

## Creating Political Ideology Posters

Webster's Dictionary defines an **ideology** as "a systematic body of concepts, especially about human life or culture." A **political ideology**, in turn, may be defined as a "consistent set of values and beliefs about the proper purpose and scope of government" (*Challenge of Democracy* 21). In comparing various political ideologies, it is useful to consider their differing responses to two basic questions: How big should government be? What should government do?

To complete this **in-class** assignment, follow these steps:

1. **Read** pages 19-24 of *The Challenge of Democracy*. Using your own words, **write** short definitions of the following terms:

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Totalitarianism      | e. Libertarianism |
| b. Socialism            | f. Anarchism      |
| c. Democratic Socialism | g. Liberal        |
| d. Capitalism           | h. Conservative   |

2. **With a partner, create 2 sets of 4 political posters (8 posters total)** reflecting your understanding of the following ideologies (totalitarianism, liberal, conservative, and libertarianism). Each set of posters will examine a single policy/issue from the four ideological perspectives. To accomplish this you may wish to imagine that you are the Communications Director for a government which follows each of these ideologies and have been asked to promote a specific program or policy from that ideology's viewpoint. Each poster should:

- use symbols and/or images;
- contain slogans or simple statements; and
- pertain to a single, specific policy or issue.

Below are listed **possible** policies/issues which you may wish to use as the basis for your posters. Select 2 of these policies/issues and create a set of posters for each.

School Prayer  
Censorship of Media / Art / Literature  
Gun Control  
Drug Legalization  
Gay / Lesbian Marriage  
Affirmative Action  
Assisted Suicide  
Flag Burning Bans  
Drinking Age

Capital Punishment  
Welfare Programs  
Nationalized Healthcare  
Environmental Protection  
Immigration Control  
Domestic Surveillance  
Excessive Force by Police  
Minimum Wage Increases  
Offshore Oil Drilling