**Tim Reuben is running for Judge of Superior Court Office 97**

Generally I have tried to avoid answering a series of questions such as the ones you list, many of which don’t seem to be appropriate for a judicial candidate to respond to, since we are not allowed to comment on a matter that could come before us and our role as judges prevents us from leading the charge on various political causes.  And while it is no secret that I have always been a registered Democrat, I describe myself as “middle of the road” or centrist, which should give you a pretty good idea regarding my political views.  As for my background, I am a graduate of Harvard Law School, am rated “well qualified” by the LA County Bar, and have 40 years of legal experience. Please look at my website for my credentials, business history, and endorsements: Reubenforjudge.com.    Please also look at the videos, particularly the one entitled:  Let the Players Play.

Your cause is particularly pertinent to me because I have had issues in my own family that have dramatically impacted me.  I also have been a conservator—having been appointed in both probate court and mental health court.  I feel strongly that mental health services are desperately needed in LA (likely everywhere), and that many of those who are homeless are afflicted and do not have access to the proper care.  I also know that there are a variety of medications, that the area of mental health drugs is really just developing, and that people have decidedly different reactions to these various medications—some good and some bad.  I believe that if we could do a better job providing the right kind of mental health support for those who need it, we could drastically reduce many of the other issues we have in our society—particularly homelessness and crime.  And I know firsthand how inadequate many of the recovery or treatment centers are and how often people are poorly treated or the situation mishandled.    Indeed, the problem can be a vicious cycle for those who get help but then are discharged without the necessary support services so that they fall into the same trap, pattern or habit that leads them back to illness.  I currently donate to one facility that I think does a good job—although it is hardly enough.

I know nothing about you but as a volunteer working for mental health access to those in need, you are doing a noble thing and I commend you for it.  Keep it up!

-Tim Reuben