

A Quick Summary of Liberal vs. Conservative Views on Several Current Issues

Which ones do you favor?

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LIBERAL VIEW (votes for Party A promote this view)

CONSERVATIVE VIEW (votes for Party B promote this view)

1	Freedom of religion should be diminished and become freedom <i>from</i> religion in public places. First Amendment means government should not even favor religion in general.	1 st Amendment – original intent, Matt. 28:19,20	Freedom of religion means individuals should be free to express their beliefs in the public square. First Amendment means government should not “establish” an official national church, but it may have policies that benefit all religions generally.
2	Laws should protect a woman’s right to abortion on demand throughout entire pregnancy. Only judges who agree with this should be confirmed as federal judges.	Ex 21:22-25, Psalm 51:5 Deut 30:19-20, Psalm 139:13, Health Care Mandate	Laws should protect the life of the unborn child throughout pregnancy. Judges should not determine laws about abortion but should leave this to be decided by elected representatives of the people.
3	Government should recognize and promote same sex marriage .	I Cor. 6:9-11, Rom. 1:26-28, Gen. 1:27	Government should preserve marriage between one man and one woman .
4	The Constitution is a living document that changes meaning according to the changes of society. Judges should tell us how the Constitution is changing.	Preamble, Ez:44:24 Quote from Jefferson to William Johnson 1823 on preserving the intent	The Constitution has a fixed meaning (its original public meaning). Judges should interpret the Constitution, not change it.
5	The national government should have unlimited powers so that it can do whatever Congress and the president decide.	10 th Amendment; non-enforcement of immigration law and Defense of Marriage Act; liberal opinion in Affordable Care Act case. 1 Sam. 8:10-18.	The national govt. should be a government of limited powers . Powers not given to the national govt. are reserved for the states and the people.
6	Society will be better with more and more government regulation and control .	Exod. 20:2 (out of slavery); Lev. 25:10	Society will be better with more and more individual freedom .
7	Tax dollars for education should only go to public school teachers who are represented by national teachers’ unions. .	Deut 6:4-9, Eph 6:1-4 Proverbs 4:1-9	Tax dollars for education should allow for parents to have free choice in how their children are educated.
8	Solution to economic recession/ slowdown is more government spending to “stimulate” demand and get the economy growing again, especially through more government-paid jobs.	I Sam. 8:10-18 I Sam 12:3,4	Solution to economic recession/ slowdown is less government spending , because this allows lower taxes , which leaves money in the hands of the people, who in turn have incentive and ability to create productive businesses and more jobs.
9	Prosperity is created by government spending more money.	Gen. 1:28	Prosperity is created by productive human work.
10	Promotes welfare policies that result in more and more people dependent on government .	II Thes.3:7-10b I Sam 8:10-18	Promotes policies that lead to more jobs in private sector and fewer people dependent on government .
11	More government debt (“deficit spending”) is not very harmful and is needed to fund important government social programs today.	Ps. 37:21	More government debt (“deficit spending”) is always harmful because it will require higher taxes now and in the future, and this sucks money out of the private sector, leading to economic slowdowns. More debt also leads governments to print more money to pay the debt, and this causes inflation, which hurts everybody.
12	Most important solution to poverty is that government gives poor people more money to live on, paid for by higher taxes on those who are earning money. Any tax cuts should be <u>temporary</u> and targeted to specific needy groups.	Acts 18:3 Mark 6:3 Ex. 20:15	Most important solution to poverty is lower permanent tax rates for everybody, removing much uncertainty for business planning, and leaving more money in private sector to build businesses which create jobs so that people can support themselves.
13	All the money in society belongs to the society as a whole (or the government), so that tax cuts are government’s “gifts” to people who are allowed to keep more of society’s money.		The money in a society belongs to individuals who own it, so that tax cuts are not government “gifts” but are simply allowing people to keep more of what was always their own money in the first place.

14	Economic justice requires more equality of results (more equal sharing of income). Emphasis on equality .		Economic justice requires more equality of opportunity , and differing incomes will result from different economic values for people's different work. Emphasis on freedom .
15	Businesses need more and more regulations and taxes, even if they have to downsize or shut down, because the businesses that make money are generally corrupt and mostly evil.	Romans 13:4a I Peter 2:14 Proverbs 17:26	Businesses need less regulation because, while we need laws against fraud and defective products, businesses in general are doing good for society.
16	Carbon dioxide is causing dangerous global warming. Therefore we should drastically reduce our use of coal, oil, and natural gas , and force people instead to use solar and wind energy. It does not matter that this will cause significant economic loss, and it does not matter that solar energy and wind energy are unreliable, diffuse, difficult to transport, and 2 to 5 times more expensive than carbon-based fuels. Saving the earth is more important.	Gen. 1:31; Gen. 1:28; Job 38:9; Isa. 45:18;	Carbon dioxide is an ordinary and valuable part of nature. There is no proven correlation between carbon dioxide concentrations and global temperature change. Coal, oil, and natural gas are the most abundant, compact, easily transportable, cheap sources of energy in the world and we should continue to use them as good gifts from God.
17	Our military strength is excessive and leads to danger, because the nations who oppose us do so because of the evil things we have done to them.	Deut 7:1-3, Deut 10:1 Joshua 1:6-9 Romans 13:3,4 Just war theory	Our military should be strong – able to defeat any two enemies at once. Peace through strength.
18	Israel should be condemned for all Palestinian deaths caused when it is defending itself, and should go back to its pre-1967 borders.	Deut 1:1-8, Zech 2:7-9, Nu. 24:9b Gen 12:1-3, 15:18-21	Israel has a right to exist and to defend itself within its current borders. Root of Arab-Israeli conflict is 1947 refusal of Palestinian Arabs and other Arab nations to accept UN resolution calling for independent Palestinian state and continuing refusal to accept Israel's right to exist.
19	America is a country primarily responsible for slavery, colonialism, and exploitation of third world countries, and we should be ashamed of its many faults.	II Cor. 3:17, Psalm 33:12, greater than any other country in aiding the downtrodden	America is the greatest nation in the history of the earth and, although it has its faults, they are far outweighed by the good it has done for the world.

You are in reality voting for the party more than for the candidate: In the current political system in the United States, every vote for every candidate is much more a vote for one party or another than for the candidate. This is because laws are not passed by individuals but only by one political party the other, under the leadership of that party's elected officials. Therefore Americans need to choose which column best represents their view, and then vote for candidates in the party that represents that column.