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## Moral Values: How Important? VOTERS LIKED CAMPAIGN 2004, BUT TOO MUCH ‘MUD-SLINGING’

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## Moral Values: How Important?

VOTERS LIKED CAMPAIGN 2004, BUT TOO MUCH ‘MUD-SLINGING’

Campaign 2004 receives generally favorable marks from the voters. An overwhelming 86\% say they learned enough about the candidates to make an informed choice, while two-thirds express satisfaction with the choice of candidates. However, voters also believe this campaign was more negative than previous contests - 72\% say there was more mud-slinging in this campaign compared with past elections, up from just $34 \%$ who said that four years ago.

The Pew Research Center's quadrennial post-election survey, conducted among 1,209 voters who were originally interviewed in October, finds that a third of all voters say they are very satisfied with their choice of candidates - the highest percentage expressing that view in postelection surveys dating to 1988. That reflects extraordinary enthusiasm among Republicans, $63 \%$ of whom express a high degree of satisfaction with the candidates. As a point of comparison, in 1996 just 34\% of Democrats said they were very satisfied with the candidates after Bill Clinton’s easy reelection victory.

For their part, supporters of Sen. John Kerry are struggling with a range of emotions following their candidate's defeat. The dominant reaction to Bush's reelection among Kerry's supporters is disappointment (82\%), but about a third (35\%) say they feel angry over the election outcome. Liberals, in particular, express intense feelings as a result of the election. Roughly half of Kerry's liberal supporters say they feel angry (53\%) or depressed (47\%) because of Bush's victory.

In contrast, large majorities of Bush voters say they feel reassured, relieved and safer as a consequence of the president's reelection. However, while 72\% of Bush's conservative

| Campaign |  |  |  |  | 2004 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

supporters say they feel a sense of excitement as a result of Bush's win, just $48 \%$ of moderate and liberal Republicans share that sentiment.

Most voters (61\%) believe that Bush's second term will be successful. While this opinion is nearly universal among Republicans, most independents (58\%) and a sizable minority of Democrats (30\%) also thinks that Bush’s second term will be a success. However, by 52\%-42\%, Democrats favor the party's leaders standing up to the GOP, rather than working with Republicans if that means disappointing some Democratic groups.

The survey findings parallel exit poll results showing that moral values is a top-tier issue for voters. But the relative importance of moral values depends greatly on how the question is framed. The post-election survey finds that, when moral values is pitted against issues like Iraq and terrorism, a plurality ( $27 \%$ ) cites moral values as most important to their vote. But when a separate group of voters was asked to name - in their own words - the most important factor in their vote, significantly fewer (14\%) mentioned moral values. Regardless of how the question is asked, the survey shows that moral values is the most frequently cited issue for Bush voters, but is seldom mentioned by Kerry voters.

In addition, those who cite moral values as a major factor offer varying interpretations of the concept. More than four-in-ten (44\%) of those who chose moral values as the most important factor in their vote from the list of issues say the term relates to specific concerns over social issues, such as abortion and gay marriage. However, others did not cite specific policy issues, and instead pointed to factors like the candidates' personal qualities or made general allusions to religion and values.

| What Mattered Most in Your Vote? |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Fixed } \\ & \frac{\text { List* }^{*}}{\%} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Open- } \\ & \frac{\text { end }}{\%} \% \end{aligned}$ |
| Moral values (Net) | 27 | 14 |
| Moral values | -- | 9 |
| Social issues^ | -- | 3 |
| Candidate's morals | -- | 2 |
| Iraq | 22 | 25 |
| Economy/Jobs | 21 | 12 |
| Terrorism | 14 | 9 |
| Health Care | 4 | 2 |
| Education | 4 | 1 |
| Taxes | 3 | 1 |
| Other | 4 | 31 |
| Honesty/integrity | -- | 5 |
| Like/dislike Bush | -- | 5 |
| Like/dislike Kerry | -- | 3 |
| Direction of country | -- | 2 |
| Leadership | -- | 2 |
| Foreign policy | -- | 2 |
| Don't know | 1 | $\underline{5}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 |
| * First choice among the seven items provided on the exit poll list. <br> ** Unprompted verbatim first response to open-ended question. <br> $\wedge$ Abortion, gay marriage, stem cells |  |  |
|  |  |  |

The survey shows that both parties were successful in reaching their voters, which led to a substantial rise in turnout this year. Fully $64 \%$ of all voters say they were contacted by the Bush and Kerry campaigns or other groups by phone, in person, or by email. More than half (55\%) were contacted by telephone, significantly more than in 2000 (42\%). In the end, neither side gained the upper hand in reaching voters - as many say they were contacted by Kerry and his supporters as by

Bush and his supporters.

With little fanfare, the Internet has broken through as a major source of campaign news in 2004. Overall, $41 \%$ voters say they got at least some of their news about the 2004 election online. Further, $21 \%$ relied on the Internet for most of their election news - nearly double the number in 2000 (11\%).

## Bush, Kerry Voters Agree - Campaign More Negative

Throughout the campaign, voters consistently said they thought the election was informative, and this remains the case today. More than eight-in-ten voters (86\%) say they learned enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice. That is about the same as in 2000 (83\%) and far higher than in prior campaigns.

But there also has been a dramatic increase in perceptions that the campaign was excessively negative. Fully $72 \%$ say there was more mud-slinging or negative campaigning in this election compared with previous campaigns. That is more than double the percentage who expressed this opinion in the post-election survey four years ago (34\%).

While the electorate is deeply divided on many issues, the sense that the campaign was more negative is shared by comparable numbers of Kerry voters (74\%) and Bush voters (70\%). This perception is widely shared across the demographic spectrum.

## Grading the Campaign

When voters are asked to grade various players in the campaign, they award the highest grades to themselves. More than six-in-ten (64\%) give "the voters" a grade of A or B for the job they did this year, up slightly from $60 \%$ in 2000. A $56 \%$ majority gives Bush an A or B, while 47\% grade Kerry at A or $B$. Bush's grade is about the same as the mark Clinton received following his reelection in 1996. Kerry's grade is relatively high for a losing candidate.

| Campaign Ratings <br> (Among those who gave an answer) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% W } \\ \text { Each } \\ 1992 \end{gathered}$ | ano $R$ <br> 1996 <br> 18 | ted <br> or B: <br> 2000 |  | Avg. Grade |
| Voters | \% 52 |  | \% | \% 60 | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \% \\ & 64 \end{aligned}$ | B |
| George W. Bush | 50 | 31 | 34 | 53 | 56 | B |
| John Kerry** | 39 | 66 | 58 | 54 | 47 | $C^{+}$ |
| Rep Party | 46 |  | 29 | 48 | 51 | $C^{+}$ |
| Dem Party | 34 | 60 | 50 | 49 | 37 | C |
| Campaign consultants | 30 | 44 | 30 | 43 | 48 | $C^{+}$ |
| Pollsters | 46 | 53 | 40 | 34 | 45 | $C^{+}$ |
| Talk show hosts | -- | 49 | 28 | 41 | 37 | C |
| Press | 30 |  | 29 | 29 | 33 | C |
| * Bush's numbers are compared to past Republican candidates. <br> ** Kerry's numbers are compared to past Democratic candidates. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Just 37\% give the Democratic Party and A or B. That represents a sharp decline from 2000 (49\%), although it is important to note that the post-election survey in 2000 was conducted before the election result was known. The Democratic Party's rating is about the same as it was in 1988, after Michael Dukakis’s loss to George Bush Sr. (34\% A or B).

Roughly half of voters (48\%) give campaign consultants a grade of A or B, a modest increase from 2000 (43\%). Pollsters have a much better image now than during the overtime election of four years ago, when there was considerable frustration with erroneous calls on election night. Currently, $45 \%$ give pollsters a grade of A or B, compared with $34 \%$ in 2000.

Talk show hosts and the press continue to receive relatively low grades. Fewer than four-inten (37\%) give talk show hosts a grade of A or B, while just a third award those marks to the press.

## Reactions to Election Outcome

Overall, a majority of voters (53\%) are happy that George W. Bush was reelected, a proportion that tracks closely with voters’ choice for president. In 1996, an identical percentage said they were happy over Clinton's reelection.

Understandably, attitudes toward the election result are highly polarized $-94 \%$ of Republicans say they are happy with Bush's win, while $86 \%$ of Democrats are unhappy. Voters are similarly split in their reactions to the Republicans maintaining control over Congress.

| Emotional Reactions of... |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\frac{\text { Yes }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { No }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { DK }}{\%}$ |  |
| Bush Voters | 90 | 10 | $*=100$ |  |
| Relieved | 90 | 9 | $1=100$ |  |
| Reassured | 88 | 9 | $3=100$ |  |
| Safer | 64 | 34 | $2=100$ |  |
| Excited |  |  |  |  |
| Kerry Voters |  |  |  |  |
| Disappointed | 88 | 12 | $*=100$ |  |
| Worried | 74 | 25 | $1=100$ |  |
| Angry | 35 | 64 | $1=100$ |  |
| Depressed | 29 | 70 | $1=100$ |  |

Nine-in-ten Bush voters say they are "relieved" at the election outcome, while about as many say they are "reassured" and that they feel "safer." A smaller majority of Bush voters say they are "excited" over Bush's victory (64\%).

While disappointment is the leading reaction among Kerry voters to the outcome, about three-quarters of those voters (74\%) say they are "worried." Roughly a third of Kerry voters say they are "angry" (35\%) and somewhat fewer say they are "depressed" (29\%).

## Intense Reactions Among Conservatives, Liberals

Voters at opposite ends of the ideological spectrum express the most intense reactions to the election. Among Bush voters, more than nine-in-ten conservatives say they feel relieved, reassured and safer. And many more conservatives than moderates or liberals say they feel excited because of Bush's victory.

Among Kerry voters, nearly twice as many liberals as moderates or conservatives say they feel angry as a consequence of the election. And while $47 \%$ of liberals say they are depressed by Bush's win, just 21\% of moderate and conservative Kerry supporters agree.

## Looking Ahead

About six-in-ten voters (61\%) expect Bush to have

| Ideologues React Strongly |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| Bush voters who are... |  |
|  | Conser- Moderate |
|  | vative \& Liberal |
|  | \% \% |
| Relieved | $93 \quad 84$ |
| Reassured | 93 80 |
| Safer | $91 \quad 81$ |
| Excited | 7246 |
| Kerry voters who are... Conservative <br> \& Moderate Liberal |  |
|  |  |
| Disappointed | $85 \quad 96$ |
| Worried | $69 \quad 86$ |
| Angry | $27 \quad 53$ |
| Depressed | $21 \quad 47$ | a successful second term as president, compared with 29\% who believe his second term will be unsuccessful. This is on par with expectations for Clinton's second term in 1996.

Nearly all Republicans foresee a successful second term for Bush (93\%). Most independents (58\%) also take a positive view of Bush’s prospects. Democrats are less upbeat: 30\% predict a successful second term for the president, while $55 \%$ do not.

A narrow majority of Democrats (52\%) think the party's leaders should stand up to the Republicans on issues that are important to Democratic supporters; 42\% think Democratic leaders should try to work with Republican leaders even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters.

Liberal Democrats, by two-to-one (62\%-31\%), want the party's leaders to stand up to the GOP, while conservative and moderate Democrats are divided over the issue. About half of conservative and moderate Democrats (48\%) say party leaders should take a stand against Republicans, while about as many (47\%) favor a

| What's Ahead |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Bush 2nd | Term | $\frac{\text { All }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Rep }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Dem }}{\%}$ |
| $\frac{\text { Ind }}{\%}$ |  |  |  |  |
| Successful | 61 | 93 | 30 | 58 |
| Unsuccessful | 29 | 4 | 55 | 33 |
| Neither (vol.) | 1 | $*$ | 2 | 1 |
| DK/Refused | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{13}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Democratic leaders should...* |  |  |  |  |
| Stand up to Republicans | 52 |  |  |  |
| Work with Republicans | 42 |  |  |  |
| DK/Refused |  | $\underline{6}$ |  |  |
| *Asked only of Democrats. |  |  |  |  | more cooperative approach.

## Voters and the Issues

Since the election, there has been considerable debate over the relative importance of moral values to voters. More than one-in-five (22\%) of those questioned by the National Election Pool on behalf of the Associated Press and the major networks cited moral values as the most important issue in their vote, from a list of seven items on the exit poll questionnaire. In Pew's post-election survey, half of the respondents were presented with the same list of issues as on the exit poll - and asked to choose which was most important - while half were asked an open-ended version of the question.

Among those offered the seven-item list, a plurality of $27 \%$ selected moral values, followed by $22 \%$ who chose Iraq and $21 \%$ who selected the economy and jobs. Terrorism was chosen by $14 \%$; education and health care were chosen by $4 \%$ each and taxes by $3 \%$ (see chart on pg. 2).

The responses were significantly different among those who were not offered a fixed list of choices. The war in Iraq was mentioned as the single most important issue by a similar number ( $25 \%$ ), but the economy and jobs were mentioned by only $12 \%$; and only $9 \%$ mentioned terrorism. Notably, just 9\% used the terms "moral values," "morals," or "values." Specific social issues - including abortion, gay marriage, and stem cell research - were volunteered by $3 \%$, while another $2 \%$ cited the candidates’ morals.

Regardless of how the question is asked, the poll shows that Bush and Kerry voters are far apart in their issue priorities. In both the open and closed formats, moral values are the most important issue to Bush voters - 44\% selected it from the seven-item list, while $27 \%$ volunteered moral values or a related topic in the open format. In both forms of the question, terrorism and homeland security are the next most important issue for Bush voters. No Bush voters in the open-ended format mentioned education, and virtually none mentioned health care.

| Wide Gap Over the Issues That Matter |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - - Fixed List* - - - Open End** - |  |  |  |  |
|  | Bush voters | Kerry voters | Bush voters | Kerry voters |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| Moral values (Net) | 44 | 7 | 27 | 2 |
| Moral values | -- | -- | 17 | 1 |
| Social issues^ | -- | -- | 6 | 1 |
| Candidate's morals | -- | -- | 4 | * |
| Iraq | 11 | 34 | 11 | 39 |
| Economy/Jobs | 7 | 36 | 3 | 21 |
| Terrorism | 24 | 3 | 17 | * |
| Health Care | 1 | 8 | * | 4 |
| Education | 2 | 6 | 0 | 1 |
| Taxes | 4 | 2 | 2 | * |
| Other | 5 | 3 | 34 | 30 |
| Honesty/integrity | -- | -- | 6 | 4 |
| Like/dislike Bush | -- | -- | 5 | 5 |
| Like/dislike Kerry | -- | -- | 5 | 2 |
| Direction of country | y -- | -- | 2 | 3 |
| Leadership | -- | -- | 4 | * |
| Foreign policy | -- | -- | 0 | 4 |
| Don't know | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Number of cases | (309) | (258) | (285) | (284) |
| * First choice among the seven items provided on the exit poll list. <br> ** Unprompted verbatim first response to open-ended question. <br> $\wedge$ Abortion, gay marriage, stem cells |  |  |  |  |

For Kerry voters, the format makes a difference in the relative ordering of the issues, though in both versions Iraq and economy eclipse other issues in importance. When presented with a list of seven items, about equal numbers of Kerry voters chose economy/jobs (36\%) and Iraq (34\%). In the open-ended format, nearly twice as many volunteered the war in Iraq (39\%) as mentioned an economic issue (21\%). Just $2 \%$ of Kerry voters volunteer any topic related to moral values, and even fewer mention terrorism as most important to their vote.

## Defining Moral Values

The survey asked voters who were given the list of issues to describe, in their own words, "what comes to mind when you think about 'moral values'?" Among voters who chose moral values as most important from the list of seven issues, about half gave a response that mentioned a specific issue. More than four-in-ten (44\%) defined the phrase specifically in terms of social issues, including abortion (28\%) homosexuality and gay marriage (29\%), or stem cell research (4\%). A few other issues also were mentioned, including poverty, economic inequality, and the like.

But the definition of moral values is not limited to policy references. Nearly a quarter of respondents (23\%) who cited moral values as important explained their thinking in terms of the personal characteristics of the candidates, including honesty and integrity (cited by 9\%). Almost one-infive (18\%) explicitly mentioned religion, Christianity, God, or the Bible. Another $17 \%$ answered in terms of traditional values, using such language as "family values," "right and

| "Moral Values" -What Comes to Mind? |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Chose moral values* \% | $\begin{gathered} \begin{array}{c} \text { Did } \\ \text { not } \\ \text { choose } \end{array} \\ \hline \% \end{gathered}$ |
| Social policies (Net) | t) 44 | 18 |
| Gay marriage | 29 | 11 |
| Abortion | 28 | 8 |
| Stem cells | 4 | 3 |
| Other policies | 9 | 8 |
| Candidate qualities | 23 | 17 |
| Religious references | s 18 | 11 |
| Traditional values | 17 | 35 |
| Negative responses | 1 | 12 |
| Other (Vol.) | 4 | 6 |
| Means nothing/DK | 2 | 15 |
| Number of cases | (205) | (362) |
| Numbers add to more than $100 \%$ because voters could list up to two items. <br> * Voters who selected "moral values" as either the first or second most important issue from the list of seven items. |  |  | wrong," or "the way people live their lives."

People who did not choose moral values from the list of issues were also asked what the term meant to them. The pattern of responses was quite different from those who said moral values were an important consideration. Fewer mentioned a specific issue, candidate quality, or general religious theme; more answered in general terms, and $12 \%$ explicitly protested the imposition of others' values on them, said the idea was being used as a "wedge" against Democrats, or otherwise expressed a negative reaction to the phrase.

## Campaign Contact

Nearly two-in-three voters (64\%) report being contacted either over the phone, by email, or in person by candidates, campaigns or other groups urging them to vote in a particular way in the election. A majority (55\%) report receiving campaign phone calls, compared with $42 \%$ following the 2000 election. Far fewer report being contacted in person or by email ( $14 \%$ each). These alternative contact strategies - particularly email - were slightly more widespread among Kerry supporters than Bush supporters.

Campaign contacts were intensive in the key battleground states. About three-quarters of voters in battleground states (76\%) were contacted by the campaigns in one form or another, compared with 55\% in red states and 59\% in blue states.

| Most Voters Contacted by <br> Campaigns |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Contacted... | $\frac{\text { Total }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Bush }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Kerry }}{\%}$ | $\underline{2000}$ |
| Coted for.. | Nov. |  |  |  |
| By phone |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 55 | 57 | 53 | 42 |
| No/DK | $\underline{45}$ | $\underline{43}$ | $\underline{47}$ | $\underline{58}$ |
| In person | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Yes | 14 | 12 | 16 | n/a |
| No/DK | $\underline{86}$ | $\underline{88}$ | $\underline{84}$ |  |
| By e-mail | 100 | 100 | 100 |  |
| Yes | 14 | 11 | 18 | $n / a$ |
| No/DK | $\underline{86}$ | $\underline{89}$ | $\underline{82}$ |  |
| Any contact | $\mathbf{6 4}$ | $\mathbf{6 4}$ | $\mathbf{6 4}$ |  |
| Number of cases | $(1209)$ | $(594)$ | $(542)$ |  |

As many as $15 \%$ of voters report contributing money in support of one of the presidential candidates this year, and nearly one-in-ten (9\%) say they personally volunteered to help one of the presidential campaigns. Contribution rates were about even among both Bush and Kerry supporters, but Kerry's backers volunteered time on behalf of the campaign at a slightly higher rate (11\% of Kerry supporters, 7\% of Bush supporters).

Not surprisingly, younger voters were far less likely to make campaign contributions than older voters. Overall, just $7 \%$ of voters under age 30 contributed money to a campaign, compared with $12 \%$ of those age $30-49$ and $20 \%$ of voters age 50 and over.

| Contributing Money and Time |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Contributed money in support of a presidential candidate | Total | Voted for... |  |
|  |  |  | Kerry |
|  | \% | \% | \% |
| Yes | 15 | 16 | 16 |
| No/DK | 85 | $\underline{84}$ | 84 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Volunteered time |  |  |  |
| Yes | 9 | 7 | 11 |
| No/DK | $\underline{91}$ |  |  |
|  | 100 |  | 100 |

## Bush Voters Decide Early

Nearly four-in-ten voters (38\%) say they made up their minds about how to vote a year ago, even before the Democratic primaries had gotten underway. This represents nearly twice as many early deciders as during the open presidential election of four years ago.

| Few Late Deciders |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| When did you make up your mind? | 19881992 |  | $\underline{1996} 20002004$ |  |  | Voted for... BushKerry |  |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| Before 2004 | 9 | 12 | 39 | 20 | 38 | 52 | 28 |
| During/after primaries | 19 | 18 | 13 | 21 | 23 | 20 | 29 |
| Summer/before debates | 31 | 18 | 20 | 16 | 13 | 11 | 15 |
| Debate period | 20 | 13 | 3 | 20 | 12 | 9 | 15 |
| Last week | 15 | 25 | 17 | 14 | 9 | 8 | 11 |
| Other/DK | $\underline{6}$ | 14 | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{0}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
|  |  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

As the incumbent, Bush was able to lock in much of his support early. A majority of the people who ultimately voted for Bush this year (52\%) knew he would be their choice a year ago, compared with $28 \%$ of Kerry’s voters. In 1996, when Bill Clinton was running for reelection, a majority of his supporters also had decided before the end of 1995 that he would be their choice. Fewer than one-in-ten voters report making up their minds in the final week before election day, down from $14 \%$ four years ago and as many as 25\% in 1992.

## Many Vote Early, Some Faced Long Lines

One-in-five voters say they cast their ballots before Nov. 2. These early voters showed no clear preference in the presidential campaign, dividing their support about evenly between Bush and Kerry.

Most of those who voted on Election Day say they either did not have to wait in line at all (42\%), or waited for less than 15 minutes (13\%). Another 11\% reported lines of 15-to-29 minutes, and $10 \%$ say they waited up to an hour to vote. Nearly one-in-ten Election Day voters (8\%) say they waited for over an hour to vote. Despite changes in voting procedures in many parts of the country, just 4\% of voters reported having any problems or difficulties voting, whether by mail or on Election Day.

The vast majority of voters say they are very confident that their vote was accurately counted in the election, but voters express less confidence in the accuracy of the overall vote count nationwide. While $68 \%$ are very confident their own vote was counted accurately, just $48 \%$ express the same level of confidence that the votes across the country were accurately counted.

## Fox News Moves Ahead

Television remains the dominant source of campaign news, and Fox News has emerged as the leading TV outlet for election news. Overall, $21 \%$ of voters say they got most of their news on the election from Fox, compared with $15 \%$ who relied mostly on CNN, and $13 \%$ on NBC News.

The Internet continues to grow in importance as a source for election news. The proportion who cite the Internet as one of their main sources of campaign news has risen exponentially: from $3 \%$ in 1996, to $11 \%$ in 2000, and $21 \%$ today. And the number who say they got any news online during the election this year has risen from $10 \%$ in 1996 , to $30 \%$ in 2000 , to $41 \%$ today.

Six-in-ten voters under age 30 report using the Internet as a news source at some point during the campaign, while $40 \%$ of those under- 30 voters cite it is as a main source of campaign news. By comparison, $48 \%$ of those age $30-49,38 \%$ of those age $50-64$, and just $15 \%$ of

| The Internet and Campaign News |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Main source of campaign news* Television | $\underline{1992} \underline{1996} \underline{2000} \underline{2004}$ |  |  |  |
|  | \% |  |  | \% |
|  | 82 | 72 | 70 | 76 |
| Cable TV (Net) | -- | -- | -- | 40 |
| Fox Cable News | -- | -- | -- | 21 |
| CNN | -- | -- | -- | 15 |
| MSNBC | -- | -- | -- | 6 |
| CNBC | -- | -- | -- | 2 |
| Network TV (Net) | -- | -- | -- |  |
| NBC | -- | -- | -- | 13 |
| ABC | -- | -- | -- |  |
| CBS | -- | -- | -- | 9 |
| Local news | -- | -- | -- | 12 |
| Newspapers | 57 | 60 | 39 | 46 |
| Radio | 12 | 19 | 15 | 22 |
| Magazines | 9 | 11 | 4 | 6 |
| Internet | n/a | 3 | 11 | 21 |
| Get any campaign news from Internet |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | -- |  | 30 | 41 |
| No/DK | -- | $\underline{90}$ | $\underline{70}$ | $\underline{59}$ |
|  |  |  | 100 |  |
| *Numbers add to more than $100 \%$ because voters could list up to two primary sources. |  |  |  |  | voters age 65 and older reported any use of the Internet for campaign news.

## More See Press as Unfair - to Both Candidates

Voters are increasingly troubled by what they see as the media's unfair treatment of the candidates. While a majority (56\%) view press coverage of Bush's campaign as fair, four-in-ten think it was unfair, up from 30\% four years ago.

Significantly more voters (65\%) believe the press was fair in its coverage of the Kerry campaign. However, a growing minority also views this coverage as unfair - 31\% say that now, compared with $24 \%$ who faulted press coverage of Al Gore's campaign four years ago.


## Huge Election Night Audience

Fully $84 \%$ of voters say they followed the returns on election night, and more than half of those who did so (51\%) stayed up until after midnight. Among those who tracked the results, $97 \%$ watched on television, while $19 \%$ followed returns on the Internet. As with campaign news in general, younger voters were most likely to use the Internet - nearly a third of voters under age 30 report following election returns online, but most did so in addition to watching returns on TV.

Overall, news organizations receive relatively favorable reviews for their election night coverage. While just $17 \%$ who followed the returns say the coverage on election night was excellent, most (52\%) say they did a good job. Three-in-ten say the coverage was only fair (22\%) or poor (8\%). Comparable numbers of Bush and Kerry supporters rated the coverage favorably.

Presidential Election Campaign News Source
(Based on All Voters)

|  | November 2000 |  |  | November 2004 |  |  | (N) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TV | Newspa | Internet | TV | Newspaper | Internet |  |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 70 | 39 | 10 | 76 | 46 | 21 | (1209) |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 68 | 39 | 12 | 70 | 43 | 24 | (530) |
| Female | 71 | 39 | 9 | 80 | 48 | 18 | (679) |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 70 | 40 | 10 | 75 | 46 | 21 | (1051) |
| Non-white | 73 | 35 | 13 | 79 | 44 | 23 | (139) |
| Black | 75 | 32 | 11 | 84 | 42 | 19 | (82) |
| Race and Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White Men | 69 | 39 | 11 | 70 | 44 | 23 | (459) |
| White Women | 70 | 42 | 9 | 80 | 48 | 18 | (592) |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 72 | 21 | 22 | 72 | 23 | 40 | (104) |
| 30-49 | 64 | 37 | 15 | 72 | 43 | 25 | (396) |
| 50-64 | 72 | 43 | 5 | 77 | 52 | 16 | (383) |
| 65+ | 78 | 51 | 2 | 85 | 59 | 6 | (308) |
| Sex and Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Men under 50 | 65 | 34 | 18 | 67 | 34 | 32 | (226) |
| Women under 50 | 66 | 33 | 15 | 75 | 40 | 27 | (274) |
| Men 50+ | 72 | 46 | 5 | 75 | 55 | 15 | (299) |
| Women 50+ | 77 | 47 | 3 | 86 | 55 | 9 | (392) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 58 | 46 | 12 | 67 | 48 | 31 | (517) |
| Some College | 66 | 35 | 15 | 72 | 39 | 28 | (303) |
| High School Grad. or Less | 79 | 37 | 7 | 85 | 48 | 9 | (383) |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$75,000+ | 62 | 47 | 14 | 68 | 46 | 29 | (328) |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 64 | 39 | 13 | 72 | 43 | 27 | (203) |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 68 | 41 | 14 | 73 | 50 | 21 | (265) |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 80 | 34 | 7 | 82 | 41 | 19 | (122) |
| <\$20,000 | 78 | 32 | 5 | 88 | 43 | 8 | (144) |

Question: How did you get most of your news about the presidential election campaign? From television from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? Continued on next page...

|  | November 2000 |  |  | November 2004 |  |  | (N) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | TV | Newspa | Internet | TV | Newspaper | Internet |  |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 70 | 39 | 10 | 76 | 46 | 21 | (1209) |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| East | 65 | 41 | 10 | 76 | 51 | 16 | (240) |
| Midwest | 67 | 43 | 9 | 75 | 44 | 19 | (305) |
| South | 75 | 32 | 11 | 82 | 43 | 21 | (394) |
| West | 68 | 46 | 11 | 64 | 46 | 29 | (270) |
| Religious Affiliation |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total White Protestant | 72 | 40 | 9 | 77 | 46 | 18 | (583) |
| - Evangelical | 71 | 38 | 11 | 79 | 43 | 17 | (293) |
| - Non-Evangelical | 72 | 42 | 7 | 74 | 49 | 20 | (290) |
| White Catholic | 66 | 46 | 9 | 78 | 47 | 19 | (230) |
| Secular | 65 | 29 | 15 | 68 | 39 | 31 | (119) |
| Community Size |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large City | 66 | 40 | 16 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Suburb | 67 | 46 | 10 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Small City/Town | 73 | 41 | 7 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Rural Area | 69 | 27 | 14 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Party ID |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 67 | 37 | 10 | 75 | 42 | 17 | (443) |
| Democrat | 74 | 43 | 7 | 75 | 50 | 22 | (390) |
| Independent | 65 | 39 | 14 | 76 | 46 | 26 | (340) |
| Party and Ideology |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Conservative Republican | 66 | 39 | 10 | 73 | 36 | 18 | (324) |
| Moderate/Liberal Rep. | 69 | 33 | 12 | 77 | 54 | 16 | (110) |
| Conservative/Mod. Dem. | 76 | 41 | 6 | 83 | 50 | 17 | (243) |
| Liberal Democrat | 70 | 48 | 9 | 58 | 50 | 36 | (133) |
| When Decided to Vote for... |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Before 2000/2004 | 70 | 37 | 8 | 73 | 40 | 22 | (466) |
| Debates/Conventions | 68 | 43 | 8 | 70 | 48 | 24 | (354) |
| Post Debates/Conventions | 75 | 37 | 10 | 85 | 48 | 17 | (207) |
| Within Last Week | 63 | 34 | 19 | 84 | 55 | 20 | (106) |
| Labor Union |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Union Household | 68 | 45 | 7 | 69 | 48 | 18 | (173) |
| Non-Union Household | 70 | 38 | 11 | 77 | 45 | 22 | (1022) |
| Battleground States |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican States | -- | -- | -- | 79 | 43 | 21 | (380) |
| Democratic States | -- | -- | -- | 68 | 44 | 25 | (354) |
| Battleground States | -- | -- | -- | 78 | 49 | 18 | (475) |

## ABOUT THE SURVEY

The survey results are based on telephone re-interviews conducted November 5-8, 2004 among 1,209 voters under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. ("Voters" are those respondents who said they voted in the 2004 election.) This sample was selected from those identified as registered voters in two previous nationwide surveys of adults 18 years of age or older, the first conducted Early October 2004 and the second in MidOctober 2004. For results based on the total sample of voters, one can say with $95 \%$ confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

# PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS NOVEMBER 2004 RE-INTERVIEW SURVEY <br> -- FINAL TOPLINE - <br> November 5-8, 2004 <br> N=1,209 Voters 

## MY FIRST QUESTION IS...

Q. 1 A lot of people have been telling us they didn't get a chance to vote in the election on November 2. How about you... did things come up that kept you from voting, or did you happen to vote?

## Yes, voted -- CONTINUE WITH INTERVIEW No, did not vote -- GO TO Q1B, THANK RESPONDENT AND END Don't remember -- THANK RESPONDENT AND END Refused -- THANK RESPONDENT AND END

## ASK ALL WHO VOTED (Q1=1):

Q. 2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

|  |  | Nov 2000 | Nov 1996 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 51 | Satisfied | 46 | 51 |
| 45 | Dissatisfied | 47 | 42 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\frac{7}{7}$ | $\frac{7}{2}$ |

## IF RESPONDENT IS IN A STATE WHERE NADER IS NOT ON BALLOT GO TO Q.3X. ELSE USE Q. 3

Now, thinking about the recent election...
Q. 3 Did you happen to vote for George W. Bush, for John Kerry or for Ralph Nader for president?
Q.3x Did you happen to vote for George W. Bush or for John Kerry for president?

|  |  | Nov 2000 | Nov 1996 | Nov 1992 | Nov 1988 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 49 | George W. Bush | 43 Bush | 39 Dole | 32 Bush, Sr. | 53 Bush, Sr. |
| 45 | John Kerry | 46 Gore | 45 Clinton | 45 Clinton | 43 Dukakis |
| * | Ralph Nader | 2 Nader | 7 Perot | 17 Perot | n/a |
| 6 | Other/DK | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{9}$ | $\underline{6}$ | 4 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

[^0]
## IF RESPONDENT CHOSE BUSH OR KERRY IN Q.3/Q.3x ASK:

Q. 4 Would you say that your vote was more a vote FOR (INSERT CANDIDATE VOTED FOR IN Q.3/Q.3x: BUSH/KERRY) or more a vote AGAINST (INSERT NAME OF OTHER CANDIDATE: KERRY/BUSH)?

|  |  | Nov <br> 2000 <br> 12 |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1996 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1992 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & \underline{1988} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 49 | Bush Supporters |  |  | $42^{1}$ | Bush | 39 | Dole | 32 | Bush, Sr. | 53 | Bush, Sr |
| 37 | Pro-Bush | 29 |  | 17 |  | 21 |  | 39 |  |
| 10 | Anti-Others | 12 |  | 20 |  | 10 |  | 12 |  |
| 2 | Undecided | 1 |  | 2 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  |
| 45 | Kerry Supporters | 47 | Gore ${ }^{2}$ | 45 | Clinton | 45 | Clinton | 43 | Dukakis |
| 19 | Pro-Kerry | 35 |  | 31 |  | 33 |  | 25 |  |
| 22 | Anti-Others | 11 |  | 13 |  | 10 |  | 16 |  |
| 4 | Undecided | 1 |  | 1 |  | 2 |  | 2 |  |
| 6 | Other/DK/Can't Remember | 11 |  | 16 |  | $\underline{23}$ |  | 4 |  |
| 100 |  | 100 |  | 100 |  | 100 |  | 100 |  |

## NO QUESTIONS 5 THROUGH 10

## ASK FORM 1 ONLY OF BUSH/KERRY VOTERS [N=569]:

Q.11F1 What one issue mattered most to you in deciding how you voted for president? [OPEN END: ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

Mentioned...

| Total | First | Second |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 27 | 25 | 2 | Iraq/The war |
| 14 | 12 | 2 | Economy/Jobs |
| 9 | 9 | * | Moral values |
| 9 | 8 | 1 | Terrorism/Security |
| 5 | 5 | * | Honesty/Integrity |
| 5 | 5 | 0 | Other Bush |
| 4 | 4 | * | Other Kerry |
| 3 | 2 | 1 | Health care |
| 3 | 3 | * | Abortion |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | Direction of the country |
| 2 | 2 | * | Candidate's religiosity/morals |
| 2 | 2 | * | Strength/leadership |
| 2 | 2 | * | Foreign policy |
| 2 | * | 2 | Gay marriage/marriage |
| 2 | 2 | * | Don't change course |
| 1 | 1 | * | Social Security |
| 1 | 1 | * | Taxes |
| 1 | 1 | * | Environment |
| 1 | * | 1 | Stem cell |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Supreme Court |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Gun control |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Education |
| 8 | 8 | 0 | Other |
| 5 | 5 | -- | Don't know/Nothing/Everything |

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY OF BUSH/KERRY VOTERS [N=567]:

Q.12F2 Which ONE issue mattered most to you in deciding how you voted for president? [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

| 27 | Moral values |
| ---: | :--- |
| 22 | Iraq |
| 21 | Economy/jobs |
| 14 | Terrorism |
| 4 | Health care |
| 4 | Education |
| 3 | Taxes |
| 4 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other, not on this list |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused |

## IF ANSWER GIVEN (1-8 IN Q.12F2) ASK [ $\mathrm{N}=567$ ]:

Q.13F2 What would you say was the SECOND most important issue to you? [READ AND RANDOMIZE EXCLUDING ITEM GIVEN IN Q.12F2]

| 23 | Economy/jobs |
| ---: | :--- |
| 18 | Terrorism |
| 16 | Health care |
| 14 | Iraq |
| 9 | Moral values |
| 7 | Education |
| 5 | Taxes |
| 5 | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Other, not on this list |
| $\frac{3}{100}$ | (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused |

ASK IF MORAL VALUES MENTIONED IN Q.12F2 OR Q.13F2 [N=205]:
Q.14F2 You mentioned "moral values" as an important issue, what comes to mind when you think about "moral values"? (OPEN END, DO NOT PROBE FOR CLARITY OR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES)

## Q.14F2 CONTINUED...

```
1 As A Political Issue (NET)
Other
2 Don't Know/Refused
```

ASK IF MORAL VALUES NOT MENTIONED IN Q.12F2 OR Q.13F2 [N=362]:
Q.15F2 Some people have mentioned "moral values" as an important issue. What comes to mind when YOU think about "moral values"? (OPEN END, DO NOT PROBE FOR CLARITY OR ADDITIONAL RESPONSES

## $35 \quad$ Traditional values (NET)

$9 \quad$ Family values/Traditional values
6 The way people live their lives/"moral code"
5 "Right versus Wrong"
2 General decline in morality
1 Media/What's on TV
Policies (NET)
Social Issues (SUBNET)
Gay Marriage
Abortion
Stem cell issue
Economic equality/helping the poor/health care
Other policy issues
Candidate Qualities (NET)
Honesty/Integrity/trustworthiness
Bush has no morals/Bush has great morals/Republican hypocrisy
Kerry has no morals/Kerry has great morals/Democratic hypocrisy
Strength/decisiveness
Other Personal Qualities (Clinton mentions)
As A Political Issue (NET)
Not a voting/government issue
Used as a wedge issue
The Religious/Christian Right
Religion/Christianity/God/Bible (NET)
6 Other
15 Don’t Know/Refused

ASK ALL EXCEPT THOSE WHO ANSWERED '9' DK/CAN'T REMEMBER IN Q.3/Q.3x:
Q. 16 When did you make up your mind definitely to vote for (INSERT CHOICE FROM Q.3/Q.3x;

IF 'OTHER' IN Q.3/Q.3x INSERT 'THE CANDIDATE OF YOUR CHOICE')?

| Total |  |  |  | Bush | Kerry | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 4 | 3 | 4 | On Election Day | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1996}{}$ | $\frac{1992}{}$ | $\frac{1988}{\text { Nov }}$ |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | On Monday (day before the election) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | Over the last weekend | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 3 | 3 | 3 | In the last week | 5 | 6 | 8 | 4 |
| 12 | 9 | 15 | Debate period (NET) | 20 | 3 | 13 | 20 |
| 11 | 8 | 14 | During or just after the Presidential debates | 17 | -- | 12 | -- |

## Q. 16 CONTINUED...

| Total | Bush | Kerry |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 2000 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1996 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1992 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1988 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | After the Vice Presidential debate | 3 | -- | 1 | -- |
| 6 | 6 | 7 | In September, before debates/after the Conventions | 9 | 12 | 6 | 16 |
| 7 | 5 | 8 | Convention period (NET) | 7 | 8 | 12 | 15 |
| 1 | 1 | * | During or after the Republican Convention | 4 | -- | -- | -- |
| 6 | 4 | 8 | During or after the Democratic Convention | 3 | -- | -- | -- |
| 23 | 20 | 29 | This year, before the summer, during or just after the primaries | 21 | 13 | 18 | 19 |
| 38 | 52 | 28 | Before 2004 | 20 | 39 | 12 | 9 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | Other | -- | * | 8 | -- |
| 2 | * | 2 | Don't know/Refused | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | Don't remember who voted for | $\underline{6}$ | 6 | 5 | 4 |
| 100 | 100 | 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

## NO QUESTION 17 OR 18

## ASK ALL:

Q. 19 Now that the campaign is over, how satisfied were you with the choice of presidential candidates? Would you say that you were very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

|  |  | $\frac{2000}{24}$ | $\frac{1996}{18}$ | $\frac{1992}{24}$ | $\frac{1988}{26}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 33 | Very satisfied | 44 | 33 | 37 | 36 |
| 33 | Fairly satisfied | 18 | 24 | 21 | 20 |
| 16 | Not very satisfied | 9 | 22 | 16 | 17 |
| 16 | Not at all satisfied | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{1}$ |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | $\underline{100}$ | 100 | 100 |

Q. 20 During this campaign, did you feel you learned enough about the candidates and the issues to make an informed choice between Bush and Kerry, OR did you find it difficult to choose because you felt you did not learn enough from the campaign?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 86 | Learned enough to make an informed choice | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1996}{83}$ | $\frac{1992}{75}$ | $\frac{1988}{77}$ |
| 13 | Did not learn enough from the campaign | 15 | 23 | 20 | 39 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ |

Q. 21 How helpful were the presidential debates to you in deciding which candidate to vote for? Would you say they were very helpful, somewhat helpful, not too helpful, or not at all helpful?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{2000}{25}$ | $\frac{1996}{13}$ | $\frac{1992}{31}$ | $\frac{1988}{13}$ |
| 24 | Very helpful | 37 | 28 | 39 | 35 |
| 38 | Somewhat helpful | 14 | 23 | 11 | 24 |
| 14 | Not too helpful | 16 | 25 | 13 | 25 |
| 19 | Not at all helpful | 7 | 10 | 5 | 3 |
| 4 | Did not watch the debates (VOL.) | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $\frac{*}{4}$ |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Q. 22 Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, or Fail to describe the quality of their work. Looking back over the campaign, what grade would you give to each of the following groups for the way they conducted themselves in the campaign? First... (READ AND RANDOMIZE: OBSERVE FORM SPLITS; ITEM i FULL FORM)

| ASK FORM 1 | ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=601$ ]: | $\underline{\text { A }}$ | B | C | D | F | DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a.F1 | The press | 8 | 24 | 32 | 19 | 16 | 1=100 |
|  | November 2000 | 6 | 22 | 31 | 18 | 20 | $3=100$ |
|  | November 1996 | 6 | 22 | 33 | 19 | 18 | $2=100$ |
|  | November 1992 | 11 | 25 | 29 | 16 | 15 | 4=100 |
|  | November 1988 | 8 | 22 | 33 | 19 | 16 | $2=100$ |
| b.F1 | The talk show hosts | 9 | 22 | 29 | 14 | 10 | $16=100$ |
|  | November 2000 | 9 | 22 | 24 | 11 | 10 | $24=100$ |
|  | November 1996 | 6 | 15 | 25 | 13 | 16 | $25=100$ |
|  | November 1992 | 10 | 29 | 25 | 8 | 9 | $19=100$ |
| c.F1 | The Republican Party | 17 | 33 | 24 | 12 | 12 | $2=100$ |
|  | November 2000 | 10 | 35 | 31 | 10 | 9 | 5=100 |
|  | November 1996 | 4 | 23 | 39 | 18 | 13 | 3=100 |
|  | November 1992 | 4 | 25 | 34 | 18 | 15 | 4=100 |
|  | November 1988 | 11 | 34 | 31 | 12 | 10 | $2=100$ |
| d.F1 | The Democratic Party | 9 | 28 | 37 | 16 | 9 | $1=100$ |
|  | November 2000 | 14 | 33 | 30 | 11 | 8 | 4=100 |
|  | November 1996 | 12 | 36 | 29 | 11 | 9 | 3=100 |
|  | November 1992 | 18 | 40 | 26 | 6 | 6 | 4=100 |
|  | November 1988 | 7 | 26 | 45 | 13 | 7 | $2=100$ |
| ASK FORM 2 | ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=608$ ]: |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| e.F2 | The pollsters | 16 | 26 | 33 | 9 | 8 | 8=100 |
|  | November 2000 | 7 | 22 | 28 | 15 | 14 | $14=100$ |
|  | November 1996 | 11 | 23 | 29 | 11 | 10 | $16=100$ |
|  | November 1992 | 15 | 31 | 27 | 9 | 6 | $12=100$ |
|  | November 1988 | 13 | 29 | 29 | 12 | 11 | $6=100$ |
| f.F2 | The campaign consultants | 7 | 31 | 29 | 9 | 5 | $19=100$ |
|  | November 2000 | 5 | 26 | 29 | 8 | 5 | $27=100$ |
|  | November 1996 | 4 | 18 | 33 | 11 | 8 | $26=100$ |
|  | November 1992 | 7 | 26 | 31 | 7 | 4 | $25=100$ |
|  | November 1988 | 5 | 20 | 37 | 14 | 8 | $16=100$ |
| g.F2 | John Kerry | 15 | 31 | 25 | 13 | 14 | 2=100 |
|  | Gore: November 2000 | 17 | 36 | 25 | 10 | 10 | 2=100 |
|  | Clinton: November 1996 | 20 | 37 | 22 | 8 | 11 | 2=100 |
|  | Clinton: November 1992 | 26 | 38 | 21 | 7 | 5 | 3=100 |
|  | Dukakis: November 1988 | 9 | 29 | 40 | 13 | 7 | 1=100 |

## Q. 22 CONTINUED ...

| FORM 2 ONLY | [ $\mathrm{N}=608$ ]: | $\underline{\text { A }}$ | B | C | D | F | DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| h.F2 | George W. Bush | 22 | 34 | 22 | 10 | 11 | $1=100$ |
|  | November 2000 | 15 | 37 | 27 | 10 | 9 | $2=100$ |
|  | Dole: November 1996 | 7 | 26 | 34 | 20 | 12 | $1=100$ |
|  | Bush, Sr.: November 1992 | 4 | 26 | 33 | 18 | 16 | $3=100$ |
|  | Bush, Sr.: November 1988 | 15 | 34 | 26 | 13 | 11 | $1=100$ |
| ASK ALL: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| i. | The voters | 30 | 30 | 20 | 7 | 8 | 5=100 |
|  | November 2000 | 22 | 31 | 25 | 7 | 4 | $11=100$ |
|  | November 1996 | 12 | 27 | 29 | 13 | 10 | $9=100$ |
|  | November 1992 | 32 | 29 | 20 | 5 | 5 | $9=100$ |
|  | November 1988 | 18 | 31 | 28 | 10 | 7 | $6=100$ |

Q. 23 How helpful were the candidates' commercials to you in deciding which candidate to vote for? Would you say they were very helpful, somewhat helpful, not too helpful, or not at all helpful?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 6 | Very helpful | $\frac{2000}{6}$ | $\frac{1996}{4}$ | $\frac{1992}{10}$ |
| 19 | Somewhat helpful | 23 | 21 | 28 |
| 22 | Not too helpful | 24 | 27 | 28 |
| 48 | Not at all helpful | 42 | 46 | 31 |
| 4 | Didn't see any (VOL.) | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Q. 24 Compared to past presidential elections, would you say there was more discussion of issues in this campaign or less discussion of issues?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{2000}{46}$ | $\frac{1996}{25}$ | $\frac{1992}{59}$ |
| 47 | More | 36 | 65 | 34 |
| 42 | Less | 13 | 6 | 4 |
| 7 | Same (VOL.) | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Q. 25 Compared to past presidential elections, would you say there was MORE mud slinging or negative campaigning in this campaign or LESS mud slinging or negative campaigning in this campaign?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 72 | More | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1996}$ | $\frac{1992}{34}$ |
| 14 | Less | 46 | 36 | 16 |
| 12 | Same (VOL.) | 16 | 12 | 14 |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
| 100 | 100 | 100 |  |  |

Q. 26 How did you get most of your news about the presidential election campaign? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ONE ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 76 | Television | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1996}{72}$ | $\frac{1992}{82}$ |
| 46 | Newspapers | 39 | 60 | 57 |
| 22 | Radio | 15 | 19 | 12 |
| 6 | Magazines | 4 | 11 | 9 |
| 21 | Internet | 11 | 3 | -- |
| 2 | Other | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused | $*$ | 1 | 1 |

## IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q. 26 ASK Q. 26 a .

 IF NOT, SKIP TO Q26b.Q.26a Did you get most of your news about the presidential election campaign from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 8 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

12 Local news programming
11 ABC Network news
9 CBS Network news
13 NBC Network news
15 CNN Cable news
6 MSNBC Cable news
21 The Fox News Cable Channel
2 CNBC Cable news
5 (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused
ASK ALL EXCEPT THOSE WHO ANSWERED '5' INTERNET IN Q.26:
Q.26b Did you happen to get any news or information about the 2004 elections from the Internet, or not?

|  |  | Nov <br>  <br> 20 | Yes |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 59 | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |  |
| 59 | No | 70 | 90 |
| 0 | Don't know/Refused | $*$ | $*$ |
| $\frac{21}{100}$ | Answered 'Internet' in Q.26 | $\underline{11}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |

ASK ALL:
Q. 27 How much influence do you think news organizations had on the outcome of this year's presidential election... too much, too little or about the right amount?

|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
| ---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\frac{1996}{53}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |
| 43 | Too much | 4 | 4 | 46 |
| 7 | Too little | 39 | 46 | 49 |
| 45 | About the right amount | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | 100 | 100 |

ASK ALL:
ROTATE Q. 28 AND Q. 29
Q. 28 Would you say the press has been fair or unfair in the way it has covered John Kerry s election campaign?

|  |  | Gore | - Clinton - |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Nov | Nov | Nov |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | 1996 | 1992 |
| 65 | Fair | 71 | 73 | 77 |
| 31 | Unfair | 24 | 24 | 19 |
| 4 | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{25}$ | $\underline{3}$ | 4 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Q. 29 Would you say the press has been fair or unfair in the way it has covered George W. Bush s election campaign?

|  |  | Nole |  | Bush, Sr. |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1992}$ |
| 56 | Fair | 65 | 65 | 61 |
| 40 | Unfair | 30 | 32 | 35 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{4}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Generally...
Q. 30 Are you happy or unhappy that the Republican Party maintained control of the U.S. Congress?

|  |  | Nov | Nov |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2000}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |
| 51 | Happy | 48 | 65 |
| 44 | Unhappy | 39 | 27 |
| 5 | Don't know/Refused | 13 | 8 |
| 100 |  | 100 | 100 |

Q. 31 Are you happy or unhappy that George W. Bush was reelected president?

## Clinton

Nov 1996

|  | Happy | 53 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| 43 | Unhappy | 42 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{5}$ |
|  |  | 100 |

## IF DID NOT VOTE FOR BUSH (Q.3/3x NE 1) ASK, [N=615]:

Q. 32 How do you feel about George W. Bush winning the election? Do you feel [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM a. ALWAYS FIRST] or not? Do you feel [NEXT ITEM] or not?

|  |  | $\frac{Y e s}{82}$ | $\frac{\text { No }}{17}$ | $\frac{\text { Don't know }}{1=100}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Disappointed | 71 | 28 | $1=100$ |
| b. | Worried | 33 | 66 | $1=100$ |
| c. | Angry | 26 | 72 | $2=100$ |

IF VOTED FOR BUSH (Q.3/3x=1) ASK [N=594]:
Q. 33 How do you feel about George W. Bush winning the election? Do you feel [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] or not? Do you feel [NEXT ITEM] or not?

|  | Yes | $\frac{\text { No }}{90}$ | $\frac{\text { Don't know }}{10}$ | $*=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Relieved | Excited | 64 | 34 |
| b. | Reassured | 90 | 9 | $1=100$ |
| d. | Safer | 88 | 9 | $3=100$ |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 34 Thinking ahead to the next four years, which is more likely to happen? Do you think... [READ]

|  |  | Based on General Public <br> Clinton <br> Dec $1996^{3}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 61 | George W. Bush will have a SUCCESSFUL second term | 58 |
|  | OR |  |
| 29 | George W. Bush will have an UNSUCCESSFUL second term | 36 |
| 1 | Neither/No change (VOL) | 1 |
| $\frac{9}{100}$ | Don’t know (VOL) | $\underline{5}$ |
| 100 |  |  |

## NO QUESTION 35 OR 36

[^1]Q. 37 Most people cast their votes on Election Day this year, but many were able to vote before Election Day by absentee ballot or what is called early voting. What about you? Did you vote ON Election Day or BEFORE Election DAY by absentee ballot, vote by mail or through early voting?

|  |  | Nov |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{2002}$ |
| 80 | On Election Day | 85 |
| 20 | By Absentee or other method | 15 |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\frac{*}{9}$ |

## ASK IF VOTED ON ELECTION DAY (Q.37=1) [N=941]:

Q. 38 Did you have to wait in line at your polling place or not?
Q. 39 How long did you wait to vote?

42 Yes, waited
13 Under 15 minutes
11 15-29 minutes
10 30-59 minutes
$6 \quad 1$ hour to under 2 hours
$2 \quad 2$ hours or more
0 Don't know/Refused
58 No, didn't wait
0 Don't know/Refused
100

## ASK ALL:

Q. 40 [IF Q38=1, Other than waiting in line] Did you have any other problems or difficulties voting this year, or not?

| 4 | Yes, SPECIFY |
| :---: | :--- |
| 96 | No |
| $*$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 41 Was this election the FIRST time that you have voted, or have you voted before?

Based on Registered Voters
Election Weekend $2004^{4}$

| 8 | First time | 13 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 92 | Have voted before | 87 |
| $\frac{0}{100}$ | Don’t Know/Refused | $*$ |
|  |  | 100 |

[^2]Q. 42 Before the election, were you contacted over the phone by any candidates, campaigns or other groups urging you to vote in a particular way?
IF YES (Q.42=1), ASK:
Q. 43 And were you urged to vote for George W. Bush and/or other Republican candidates OR John Kerry and/or other Democratic candidates?

## Based on Registered Voters

Election Weekend Election Weekend Nov

|  |  | Election Weekend <br>  <br>  <br>  <br>  <br> 55 | Yes | Election Weekend |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 | Bush/Republicans | $\frac{2004}{34}$ | $\frac{2002}{33}$ | $\frac{2000}{42}$ |
| 11 | Kerry/Democrats | 8 | 7 Reps | 13 Bush |
| 4 | Other (VOL.) | 2 | 8 Dems | 11 Gore |
| 26 | Both (VOL.) | 12 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | Don't know/Refused | 4 | 12 | 12 |
| 44 | No | 65 | 5 | 3 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{1}$ | 66 | 58 |
|  |  | 100 | $\underline{1}$ | $*$ |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |  |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 44 Did anyone from a campaign or other group contact you IN PERSON - such as by coming to your door - to urge you to vote in a particular way in the election?

Based on Registered Voters
Election Weekend $2004^{5}$

| 14 |
| :---: |
| 86 |
| $*$ |
| 100 |

Yes
11
86 No 89

* Don't know/Refused
$\stackrel{*}{100}$
Q. 45 Did anyone from a campaign or other group contact you BY EMAIL to urge you to vote in a particular way in the election?

| 14 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 85 | No / no e-mail |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 46 Did you, yourself, volunteer any of your time to help one of the presidential election campaigns or not?

| 9 | Yes |
| :---: | :--- |
| 91 | No |
| $*$ | Don't know/Refused |
| 100 |  |

[^3]Q. 47 Did you, yourself contribute money to a campaign in support of one of the presidential candidates this year, or not?

| 15 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 84 | No |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

## NO QUESTION 48

ASK Q.49-Q. 52 ONLY OF THOSE RESPONDENTS WHO SAID IN PREVIOUS INTERVIEW THAT THEY ATTEND CHURCH AT LEAST ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH. (ATTEND (1-3); IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT FIT THAT DESCRIPTION, SKIP TO Q.53.
Q. 49 Was information on political parties or candidates for the recent election made available in your place of worship, or not?

BASED ON THOSE WHO ATTEND CHURCH [N=696]:

|  |  | $\frac{\text { Nov 2000 }}{14}$ | $\frac{\text { Nov 1996 }}{28}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 71 | Yes | 83 | 69 |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{3}$ |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |

Q. 50 Was information on any state or local ballot initiatives or constitutional amendments made available in your place of worship, or not?

BASED ON THOSE WHO ATTEND CHURCH [N=696]:

| 19 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 80 | No |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 51 And did the clergy at your place of worship or any other religious groups urge you to vote a particular way in the recent election, or not?
IF '1' YES IN Q.51, ASK:
Q. 52 Were you urged to vote in a particular way in the PRESIDENTIAL race, a Congressional race, a state race a local race or on specific ballot issues? (ACCEPT MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE)

BASED ON THOSE WHO ATTEND CHURCH [N=696]:

|  |  | Nov 2000 | Nov 1996 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | Yes | 6 | 7 |
| 7 | Presidential | 4 | 5 |
| 2 | Congressional | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | State | 2 | 3 |
| 2 | Local | 2 | 3 |
| 4 | Ballot issue | n/a | n/a |
| 1 | Don't know/Refused | 2 | 2 |
| 89 | No | 93 | 91 |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |

## ASK ALL:

Now thinking about election night...
Q. 53 Did you happen to follow election returns on Tuesday night, or not?

|  |  | $\frac{\text { Nov } 2000}{84}$ |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| Yes | 88 |  |
| 16 | No | 12 |
| $*$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{0}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

## ASK Q54 TO Q57 ONLY IF Q53=1 [N=1021]:

Q. 54 Did you follow the election returns on the television, or not?

| Followed <br> returns | All <br> 97 | $\underline{\text { voters }}$ <br> 91 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | 3 | Yes |  |
| $\frac{0}{100}$ | 0 | No |  |
|  | $\frac{(16)}{100}$ |  | Don't know |
|  | (Did not follow returns election night) |  |  |

Q. 55 Did you follow the election returns on the Internet or not?

| Followed <br> returns | All <br> voters |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 19 | 16 | Yes |  |
| 81 | 68 | No |  |
| $*$ | $*$ | Don't know |  |
| 100 | $\frac{(16)}{100}$ |  |  |

Q. 56 How late did you follow the coverage on election night? [OPEN END]

| Followed <br> returns | All <br> voters |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 25 | 21 |  | Stopped before 11:00pm |
| 22 | 19 | 11:00pm to before midnight |  |
| 30 | 25 |  | Midnight to 2:00am |
| 21 | 18 |  | Later than 2:00am |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | 1 | Don't know/Refused |  |
|  | $\frac{(16)}{100}$ | (Did not follow returns election night) |  |

Q. 57 Do you think news organizations did an excellent, good, only fair, or poor job on election night?

Followed
returns
17 Excellent
52 Good
22 Only fair
8 Poor
1 Don't know/Refused
100

## ASK ALL:

In the election...
ASK FORM 1 ONLY [ $\mathrm{N}=601$ ]:
Q.58F1 How confident are you that your vote was accurately counted? [READ]

## Based on Registered Voters

Mid-Oct $2004^{6}$

| 68 | Very confident |
| ---: | :--- |
| 24 | Somewhat confident |
| 4 | Not too confident |
| 3 | Not at all confident |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

62
26
26
7
4
1
100

## ASK FORM 2 ONLY [ $\mathbf{N = 6 0 8 ] :}$

Q.59F2 How confident are you that the votes across the country were accurately counted? [READ]

48 Very confident
37 Somewhat confident
7 Not too confident
7 Not at all confident
$\frac{1}{10}$ (VOL. DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused
100

## ASK IF NOT REPUBLICAN (PARTY/PARTYLN NE 1):

Q. 60 Next year should the Democratic leaders in Washington... (READ)

BASED ON DEMOCRATS [ $\mathbf{N}=390$ ]:
Nov 1996
Try as best they can to work with Republican leaders to accomplish things,

42 even if it means disappointing some groups of Democratic supporters? OR
Should they stand up to the Republicans on issues that are important to
52 Democratic supporters, even if it means less gets done in Washington?
6 Don't know/Refused
100

8
100

[^4]
[^0]:    1 The $1 \%$ who voted for Pat Buchanan in November 2000 is included in the Other/DK category.

[^1]:    3 In December 1996, the question was worded: "Thinking ahead to the year 2000, as I read the following pairs, please tell me which is more likely to happen" and was asked as part of a series.

[^2]:    4 In the Election weekend survey the question was worded: "Will this election be the FIRST time that you have voted, or have you voted before?"

[^3]:    5 In the Election Weekend poll, the question was worded: "Has anyone from a campaign or other group contacted you IN PERSON - such as by coming to your door - to urge you to vote in a particular way in the election?

[^4]:    In mid-October 2004 the question was worded "How confident are you that your vote will be accurately counted in the upcoming election?"

