## What is your Political Orientation? What political party is the best fit for you?



**Step 1: Where do you THINK you are on the political orientation spectrum?** Consider what you know about political orientation, and examine the Left versus Right Diagram on the back of this packet. Place an 'x' on the spectrum where you feel you fit best, and explain your reasoning. Be specific. Use information from the diagram and discuss changes you would like to see or not see and consider how strongly you hold your beliefs.

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Radical	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Reactionary
Leftist hard-liner	left-leaning	centrist	right-leaning	Rightist hard-liner
I placed my 'x' he	re because (1 pt):			

**Step 2: Explore the websites below** by taking the surveys to discover where your views fall on the political orientation spectrum. You might not be familiar with all the issues addressed in the questions, so please ask for clarification. Be sure to PRINT YOUR RESULTS or GET TEACHER'S INITIALS to show that you completed the survey, and to answer the questions for each site.

**a.** Pew Research Quiz: <u>http://www.people-press.org/political-party-quiz/</u> TEACHER INITIALS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Print your results and staple it to this sheet and fill out the charts below. (5 pt)

Where on our political orientation spectrum did you fit?

Radical	Liberal		Moderate	Conserv	ative	Reactionary
Leftist hard-liner	left-lear	ung	centrist	right-lea	aning	Rightist hard-liner
Solid Liberal	Faith & Family	Next Gen Left	Hard pressed	Young outsiders	Business cons.	Steadfast conservatives
	Left	5	skeptics	0		0
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Read the analysis of your results and look at how your answers compared with others who took this quiz.

Which 2 statements were you most in agreement with the General Public? (2 p	)t)
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Statement	% for your group	% for the General Public

Which 2 statements were you *least in agreement* with the General Public? (2 pt)

Statement	% for your	% for the General
	group	Public
		1

## **b.** ISideWith.com survey: <u>http://www.isidewith.com/</u>

TEACHER INITIALS: \_\_\_\_

*NOTE:* Be sure to adjust the 'How important is this to you' bar, and click on the 'Learn More,' 'Choose another stance,' and 'Show more questions' buttons to get the most accurate results! Print your results and staple it to this sheet and answer the questions below. (5 pt)

Which political party did you side with?

For each of the political parties listed below, indicate the percentage of the time you sided with them. Green Party? \_\_\_\_\_ Democrats? \_\_\_\_\_ Socialists? \_\_\_\_\_ Republicans? \_\_\_\_\_ Libertarians? \_\_\_\_\_ Conservative Party? \_\_\_\_\_

Now, click on the icons for each political party, and read about the beliefs and positions that each party has on various issues. Next, visit the On The Issues website, <u>http://www.ontheissues.org/default.htm</u> and scroll down until you see the buttons for the Party Platforms for various parties in the left hand margin. Click on RNC Platform to explore the Republicans, DNC Platform to explore the Democrats, GP Platform to explore the Green Party, LP Platform to explore the Libertarians, or Tea Party Views to explore the Tea Party positions.

Your objective is to figure out where the 3 minor parties fit on the political spectrum in relation to the Democrats and Republicans. Place the Democrats and Republicans on the spectrum first, and then compare the minor parties to the Democratic and Republican parties to figure out where the minor parties go. Pay attention to the following things: Does the party want new change? No change? Or to change back? Regarding role or size of government – does the party favor a larger role or smaller role? Does the party seem to be concerned more with individuals or with society as a whole? What constituencies do the party's policies seem to favor?

Where on the political orientation spectrum do you think that each of these 5 political parties fit? (3 pt)

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				/
Radical	Liberal	Moderate	Conservative	Reactionary
Leftist hard-liner	left-leaning	centrist	right-leaning	Rightist hard-liner

Give 2 reasons that use comparisons with the major parties, to justify your placement for the 3 minor parties. (3 pt) EXAMPLE: I put the 'XXX' party to the left of the Democrats because they support a very huge change to immigration laws-they want open borders, whereas the Democrats favor securing the borders, but granting citizenship to undocumented people already in the country.

I put the Libertarians here because:

- •
- •

I put the Socialists here because:

I put the Green Party here because:

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Step 3: NOW....Where do you think you are on the political orientation spectrum? Place an 'x' on the

spectrum where you feel you fit best. Be specific. Discuss changes you would like to see/not see and consider how strongly you hold your beliefs.

Radical Leftist hard-liner	Liberal left-leaning	Moderate centrist	Conservative right-leaning	Reactionary Rightist hard-liner
I kept my 'x' her	re (or moved my 'x')	because: (1 pt)		

**Step 4: Talk with a parent/guardian about Political Orientation for at least 10 minutes.** (If you have internet access, have them take one of the quizzes, and find out where on the political orientation spectrum they would fit. If you don't have internet access, use the Left versus Right diagram, and your survey printouts, to have a discussion about their political orientation and views. (5 pts)

## Some questions to consider:

Where would they place themselves on the spectrum?

Do they belong to a political party? If so, which one? Why did they choose this party?

Have their political views changed over time? If so, how?

Would their place on the spectrum be different if just considering social issues? Or just economic issues? What issues do they feel most strongly about?

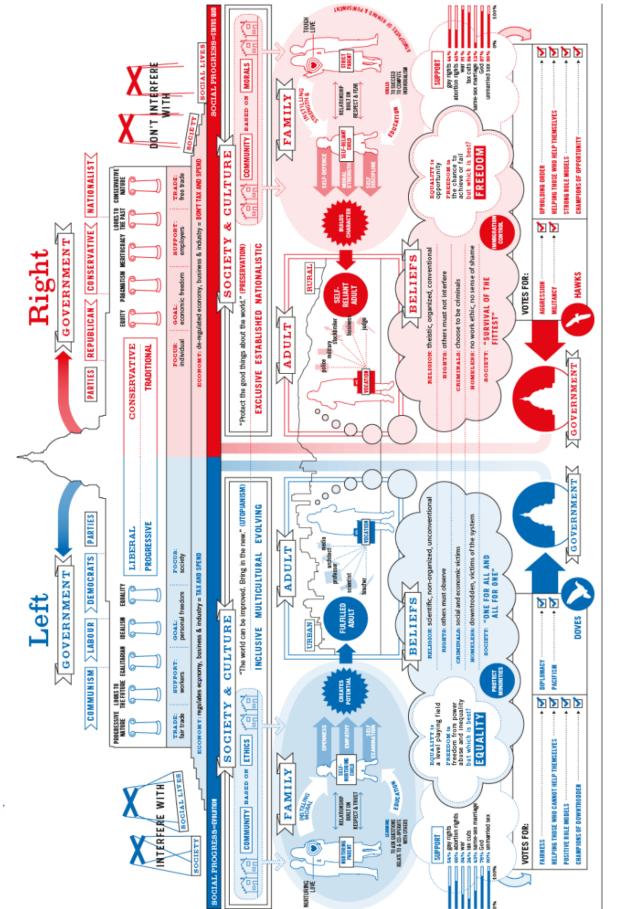
## I hereby affirm that we have spent at least 10 minutes discussing political orientation.

Parent/Guard	ian:		Date:
Student:	Signature	printed name	Date:
	Signature	printed name	

**Step 5: Reflect.** What were the 3 most important things you learned from this exercise? Include at least one thing you learned from the conversation with your parent/guardian. (3 pt)

The following websites are related and may have been used in class, if you are interested in looking at them more closely:

- Left versus Right diagram <u>http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/left-vs-right-us/</u>
- World's Smallest Political Quiz <u>http://theadvocates.org/quiz/quiz.php</u>
- Liberal & conservative brains. <u>http://2012election.procon.org/view.resource.php?resourceID=004818</u>
- Liberals versus Conservatives—issue by issue.
  <u>http://www.studentnewsdaily.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Conservative-vs-Liberal.pdf</u>
- Which INDUSTRIES are more liberal? Conservative? <u>http://knowmore.washingtonpost.com/2015/02/24/the-most-democratic-and-republican-industries-in-america/</u>
- Shows political orientation using the Authoritarian–Democracy spectrum too http://www.politicalcompass.org



CREATIVE CREDIT

David McCandless & Stefanie Posavec // v1.2 // Dec 2010 InformationIsBeautiful.net / ItsBeenReal.co.uk

from the new infographic book of visual exploria The Visual Miscellaneum