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Some Social Conservative Disillusionment MORE AMERICANS QUESTION RELIGION'S ROLE IN POLITICS

Results from the 2008 Annual Religion and Public Life Survey

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PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS 2008 RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY

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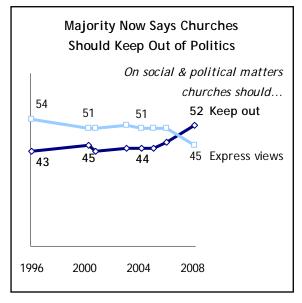
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Some Social Conservative Disillusionment MORE AMERICANS QUESTION RELIGION'S ROLE IN POLITICS

Some Americans are having a change of heart about mixing religion and politics. A new survey finds a narrow majority of the public saying that churches and other houses of worship

should keep out of political matters and not express their views on day-to-day social and political matters. For a decade, majorities of Americans had voiced support for religious institutions speaking out on such issues.

The new national survey by the Pew Research Center reveals that most of the reconsideration of the desirability of religious involvement in politics has occurred among conservatives. Four years ago, just 30% of conservatives believed that churches and other houses of worship should stay out of politics. Today, 50% of conservatives express this view.



As a result, conservatives' views on this issue are much more in line with the views of moderates and liberals than was previously the case. Similarly, the sharp divisions between

Republicans and Democrats that previously existed on this issue have disappeared.

There are other signs in the new poll about a potential change in the climate of opinion about mixing religion and politics. First, the survey finds a small but significant increase since 2004 in the percentage of respondents saying that they are uncomfortable when they hear politicians talk about how religious they are – from 40% to 46%. Again, the increase in negative sentiment about religion and politics is much more apparent among Republicans than among Democrats.

Party Gap Disappears on Mixing Religion & Politics									
	D-R								
	Rep	<u>Dem</u>	Ind	<u>gap</u>					
August 2008	%	%	%						
Keep out	51	52	55	+1					
Express views	48	46	42	-2					
Don't know	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>						
	100	100	100						
August 2004									
Keep out	37	51	45	+14					
Express views	58	45	50	-13					
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>						
	100	100	100						
Change in									
"keep out"	+14	+1	+10						

Second, while the Republican Party is most often seen as the party friendly toward religion, the Democratic Party has made gains in this area. Nearly four-in-ten (38%) now say the Democratic Party is generally friendly toward religion, up from just 26% two years ago.

Nevertheless, considerably more people (52%) continue to view the GOP as friendly toward religion.

The poll by Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life finds increasing numbers of Americans believing that religiously defined ideological groups have too much control over the parties themselves. Nearly half (48%) say religious conservatives have too much influence over the Republican Party, up from 43% in August 2007. At the same time, more people say that liberals who are not religious have too

Who Controls the Parties?							
Religious conservatives have too much control over the Republican Party Agree Disagree Don't know	Aug 2007 % 43 41 16 100	Aug 2008 % 48 41 11 100					
Liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party Agree Disagree Don't know	37 47 <u>16</u> 100	43 45 <u>12</u> 100					

much sway over the Democrats than did so last year (43% today vs. 37% then).

Social Conservatives' Discontents

In addition to somewhat greater worries about the way religious and non-religious groups are influencing the parties, the survey suggests that frustration and disillusionment among social

conservatives may be a part of the reason why a greater number now think that religious institutions should keep out of politics. However, there is little to suggest that social conservatives want religion to be a less important element in American politics.

The greatest increases since 2004 in the view that churches and other houses of worship should not express themselves on political matters have occurred among less-educated Republicans and people who say that social issues such as abortion and same-sex marriage will be important to their vote. For example, among people who rate gay marriage as a top voting issue, the percentage saying that churches should stay out of politics soared from 25% in 2004 to 50% currently; there was little change over this period on this question among people who do not view same-sex marriage as a very important issue.

Changing Opinions about Religion and Politics						
	% saying	churche	es			
Among those	should	keep out	04-08			
who say *	2004	2008	<i>Chang</i> e			
Gay marriage is	%	%				
Very important	25	50	+25			
Less important	56	55	-1			
Abortion is						
Very important	33	49	+16			
Less important	54	56	+2			
Among those			06-08			
who say	<u>2006</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>			
Democrats are	%	%	_			
Friendly to religion		51	-1			
Neutral	48	56	+8			
Unfriendly	30	50	+20			
Republicans are						
Friendly to religion		55	+4			
Neutral	42	50	+8			
Unfriendly	29	53	+24			
* Based on registered voters.						

Another indication that disillusionment may be in play in increased opposition to the mixing of religion and politics is seen in the fact that this sentiment has increased most among

people who rate the major parties as unfriendly toward religion. The views of citizens who see the parties as neutral or friendly toward religion have been more stable on the question of whether churches and other houses of worship should speak out on political issues.

In short, the change of mind about the role of religious institutions in politics is most apparent among people who are most concerned about the very issues that churches and other houses of worship have focused on, and among those who fault the parties for their friendliness toward religion.

Changes in views about the role of churches in politics notwithstanding, many of the contours of American public opinion relating to broad questions of religion and politics remain largely unchanged. Two-thirds of the public (66%) say that churches and other houses of worship should not endorse one candidate over another, which is unchanged since 2004 (65%). And while most say it is important for presidents to have strong religious beliefs, they are divided about whether there currently is too much, or too little, in the way of expressions of faith by contemporary political leaders. Roughly comparable numbers say political leaders express their religious beliefs too much (29%), too little (36%) or the right amount (28%).

Despite their increased reluctance to see religious institutions speaking out on politics, conservatives and Republicans continue to express very strong support for a religious president and relatively high levels of support for expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders.

Soft Support Among Social Conservatives for McCain

While some social conservatives are expressing changed views about religion and politics, there is little indication that they are changing their voting preferences: John McCain has about as large a lead over Barack Obama among conservatives and white evangelicals as

George Bush did at this stage in the campaign four years ago.

However, as has been the case since June, the current survey shows much more tepid support for McCain among white evangelical Protestants and conservatives generally than Bush enjoyed in August 2004. Just 28% of white evangelical Protestants say they are strong backers of the Arizona senator. Four years ago, 57% of white evangelicals described themselves as strong backers of President Bush.

White Evangelicals Back McCain, But Not Strongly						
Bush/McCain Strongly Not strongly Gore/Kerry/Obama Other/DK	Sep <u>2000</u> % 59 34 25 29 <u>12</u> 100	Aug 2004 % 71 57 14 24 <u>5</u> 100	Aug 2008 % 68 28 40 24 8 100			
Based on white evange voters.	lical Pro	testant	registered			

As was the case in previous presidential elections, the voting inclinations of Catholic voters – especially white non-Hispanic Catholics – remain fluid. Four years ago at this time John Kerry held a slight edge over Bush among white non-Hispanic Catholics; but he lost that lead by the election. In the current poll, this group, which accounts for 18% of the electorate, is divided almost evenly: 45% support McCain, while 44% favor Obama.

Other Findings

The survey was conducted by telephone – both landline phones and cell phones – from July 31-Aug. 10 among a national sample of 2,905 adults. It finds that as the Democratic Party's advantage in party identification has grown, there have been some notable changes in party affiliation within key religious groups. In 2008, about half of registered voters (51%) identify themselves as Democrats or lean toward the Democratic Party, while just 38% identify as Republicans or Republican leaners. In 2004, Democrats held only a slight, three-point advantage in party affiliation (47% to 44%).

While white non-Hispanic Catholics are divided in their presidential choices, they are increasingly identifying as Democrats. In surveys conducted this year, 49% of white non-Hispanic Catholics either affiliate with or lean toward the Democratic Party, while 40% identify with the GOP. In 2004, 47% of white non-Hispanic Catholics identified with the GOP while 45% affiliated with the Democratic Party.

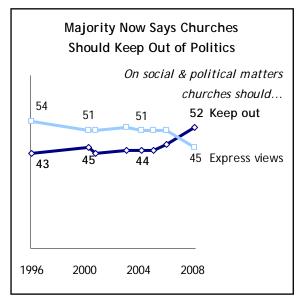
The survey finds that the economy continues to dominate the concerns of voters. Nearly nine-in-ten (87%) say the economy will be very important to their vote this fall, up from 78% in October 2004. Energy has surged among voters' concerns: 77% view energy as very important, compared with only 54% in the closing weeks of the last campaign.

For the most part, the issues that are important to the public as a whole are also important to particular religious groups. However, social issues, such as same-sex marriage, continue to be more important for white evangelicals than for other registered voters. Currently, 46% of white evangelicals say same-sex marriage will be a very important voting issue, compared with 28% of all voters. That is only somewhat less than the percentage of white evangelical voters who viewed same-sex marriage as very important in October 2004 (49%).

Section 1: The Mix of Religion and Politics

More Say Churches Should Keep Out of Politics

A slim majority of the public (52%) says that churches and other houses of worship should keep out of politics, an eight point increase compared with 2004. Fewer (45%) take the view that churches should express their views on day-to-day social and political questions. This marks the first time since the Pew Research Center began asking the question in 1996 that those who say churches should keep out of politics outnumber those who say churches should express their political views.



While Democrats and liberals have traditionally been the most wary of church

involvement in political matters, the increase in opposition over the past four years has come

mostly from Republicans and conservatives. As a result, where there was once a substantial partisan and ideological gap on this question, there is now far less of a divide.

The share of Republicans who say churches should keep out of social and political matters has increased from 37% to 51% since 2004. Opposition to church involvement also is up 10 points among political independents (from 45% to 55%). Meanwhile, Democratic views remain largely unchanged. The sharp partisan divisions on this question that existed in 2004, when Democrats were significantly more opposed than Republicans to church involvement in politics, have disappeared almost completely, with slim majorities of both parties now agreeing that churches should keep out of politics.

Growing Conservative Reluctance					
Total	Aug 2004 % 44	July 2006 % 46	Aug 2008 % 52	04-08 <u>Change</u> +8	
Republican Democrat Independent	37 51 45	39 50 48	52 51 52 55	+14 +1 +10	
Conservative Moderate Liberal	30 52 62	36 48 56	50 53 57	+20 +1 -5	
Candidate preference Bush/McCain Kerry/Obama	38 54	n/a n/a	52 54	+14 0	
College graduate Some college or less	49 42	48 45	50 53	+1 +11	
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	35 28 51 n/a	39 34 52 29	47 39 64 36	+12 +11 +13 n/a	
Total Catholic White non-Hispanic	54 60	52 54	55 59	+1 -1	
Unaffiliated	59	59	68	+9	
Attend services Weekly or more Less often	31 52	36 52	45 58	+14 +6	

This pattern is equally stark along ideological lines. In 2004, liberals were twice as likely as conservatives (62% vs. 30%) to say churches should keep out of political matters. Today, the ideological divide is much smaller, with 57% of liberals and 50% of conservatives holding this view.

As a result of the shifting opinions on the right, this is no longer an issue that divides supporters of the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates. In August of 2004, just 38% of Bush's supporters felt that churches should keep out of political matters, compared with 54% of Kerry's supporters. Today, supporters of McCain and Obama are nearly identical in their views on this question (52% and 54%, respectively, say churches should keep out of politics).

Among demographic and religious groups, the increase is seen primarily among those with lower levels of education, Protestants and the religiously unaffiliated. A majority of those with less than a college education now oppose churches expressing their political views, an 11 point increase since 2004. Similarly, white Protestants, both evangelical and mainline alike, are significantly more wary of church involvement today as compared with 2004. And nearly half (45%) of those who attend religious services weekly or more now say that churches should keep out of politics, up 14 points in four years.

Further analysis shows that among Republicans, opposition to churches expressing their political views has increased most among conservatives, Protestants, weekly churchgoers and those with lower levels of education. Roughly half of conservative Republicans now want churches to keep out of politics, up 18 points over four years ago. Similarly, 46% of Republican Protestants now church reservations about express involvement in politics, up from 28% in 2004. Even among white evangelical Republicans, more than one-third (36%)

Within GOP, More Conservatives, Protestants and Churchgoers Tell Churches Keep Out					
	Aug 2004 %	July <u>2006</u> %	Aug 2008 %	04-08 <u>Change</u>	2008 <u>N</u>
All Republicans	37	39	51	+14	426
College grad. Some college or less	42 34	42 38	45 54	+3 +20	172 251
Conservative Moderate/liberal	30 50	34 49	48 59	+18 +9	309 117
Protestant White evangelical	28 20	36 30	46 36	+18 +16	279 158
Attend services Weekly or more Less often	24 48	31 49	43 59	+19 +11	215 209

now want churches to keep out of politics, up 16 points since 2004.

Continuing Opposition to Church Endorsement of Candidates

Two-thirds of all adults say that churches should not come out in favor of one political candidate over another. The high level of opposition to church endorsement of candidates is consistent with Pew polling conducted in recent years and is found across a wide variety of groups in the population.

Older adults are more likely than younger adults to say churches should refrain from endorsing candidates (75% of those over the age of 65 take this point of view); but even among those under 30, more than six-in-ten (62%) say churches should avoid favoring one candidate over another. Similarly, majorities of every religious group, including black Protestants (55%), white evangelicals (64%) and those who attend church at least once a week (63%) oppose church endorsements of political candidates.

While the overall balance of public opinion has been steady on this question, Republicans have become

significantly more opposed to churches endorsing candidates today as compared with 2004 (64% vs. 53%). The trend is even more pronounced among white evangelical Republicans, who are nearly 20 points more likely to oppose church endorsements now compared with four years ago. Whereas Republicans were much less concerned with church endorsements in 2004 as compared with Democrats, partisan differences on this issue are now virtually nonexistent.

Should Churches Endorse One Candidate Over Another?					
	Yes %	<u>No</u> %	<u>DK</u> %		
August, 2008	29	66	5=100		
August, 2007	28	63			
August, 2004	25	65			
March, 2002	22	70	8=100		
Age 18-29	32	62	6=100		
30-49	33	64	3=100		
50-64	28	68	4=100		
65+	18	75	7=100		
White Protestant	29	68	3=100		
Evangelical	34	64	2=100		
Mainline	23	73			
Black Protestant	36	55			
Catholic	30	67			
White, non-Hisp.	26	70	4=100		
Unaffiliated	27	68	5=100		
Attend services					
Weekly or more	32	63	5=100		
Less often	27	69	4=100		
Ouestion: "During nell					

Question: "During political elections, should churches and other houses of worship come out in favor of one candidate over another, or shouldn't they do this?"

More Republicans Say Churches Should NOT Endorse Candidates

	Aug	Aug	04-08	2008
	2004	2008	Change	<u>N</u>
	%	%		
Total	65	66	+1	1,465
Republican	53	64	+11	407
College grad.	55	61	+6	152
Less education	53	65	+12	254
White Evang.	40	59	+19	161
Democrat	70	68	-2	473
Independent	73	65	-8	497
Candidate pref.				
Bush/McCain	56	67	+11	552
Kerry/Obama	74	65	-9	529

When Candidates Talk About Their Faith

Overall, half of Americans (50%) say that it does not bother them when politicians talk about how religious they are, but the number expressing discomfort has edged upward over the past four years. Today, 46% say they are uncomfortable when politicians talk about how religious they are, up from 40% in 2004. More Republicans, in particular, are expressing discomfort with politicians talking about their own religion. McCain supporters, for instance, are substantially more likely than were Bush supporters in 2004 to say they are uncomfortable with politicians talking about how religious they are (40% of McCain backers today vs. 30% of Bush backers in 2004).

Despite increasing Republican discomfort with politicians' religious talk, Democrats (49%) and political independents (48%) remain more likely than Republicans (40%) to say they are uncomfortable hearing politicians talk about their religion.

Protestants – especially white evangelicals (58%) – tend to be most comfortable with politicians' talking about how religious they are. White Catholics, by contrast, are evenly divided on this issue (47% say this makes them uncomfortable while 49% disagree), and a large majority of the religiously unaffiliated (57%) express discomfort with hearing about politicians' religion.

More Discomfort with Politicians Talking About Their Religion

August, 2008 August, 2007 August, 2004	Agree % 46 43 40	Dis <u>agree</u> % 50 50 56	DK % 4=100 7=100 4=100
Republican Democrat Independent	40 49 48	57 47 48	3=100 4=100 4=100
White Protestant Evangelical Mainline Black Protestant White Catholic Unaffiliated	38 44	55 58 52 54 49	4=100 4=100 4=100 3=100 4=100 3=100

Question: Agree/Disagree with the statement "It makes me uncomfortable when politicians talk about how religious they are."

More Republicans Uncomfortable With Expressions of Faith

	Aug 2004		<i>04-08</i> <i>Chang</i> e	
Total population	% 40	% 46	+6	2,905
Republican College grad Less education Democrat	30 36 26 53	40 36 41 49	+10 0 +15 -4	833 324 505 944
Independent Condidate prof	41	48	+7	969
Candidate pref. Bush/McCain Kerry/Obama	30 53	40 51	+10 -2	1097 1071

Important That a President Have Strong Religious Beliefs

An overwhelming majority of the public continues to say that it is important to them that a president have strong religious beliefs. More than seven-in-ten Americans express this opinion, and attitudes on this issue have not changed in recent years.

Republicans especially want to have a president who has strong religious beliefs, with 86% expressing this opinion. But even among Democrats and independents, more than two-thirds (68% and 66%, respectively) say that presidents should have strong religious beliefs. A similar consensus exists across religious groups; only among the religiously unaffiliated do fewer than half (36%) express a desire for a president with strong religious beliefs.

The poll also finds that public opinion about the amount of religious expression by political leaders has held steady in recent years. A 36% plurality of Americans say that there is too little expression of religious faith and

amount. Compared with 2004, there has been a slight increase among the public overall in the number saying there has been too little religious talk from politicians (36% now vs. 31% in 2004), and a ten point increase among Republicans taking this point of view (46% now compared with 36% in 2004).

Presidents Should Have Strong Religious Beliefs								
Dis								
	<u>Agree</u>	<u>agree</u>	<u>DK</u>					
	%	%	%					
August, 2008	72	25	3=100					
August, 2007	69	27	4=100					
August, 2004	70	26	4=100					
Republican	86	12	2=100					
Democrat	68	29	3=100					
Independent	66	31	3=100					
White Protestant	83	15	2=100					
Evangelical	90	8	2=100					
Mainline	76	21	3=100					
Black Protestant	80	18	2=100					
White Catholic	77	19	4=100					
Unaffiliated	36	62	2=100					
Attend services								
Weekly or more	85	12	3=100					
Monthly/yearly	72	25	3=100					
Seldom/never	51	47	2=100					
Question: Agree/Disagree with the statement								

"It's important to me that a president have strong religious beliefs."

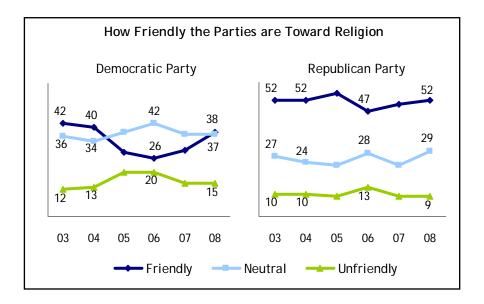
Expressions of Religious Faith and Prayer by Political Leaders

	Too	Too	Right	t
	<u>much</u>	<u>little</u>	amou	<u>nt</u> DK
	%	%	%	%
August, 2008	29	36	28	7=100
August, 2007	27	38	26	9=100
July, 2005	26	39	27	8=100
August, 2004	27	31	32	10=100

prayer by political leaders, while 29% say there is too much and 28% say there is the right

Are the Parties Religion-Friendly?

The Republican Party has long been viewed as being religion-friendly. Currently, about half of Americans (52%) say the GOP is friendly toward religion, 29% say it is neutral and just 9% say the party is unfriendly toward religion. These views have remained stable over the past five years.



By contrast, views of the Democratic Party's relationship with religion have varied substantially in recent years. The latest Pew survey finds a significant increase in the number saying that the Democratic Party is friendly toward religion; 38% of the public now expresses this point of view, up from just 26% in 2006. An additional 37% say that the Democratic Party is neutral toward religion, down from 42% two years ago and just 15% say the party is unfriendly toward religion, down from 20% in 2006.

Despite these gains, the Democrats still trail Republicans in perceptions of friendliness toward religion. A slim majority (52%) says the GOP is friendly toward religion, compared with 38% who say the same about the Democratic Party.

For the most part, views of the Democratic Party's friendliness toward religion mirror opinions in 2004, when 40% said the party was friendly toward religion. This perception changed in 2005, when just 29% said the Democratic Party was friendly toward religion.

People who view a party as unfriendly toward religion tend to express unfavorable views of that party, while those who see a party as neutral or friendly toward religion are much more positively inclined toward that party overall. This is particularly true when it comes to the Democratic Party. Overall, 57% of Americans have a positive view of the Democratic Party. This number is highest (70%) among those who see the party as friendly toward religion and lowest (22%) among those who say the party is unfriendly toward religion. The Republican Party's image is far less favorable than that of the Democratic Party – just 43% overall have a favorable opinion of the GOP. Even among those who say it is friendly toward religion, just 48% view the Republican Party

Friendliness Toward Religion Matters to Party Favorability							
	View	of Dem	ocrats Can't				
	Fav %	Unfav %	• • • • •	<u>N</u>			
Total population	57	37	6=100	2,905			
See Dems as							
Friendly to religion	70	25	5=100	1,101			
Neutral	61	35	4=100	1,069			
Unfriendly	22	75	3=100	475			
	Viou	of Poni	ublicans				
	VICVV	от керс	<i>C</i> an't	,			
	Fav	<u>Unfav</u>	• • • •	<u>N</u>			
	%	%	%				
Total population	43	49	8=100	2,905			
See GOP as							
Friendly to religion	48	48	4=100	1,663			
Neutral	47	47	6=100	780			
Unfriendly	21	73	6=100	201			

favorably. Favorability falls to just 21% among the small number who say the Republican Party is unfriendly toward religion.

Who Controls the Parties?

It is also possible for a party to be viewed as too closely tied to particular religious groups, and the poll indicates that the public increasingly sees polarization between the two parties; for example, nearly half of adults (48%) say that religious conservatives have too much power over the GOP, up from 43% one year ago. And nearly as many (43%) say that liberals who are not religious have too much control over the Democratic Party, an impression that has also become more widespread over the past year (37% held this view a year ago).

Power over the Parties							
	ave to	o muc	ervatives h power o Party	have to	Non-religious liberals have too much power over the Dem Party		
	Aug 2007 %	Aug 2008 %	<u>chang</u> e	Aug <u>2007</u> %	Aug 2008 %	<u>change</u>	
Total population	43	48	+5	37	43	+6	
Republican Democrat	30 53	31 57	+1 +4	58 23	62 31		
Independent	48	51	+3	34		+10	
White Protestant Evangelical Mainline	37 28 49	44 36 53	+7 +8 +4	42 52 32	53 60 46	+9 +8 +14	
Black Protestant White Catholic Unaffiliated	42 41 63	49 48 62	+7 +7 -1	31 37 29	34 41 28	+3 +4 -1	

Not surprisingly, Democrats (57%) and political independents (51%) are each substantially more likely than Republicans (31%) to see the GOP as overly beholden to religious conservatives. Within religious groups, white evangelicals are less likely than other groups to say religious conservatives have too much power over the Republican Party; 36% of evangelicals take this view, compared with 48% of white Catholics, 49% of black Protestants, 53% of white mainline Protestants and 62% of the religiously unaffiliated. While low, the number of white evangelicals who see the GOP as unduly influenced by religious conservatives has increased significantly from 28% a year ago to 36% today.

Most Republicans (62%) believe that secular liberals have too much power over the Democratic Party. Far fewer independents (44%) or Democrats (31%) hold this impression. Among religious groups, white evangelical Protestants express the most concern about secular liberals' control over the Democratic Party (60%); among all other religious traditions, fewer than half espouse this point of view.

Section 2: The Campaign, Candidates and Bush

Overview

The broad contours of religion in the 2008 election campaign remain largely unchanged from previous election cycles. White evangelical Protestants remain overwhelmingly Republican, and they favor McCain over Obama by roughly the same margins that they favored Bush over his 2000 and 2004 Democratic opponents. But white evangelical Protestants express far less enthusiasm for McCain than they did for Bush. And despite Democratic gains in party identification in two key swing constituencies – white mainline Protestants and white Catholics – Obama is doing no better against McCain than either Gore or Kerry did against Bush.

While Obama leads McCain as the candidate who voters think shares their values overall, when voters rate their own moral values on a liberal/conservative spectrum, they place themselves far closer to McCain – on the conservative side of the scale – than they do to Obama on the liberal side. McCain is not seen as being as conservative on moral issues as Bush, and Obama is not seen as being as liberal as Bill Clinton on morality.

Religion and the Vote in 2008 vs. 2004 and 2000*							
	20 Gore %	00 <u>Bush</u> %	20 <u>Kerry</u> %		200 Obama %		2008 <u>N</u>
Total	47	41	47	45	46	43	2414
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	44 29 44 82	45 59 45 8	41 24 43 84	52 71 49 6	42 24 39 88	49 68 50 6	1364 576 501 186
Total Catholic White Non-Hispanic	51 47	40 43	54 50	42 47	47 44	42 45	548 440
Unaffiliated Whites	56 57	21 21	67 66	23 23	59 56	27 32	282 233
Among white evangelical Attend weekly or more Less often	als 27 35	61 54	19 	77 	20 33	74 57	386 188
18-49 50+	21 38	70 47	18 29	77 65	23 26	71 66	202 368
*Surveys from September 2000, August 2004 and August 2008. In 2000 and 2004, the horserace question included Ralph Nader. Based on registered voters.							

Religion and the Horserace

Several of the patterns of religious support seen in the 2004 presidential race continue to hold in 2008. White evangelical Protestants, mainstays of Bush's base in both 2000 and 2004, support McCain over Obama by a wide margin. McCain leads Obama by 44-percentage points among white evangelicals – comparable to Bush's 47-point lead over Kerry with this group in

the summer of 2004, and even larger than Bush's 30-point lead over Gore in the summer of 2000. As was the case four years ago, this advantage is more pronounced among the most religiously observant – evangelicals who attend church at least once a week favor McCain over Obama by a 74% to 20% margin. Even among younger evangelicals, McCain holds a substantial lead over Obama (71% to 23% among those 18 to 49 years old, and 70% to 24% among those under the age of 40).

Support among white mainline Protestants shows little change from the 2004 election cycle; McCain's 50% to 39% lead over Obama among white mainline Protestants is roughly similar to the 49% to 43% lead Bush held over Kerry with this group. Among Catholics, however, there has been a small shift. Fewer than half of white non-Hispanic Catholics (44%) now support Obama; in August 2004, half (50%) supported Kerry.

As in past elections, black Protestants, who have supported Democratic candidates by ratios of greater than ten-to-one, now support Barack Obama to a similar degree (88% support Obama, compared with just 6% who support McCain). The religiously unaffiliated – another traditionally Democratic group – also heavily back Obama; he enjoys a greater than two-to-one (59% to 27%) advantage over McCain among those with no religious affiliation.

Little Enthusiasm for McCain

While the overall religious contours of the horserace are little changed from 2004, the strength of voters' commitment to the candidates differs substantially from four years ago. McCain has lower levels of strong support than Bush did in 2004, and this decline in commitment to the Republican candidate is most apparent among white evangelicals and the most religiously observant. By contrast, Obama's overall level of strong support is almost identical to Kerry's four years ago, as is his level of strong support among the religiously observant. However he enjoys less strong support among Catholics.

Among the 43% of voters who favor John McCain in Pew's August survey, only 17% say they support him "strongly," while 26% just lean toward him or favor him "only moderately." This is roughly half the number of strong supporters that Bush had in August of 2004, when 32% of voters backed him strongly. Among voters who attend religious services at least once a week, this decline is even more pronounced – fully 45% of weekly attenders supported Bush strongly four years ago, compared with 21% who say the same about McCain today.

While white evangelicals back McCain at high levels overall, they express much less strong support than they did for Bush four years ago. Only 28% of this group supports McCain strongly, compared with fully 57% who asserted strong support for Bush in 2004. Further, evangelicals who support McCain today are far more likely to describe their vote as mostly a

vote *against* Barack Obama than evangelicals who supported Bush four years ago in his race against John Kerry.

Strong Support in 2008 vs. 2004						
Total	Dem ca Kerry 2004 % 28	ondidate Obama 2008 % 27		Rep ca Bush <u>2004</u> % 32	ndidate McCair <u>2008</u> % 17	
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	17 12 23 58	11	-1 -4	45 57 31 4		-29
Total Catholic White Non-Hisp	36 31	21 19		27 33	17 19	
Unaffiliated	34	36	+2	12	11	-1
Unaffiliated 34 36 +2 12 11 -7 Attend services Weekly or more 24 25 +1 45 21 -24 Less often 31 29 -2 24 14 -10 Based on registered voters. Percentages are the share of all voters saying they "strongly support" each candidate.						

While overall strength of support for Barack Obama differs little from that of his Democratic predecessor, the strength of his support among Catholics is considerably weaker than Kerry's. Today, only 19% of white non-Hispanic Catholics strongly support Obama; by contrast, Kerry enjoyed strong support from 31% of this group. At the same time, Catholic enthusiasm for John McCain is also substantially lower than it was for Bush four years ago.

Who "Shares My Values"?

A small plurality of American voters say that Barack Obama (47%) more than McCain (39%) is the presidential candidate who most shares their values. But views differ substantially across religious lines. Most white evangelical Protestant voters (60%) – more than any other major religious group – say that McCain shares their values compared with just 27% who attribute this characteristic to Obama. White mainline Protestant voters are more evenly divided on the question of which presumptive nominee, McCain or Obama, most closely shares their values (45%)

Which Candidate "Shares My Values"								
	Mc- <u>Cain</u> %	Oba- <u>ma</u> %	(Vol.) Both/ Neithe		<u>N</u>			
All Voters	39	47	9	5=100	1208			
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	43 60 45 7	44 27 37 87	8 9 11 4	5=100 4=100 7=100 2=100	685 281 244 103			
Total Catholic White non-Hisp	36 41	49 45	10 10	5=100 4=100	272 216			
Unaffiliated	28	56	13	3=100	140			
Attend services Weekly or more Less often	47 33	40 53	8 10	5=100 4=100	500 695			
Based on registered vo	oters.							

vs. 37%, respectively). White non-Hispanic Catholics are also split, with 41% citing McCain and 45% Obama. The majority (56%) of voters with no religious affiliation say Obama shares their values, while 28% say this about McCain.

A "Moral Values" Scale

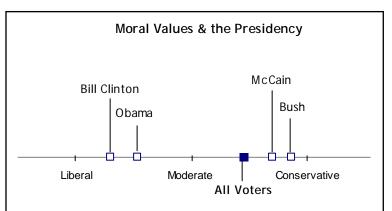
When asked to describe McCain's moral values on an ideological scale from very liberal to very conservative, most voters (58%) say McCain has moral values that are either conservative (45%) or very conservative (13%). The average rating places McCain well to the

right on the spectrum of moral values, but not quite as far right as Bush, who 62% rate as conservative or very conservative.

Meanwhile, just under half (48%) of voters say Obama has moral values that are either liberal (32%) or very liberal (16%). This places him well to the left of center in this dimension, though not quite as far left as Bill Clinton, who 55% rate as liberal or very liberal.

The average voter places themselves much closer to McCain than to Obama. When asked to assess their own moral values on a scale from liberal to conservative, 49% of Americans place themselves on the conservative side of the scale, while just 20% place themselves on the liberal side (29% describe themselves as moderate.)

Rating Moral Values of Leaders, and Yourself							
		Moral val	ues of				
	John	Barack	G.W.	Bill	Your		
	<u>McCain</u>	<u>Obama</u>	<u>Bush</u>	Clinton	<u>own</u>		
	%	%	%	%	%		
Very conservativ	e 13	6	24	5	17		
Conservative	45	14	38	10	32		
Moderate	22	22	15	21	29		
Liberal	8	32	8	34	14		
Very liberal	3	16	6	21	6		
Don't know	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>		
	100	100	100	100	100		
NET Conservativ	e 58	20	62	15	49		
NET Liberal	11	48	14	55	20		



Based on registered voters. The black dot represents the average of how voters describe their own moral values ranging from very liberal to very conservative. White dots represent the average placement of each candidate, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton on the same scale.

Not surprisingly, ratings of one's own moral values, as well as of political figures, often differ substantially between voters of different religious affiliations. More than seven-in-ten (72%) white evangelical Protestant voters see themselves as morally conservative. Fewer (59%) say the same about John McCain, placing the average evangelical voter to the right of McCain. By a smaller margin, white evangelical Protestants also see themselves to the right of Bush – 33% rate themselves as very conservative when it comes to moral values, while just 18% say the same about Bush.

The average white mainline Protestant and white non-Hispanic Catholic offers a more moderate assessment of their moral values, though conservatives outnumber liberals in both groups, making the average voter in either group more closely aligned with how they see McCain than Obama on this matter. By contrast, there are more liberals than conservatives when it comes to the moral values of religiously unaffiliated voters. As a result, the average religiously unaffiliated voter is closer to where they place Obama on this scale than where they place McCain.

Evangelical Voters Bill Clinton McCain Bush Obama Liberal Moderate Conservative White Mainline Protestants McCain Bill Clinton Mainline Bush Obama Voters Liberal Moderate Conservative White Non-Hispanic Catholics McCain Bill Clinton Catholic Bush Obama Voters Liberal Moderate Conservative The Unaffiliated McCain Bill Clinton Unaffiliated Bush Obama Voters Liberal Conservative Moderate Based on registered voters. Each black dot represents the average of how voters in that group describe their own moral values . White dots show the average placement of each politician by voters in each group.

White Evangelical Protestants

Voters in all four of these religious groups give similar ratings of John McCain's moral values – half or more see him as

conservative. There is more variation in how these voters see Obama on this scale, with white evangelicals and white mainline Protestants placing Obama further to the left than white non-Hispanic Catholics. Most white evangelicals (58%) and white mainline Protestants (55%) see Obama as having liberal moral values, compared with 44% of white non-Hispanic Catholics. About half (51%) of religiously unaffiliated voters say the same.

All Religious Groups Highly Engaged

As has been the case throughout the campaign, engagement with the current election is considerably higher than in previous years. Almost three-in-four voters (74%) say they have given "quite a lot" of thought to the election, compared with 69% four years ago, and just 59% in 2000. This increased engagement cuts across most religious groups. In particular, white evangelical engagement with the campaign remains high, despite their low level of enthusiasm for either candidate.

Thought "A Lot" about the Election							
Total	Sept 2000 % 59	Aug 2004 % 69	Aug 2008 % 74	00-08 <u>diff</u> +15			
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black protestant	59 60 60 53	69 70 68 	77 79 78 71	+18 +19 +18 +18			
Total Catholic White Non-Hispanic	56 58	72 74	70 71	+11 +13			
Unaffiliated	60	65	70	+10			
Based on registered voters.							

Support for Candidates' Religiosity Associated With the Vote

While most voters (73%) say that it is important to them that a president have strong religious beliefs, those who feel most strongly about this favor McCain over Obama by a substantial margin (55% to 37%), while those voters who "mostly agree" with the statement are nearly evenly split between the two candidates and Obama has a clear edge (60% to 25%) among those who do not share this belief.

Views about displays of religious faith by politicians are also related to the vote – Obama leads McCain by 23 points among those who agree completely with the statement "it makes me uncomfortable when politicians talk about how religious they are," while McCain leads Obama by 12 points among those who say they completely disagree. These patterns are similar to, if slightly weaker than, those seen in 2004.

Importance of Faith and the Vote							
It's important to me that a president have strong religious beliefs Completely agree Mostly agree Completely/mostly disagree	Oba- <u>ma</u> % 37 45 60	Mc- <u>Cain</u> % 55 47 25	8=100 8=100	<u>N</u> 761 1004 587			
It makes me uncomfortable when politicians talk about how religious they are Completely agree Mostly agree Mostly disagree Completely disagree Based on registered voters.	56 50 45 38	33 41 46 50	9=100	402 703 736 476			

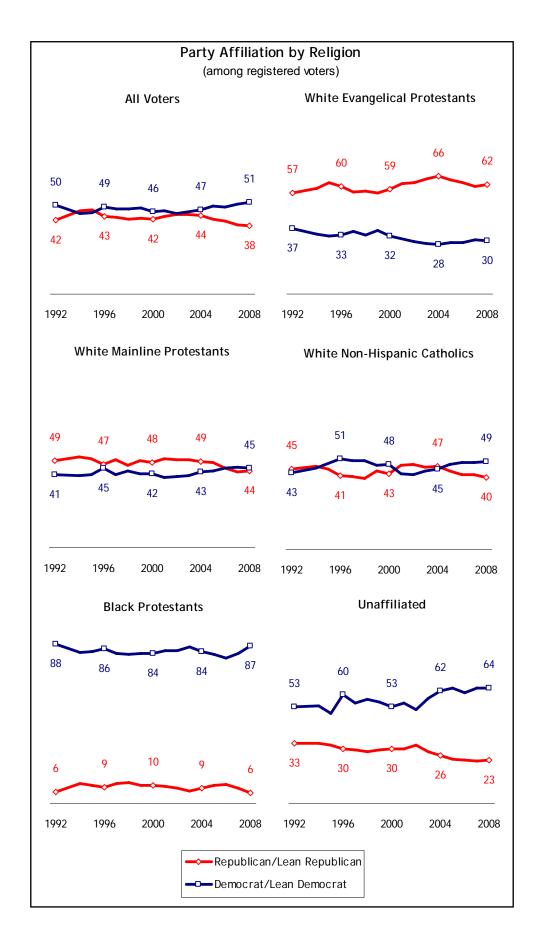
Party Affiliation and Religion

Democrats hold a substantial 13-point advantage in party identification in 2008 – 51% of registered voters either call themselves Democratic or lean toward the Democratic Party, while 38% are Republicans or Republican-leaners. By comparison, Democrats held only a three-point identification advantage in 2004 (47% to 44%), and a four-point edge (46% to 42%) in 2000.

The balance of party identification has shifted little among white evangelical Protestants. In polling since January, 62% identify with the Republican Party, while about half as many (30%) are Democrats or Democratic-leaners. Four years ago the margin was 66% to 28%. Democrats have made some gains among white mainline Protestants – the balance of party ID is now about even (45% Democratic, 44% Republican), compared with a 49% to 43% GOP advantage in 2004.

Democrats have opened a substantial 49% to 40% advantage among white non-Hispanic Catholics – four years ago the GOP held a slim 47% to 45% edge with this group. The last election year in which Democrats led by this kind of margin among Catholics was 1996, when they held a 51% to 41% edge in party identification.

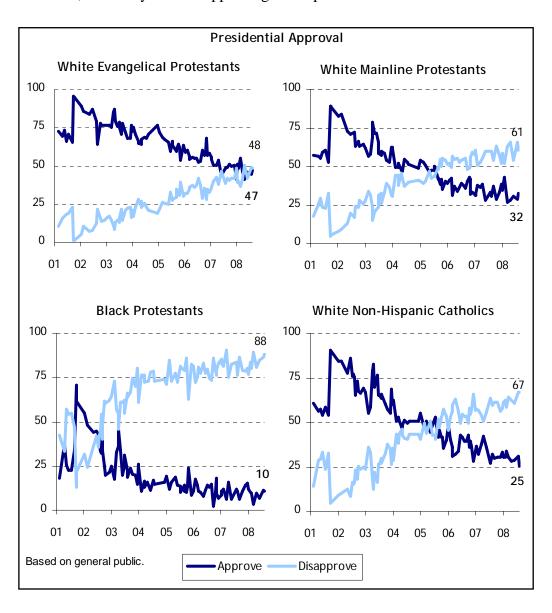
Voters without a religious affiliation have become substantially more aligned with the Democratic Party over the past eight years. In 2000 just over half (53%) of those who describe themselves as atheists, agnostics or simply as having no religious preference said they were Democrats or leaned Democratic. That grew to 62% in 2004 and stands at 64% today. Meanwhile, the share of religiously unaffiliated voters who are Republicans fell from 30% in 2000 to 26% in 2004 to 23% today.



Bush Approval Among Religious Groups

In the current survey, roughly two-thirds of Americans (66%) disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as president, while 28% approve of his performance. This performance rating has barely moved since March.

White evangelical Protestants remain more supportive of Bush than any other major religious group. But even among evangelicals, fewer than half (47%) approve of Bush's performance in office, while 48% disapprove. Among white mainline Protestants, 61% disapprove and 32% approve, and the margin is even larger among white non-Hispanic Catholics (67% disapprove, 25% approve). Not surprisingly, black Protestants express the most criticism of President Bush, with fully 88% disapproving of his performance in office.



Broad Dissatisfaction with National Conditions

Almost three-quarters of Americans (74%) say they are dissatisfied with the way things

are going in the country today, while 21% say they are satisfied. These figures have varied little since early February, when 70% were dissatisfied and 24% were satisfied. However, dissatisfaction is up substantially from recent years. Dissatisfaction has risen eight points since October 2007 and 19 points since the summer of 2004.

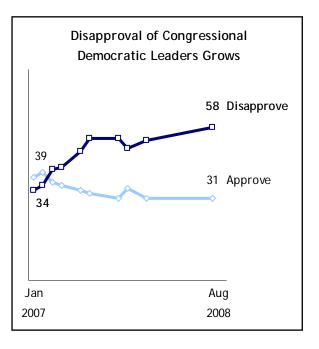
When it comes to evaluating the state of the nation, Americans of all religious faiths largely agree. Across all religious groups, more than seven-in-ten express dissatisfaction with the way things are going, with the highest rate among black Protestants (80%) and the lowest among white mainline and white evangelical Protestants (72% and 73%, respectively).

Satisfaction with State of the Nation Remains Low							
Satisfied Dissatisfied Don't know	July 2004 % 38 55 <u>7</u> 100	July 2005 % 35 58 <u>7</u> 100	July 2006 % 30 65 <u>5</u> 100	Oct 2007 % 28 66 <u>6</u> 100	Aug 2008 % 21 74 <u>5</u> 100		
2008 Satisfac Among Total Protesta White evange White mainli Black Protest Total Catholic White non-Hi	Sati <u>fied</u> % 21 2 2 1	1 2 6	satis- ied % 74 73 72 80 72	DK % 5=100 6=100 6=100 4=100 6=100 5=100			
Unaffiliated	<i>σ</i> ραιτίς	21	•	76	3=100		

Democratic Leaders in Congress

Nearly six-in-ten Americans (58%) disapprove of the job Democratic leaders in Congress are doing, the highest proportion giving a negative assessment since the question was first asked in June 2001. Disapproval has risen 24 points from January 2007, when Democrats took control of both houses of Congress.

White Protestants are more critical of Democratic leaders than are black Protestants or the unaffiliated: 67% of white evangelicals and 64% of white mainline Protestants disapprove of the job congressional Democratic leaders are doing, a view shared by fewer than half of black Protestants (49%) and the unaffiliated (49%).



Catholics fall between these groups in assessing the job Democratic congressional leaders have done: 55% of all Catholics and 59% of white non-Hispanic Catholics disapprove of the job

Democratic leaders in Congress are doing. Disapproval has grown among all these religious groups since the start of this year.

Section 3: Issues and the 2008 Election

Top Issues for 2008

The economy continues to lead the list of issues voters say will be very important to their candidate choice this fall. Fully 87% of voters say the economy will be very important to their vote this fall, which is virtually unchanged since May (88%) but greater than the proportion of voters citing the economy as very important in October 2004 (78%). And while terrorism, Iraq and other issues rivaled the economy in importance four years ago, the economy rates 10 points higher than any other issue this year.

Energy ranks second, with 77% saying this issue will be very important. That represents a substantial increase of 23 percentage points from October 2004. Four other issues cluster just below, with 72%-73% mentioning health care, education, the war in Iraq and terrorism. The number citing terrorism as very important has declined five points since October 2004. Majorities also mention moral values (61% very important), the environment (59%) and immigration (52%). About half (49%) say trade policy will be very important.

Two social issues are at the bottom of the list in terms of perceived importance to voters: abortion was mentioned by 39% as very important, down eight points from October 2004, while gay marriage is mentioned by

Economy Tops List of Voter Concerns								
Very important to your vote: Economy Energy	Oct 2004 % 78 54	Aug <u>2008</u> % 87 77	04-08 <u>Change</u> +9 +23					
Health care Education Iraq Terrorism	73 75 74 77	73 73 72 72	0 -2 -2 -5					
Moral values 63 61 -2 Environment 53 59 +6 Immigration n/a 52 n/a Trade policy n/a 49 n/a Abortion 47 39 -8 Gay marriage 32 28 -4 Based on registered voters.								

from October 2004, while gay marriage is mentioned by 28%, compared with 32% during the closing weeks of the 2004 campaign.

Voters who are strongly opposed to abortion and gay marriage are much more likely than other voters to say that these are very important voting issues. More than half of those who are strongly opposed to gay marriage say that it is very important (54% vs. 28% overall). Among the 13% of voters who say abortion should never be permitted, more than three-quarters (78%) say it will be a very important issue in their vote this fall.

Dueling Issue Agendas

As in 2004, there are substantial differences between supporters of the two major candidates in how they prioritize the issues. Voters who say they are certain they will vote for McCain are far more likely than those who are certain they will vote for Obama to rate terrorism as a very important issue: 83% of committed McCain voters say this, compared with 64% of committed Obama voters and 70% of swing voters. In October 2004, 88% of committed Bush voters said terrorism was very important, a higher percentage than for any other issue. And as with committed Bush supporters, significantly more committed McCain voters than his opponent's supporters say moral values will be very important to their vote.

Voting Priorities								
Certai	Certain McCain Certain Obama Swing Voters							
83	Terrorism	92	Economy	88	Economy			
81	Economy	87	Health care	78	Energy			
73	Energy	83	Education	74	Education			
71	Moral values	80	Energy	73	Health care			
71	Iraq	77	Iraq	70	Terrorism			
65	Immigration	72	Environment	67	Iraq			
61	Education	64	Terrorism	59	Environment			
58	Health care	55	Moral values	58	Moral values			
49	Trade policy	46	Trade policy	51	Trade policy			
47	Abortion	43	Immigration	48	Immigration			
44	Environment	36	Abortion	36	Abortion			
38	Gay marriage	22	Gay marriage	25	Gay marriage			
N=822		803		789				
Based	on registered vote	ers.						

By contrast, more Obama voters than McCain voters mention health care and education as very important. The economy ranks high among all voters, but slightly more Obama supporters and swing voters (92% and 88%, respectively) than McCain voters (81%) view the economy as very important. Abortion is somewhat more important for McCain voters than for others. Gay marriage trails all issues among the committed voters for both candidates (and for swing voters as well), although more McCain voters than Obama supporters view it as very important (38% vs. 22%).

Religion and Issue Priorities

For the most part, the issues that are important to the public as a whole are also important to particular religious groups. But there are some notable differences. Two groups of voters defined by their religious identity are of particular interest in the election this year: white evangelical Protestants, at approximately 23% of all voters, and white non-Hispanic Catholics (18%). White evangelicals have been among the most dependably Republican groups in the population, while Catholics have become a strongly contested swing voter group.

Social issues, and especially the question of moral values, are more important for white evangelicals than for other voters: 77% say moral values will be very important to their vote, and 54% say this about abortion. Slightly fewer (46%) say gay marriage will be very important. The percentage of white evangelicals citing these issues as very important in October 2004 was similar: 81% for moral values, 61% for abortion and 49% for gay marriage.

More religiously observant white evangelicals are more likely to stress social issues than those who are less observant. Among white evangelicals who attend

Issue Priorities for White Evangelicals and White Catholics								
	White Evangelical White Non-Hisp Protestant Catholic							
Very	Attend	Less	Attend	Less				
important	<u>weekly</u>	<u>often</u>	weekly	<u>often</u>				
to your vote:	%	%	%	%				
Economy	83	93	89	87				
Energy	76	81	77	77				
Education	69	72	73	66				
Health care	63	76	70	72				
Terrorism	82	71	79	71				
Iraq	71	70	72	75				
Moral values	85	62	71	53				
Environment	51	56	57	55				
Immigration	62	58	53	48				
Trade policy	50	61	46	47				
Abortion	64	35	47	23				
Gay marriage	56	27	24	15				
N=	386	188	216	223				
Based on registe	Based on registered voters.							

church at least weekly, moral values rate at the top of the issues agenda, along with the economy and terrorism; 85% cite moral values as very important, compared with 83% who mention the economy and 82% terrorism. White evangelical voters who attend church less frequently are far less likely to cite moral values as very important (62%).

More-observant evangelical voters cite abortion and gay marriage far more often than do other religious groups: 64% say abortion will be a very important issue and 56% cite gay marriage. White evangelicals who do not attend church as frequently are much less concerned about these issues: just 35% cite abortion and 27% say gay marriage will be very important.

The issue of moral values and abortion also are more important for white non-Hispanic Catholic voters who attend Mass regularly than for white Catholics who attend less frequently. Among white Catholics who attend church regularly, 71% say moral values will be very important, compared with 53% among those who attend less frequently. Abortion is cited as very important by 47% of regular churchgoing white Catholics and by only 23% of the less observant.

Issue Priorities Among Younger and Older Voters

The focus on young voters this year has raised the question of whether this voting group has different priorities than other voters. In fact, there are relatively few age differences in the importance assigned to various issues. Only one issue, education, stands out as more important for voters younger than 30 than for their older counterparts. The economy ranks first among issues for all age groups. Similarly, all age groups place gay marriage at the bottom of the list in importance, and abortion also ranks low among all age groups.

Issue Importance by Age and Gender									
Very important to your vote: Economy Energy	AII % 87 77	18- 29 % 85 70	49 % 88 75	64 % 88 81	65+ % 87 83	<u>Gap</u> * -2 -13	Wo- <u>men</u> 89 78	<u>Men</u> 85 77	<u>Gap</u> +4 +1
Education	73	81	73	69	72	+9	78	68	+10
Health care	73	68	72	74	77	-9	78	67	+11
Terrorism	72	65	72	74	74	-9	76	67	+9
Iraq	72	69	70	73	73	-4	76	67	+9
Moral values	61	52	59	62	71	-19	66	56	+10
Environment	59	58	59	58	61	-3	65	51	+14
Immigration	52	45	49	56	59	-14	55	49	+6
Trade policy	49	39	49	53	52	-13	49	49	0
Abortion	39	44	40	36	41	+3	44	35	+9
Gay marriage	28	31	25	27	32	-1	28	27	+1
Based on registered voters. * Between 18-29 year-olds and those 65 and older.									

There is a sizable gender gap regarding the importance of most issues, including the environment, health care, education and moral values. Nearly two-thirds of women voters (65%) say the environment will be very important to their vote compared with only about half of men (51%). The differences are nearly as large over other domestic issues, such as health care (11 points) and education (10 points), as well as over moral values (10 points) and abortion (9 points).

More women than men also view terrorism and Iraq as very important. Views about the importance of other issues, including the economy and energy, do not significantly differ by gender.

Views on Issues: Government-Funded Health Insurance

A government guarantee of universal health insurance, even if it means raising taxes, continues to attract broad support. Nearly two-thirds of Americans (63%) favor such a proposal, while 34% are opposed. Public support for government-backed health insurance was somewhat greater at a comparable stage in the 2004 campaign; in early September of that year, 66% supported this proposal, while 26% were opposed.

Democrats continue to be the most of government-guaranteed health supportive insurance – 79% of Democrats, including 85% of liberal Democrats, favor it. A majority of independents (63%) and moderate and liberal Republicans (54%) also say the government should guarantee health insurance for all, even if it means raising taxes. Conservative Republicans disagree; 59% Republicans conservative government-backed insurance and just 38% favor it.

Views of Government-Funded Health Insurance							
	Favor %	Oppose %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>N</u>			
Total	63	34	3=100	2905			
Conserv Rep	38	59	3=100	607			
Mod/Lib Rep	54	42	4=100	221			
Independent	63	34	3=100	969			
Conserv/Mod Dem	76	22	2=100	595			
Liberal Dem	85	12	3=100	329			
Total Protestant	58	38	4=100	1592			
White evangelical	53	43	4=100	675			
White mainline	58	38	4=100	566			
Black Protestant	66	32	2=100	220			
Total Catholic	67	30	3=100	679			
White non-Hispanio	62	35	3=100	493			
Hispanic	78	19	3=100	139			
Unaffiliated	68	30	2=100	362			

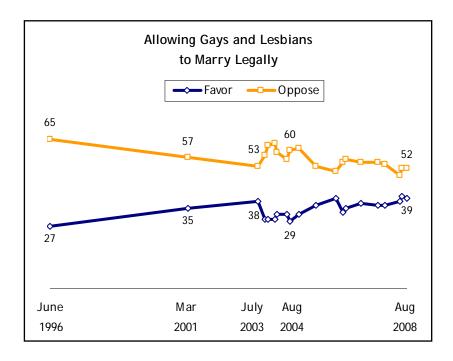
Among religious groups, about half of white evangelicals (53%) favor the government guaranteeing health insurance for all Considerably leads to the considerably leads to the

guaranteeing health insurance for all. Considerably larger majorities of black Protestants (66%) and Catholics (67%) – including 78% of Hispanic Catholics – favor government-funded health insurance, as do 68% of the religiously unaffiliated.

Same-Sex Marriage

About half of Americans (52%) oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, which is little changed from measures in June (52%) and late May (49%) of this year. But there is somewhat less opposition to same-sex marriage currently than at this stage in the campaign four years ago; in August 2004, 60% opposed allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, while just 29% favored that idea (compared with 39% currently).

Compared with four years ago, support for same-sex marriage has increased among Democrats. In August 2004, half of Democrats opposed allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, while 38% favored it. Today, 51% favor same-sex marriage and 42% oppose it.



White evangelical Protestants and Republicans – especially conservative Republicans – continue to be overwhelmingly opposed to same-sex marriage. About seven-in-ten Republicans

(72%) – including 78% of conservative Republicans – oppose same-sex marriage. Three-quarters of white evangelicals oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally.

There is less opposition to same-sex marriage among younger white evangelicals than among older white evangelicals, though majorities in both groups oppose same-sex marriage. Among white evangelicals younger than 35, 64% oppose and 31% favor same-sex marriage, while 78% of those 35 and older oppose it and 16% favor it. Across all Christian groups, those who attend church weekly or more are significantly more opposed to same-sex marriage than those who attend church less often.

Views of Same-Sex Marriage							
<u> </u>	Favor %	Oppose %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>N</u>			
Total	39	52	9=100	2905			
Republican	21	72	7=100	833			
Democrat	51	42	7=100	944			
Independent	42	46	12=100	969			
Men	34	56	10=100	1459			
Women	44	48	8=100	1446			
White	41	50	9=100	2292			
Black	30	63	7=100	281			
18-29	54	37	9=100	418			
30-49	41	50	9=100	933			
50-64	35	55	10=100	899			
65+	23	68	9=100	601			
College grad+	51	39	10=100	1081			
Some college	42	48	10=100	739			
HS or less	32	59	9=100	1049			
Total Protestant	30	62	8=100	1592			
White evangelical	19	75	6=100	675			
White mainline	43	45	12=100	566			
Black Protestant	28	63	9=100	220			
Total Catholic	42	46	12=100	679			
White non-Hispanic	44	46	10=100	493			
Hispanic	39	45	16=100	139			
Unaffiliated	62	29	9=100	362			

Most Americans Favor Civil Unions

While most Americans oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally, 54% say they favor allowing gays and lesbians to enter into legal agreements with each other that would give them many of the same rights as married couples, while 40% oppose civil unions. In August 2004, the public was more evenly split over this issue: 48% favored civil unions while 45% were opposed.

Support for civil unions is higher than support for same-sex marriage across all demographic groups. The contrast is especially notable among Republicans and independents. More than seven-in-ten Republicans (72%) oppose legalizing same-sex marriage and just 21% favor it; when it comes to civil unions, a much narrower majority of Republicans (55%) oppose it and 40% favor it. Independents, who are split on same-sex marriage (42% for and 46% against), are solidly in support of civil unions – fully six-in-ten favor it.

Most Support Civil Unions							
<i>% favor</i> Same-sex Civil marriage <u>u</u> nions <i>Diff</i> <u>N</u>							
Total	% 39	% 54	+15	2905			
Republican	21	40	+19	833			
Democrat	51	59	+8	944			
Independent	42	60	+18	969			
Men	34	50	+16	1459			
Women	44	56	+12	1446			
White	41	56	+15				
Black	30	40	+10				
18-29	54	64	+10				
30-49	41	55	+14				
50-64	35	52	+17				
65+	23	39	+16				
College grad+	51	68	+17	1081			
Some college	42	59	+17	739			
HS or less	32	44	+12	1049			
Total Protestant	30	46	+16				
White evangelical	19	35	+16				
White mainline	43	64	+21				
Black Protestant	28	40	+12				
Total Catholic	39	59	+17	679			
White non-Hispanic		62	+18	493			
Hispanic		52	+13	139			
Unaffiliated	62	71	+9	362			

As with same-sex marriage, white evangelical Protestants and black Protestants express more opposition to civil unions than do members of other religious groups. About six-in-ten white evangelicals (59%) and a similar share of black Protestants (55%) oppose allowing gays and lesbians to enter into civil unions.

More than six-in-ten white mainline Protestants (64%) and white non-Hispanic Catholics (62%) favor civil unions, as does a smaller majority of Hispanic Catholics (52%). The religiously unaffiliated are among the most likely to support civil unions: 71% favor such arrangements while just 23% oppose them.

Mixed Views on Adoption by Homosexuals

Public opinion is divided on the issue of allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children. About the same number say they favor adoption by same-sex couples (46%) as say they oppose it (48%), which is little changed from 2006.

As is the case with support for same-sex marriage and for civil unions, support for allowing same-sex couples to adopt is more prevalent among women (50%) than men (42%) and also more among whites (48%) than among blacks (35%). Solid majorities of college graduates (59%), those younger than 30 (58%) and the religiously unaffiliated (64%) favor allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children, as do smaller majorities of Democrats (54%) and independents

(53%). Only 31% of Republicans are in favor of adoption by same-sex couples and fully 64% oppose it.

Majorities of white mainline Protestants (56%) and white non-Hispanic Catholics (54%) express support for allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children. But white evangelical Protestants and black Protestants oppose it by large margins; 66% of white evangelical Protestants and 59% of black Protestants are against adoption by same-sex couples.

Allowing Gays and Lesbians to Adopt Children							
	Favor %	Oppose %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>N</u>			
Total	46	48	6=100	2905			
Total Protestant White evangelical Attend weekly+ Attend less often White mainline Attend weekly+ Attend less often Black Protestant	56 <i>51</i>	55 66 <i>75</i> <i>50</i> 39 <i>43</i> <i>37</i> 59	5=100 5=100 4=100 6=100 5=100 6=100 6=100	1592 675 443 230 566 155 406 220			
Total Catholic White non-Hisp Attend weekly+ Attend less often Hispanic Unaffiliated	49 54 44 0 60 39 64	44 40 48 34 50 31	7=100 6=100 8=100 6=100 11=100 5=100	679 493 <i>230</i> <i>262</i> 139 362			

Among white Catholics and white Levangelicals, frequent church attendance is associated with higher levels of opposition to gay adoption. Differences between more observant and less observant white mainline Protestants are less pronounced.

Abortion Opinion Stable

Consistent with recent findings, a majority of Americans (54%) say abortion should be legal in most (37%) or all (17%) cases, while 41% oppose legalized abortion in most (26%) or all (15%) circumstances. Men and women are about equally as likely to express support for abortion rights – 53% of men and 54% of women say it should be legal – but women are somewhat more likely than men to say abortion should be legal in all cases (20% of women vs. 14% of men).

Republicans are considerably more likely than Democrats and independents to oppose legalized abortion; 56% of Republicans say abortion should be illegal in most or all cases, compared with 39% of independents and just one-third of Democrats. More than six-in-ten Democrats (63%) express support for legalized abortion in most (41%) or all (22%) cases. And while just 41% of all Republicans say abortion should be legal, fully two-thirds (67%) of moderate and liberal Republicans express this view.

Among major religious groups, only white evangelical Protestants express solid opposition to legalized abortion – 62% say it should be illegal in most (43%) or all (19%) cases, while 33% say abortion should

Abortion Should Be						
	Legal all cases %	Legal most cases %	Illegal most <u>cases</u> %	Illegal all <u>cases</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>N</u>
Total Republican Democrat Independent	17	37	26	15	5=100	2905
	10	31	37	19	3=100	833
	22	41	19	14	4=100	944
	19	37	26	13	5=100	969
Men	14	39	27	15	5=100	1459
Women	20	34	26	16	4=100	1446
White	17	38	27	13	5=100	2292
Black	16	33	26	20	5=100	281
18-29	18	34	27	18	3=100	418
30-49	19	36	26	14	5=100	933
50-64	18	40	27	11	4=100	899
65+	11	35	26	22	6=100	601
College grad+	20	44	23	8	5=100	1081
Some college	20	37	28	11	4=100	739
HS or less	15	32	27	21	5=100	1049
Total Protestant	14	35	31	15	5=100	1592
White evangelical	9	24	43	19	5=100	675
White mainline	18	51	20	6	5=100	566
Black Protestant	17	31	26	21	5=100	220
Total Catholic	16	33	26	21	4=100	679
White non-Hisp	13	38	29	15	5=100	493
Hispanic	21	24	20	32	3=100	139
Unaffiliated	27	45	16	7	5=100	362

be legal under most (24%) or all (9%) circumstances. Unlike on the issue of same-sex marriage, younger white evangelical Protestants are as opposed to abortion, or even more opposed, than are older white evangelicals.

Opinion on abortion among Catholics is closely divided, with about half (49%) saying abortion should be legal and a similar percentage (47%) saying it should not be. Among white non-Hispanic Catholics, opinion on abortion varies significantly based on frequency of church attendance. Nearly six-in-ten (57%) of those who attend church at least once a week oppose legalized abortion, including 27% who say it should be illegal in all cases. Among white non-Hispanic Catholics who attend church less frequently, a large majority (62%) say abortion should be legal and just 35% say it should not be.

Like Catholics, black Protestants are split in their views on legalized abortion. Just under half say abortion should be legal (48%), and about the same number (47%) say abortion should be illegal. The religiously unaffiliated express the most support for legalized abortion. Nearly three-quarters (72%) of those who do not identify as belonging to any particular religion say abortion should be legal in most (45%) or all (27%) cases.

Section 4: Faith-Based Aid Favored - With Qualifications

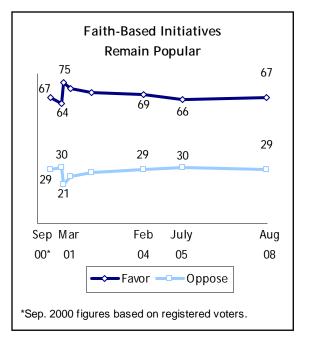
Public Views of Faith-Based Initiatives

Since early 2001, when the Bush administration first established a White House office to expand the role of religious organizations in providing social services, there have been clear divisions in public attitudes toward faith-based initiatives. The public has continuously supported the principle of allowing houses of worship, along with other organizations, to apply for federal funds to provide social services.

But there remains substantial opposition to the prospect of certain religious groups, notably Muslim mosques, taking on such a role. And the public overwhelmingly continues to reject the idea of groups that encourage religious conversion applying for federal funding to provide social services.

Currently, 67% say they favor allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services, such as job training or drug treatment counseling, to those who need them. Support for this practice peaked in March 2001 at 75%.

Republican support for such initiatives, which rose early in Bush's first term, has declined. Currently, 63% of Republicans say they favor allowing churches and other religious groups to apply for federal funds to provide social services, down from 81% in March 2001.



By contrast, Democratic support for the prospect of faith-based social involvement has remained remarkably consistent (71% today, 70% in March 2001). However, as was the case in 2001, conservative and moderate Democrats are more likely than liberal Democrats to favor this proposal; currently 75% of conservative and moderate Democrats favor faith-based initiatives compared with 62% of the party's liberals.

African Americans remain strongly supportive of faith-based initiatives, while white support has slipped. About eight-in-ten African Americans (81%) say they favor allowing churches to apply for government funding to provide social services, which is largely unchanged from March 2001 (83%). White support for such programs has fallen by 10 points (from 74% to 64%).

Support for faith-based initiatives has declined among most religious groups, with the exception of black Protestants. Those with no religious affiliation also are increasingly skeptical of faith-based groups applying for government funding to provide services; just 53% favor that idea

Support for Faith-Based Initiatives						
Favor allowing faith- based groups to apply for govt funding* Total	March 2001 % 75	Aug 2008 % 67	<u>Change</u> -8			
18-29	83	76	-7			
30-49	77	71	-6			
50-64	72	61	-11			
65+	59	58	-1			
White	74	64	-10			
Black	83	81	-2			
Hispanic		77				
College grad	71	59	-12			
Some college	73	69	-4			
HS or less	77	70	-7			
Republican	81	63	-18			
Democrat	70	71	+1			
Independent	74	67	-7			
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant Total Catholic White non-Hispanic Hispanic	74	69	-5			
	78	69	-9			
	65	60	-5			
	84	83	-1			
	81	72	-9			
	81	71	-10			
Unaffiliated	67	53	-14			

^{*} Allowing churches and other houses of worship, to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment to people who need them.

funding to provide services: just 53% favor that idea today, down from 67% in 2001.

The Contributions of Churches

Most Americans continue to say that churches, synagogues and other religious organizations contribute at least some to solving important social problems. But only about a quarter (24%) believes that churches contribute a great deal to solving major problems. These attitudes have changed little in recent years.

Religiously observant people and white evangelical Protestants are much more likely than others to say that churches contribute a great deal to solving important social problems. Nearly four-in-ten white evangelicals (37%) say churches contribute a great deal in this regard, compared with about a quarter of black Protestants (26%) and all Catholics (25%), and even fewer white mainline Protestants (16%) and the unaffiliated (8%).

Most Agree Churches Help Solve Society's Problems								
Churches contribute to solving problems A great deal Some Not much Nothing at all Don't know	March <u>2001</u> % 23 52 18 4 <u>3</u> 100	July 2005 % 20 46 23 7 4 100	Aug 2008 % 24 51 16 7 2 100					

Who Can Do Best in Helping the Needy?

There is no clear consensus about whether religious organizations – or non-religious groups or government agencies – can do the best job of providing social services. Roughly three-in-ten (31%) say religious organizations can do best in aiding the needy, but about as many say government agencies (31%), or non-religious, community-based groups (29%).

Who Can Do Best in Providing Services for the Needy?								
March Aug								
	2001	<u>2008</u>						
Can do best job	%	%						
Religious organizations	37	31						
Non-religious organizations	27	29						
Government agencies	28	31						
None/Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>						
	100	100						

This represents a change since 2001, when a plurality (37%) said religious organizations could do the best job of providing services to people in need. There have been declines in the proportions of both Democrats and Republicans who say religious organizations can do best in providing services to the needy, though Republicans are still far more likely to express this view than are Democrats (40% vs. 23%).

White evangelicals remain the most likely to believe that religious organizations can do best in delivering social services to the needy, but fewer evangelicals express this view today than did so in

Fewer Say Religious Groups Can Do Best Job of Helping the Needy								
% saying religious orgs can do best in helping needy Total	March <u>2001</u> % 37	Aug 2008 % 31	<u>Change</u> % -6					
Republican Democrat Independent	49 33 32	40 23 31	-9 -10 -1					
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	44 53 33 41	37 47 24 35	-7 -6 -9 -6					
Total Catholic White non-Hispanic Hispanic Unaffiliated	33 35 19	29 27 33 17	-4 -8 					
Onarmateu	17	17						

2001 (47% vs. 53% then).

Views on Funding Specific Groups

As was the case in 2001, solid majorities favor religious charitable organizations and individual houses of worship applying for government funding to provide social services for needy people. Fully 68% support religious charities being eligible for such funding, while 60% say the same about individual churches and other houses of worship.

However, the public continues to oppose groups that encourage religious conversion applying for government funding to provide social services. About six-in-ten (61%) oppose this, which is unchanged from 2001 (59%).

Public views about whether specific religious groups should be eligible for government funding to provide social services also are stable. Solid majorities say Catholic churches (61%),

Who Should Be Eligible for Government Funds to Provide Social Services?								
	Favor	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>					
Type of organization	%	%	%					
Religious charities	68	28	4=100					
Individual houses of worship	60	36	4=100					
Groups that encourage								
religious conversion	32	61	7=100					
Catholic churches	61	35	4=100					
Protestant churches	59	35	6=100					
Evangelical Christian churches	55	38	7=100					
Jewish synagogues	55	39	6=100					
Mormon churches	50	44	6=100					
Muslim mosques	40	53	7=100					

Protestant churches (59%), evangelical Christian churches (55%) and Jewish synagogues (55%) should be able to apply for funding to provide services, though in each case more than a third is opposed.

There is less support for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints applying for such funding (50% favor). And just 40% favor Muslim mosques applying for government funding to aid needy people; 53% oppose mosques applying for government funding, which is up somewhat from 2001 (46%).

Older People Wary

Older Americans, particularly those 65 and older, continue to be very skeptical of faith-based initiatives. And they are far less likely than younger people to favor religious groups generally – and those associated with specific denominations – applying for government funding to provide social services to the needy.

For instance, just 56% of those 65 and older favor charitable organizations with a religious affiliation applying for government funding to provide services to the needy. Larger majorities in younger age groups, including 77% of those younger than 30, favor religious charities applying for government funding for this purpose.

Republican support for groups applying for government funds to provide social services has slipped since 2001. For instance, 72% of Republicans favored Protestant churches applying for funds in

Older Americans Less Supportive of Government Funding for Religious Groups									
Favor org applying for govt funding	18- <u>29</u> % 77	30- <u>49</u> % 72	50- <u>64</u> % 62	65+ % 56	<u>Gap</u> * +21				
Religious charities Houses of worship	69	66	53	56 48	+21 +21				
Groups that encourage religious conversion	47	33	26	23	+23				
Catholic churches	71	65	55	53	+18				
Protestant churches	67	60	56	51	+16				
Evangelical churches	67	59	49	41	+16				
Jewish synagogues	64	58	50	49	+15				
Mormon churches	63	53	45	37	+16				
Muslim mosques	54	44	33	25	+29				
* Between 18-29 year olds and those 65 and older									

2001, but that has fallen to 60% today. And the share that says charitable organizations with a religious affiliation should apply for funds dropped from 75% to 68% over the same time period. Meanwhile, Democrats are somewhat more likely to back groups applying for funds now than they were in 2001. Generally, Democrats today are at least as likely as Republicans to support religious groups applying for federal funding to provide social services.

Few Favor Funding for Groups that Proselytize

By nearly two-to-one (61% to 32%), people oppose allowing groups that encourage religious conversion applying for federal funding to provide services for the needy.

By three-to-one, white mainline Protestants reject allowing groups that encourage religious conversion to be eligible for government funding (69% vs. 23%). Even among white evangelicals, 55% oppose these groups applying for government funding while 39% are in favor.

But black Protestants are divided: 46% favor these groups applying for government funding to provide social services while 43% are opposed.

Funding Groups That Encourage Conversion							
Favor making eligible for funding Total	<u>%</u> 32						
Republican Democrat Independent	31 33 34						
Total Protestant White evangelical White mainline Black Protestant	34 39 23 46						
Total Catholic White non-Hispanic Hispanic	34 32 40						
Unaffiliated	23						

Religious Groups Differ

Catholics, especially Hispanics, are much more likely to favor Catholic churches than other religious groups applying for government funds to provide social services. Fully eight-inten Hispanic Catholics support making Catholic churches eligible for such funding; no more than six-in-ten favors making any other group eligible for government funds.

Religious Groups Differ on Who Should Receive Funding							
Favor each group applying for government funds Evangelical LDS/							
	Catholic	Protestant			Mormon	Muslim	
	churches	<u>churches</u>	churches	synagogues	churches	mosques	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	61	59	55	55	50	40	
Among							
White evang Prot	62	65	63	60	48	35	
White mainline Prof	t 55	56	50	53	47	38	
Black Protestant	73	65	72	65	57	52	
White non-Hisp Cat	h 71	67	55	62	57	45	
Hisp Catholic	80	47	59	51	54	39	
Unaffiliated	46	47	40	46	42	38	

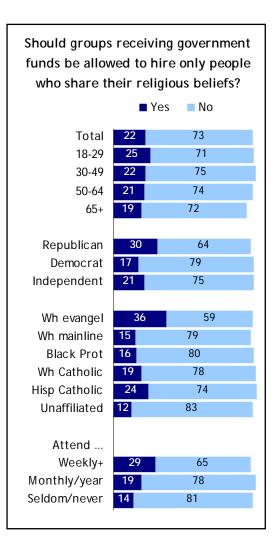
By contrast, white evangelical Protestants are no more supportive of evangelical Christian churches applying for government funding than they are of Protestant churches, or even Catholic churches, applying for funding. Similar percentages of white evangelicals favor Protestant churches (65%), evangelical Christian churches (63%) and Catholic churches (62%) applying for funding to provide services for needy people. Majorities of black Protestants favor permitting every religious group listed, including Muslim mosques, to apply for government finding to provide social services.

Strong Opposition to Religious Hiring

In spite of broad support for a variety of religious groups applying for government aid to provide social services, Americans draw the line at letting religious organizations that use government funds hire only people who share their religious beliefs. An overwhelming majority (73%) say religious groups should not be allowed to do this, down slightly from 78% in 2001.

Even the strongest supporters of funding for faith-based programs are opposed to allowing groups that receive federal funds to hire only people who share their religious beliefs. Majorities of both Republicans and Democrats say religious organizations that use government funds should not be able to do this, although Republicans are nearly twice as likely as Democrats to say such restricted hiring is acceptable (30% vs. 17%).

Religion and religious commitment play a role in shaping attitudes on hiring based on religion. White evangelical Protestants (36%) are about twice as likely as mainline Protestants, black Protestants and white non-Hispanic Catholics to favor permitting groups that receive federal funds to hire based on religious beliefs. Roughly a quarter of Hispanic Catholics (24%) also support this practice. Among Americans who attend worship services at least weekly, nearly a third (29%) say religious groups receiving government funds should be allowed to hire only people who share their religious beliefs, compared with 14% of those who seldom or never attend services.



ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Abt SRBI, Inc., among a nationwide sample of 2,905 adults, 18 years of age or older, from July 31-August 10, 2008 (2,254 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 651 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 262 who had no landline telephone). Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International.

The combined landline and cell phone data were weighted using demographic weighting parameters derived from the March 2007 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, along with an estimate of current patterns of telephone status in the U.S. derived from the 2007 National Health Interview Survey, using an iterative technique that simultaneously balances the distributions of all weighting parameters. The weighting procedure also accounted for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones had a greater probability of being included in the sample.

The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus
Total sample	2,905	2.0 percentage points
Registered voter sample	2,414	2.5 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.

ABOUT THE PROJECTS

This survey is a joint effort of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Both organizations are sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts and are projects of the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life seeks to promote a deeper understanding of issues at the intersection of religion and public affairs. It studies public opinion, demographics and other important aspects of religion and public life in the U.S. and around the world. It also provides a neutral venue for discussions of timely issues through roundtables and briefings.

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of the Center's current survey results are made available free of charge.

This report is a collaborative product based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE AUGUST 2008 RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY FINAL TOPLINE

July 31-August 10, 2008 N=2905

ASK ALL:

Q.1 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	Satis-	Dis-	No		Satis-	Dis-	No
	fied	satisfied	Opinion		fied	satisfied	Opinion
August, 2008	21	74	5=100	June, 2001	43	52	5=100
July, 2008	19	74	7=100	March, 2001	47	45	8=100
June, 2008	19	76	5=100	February, 2001	46	43	11=100
Late May, 2008	18	76	6=100	January, 2001	55	41	4=100
March, 2008	22	72	6=100	October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7=100
Early February, 2008	24	70	6=100	September, 2000	51	41	8=100
Late December, 2007	27	66	7=100	June, 2000	47	45	8=100
October, 2007	28	66	6=100	April, 2000	48	43	9=100
February, 2007	30	61	9=100	August, 1999	56	39	5=100
Mid-January, 2007	32	61	7=100	January, 1999	53	41	6=100
Early January, 2007	30	63	7=100	November, 1998	46	44	10=100
December, 2006	28	65	7=100	Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Mid-November, 2006	28	64	8=100	Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early October, 2006	30	63	7=100	Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
July, 2006	30	65	5=100	February, 1998	59	37	4=100
May, 2006	29	65	6=100	January, 1998	46	50	4=100
March, 2006	32	63	5=100	September, 1997	45	49	6=100
January, 2006	34	61	5=100	August, 1997	49	46	5=100
Late November, 2005	34	59	7=100	January, 1997	38	58	4=100
Early October, 2005	29	65	6=100	July, 1996	29	67	4=100
July, 2005	35	58	7=100	March, 1996	28	70	2=100
Late May, 2005	39	57	4=100	October, 1995	23	73	4=100
February, 2005	38	56	6=100	June, 1995	25	73	2=100
January, 2005	40	54	6=100	April, 1995	23	74	3=100
December, 2004	39	54	7=100	July, 1994	24	73	3=100
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6=100	March, 1994	24	71	5=100
July, 2004	38	55	7=100	October, 1993	22	73	5=100
May, 2004	33	61	6=100	September, 1993	20	75	5=100
Late February, 2004	39	55	6=100	May, 1993	22	71	7=100
Early January, 2004	45	48	7=100	January, 1993	39	50	11=100
December, 2003	44	47	9=100	January, 1992	28	68	4=100
October, 2003	38	56	6=100	November, 1991	34	61	5=100
August, 2003	40	53	7=100	Late February, 1991 (Gallup)	66	31	3=100
April 8, 2003	50	41	9=100	August, 1990	47	48	5=100
January, 2003	44	50	6=100	May, 1990	41	54	5=100
November, 2002	41	48	11=100	January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 2002	41	55	4=100	September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
Late August, 2002	47	44	9=100	May, 1988	41	54	5=100
May, 2002	44	44	12=100	January, 1988	39	55	6=100
March, 2002	50	40	10=100	-			
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100				
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100				

ASK ALL:

THOUGHT How much thought have you given to the coming presidential election . . . Quite a lot or only a little?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

		J.				(VOL.)
		Quite	(VOL.)	Only a	(VOL.)	DK/
		A lot	Some	<u>Little</u>	None	Ref.
2008	August, 2008	74	6	17	2	1=100
	July, 2008	74	2	20	3	1=100
	June, 2008	72	2	23	2	1=100
	Late May, 2008	75	4	17	3	1=100
	April, 2008	77	7	13	2	1=100
	March, 2008	78	3	15	3	1=100
	Late February, 2008	74	3	19	2	2=100
2004	November, 2004	82	3	12	2	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	76	5	15	3	1=100
	Early October, 2004	74	4	19	2	1=100
	September, 2004	71	3	22	3	1=100
	August, 2004	69	2	26	2	1=100
	July, 2004	67	2	28	2	1=100
	June, 2004	58	3	36	2	1=100
	May, 2004	59	6	30	4	1=100
	Late March, 2004	60	4	31	4	1=100
	Mid-March, 2004	65	2	31	2	*=100
2000	November, 2000	72	6	19	2	1=100
	Late October, 2000	66	6	24	4	*=100
	Mid-October, 2000	67	9	19	4	1=100
	Early October, 2000	60	8	27	4	1=100
	September, 2000	59	8	29	3	1=100
	July, 2000	46	6	45	3	*=100
	June, 2000	46	6	43	5	*=100
	May, 2000	48	4	42	5	1=100
	April, 2000	45	7	41	7	*=100
1996	November, 1996	67	8	22	3	*=100
	October, 1996	65	7	26	1	1=100
	Late September, 1996	61	7	29	2	1=100
	Early September, 1996	56	3	36	4	1=100
	July, 1996	55	3	41	1	*=100
	June, 1996	50	5	41	3	1=100
1992	Early October, 1992	77	5	16	1	1=100
	September, 1992	69	3	26	1	1=100
	August, 1992	72	4	23	1	*=100
	June, 1992	63	6	29	1	1=100
1988	Gallup: November, 1988	73	8	17	2	0 = 100
	Gallup: October, 1988	69	9	20	2	0 = 100
	Gallup: August, 1988	61	10	27	2	0 = 100
	Gallup: September, 1988	57	18	23	2	0 = 100

REGIST, REGICERT, PRECINCT AND OFTVOTE PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 2 THROUGH 4

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.5 Now, suppose the 2008 presidential election was being held TODAY. If you had to choose between [READ AND ROTATE] who would you vote for?

IF OTHER OR DK (Q.5 = 3,9), ASK:

Q.5a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to [READ, ROTATE IN SAME ORDER AS Q.5]?

IF CHOSE MCCAIN OR OBAMA IN Q.5 (Q.5=1,2), ASK:

Q.5b Do you support (INSERT PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE FROM Q.5—LAST NAME ONLY) strongly or only moderately?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

ON REGISTERED	VOIL	110 [11-241	· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •								Other/
	Mc-		Only		Oba-		Only		Third	Fourth	Don't
	Cain	<u>Strongly</u>	Mod^{1}	<u>DK</u>	<u>ma</u>	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>party</u>	party	know
August, 2008	43	17	26	*	46	27	<u> 19</u>	*	n/a	n/a	11=100
July, 2008	42	17	24	1	47	24	22	1	n/a	n/a	11=100
June, 2008	40	14	26	*	48	28	19	1	n/a	n/a	12=100
Late May, 2008	44				47				n/a	n/a	9=100
April, 2008	44				50				n/a	n/a	6=100
March, 2008	43				49				n/a	n/a	8=100
Late February, 2008	43				50				n/a	n/a	7=100
•	Bush				Kerry				Nader		
November, 2004	45	34	11	*	46	29	16	1	1	n/a	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	45	32	13	*	45	28	16	1	1	n/a	9=100
Early October, 2004	48	35	12	1	41	24	17	*	2	n/a	9=100
September, 2004	49	33	15	1	43	22	20	1	1	n/a	7=100
August, 2004	45	32	13	*	47	28	19	*	2	n/a	6=100
July, 2004	44				46				3	n/a	7=100
June, 2004	46				42				6	n/a	6=100
May, 2004	43				46				6	n/a	5=100
Late March, 2004	44				43				6	n/a	7=100
Mid-March, 2004	42				49				4	n/a	5=100
Two-way trial heats:											
June, 2004	48				46				n/a	n/a	6=100
May, 2004	45				50				n/a	n/a	5=100
Late March, 2004	46				47				n/a	n/a	7=100
Mid-March, 2004	43				52				n/a	n/a	5=100
Late February, 2004	44				48				n/a	n/a	8=100
Early February, 2004	47				47				n/a	n/a	6=100
Early January, 2004	52				41				n/a	n/a	7=100
October, 2003	50				42				n/a	n/a	8=100
	Bush				Gore				Nader	Buchanan	
November, 2000	41	26	15	*	45	25	19	1	4	1	9=100
Late October, 2000	45	29	16	*	43	24	19	*	4	1	7=100
Mid-October, 2000	43	25	18	*	45	22	23	*	4	1	7=100
Early October, 2000	43	26	17	*	44	22	22	*	5	*	8=100

Includes those who say they "lean McCain" or "lean Obama" in Q.5a.

Q.5/Q.5a/Q.5b CONTINUED...

_	Dl-	C. 1	Only	DV	C	C. I	Only	DV	Third	Fourth	Other/ Don't
	Bush	<u>Strongly</u>	<u>Mod</u> 19	<u>DK</u> 1	Gore		$\frac{Mod}{21}$	<u>DK</u> 1	<u>party</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>know</u>
September, 2000	41	21	19	1	47	25	21	1	2	1	9=100
July, 2000	42 42				41 35				6 2	2	9=100
Late June, 2000										2	19=100
Mid-June, 2000	41				42				4	3	10=100
January, 2000	51 49				39				n/a	4 10	6=100
September, 1999	49				35				n/a	10	6=100
Two-way trial heats:											
July, 2000	48				46				n/a	n/a	6=100
Mid-June, 2000	45	20	25	*	46	18	27	1	n/a	n/a	9=100
May, 2000	46				45				n/a	n/a	9=100
March, 2000	43				49				n/a	n/a	8=100
February, 2000	46	19	27	*	45	18	26	1	n/a	n/a	9=100
December, 1999	55				40				n/a	n/a	5=100
October, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7=100
September, 1999	54				39				n/a	n/a	7 = 100
July, 1999	53				42				n/a	n/a	5=100
March, 1999	54				41				n/a	n/a	5=100
January, 1999	50				44				n/a	n/a	6=100
Early September, 1998	53				40				n/a	n/a	7=100
	Dole				Clinton	•			Perot		
November, 1996	32	17	15	*	51	26	24	1	9	n/a	8=100
October, 1996	34	17	16	1	51	25 25	26	*	8	n/a	7=100
Late September, 1996	35	16	18	1	51	2 <i>5</i> 2 <i>6</i>	25 25	*	7	n/a	7=100 7=100
Early September, 1996		10 17	17 17	*	52	26 26	26	0	8	n/a	6=100
July, 1996	34	17	17		44	20	20	U	16	n/a	6=100
March, 1996	35				44				16	n/a	5=100
September, 1995	36				42				19	n/a	3=100
July, 1994	36				39				20	n/a	5=100 5=100
Two-way trial heats:	30				37				20	11/α	3=100
July, 1996	42	11	30	*	53	20	31	1	n/a	n/a	5=100
June, 1996	40	13	23	1	55	22	29	1	n/a	n/a	5=100 5=100
April, 1996	40	13	23	1	54	22	27	1	11/ α	11/ α	6=100
March, 1996	41				53						6=100
February, 1996	44				52						4=100
January, 1996	41				53						6=100
July, 1994	49				46						5=100
•											3-100
	ısh, S				Clinton		10		Perot	,	2 100
Late October, 1992	34	20	14		44	26	18		19	n/a	3=100
Early October, 1992	35	14	21		48	23	25		8	n/a	9=100
June, 1992	31				27				36	n/a	6=100
Two-way trial heats:	20	1.4	2.1		50	25	20		. /	/	0 100
September, 1992	38	14	21		53	25	28		n/a	n/a	9=100
August, 1992	37	14	23		57	24	33		n/a	n/a	6=100
June, 1992	46	13	33		41	9	32		n/a	n/a	13=100
May, 1992	46	15	31		43	10	33		n/a	n/a	11=100
Late March, 1992	50	19	31		43	9	34		n/a	n/a	7=100

Q.5/Q.5a/Q.5b CONTINUED...

Q											Other/
	Bush,		Only		Duk-		On	ly	Third	Fourth	Don't
	<u>Sr.</u>	Strongly	<u>Mod</u>	\underline{DK}	<u>akis</u>	Strongly	<u>Mod</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>party</u>	<u>know</u>
October, 1988	50	24	26		42	20	22		n/a	n/a	8=100
September, 1988	50	26	24		44	19	25		n/a	n/a	6=100
May, 1988	40	12	28		53	14	39		n/a	n/a	7=100

QUESTIONS 6 THROUGH 10 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

NO QUESTIONS 11 THROUGH 15

ROTATE Q.16/Q.17 BLOCK WITH Q.18/Q.19 BLOCK. AFTER FIRST RANDOMIZATION OF RESPONSE OPTIONS KEEP SAME ORDER FOR ALL OF Q.16 THROUGH Q.19

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.16 Which of the following, if any, do you like most about John McCain? Is it [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1,2,3 with 4 last]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

- 8 His positions on moral and social issues
- His positions on economic issues
- His positions on foreign policy issues
- 40 (OR) His personal abilities and experiences
- 19 None (**VOL**)
- 7 Don't know/refused (**VOL.**)

100

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.17 And which of the following, if any, TROUBLES you most about John McCain? Is it [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1,2,3 with 4 last]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

- His positions on moral and social issues
- His positions on economic issues
- 25 His positions on foreign policy issues
- 9 (OR) His personal abilities and experiences
- None (**VOL**)
- 10 Don't know/refused (**VOL**.)

100

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.18 Which of the following, if any, do you like most about Barack Obama? Is it [READ AND RANDOMIZE 1,2,3 with 4 last]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

- His positions on moral and social issues
- 24 His positions on economic issues
- 9 His positions on foreign policy issues
- 14 (OR) His personal abilities and experiences
- None (**VOL**)
- 8 Don't know/refused (**VOL.**)
- 100

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.19 And which of the following, if any, TROUBLES you most about Barack Obama? Is it [**READ AND RANDOMIZE 1,2,3 with 4 last**]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]:

- His positions on moral and social issues
- His positions on economic issues
- His positions on foreign policy issues
- 33 (OR) His personal abilities and experiences
- None (**VOL**)
- 9 Don't know/refused (**VOL.**)
- 100

NO QUESTION 20

ASK ALL:

Q.21 And as I read a list of phrases, tell me if you think each phrase better describes [ROTATE ORDER OF CANDIDATES] John McCain or Barack Obama. [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS] – does this better describe [READ IN SAME ORDER: McCain or Obama]? What about [INSERT ITEM]?

[REPEAT IF NECESSARY: "Would you say this better describes [READ IN SAME ORDER: McCain or Obama]?

QUESTIONS Q21a.F1 THROUGH Q21d.F1 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK FORM 1 REGISTERED VOTERS ONLY [N=1208]:	John <u>McCain</u>	Barack <u>Obama</u>	(VOL.) Neither	(VOL.) Both <u>Equally</u>	DK/Ref.
e.F1 Shares my values					
August, 2008	39	47	6	3	5=100
June, 2008	38	44	8	4	6=100
Bush/Gore June, 2000	40	35	11	5	9=100

QUESTIONS Q21f.F2 THROUGH Q21j.F2 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

ASK ALL: Now I'd like to ask about how important some issues are to you...

Q.22 In making your decision about who to vote for this fall, will the issue of [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE] be very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important? How about [NEXT ITEM]? [IF NECESSARY: How important will the issue of [ITEM] be to you?] [INTERVIEWER: PLEASE RE-READ RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY THREE OR FOUR ITEMS]

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [N=2414]

	m.	Very <u>Important</u>	Somewhat Important	Not too Important	Not at all Important	Don't Know/ Refuse
a.	The economy	a=				
	August, 2008	87	12	1	*	*=100
	Late May, 2008	88	9	1	1	1=100
	October, 2007	79	18	1	1	1=100
	June, 2007	74	22	2	1	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	78	18	3	1	*=100
	August, 2004	76	22	1	1	*=100
b.	Iraq					
	August, 2008	72	21	4	2	1=100
	Late May, 2008	72	20	4	2	2 = 100
	October, 2007	76	18	2	2	2 = 100
	June, 2007	73	20	3	3	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	74	20	3	2	1=100
	August, 2004	70	24	3	2	1=100
c.	Terrorism					
	August, 2008	72	20	5	2	1=100
	Late May, 2008	68	23	6	2	1=100
	October, 2007	69	22	5	3	1=100
	June, 2007	69	24	4	2	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	77	17	3	2	1=100
	August, 2004	75	19	3	2	1=100
d.	Gay marriage					
	August, 2008	28	20	18	32	2=100
	Late May, 2008	28	21	19	29	3=100
	October, 2007	22	21	21	32	4=100
	Mid-October, 2004	32	22	19	24	3=100
	August, 2004	34	19	15	30	2=100
e.	Moral values					
	August, 2008	61	28	7	3	1=100
	Late May, 2008	62	24	7	6	1=100
	October, 2007	61	26	7	4	2=100
	Mid-October, 2004	63	23	8	4	2=100
	August, 2004	64	25	6	4	1=100
f.	Abortion					
-	August, 2008	39	26	17	15	3=100
	Late May, 2008	40	27	15	15	3=100
	October, 2007	39	26	17	13	5=100
	June, 2007	40	30	13	14	3=100
	5 dire, 2007			10		5 100
			47			

O.22 CONTIUNED...

Q.22 C	CONTIUNED					
	Mid-October, 2004	Very <u>Important</u> 47	Somewhat Important 27	Not too Important 12	Not at all Important 11	Don't Know/ Refuse 3=100
	August, 2004	45	25	13	14	3=100
g.	Energy					
8.	August, 2008	77	19	2	1	1=100
	Late May, 2008	77	20	2	*	1=100
	October, 2007	65	28	3	2	2=100
	June, 2007	61	32	4	2	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	54	37	6	2	1=100
	August, 2004	53	40	6	*	1=100
	- -					
h.	Health care			_		
	August, 2008	73	21	5	1	*=100
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	2	*=100
	October, 2007	76	18	4	1	1=100
	June, 2007	71	23	4	2	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	73	22	4	1	*=100
	August, 2004	72	21	5	2	*=100
i.	Education					
	August, 2008	73	20	5	1	1=100
	Late May, 2008	78	17	3	1	1=100
	October, 2007	75	21	2	1	1=100
	Mid-October, 2004	75	20	3	2	*=100
	August, 2004	70	26	3	1	*=100
j.	The environment					
J.	August, 2008	59	31	6	3	1=100
	Late May, 2008	62	27	8	3	*=100
	October, 2007	58	31	8	2	1=100
	June, 2007	55	36	6	3	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	53	37	7	2	1=100
	August, 2004	55	35	7	3	*=100
NO IT	EM k.					
1.	Immigration					
	August, 2008	52	33	10	4	1=100
	Late May, 2008	54	32	9	3	2=100
	October, 2007	56	31	7	4	2=100
	June, 2007	54	34	7	3	2=100
m	Trade policy					
m.	1 .	49	20	o	2	3=100
	August, 2008		38	8	2	
	Late May, 2008	51	38	6	1	4=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1465]:

On another subject...
Q.23F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? [IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

	App-	Dis-	Don't		App-	Dis-	Don't
	rove	<u>approve</u>	know		rove	<u>approve</u>	know
August, 2008	28	66	6=100	August, 2004	46	45	9=100
July, 2008	27	68	5=100	July, 2004	46	46	8 = 100
April, 2008	27	65	8=100	June, 2004	48	43	9=100
March, 2008	28	63	9=100	May, 2004	44	48	8=100
Late February, 2008	33	59	8=100	Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100
Early February, 2008	31	62	7=100	Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100
January, 2008	31	59	10=100	Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100
Late December, 2007	31	60	9=100	Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7 = 100
November, 2007	30	59	11=100	February, 2004	48	44	8=100
October, 2007	30	63	7=100	Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10 = 100
September, 2007	31	59	10=100	Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100
August, 2007	31	59	10=100	December, 2003	57	34	9=100
July, 2007	29	61	10=100	November, 2003	50	40	10=100
June, 2007	29	61	10=100	October, 2003	50	42	8=100
April, 2007	35	57	8=100	September, 2003	55	36	9=100
March, 2007	33	58	9=100	Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100
February, 2007	33	56	11=100	Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100
Mid-January, 2007	33	59	8=100	Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100
Early January, 2007	33	57	10=100	Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100
December, 2006	32	57	11=100	June, 2003	62	27	11=100
Mid-November, 2006	32	58	10=100	May, 2003	65	27	8 = 100
Early October, 2006	37	53	10=100	April 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100
September, 2006	37	53	10=100	April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100
August, 2006	37	54	9=100	April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100
July, 2006	36	57	7=100	March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100
June, 2006	36	54	10=100	March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100
April, 2006	33	56	11=100	March 20-24, 2003	67	26	7=100
Early April, 2006	35	55	10=100	March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100
March, 2006	33	57	10=100	February, 2003	54	36	10 = 100
February, 2006	40	52	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
January, 2006	38	54	8=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
December, 2005	38	54	8=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Early November, 2005	36	55	9=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late October, 2005	40	52	8=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Early October, 2005	38	56	6=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
September 8-11, 2005	40	52	8=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
September 6-7, 2005	40	52	8=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100

Q.23 CONTINUED...

	App-	Dis-	Don't
	rove	approve	<u>know</u>
Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
August, 2001	50	32	18=100
July, 2001	51	32	17=100
June, 2001	50	33	17=100
May, 2001	53	32	15=100
April, 2001	56	27	17=100
March, 2001	55	25	20 = 100
February, 2001	53	21	26=100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1465]:

Q.24F2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? [IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the job the Democratic leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

	Approve	Disapprove	Don't know
August, 2008	31	58	11=100
January, 2008	31	53	16=100
November, 2007	35	50	15=100
October, 2007	31	54	15=100
July, 2007	33	54	13=100
June, 2007	34	49	17=100
April, 2007	36	43	21=100
March, 2007 ²	37	42	21=100
February, 2007	41	36	23=100
Mid-January, 2007	39	34	27=100
Early October, 2006	35	53	12=100
June, 2006	32	50	18=100
March, 2006	34	46	20=100
January, 2006	34	48	18=100
Early November, 2003	5 36	44	20=100
Early October, 2005	32	48	20=100
Mid-September, 2005	36	45	19=100
Mid-May, 2005	39	41	20=100
Mid-March, 2005	37	44	19=100
Early February, 2004	38	42	20=100
June, 2002	47	36	17=100
May, 2002	42	37	21=100
February, 2002	49	30	21=100
Early September, 200	1 49	30	21=100
June, 2001	50	28	22=100

_

In March 2007 the question was worded: "Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Democratic leaders in Congress?"

ASK ALL:

Q.25 Now, I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in this country today. All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose [RANDOMIZE a and b first, then read c, d, and e in order;]? Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose [NEXT ITEM]?

	FAVOR				(VOL.)		
	T-4-1	Strongly	F	T-4-1	Strongly	0	(VOL.)
a. The U.S. government guaranteeing health	<u>Total</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	DK/Ref
insurance for all citizens, even if it means							
raising taxes							
August, 2008	63	30	33	34	13	21	3=100
August, 2007	63	26	37	32	13	19	5=100
Early January, 2007	66	27	39	29	11	18	5=100
July, 2005	64	25	39	30	10	20	6=100
December, 2004	65	31	34	30	10	20	5=100
Early September, 2004	66	30	36	26	11	15	8=100
August, 2003	67	23	44	29	10	19	4=100
b. Allowing churches and other houses of							
worship to apply, along with other							
organizations, for government funding to							
provide social services such as job training							
or drug treatment counseling to people who							
need them	67	26	4.1	20	10	10	4 100
August, 2008	67	26	41	29	10	19	4=100
July, 2005	66	25	41	30	8	22	4=100
February, 2004	69 70	28	41	29	10	19	2=100
March, 2002	70 72	26	44	27	9	18	3=100
June, 2001	72 75	30	42	25	10	15	3=100
March, 2001	75 64	<i>30</i>	<i>45</i>	21	8	13	4=100
February, 2001	64 67	28 32	36 35	30 29	11 12	19 17	6=100 4=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	0/	32	33	29	12	1/	4=100
c. Allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally							
August, 2008	39	13	26	52	30	22	9=100
June, 2008 ³	40	15	25	52	31	21	8=100
Late May, 2008	38	15	23	49	29	20	13=100
November, 2007	36	12	24	54	29	25	10=100
August, 2007	36	13	23	55	31	24	9=100
Early January, 2007	37	13	24	55	33	22	8=100
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	10	20	57	31	26	13=100
July, 2006	35	12	23	56	31	25	9=100
June, 2006	33	13	20	55	32	23	12 = 100
March, 2006	39	10	29	51	28	23	10 = 100
July, 2005	36	13	23	53	31	22	11=100
December, 2004	32	14	18	61	38	23	7=100
August, 2004	29	8	21	60	35	25	11=100
July, 2004	32	10	22	56	33	23	12=100
Mid-March, 2004	32	10	22	59	<i>35</i>	24	9=100
Early February, 2004	30	9	21	63	42	21	7=100
November, 2003	30	10	20	62	41	21	8=100

.

In May and June 2008, November 2007, June and July 2006, mid-March through August 2004, and October 2003, the question was not part of a list of items. In May and June 2008 the question asked about "allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally."

Q.25 CONTINUED	FAVOR			OPPOSE					
		Strongly		Strongly			(VOL.)		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	DK/Ref		
October, 2003	30	9	21	58	33	25	12 = 100		
Mid-July, 2003	38	10	28	53	30	23	9=100		
March, 2001	35	8	27	57	34	23	8=100		
June, 1996	27	6	21	65	41	24	8=100		
d. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to enter									
into legal agreements with each other that									
would give them many of the same rights as									
married couples									
August, 2008	54	18	36	40	21	19	6=100		
Late May, 2008	51	21	30	41	25	16	8=100		
July, 2006	54	19	35	42	24	18	4 = 100		
July, 2005	53	22	31	40	24	16	7 = 100		
August, 2004	48	15	33	45	24	21	7 = 100		
July, 2004	49	18	31	43	25	18	8=100		
Mid-March, 2004	49	16	33	44	26	18	7=100		
October, 2003	45	14	31	47	27	20	8=100		
e. Allowing gays and lesbians to adopt									
children									
August, 2008	46	16	30	48	26	22	6=100		
July, 2006	42	11	31	52	28	24	6=100		
March, 2006	46	14	32	48	26	22	6=100		
September, 1999	38	10	28	57	30	27	5=100		

ASK ALL:

Q.26 Do you think abortion should be (**READ**)

(PLEASE READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE)

			Illegal	Illegal	
	Legal in	Legal in	in most	in all	(VOL.)
	all cases	most cases	<u>cases</u>	cases	DK/Ref
August, 2008	17	37	26	15	5=100
June, 2008	19	38	24	13	6=100
November, 2007	18	33	29	15	5=100
October, 2007	21	32	24	15	8=100
August, 2007	17	35	26	17	5=100
March, 2007 Pew Social Trends	15	30	30	20	5=100
February, 2006 Associated Press/Ipsos-Poll	19	32	27	16	6=100
December 2005 ABC/Washington Post	17	40	27	13	3=100
April 2005 ABC/Washington Post	20	36	27	14	3=100
December 2004 ABC/Washington Post	21	34	25	17	3=100
May 2004 ABC/Washington Post	23	31	23	20	2=99
January 2003 ABC/Washington Post	23	34	25	17	2 = 100
August 2001 ABC/Washington Post	22	27	28	20	3=100
June 2001 ABC/BeliefNet Poll	22	31	23	20	4=100
January 2001 ABC/Washington Post	21	38	25	14	1=99
September 2000 (RVs) ABC/Washington Pe	ost 20	35	25	16	3=99
July 2000 ABC/Washington Post	20	33	26	17	4=100
September 1999 ABC/Washington Post	20	37	26	15	2 = 100
March 1999 ABC/Washington Post	21	34	27	15	3=100
July 1998 ABC/Washington Post	19	35	29	13	4=100

Q.26 CONTINUED...

			Illegal	Illegal	
	Legal in	Legal in	in most	in all	(VOL.)
	all cases	most cases	cases	cases	DK/Ref
August 1996 ABC/Washington Post	22	34	27	14	3=100
June 1996 ABC/Washington Post	24	34	25	14	2=99
October 1995 ABC/Washington Post	26	35	25	12	3=100
September 1995 ABC/Washington Post	24	36	25	11	4 = 100
July 1995 ABC/Washington Post	27	32	26	14	1=100

NO QUESTION 27

ASK ALL:

Q.28 On another topic... Would you say your overall opinion of [INSERT, ROTATE] is very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable?

		Favorable	e	J	Infavoral	ble	(VOL.) Never	(VOL.) Can't
	Total	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	Total	Very	<u>Mostly</u>	Heard of	Rate
a. The Democratic Party		· 		·				· <u></u> -
August, 2008	57	16	41	37	13	24	*	6=100
Late May, 2008	57	14	43	37	14	23	*	6=100
July, 2007	51	13	38	41	14	27	0	8=100
Early January, 2007	54	15	39	35	12	23	*	11=100
Late October, 2006	53	13	40	36	11	25	*	11=100
July, 2006	47	13	34	44	13	31	2	7=100
April, 2006	47	12	35	42	14	28	*	11=100
February, 2006	48	14	34	44	17	27	0	8=100
Late October, 2005	49	14	35	41	15	26	*	10=100
July, 2005	50	15	35	41	14	27	*	9=100
June, 2005	52	12	40	39	13	26	*	9=100
December, 2004	53	13	40	41	14	27	*	6=100
June, 2004	54	12	42	36	11	25	0	10=100
Early February, 2004	58	14	44	37	9	28	*	5=100
June, 2003	54	11	43	38	10	28	0	8=100
April, 2003	57	13	44	36	11	25	*	7=100
December, 2002	54	15	39	37	10	27	*	9=100
July, 2001	58	18	40	34	10	24	*	8=100
January, 2001	60	18	42	30	9	21	1	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	60	16	44	35	12	23	*	5=100
August, 1999	59	14	45	37	9	28	*	4=100
February, 1999	58	11	47	37	11	26	0	5=100
January, 1999	55	14	41	38	12	26	0	7=100
Early December, 1998	59	18	41	34	10	24	0	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	56	11	45	38	9	29	*	6=100
Early September, 1998	60	13	47	33	8	25	*	7=100
March, 1998	58	15	43	36	10	26	*	6=100
August, 1997	52	11	41	42	10	32	0	6=100
June, 1997	61	10	51	33	8	25	*	6=100
January, 1997	60	13	47	35	7	28	*	5=100
October, 1995	49	9	40	48	11	37	0	3=100
December, 1994	50	13	37	44	13	31	*	6=100

Q.28 CONTINUED				_			(VOL.)	(VOL.)
		Favorable			Infavora		Never	Can't
7.1. 100.1	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Very</u>	<u>Mostly</u>	<u>Heard of</u>	Rate
July, 1994	62	13	49	34	7	27	*	4=100
May, 1993	57	14	43	34	9	25	0	9=100
July, 1992	61	17	44	33	9	24	*	6=100
b. The Republican Party								
August, 2008	43	9	34	49	18	31	1	7=100
Late May, 2008	39	7	32	53	20	33	*	8=100
July, 2007	39	7	32	53	22	31	0	8=100
Early January, 2007	41	9	32	48	21	27	1	10=100
Late October, 2006	41	9	32	50	20	30	*	9=100
July, 2006	40	10	30	52	23	29	1	7=100
April, 2006	40	10	30	50	21	29	*	10=100
February, 2006	44	11	33	50	24	26	*	6=100
Late October, 2005	42	12	30	49	24	25	*	9=100
July, 2005	48	13	35	43	18	25	*	9=100
June, 2005	48	11	37	44	20	24	0	8=100
December, 2004	52	15	37	42	17	25	0	6=100
June, 2004	51	12	39	40	14	26	0	9=100
Early February, 2004	52	14	38	42	16	26	*	6=100
June, 2003	58	14	44	33	10	23	0	9=100
April, 2003	63	14	49	31	10	21	*	6=100
December, 2002	59	18	41	33	11	22	*	8=100
July, 2001	48	11	37	42	15	27	*	10=100
January, 2001	56	13	43	35	13	22	*	9=100
September, 2000 (RVs)	53	11	42	40	12	28	0	7=100
August, 1999	53	8	45	43	12	31	*	4=100
February, 1999	44	7	37	51	15	36	0	5=100
January, 1999	44	10	34	50	23	27	0	6=100
Early December, 1998	46	11	35	47	20	27	*	7=100
Early October, 1998 (RVs)	52	9	43	42	14	28	0	6=100
Early September, 1998	56	9	47	37	11	26	*	7=100
March, 1998	50	10	40	43	12	31	*	7=100
August, 1997	47	9	38	47	11	36	*	6=100
June, 1997	51	8	43	42	11	31	1	6=100
January, 1997	52	8	44	43	10	33	*	5=100
October, 1995	52	10	42	44	16	28	*	4=100
December, 1994	67	21	46	27	8	19	*	6=100
July, 1994	63	12	51	33	8	25	*	4=100
May, 1993	54	12	42	35	10	25	0	11=100
July, 1992	46	9	37	48	17	31	*	6=100
•								

NO QUESTION 29

ASK ALL

On another subject...

Q.30 In general, who do you think can do the best job of providing services to people in need... [READ AND ROTATE]

		March
		2001
31	Religious organizations	37
29	Non-religious, community-based organizations [OR]	27
31	Federal and state government agencies	28
3	None of the above (VOL .)	2
<u>6</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100		100

ASK ALL

Q.31 These days, how much do you think churches, synagogues and other houses of worship contribute to solving important social problems... a great deal, some, not much, or nothing at all?

		July	March	Sept
		<u>2005</u>	2001	2000^{4}
24	A great deal	20	23	28
51	Some	46	52	44
16	Not much	23	18	21
7	Nothing at all	7	4	4
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL

Q.32 I'm going to read the names of some specific religious groups. For each one that I name, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose this group applying for government funds to provide social services to people who need them. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE WITHIN BLOCKS, BEGINNING WITH a./b., THEN c. THRU j.; ITEM k SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST]

a. Individual churches, synagogues & other houses of worship March, 2001	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	DK/Ref
	60	36	4=100
	60	35	5=100
b. Charitable organizations that have a religious affiliation March, 2001	68	28	4=100
	69	26	5=100
c. Catholic churches March, 2001	61	35	4=100
	62	32	6=100
d. Protestant churches March, 2001	59	35	6=100
	61	31	8=100
e. Muslim mosques	40	53	7=100
March, 2001	38	46	16=100

-

Based on registered voters. Question was worded: "These days, how much do you think churches, synagogues and mosques contribute to solving important social problems... a great deal, some, not much, nothing at all?"

Q.32 CONTINUED...

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	DK/Ref
f. Jewish synagogues	55	39	6=100
March, 2001	58	34	8=100
NO ITEMS g. OR h.			
i. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,			
or Mormon churches	50	44	6=100
March, 2001	51	41	8=100
j. Evangelical Christian churches	55	38	7=100
March, 2001	52	35	13=100
k. Groups that encourage religious conversion as			
part of the services they provide	32	61	7=100
March, 2001	32	59	9=100

ASK ALL

Q.33 If religious organizations do use government funds to provide social services, do you think these organizations should be allowed to ONLY hire people who share their religious beliefs, or should they not be allowed to do this?

		March
		2001
22	Should be allowed to only hire people who share their religious beliefs	18
73	Shouldn't be allowed to do this	78
<u>5</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>4</u>
100		100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1440]:

Q.34aF1 Now a different kind of question. Please tell me if you think of each person I name as having moral values that are very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal. (First,) [INSERT NAME; RANDOMIZE]. From what you've read and heard, would you say [NAME] has moral values that are very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal? How about [NEXT NAME]? [IF NECESSARY: From what you've read and heard, would you say [NAME] has moral values that are very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, or very liberal?]

	Very				Very	Don't
	Conservative	Conservative	Moderate	Liberal	Liberal	Know
aF1. George W. Bush	24	38	15	8	6	9=100
bF1. Bill Clinton	5	10	21	34	21	9=100
cF1. Barack Obama	6	14	22	32	16	10=100
dF1. John McCain	13	45	22	8	3	9=100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1440]:

Q.34bF1 And how would you describe your own moral values? Would you say your moral values are [READ, IN ORDER]

- 17 Very conservative
- 32 Conservative
- 29 Moderate
- 14 Liberal OR
- 6 Very liberal
- 2 Don't know/refused (**VOL.**)
- 100

On a different subject...

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1440]:

Q.35F1 In your opinion, should churches and other houses of worship (keep out of political matters) – or should they (express their views on day-to-day social and political questions) [ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES]

		July	July	Aug	Mid-July	March	Sept	June	— Ga	llup —
		<u>2006</u>	2005	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	2001	2000^{5}	<u>1996</u>	Feb-68	Mar-57
52	Should keep out	46	44	44	44	43	45	43	53	44
45	Should express views	51	51	51	52	51	51	54	40	48
<u>3</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1465]:

Q.36F2 During political elections, should churches and other houses of worship come out in favor of one candidate over another, or shouldn't they do this?

		August	August	March
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2002</u>
29	Should come out in favor of candidates	28	25	22
66	Should not come out in favor of candidates	63	65	70
<u>5</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.37 Do you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?

					Mid-		Early
		August	July	August	July	March	Oct
		2007	<u>2005</u>	2004	2003	2002^{6}	<u>2001</u> ⁷
29	Too much	27	26	27	21	16	12
36	Too little	38	39	31	41	24	22
28	Right amount	26	27	32	29	53	60
<u>7</u>	Don't Know/Refused [VOL, DO NOT READ]	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

NO QUESTIONS 38 THROUGH 41.

September 2000 results are based on registered voters. In 2000 and earlier, the question did not include "and other houses of worship."

In Early October 2001 the question was part of a series and began, "As I read from a list, tell me if you think there has been too much, too little or the right amount of what I mention."

In March 2002 the question was worded, "Since September 11th, has there been too much, too little or the right amount of expressions of religious faith and prayer by political leaders?"

ASK ALL:

ROTATE Q.42 AND Q.43

Q.42 How do you feel about this statement: It makes me uncomfortable when politicians talk about how religious they are. Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree with it?

		August	August	Sept
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	2000 (RVs)
17	Completely Agree	15	12	25
29	Mostly Agree	28	28	25
29	Mostly Disagree	30	34	26
21	Completely Disagree	20	22	19
<u>4</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL:

Q.43 How do you feel about this statement: It's important to me that a president have strong religious beliefs. Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree with it?

		August	August	Sept
		<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	2000 (RVs)
32	Completely Agree	30	29	35
40	Mostly Agree	39	41	35
14	Mostly Disagree	16	15	17
11	Completely Disagree	11	11	10
<u>3</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
100		100	100	100

ASK ALL

Q.44 Do you feel that **[INSERT ITEM AND RANDOMIZE]** is generally friendly toward religion, neutral toward religion, or unfriendly toward religion?

	<u>Friendly</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Unfriendly</u>	DK/Ref
a. The Democratic Party	38	37	15	10=100
August, 2007	30	37	15	18=100
July, 2006	26	42	20	12=100
July, 2005	29	38	20	13=100
August, 2004	40	34	13	13=100
Mid-July, 2003	42	36	12	10=100
		• •		40.400
b. The Republican Party	52	29	9	10 = 100
August, 2007	50	23	9	18 = 100
July, 2006	47	28	13	12 = 100
July, 2005	55	23	9	13=100
August, 2004	52	24	10	14=100
Mid-July, 2003	52	27	10	11=100

ASK ALL:

Q.45 Here are a couple of statements about the political parties. For each, please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly DISagree, or completely DISagree with it. (The first one is...) (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS)

	AGREE			DISAGREE			
	Comp			Comp			
	<u>Total</u>	letely	Mostly	<u>Total</u>	letely	Mostly	DK/Ref
a. Religious conservatives have too much							
control over the Republican Party	48	17	31	41	11	30	11=100
August, 2007	43	15	28	41	10	31	16=100
July, 2005	45	14	31	43	11	32	12=100
Early September, 2004 ⁸	43	17	26	48	18	30	9=100
b. Liberals who are not religious have too							
much control over the Democratic Party	43	14	29	45	13	32	12=100
August, 2007	37	13	24	47	14	33	16=100
July, 2005	44	12	32	42	11	31	14 = 100

ASK ALL:

RELIG What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS "nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc." **BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH:** and would you say that's atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]

Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian,

- Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah's Witness, etc.)
- 25 Roman Catholic (Catholic)
- 2 Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
- * Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
- 2 Jewish (Judaism)
- 1 Muslim (Islam)
- * Buddhist
- * Hindu
- 2 Atheist (do not believe in God)
- 2 Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
- 1 Something else (**SPECIFY**)
- Nothing in particular
- 9 Christian (**VOL.**)
- * Unitarian (Universalist) (**VOL.**)
- <u>3</u> Don't Know/Refused (**VOL**.)

100

In 2004, this question was asked only of registered voters, and was asked as part of a list. The question read, "Here are some statements about the candidates and political parties.

IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1-4, 13 OR CHR=1), ASK [N=2382]:

BORN Would you describe yourself as a "born-again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL

- 36 Yes
- 42 No
- 3 Don't know/refused (**VOL.**)
- <u>*</u> Undesignated
- 81% Christian⁹

ASK ALL:

ATTEND

Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

									Mid-				
		Aug	July	July	Aug	July	March	March	Nov	March	Sept	June	June
		2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2003	2002	2001	2001	2000 ¹⁰	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
13	More than once a week	14	15	14	13	16	15	15	16	17	17	12	14
26	Once a week	26	25	27	25	27	24	25	26	26	28	26	25
16	Once or twice a month	16	15	14	15	15	15	17	14	17	16	17	17
19	A few times a year	18	18	19	20	18	21	18	17	17	17	20	21
15	Seldom	16	14	14	15	14	15	15	16	15	13	15	13
10	Never	9	12	11	11	10	9	9	10	7	8	10	9
	Don't know/Refused												
<u>1</u>	(VOL.)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	*	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	*	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

NO QUESTIONS 46 THROUGH 49

ASK ALL:

Q.50 How important is religion in your life – very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

		August
		2007
58	Very important	61
27	Somewhat important	24
7	Not too important	8
7	Not at all important	6
<u>1</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

NO QUESTIONS 51-53

QUESTIONS 54 THROUGH 59 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

Respondents coded as "Something else" or "Don't Know/Refused" in the religious affiliation question (RELIG) are asked if they think of themselves as Christian or not. An additional 2% of the public stated that they do think of themselves as Christian.

September 2000 results are based on registered voters.

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
				No	Other	DK/	Lean	Lean
	Republican	Democrat	Independent	Preference	Party	Ref	Rep	<u>Dem</u>
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2 = 100	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3=100	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2 = 100	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3=100	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2 = 100	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4 = 100	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3=100	10	17
Early February, 2008	3 26	35	31	5	*	3=100	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2 = 100	12	18
Late December, 2007	7 25	32	36	4	*	3=100	12	18
November, 2007	28	33	32	4	1	2 = 100	9	16
October, 2007	25	37	33	3	*	2=100	11	17
September, 2007	27	32	32	6	*	3=100	8	16
August, 2007	26	32	32	5	1	4=100	10	16
July, 2007	27	32	34	4	*	3=100	11	17
June, 2007	25	34	32	6	*	3=100	10	17
April, 2007	25	28	40	5	*	2=100	13	17
March, 2007	25	36	33	3	*	3=100	12	16
February, 2007	25	34	34	4	*	3=100	10	18
Mid-January, 2007	24	35	34	3	*	4=100	12	18
Early-January, 2007	23	31	39	4	*	3=100	12	18
Yearly Totals								
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1 = 100	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9=100	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8 = 100	10.2	14.9
2004	29.5	33.1	30.0	4.0	.4	3.0 = 100	11.8	13.6
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5 = 100	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7 = 100	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7 = 100	11.7	11.4
2001 Post-Sept 11	30.9	31.8	27.9	5.2	.6	3.6=100	11.7	9.4
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28.2	34.6	29.5	5.0	.5	2.1 = 100	11.7	12.5
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0 = 100	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9 = 100	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4 = 100	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3 = 100	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2 = 100			12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4 = 100			14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6=100			14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8 = 100			11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9=100			13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5 = 100			14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8 = 100			12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34=100					
1987	26	35	39=100					