

Katrina: Lessons of Federalism

Name: _____

- 1) In the wake of 9/11 the newly created Department of Homeland Security created a plan to integrate disaster response. How many pages was it?
- 2) What was the problem for the poor people of New Orleans as Hurricane Katrina approached?
- 3) What was the communication system relied upon the local government as Katrina hammered the city?
- 4) Where were the local officials based during the storm?

The state officials?

The federal officials?
- 5) As Hurricane Katrina mauled Louisiana, what speech did Pres. Bush give in California?
- 6) What did Louisiana ask the Federal Government for shortly after the storm?

Why was that general request a problem for the Federal Government?
- 7) What was the first level of government to realize the level of destruction in Louisiana?
- 8) President Bush stated at the national VJ day celebration that city, state and federal governments were working closely to help Katrina victims?

How was this true or not true?
- 9) As more and more victims were picked up around the flooded city, where were the victims evacuated to and why was this a problem?
- 10) What colossally ill-informed statement did the FEMA director make about flooding levels in New Orleans?

What did it show about the federal government's response to the crisis?

- 11) How were the local officials trying to deal with the conditions at the Superdome?
- 12) What was the one success story for the Mayor of New Orleans during the first 2 days and how big a success was it?
- 13) On Day 3, President Bush said "Federal, State, and Local agencies are cooperating to sustain life..." Were they and what evidence would you point to justify your point?
- 14) The New Orleans SWAT team entered the Convention Center 30 times. Why did they say they driven back so many times?
- 15) What does that say about the local and state's ability to maintain control?
- 16) On Thursday, what evidence indicated the Federal & local authorities had disconnected?
- 17) What did President Bush say the next day on National TV to the FEMA director, Mike Brown?
- 18) What did desperate young mothers begin doing to save their children?

What did they do to the bodies at the Convention Center?
- 19) What ONE group do Americans believe has the power to respond to major national disasters?
- 20) What should be done to make sure they can be put into action quickly in future disasters?