

How Liberal, Populist, Libertarian or Conservative are you?

Directions: In the space provided, write the number that most closely expresses your personal attitude concerning the following issues.

- 3 = strongly agree
- 2 = agree
- 1 = sometimes agree
- 4 = sometimes disagree
- 5 = disagree
- 6 = strongly disagree

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The Federal government must clamp down on polluters, put strong controls on industrial waste and make real changes in some life styles even at the expense of jobs and corporate profits.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Bush era tax-cuts and economic policies must carry much of the blame for the current federal budget deficit and an abandonment of the lower class since those policies were calculated to benefit business interests and the wealthy.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Government must erect and support a "social safety net" for the less fortunate. Programs should provide food for the hungry, housing for the homeless, security for the elderly and medical care for all. The free market is capable of producing great material abundance but it does not automatically distribute that abundance fairly to all.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The invitation inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breath free..." is still a valid expression of America as the hope of the world. As much as possible, we should honor that idea; this nation of immigrants will weave an even richer social fabric with ethnic groups from all over the world. America still has plenty of room.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Women have traditionally been discriminated against and therefore legislation should be enacted to guarantee such things as equal pay and businesses that have a pattern of job discrimination against women should be required to hire qualified women before hiring additional men in order to achieve equalization in employment opportunity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. A woman should have a nearly absolute right to control her own body by choosing whether or not to have an abortion and, if she is poor, the government should help pay for it.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Capital punishment doesn't really stop crime and is often unfairly applied to the poor and minorities. Criminals should be rehabilitated or allowed to serve life terms in prison if they're really dangerous to society.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Penalties for the possession of various forms of "illegal" drugs should be abolished. The drug "problem" should be treated as a public health problem while through education society discourages its use.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. The Second Amendment to the Constitution may protect the peoples' right to "keep and bear arms" but that protection does not extend to submachine toting thugs on the streets of America because they are not part of any "well-regulated militia."
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The public schools and universities of this nation are meant to be places of tolerance for different ideas and values. The deliberate display of symbols, the use of language and other activities which are designed to humiliate, degrade or oppress any person or group merely because of their race, religion, sex or other differentiation should be declared anti-democratic and prohibited by school authorities.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The wealthy and large corporations in this country have undue influence on government policy. They have literally "bought" politicians through big spending lobbyists. Public financing of elections, free access to television for political candidates and strict controls and even possibly the out right banning of many lobbying activities by special interest groups should be instituted.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The government should see to it that anyone who works a 40 hour week is able to earn a "living wage." The government should set a floor under the wage scale so that a family with one wage earner can acquire decent housing, clothing, food and other basic necessities plus enough left over to accumulate savings and to provide for the children's education.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. NAFTA is a classic example of class warfare. American workers are expected to believe they can or should compete for jobs with the workers of a third-world nation who earn, on average, \$2.00 an hour. NAFTA is legalized exploitation of slave labor and will be an environmental disaster south of our border. You'll be able to hear "a loud sucking sound" from Mexico all the way to you house in Minnesota as American jobs are shipped south of the Texas border.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Television, film and much of the print media has become a cesspool of sick sex, violence and materialistic envy. If there is to be no government regulation (even though the electronic media uses the public airways) then concerned citizens should evaluate television programs and use their marketplace power to reward program sponsors for positive programing and boycott the products of companies which choose to ignore citizen protest by their continued sponsorship of socially disruptive television programing.

- \_\_\_\_\_15. Violence in the streets and white collar crime in the corporate boardroom and Wall Street is out of control. We need and deserve the best law enforcement money can buy. Criminals, regardless of their income or social status, must understand that society will not tolerate their socially destructive behavior. Law abiding citizens have a right to walk the streets in safety and be treated fairly and honestly in the marketplace. Build more prisons, it'll create a lot of good paying construction jobs.
- \_\_\_\_\_16. There should be no hungry or homeless people in America. Most of these people are victims of a cruel, throw away society where concern for family, neighborhood, community and looking out for the other guy is considered old fashioned and naive. Everyone has a right to a decent chance in life. Government, as a last resort, must fill the gap.
- \_\_\_\_\_17. The United States has become a policeman for the world over the years. We have spent billions of dollars to help practically every country on the planet while neglecting our own people and problems. It's time to take care of our own since we never even get a thank you. Consider Somalia, for example.
- \_\_\_\_\_18. Of course, the United States should guarantee health care for every citizen. If the big insurance companies, hospitals and doctors fees and rates were even somewhat reasonable, the government wouldn't have to intervene in order to bring this obscene situation under control.
- \_\_\_\_\_19. There is such a thing a morality in public life. Our country needs a new social ethic based on Biblical values of communal life and cooperation. Government should encourage this ethic, not in a strict, sectarian way, but through government policies that support family and social values broadly based on the Judeo-Christitan ethic from which our society has evolved.
- \_\_\_\_\_20. Immigration should be strictly controlled. The USA is only nation in the world unable or unwilling to control its own borders. Immigrants that can contribute needed skills or who have capital to invest in American should be welcomed. But to just let anyone in who ends up on welfare or who pulls down the wage rates through job and wage competition causes more hame than good for our country.
- \_\_\_\_\_21. Burning the flag is wrong. The flag is representative of our country and should be treated with all the respect it deserves. A lot of young men and women gave their lives to defend what that flag represents - our freedom and liberty.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 22. The schools are failing. Teachers who don't teach should be fired and students who don't want to learn should not graduate. Schools that can not maintain order ought to be closed. Parents should be able to pick the school they want their children to attend through the use of a voucher system to purchase a safe school and a challenging curriculum.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 23. The death penalty is an appropriate punishment for the growing numbers vicious killers that prawl the streets of our cities night and day. Swift and certain punishment is what's missing in much of urban America.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 24. No one should be made to participate in a school prayer but voluntary prayer should be restored in public schools. Any group except Christians can use school property for meetings - its time for equal treatment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 25. NAFTA simply recognizes the reality of the world economic system. We can either face up to the challenges and opportunities of the global economy or try and fail to resist change. There is no big business scheme to send jobs south but a recognition that American business must remain competitive.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 26. It's still a dangerous world and the United States is the only superpower. Excessive military budget cuts would be a mistake while we are currently stabilizing Iraq, Afghanistan and terroristic threats still exist in many parts of the Middle East and in North Korea. We have the best military in the world and less funding for it now would cost us billions in the future when we are facing more terroristic threats, dangers and challenges.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 27. The right to life is fundamental to any civilized society. That includes the unborn. Except to save the life of the mother there should be an absolute ban on elective abortion. Certainly no one should be forced to contribute his or her tax money to help finance a Federally funded abortion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 28. Protecting the environment is important but we must move more gradually to prevent injustices like forcing an industry to close and creating widespread unemployment. Only upper income people have the luxury of disregarding the need of others to make a living. The spotted owl must give way in order to provide a adequate standard of living for those still on the way up the economic ladder.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 29. Military life is not the same as civilian life. Gays do not have a right to practice their life styles in the barracks. They knew what the military life was like when they enlisted. Group cohesion is too important to be sacrificed to the gay rights agenda.

- \_\_\_\_\_30. To bear arms is a Constitutional right and should not be abridged. When adequate law enforcement and punishment is provided, the hysteria over gun control will be shown for what it is - an attempt to solve a fundamental social crisis the cheap way: restricting the rights of those who obey the law and in many cases must rely on themselves for protection. Guns don't kill, People kill.
- \_\_\_\_\_31. By definition government restricts individual freedom as well as responsibility. The market place is the most efficient and, in the long run, the most humane mechanism for ordering society. Don't let the government interfere with the free enterprise system.
- \_\_\_\_\_32. The first Amendment to the Constitution says it all: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion. . . or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press." The key phrase is "NO LAW." Pornography is such because someone thinks it's bad. It may be art to someone else.
- \_\_\_\_\_33. Legalize drugs. If people have free will than they can do personally destructive things as well as socially beneficial things. Legalization would eliminate much crime and violence because the enormous profits would be gone. While you're at it, legalize prostitution too. Save the taxpayers and the police additional time and expense in their futile attempts to control victimless "crime."
- \_\_\_\_\_34. Call the ~~150~~ year experiment in public education the failure it is and allow poor parents the same right to choose a decent education the wealthy have always enjoyed. Let parents select the school that best fits their child's needs by letting them use the money presently wasted of ineffective, crime and violence ridden urban schools.
- \_\_\_\_\_35. So called "affirmative action" should be illegal and in practice actually results in reverse discrimination which is totally unfair to those members of the majority who might not get a job even though they had nothing to do with any past discrimination. Employment should be based on merit only. Being born male or white or any other color does not make one guilty of anything.
- \_\_\_\_\_36. NAFTA and free trade in general is the way to go. We are all consumers and have a right to purchase the best product at the lowest price. I'll take care of myself. If I don't prepare myself for the job market, I have no one to blame but myself. Stop crying and get to work!

- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. The government, especially the federal government, is out of control. It spends too much, does too much, regulates too much, micro-manage too much and never fails to devise a new tax. Sell the Post Office, Liquidate most of the bureaucracy, and let people run their own lives.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Abortion is a private matter - period.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. If pollution is a problem, let those who are being affected seek a remedy in the Courts or the market place. A few multi-million dollar injury settlements will do more to change corporate practices than all the federal pollution control bureaucrats could accomplish in ten years. Consumers will avoid dangerous products and the offending companies will change their methods or go out of business.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. Welfare programs simply increase social misery because dependency is fostered. People need the incentive of necessity. Family and Church have a function here. An impersonal government check frees the individual from the necessity of making his/her own way in life but also frees the family and neighbors from meeting their responsibility to strengthen the social fabric.