

QUESTIONNAIRE – POLITICAL ISSUES

1. Election of the president and vice president of the United States should be decided: (a) through the electoral college system as presently constituted (favoring voters in smaller states), or (b) by the majority of votes cast, similar to the election of U.S. senators.
2. Should legislative district boundaries be drawn by: (a) those currently serving in office, or (b) an independent commission relying on geographic and demographic data.
3. Do you believe that: (a) anyone, including corporations and political action committees (PAC's), should be allowed to donate to political campaigns with few restrictions, or (2) we should adopt a system of public financing for all elections where campaign expenditures would be limited to those funds, and where corporate and PAC expenditures would be prohibited.
4. With respect to the concept of "Separation of Church and State": (a) government should be viewed as a secular institution and managed free from any formal religious influence, and religion should be managed free from government influence, or (b) government may act based upon a religious preference where a majority of citizens or elected officials concur.
5. Do you support shutting down the federal government as a negotiating ploy when a president fails to secure Congressional funding for a program: (a) yes, or (b) no. Should either political party in Congress be allowed to do the same: (a) yes, or (b) no.
6. Affirmative action efforts facilitating the acceptance of minority students into U.S. universities: (a) may now be terminated since decades of minority advancement has succeeded in achieving the goals of this initiative, or (b) should remain in effect in consideration of the depth of ongoing discrimination in America.
7. Wages for women should be: (a) equal to that of men for the same work, or (b) may be justifiably less in instances where men are supporting a family.
8. If you are running your own licensed business in the public marketplace you should: (a) be obliged to sell to or serve all customers regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, or (b) be free to refuse to sell to or serve any customer based upon your personal or religious preferences.

9. The legality of gay marriage should be: (a) upheld by federal law as a matter of civil rights (as currently established), or (b) determined by the states.
10. The duty of protecting consumers from potentially hazardous product defects, i.e., appliances, children's toys, etc., falls upon government. Do you believe this regulation (product review, testing, and enforcement) should be managed at: (a) the state level where government is closer to understanding the concerns of local citizens, or (b) at the federal level where more power exists to regulate interstate commerce.
11. For food supplement products marketed by the health food industry (a major Utah-based industry), the producers should: (a) be allowed to rate and market their products with little governmental interference (similar to how the movie industry operates), or (b) fall under Food and Drug Administration (FDA) product regulation requirements.
12. While the U.S. Constitution authorizes Congress to provide support for science and the arts, would you be more inclined to: (a) decrease federal programming support for the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), or (b) increase PBS federal funding support.
13. In spite of potential violation of federal antitrust law, large news/media companies should: (a) be allowed to acquire local newspapers and radio/TV stations where the internet is threatening their financial stability, enabling them to survive, or (b) be denied ownership for reason of preventing monopolistic control of local media.
14. Should a state school system or local school districts be allowed to "opt out" of the student achievement standards set by the federal government as part of program mandates for federal funding: (a) yes, but at a loss of the federal funding associated with the program, or (b) no, federal education mandates are established for reasons of public interest and national security.
15. Full availability of health insurance coverage would be most effectively achieved under the following approach: (a) a single-payer system managed by a government agency, similar to the current Medicare program, or (b) increased interstate competition among private insurance providers, and with federal-mandated coverage requirements and cost controls.
16. How would you prefer to see prescription drug costs lowered: (a) authorizing government to negotiate en block with drug companies on behalf of consumers, or (b) giving drug companies access to federal financing and grants for drug research.

17. Women's health clinics are best described as: (a) centers for addressing women's health and reproductive concerns, including family planning, or (b) abortion clinics.
18. In instances where euthanasia would be a consideration who, if anyone, should have the right to determine whether to "pull the plug": (a) the family or significant other, or (b) the government.
19. Criminalization for the recreational use of marijuana should: (a) be strictly enforced under federal law, or (b) be decriminalized in states when approved by voters or elected officials.
20. In your community would you be more inclined to: (a) work to strengthen gun ownership rights, or (b) work to enforce gun regulation and safety measures.
21. In general, do you believe that American efforts toward globalization, i.e., free trade, foreign aid, support for the United Nations, defense of democracy, etc.: (a) are essential tools for the advancement of our national interest, or (b) are a drain on resources that could be better utilized at home within our own economy.
22. Do you believe commerce with foreign nations should be guided by policies that: (a) protect our domestic industries from unfair competition, or (b) allow essentially free and open trade.
23. In the event our federal government determines to undertake a major new construction effort, priority should be given to: (a) infrastructure repair, or (b) the proposed security wall between the U.S. and Mexico.
24. All federal and state employees should have the right to: (a) unionize for the purpose of improving benefits and working conditions, or (b) seek employment elsewhere when the terms of employment are unacceptable.
25. The federal minimum wage should: (a) continue be addressed and set at the discretion of Congress, or (b) be tied to economic indicators and represent an amount required to sustain a "living wage" for full-time workers.
26. Would you like to see federal income taxation move in the direction of: (a) a flat rate that would impose the same rate on everyone, or (b) more graduation of the current system which requires higher income individuals to pay at a higher tax rate.

27. Should younger workers be allowed to divert their social security contributions into privately-managed retirement funds: (a) yes, or (b) no.
28. Where federal-owned land is located adjacent to established communities, those lands would be best managed by: (a) the federal government, or (b) local officials with support from federal land management agencies.
29. Fossil fuels serve as the major source for our energy consumption. Should we: (a) revive the coal industry and continue our use of reliable fossil fuels, or (b) accelerate the trend toward development of alternative fuels (solar, wind, electric vehicles, etc.).
30. The Democratic 91st Congress passed (unanimously in the Senate) the landmark National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which established the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and requires federal agencies to evaluate the environmental impact of their actions. This legislation: (a) was quickly signed into law by a Democratic president, thereby launching the Democratic Party into the position of environmental leadership for decades to come, or (b) was signed into law by a Republican president who shortly thereafter unilaterally created the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by executive order.