**PINPOINT YOURSELF POLITICALLY**

Terms you might not know:

**Medicare/Medicaid - $$** given to the elderly to help pay for medicine/doctor bills.

**Mandatory** – something you have to do.

**Subsidies** – extra $$ that goes above & beyond in order to benefit the public.

**Concealed** –hidden or out of sight.

**Deficit** – the amount of money that the U.S. is in debt. (18 trillion)

**Welfare** – money given to people who **can’t or don’t** work or have real low income.

**Felony** – a serious crime (rape, robbery, etc.)

**1. Which of the following would you prefer?**

A. An active government that provides a lot of services **even if** that means higher taxes.

B. A less active government that provides fewer services but taxes less.

**2. Which national law would YOU support? (You can pick as many as you want)**

A. Allowing **voluntary** prayer in school.

B. Ban the sale of **handguns** to citizens. (only military & law enforcement can have them)

C. Make the burning of the American flag **illegal**.

D. Setting a limit on how many **terms** congressman and senators can serve.(No current limit)

**3. Which of the following would be closest to your opinion?**

A. I am for drilling for **MORE** oil in Alaska because it would create more jobs and decrease our dependence on other countries for oil.

B. I would be **against** drilling for more oil in Alaska because we have already polluted & destroyed enough habitats. In addition, **SOME** scientist estimate that at the very most, we would get only 50 years worth of oil. (But the effects could last an eternity)

**4. Would you prefer a flat tax, in which everyone’s income would be taxed at the same percent. Regardless, of whether you were rich or poor. OR:**

 **Would you prefer a graduated tax, in which the wealthier get taxed at a higher percent. (Basically the more you make, the more they take)**

A. Flat tax B. Graduated tax

**5. Should the government encourage companies to lay off FEWER workers by using tactics such as, the more workers you employ, the less the government taxes your business?**

A. Yes B. No

**6. Which statement is CLOSER to how you feel about gay marriage?**

A. 100% wrong for multiple reasons and no one should be allowed to do it.

B. People have the right to live their life like they want and it’s nobody else’s business.

**7. What should be the main goal of U.S. foreign policy?**

A. To promote democracy and human rights around the world. (Protect and help others)

B. To server U.S. national interests.

**8. Are you against religious displays, such as nativity scenes at Christmas or menorahs at Hanukkah, on government property?** A. Yes B. No

**9. Who should have the greater voice in deciding what books children read in school?**

A. Teachers B. Parents

**10. Should tests for HIV, the virus that causes Aids, be mandatory for professional athletes in contact sports? (boxing, football, UFC)**

A. Yes B. No

**11. Do you support a voucher system, which allows parents to send their children to the public or private school of their choice & the government would pay for the expenses?**

A. Yes B. No

**12. When it comes to criminals, which statement do you agree with more so?**

A. We need to concentrate on rehabilitation. (helping and fixing them)

B. We need to concentrate more on punishment and less on rehabilitation.

**13. The Kyoto Protocol was an agreement signed by 172 countries. Their goal was to lower pollution by 5%, by the year 2012. The U.S. refused to participate.**

A. We should have signed the Kyoto Protocol because we need to improve pollution.

B. It was in our best interest not to sign the Kyoto Protocol b/c the economy would have suffered

 from the new regulations and needed changes.

**14. Should voter ballots and driver’s license tests be available ONLY in English?**

A. Yes B. No

**15. Should a person be allowed to carry a concealed handgun to protect themselves?**

A. Yes B. No

**16. Which of the following “welfare reform” provisions would you support?**

 **(You CAN select multiple answers)**

1. A 2 year cutoff for welfare recipients who do not find a job.
2. Job training/placement for welfare recipients.
3. No additional benefits for welfare recipients with more than 2 children.
4. Free child care so welfare recipients with young children can get a job.

**17. Which of the following would you support in an effort to cut the U.S. deficit?**

 **(Pick only one)**

1. Cut military spending.
2. Cut the growth of Medicare and Medicaid benefits. (they help grandma/grandpa)
3. Cut loans/grants for college students
4. Eliminate subsidies (money) to the arts. (Museums, programs)

**18. Should illegal immigrants be eligible for welfare benefits for their children, if the children were born in the U.S.?**

A. Yes B. No

**19. Do you approve of the policy of “Three strikes and you’re out”, whereby anyone convicted of three separate felonies would be sent to prison for life without parole?**

A. Yes B. No

**20. Which is closer to your opinion?**

A. I support the Endangered Species Act because it protects animals that might die off.

B. I oppose the Endangered Species Act because it threatens timber and construction jobs, and impinges on private property rights.

**21. With regards to raising the ‘minimum wage’, which of the following would be closer to your opinion.**

A. Yes, because many people try to survive on minimum wage.

B. No, because it would cause companies/businesses to raise prices and cut employees.

**22. Should high schools distribute condoms? (Make easily available)**

A. Yes B. No

**23. Should sports teams whose mascots offend minorities or other groups, switch to more politically correct figures? (i.e. – Indians, Blue Devils, Apaches)**

A. Yes B. No

**24. Do you support the Death Penalty under certain circumstances?**

A. Yes B. No

**25. Should the age at which juveniles are judged as adults in criminal cases be lowered to 13?**

A. Yes B. No

**26. The following has gone to the Supreme Court and is a real issue in America. If a person has been given less than 6 months to live by at least 2 doctors; and because of their pain they want to choose their death on their own terms. (time and place w/o misery) Should a doctor be allowed to give them a painless and planned death?**

A. Yes B. No

**27. Should there be a max-limit on the amount juries can award injured parties? (Example- A lady got $500,000 because she was seriously burned when she spilled her McDonalds coffee and the container did not say it was hot)**

A. Yes B. No

**28. How should abortions be restricted? (Check ALL that apply)**

A. Notify parents of anyone under the age of 18 who tries to get an abortion.

B. NO government funding for abortion clinics.

C. Allow abortions ONLY in the instance of rape, incest or danger to the life of the mother.

D. Abortion should be 100% illegal.

E. Abortion should not be restricted at all.

**29. Increasing technology (satellites, camera, etc.) has allowed the government to track, find, and watch citizens in the U.S. better then any other country. Citizens are being mailed tickets b/c there are radar guns and cameras placed on roads and at intersections. Based on the above, which of the following statements is closer to your opinion?**

A. I fear sometimes that our privacy and rights are being violated. They can find out anything about us.

B. Good. That means that we should be able to constantly improve law, order, and safety.

**30. Should employers be allowed to permanently replace workers who go on strike?**

A. Yes B. No

**31. The Patriot Act was designed to combat terrorism and increase safety for citizens. It increases the authority of U.S. law enforcement allowing them to do such things as: Search any telephone, e-mail, or bank record they see fit. Also, it allows them to permanently detain a suspected terrorist and search homes or property without a court order. Which statement is closer to how you feel?**

A. I support the Patriot Act because it makes us safer.

B. I feel that it is going too far, & it obviously violates the constitution, civil liberties, and privacy.

**32. No Child Left Behind was a program designed to overhaul the nation’s public school system. Every year students and schools must increase their achievement. Then, in the year 2014 all students will be competent in the core subjects. Which of the following statements is closer to how you feel?**

A. Systematic testing reveals which schools are not effectively teaching skills. It is important to put pressure on these schools and make them get better. Even if it means using the threat of taking away money or replacing teachers.

B. School reform is important but NCLB is a flawed program. It puts pressure on teachers to teach children how to pass STATE TEST, which greatly limits teachers when it comes to learning and activities. Also, expecting every student (100%) to be competent is unrealistic. Finally, taking money from the schools that are not succeeding won’t make them better and replacing teachers is probably not in the best interest of the students.

**33. In 1994, The Brady Law established background checks and waiting periods before guns could be purchased from federally licensed gun dealers. Approximately, half of all U.S. gun sales are through federally licensed gun dealers. Which of the following statements is closer to how you feel?**

A. This law has kept thousands of people with a felony, mental illness, domestic violence charges, etc. from getting a gun. The waiting period also forces people who would want to buy a gun during a moment of rage to wait and possibly cool down.

B. Gun background checks do not stop those with criminal intentions from acquiring guns. Criminals will always find away to get a gun. All they do is place an undue restriction and inconvenience on citizens who want to purchase a firearm for legal use. In addition, these gun laws are infringing on the 2nd Amendment.

**34. Affirmative action is a concept/policy that forces companies/universities into hiring/accepting at least some minorities in an attempt to eliminate discrimination. Here is an example: A company/university might be told that at least 10% of their employees or students MUST be African Am. Which of the following statements is closer to your opinion?**

A. Yes, they should have a MINIMUM acceptable number b/c discrimination is a serious issue and it takes place nationwide. Also, diversity is important.

B. No, this idea is bad b/c it could cause reverse discrimination. Such as, a more qualified person may not be hired/accepted because they are white and the company/university needs to meet their quota of having so many minorities.

**35. When Bill Clinton was president, he greatly limited the amount of tourist who were allowed permits for operating 4-wheelers and snow mobiles at National parks for recreational purposes. His reasoning was that the noise and pollution was disruptive and detrimental for the wild animals that are suppose to be protected in these areas. When George W. Bush took over, he immediately doubled the amount of 4-wheelers and snow mobiles that were allowed to get permits at these National Parks. His rationale was that it would increase tourism to these areas and therefore increase the amount of money gas stations, restaurants, hotels, etc. would receive. Whose reasoning do you agree with more so, based on this specific situation?**

A. Bill Clinton B. George W. Bush

**36. Would you support a nationwide legalization of medical marijuana?**

A. Yes B. No

**37. Do you believe we should continue to devote a minimum of 1% of our national budget to Space Exploration/Discovery, even if the economy is doing poorly?**

A. Yes B. No

**38. Labor unions are legally recognized as representatives of workers in many industries in the United States. Their activity today centers on wages, benefits, and working conditions for their membership, and on representing their members in disputes with management over contract violations. Which of the following is closer to your opinion?**

A. Labor unions help protect workers rights and help guarantee that their wages, hours, conditions, etc. are fair and just. They are important and needed.

B. Unions have far too much power & influence over the direction of a company. They can force wages & benefits to unrealistic above-market levels. That can encourage employers to reduce the number of workers, outsource the work, or move to non-union areas. The labor union can also be used to protect incompetent or dishonest employees who should be fired. Having a union can create an "us vs them" mentality towards management rather than a climate of trust and teamwork.

**39. Which statement best reflects your opinion of laws restricting cigarette smoking in public or commercial areas?**

**A.** Additional laws are needed to restrict and/or eliminate smoking in more areas.

B. Repeal most of the current laws.  The decision to allow or not allow smoking should be left up **entirely** to the business owner and their customers.

HOW TO FIGURE YOUR SCORE FOR THIS POLITICAL QUIZ

Jesse Jackson Donna Edwards Hillary Clinton Pres. Obama Michael Grimm George W. Bush Newt Gingrich Rush Limbaugh Jeff Flake

 **40 35 30 25 20 15 10 5 0**

LEFT WING (22-40 Democrat) (Moderate 19-21) (0-18 Republican) RIGHT WING

Scoring: 30+ = Extreme Liberal 0 – 10 = Extreme Conservative

Points are added for the liberal (democratic) answer to each question. The Conservative (Republican) option always scores a zero. Tally your score for each answer, than add up your total to see where you fall on the political spectrum.

1. a. 1 b. 0 21. a. 1 b. 0

2. a. 0 b. 1 c. 0 d. 0 22. a. 1 b. 0

3. a. 0 b. 1 23. a. 1 b. 0

4. a. 0 b. 1 24. a. 0 b. 1

5. a. 0 b. 1 25. a. 0 b. 1

6. a. 0 b. 1 26. a. 1 b. 0

7. a. 1 b. 0 27. a. 0 b. 1

8. a. 1 b. 0 28. a. 0 b. 0 c. 0 d. 0 e. 1

9. a. 1 b. 0 29. a. 1 b. 0

10. a. 0 b. 1 30. a. 0 b. 1

11. a. 0 b. 1 31. a. 0 b. 1

12. a. 1 b. 0 32. a. 0 b. 1

13. a. 1 b. 0 33. a. 1 b. 0

14. a. 0 b. 1 34. a. 1 b. 0

15. a. 0 b. 1 35. a. 1 b. 0

16. a. 0 b. 1 c. 0 d. 1 36. a. 1 b. 0

17. a. 1 b. 0 c. 0 d. 0 37. a. 0 b. 1

18. a. 1 b. 0 38. a. 1 b. 0

19. a. 0 b. 1 39. a. 1 b. 0

20. a. 1 b. 0