

# Conservatives V. Liberals



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<b>Topic of Debate/ Shade in Your Opinion</b>	<b>What is the Liberal perspective of this topic?</b>	<b>What is the Conservative perspective of this topic?</b>
<p><b>Role of Government</b> More Government control or less?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">More</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">Less</div> </div>		
<p><b>Abortion</b> Abortion should be legal and paid for by the Gov't.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">YES</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">NO</div> </div>		
<p><b>Affirmative Action</b> Race should <u>not</u> be a factor in the admission selection process of colleges.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">YES it should</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">No it shouldn't</div> </div>		
<p><b>Death Penalty</b> Is the Death Penalty appropriate in some cases?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">NO</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">YES</div> </div>		
<p><b>Economy</b> Government participation in the economy is helpful?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">YES</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">NO</div> </div>		
<p><b>Education &amp; Vouchers</b> Vouchers are good &amp; improve education.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">NO</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px 15px;">YES</div> </div>		

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<b>Topic of Debate/ Shade in Your Opinion</b>	<b>What is the Liberal perspective of this topic?</b>	<b>What is the Conservative perspective of this topic?</b>
<p><b>Embryonic Research</b> Embryonic (unborn human) stem cells should be used for research?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO         </p>		
<p><b>Energy</b> Oil drilling should increase in the U.S.?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> YES         </p>		
<p><b>Euthanasia (Physician Assisted Suicide)</b> Should be legalized?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO         </p>		
<p><b>Global Warming/Climate Change</b> Is <u>not</u> a problem?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree      <input type="checkbox"/> Agree         </p>		
<p><b>Gun Control</b> Only military &amp; law enforcement should have guns?</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Agree      <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree         </p>		
<p><b>Healthcare</b> The Government should NOT control healthcare.</p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Disagree      <input type="checkbox"/> Agree         </p>		

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<b>Topic of Debate/ Shade in Your Opinion</b>	<b>What is the Liberal perspective of this topic?</b>	<b>What is the Conservative perspective of this topic?</b>
<p><b>Homeland Security</b> Racial profiling is necessary to screen for possible terrorists.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>		
<p><b>Immigration</b> Illegal immigrants should get the same benefits as citizens.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>		
<p><b>Private Property</b> Government can take private property with compensation.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES      <input type="checkbox"/> NO</p>		
<p><b>Religion &amp; Gov't</b> Religious displays should be allowed in schools &amp; Gov't.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>		
<p><b>Same-Sex Marriage</b> Marriage should be between a man/woman only.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> NO      <input type="checkbox"/> YES</p>		
<p><b>Social Security</b> Social Security needs a complete overhaul.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disagree      <input type="checkbox"/> Agree</p>		

# Conservatives V. Liberals

Topic of Debate/ <u>Shade in Your Opinion</u>	What is the Liberal perspective of this topic?	What is the Conservative perspective of this topic?
<p><b>Taxes</b> Taxes should be minimized. Taxpayers should not have to pay more taxes to support the poor.</p> <p>Disagree      Agree</p>		
<p><b>United Nations</b> The U.S. should never suppress its interests to those of the U.N.</p> <p>Disagree      Agree</p>		
<p><b>War on Terrorism</b> Islamic Extremist groups pose a serious threat to the U.S.</p> <p>Disagree      Agree</p>		
<p><b>Welfare</b> Poor people should learn to be self-reliant and not expect long-term welfare.</p> <p>Disagree      Agree</p>		

**Answer the Following Questions on a separate piece of paper:**

1. Overall which political viewpoint, conservative or liberal, do you more closely identify with?
2. What topics, if any, did you have trouble deciding whether you were more liberal or conservative? Explain your answer.
3. Which issue do you see as being the most controversial? Explain why.
4. In your opinion, what 3 issues are the most important in the U.S. today- why?
5. When voting for someone to become the President of the United States, which issues would you definitely want to agree with them on? What issues might you be willing to compromise?

# The Formation of Public Opinion

## ~Student Notes~

**What is Public Opinion?**

**What are some popular public opinion issues?**

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_

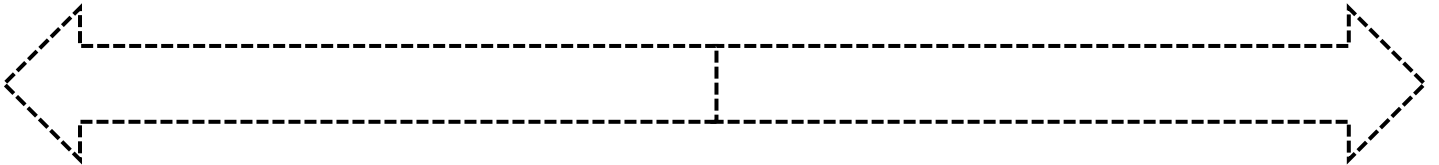
**Why does Public Opinion Matter?**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



**The Public Opinion Spectrum**

**~ Label ~**



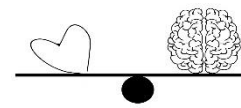
**How are people with similar political opinions usually grouped?**

**What political views have most Americans held according to the Gallup Poll?**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_



# How is Your Public Opinion Formed?



## Families



**How has your family influenced your opinions? Do you and your family share the same opinion on specific issues? Give an example.**

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## School



**How has your education influenced your opinions? Do you feel your school has prepared you to be a participating citizen?**

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## Mass Media



**Have you heard about a social issue on social media lately? Been surveyed? What was the issue? Did the post/tweet sway your opinion? Explain.**

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## Peer Groups/Leaders



**Who do you feel is more of an influence on you- your friends or your favorite celebrities? Why? How has this group influenced you the most?**

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## Major Events



**How have recent events in the news (i.e. school shootings) influenced you? Do you feel that events in the past or future could change your opinions? Explain.**

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