

*W*hat are the beliefs of a Conservative?

A Conservative believes:

- ...the primary function of government is national security to protect citizens from foreign enemies and criminals at home.
- ...the Constitution, Declaration of Independence, and Bill of Rights are the foundations of our Republic, written by wise individuals who were inspired by God.
- ...in limited government.
- ...in the need for national sovereignty and returning to the states the sovereignty accorded by the 10th Amendment.
- ...in the sanctity of the traditional family which is the foundation and cornerstone of our society, opposing attempts to redefine the family.
- ...in the unfettered right to own private property and the ability to enjoy the fruits of one's labor without burdensome taxation.
- ...in the 2nd Amendment right to own a gun for protection.
- ...in free market Capitalism, the economic system that creates opportunities and incentives allowing productivity and prosperity for citizens, predicated on the knowledge that such a system requires a moral, principled citizenry.
- ...in the value and importance of the individual, individual responsibility, and privacy.
- ...in freedom of religion, not freedom from religion.
- ...in honoring the sanctity of life at all stages, both inside and outside the womb, extending to all people regardless of age or infirmity, thus disallowing euthanasia, assisted suicide, infanticide, and abortion or the public funding of these practices.
- ...in a balanced budget and in ending deficit spending.
- ...that political power flows from grass roots upward.



*Conservatism is the essence of
life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.*

That government is best which governs the least, because its people discipline themselves.—Thomas Jefferson

A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain man from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government.

—Thomas Jefferson

It is not merely for today, but for all time to come that we should perpetuate for our children's children this great and free government, which we have enjoyed all our lives.

—Abraham Lincoln

That some should be rich, shows others may become rich, and hence is just encouragement to industry and enterprise.

—Abraham Lincoln

This will be the best security for maintaining our liberties. A nation of well-informed men who have been taught to know and prize the rights which God has given them cannot be enslaved. It is in the religion of ignorance that tyranny begins.

—Benjamin Franklin

The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.—Edmund Burke

The Conservative approach is nothing more or less than an attempt to apply the wisdom and experience and the revealed truths of the past to the problems of today.

—Barry Goldwater

Throughout history, government has proved to be the chief instrument for thwarting man's liberty. Government represents power in the hands of some men to control and regulate the lives of other men.—Barry Goldwater

Ours was the first revolution in history of mankind that truly reversed the course of government, and with three little words: 'we the people.' 'We the people' tell government what to do; it doesn't tell us.—Ronald Reagan

You cannot legislate the poor into freedom by legislating the wealthy out of freedom. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that, my dear friend, is about the end of any nation. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it.—Dr. Adrian Rogers

Made available by:

The Capitol Chapter of Eagle Forum
621 First Avenue NE, Carmel, IN 46032

March, 2010