NAME:_____PERIOD:_____ DATE:_____

Identifying Your Beliefs

     Individuals who are more likely to vote for the Democratic party are known as liberals while members of the Republican Party are often considered conservatives. Political opinions are based on many different psychological and sociological factors. Included among the sociological factors that affect somebody's belief patterns are a voter's age, race, income, occupation, education, and religion. Psychological factors such as how a voter sees the parties, issues, and candidates can also affect a person's voting behavior.

     The following survey is definitely not perfect, however, it will give you a general gage on your current political convictions on the liberal to conservative scale. For the following questions, answer according to the scale below. Please keep this sheet handy in the front of your binder.

0 = disagree very strongly
1 = disagree strongly
3 = disagree with some considerations
4 = disagree without enthusiasm
6 = agree without enthusiasm
7 = agree with some reservations
8 = agree strongly
9 = agree very strongly

Economic Views

1.) America should raise taxes in order to balance the budget. _____
2.) America should cut defense spending to balance the budget. _____
3.) America should not cut the domestic budget to balance the budget. _____
4.) America should increase tax rates for the upper class. _____
5.) America should increase tax rates for corporations. _____
6.) The Federal government should have more control of the economy. _____
7.) America should raise tariffs and trade restrictions. _____
8.) Congress should raise the minimum wage. _____
9.) America should guarantee all of its citizens health care. _____
10.) A flat tax would be unfair for less fortunate Americans. _____
11.) The cost of lowering taxes is far greater than the benefits of reducing them _____

                  TOTAL SCORE: WAIT FOR TEACHER DIRECTIONS _____
                  Rating:

Foreign Policy Views

1.) America's foreign policy towards foreign nations should not be based on potential economic benefits gained from that country. _____
2.) America should increase aid to third world nations. _____
3.) America should not consider the use of force to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons._____
4.) Toppling enemy regimes to spread democracy will not make the world a safer place. _____
5.) America is a land of immigrants and should accept more Central American refugees _____
6.) Proposed laws to reduce carbon emissions in the U.S. are urgently needed _____
7.) America should not use military force against Isis to protect our security _____
8.) The United States has a moral and a legal obligation to support the United Nations. America should continue to fund 70% of the U.N.'s budget. _____
9.) Terrorists are not self-evidently evil, we must focus on the motivations for their actions _____
10.) The decision to use the atomic bombs on Japan was immoral. _____
11.) In your opinion, if our leader does something wrong during wartime it is our duty to protest against him/her _____

                  TOTAL SCORE: WAIT FOR TEACHER DIRECTIONS _____
                  Rating:

Social Priorities

1.) Women should have the absolute authority over their freedom of choice (abortions) _____
2.) The government's right to protect us is less important than maintaining our personal civil liberties _____
3.) A cake maker who is asked to make a cake that has two women on top for a

wedding against his religious beliefs can be forced to do so.   _____

4.) Disadvantaged minorities should be given some recognition in college
   admissions because of our history of institutionalized racism.   _____

5.) Gun control and particularly an assault rifle ban is needed to reduce violent crimes.   _____

6.) Congress should pass a law that requires all new cars to get at least 40 mpg   _____

7.) Overt religious symbols in government offices and court rooms are not okay even if they
   are tradition.   _____

8.) The death penalty is immoral even in cases of treason and murder.   _____

9.) Homosexuals have the right to complete marriage equality.   _____

10.) People younger than 30 who came to the United States illegally before the age of 16 who
   pose no criminal or security threat should be given amnesty   _____

11.) Government should ensure that all citizens meet a certain minimum standard of living.   _____

       TOTAL SCORE: WAIT FOR TEACHER DIRECTIONS   _____
       Rating:

MY Overall score is a (average the 3 total scores)   _____

I am characterized as(wait for teacher instruction)   _____

Definitions:

- **radical**: favors rapid, fundamental change in existing social, economic, or political order; may be willing to resort to extreme means, even violence or revolution to accomplish such change (extreme change to create an entirely new social system)

- **liberal**: A person whose political beliefs tend to favor experimentation and change, reform of inequities, and an active role for the federal government in promoting individual welfare and supporting civil rights, and accepts peaceful political and social change within the existing political system

- **moderate**: political ideology that falls between liberal and conservative and which may include some of both; usually thought of as tolerant of others' political opinions and not likely to hold extreme views on issues

- **conservative**: The political outlook of favoring the cautious, traditional approach and a limited role for the federal government in helping individuals economically with more power to the states and supports the market economy with a potentially higher inequity in wealth. supports traditional values and lifestyles, favors a more active role for government in promoting national security, and approaches change cautiously

- **reactionary**: advocates a return to a previous state of affairs, often a social order or government that existed earlier in history (may be willing to go to extremes to achieve their goals)

- ? **Trumpism:** perhaps a newly emerging ideology that takes from several different values. It promotes traditionalism, nationalism and promotes radical cutbacks in immigration. Trumpism seeks to recreate the lost American culture of the 1950s: one which values fossil fuels, is run by deal makers who make money to achieve a GDP that can fund the niceties of American civilization, promotes protectionism to support American companies, and is united by race and class through shared material success. Trumpism supports the lowering of taxes, particularly on the wealthy job creators. In foreign policy, Trump wants an enormous military to directly protect American interests, but wants to withdraw from using the military for other purposes. Trumpism asserts that the world is a zero-sum game, and that even America's allies should be viewed as competitors.