

National Government – Public Opinion Homework

Name

Institution

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### **The Role of Polls**

The primary objective of polls in discerning public opinions is to relay the views of individuals of a certain community or even the country in general through a random sample which does not require a survey from everyone (Bond & Smith, 2016). These polls are crucial in explaining public opinions as it shows the viewpoints of the people, so political candidates are able to know where they stand with the citizens. When a specific population is studied, polls are usually used to generalize them. I believe polls are helpful in explaining the opinion of the public as they are measurement tools used to relay information of how people feel about a specific topic. Polls aid in giving of statistics in regards to the general population which in turn can be utilized to assist in achieving what the citizens want and need (Bond & Smith, 2016).

### **Liberalism and Conservatism Comparison**

The most common variation among liberals and conservatives is that liberals tend to support a government that is more open and centralized which will provide more equality (Gérard, 2012). Conservatives prefer a state in which citizens will be less involved, and the private sector will be free to do at their discretion. As for economy, liberals see the government as an arbitrator and the regulatory body for the benefit of citizens, while those who are rich, get a heavier tax, and the poor are invested in more. Conservatives, however, prefer that taxes and spending should be on the lower side and a market to be free from interference (Gérard, 2012). In social issues liberals, for instance, favor freedom of choice about abortion and are opposed to prayer in school; conservatives, on contrary, are the opposite of this (Gérard, 2012).

References

Bond, J.R., & Smith, K.B. (2016). *Analyzing American democracy: politics and political science*.

New York, NY: Routledge.

Gérard, F.B. (2012). *Liberalism versus conservatism: a bibliography with indexes*. Huntington,

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