

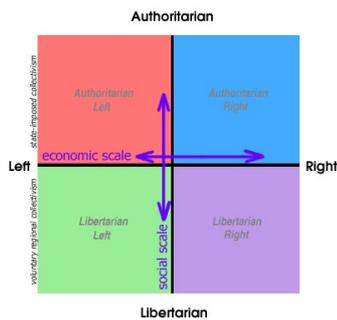
About the Political Compass™

In the introduction, we explained the inadequacies of the traditional left-right line.

Left Right

If we recognise that this is essentially an economic line it's fine, as far as it goes. We can show, for example, Stalin, Mao Tse Tung and Pol Pot, with their commitment to a totally controlled economy, on the hard left. Socialists like Mahatma Gandhi and Robert Mugabe would occupy a less extreme leftist position. Margaret Thatcher would be well over to the right, but further right still would be someone like that ultimate free marketeer, General Pinochet.

That deals with economics, but the social dimension is also important in politics. That's the one that the mere left-right scale doesn't adequately address. So we've added one, ranging in positions from extreme authoritarian to extreme libertarian.

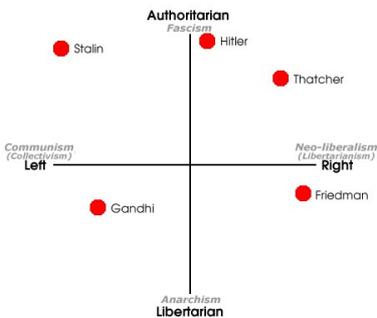


Both an economic dimension and a social dimension are important factors for a proper political analysis. By adding the social dimension you can show that Stalin was an authoritarian leftist (ie the state is more important than the individual) and that Gandhi, believing in the supreme value of each individual, is a liberal leftist. While the former involves state-imposed arbitrary collectivism in the extreme top left, on the extreme bottom left is voluntary collectivism at regional level, with no state involved. Hundreds of such anarchist communities existed in Spain during the civil war period.

You can also put Pinochet, who was prepared to sanction mass killing for the sake of the free market, on the far right as well as in a hardcore authoritarian position. On the non-socialist side you can distinguish someone like Milton Friedman, who is anti-state for fiscal rather than social reasons, from Hitler, who wanted to make the state stronger, even if he wiped out half of humanity in the process.

The chart also makes clear that, despite popular perceptions, the opposite of fascism is not communism but anarchism (ie liberal socialism), and that the opposite of communism (i.e. an entirely state-planned economy) is neo-liberalism (i.e. extreme deregulated economy)

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The usual understanding of anarchism as a left wing ideology does not take into account the neo-liberal "anarchism" championed by the likes of Ayn Rand, Milton Friedman and America's Libertarian Party, which couples social Darwinian right-wing economics with liberal positions on most social issues. Often their libertarian impulses stop short of opposition to strong law and order positions, and are more economic in substance (ie no taxes) so they are not as extremely libertarian as they are extremely right wing. On the other hand, the classical libertarian collectivism of anarcho-syndicalism (libertarian socialism) belongs in the bottom left hand corner.

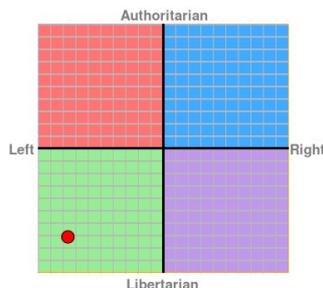
In our home page we demolished the myth that authoritarianism is necessarily "right wing", with the examples of Robert Mugabe, Pol Pot and Stalin. Similarly Hitler, on an economic scale, was not an extreme right-winger. His economic policies were broadly Keynesian, and to the left of some of today's Labour parties. If you could get Hitler and Stalin to sit down together and avoid economics, the two diehard authoritarians would find plenty of common ground.

A Word about Neo-cons and Neo-libs

U.S. neo-conservatives, with their commitment to high military spending and the global assertion of national values, tend to be more authoritarian than hard right. By contrast, neo-liberals, opposed to such moral leadership and, more especially, the ensuing demands on the tax payer, belong to a further right but less authoritarian region. Paradoxically, the "free market", in neo-con parlance, also allows for the large-scale subsidy of the military-industrial complex, a considerable degree of corporate welfare, and protectionism when deemed in the national interest. These are viewed by neo-libs as impediments to the unfettered market forces that they champion.

Your Political Compass

Economic Left/Right: -7.63
Social Libertarian/Authoritarian: -7.13



[Show chart in a separate window for printing](#)

[See your position plotted against the UK parties in the 2015 general election.](#)



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While the caricatures have been placed in the quadrants appropriate to their political views, we have not attempted to place them accurately within their quadrants. Aesthetics took priority over ideology in this instance. So before you write to us to complain that we have Sanders to the left of Mandela, or that Ayn Rand believed in libertarianism only for the elite, consider that the certificate is designed to start conversations, not to settle bets.

Previously we charged £5.00 for issuing the certificate but this became uneconomic in the light of rising costs of our payments provider and bank. We're now giving it away. If you have paid for a certificate in the past, we thank you for your support.

How You Can Help Us

A great deal of effort lies behind the development of The Political Compass, and the realisation of it in practical form. It has occasionally come to our attention that other sites have tried to exploit our work by copying it, adopting our name, or linking to us in a dishonest fashion.

If you should come across any such sites, please let us know so that we can take appropriate action.

A few critics believe that we should blow with prevailing political winds and narrow the actual parameters. Please see our [FAQ 2](#).

We have consistently resisted many approaches for banner and pop-up ads or permanent corporate sponsorship because of the potential compromises that such arrangements almost inevitably entail. However if you like The Political Compass enough to help us, please leave a tip below:

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Thanks from the Political Compass team.

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New material is regularly added to The Political Compass — please keep coming back!

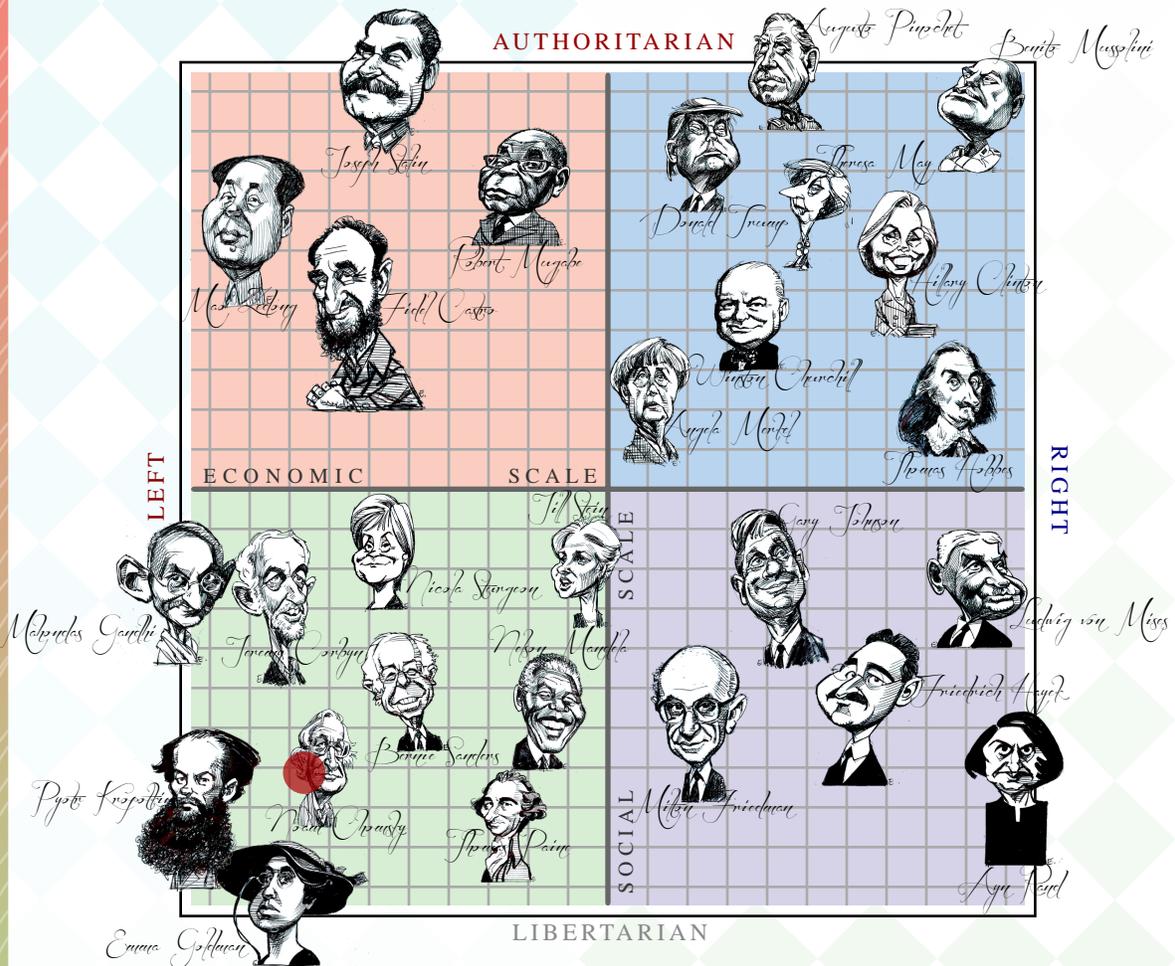
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Political compass reference chart

The Political Compass



This document certifies that
● Mark A. Foster
inhabits the
left libertarian quadrant of
The Political Compass

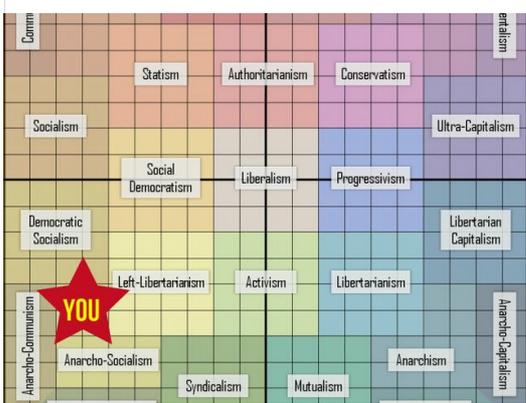
February 3, 2018

<https://www.politicalcompass.org/>

The Definitive Political Orientation Test

Created by **Felix Stablum** on July 23, 2015

Left Libertarian



You're on the left and libertarian spectrum of the political compass! You question authority and are deeply distrustful of hierarchy. You believe strongly in personal liberty and individual freedoms. You firmly believe in a self-governed and non-hierarchical society with maximum individual freedoms for all. You support women's rights, gay rights, and liberal attitudes on sex. You, however, favor collectively owned property and an economy that guarantees equality and opportunity. You believe in strong communities and favor a cooperative economy over dog eat dog capitalism. You're a lefty, but you hate big government just as much as the next libertarian! What do you think? Do you agree?

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Jessy Stan
Right Collective
You're on the right and collective quadrant of the political compass! You believe in a strong military, an efficient government to intervene when necessary, low taxes and a free market economy. You value tradition, hardwork, and you tend to respect religious authority. You're patriotic and sceptical of people looking for a hand out. You believe in government institutions and you have a strong sense of belonging to those with the same nationality as you. You believe in individual freedoms, but you also take into account tradition and social order. Anarchy and communism are your worst nightmares! Ronald Reagan is most likely one of your personal heroes! What do you think? Is this accurate?

Like · Reply · 562 · Jul 22, 2015 2:34pm

Jessy Stan
Yes, it is accurate. 😊
Like · Reply · 130 · Jul 22, 2015 2:34pm

Michelle DeGeest · Oskaloosa High School
Jessy Stan Same here!
Like · Reply · 54 · Jul 23, 2015 7:54pm

Scott Russell · On my soapbox at Facebook
In other words you're an asshole.
Like · Reply · 2471 · Jul 24, 2015 8:46pm

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Rose Marie L. Ebeling · Lewiston High School
Right Collective

You're on the right and collective quadrant of the political compass! You believe in a strong military, an efficient government to intervene when necessary, low taxes and a free market economy. You value tradition, hardwork, and you tend to respect religious authority. You're patriotic and sceptical of people looking for a hand out. You believe in government institutions and you have a strong sense of belonging to those with the same nationality as you. You believe in individual freedoms, but you also take into account tradition and social order. Anarchy and communism are your worst nightmares! Ronald Reagan is most likely one of your personal heroes! This is SO Right On!!!

Like · Reply · 70 · Jul 22, 2015 2:36pm



Davide Pecile · ITI A. Malignani
More or Less the basic of italian Fascism.

Like · Reply · 486 · Jul 27, 2015 8:59am



Tariq Dickens · South Dartmoor Community College
May I be the first to say;

MMMMMRRRRRIIIICCCAAA

Like · Reply · 139 · Aug 6, 2015 9:40am



Anthony Richeal · Photographer at Photos
Right collective is why the USA is going to shit

Like · Reply · 529 · Oct 2, 2015 7:25pm

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Hoshua Lovell · Human rights activists at Fb.com/activist

Left Collective You're on the Left and collective quadrant of the political compass! You value the intervention of big government to provide citizens with services and you believe that government's job is to guarantee equality. You favor higher taxes on the rich and believe in more publicly funded programs for the disadvantaged. You're sceptical of the free market and you think that too much individualism is dangerous. You hold many communitarian values and you support limiting individual freedoms for the good of society. You're compassionate, idealistic and deeply dedicated to your community! You're a proud bleeding heart!

Like · Reply · 299 · Jul 22, 2015 2:46pm



Gully Itsuki · Baller at Institution of Ballers
commie

Like · Reply · 78 · Jan 26, 2016 3:13pm



Ernest Crunkleton
Daniel M Komenda Jr., Strawman, Governments redistribute resources much more efficiently than private enterprise. Take the Inca for example. Their administrators took a third of the resources from all sources of production and then redistributed it. They had none of the social ills that we have today (like homelessness and poverty) and even practiced brain surgery with a higher success rate than was possessed by western style medicine up until the early 1900's when sterilization became the norm.

Like · Reply · 116 · Jan 27, 2016 3:58pm · Edited



Jimmy Morris
This is how to explain socialism to a kid. You don't have enough money for lunch. You get up extra early and take the long way to school picking up bottles to take to the store for refunds. You see a classmate playing an arcade game at the store. You use the money you earned to buy a sandwich. The classmate doesn't have enough for a sandwich. The teacher sees this, takes your sandwich without permission, divides it in two to share.

Like · Reply · 330 · Jan 27, 2016 4:17pm

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Which Describes You Best?

Life's natural leaders	Doing what should be done	The ultimate realist	You only go around once in life	Sees much but shares little
Smooth talker/persuader	Intuitive	Life's misadventurer	Ready to try anything once	Performing noble service to no glory
A huge sense of duty	Giving before an eye for an eye	A hard core problem solver	One ending challenge after	An inspiration to others

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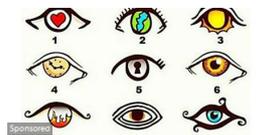
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