

From the Humboldt County Republican website:

## **GOVERNMENT AND THE GOVERNED**

**Republicans believe** that government should be limited to doing for people things they cannot do for themselves. The right to determine one's destiny should lie in the hands of the individual. Republicans believe government power and resources should be kept close to the people through state and local leaders rather than centralized in Washington, D.C.

Democrat administrations have pushed for ever more centralized power in Washington, with secondary consideration for the rights of individual citizens and communities. This has led to increased federal controls and regimentation, often in the hands of unelected bureaucrat regulators. This causes erosion of state and local governments.

## **FOREIGN POLICY**

**Republicans believe** that peace and freedom can be protected only if the nation maintains a defense force strong enough to deter any aggression. Republicans oppose unnecessary intervention in the internal affairs of other nations, and stress helping our friends around the globe to develop the skills and strengths needed to protect themselves.

The Democratic Party has vacillated between extreme isolationism, intervention and confrontation tactics in cases such as Vietnam, Cuba and Korea. This has confused our allies and encouraged potential enemies.

## **ECONOMIC POLICIES**

**Republicans believe** in a system of competitive free enterprise in which individuals are free to make the best use of their talents, with the only limits to an individual's opportunity to succeed being the limits of his own initiative and enterprise. This is the key to personal and national prosperity.

Democrats say the economy is too complicated to be left largely to free enterprise; therefore, it must be subject to ever-increasing controls by the federal government. They say that we are in an "era of limitations" and must lower our individual economic expectations.

## **GOVERNMENT SPENDING AND TAXES**

**Republicans** are committed to cutting government spending and eliminating costly, overlapping and unnecessary programs. Because they believe that the citizens should determine the contents of the governments pocketbook, Republicans want tax increases to be voted on by the people, where possible, and when not, by keeping a tight rein on elected officials who vote as representatives of the people who elected them.

The Democrats view is that the federal government knows how and where to spend money for local needs better than elected local leaders, and that federal bureaucrats should continue to control the flow of funds to the states and communities.

## **THE FUTURE**

**The United States** has prospered under the two-party system because one party has checked excesses of the other when these have occurred. Often, both parties agree on the problem, but not the solution. Their differences are a result of different perspectives:

**Republicans believe** in solutions decided up and implemented by the people themselves through their elected representatives. They believe the solutions to the nation's problems are to be found in the innate greatness of the American people.

Democrats tend to favor a powerful, centralized bureaucracy aimed at solving national and local problems from the top down--a method that has proved time and again to be a failure.