

American Citizenry and Government Survey

We welcome you to participate in completion of this survey as part of our shared learning experience for our book club at Trinity Episcopal Church in Ambler. We have recently read as a group *The Bill of Obligations: The Ten Habits of Good Citizens* by Richard Haass. In order to better understand the opinions of a wide breadth of our American citizenry, we are inviting you to participate in our survey. While we believe this book is beneficial to all citizens to read, it is not required for completion of the survey.

- 1) In the above-referenced book, Mr. Haass identifies the following obligations of being a good citizen. Please indicate what you view as the top 3 obligations for American citizens.

_____ BE INFORMED

_____ GET INVOLVED

_____ STAY OPEN TO COMPROMISE

_____ REMAIN CIVIL

_____ REJECT VIOLENCE

_____ VALUE NORMS

_____ PROMOTE THE COMMON GOOD

_____ RESPECT GOVERNMENT SERVICE

_____ SUPPORT THE TEACHING OF CIVICS

_____ PUT COUNTRY FIRST

If you have any comments about any of your selections or regarding any of the topics above, please feel free to indicate them below.

- 2) With regard to some of the most pressing issues currently facing our nation and the world, which of the following 3 issues do you feel are most important in the upcoming election cycle of November 2024:

_____SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

_____EDUCATION

_____ABORTION/WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

_____FOREIGN POLICY (AS A GENERAL CATEGORY)

_____ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

_____RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN CONFLICT

_____IMMIGRATION

_____EQUALITY ISSUES (LGTBQ, RACIAL, GENDER)

_____CRIME

_____INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS

_____BIPARTISAN COOPERATION

_____MAINTAINING DEMOCRACY

_____TERRORISM (FOREIGN AND/OR DOMESTIC)

_____CLIMATE CHANGE

_____GUN RIGHTS/GUN CONTROL

_____ECONOMY/INFLATION/TAXES

_____OTHER (PLEASE INDICATE) _____

If you have any comments about any of your selections or regarding any of the topics above, please feel free to indicate them below.

- 3) Is there a political party that you feel best represents your beliefs? If so, please indicate below:

_____ REPUBLICAN

_____ DEMOCRAT

_____ NEITHER (INDEPENDENT)

_____ OTHER (THIRD PARTY) Please indicate: _____

Please feel free to offer any additional comments here (such as whether you have always been affiliated with that party, whether there is a particular candidate which gave you an affinity for that party, whether you strongly identify with an elected official or candidate currently within that party, etc.).

- 4) What beliefs, if any, do you hold or have that do not fit with those of your party affiliation?

- 5) Do you believe there should be upper level age limits established for presidential candidates in elections after 2024 (Theoretically, such as 68 years at time of election if potentially seeking two terms, age 72 years at time of election will limit to one term)?

_____YES

_____NO

_____NOT SURE

Please feel free to offer additional comments below.

- 6) Please indicate what are the 3 most important characteristics to you in an elected official/public servant.

_____COURAGE

_____EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS

_____STRENGTH

_____DECISIVENESS

_____INTEGRITY

_____ACCOUNTABILITY

_____JUDGMENT

_____COMPASSION

_____KNOWLEDGE

_____SELF-AWARENESS

_____VISION

_____ABILITY TO COLLABORATE

_____RESILIENCE

_____RESPECT FOR OTHERS

Please indicate below if any other quality/qualities not listed:

Also please feel to comment on any of the characteristics in the space below.

7) Do you believe there are any substantial threats to our democracy at this time, and if so, please describe below

8) Rate the following three institutions on the amount of confidence you have in them (1 being little confidence and 10 being very strongly confident):

_____THE US SUPREME COURT

_____THE CONGRESS

_____THE PRESIDENCY

9) In general, what do you think most often motivates the Supreme Court Justices' decisions:

_____MAINLY POLITICS

_____MAINLY THE LAW

10) Do you favor or oppose a proposal to increase the number of justices on the US Supreme Court?

_____FAVOR

_____OPPOSE

11) Should justices of the Supreme Court ignore or consider public opinion about a case when making decisions?

_____ CONSIDER PUBLIC OPINION

_____ IGNORE PUBLIC OPINION

12) Should justices of the Supreme Court follow previous decisions whenever possible or should the Court overturn previous decisions if a majority of the Court believes the case was wrongly decided?

_____ FOLLOW PREVIOUS DECISIONS

_____ OVERTURN IF A MAJORITY THINK IT WAS WRONGLY DECIDED

Are there any recent Supreme Court decisions with which you strongly agree or disagree? If so, please feel free to comment below.

13) What is your view of the current US Congress (House of Representatives and Senate) in their ability to achieve legislative goals?

_____ FAVORABLE

_____ UNFAVORABLE

14) With regard to members of Congress, do you think members of Congress should:

_____COMPROMISE WITH THEIR OPPONENTS TO ACHIEVE CERTAIN GOALS

_____STAND UP FOR THEIR PRINCIPLES NO MATTER WHAT

15) If there are any other statements you would like to make concerning American citizenry or on topics not addressed above, please feel free to make them below.

Thank you for participating in our survey. We look forward to gaining insights from our family and friends who have participated.