



## BLOGS

### LP Monday Message: A lot of Americans identify as libertarians

posted by [Staff \(/blogs/staff/\)](/blogs/staff/) on Feb 01, 2010

February 1, 2010

Dear Friend of Liberty,

An [analysis published by the Cato Institute on January 21 \(http://www.cato.org/pub\\_display.php?pub\\_id=11152\)](http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=11152) offers a variety of statistics to support the notion that Americans are becoming more libertarian, and that they are becoming more comfortable with the word "libertarian" itself. I thought this study was very interesting, and I encourage you to take a look at it.

According to the study, a 2006 Zogby poll posed the following question to a sample of voters: "Would you describe yourself as fiscally conservative and socially liberal, also known as libertarian?" Apparently 44% of the respondents said "yes"! That's very encouraging to me, because I had thought the word "libertarian" was scary or confusing to most people. I doubt that all of those 44% really have political views that I would describe as libertarian, but I think it's great that they feel comfortable with the libertarian label.

The authors of the study used a different poll to determine how many voters are actually libertarian. According to their criteria, about 15% of voters are libertarian. I think one of the most important jobs of the Libertarian Party is to make sure that libertarian voters are voting for Libertarian Party candidates. There is a lot of untapped potential out there.

Obviously, the Republicans and Democrats in Washington are not making voters happy. [Fewer and fewer voters are identifying as Republicans or Democrats.](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/mood_of_america/partisan_trends) ([http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public\\_content/politics/mood\\_of\\_america/partisan\\_trends](http://www.rasmussenreports.com/public_content/politics/mood_of_america/partisan_trends)) We need to find those voters who are libertarians, and get them to join us in our effort to bring liberty back to America.

What can you do to help? A lot of things. You can [join the LP \(http://lp.org/membership\)](http://lp.org/membership) or [make a contribution \(http://lp.org/contribute\)](http://lp.org/contribute). You can [become a Libertarian candidate \(http://www.lp.org/run-for-office\)](http://www.lp.org/run-for-office), which will give you great opportunities to express Libertarian viewpoints to the public. You can [volunteer locally \(http://www.lp.org/volunteer\)](http://www.lp.org/volunteer) with your Libertarian Party affiliate. Even something as simple as putting a bumper sticker on your car that says "Libertarian" is great. (In fact, some marketing and campaign professionals estimate that's worth at least \$200 in advertising!)

Whatever the level of involvement you're comfortable with, please try to do something.

Sincerely,  
Wes Benedict  
Executive Director  
Libertarian National Committee

P.S. If you have not yet become a member of the Libertarian Party and wish to do so, please [click here \(http://lp.org/membership\)](http://lp.org/membership) and join the only political party dedicated to free markets and civil liberties. If you need to renew, please [click here \(http://lp.org/membership\)](http://lp.org/membership). If you would like to make a contribution separate from membership, please [click here \(http://lp.org/contribute\)](http://lp.org/contribute).



The Libertarian Party is America's third largest political party, founded in 1971 as an alternative to the two main political parties. Our vision is for a world in which all individuals can freely exercise the natural right of sole dominion over their own lives, liberty and property by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office, and moving public policy in a libertarian direction.

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