## Studying Flags, Pins, Hope From 2008 Election

October 27, 2011

## Miller-McCune:

The Stars and Stripes are subliminal, class cleavages are overrated, and other academic analysis we should consider from the last election.

## I Pledge Allegiance to the GOP Flag

The flags of the United States of America and the Civil War-era Confederate Army have somewhat different symbolic associations. But recent research suggests exposure to the Stars and Stripes and the Confederate flag may have had the same effect on voters during the 2008 presidential election: A decreased likelihood of voting for Barack Obama.

An experiment conducted at a major Southern university found that 108 white students who were subliminally exposed to the Confederate battle flag (the image appeared on their computer screen 20 times in 15-millisecond bursts) were less likely to support then-Senator Obama among a group of four prominent presidential candidates.

Read the whole story: <u>Miller-McCune</u>