You must live your life the way you want, make your own decisions, dream your own dreams and be able to work to make them come true. That's freedom and that's what liberalism is all about.

Liberalism means freedom. But that isn't the same thing as everyone doing exactly what they want. If freedom is for everyone – not just the biggest and the strongest – we need common rules. That's why we have such things as freedom of speech, compulsory education and the police and that's why we work together to pay for our welfare. Typical liberal ideas!

When education doesn't work and pupils don't learn what they need to know – they have less freedom to live the way they want. And when integration is unsuccessful and the gaps become wider – people are prevented from supporting themselves. For that reason, education and integration are the most important issues for the Liberals in the 2018 election.

We put education first because it provides choice and freedom. The classroom must be a place for knowledge, calm and peace and quiet so people can work. We want a Sweden that sticks together, in which new Swedes can support themselves and contribute. Language, work and equality are the way into society.

Liberal ideas have always been an irritation to those who want to be in charge. Opponents of freedom have looked different at different times: kings and noblemen were followed by Nazis and Communists. Today we have populists and extremists. They pop up around the world and also in Sweden with their contempt for democracy, knowledge and diversity. Now it's time to say no to them. Vote for more liberal politics.

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Government. The Liberals want to form a new government with the other parties in the Alliance: the Moderate Party, the Centre Party and the Christian Democrats. The Liberals don’t want to be part of a government that allows the Sweden Democrats to influence government policy.

We are the Liberals. Formerly, we were known as the Liberal People’s Party. The party was founded in 1934, and in 2015 we decided to call ourselves what we are – the Liberals.

Jan Björklund. The Liberals’ party leader. Aged 56, he lives in Bromma with his wife and two sons. He has been Minister of Education and thinks that good education is fundamental to everything.

WARNING! Liberal content. May be offensive to populists, extremists and socialists. Facts and humanism can seriously damage prejudice and populism.

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EDUCATION FIRST

Every young person in school must be taught that anything is possible. But, at present, one pupil in six leaves secondary school without the skills to start sixth form studies. Classrooms are often noisy and disruptive. There’s a shortage of teachers. People who need peace and quiet can’t concentrate and those who have potential aren’t challenged enough. It’s not good enough.

**More time and real knowledge.** There’s no shortcut to knowledge: it needs time and skilled teachers. We want more teacher-led education and more classroom hours. Everyone must spend at least ten years in education and those who need more time must get it.

**Peace and quiet in every classroom.** With less disruption in the classroom, pupils and teachers will feel more comfortable. Early support, more special-needs teachers and small teaching groups for those who need them. And every classroom must be phone-free.

**More support for teachers.** The teaching profession is the most important in the world – increase salaries and status and improve working conditions. More career opportunities and chances for development. Better training, with more teachers, leadership and work practice.

MORE LIBERAL POLICIES

**Yes to Europe.** We must cooperate to overcome the threat to the climate and international crime and we must take responsibility for refugees. We want more EU cooperation and to join the Euro.

**Save personal assistance.** The right to personal assistance gives people with extensive disabilities the opportunity to live life like everyone else. Sometimes freedom has a price.

**Getting an education, working hard and running a company must pay off.** We want to reduce taxes.

**Freedom of choice in welfare.** Make sure quality it maintained and be careful with how our tax money is spent, but not wipe out diversity.

**Let the elderly decide for themselves.** Make it easier for those who want to carry on working for longer. More of a say in care of the elderly. More different types of accommodation to choose from.

BETTER INTEGRATION

Immigration has made Sweden better, smarter and richer throughout history. But today we are seeing serious problems of marginalisation, unemployment and insecurity in suburbs and vulnerable areas. Many people don’t get a chance to live independently. New Swedes must be able to support themselves and contribute.

**Language and work.** The language is the ticket to Swedish society, to freedom and self-determination. We want a clearer obligation to learn Swedish quickly. Entry-level jobs with slightly lower salaries and simpler rules enable more people to find their first job.

**Equality for everyone.** The same rights and freedoms for all women. To fight honour related oppression through greater knowledge, clearer legislation and stricter penalties. Religious extremists and moralisers have no place in a modern Sweden.

**Safer suburbs.** When criminal gangs take over streets and public spaces, everyday life becomes unsafe. We want more police and security guards, earlier social intervention and extensive work on gangs and violent extremism.

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