

# THE LIBERTY POLL

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## “Hello, candidate, What’s the purpose of government?”

It’s time to start asking tough questions the “news” media avoids, to really find out what sort of leaders we are about to elect.

Although reporters can make you think they play hardball with candidates, they almost never do.

The Liberty Poll makes this dramatically clear—you can watch politicians squirm as they struggle to handle basic issues that really matter—where our leaders have been selling us short:

- 1 - Our constitutional form of government and their role in it,
- 2 - The separate powers of federal and state government, and
- 3 - Constitutionally guaranteed civil and human rights.

Politicians have tended to express shock, or to simply stammer when asked about such things. Some suddenly find they’re late for a meeting, and hurriedly duck out.

They will take an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution if they are elected to public office. Do they know what that means? Find out by making them take The Liberty Poll.

Reporters could win awards if they would only inject these revealing questions into the national forum.

Next time you see a “newsmaker” yourself, instead of asking about corruption, or progress on project X, try asking some of these questions instead, and see what happens.

In these days of expensive sound bites and slogan campaigning, this is an eye-popping opportunity for voters to see their future representatives’ views on the public offices they seek, and to avoid the wedge issues and glossy funding promises that politicians like because they find them safe (and well rehearsed).

The short and sweet questions below are backed up by detailed, in-depth queries from the co-authors of The Liberty Poll, at [gunlaws.com](http://gunlaws.com). Ask yourself, “Why don’t news people ever ask questions like this?”

## POLICY QUESTIONS

- 1 - If you are elected to the office you seek:
  - a) what laws will you repeal;
  - b) what taxes will you reduce or eliminate;
  - c) what government agencies will you shrink or close?
- 2 - Can you name any areas where government might serve the public interest, but where it has no authority to act? If not, is it still accurate to say we have a “government of limited powers”? Does this matter?
- 3 - Would you support criminal penalties:
  - a) for politicians who violate their oath of office;
  - b) for bureaucrats who act outside the powers delegated to them?
- 4 - Should someone who has sworn an oath to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution, but who then votes to allocate tax funds to programs or departments not authorized by that Constitution, be removed from office?
- 5 - Can you name any current areas of government operations that are outside the authority delegated to government?
- 6 - When did you last read the state and federal Constitutions?
- 7 - As a candidate for a state or federal office, can you think of any ways to improve enforcement of the 10th Amendment (the states and the people retain powers not delegated to the federal government)?

## ISSUE QUESTIONS

- 8 - With regard to jury trials, should judges be required to inform jurors that they have the power, in the sanctity of the jury room, to decide whether a law in question is just, or constitutional? Should schools teach this?
- 9 - With regard to due process, should judges be allowed to prevent defendants from presenting a defense on constitutional grounds if they so choose?
- 10 - With regard to the war on drugs, is the war succeeding? When could it be declared a success, the expense of

waging it cease, and the tax-based infrastructure surrounding it be dismantled? If it can’t be declared a success, when might it be declared a failure and brought to a close? How do you respond to critics who say the war on some drugs is really just a federal-agent jobs program that provides price supports for the cartels?

- 11 - With regard to law enforcement, are you in favor of police being allowed to use deadly force when absolutely necessary to protect innocent lives from criminal attack? Do you believe that people, even people with no training of any kind, have less right to defend themselves than authorities do?
- 12 - With regard to the right to keep and bear arms, would you support gun laws that would specifically disarm religious individuals, either on the way to or at religious services? Would this be OK as long as all religions were treated equally?
- 13 - With regard to establishing a federal ID number for every American, would you vote to enable or block such legislation if it were proposed? Which part of the Constitution would authorize such controls over citizens?
- 14 - With regard to asset-forfeiture laws and policies, describe how these are permissible under the Constitution. If elected, would you do anything to change current asset-forfeiture law?
- 15 - If elected to the office you seek, would you support legislation to license writers or register printing presses? Would you support legislation to license publishers to help control “hate speech”? Why would an honest writer or publisher object to such a program? If you cannot justify licensing writers, on what basis might you justify licensing gun owners?

A followup module of The Liberty Poll, with detailed questions for reporters to consider for extended interviews, is linked from the home page at [gunlaws.com](http://gunlaws.com).

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