

## **UNIT II PUBLIC OPINION**

1. True / False: The Founders expected public opinion to be uniform
2. True / False: The fact that the federal budget is not balanced indicates that government does not always do what people want.
3. True / False: The government attends more to the views of a political elite than to popular views.
4. True / False: Public opinion tends to stay relatively stable over time.
5. True / False: People's specific political attitudes are probably more important to society than their underlying political culture.
6. Children will take on their parents' party identification more often than their other political values.
7. Most young people accept their parents' party identification.
8. The ability of the family to inculcate a strong sense of party identification has declined in recent years.
9. Most children do not recognize party labels before they reach high school.
10. As early as the fifth grade (age 11), over one-half of all schoolchildren identify with one political party or another.
11. Children tend to accept their parents' beliefs on policy more often than they accept their parents' party identification.
12. Catholics are usually more liberal than Protestants but less liberal than Jews.
13. Women tend to favor more federal spending for welfare programs and problems of the homeless more than men.
14. College education has a generally liberalizing influence on political attitudes.
15. Occupation is becoming less important as an explanation of political attitudes in the United States.
16. Schooling is one reason why social class has become a less important predictor of political attitudes.
17. In recent years, economic issues have become more important than noneconomic issues in shaping political attitudes.
18. African-Americans are more likely to believe that the criminal justice system is biased against them.
19. Between 1974 and 1996 African Americans became more convinced that the government should help them and less convinced that they should help themselves.

20. There is a big opinion gap between the leaders of African-American organizations and black people generally.
21. In California at least, Latinos appear to be more closely identified with the Republican party than are Asian-Americans.
22. Southerners are generally more conservative than people from other parts of the nation.
23. People in the West are more conservative than people in the Midwest or in the East.
24. Most Americans have political opinion, but their views are not well organized into a coherent political ideology.
25. Most Americans tend to think about politics in an ideological manner.
26. Most Americans today will describe themselves as liberals.
27. Americans are more likely to describe themselves as conservatives than as liberals.
28. A liberal on economic issues is one who favors government efforts to increase tax rates for wealthy individuals.
29. A conservative on matters of public conduct is one who favors protecting the rights of the accused over punishing criminals.
30. Pure liberals are so called because they take liberal positions on political and economic issues as well as on lifestyle choices.
31. Pure liberals are those who favor government involvement in the economy and in people's lifestyle choices.
32. Pure conservatives oppose government intrusion into the economy but support government backing for traditional moral values.
33. Pure conservatives oppose all sorts of government extension whether into economic or lifestyle matters.
34. Recent data show that the right to abortion is a good example of a clear-cut liberal versus conservative issues.
35. Libertarians resist government intrusion into private lifestyle choices but welcome it in economic policy.
36. Libertarians are those who oppose government presence both in the economy and in people's lifestyle choices.
37. Populists are those who are in favor of a government role both in economic matters and in the protection of moral values.
38. Populists support popular sentiments on government presence: favorable in economic issues, unfavorable in ethical matters.
39. The new middle class and the traditional middle class are comparable in income levels.
40. The new middle class is more likely than the traditional middle class to be liberal on social issues.

- 41. The main difference between the traditional middle class and the new class is that the latter is more affluent.**
- 42. The movement from undergraduate to graduate education seems to have a significant influence on an individual's chances of becoming a liberal.**
- 43. Members of the traditional middle class are more likely than members of the new middle class to vote Democratic.**
- 44. Contrary to the myth of the pandering politician, recent evidence suggests that the rate at which government adopts policies supported by majorities in polls has been declining.**