Are You Ready to Vote?

by Phil Rasmussen

In many areas around the country, early voting is already taking place. In no other time in the history of our nation is your vote more important than ever.

Your vote will determine the political, social and economic direction that our nation takes. The outcome of this election is the hinge pin that determines whether our nation remains democratic or becomes a socialist state, and whether you will retain your freedoms or lose them. This is not the time to sit back and say to yourself, "I'm just one person, my vote doesn't count that much."

There are 75,708 drops of water in a gallon of water. Only 1 more drop will cause that gallon to overflow. So, yes, your vote **CAN** make a difference.

There are many issues plaguing voters toady. The media has separated them as republican or democrat issues. Don't let that bother you. The real issue is whether you want <u>less government</u> or <u>more government</u> in your life. Personally, I want to keep the freedoms guaranteed by God, the Magna Carta, our Declaration of Independence, and our Constitution and its Bill of Rights. That means less government control in my life.

The Association of Mature American Citizens recently classified the political, social and economic issues of concern for the American people according to the role fo government in our lives. This compilation of issues is presented in the follow table.

Comparing Political Stances

Less Government

- 1. Preserve individual liberties:
 - Speech
 - Worship
 - Travel
 - Livelihood
 - · Gun and property ownership
 - Due process
 - Equal protection
- Avoid unreasonable searches and seizures

More Government

- Primacy of government and superiority of federal employees to make decisions:
 - Assumption of power
 - More federal spending and regulations
 - Higher taxes
 Expanded control over private lives and free markets
- Federal programs for anything

- 3. Stop violations of the Bill of Rights
- 4. Keep government limited by only doing what the private sector cannot, such as:

National defense

- Protecting the border
- · Reinforcing public safety
- Assuring national transportation
- Assuring energy infrastructure
- 5. Keep spending down to avoid inflation
- Keep economy open and marketbased
- 7. Deter global aggression and illegal immigration
- 8. Keep foreign policy sound
- Permit local control over education
- 10. Reinforce rule of law
- 11. Assure the non-political administration of justice

- 3. Seek to control:
 - Schools
 - Speech
 - Faith Academics
 - Gender
 - Self-protection
 - Use of property
- 4. Seek to control when and how civilians:
 - Work
 - Congregate
 - Travel
 - Eat
 - Demonstrate
 - Celebrate
 - Spend their hard earned money
- 5. High spending that leads to:
 - Increasing national debt
 - Uncontrolled inflation
 - High interest rates
 - Job loss
 - Devalued pensions and stocks
 - Energy insecurity
 - Forfeited promises

Putting personalities aside, go down each column and paraphrasing Ronald Reagan, ask yourself "Are you better off today under the Biden administration than you were under the previous administration?"

If you wonder, the Republicans are for **LESS** government in your life, while the Democrats want **MORE** government controlling all aspect of your life.

"If we are to guard against ignorance and remain free, it is the responsibility of every American to be informed."

Thomas Jefferson