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## Teens and Traffic Top Community Concerns BRADLEY BOXES OUT POLITICAL CENTER

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## Teens and Traffic Top Community Concerns <br> BRADLEY BOXES OUT POLITICAL CENTER

Bill Bradley is the man in the middle when it comes to voter perceptions. Americans describe the former New Jersey senator as a political moderate far more frequently than they do any other presidential candidate. On average, voters who know Bradley rate his ideology as virtually identical to their own. But, despite the increased media attention given to his candidacy, four-in-ten voters have not heard of Bradley, and his level of national support remains unchanged since February.

With his middle-of-the-road image, Bradley is better positioned for the November election than for the Democratic primaries. In general, Democrats see themselves as more liberal and ideologically closer to Vice President Al Gore than to Bradley. Democrats view the former New Jersey senator more as a moderate, and his constituency reflects this. For example, on gun control, Bradley supporters, like Americans overall, narrowly divide against an all-out ban on handguns, while Gore voters and a majority of Democrats back a ban.

The Republican frontrunners stand as much to Bradley's right as Gore does to his left, in the eyes of the public. Americans perceive Texas Governor George W. Bush and former Red Cross President Elizabeth Dole as more conservative than they see themselves, but more moderate than Patrick Buchanan, who ran unsuccessfully for the GOP nomination in 1996. On an ideological scale, Republicans place themselves right alongside Bush and Dole.


In addition to gun control, the Pew Research Center survey of 1,179 adults, conducted May 12-16, 1999, also looked at many of the family and community issues that have gained attention in the wake of the Littleton High School shootings. Traffic ranks as the top community concern of Republicans, while the lack of recreational programs for teens is the top concern for Democrats. Democrats also express more concern than Republicans about overcrowded classrooms in school.

## Voters Unchanged

Bradley faces a recognition problem far greater than that of any other leading presidential candidate. Only $60 \%$ of voters say they have heard of Bradley, up from 55\% in February. Among those who have heard of the candidate, $51 \%$ say there is at least some chance they would vote for him, compared to $55 \%$ three months ago. Indeed, $44 \%$ of Americans say they don't know enough about the former NBA star to place him on a six-point liberal to conservative scale. (See page 15 for trend.)

Bradley is not alone in his static numbers. There has been little change since

| Rating the Presidential Contenders |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Have |  | ance of | Votin | g* ... |
|  | $\frac{\text { Heard }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Good }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Some }}{\%}$ |  | $\frac{\mathrm{DK}}{\%}$ |
| Jesse Jackson | 99 | 15 | 31 | 51 | $3=100$ |
| Al Gore | 97 | 20 | 27 | 49 | $4=100$ |
| Dan Quayle | 97 | 9 | 29 | 58 | 4=100 |
| George W. Bush | 95 | 34 | 34 | 28 | 4=100 |
| Elizabeth Dole | 93 | 20 | 43 | 33 | 4=100 |
| Patrick Buchanan | - 85 | 5 | 29 | 60 | 6=100 |
| Steve Forbes | 70 | 9 | 34 | 51 | $6=100$ |
| Bill Bradley | 60 | 12 | 39 | 40 | $9=100$ |
| Bob Kerrey | 54 | 7 | 37 | 46 | $10=100$ |
| John Kerry | 52 | 8 | 37 | 44 | $11=100$ |
| Lamar Alexander | - 48 | 6 | 27 | 59 | $8=100$ |
| John McCain | 36 | 16 | 37 | 39 | $8=100$ |
| John Kasich | 22 | 11 | 26 | 52 | $11=100$ |
| Gary Bauer | 19 | 10 | 17 | 60 | $13=100$ | February in the number of voters who say there is at least some chance they would vote for Gore, Bush and Dole. Roughly two-thirds of voters say they would consider voting for Bush and Dole, 68\% and 63\%, respectively. Slightly less than half (47\%) say they would consider voting for Gore. Support for these candidates has not risen or fallen substantially since February.

Other well-known candidates continue to draw little support. For example, just $38 \%$ of voters say they would consider voting for Dan Quayle, while $58 \%$ say there is no chance they would support the former vice president.

Among people who can rate the candidates, new faces like Bradley, Bush and Dole are seen as more moderate - and more like the average rating Americans give themselves- than familiar faces like Jesse Jackson and Patrick Buchanan. A 57\% majority rates Bradley as a moderate, for example, while more than $40 \%$ give similar ratings to Bush and Dole. In contrast, $36 \%$ rate Gore as a moderate and even fewer give centrist ratings to Buchanan or Jackson. Half of Americans (50\%) place themselves in the middle, while $25 \%$ rate themselves as conservative and $25 \%$ as liberal.


Democrats see themselves and their party's leading figures as just to the left of center. On a six-point, liberal-to-conservative scale, Gore comes closest to the way average Democrats describe themselves, with Bradley just to his right and Jackson to his left. Republicans meanwhile see little difference between themselves and the leading GOP presidential candidates Bush and Dole on this ideological scale. Buchanan is seen as somewhat more conservative.

## Gun Control

Given a choice between protecting the rights of gun owners and controlling gun ownership, two-thirds of Americans now favor restrictions on ownership of fire arms. At 65\%, the percentage holding this view has climbed eight percentage points since late 1993.

Almost all demographic groups show increased support for gun control, with shifts of more than 10 percentage points among people over age 65, those with some college education and women.

Ideology Ratings of Candidates \& Self* Among Republicans


* Average ratings, based on those who could rate. An overwhelming 75\% of women now favor restricting fire arm ownership, compared to just $19 \%$ of women who place a greater priority on the rights of gun owners. Men are more evenly divided: 53\% prefer restrictions; 42\% protecting the right to bear arms. Three-quarters (76\%) of Democrats say gun control is more important than the right to ownership, compared to $53 \%$ of Republicans.

Despite this growing support for gun control generally, Americans are no more supportive of a law banning handguns outright than they were in 1993. A bare $50 \%$ majority continues to oppose such a law; 44\% say they would support it. But on this narrowly-divided question, men and women hold opposite views, as do Democrats and Republicans. Women split 55\%-38\% in favor of a handgun ban; Democrats 54\%-40\%. Men divide 63\%-33\% against it; Republicans 60\%-35\%.

## Television Violence

Nearly two-thirds (63\%) of Americans now say that television news is too full of violence. Six years ago, barely half (52\%) of the public felt this way. Fully $70 \%$ of the public also says entertainment television contains too much violence, a number that has been roughly stable since as far back as 1971. On both of these questions, more women than men say there is too much violence on television, with $77 \%$ of women and $63 \%$ of men saying this of entertainment TV.

Nearly all Americans (89\%) say they are personally concerned about what children see or hear on television; $64 \%$ are very concerned. The same number (64\%) are very concerned about what children are exposed to on the Internet, with just slightly fewer saying the same of movies (60\%) and video games (57\%). On this question, parents of children under age 18 are slightly more concerned than others about each electronic medium. The difference is most pronounced for the Internet: 73\% of parents say they are very concerned, compared to $58 \%$ of non-parents.

When asked to rank their concerns, Americans put television and the Internet on top, with $39 \%$ and

| Blaming the Media |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1971* | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ 1993 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1999 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| TV News is too | \% | \% | \% |
| full of violence? |  |  |  |
| Yes | 42 | 52 | 63 |
| No | 52 | 44 | 33 |
| Don't know | 6 | 4 | 4 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Entertainment TV portrays... |  |  |  |
| Too much violence | 71 | 72 | 70 |
| A reasonable amount | 24 | 25 | 25 |
| Very little violence | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Don't know/Refused | $\underline{2}$ | 1 | $\underline{2}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| * Harris poll. |  |  |  | $36 \%$, respectively, saying they are most concerned about what children see and hear there; $14 \%$ say this of video games and $7 \%$ of movies.

## Community Matters

Overall, Americans are increasingly satisfied with where they live: 66\% say their community is an excellent or very good place to live, up from 56\% in February 1997. More than one-in-three (35\%) say that people like themselves can have a big impact on making their community a better place to live, an increase from 25\% in February 1997.

No community problem is viewed as very serious by more than a quarter of the public. The lack of recreational programs for teenagers ranks as the chief community concern today - $25 \%$ of the public says it's a very serious problem - followed closely by traffic (20\%) and overcrowded classrooms (19\%).

For all the attention given to suburban issues recently, fewer than one-in-five suburbanites expresses very serious concern about any issue other than traffic and crowded classrooms. Suburbanites also express less concern about the lack of teen programs than do urban, small town and rural Americans.

| Top Community Concerns |  |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |
|  | Very Serious |
|  | Problem |
|  | $\%$ |
| Programs for teenagers | 25 |
| Traffic | 20 |
| Overcrowded classrooms | 19 |
| Public transportation | 12 |
| Quality of water | 12 |
| Gangs and violence | 12 |
| Shops within walking | 11 |
| Public areas | 11 |
| Too few sidewalks | 10 |
| Commercial development | 9 |
| Litter in the neighborhood | 7 |

A shortage of teen activities is a particular worry for parents of minors, $32 \%$ of whom cite the issue as a very serious problem. The issue tops the list for people living in small towns and rural areas: $29 \%$ and $24 \%$, respectively, say it is a very serious problem. A similar number of urban dwellers ( $27 \%$ ) see the lack of teen programs as a very serious problem. Just $15 \%$ of suburbanites say it is a very serious problem where they live.

Traffic is most often cited as a very serious problem by both urban and suburban residents: $39 \%$ and $24 \%$, respectively. The issue is of relatively little concern to those in rural communities and small towns: $11 \%$ and $15 \%$, respectively.

Overcrowded classrooms and gangs are also a major problem for one-third of those living in large cities; $33 \%$ and $29 \%$, respectively, rank these concerns as very serious. Only $19 \%$ of those in the suburbs and $14 \%$ in small cities and rural areas identify crowded classrooms as a very serious problem, and fewer than $10 \%$ say this is so of gangs and violence.

Other issues, including public transportation, quality of tap water, availability of public spaces, and too few sidewalks, are considered to be very serious problems by less than $15 \%$ of Americans. Fewer than one-in-ten say that commercial development and neighborhood litter are major problems.

## African American Communities

More African Americans than whites identify specific community issues as serious problems in their neighborhood. The racial differences are especially stark on the lack of recreational activities for teenagers ( $46 \%$ of African Americans say it is a very serious problem, compared to $22 \%$ of whites) and overcrowded schools ( $36 \%$ of blacks, compared to $16 \%$ of whites). Reflecting this broad dissatisfaction, fewer African Americans say that their community is an excellent place to live (8\%) than do white Americans (31\%).

Despite these findings, African Americans are at least as likely to say that people like themselves can have a positive impact on their community ( $38 \%$ vs. $34 \%$, respectively).

Democrats and Republicans rank these problems somewhat differently. For instance, among Republicans, traffic problems rank as the most serious community concern - $24 \%$ say it is a very serious problem. Not having enough recreational programs for teenagers is identified as the most serious community problem among Democrats (29\%) and Independents (26\%).

## Organ Donation Incentives?

Only a slim majority of the public (53\%) says that offering financial incentives for organ donations, such providing \$300 for the donors' funeral expenses, is a good idea.

These reservations are expressed despite the fact that 74\% of Americans say that the long wait for seriously ill people to receive organ transplants is a major problem, and $81 \%$ support the concept of organ donation.

Less than half (42\%) of Americans say that they have granted permission to donate their organs on a driver's license or a signed donor card, although 67\% indicate they are at least somewhat likely to donate after death.

Better educated people are more likely to have granted permission to donate

| Organs for Sale |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | --- College --- |  |
|  | All |  | Non-Grad |
| Opinion of organ donation? |  |  |  |
| Support | 81 | 89 | 79 |
| Oppose | 8 | 6 | 9 |
| Don't know | $\underline{11}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{12}$ |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Long wait for organs: |  |  |  |
| Major problem | 74 | 68 | 76 |
| Minor problem | 11 | 14 | 10 |
| Not much of a problem | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| Don't know | 11 | $\underline{13}$ | 10 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Paying people to donate their organs at death? |  |  |  |
| Good idea | 53 | 49 | 54 |
| Bad idea | 31 | 39 | 29 |
| Don't know | $\underline{16}$ | $\underline{12}$ | 17 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Permission granted to donate your organs? |  |  |  |
| Yes | 42 | 58 | 37 |
| No | 57 | 41 | 62 |
| Don't Know | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | their organs at death than are those lacking college degrees, $58 \%$ and $37 \%$, respectively. But college graduates are less supportive than others of paying people to donate organs (49\% compared 54\%). Similarly, among those with annual family incomes of less than $\$ 50,000,61 \%$ think that paying for organ donations is a good idea, compared to only $48 \%$ of wealthier Americans.

## PROFILE OF POTENTIAL VOTERS $\dagger$

(Based on Those Who Have Heard of Candidate)

|  | $--A l$ Chance | Gore -- <br> No Chance | -- Bill B <br> Chance | Bradley -No Chance | -- George Chance | W. Bush -No Chance | -- Elizabe Chance | eth Dole -No Chance |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% | \% |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 43 | 54 | 58 | 59 | 49 | 45 | 46 | 55 |
| Female | $\underline{57}$ | $\underline{46}$ | $\underline{42}$ | $\underline{41}$ | $\underline{51}$ | 55 | 54 | 45 |
|  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 78 | 92 | 86 | 84 | 90 | 72 | 88 | 83 |
| Non-white | 21 | 6 | 13 | 14 | 9 | 25 | 11 | 14 |
| Black | 16 | 4 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 21 | 8 | 11 |
| Race and Sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White Men | 34 | 50 | 53 | 50 | 45 | 31 | 41 | 45 |
| White Women | 44 | 42 | 33 | 34 | 45 | 41 | 47 | 38 |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 18 | 15 | 12 | 12 | 17 | 14 | 17 | 12 |
| 30-49 | 40 | 39 | 38 | 38 | 42 | 36 | 41 | 38 |
| 50-64 | 23 | 23 | 26 | 30 | 23 | 25 | 24 | 23 |
| 65+ | 19 | 22 | 23 | 19 | 18 | 23 | 17 | 25 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 26 | 24 | 37 | 27 | 28 | 19 | 28 | 22 |
| Some College | 24 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 24 | 21 | 22 | 26 |
| High School Grad. | 37 | 37 | 33 | 37 | 36 | 38 | 38 | 34 |
| <H.S. Grad. | 13 | 17 | 9 | 16 | 12 | 22 | 12 | 18 |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$75,000+ | 14 | 14 | 20 | 16 | 16 | 9 | 15 | 12 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 17 | 20 | 22 | 17 | 20 | 15 | 20 | 16 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 23 | 22 | 20 | 22 | 23 | 21 | 22 | 24 |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 16 | 15 | 12 | 14 | 13 |
| <\$20,000 | 22 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 17 | 30 | 19 | 22 |

† Reading this Table: This table shows the percentage of each of these eight groups - for example, possible Gore voters, possible Bradley voters, possible Bush voters, and possible Dole voters - that are male, female, white, nonwhite, etc. For example, the first column shows that $43 \%$ of those who say there is some chance the would vote for Gore are men, while $57 \%$ are women; the second column shows that $54 \%$ of those who say there is no chance they would vote for Gore are men, while $46 \%$ are women.

Question: Next, I'm going to read you a list of some people who have been in the news lately. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. (First,) (INSERT NAME; ROTATE ITEMS), have you heard of this person or not?
How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2000 - is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?


## HOW CANDIDATE SUPPORTERS DIVIDE ON ISSUES

(Based on Registered Voters Who Have Heard of Candidate)

|  | Say They Might Vote For ... |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\frac{\text { Gore }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Bradley }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Bush }}{\%}$ | $\frac{\text { Dole }}{\%}$ |
| Rate as very serious problem ... Having too few public areas such as parks and playgrounds | 14 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Overcrowded classrooms in the schools | 20 | 19 | 16 | 16 |
| NOT having recreational programs for teenagers | 29 | 23 | 21 | 23 |
| Law that banned sale of handguns |  |  |  |  |
| Favor | 58 | 47 | 40 | 44 |
| Oppose | 39 | 50 | 56 | 52 |
| Which is more important to protect right of Americans |  |  |  |  |
| To own guns | 20 | 36 | 36 | 35 |
| Control gun ownership | 76 | 61 | 60 | 62 |
| Rate Yourself |  |  |  |  |
| Conservative (1-2) | 16 | 18 | 29 | 26 |
| Moderate (3-4) | 48 | 56 | 52 | 55 |
| Liberal (5-6) | 32 | 23 | 16 | 17 |
| Most concerned about What Kids See/Hear |  |  |  |  |
| On television | 38 | 39 | 42 | 41 |
| On the Internet | 37 | 34 | 33 | 36 |
| In movies | 7 | 6 | 7 | 7 |
| On video games | 15 | 18 | 14 | 13 |

TREND IN SUPPORT FOR GUN CONTROL

|  | ------ December 1993 ------ |  | ------ May 1999 ------ |  | Change In |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Protect Right <br> To Own Guns | Control Gun Ownership | Protect Right To Own Guns | Control Gun Ownership | Support for Gun Control |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 34 | 57 | 30 | 65 | +8 |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 44 | 49 | 42 | 53 | +4 |
| Female | 26 | 64 | 19 | 75 | +11 |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 37 | 54 | 32 | 63 | +9 |
| Non-white | 19 | 73 | 17 | 75 | +2 |
| Black | 18 | 74 | 17 | 75 | +1 |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 32 | 64 | 26 | 71 | +7 |
| 30-49 | 36 | 57 | 30 | 65 | +8 |
| 50-64 | 35 | 55 | 36 | 59 | +4 |
| 65+ | 35 | 49 | 30 | 61 | +12 |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 35 | 59 | 31 | 64 | +5 |
| Some College | 40 | 53 | 29 | 66 | +13 |
| High School Grad. | 31 | 62 | 30 | 65 | +3 |
| <H.S. Grad. | 33 | 50 | 30 | 63 | +13 |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$50,000+ | 34 | 59 | 38 | 59 | 0 |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 37 | 57 | 31 | 64 | +7 |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 36 | 57 | 24 | 72 | +15 |
| <\$20,000 | 33 | 56 | 26 | 66 | +10 |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| East | 27 | 66 | 25 | 70 | +4 |
| Midwest | 33 | 60 | 31 | 65 | +5 |
| South | 39 | 51 | 30 | 64 | +13 |
| West | 36 | 55 | 33 | 60 | +5 |
| Party ID |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 45 | 47 | 42 | 53 | +6 |
| Democrat | 25 | 65 | 19 | 76 | +11 |
| Independent | 38 | 56 | 33 | 63 | +7 |

Question: What do you think is more important: to protect the right of Americans to own guns or to control gun ownership?

|  | COMMUNITY PROBLEMS? <br> (Percent Saying "Very Serious" Problem) |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Inadequate <br> Teen Recreational Programs | Traffic | Overcrowded Classrooms | Public Transportation | (N) |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 25 | 20 | 19 | 12 | (1179) |
| Sex |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 24 | 23 | 17 | 12 | (555) |
| Female | 26 | 18 | 20 | 13 | (624) |
| Race |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 22 | 19 | 16 | 11 | (942) |
| Non-white | 42 | 27 | 33 | 19 | (217) |
| Black | 46 | 29 | 36 | 20 | (132) |
| Race and Sex |  |  |  |  |  |
| White Men | 20 | 22 | 15 | 10 | (440) |
| White Women | 23 | 17 | 17 | 12 | (502) |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  |
| Under 30 | 26 | 22 | 24 | 15 | (281) |
| 30-49 | 27 | 18 | 18 | 12 | (475) |
| 50-64 | 27 | 22 | 21 | 10 | (244) |
| 65+ | 14 | 21 | 9 | 11 | (163) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |
| College Grad. | 16 | 24 | 19 | 11 | (382) |
| Some College | 27 | 20 | 18 | 12 | (261) |
| High School Grad. | 28 | 18 | 18 | 13 | (379) |
| <H.S. Grad. | 27 | 23 | 22 | 13 | (143) |
| Family Income |  |  |  |  |  |
| \$75,000+ | 16 | 22 | 19 | 11 | (179) |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 24 | 22 | 19 | 10 | (191) |
| \$30,000-\$49,999 | 23 | 21 | 18 | 13 | (279) |
| \$20,000-\$29,999 | 28 | 18 | 20 | 11 | (158) |
| <\$20,000 | 34 | 21 | 18 | 16 | (237) |

Question: Next, I'd like you to think about a few items that are problems in some communities, but not in others. How much of a problem are they where YOU live? (First,) how much of a problem is (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS) where you live - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

|  | Inadequate Teen Recreational Programs | Traffic | Overcrowded Classrooms | Public <br> Transportation | (N) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \% | \% | \% | \% |  |
| Total | 25 | 20 | 19 | 12 | (1179) |
| Region |  |  |  |  |  |
| East | 21 | 18 | 15 | 11 | (211) |
| Midwest | 26 | 10 | 14 | 9 | (289) |
| South | 29 | 24 | 24 | 15 | (467) |
| West | 20 | 28 | 21 | 13 | (212) |
| Community Size |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large City | 26 | 39 | 33 | 12 | (247) |
| Suburb | 16 | 24 | 19 | 12 | (285) |
| Small City/Town | 29 | 15 | 14 | 13 | (414) |
| Rural Area | 24 | 11 | 14 | 13 | (229) |
| Party ID |  |  |  |  |  |
| Republican | 17 | 24 | 14 | 7 | (322) |
| Democrat | 29 | 19 | 22 | 14 | (375) |
| Independent | 26 | 20 | 20 | 15 | (393) |
| Clinton Approval |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approve | 27 | 20 | 20 | 13 | (662) |
| Disapprove | 20 | 20 | 17 | 11 | (406) |
| Clinton Foreign Policy |  |  |  |  |  |
| Approve | 26 | 21 | 17 | 12 | (541) |
| Disapprove | 23 | 21 | 19 | 11 | (516) |
| Parent |  |  |  |  |  |
| Yes | 32 | 18 | 23 | 12 | (422) |
| No | 21 | 22 | 17 | 12 | (750) |

## ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for the main survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 1,179 adults, 18 years of age or older, during the period May 12-16, 1999. For results based on the total sample, one can say with $95 \%$ confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. For results based on either Form 1 (N=580) or Form $2(\mathrm{~N}=599)$, the sampling error is plus or minus 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.

## SURVEY METHODOLOGY IN DETAIL

The sample for this survey is a random digit sample of telephone numbers selected from telephone exchanges in the continental United States. The random digit aspect of the sample is used to avoid "listing" bias and provides representation of both listed and unlisted numbers (including not-yet-listed). The design of the sample ensures this representation by random generation of the last two digits of telephone numbers selected on the basis of their area code, telephone exchange, and bank number.

The telephone exchanges were selected with probabilities proportional to their size. The first eight digits of the sampled telephone numbers (area code, telephone exchange, bank number) were selected to be proportionally stratified by county and by telephone exchange within county. That is, the number of telephone numbers randomly sampled from within a given county is proportional to that county's share of telephone numbers in the U.S. Only working banks of telephone numbers are selected. A working bank is defined as 100 contiguous telephone numbers containing three or more residential listings.

The sample was released for interviewing in replicates. Using replicates to control the release of sample to the field ensures that the complete call procedures are followed for the entire sample. The use of replicates also insures that the regional distribution of numbers called is appropriate. Again, this works to increase the representativeness of the sample.

At least five attempts were made to complete an interview at every sampled telephone number. The calls were staggered over times of day and days of the week to maximize the chances of making a contact with a potential respondent. All interview breakoffs and refusals were re-contacted at least once in order to attempt to convert them to completed interviews. In each contacted household, interviewers asked to speak with the "youngest male 18 or older who is at home." If there is no eligible man at home, interviewers asked to speak with "the oldest woman 18 or older who is at home." This systematic respondent selection technique has been shown empirically to produce samples that closely mirror the population in terms of age and gender.

Non-response in telephone interview surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population, and these subgroups are likely to vary also on questions of substantive interest. In order to compensate for these known biases, the sample data are weighted in analysis.

The demographic weighting parameters are derived from a special analysis of the most recently available Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (March 1996). This analysis produced population parameters for the demographic characteristics of households with adults 18 or older, which are then compared with the sample characteristics to construct sample weights. The analysis only included households in the continental United States that contain a telephone.

The weights are derived using an iterative technique that simultaneously balances the distributions of all weighting parameters.

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS MAY 1999 NEWS INTEREST INDEX <br> - FINAL TOPLINE - <br> May 12-16, 1999 <br> $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 1 7 9}$

Q. 10 Next, I'm going to read you a list of some people who have been in the news lately. Not everyone will have heard of them. For each one that I name, please tell me whether or not you have heard of this person. (First,) (INSERT NAME; ROTATE ITEMS), have you heard of this person or not? (IF YES, ASK Q.11; IF NO, DK, SKIP TO NEXT ITEM.) [NOTE: ASK ITEMS A-I AND ITEMS J-N IN BLOCKS; ROTATE BLOCKS, AND ROTATE ORDER OF ITEMS WITHIN BLOCKS]
Q. 11 How much of a chance is there that you would vote for (INSERT NAME) if (he/she) is a candidate for president in 2000 - is there a good chance, some chance, or no chance?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS [ $\mathrm{N}=854$ ]

|  |  | Based on Those Who Have Heard |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Have | Have not | DK/ | Good | Some | No | DK/ |  |
|  |  | Heard | Heard | Ref. | Chance | Chance | Chance | Ref. | (N) |
| a. | Dan Quayle | 97 | 3 | $0=100$ | 9 | 29 | 58 | $4=100$ | (832) |
|  | February, 1999 | 97 | 3 | $0=100$ | 9 | 33 | 54 | 4=100 | (902) |
| b. | George W. Bush | 95 | 4 | $1=100$ | 34 | 34 | 28 | $4=100$ | (817) |
|  | February, 1999 | 95 | 5 | * $=100$ | 32 | 36 | 27 | $5=100$ | (449) |
| c. | Elizabeth Dole | 93 | 7 | * $=100$ | 20 | 43 | 33 | 4=100 | (802) |
|  | February, 1999 | 91 | 9 | * $=100$ | 26 | 38 | 33 | $3=100$ | (854) |
| d. | Steve Forbes | 70 | 29 | $1=100$ | 9 | 34 | 51 | $6=100$ | (621) |
|  | February, 1999 | 71 | 29 | * $=100$ | 8 | 35 | 52 | $5=100$ | (685) |
| e. | Patrick Buchanan | 85 | 15 | * $=100$ | 5 | 29 | 60 | 6=100 | (738) |
|  | February, 1999 | 83 | 15 | $2=100$ | 6 | 26 | 63 | $5=100$ | (782) |
| f. | John McCain | 36 | 63 | $1=100$ | 16 | 37 | 39 | 8=100 | (331) |
|  | February, 1999 | 32 | 67 | $1=100$ | 16 | 42 | 35 | $7=100$ | (332) |
| g. | John Kasich | 22 | 77 | $1=100$ | 11 | 26 | 52 | 11=100 | (207) |
|  | February, 1999 | 21 | 78 | $1=100$ | 16 | 31 | 45 | 8=100 | (229) |
| h. | Gary Bauer | 19 | 80 | $1=100$ | 10 | 17 | 60 | 13=100 | (175) |
|  | February, 1999 | 18 | 81 | $1=100$ | 12 | 26 | 51 | $11=100$ | (188) |
| i. | Lamar Alexander | 48 | 51 | $1=100$ | 6 | 27 | 59 | 8=100 | (442) |
|  | February, 1999 | 42 | 57 | $1=100$ | 6 | 27 | 60 | $7=100$ | (421) |
| j. | Al Gore | 97 | 3 | $0=100$ | 20 | 27 | 49 | $4=100$ | (831) |
|  | February, 1999 | 98 | 2 | $0=100$ | 22 | 30 | 45 | $3=100$ | (910) |
| k. | Jesse Jackson | 99 | 1 | $0=100$ | 15 | 31 | 51 | $3=100$ | (846) |
|  | February, 1999 | 98 | 2 | * $=100$ | 12 | 30 | 56 | $2=100$ | (904) |
| 1. | Bill Bradley | 60 | 38 | $2=100$ | 12 | 39 | 40 | $9=100$ | (529) |
|  | February, 1999 | 55 | 44 | $1=100$ | 14 | 41 | 39 | 6=100 | (531) |

Q.10/11 CONTINUED ...

|  |  |  |  |  | Based on Those Who Have Heard |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Have <br> Heard | Have not Heard | DK/ Ref. | Good <br> Chance | Some <br> Chance | No <br> Chance | $\begin{aligned} & \text { DK/ } \\ & \text { Ref. } \end{aligned}$ | (N) |
| m. | Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts | 52 | 46 | $2=100$ | 8 | 37 | 44 | 11=100 | (468) |
|  | February, 1999 ${ }^{1}$ | 38 | 61 | $1=100$ | 8 | 37 | 48 | $7=100$ | (374) |
| n. | Senator Bob Kerrey of Nebraska | 54 | 46 | * $=100$ | 7 | 37 | 46 | $10=100$ | (481) |

Q. 12 If "6" represents someone who is very liberal in politics and "1" represents someone who is very conservative, where on this scale of 6 to 1 would you rate the following people and yourself? First, where would you place (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS, BUT ALWAYS ASK "Yourself" LAST) ? [IF ANSWERS "DON'T KNOW"/"NEVER HEARD OF" DO NOT PROBE.]

Based on Those Who Could Rate

| a. | Al Gore | 11 | 8 | 17 | 19 | 22 | $23=100$ | 13\% | (1049) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| b. | George W. Bush | 15 | 24 | 27 | 15 | 10 | $9=100$ | 15\% | (1030) |
| c. | Elizabeth Dole | 14 | 25 | 29 | 16 | 7 | 9=100 | 17\% | (1001) |
| d. | Bill Bradley | 9 | 12 | 33 | 24 | 13 | 9=100 | 44\% | (689) |
| e. | Patrick Buchanan | 39 | 15 | 19 | 14 | 5 | $8=100$ | 28\% | (892) |
| f. | Jesse Jackson | 11 | 6 | 15 | 14 | 21 | $33=100$ | 13\% | (1052) |
| g. | Yourself | 13 | 12 | 30 | 20 | 11 | $14=100$ | 7\% | (1112) |
|  | September, 1996 | 17 | 10 | 31 | 18 | 13 | $11=100$ |  |  |
|  | September, 1988 | 14 | 15 | 29 | 20 | 12 | $10=100$ |  |  |
|  | Newsweek: 1984 | 16 | 9 | 31 | 19 | 12 | $13=100$ |  |  |

## ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q. 18 Would you favor or oppose a law that banned the sale of handguns?

|  |  | December 1993 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 44 | Favor | 45 |
| 50 | Oppose | 51 |
| $\frac{6}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ |
|  |  | 100 |

Q. 19 What do you think is more important - to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

|  |  | December 1993 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 30 | Protect right of Americans to own guns | 34 |
| 65 | Control gun ownership | 57 |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{9}$ |

[^0]
## NOW, ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...

Q. 20 Which of the following BEST describes the place where you now live?...(READ)

A large city
22 A suburb near a large city
37 A small city or town
21 OR a rural area
1 Don't know/Refused
100
Q. 21 Overall, how would you rate your (INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q.20: city, suburb, town, area ["area" should be used for '4' Rural area and '9' Don't know] ) as a place to live? Would you say it is excellent, very good, good, only fair or poor?

|  |  | February 1997 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| 28 | Excellent | 25 |
| 38 | Very good | 31 |
| 24 | Good | 28 |
| 8 | Only fair | 11 |
| 2 | Poor | 4 |
| $*$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{1}$ |
| 100 |  | 100 |

Q. 22 Overall, how much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live - a big impact, a moderate impact, a small impact, or no impact at all?

|  |  | February 1997 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
|  | Big | 25 |
| 40 | Moderate | 41 |
| 18 | Small | 24 |
| 5 | No impact at all | 8 |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't Know/Refused | $\underline{2}$ |
|  |  | 100 |

Q. 23 Did you grow up in the community where you now live?

| 44 | Yes |
| :---: | :--- |
| 56 | No |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 24 Next, I'd like you to think about a few items that are problems in some communities, but not in others. How much of a problem are they where YOU live? (First,) how much of a problem is (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS) where you live - very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

|  |  | Very Serious Problem | Somewhat Serious Problem | Not Too Serious Problem | Not At All Serious Problem | DK/ <br> Refused |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | Traffic | 20 | 27 | 25 | 27 | 1=100 |
| b. | Having too few public areas such as parks and playgrounds | 11 | 15 | 26 | 47 | $1=100$ |
| c. | Having too few sidewalks | 10 | 11 | 25 | 52 | $2=100$ |
| d. | Having too few shops and restaurants within walking distance of your home | 11 | 12 | 26 | 50 | $1=100$ |
| e. | Overcrowded classrooms in the schools | 19 | 25 | 23 | 19 | $14=100$ |
| f. | The construction of malls, office parks, and other commercial development | 9 | 16 | 31 | 42 | $2=100$ |
| g. | Litter in your neighborhood | 7 | 16 | 31 | 45 | $1=100$ |
| h. | The quality of tap water | 12 | 18 | 24 | 43 | $3=100$ |
| i. | Public transportation | 12 | 16 | 25 | 42 | $5=100$ |
| j. | Gangs and violence | 12 | 23 | 29 | 35 | $1=100$ |
| k. | NOT having recreational programs for teenagers | 25 | 26 | 21 | 21 | $7=100$ |

## [NO QUESTION 25]

## NOW A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT TELEVISION ...

Q. 26 Do you think that TV news is too full of violence, or not?

|  |  | Feb | Harris |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1993}$ | $\frac{1971}{42}$ |
| 33 | TV news too full of violence | 44 | 52 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | News not too full of violence | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{6}$ |

Q. 27 How do you feel about the amount of violence portrayed on television programs today, not including news programs? Do you think there is too much violence, a reasonable amount, or very little violence?

|  |  | Jan | Feb | Harris |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\frac{1997}{75}$ | $\frac{1993}{72}$ | $\underline{1971}$ |
| 70 | Too much violence | 21 | 25 | 24 |
| 25 | A reasonable amount | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | Very little violence | $\underline{2}$ | $\underline{1}$ | $\underline{2}$ |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Q. 28 How concerned are you personally about what children see or hear...(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS) - very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned?

|  |  | Very Concerned | Somewhat Concerned | Not too Concerned | Not at all Concerned | Don't Know/ Refused |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a. | On TV | 64 | 25 | 7 | 3 | $1=100$ |
| b. | On the Internet | 64 | 18 | 5 | 4 | $9=100$ |
| c. | In movies | 60 | 27 | 7 | 3 | $3=100$ |
| d. | On video games | 57 | 24 | 8 | 6 | $5=100$ |

Q.28e Still thinking about what children see or hear, which one of these are you MOST concerned about - TV, the Internet, movies, or video games?

| 39 | TV |
| :---: | :--- |
| 36 | The Internet |
| 7 | Movies |
| 14 | Video games |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE \& THE PRESS <br> ORGAN DONOR <br> TOPLINE <br> May 12-16, 1999 <br> $\mathbf{N}=\mathbf{1 , 0 1 3}$

Q. 1 And now I would like to ask you some questions about organ donation. After people die, it is often possible to remove one or more of their organs, such as the kidneys, heart, liver, or pancreas, and transplant them into another person whose own organs are failing. Have you read or heard anything about organ transplants?

| 88 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 11 | No |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 2 In general, do you support or oppose the donation of organs for transplant?

| 81 | Support |
| :---: | :--- |
| 8 | Oppose |
| $\frac{11}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 3 How likely are you to want to have your organs donated after your death? Would you say very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

| 42 | Very likely |
| :--- | :--- |
| 25 | Somewhat likely |
| 10 | Not very likely |
| 18 | Not at all likely |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 4 Have you granted permission for organ donation on your driver's license or on a signed donor card?

| 42 | Yes |
| :--- | :--- |
| 57 | No |
| $\frac{1}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 5 There is a proposal to pay people who agree to donate their organs when they die—for example, with a $\$ 300$ contribution to their funeral expenses. Do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

| 53 | Good idea |
| :--- | :--- |
| 31 | Bad idea |
| $\frac{16}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |

Q. 6 How much of a problem do you think it is that it takes too long for seriously ill people to receive organ transplants?

| 74 | Major problem |
| :---: | :--- |
| 11 | Minor problem |
| 4 | Not much of a problem |
| $\frac{11}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused |


[^0]:    1
    In February, 1999, was identified as only "John Kerry."
    2
    Numbers listed are the number of respondents who could rate each candidate or themselves and on which all percentages are based, except the for the percentage of "Don't know/Refused" which are based on total.

