

Political Beliefs

Liberal vs. Conservatives

BASIC QUESTION:

What should the role of government be?

But don't we agree on the basics?

General welfare? Domestic tranquility?

Establish justice?

Secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and our children?

Everyone wants citizens to be happy and successful....

WE JUST DISAGREE ON HOW TO GET THERE...

What types of issues do we disagree on?....*Brainstorm*

SOCIAL

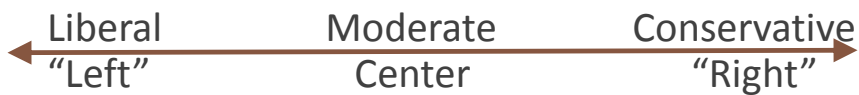
Should gay marriage be allowed?

ECONOMIC

Regulating the environment.

Political Ideology

A set of doctrine or beliefs that are shared by the members of a group, or that form the basis of a political group.



What's your type?

I'll push out the link....

Or google "political typology pew" and take the quiz

You are the only one who will see your responses or results!

Categorize the following Views as either Liberal or Conservative

1. Believe that abortion is a woman's choice **L**
2. Believe it's the government's job to take care of the elderly who cannot afford costly medications. **L**
3. Believe that same-sex marriages are morally wrong **C** and therefore not allowed
4. Believe in safety net programs like welfare **L**
5. Believe there should be a clear separation between **L** church and state
6. Believe that government should not interfere with **C** business
7. Support limits to the 2nd Amendment (gun control) **L**

Are there only two choices?

There are more than just two political ideologies....and most people are on a continuum somewhere in between.

	High Social Involvement	Low Social Involvement
High Economic Involvement	Populists	Liberals
Low Economic Involvement	Conservatives	Libertarians

Political Socialization


Why do we think the way we think?

Where do our political beliefs come from?



Sources of Political Socialization

- FAMILY
 - PEERS
 - MEDIA
 - “SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS” (religious groups, school, clubs)

 - FOUR CORNERS!
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Political Socialization

- How we develop our political attitudes and opinions.
- Four main sources: Family, Peers, Media, Social Institutions
- Other factors: age, income, gender, education, religion, ethnic background, geography, occupation...

Party Identification: Democrat v. Republican

Most people identify with one of the major political parties early in life. Many never change. Why would someone change?

- Loyalty to a party is the single most significant predictor of how a person will vote. A “shortcut” for ideology and positions on specific issues.

Review

What would a Libertarian and a Conservative agree on?

What would a Liberal and a Populist agree on?



Ideology in the News Media

- Is there such a thing as “neutral” news?
- A great site:

www.newsprism.com



Pre-OTTW Survey/HW

Talk to four adults about their political participation.

- Do they always vote in elections?
 - Why or why not?
 - What other ways do they participate in the political process?
 - Lots of options....discuss with friends & family, volunteer for a campaign, run for office, belong to an interest or advocacy group, donate money, write letters/emails to reps, yard signs & bumper stickers...
 - Capture basic demographic data so we can compare to national trends.
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