

Where Do I Stand?

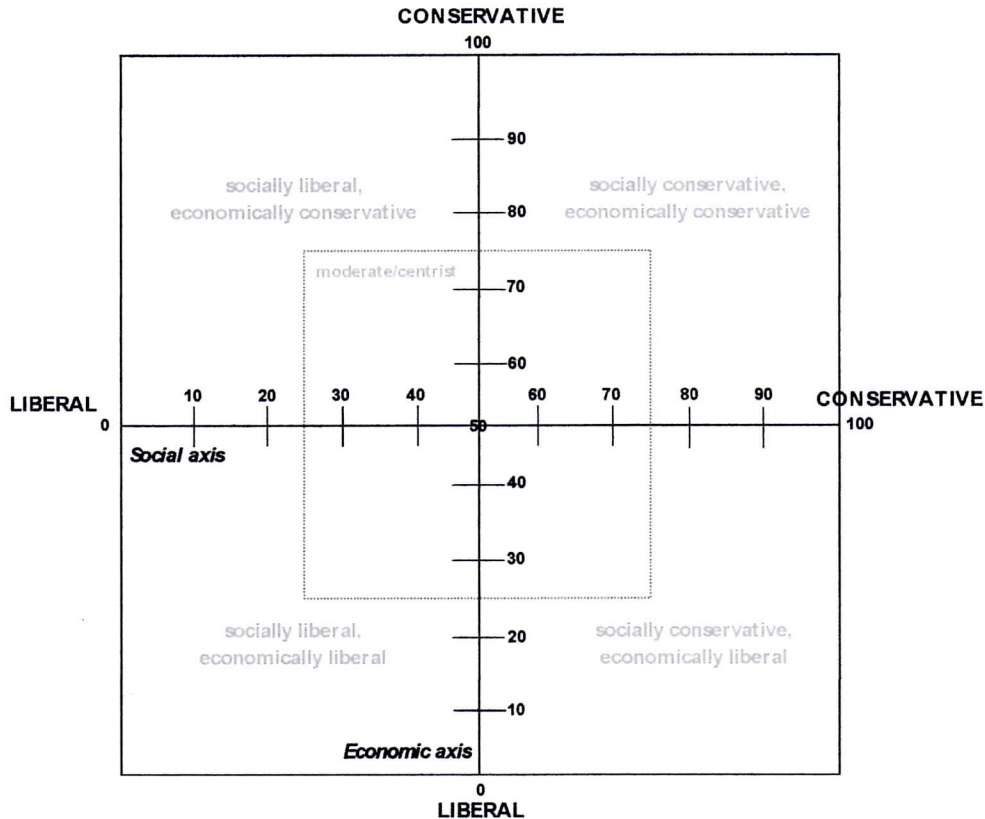
Take the following “quiz” to get an idea of where you stand politically! For each question, circle the position that best corresponds to your point of view. Tally up your score using the scoring guide below

Where do I stand on SOCIAL ISSUES?		Where do I stand on ECONOMIC ISSUES?	
Government should not censor speech, press, media or internet.	Agree Maybe Disagree	The government should not give corporations economic assistance of any kind.	Agree Maybe Disagree
A woman should have a legal right to choose to have an abortion.	Agree Maybe Disagree	The government should play a large role in regulating international trade.	Agree Maybe Disagree
Same-sex couples should have access to the same rights as heterosexual couples.	Agree Maybe Disagree	Social Security is a necessary public program that should not be privatized.	Agree Maybe Disagree
The government should repeal laws prohibiting adult possession and use of drugs.	Agree Maybe Disagree	Public welfare programs are necessary and an appropriate use of tax dollars.	Agree Maybe Disagree
The government should ensure that all individuals have access to quality health care.	Agree Maybe Disagree	Cutting taxes and reducing government spending by 50% or more would do more harm than good.	Agree Maybe Disagree
Scoring: Give yourself 0 points for every <i>Agree</i> , 10 points for every <i>Maybe</i> and 20 points for every <i>Disagree</i> .			
Social Issues total: _____		Economic Issues total: _____	

Ideology – Ideas or set of beliefs characteristic of a person, group or political party

Mapping Your Ideology

Take your score from *Where Do I Stand?* and plot your social issues total with your economic issues total until you locate your position on the axis.



So what exactly does it mean to be a *liberal* or a *conservative*? What does it mean to support the *left* or the *right*?

The original definition of a **liberal** was someone who advocated change, new philosophies, and new ideas. A **conservative** was someone who avoided change, instead preferring to stick to the tried and true. In modern times, these definitions have expanded to include a wide set of political beliefs. Below are general working definitions of liberal and conservative.

- **Liberals** - Favor a more active federal government in regulating business, supporting social welfare, and protecting minority rights, but prefer less regulation of private social conduct.
- **Conservatives** – Favor more limited and local government, less government regulation of markets, more social conformity to traditional norms and values, and tougher policies toward criminals.
- **Moderates** – May hold a mix of views on various issues.

Note: Most Americans consider themselves moderates. Also, a person does not have to be 100% conservative or liberal. An individual may be socially conservative and economically liberal (or vice versa).

Which qualities are most important to you when choosing a candidate to support?

Education	Experience in Public Office	Race
Political Party Affiliation	Gender	Leadership quality
Personality	Foreign policy experience	Position on abortion
Position on immigration	Position on education	Position on health care
Position on national security	Position on the economy	Religion
Likeability	Devotion to family	Electability
Endorsements	Position on environment	Age/Health