



(D. Thomas Porter, Ph.D., © 2004) Let's say you moved to a new country, called Susehland, and there was a revolution. One result of that revolution was that all people like you became slaves. Since you are unable to emigrate, you have to learn to live with what Providence has provided. Then there is a counter-revolution. While slavery is not abolished, the counter-revolution forms two political parties—the Cat Party, and the Dog Party. Here are the political platform planks of the two parties.

Issue	Cat Party 	Dog Party 
Who holds your title of ownership? The State, or an individual person?	An individual person, a "master."	The State.
What is the maximum penalty for a slave's (i.e., your) failure to obey? Minimum penalty?	Maximum penalty: death. Minimum penalty: fine the master.	Maximum penalty: death. Minimum penalty: guilt.
What are the consequences for a master, if an individual person, for failing to meet the State's standards for maintaining the health and welfare of his/her slave? If awarded compensation, does the State or the slave receive the compensation?	Consequences for an individual person as master: nothing. Compensation: not applicable.	Consequences for an individual person as master: not applicable. Compensation: Since the State owns all assets including those of the masters, compensation is a moot issue.
What are the consequences for the State, if it fails to meet its own standards for maintaining the health and welfare of a slave? Can a slave sue the State for compensation?	Consequences for the State: None. Compensation: Since the State cannot be sued, compensation is a moot issue.	Compensation: Since the State owns all assets, compensation is a moot issue.
How often must slaves and masters meet to confer on their respective duties and responsibilities?	Once.	At least daily, but ideally—continuously.
Should there be a limit on how many assets a slave can own?	None whatsoever.	The State owns all assets.
Should slaves be allowed to have a different religion than their masters?	Of course.	The slave's beliefs must correspond to the State's beliefs.
Should slaves be marked so that they are readily distinguishable from masters?	They should appear no different than other people in Susehland.	Slaves must be distinguished very clearly as slaves in Susehland.
How many days of rest, if any, per week should slaves be allowed?	As many as they want.	At least 17 hours per week must be devoted to the State; the remainder of the time for rest and work is up to the slave's discretion.
Would slaves have to pay taxes?	Yes.	No.

Now, please answer these questions:

1. Which party would you want to win power in a political coup? Cat Party Dog Party
2. If the Cat Party won, and you got a chance to emigrate from Susehland, would you do so? Yes No
3. If the Dog Party won, and you got a chance to emigrate from Susehland, would you do so? Yes No
4. Regardless of who won, and if you got a chance to emigrate from Susehland, would there be anything that the government of Susehland or the masters in Susehland could do to persuade (not coerce) you to stay? If so, what?
