

SOSC 300
Activity 3 KEY
Quantifying a Variable

1. Which of the following would you prefer?
 - a. an activist government that can provide more services even if it means higher taxes. **2 points for this choice. Liberals tend to favor an activist government based on the philosophy of Alexander Hamilton,**
 - b. a smaller, less activist government that provides fewer services, but taxes less. while conservatives prefer smaller government, reflected in the writings of Thomas Jefferson

2. Which national legislation would you support? Check all that apply.
 - a. allow voluntary prayer in school. **0 Conservative**
 - b. ban the sale of handguns other than to military and police. **1 Liberals**
 - c. ban flag burning. **0 Conservative**
 - d. enact term limits for U.S. legislators. **0 Conservatives support this as a check on government power.**

3. Which car would be your next choice (assuming they are priced the same)?
 - a. Toyota gas/electric hybrid **Liberals tend to support environmentally friendly cars 1 pt.**
 - b. Cadillac

4. Which TV show would you watch?
 - a. *NCIS* **Conservative**
 - b. *Will and Grace* (reruns!) **Liberal show +1**

5. Which magazine would you read?
 - a. Forbes **Conservative magazine, money orientation**
 - b. Mother Earth News **Liberal magazine +1**

6. Would you prefer a flat tax, in which all income is taxed at the same rate and tax forms are simpler, or a graduated tax, in which higher incomes pay higher tax rates?
 - a. flat tax **Conservative**
 - b. graduated tax **Liberal +1**

7. Should companies be encouraged through government policies, such as tax breaks, to lay off fewer workers, even if it means lower corporate taxes?
 - a. yes **They tend to support tax breaks**
 - b. no **Liberal +1 They tend to oppose tax breaks**

8. If you saw a child watching a gay wedding on television, would you change the channel?
- a. yes **Conservative**
 - b. no **Liberal +1**
9. What should the primary goal of US foreign policy?
- a. to promote democracy and human rights around the world. **Liberal +2**
 - b. to serve US national interests. **Conservatives tend to believe that US foreign policy should promote national interests.**
10. Do you object to religious displays, such as nativity scenes at Christmas or menorahs at Hanukkah, on government property?
- a. yes **Liberal +2** **Liberals adhere strictly to separation of church and state.**
 - b. no **Conservative**
11. Who should have a greater voice in deciding what books children read in school?
- a. teachers **Liberal +1**
 - b. parents **Conservatives tend to have less faith in teachers**
12. Should HIV tests be mandatory for professional athletes in contact sports like boxing or football?
- a. yes **Conservatives tend to support the “greater good” side of the issue.**
 - b. no **Liberals +2 they tend to support the privacy rights side of the issue.**
13. Do you support a voucher system that would allow parents to send children to the public or private school of their choice?
- a. yes **Conservatives strongly support a voucher system.**
 - b. no **Liberals +2, object to vouchers as being beneficial to the rich.**
14. Which expression would you use for a bumper sticker on your car/truck?
- a. We all have a right to bear arms. **Conservatives often cite language implied by the Constitution.**
 - b. Arms are for hugging, not for war. **Liberals +1 tend to oppose weapons.**
15. Which level of government is better able to administer key welfare programs such as Medicaid?
- a. Federal **Liberals favor Fed over State +2.**
 - b. State **Conservatives favor State over Fed.**
16. Should voter ballots and driver’s license tests be available only in English?
- a. yes **Conservatives favor “official English” because it holds a society together.**
 - b. no **Liberals +2 emphasize a multicultural approach with a society that is sensitive to the needs of individuals, including those who do not speak English.**

17. Should you be allowed to carry a concealed handgun to protect yourself?
- a. yes **Conservatives favor this**
 - b. no **Liberals oppose this +1**
18. Which of the following welfare reform provisions would you support? (check all that apply)
- a. a two-year cutoff for welfare recipients who do not find jobs. **Conservatives**
 - b. job training/placement for welfare recipients. **Liberals+1**
 - c. no additional benefits for welfare recipients with more than two children. **Cons.**
 - d. child care so welfare recipients with young children can take jobs. **Liberals+1**
19. Which of the following would you support in an effort to cut the US deficit?
- a. cut the growth of Medicare and Medicaid benefits. **Cons.**
 - b. cut loans to college students. **Cons.**
 - c. eliminate subsidies to the arts. **Cons.**
 - d. cut defense spending. **Liberals+1**
20. Should illegal immigrants be eligible for welfare benefits for their dependent children (who are US citizens)?
- a. yes **Liberals+1**
 - b. no **Cons.**
21. Do you approve of the policy of “three strikes and you’re out,” whereby anyone convicted of three felonies would be sent to prison for life without parole?
- a. yes **Conservatives tend to support tougher sentencing for repeat offenders.**
 - b. no **Liberals+2 favor rehabilitation.**
22. Which is closer to your opinion?
- a. I support the Endangered Species Act because it protects habitat systems. **Liberals+2: you place environment over jobs.**
 - b. I oppose the Endangered Species Act because it threatens timber jobs and impinges of private property rights. **Conservative: you place jobs over environment.**
23. Should the minimum wage be raised?
- a. yes **Liberals+1**
 - b. no **Conservative**
24. Should high schools distribute condoms to students?
- a. yes **Liberals+1**
 - b. no **Conservative**
25. Should sports teams whose mascots offend minorities switch to less offensive figures?
- a. yes **Liberals+1**
 - b. no **Conservative**

26. Do you support the death penalty?

- a. yes **Conservative**
- b. no **Liberals+1**

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

- a. yes **Conservative**
- b. no **Liberals+1**

28. Should employers be allowed to permanently replace striking workers?

- a. yes **Conservative**
- b. no **Liberals+1**. They tend to support unions, so they would oppose companies being able to go around the union when they are on strike.

29. Should there be a limit on the amount of money juries can award injured parties?

- a. yes **Conservatives support the business side of the issue: it's not practical to pay unlimited awards to injured parties.**
- b. no **Liberals+1 tend to support unlimited responsibility for injuries.**

30. How should abortions be restricted? (check all that apply)

- a. notify parents of anyone under age 18 before an abortion. **Conservative**
- b. no government funding. **Conservative**
- c. allow only in instance of rape, incest, or danger to life of mother. **Conservative**
- d. abortion should be illegal. **Conservative**
- e. abortion should not be restricted. **Liberals+1**

NOW TOTAL YOUR SCORE