

Penny Polls on Tax Day: Aligning our Budget with our Values



How would you spend our nations tax dollars for a year – a total of \$1,242 trillion? **On April 15, 450 people in different neighborhoods in Seattle were asked to make that decision.** Each person participating was given 10 pennies, each penny representing \$124 billion. Here is how Seattleites voted in the five categories:

Military — 6.1%

Environment — 23.5%

Education — 31.7%

Humanitarian Aid — 13.5%

Health Care — 25.1%

How people voted in Seattle:



How our income taxes are *actually* being spent in 2013:



What we heard and saw while polling...

“Many people expressed concern about our wars—especially Iraq.”

“My favorite story of the day is the young boy, who after his mother explained the categories wanted all 10 pennies to go to humanitarian aid (described as helping people around the world).”

“Some people saw pennies in the ‘military’ jar and even wanted to take them out.”



