

### **Latino Voter Interview - Britton Haymen**

My aunt was born in Columbia, South America and lived there until age 11. She describes her childhood as peaceful and playful. She loved to play with dolls and her friends with lots of outdoor games like hide-n-seek and jump rope. She hardly ever watched TV. My grandparents adopted her when she came to America at age 11. She lived in Colorado and attended school where she studied and became fluent in English. She became a US citizen at age 40. She could have been a citizen earlier but before she was 40, the Columbian government didn't allow dual citizenship. She now lives in Los Angeles with her husband and five-year-old son. Although she is a first generation American, she is not a stereotypical Latino. Her husband is a banker and they live a comfortable lifestyle in a very nice neighborhood in a beautiful house. Even though she doesn't group herself with the average Latina, she is very compelled by issues facing Latinos.

When asked if she knew who was running for president, she couldn't think of the republican candidate's name off the top of her head and when asked if there was anything new on the ballot this year that she is paying attention to now that she wasn't before, she explained she hadn't looked at the political literature yet because she only received it the day before. I asked her if she watched any of the presidential debates and she said that she hasn't gotten the chance given that her son is a bit of a handful. Although she might seem like an uneducated voter, she knows a lot about the upcoming elections. She gets a lot of her information from her Liberal family, the news, and Time Magazine. Her mother-in-law lives in Colorado and is a volunteer for the Obama campaign. Her husband is very well-educated and outspoken about politics.

She votes for issues that affect other people and feels that her vote can build a better future for others. She believes her vote for the best of the community is a very Democratic belief. Being a Liberal, she finds herself agreeing with President Obama's general beliefs, she is open minded and thinks she has little to nothing in common with republicans. She believes President Obama is more attuned with the everyday Americans, whereas Governor Romney is more in touch with the rich people who have "old money," meaning the money was passed down through generations and not earned by the holder. She believes that if President Obama is reelected it will be mostly due to the Latino voting population. Her ideas in gay marriage, military and Latino Communities overlap with the Democratic

party's beliefs. She supports gay marriage, bringing our troops home and helping out the Latino community. She hopes if President Obama is elected again, he will help the Latino community succeed, especially those who will benefit by the DREAM Act. She also believes in affordable healthcare that will support more people. She believes that the eligible Latino voters who don't vote, don't do so because they don't feel that one vote will make a difference. She says sometimes she believes the same even though this is only her second presidential election.

Overall, she is very passionate about being Liberal and feels Liberal ideas serve the Latino Community best.