because They Are The Face Of A Time That Americans Would Like To Move Away From And The Only Reason Democrats Won Is Because There Is No Viable Other Party.  
Iraq  
Arrogance And Ignorance.  
They Left Their Fiscal Responsibility Roots. Too Much Pork Barrel, Runaway Spending.  
People Were Angry At Bush For The War In Iraq  
Disengagement With Their Base. They Got Away From "Contract With America" Principles And Followed The Lead Of The White House Too Much In Terms Of Policy Direction.  
Because This Has Been One Of History's Least Productive Congresses Ever.  
The Iraq War And Katrina=Incompetence  
Corruption, Pork Barrel Spending  
Most Good Citizens Did Not Vote Or Voted A Protest Vote For Libertarian. It Was A Vote Against The Republicans Total Display Of How Not To Lead.  
They Became The Embodiment Of What They Had Run Against In 1994.  
Over Use Of The Republican Mantra -- Too Much Is Never Enough  
Iraq  
Financial Corruption.  
Failed To Defend And Articulate The Positions That Led To Their Initial Election Into Office.  
Bush  
Anti-War Sentiments  
They Were Arrogant And Ran This Country To The Ground With Their Spending Habits And Their Rubber Stamp Attitude Towards A Administration That Does NOT Have Best Interest At Heart.  
Incompetence  
Time For A Change  
The Failure Of The Iraq War As Well As Corruption  
They Became Democrats--Tried To Buy Votes With Public Money On Pork. There Was No Longer Any Distinction Between The Parties And Republican Voters, At Least In Texas, Stayed Home.  
Because The Republicans Have Shown Themselves To Be Wimps And More Interested In Maintaining Power Via Compromise Than Standing Up For What Is Right.



Voters Wanted Change, Congress Wasn't Doing The Peoples Business

Iraq War And Arrogance

Corruption, War, Bush

1.) The Iraq War Going Badly 2.) Republican Corruption

War In Iraq

People Want A Nanny-State.

Too Many Negative Ads And They Were Split Between Trying To Please Moral Conservatives And Businessmen.

The Public Knew What They Stood For On The Issues And Saw The Immense Hypocrisy And Incompetence Of The Republican Leadership And Their President

Bush's Incompetence, And Corruption In The GOP

War In Iraq And Uncontrolled Spending. Republicans Were NO Different Fiscally Than Democrats.

It's Because Of Iraq. They Mishandled Everything They Touched.

Arrogance. How Many Promises Did They Keep In The Last 12 Years?

Voter Fraud - Consistent Negative Liberal Press

Too Much Focus On Media Control And Little Attention Paid To What People Actually Think

The President's Unpopularity. A Highly Disciplined And Tightly Run Caucus That Had Remained On Message And Rode The Presidents Coattails For Years, Saw That Organizational Quality Turn Against Them. They Had No Where To Run, So To Speak, Since Their Main Message--Strength In National Security--Was 100% A Byproduct Of The West Wing's Political Operation.

Their Arrogance, Corruption And Inability To Get Any Thing Accomplished. The War Was The Main Thing. Tax Cuts For The Rich And Their Total Disregard For The Middle Class.

People Were Fed Up With The War In Iraq. They Couldn't Fire Bush So They Did The Next Best Thing: Fire His Party

People Are Sick Of Iraq And Sick Of The Corruption And Lies

Iraq

Iraq War

Members Who Forgot That They Have To Actually Campaign To Retain Their Seats

Voters Are Tired Of A Government That Does Little For Them And Is Mostly Interested In Reelection. So Let's Vote Out The Party In Power Every Time Until It Changes.

War

Voter Frustration Over Congressional Inaction On A Verity Of Issues

American Voters Finally Pulled Their Collective Head Out Of Their... Seriously. People Were Concerned About The Direction Of The Country. That's Why The Dem Slogan "New Direction" Resonated So Well. It Seems All The Democrats Used It.

Corruption And Incompetence

Very Simple: War In Iraq & Very Corrupt Republicans

The Republican Party? President Bush Failure To Effectively Deal With Illegal Immigration, The War In Iraq & Afghanistan And Not Listening To Their Constitutions.

Apathy Of The Conservative Base

Lack Of Strong Leadership

They Did Not Care About Anyone Or Anything But Themselves And Pushing Their Agenda. They Marginalized Everyone Else And Refused To Listen And Govern Responsibly.

Wouldn't Take An Affirmative Stand

Hubris

Their Willingness To Abet The Emperor In His Misguided Attempt To Rule The World

Scandal And The Iraq War.

The Republicans Of Today Are The Democrats Of The 1960s.

Total Disconnect From What Americans Thought Was Important.

Where To Begin..., Corruption, Partisanship, Iraq, Cronyism, Incompetence, LIES, Ego, Hubris...Need I Go On?

Failure To Be Daring, Decisive, And Activist About Basic Conservative Principles And Move Legislation On Immigration, Terror, Tax Reform, And Social Security.

Iraq And Corruption

War In Iraq

Iraq

War/Corruption

The War In Iraq.

Iraq And "Stay The Course."



The War In Iraq, Medicare D, Katrina And Corruption  
FRUSTRATION OVER INCUMBENTS LOSING THEIR PHILOSOPHICAL (REPUBLICAN) MOORINGS LED TO  
DISINTEREST/ANTIPATHY FOR INCUMBENTS.

Independent Voters.

Arrogance.

The Republicans Simply Did NOT Fulfill Their Campaign Promises And Spent Well Beyond Any Reason.

Being Over Spenders & Crooks

They Were Not 'Bold' Conservatives, But 'Pale' Moderates.

Poorly Managed Campaigns. No Message And Ignored Their Base.

Because Of Publicized Corruption

They Deserved To. They Have Used And Abused The American Public, Taken Advantage Of And Taken For Granted  
Their Conservative Base Assuming That If They Wave The Red Flag Of Fear --Higher Taxes, Terrorism, And Gay  
Marriage. All The Lies And Hypocrisy Are Finally Coming Back To Haunt Them.

Iraq War

Iraq

Perceptions On Corruption/Ethical Lapses, Iraq, And Failure To Live Up To Their Perceived Principles

Abuse Of Power & Corruption.

Been Said Many Times Many Ways - What Have They Done? Finances Are A Mess. Energy Bill Is Largely An Arcane  
Work. They Don't Compromise. Focus On Fringe Issues - The Brain Dead, Religious Emotionalism, Consider Tax Cuts  
To Be Economic Policy, Have No Idea What It's Like To Try To Live On \$35,000/Year.

Abuse Of Power

Elitism Of Members

Being Out Of Touch With Voters Whether It Was Iraq Or On Issues Of Moral Judgment

Iraq

Mishandling Of The Iraq War Voter's Suspicions About The Motives For That War Grief Over Loss Of Life There, With  
No Apparent Progress.

Corruption And Poor Economic Situation For Average Person!

1) Iraq 2) Foley 3) Abramoff Enough Is Enough.

Iraq

Partly, It Is A Normal Cycle That Didn't Happen In 2002 Due To 9/11. The War In Iraq Was Also A Major Reason.

They Haven't Been Running As Conservatives, And President Bush Hasn't Been Leading As A Conservative.

Iraq And Congressional Scandals Drowned Out Other Messages.

Anger At President

George Bush And The War In Iraq

IRAQ

Iraq

Dissatisfaction With The War In Iraq That Never Should Have Been Waged, And Disgust With Republican Corruption.

Corruption Scandals

War

Arrogance And Corruption

Support For The Iraqi War And Being Out Of Touch With The Populace

Failure To Adhere To The Principles Which Won Them The Role Of Majority Party!

Iraq, Economy

Democrats Have Blocked The Republicans At Every Move In Both Houses Thereby Making Them Totally Ineffective.

The Media Barrage Of Negative Press In Reporting What Is Happening In Iraq. The Constant Lies By The Democrats  
About The President And Other Republican Leaders. Failure Of The President To Deal With Our Borders...

War, Sucking Up To The "So Called Christians" Taxes On The Middle Class,

Voter Perception Of Non Mainstream Or Extreme Views Not Held By Majority Of Voters.

Republicans Have Not Learned How To Communicate Their Issues And Values To The Voters, And When They Try,  
They Are Ignored By The Media.

Iraq And Bush.

Combination Of The Foley Scandal And Iraq War

Failure To Deliver On The Promises Of The Past Six Years, Corruption, Iraq

They Tolerate Corruption, Have Failed In Their Oversight Function, And Ignore The Needs Of The Country (Except For  
The Super Rich).

Too Many Scandals To Overcome And A Lack Of A Substantive Direction On The War On Terror.



Corruption, People Catching On To The "Sales Pitch/Message" That Never Matched The Results

They Could Not Find Enough Conservatives In Their Ranks.

Out Of Touch With The Electorate At Home. Congressman Hart's Office Staffer Called Me A Racist And Hung Up On Me I Wanted Israel Condemned For The Attack On Civilian Targets In Lebanon

Media Bias And Propaganda. Young People Watching Jon Stewart On Comedy Central And Believing Him.

Bush Administration Arrogance And Incompetence, Particularly In Iraq

Neither Party Has A Plan On Iraq. Voters Are Wandering Aimless.

IRAQ WAR.

War And Corruption Within The Republican Party

They Forgot That There Is A Middle Class Moderate Center In This Country. They Forgot That They Were There To Uphold The Constitution They Forgot To Be The 3rd Branch And Check The Power Of The Presidential Office. They Forgot That Lobbyist And Multinationals Do Not Own The Country.

Power Unsure

Because The Voters Finally Woke Up To See That They Have Done Nothing Of Substance Over The Past 12 Years.

Loss Of Trust In Iraq Policy

Both Houses Allowed The Democrats To Control The Business Of The Country. Especially The Judiciary Committee Allowing The Filibuster Nonsense.

Scandals And A Worsening Situation In Iraq.

The Leadership Abandoned Their Conservative Ideals

Betrayed Their Principles, Big Spenders, Corruption Allegations By Democrats Were Highly Successful

Bush Lost Creditability In Iraq Due To His Position On The Border And Therefore Lost His Base. Runaway Spending Of An Out-Of-Control Congress.

Public Distaste At Corruption. Unfortunately, Iraq And Katrina Were Not Enough. It Took Abramoff Et Al And Foley. They Acted Like Democrats.

They Did Not Stick To Their Principles Of Restrained Spending And Government They Did Not Communicate The Successes In The Economy And Iraq They Let The News Media Define And Democrats Define The Republicans 12 Years In Power Without A Change For The Better, Coupled With Corruption, Runaway Spending And A Steady Stream Of Bad News And Deaths From Iraq Put Simply It Was A Democratic Perfect Storm

In The Words Printed On A TX Yard Sign- "Had Enough?" Vote Democratic. That Said It All. It May Not Have Been Enough In Dark Red TX But The Message Proved True, I Believe, In Less Gerrymandered States. Rick Perry Won But Only Because He Had 3 Opponents. 60 Percent Voted Against Him

Lost Touch With Economic Realities Of Most American Families

Leadership

Refusal To Consider Options In Iraq

Iraq - Hubris And Denial

Republicans Stopped Fighting For Their Principles And Fought To Stay In Power. They Forgot That Their Strength Was In Their Principles, Which They Abandoned Through Promoting Excessive Spending, And Turning Their Backs On Earmark, Immigration, Social Security, And Tax Reform.

Perception Of Corruption In Republican Ranks

They Over Stepped. They Had No Respect For Us.

Policy Errors On The Part Of The White House And A Republican Congress W/O A Reform Agenda.

Not Governing From The Middle Only Concentrating On What Their Base Wanted Uncompromising And Consulting With Democrats To Get Something Done For The Country.

Poor Economy, Wars, Republican Attitude, My Way Or No Way

Overall Feeling Among Independents And Some Republicans That Their Leaders Had Gone Astray - Cumulative Voter Fatigue Due To Iraq, Katrina, And Corruption. People Who Had Voted Republican Before But Were Not Committed To The Party Came To See The Republicans As Ineffective And Wrongheaded In Iraq, Incompetent At Home, And Corrupt Overall.

Iraq

Did Not Accentuate Their Successes - Let The Democrats Phrase The Issues

The Public Has Finally Opened Their Eyes To The Blatant Corruption In The Republican Party And Their Lack Of Real Concern For The American Public.

Iraq, Deficit, Corruption, Social Security, Environment, Tax Breaks For The Rich, NAFTA & CAFTA, Low Income For The Middle Class.

Being Tied To White House Policy

The War In Iraq! The American People Are More Intelligent Than The Republicans Think They Are. We Understand The War, The Debt And The Scandals And We Do Not Like Them At All.



The Unpopular War In Iraq

No Real Record Of Achievement. They Left Social Security, Energy, And Immigration On The Table Undone. Got Carried Away With One-World Nonsense And Quit Listening To The Public. They Thought They Had All The Answers, But The Public Knew Better.

Lazy And Ignorant

Abramoff, Foley Scandals. Bush's Ineptness Iraq Coming Apart. A Higher Stock Market With Lower Net Income For The Middle And Lower Classes. The Arrogance Of Power By The White House.

Iraq

War In Iraq

Because The Republicans In Washington Abandoned The Principles Of Conservatism.

High-Handed And Unethical/Illegal Practices.... Failure To Resolve The Iraq And Afghani Wars

The Occupation Of Iraq Was First. Second Was The Corruption.

Bush's Incompetence At Running The War, Republicans That Wound Up Being As Fiscally Irresponsible As Democrats, And Serious Corruption

Iraq

I Don't Think There Is One Thing You Can Hang Your Hat On. There Was A Combination Of Things That Caused The Loss The War In Iraq, Runaway Spending, A President Who Could Not Articulate Any Positive Message, Scandals, Etc. Republicans Have Forsaken Their Conservative Roots

Legislative Inaction And Social Issue Patronage To The Religious Fanatics.

They Were Given Power To Accomplish Things They Never Did (Social Security, Immigration, Taxation, Judicial Confirmations).

23. In your opinion, what was the main reason that Republicans lost seats in the Governorships?

Democrats Had Better Candidates And Message

No Opinion

General Dissatisfaction With Republican Because Of The War And Corruption

I Don't Know

National Wave.

National Politics

Fresh Start

No Opinion

Overall Dissatisfaction With Republicans Being In Control

Oblivious Of The National Nature Of Voters Concerns.

Poor Campaigns

Weak Candidates

Poor Performance In Governing States And Too Diffident To Special/Right Wing Interests

GOP Unpopularity

Did Not Recognize The Population And Culture Shifts Taking Place In America.

Bad Candidates

Time For A Change

Spending, Health Care, And Lack Of Response, I.E. Katrina

Middle Class Concerns.

Anti-Republican Tide Created By Displeasure With National Republicans

Bush

The Same Reasons As Above. People Want A New Direction.

Reasons Vary From State To State

They Were Caught Up In Anti-Incumbent Sentiment.

Association With Bush

Low Ratings For Bush

Majority Of People Are Not Seeing The Benefits Of A New Economy, And Want Someone Who Can Work In Non-Partisan Fashion.

Iraq But Also Local Conditions And Demographic Changes

Because Of Their Support Of President Bush

Anti-Republican Tide



Chronic Corruption.

Bad Candidates

President Bush

It Was A Democratic Year And People Were Looking For A New Direction

A Combination Of National Coattails And Local, Primarily Economic, Concerns On The Part Of The Electorate.

People Know That As A Nation, Democrats Are More Sincere At Leading FOR The People.

Economy

Democrats At The State Level Have Been Steadily Been Laying The Groundwork To Be More Successful.

"Republican Fatigue Among The Electorate

Economic Issues

Overall Discontent With Republicans

Republican Fatigue

Victims Of Widespread Discontent With Republican Party As A Whole.

Have No Idea

State Issues, For The Most Part.

See #15 Above.

Iraq And Scandals

General Dissatisfaction

Bush And War

Coattails.

See Above It Was A National Election This Time. Republicans In Power Are Perceived As Untrustworthy By Independents And Also Many Republican Voters.

Democrat Tidal Wave Sweeping In National And State Democrats.

Republicans Are Not Speaking To American Families. The Gay Amendment Doesn't Resonate With Families. Families Want Education, Roads And Health Care.

The Election Was, It Seems, A Party Election. Regardless Of All Of The Particular Causes, Independents And Weak Identifiers Generally Leaned Against Republicans Across The Board.

Lost Touch With Their Constituencies

Voters Dissatisfaction With The Status Quo

Fall Out From Displeasure With Congress.

Jobs, Wages, Medical Care

Same

Unsure

War In Iraq

IRAQ WAR

National Wave Against GOP

See Above

Anti-GOP Environment

Generally Tired With Republicans/Incumbents

Generally, An Anti-Scum, Throw-Out-The-Bums Backlash That Transcended The Federal/State Divide To Poison People's Minds Against Anything Tangentially Related To Bush/Abramoff/Foley/Etc.

Iraq

Strong Local Organizing That Focused On Responding To Increasing Economic Issues And Discontent. (All Hail Dr. Dean.)

D Tidal Wave From #15 Above.

Out Of Touch

Republican Fatigue

Poor Economic Conditions In The States And Spillover From The Anger At The National Party

Local Issues Lack Of Focus On Substantive Issues National Tide.

Iraq & Bush/Coattails

The Party. I Believe That The Voters Are Tired Of Republicans And Were Punishing Anyone Under That Label.

I Think This Was Part Of The Over All Mood Of The Nation Seeing Republican As Corrupt And In League With Each Other And Special Interests.

Spillover Effect Of Voter Perception Of Gross Incompetence Of The Republican Administration On All Fronts, War, Katrina, Etc.

Lack Of Turnout. Tarded With The Same Brush As Congress.



Time For A Change

Desire To Punish Republicans.

General Anti-Republican Trend (Although In Many Instances Local Issues And Personalities Were Determinant)

They Were Republicans At A Time When There Was Considerable Republican/Bush Fatigue.

Generalized Need For Change In State Capitols.

Republican Governors Followed The Lead Of The Bush Administration, Brought The Same Lack Of Accountability To The States. In My State, Personal Ambition Overshadowed Any Commitment To Public Service Or The Future Of The Commonwealth.

In NM, They Ran A Worn Out Hack With No Ideas Against Bill Richardson

Social Issues

Weak Candidates, " A Democratic Wave"

Weak State Party Leadership. Weak Delivery Of Message.

Out Of Control Fiscal Spending

Overall Election Of Democrats

Assumption That All Suburban Voters Can Be Ignored.

Unsure

Christian Conservatives

Not Sure.

Connections To Bush

All Politics Is Local, People Are Tired Of The Direction The Republicans At All Levels Have Taken

Looking For A Change Esp. In Conservative And Moderate Democrats.

Poor Management

Coattails To The House And Senate Elections

Backlash From Federal Election.

Other Races On The Ticket

Local Political Realities Not Associated With National Issues

Not Enough Help For The Middle-Class, Too Much For The Rich And The States Wanted A Change.

Overwhelming Democratic Tide.

Being Republican

Anti-R Sentiment Based On Iraq And Abuse Of Power (E.G., Off-Cycle Redistricting)

This Was A More Nationalized Election Than I Thought It Would Be.

Lack Of Republican Message

Did Not Trust The Republicans

Spending

Because They Were Republicans Associated With A War Party.

My Gov (GA) Won...Don't Know About Others

Democrats Painted Governors As Part Of The Problem And Tied Them To Bush

Rising Tide Raising All (Democratic) Boats

Iraq War

Weak Candidates And No Good Story To Tell.

VOTERS ARE SICK OF ALL IMCUMBANTS

Major Shifts In Population And Cultural Issues. For Instance: Touting Family Values To A Country Where There Are More Single People Than Married Some Types Of Stem Cell Research Is Acceptable State Governments Devoting Time And Resources To Religious, Education And Other Conservative Mantra Issues. Scaring People With Gay Marriage And 9/11.

Just A Tidal Wave Of Disenchantment With Bush And All He Stood For As The Titular Head Of The Party.

Economic Downturns, Fiscal Mismanagement.

Democrat Year, Probably The Iraq War.

IRAQ

The States Had Local Issues On The Ballots-Minimum Wage, Stem Cell Etc

Again, The "Need For Change" Theme And Dislike Of The Bush Administration.

Over-Confident

Republican Positions Out Of Step With Middle Class

Aside From The Map Being Highly Unfavorable To Them, Their Campaigns Were Distinctly Unoriginal In The Face Of A Broad National Discontent With The Republican Party.



Iraq  
Bad Year For Republicans  
Disgust With GOP Politics.  
Iraq, Corruption  
Too Many Republicans Had Raised Taxes And In Some States The Anti-Bush Strength  
"Religious" Extremists And Corruption  
Anybody But Bush Became Any Not-Republican  
Change  
Media And Voter Turnout  
Same As Question #15  
Fallout From Disenchantment With National Republicans, And Good Democratic Candidates  
Democrats Had Better Ideas, Messages And Candidates.  
The Same Liberal Media Beat The Republicans.  
Most Likely Local Personalities And Issues Rather Than Any Overwhelming National Issue.  
Incumbent Backlash  
Lack Of Good Candidates Able To Articulate A Vision For State And Local Issues.  
Economy Not As Strong For Middle Class  
Lack Of Vision And Good Candidates  
Anti-Incumbent Mood  
The Governorships Were More Individualized Races Where Natural Democrat Seats (New York, Massachusetts) Switched Back To The Pattern Of Voters In The State. Ohio Was Directly Because Of Corruption But The Other Races Were Largely Due To Individual Candidates And The Anti-Republican Feelings Of Voters In Many States Because Of Iraq.  
People Tired Of The Republican Themes And The Too Close Ties To The Extreme Religious Right Wing.  
They Got Swept Out In The Anti-GOP Tide, And Dean's 50 State Strategy.  
National Wave  
Same  
George Bush/Iraq Back Lash  
Fiscal Irresponsibility, Lack Of Attention To Economic Equality And Social Justice Issues  
People Wanted Change, The Republicans Failed In Every Way Possible.  
Bush And Iraq  
Americans Want A Complete Change In Political Landscape. They Don't Trust Republican Leadership Now.  
Democratic Ideals  
No Opinion  
Low Republican Turnout  
Timing, Candidate Selection  
Because Too Many Of Them Are 'Republican' In Name Only, And The Party Illegally Spent Too Much Time, Money, And Political Capital On Pushing 'Moderate' Liberals Over True Conservatives In The Primaries.  
Same As Above  
Economy  
Momentum Or Inertia Continuing From Votes For Democrats In Congress  
Lack Of Message And National Environment  
Corruption  
Tied To The National Party.  
This Was Not A Dem Vs. Rep Issue, It Was More Local/Statewide Problems That Go Above The Usual Party Fingerprinting.  
See Above  
Partly A Natural Realignment As The National Party's Negatives Finally Overwhelmed The Moderate Facade That Blue/Purple State Republicans Gov's Have Been Putting Out.  
See Above  
Voter Fatigue And Boredom  
The Party Is Negatively Infected By Bush And His Administration.  
Ditto  
Bush  
Unsure.



National Issues Impacted State And Local Voting Patterns

It Was Bush, Stupid! This Whole Election Was About A Broad Rejection Or Disappointment With The Mean Politics Of The Republican Party Under Control Of The Neo-Cons And Religious Right -- They Have Been Very Mean Spirited! Dem Base Motivated By Concerns On Economy And War Swept Many Democrats Into Governorships

Anti-GOP Tide Dragged Them Down

People In Those States Wanted A Change.

Corruption At State Level.

Corruption

Same Thing (See Number Fifteen)

Public Rejection Of The Party.

Carry Over From The Federal Elections.

National Tide

Better Candidates And All Of The Reasons In #15

Bush

Spill-Over From The "Lock Step", Republican Support For The Iraq Policy.

The Anti-Republican Sentiment

Frustration With The President Over The War In Iraq.

Strong National Tide Against The GOP.

Lack Of A Unified Message.

Anger Against Bush And Republican Congress Carried Over To State Races

Total Disorganization

The War In Iraq.

People Voted For Change.

Same As Above.

Needed To Do A Better Job To Include All, And Point Out And Attack The Liars For What They Are...Liberal Losers

Coat Tails

Voters Move Lockstep. The National Mood Killed Off Local Officials Who Had No Role In Setting The Tone That Voters Disliked.

Economy, Immigration, Health Care

Scandals, Fear Of Job Loss, Decline In Standard Of Living For Working People, Health Care Issues, Transportation Issues

As Above.

Loss Of Ideology

Anti-GOP Environment Tied To Scandals And General Displeasure With Current Government.

Republicans Can't Govern. They Don't Know How To Do It. Democrats Do.

Media, Lots Of Double Talk With Lots Of Promises, Lots Of Plans But No Specifics Plan Brought Forth.

Mostly Due To Fecklessness Of The Republicans In Congress

"Wave" Of Dissatisfaction With Political Leaders

Same.

The Wave, And The Individual Candidate Match-Ups.

The War, And Being Tainted With The Same Brush As The Current Administration.

Close Association With "W"

Democratic Turn Out

Rode The Negative Coat Tails Of Iraq Thinking

Lack Of Rationality E.G. Too Ideological

Mediocre Campaigns Local Issues Neutralizing Good Economic News, Underlying Feeling For Divided Government Between National And State Systems.

The Oligarch And Arrogant Mindset Rubbed Off ... "Trickled Down" To State Levels The Fundamentalist Mantra Also Contaminated Republicans -- Even Those Without Such Leanings

Better Democratic Candidates

Wasn't A Good Time To Be Running As A Republican

General Anti-GOP Incumbent Mood

The Media Blasting The Republicans Only For The Corruption That Is Rampant In Both Parties

State Politics...Not National Issues

Historically Poor Performance During Midterms By The Party In Power Compounded By The War In Iraq.



Democratic Momentum

Above

Fallout From Republican Errors In Governing

Did Not Follow Governor's Races.

The Country Voted Against Republicans For Change.

National Tide

Time For A Change

Desire For A Change In Direction

Corruption Tainted All Republicans, Democrats Ran Relatively Conservative Candidates Who Honed In On "Time For A Change"

Strong Dem GOTV Efforts.

Same As Above.

By Using Wedge Issues To Alienate Democrats Over The Past 6 Years, The GOP Created An Angry And Highly Partisan Democratic Base. Democrats That Would Once Vote For Republicans On Statewide Issues Became Disgusted Of Republicans In General, Which Wasn't Helped By An Unpopular GOP President.

Guilt By Association With The Republicans In Washington.

The Ruin Of The US For Corporate Gain

Religion -- Wanted Less Crossover Of Church And State, Less Influence Of Church \*On\* State.

Makes No Sense So Must Be Just Carry Over From Congressional Seat Changes

Collateral Damage

Regional Economics

Reaction Against Social Conservatives Plus Iraq

Same As #15.

Just A General Distaste For The National Party And The Inept WH For Not Stressing The Great Economy.

Poor Bush Approval Ratings

Broad Disaffection With The Republican Party

Partly Because Of Democratic And Party "Machines", Example, Maryland, Where A Strong, Decent, Honest And Amazingly Productive Gov. Lost!

Scandal, Corruption That Seems To Permeate The Party. The Evidence Was Increasingly Clear That A Majority Of Citizens/Voters Lost Out To Big Interests Repeatedly And Greed Corrupted Many.

Being Tied To Bush

Democrat Coattails

The Fact That They Were Seen As Too Loyal To The Arrogant Leaders In Washington. Had They Spoken Out Publicly Against The Washington Leadership, They Would Have Been Viewed As More Independent And More Centrist In Their Views.

Same Party As Bush. It Seemed To Go All The Way Down The Line.

DEMOCRATS RAN CENTRIST, EVEN SOME CONSERVATIVE CANDIDATES.

Iraq And Unpopularity Of The President

Clean House.

Same

Republicans Want To Cut Taxes In The National Government, But That Means The States Must Raise Taxes To Provide The Same Services. Republican Governors Also Cut Taxes (Again, Mostly For The Very Wealthy) And The American People Still Want Government Services (Even Though We Do Not Want To Pay For Them) Being Tied To Pres. Bush And Allowing National Guard Troops To Go To War In Iraq With No End In Sight Knowing The Guard Are Not Equipped Or Trained For Combat Hurt As Well.

See Question 15

Less Certain, Some Residual Republican Taint With An Overlay Of Local Politics And Issues.

Same As Above

Not Listening To The People Especially About Iraq, The National Guard Deployment Has Affected Every State. They Wanted A Change.

More And More People Are Moving Around, Plus National Politics Is More Romanticized (And Is 'Richer'), Creating A Link Between Americans Of National Issues. In Other Words, National Politics Are In Your Face, Which Is The Only Reason Most People Know Anything At All (And What They Know Isn't Much) Whereas To Know Local Politics You Have To Look And Most People Are Either Too Lazy, Don't Care, Or Don't Have The Time. So All Politics Is Local Is Becoming Less And Less True.

Anti Business Feeling



Rove And Bush.

Same As Above

I Think The Dem Pickups Had A Lot To Do With Other Contentious Senate And House Races In The Individual States That Had An Effect On The Gubernatorial Races. Basically They Fell Victim To The National Trend Against Republicans That Swept Democrats Into Power In Both Federal Houses Of Congress.

Dissatisfaction With Republicans In General

Disillusionment With The Republican (Extreme Conservative) Agenda At The National Level.

Republicans Do Not Know How To Lead. They Have Been Able To Second Guess The Democrats For So Long They Did Not Know What To Do When They Gained Control Plus They Are Just As Pro Global Socialist As The Democrats General Anti-Republican Tide. Not Failures Of Individual Governors (Except For Taft In Ohio).

People Are Tired Of The Christian Neo-Nazi Rhetoric, And Want Real Solutions To Actual Problems, Not Baloney About The Ten Commandments

Open Seats

People Were Tired Of An Entrenched Party.

Turnout Against National Incumbents.

Bush

No Opinion

Not In Touch With The Poor Nor Middle Class Issues.

An "R" After Their Name

Rode The Wave

The Fact That They Are Republicans

Republican Voters Were Staying Home, So It Hurt All The Way Down The Ticket.

For The Same Reasons As Above, But I Do Not Rule Out Shenanigans On The Part Of The Democrats In The Voting In All States.

Same As Above

Economy

Bush

1.) The Iraq War Going Badly 2.) Republican Corruption

Coat Tails Of National Elections

People Want A Nanny-State.

Same As #15

No Single Answer -Some Were Not Effective, Some Were Victims Of A Generally Democratic Sweep Time For A Change

Unknown.

Because They Had R's Next To Their Names. Voters Swept Out Republicans That They Tied To Bush.

People Are Sick Of The Republicans In General, Do To (See 15).

Voter Fraud - Consistent Negative Liberal Press

National Mood Same Crap On The Local Level Became Easier To Spot.

It Is Remarkable More People Have Not Understood That This Year's State And Local Elections Were Driven By Fiscal And Social Concerns. As The Federal Government Withdrew From Effective Policymaking In These Realms (And No, Cutting Taxes And Withdrawing Regulations--Such Negative Actions Don't Count), The Burden Fell To The States To Fill The Void. In Massachusetts, Voters Ousted The Romney-Healey Regime Because Of Discontent With These Policies (See: MBTA Tax Schemes Health Care). In California, Voters Ran Back To Arnold Once He (Very Wisely) Renegade With These Core Issues. Republicans Lost Because They Didn't Run Campaigns Like Arnold, Based On Policy Instead Of Rhetoric. This Was Especially The Case In Michigan, Where Grantham Picked Up Major Traction Once Policy Promises Replaced Anti-Bush Rhetoric.

Education And The Middle Class Lost Out Under The Rep. Governors.

Same As Above

People Are Sick Of The Corruption And Lies, And Wary Of Republican "Leadership"

General Perception That Republicans Were Not In Touch With Voter Concerns.

Corruption

Bad Candidates

Voters Are Tired Of A Government That Does Little For Them And Is Mostly Interested In Reelection. So Let's Vote Out The Party In Power Every Time Until It Changes.

Economy

Not Sure



I Don't Know, But My Guess Is That They (Or Some) Were Innocent Bystanders Who Drowned In A Wave Of Anti-Republicanism.

"Guilt By Association"

Very Simple: War In Iraq & Very Corrupt Republicans

Unsure

Lack Of Strong Leadership

People Were Sick To Death Of The Neo-Cons And The Way They Govern. I Think People Were Afraid To Vote For Any Of Them Because Of Their Behavior.

Wouldn't Take An Affirmative Stint

Voters Saying No To Republican Ideology And Yes To Democratic Ideals.

See Above

Economic Instability.

Same As 15, People Want Something For Nothing And Democrats Are Better At Promising It. But They Will Continue To Pick Our Pockets And Line Their Own.

Side Effect Of National Rejection Of Republicans

See 15

Coat-Tails Of The House/Senate/Anti-Bush Movement

Iraq And Corruption

National Issues Which Weighed Heavily Even In State Races, Such As Iraq

Supporting War And Corruption

The War In Iraq.

The Ruling Party Lost The Confidence Of The Voters

Some Of The Above Reasons But Mostly A Change In Direction

THE GENERAL DEMOCRATIC THEME OF "I'M NOT A REPUBLICAN" HAD A UNIVERSAL EFFECT!

They're Republicans.

"Stay The Course", Even At The Local Level Wasn't Working. We Can Do Better And The Party On The Outs Was More Convincing With That Message.

The Liberals Had Stronger Arguments And Catered To The Large Hispanic Vote.

Tied With Bush

An Anti-Republican (Not Anti-Conservative, Per Se) Mood.

Bush Unpopularity And Poor Campaigns.

As Above

Same As Above, The GOP Is The Party Of Hypocrisy.

Aren't Upholding American Values

Iraq

Mostly Local Issues And A National Democratic Tide Energizing The Democratic Base/Moderates, But Romney Also Spent More Time Campaigning For President Than Recruiting A-List Republican Candidates

The Economy.

Not Sure About Other States But In Ohio The Factors Were Pretty Obvious: Far-Right Candidate, Party Scandal, Unpopular Incumbent, Spill-Over From National Issues.

Voters "Nationalized" Republican Candidates

Good Local Candidates

It Was Just The Right Time For The Democrats. Massachusetts And New York Are Example Governorships That Have Been Republican, But Should Be Democratic And Now Are.

Don't Know

Budget Policies Of The Administration Shift Burdens To The States. Republicans In Office Faced That Challenge.

Handouts To Big Business At People's Expense!

Swept Up In The Tides Of Change.

Timing

Poor Candidate Recruitment

The National Media Has Been Pounding The Republicans Which In Turn Has Depressed The Base

Democrats Had More Attractive Candidates.

Economy Of The State And Party Lines

People Wasn't To See A Change And The Republicans Have Not Performed

Economy

Better Democratic Candidates



Dissatisfaction With The Performance Of Republicans In The Federal Government  
Democrats Tied GOP Governors To GW Bush.  
Corruption  
Widespread Disenchantment With The Results Of Republican Rule  
Too Conservative Agenda Regarding Social Issues Like Minimum Wage, Health Care, Taxes, Etc.  
Don't Know  
Economy  
Same As Above...  
Many Voted A Straight Party Ticket, Also Governors Are More Local Scandals Are Closer To Home & The People  
A Return To Normalcy And Away From War Mentality.  
Media Reports And Voters' Erroneous Beliefs That The Economy Remains Weak And Jobs Are At Risk (Despite  
Impressive Unemployment Statistics).  
Iraq And Bush.  
Democratic Party Coat Tails  
Momentum From The Above.  
National Democratic Wave  
Same Reason.  
Really The People Were Just Fed Up With The Lies!  
Lack Of Leadership And Poor Planning  
National Trends Favoring A Democratic Tide And Over-Extended Republican Challenges  
IRAQ WAR.  
People Voted On National Issues (War And Corruption), Not Local Issues.  
Each State Had Different Reasons. Can't Think Of Any Reason Why Arnold Didn't Loose His Seat.  
National Issues  
Congressional Coattails  
Association With Bush  
The Public Is Sick And Tired Of Politicians' Lies And Throwing Good Money After Bad.  
Bad Candidates  
See 15 Above  
Toxic Environment, Personal Scandals, Etc  
Corruption In Some States Together With Washington Corruption Turned The People Away From Republicans.  
Same As Above.  
Coat Tails  
I Don't Know.  
General Democratic Wave, Several Republicans Lost In Blue States. Governorships More Than Congress Switched  
Due To Normal Corrections In The Domestic Political Balance Of Power  
Democrats Have Been Perceived To Do Better At Local Management.  
Failure To Deliver On Key Issues Such As Health Care, Minimum Wage  
Leadership  
Fear That The Far Right Has Taken Things To Far  
Iraq - Everyone Was Sending The GOP A Message About Iraq  
Many Republican Base Voters Stayed Home Out Of Disgust Of The Policies And Leadership Of The Last 2-4 Years.  
Coat Tails Of Republican Congressional Candidates.  
Election Corruption  
Weak Candidates Running Under The Weight Of Discredited State And National Party.  
Better Organization And Cohesive Leadership From The Democratic Party.  
Same As Above  
Again, An Overall Pall Over The Republicans. Independents And Some Republicans Coming To See The Party  
Leadership As Stubborn, Ineffective, Incompetent And Corrupt.  
Fiscal Shenanigans  
General Anti-Republican Sentiment  
Like The National Races, The Business Of Doing Only The Work Of Big Business Has Finally Been Seen For What It Is.  
A Sellout Of The American Public.  
Honest Elections, Schools, Science, Corruption.  
National Anger At Republican Party Carried Over To The State Level.



The War In Iraq Combined With Howard Deans 50 State Strategy.

Arrogance Of The Republican Leadership

I Don't Know.

Local Issues. Association With A Party That Lost It's Way. First Time I've Agreed With McCain On Anything.

Who Cares?

Same As Above.

Coattail Effect From 15)

The Republican Party Went Too Far Right In Its' Policies And Dependence On The Religious Right And Its' Policies.

Because The Coattails Of The Republicans In Washington Were Awfully Short.

Existing Republican Governors Simply Had Virtually No Clout In Washington And Simply Couldn't Deliver Needed Funds From Washington

Coat Tails

Higher Dem Turnout And Straight Party Voting

Can't Speak For Each State.

No Clue

Republican Congress Allowed Administration To Saddle States With Excessive Education And Healthcare Expense.

Also, Attempt To Usurp State Power By Administration.

Nationwide Disgust At The GOP In General.