> PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS MARCH 1996 NEWS INTEREST INDEX
> -- FINAL TOPLINE --
> March 28-31, 1996
> $\mathrm{N}=1,500$

Hello, I am $\qquad$ calling for Princeton Survey Research Associates in Princeton, New Jersey. We are conducting a telephone opinion survey for leading newspapers and TV stations around the country. I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home. [IF NO MALE, ASK: May I please speak with the oldest female, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home?]
Q. 1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton 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 Bill Clinton is handling his job as President? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]

| Feb | Jan | Oct | Sept | Aug | June | April | Feb | Dec | Early Oct | Sept | July | May | Jan | Dec | Oct | Sept | Aug | May | Early <br> May | April | Feb |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1996 | 1996 | 1995 | 1995 | 1995 | 1995 | 1995 | 1995 | 1994 | 1994 | 1994 | $\underline{1994}$ | 1994 | 1994 | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ | $\underline{1993}$ |
| 51 | 50 | 48 | 45 | 44 | 50 | 47 | 44 | 41 | 38 | 41 | 45 | 46 | 51 | 48 | 44 | 49 | 39 | 39 | 45 | 49 | 56 |
| 39 | 43 | 42 | 42 | 44 | 40 | 43 | 44 | 47 | 47 | 52 | 46 | 42 | 35 | 36 | 42 | 35 | 46 | 43 | 37 | 29 | 25 |
| $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{13}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{10}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{9}{100}$ | $\frac{12}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{16}{100}$ | $\frac{14}{100}$ | $\frac{16}{100}$ | $\frac{15}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{18}{100}$ | $\frac{22}{100}$ | $\frac{19}{100}$ |

Q.1a Do you approve or disapprove of the policies and proposals of the Republican leaders in Congress? (IF "DON'T KNOW," ENTER AS CODE 9. IF "DEPENDS," PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the proposals and policies of the Republican leaders in Congress? IF STILL "DEPENDS," ENTER AS CODE 9.)

|  |  | Feb | Jan | Oct | Sept | Aug | June | April | March | Dec |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ |  |
| 35 | Approve | 33 | 36 | 36 | 36 | 38 | 41 | 44 | 43 | 52 |
| 51 | Disapprove | 53 | 54 | 51 | 50 | 45 | 45 | 43 | 39 | 28 |
| $\frac{14}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{13}$ | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{17}$ | $\underline{14}$ | $\underline{13}$ | $\underline{18}$ | $\underline{20}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

[^0]ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...
Q. 2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

|  |  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Oct } \\ 1995 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 1995 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 1994 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } \\ 1994 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Oct } \\ 1993 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | Early Sept <br> 1993 | June <br> 1993 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ 1993 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ 1992 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Nov } \\ & 1991 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1990 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb } \\ 1989 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { May } \\ & 1988 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } \\ \underline{1988} \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 28 | Satisfied | 23 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 22 | 20 | 22 | 39 | 28 | 34 | 41 | 45 | 41 | 39 |
| 70 | Dissatisfied | 73 | 74 | 73 | 71 | 73 | 75 | 71 | 50 | 68 | 61 | 54 | 50 | 54 | 55 |
| $\frac{2}{100}$ | No Opinion | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{3}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{7}{100}$ | $\frac{11}{100}$ | $\frac{4}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{5}{100}$ | $\frac{6}{100}$ |

## ASK Q.2a AND Q.2b ONLY OF THOSE WHO ANSWERED "DISSATISFIED" IN Q.2:

Q.2a What things are you most dissatisfied with? (OPEN-ENDED: ACCEPT UP TO 3 MENTIONS)

|  |  | Oct <br> 18 |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 16 | Crime | $\frac{1995}{20}$ |
| 13 | The political system/Washington politics | 17 |
| 12 | Moral crisis/Lack of family values/Too many babies being born out of wedlock | 13 |
| 12 | Lack of jobs | 13 |
| 11 | Taxes are too high | 8 |
| 10 | Government spends too much/Government is too big | 14 |
| 10 | The educational system | 12 |
| 10 | The health care system/lack of health care | 9 |
| 9 | Welfare reform | 21 |
| 5 | Social Security/Elderly | 9 |
| 5 | Foreign Policy | -- |
| 4 | The deficit | Judicial system/Court system |
| 4 | Homelessness/Poverty | 8 |
| 3 | Low wages | 5 |

Q.2a con't ...
Oct
1995
3 Immigration
2 Don't like cuts being made in social spending ..... 8
2 Abortion ..... --
2 Race relations/Affirmative action ..... 5
$4 \quad$ Other (SPECIFY) ..... 12
4 Don't know/Refused ..... 3
-- None/Nothing ..... 1
25 ECONOMY (NET) ..... 21
Q.2b Generally, who do you think is most responsible for... (IF RESPONDENT ONLY GAVE ONE ANSWER IN Q.2a, INSERT "THIS"; IF MORE THAN ONE ANSWER, INSERT FIRST MENTION FROM Q.2a)? (READ LIST AND ROTATE)
Oct
1995
11 The President 7
35 The Congress 35
$6 \quad$ Business corporations 8
$7 \quad$ The news media 6
3 The entertainment industry 3
3 Wall Street banks and investment companies 2
25 The people themselves 27
4 Or who? (SPECIFY) 8
$\frac{6}{100}$ Don't know/Refused $\quad \frac{4}{100}$
( $\mathrm{N}=988$ ) $\quad(\mathbf{N}=1392)$

## NOW A DIFFERENT KIND OF QUESTION...

Q. 3 As I mention a person's name, tell me what one word best describes your impression of that person. Tell me just the one best word that describes him or her. (ACCEPT UP TO TWO RESPONSES)

## NOTE: Top 20 verbatim responses

a.F1 HILLARY CLINTON| Response | Frequency* |
| :--- | :--- |
| Intelligent | 34 |
| Smart | 26 |
| "Rhymes with rich" | 22 |
| Good | 21 |
| Bossy | 21 |
| Aggressive | 20 |
| Domineering | 18 |
| O.K. | 17 |
| Strong | 16 |
| Nice | 13 |
| Liar | 13 |
| Powerful | 11 |
| Distrustful | 10 |
| Dishonest | 9 |
| Pushy | 9 |
| Snob | 8 |
| Ambitious | 7 |
| Fair | 7 |
| Great | 7 |
| Independent | 6 |"Rhymes with rich" 22

Good ..... 21
Bossy ..... 21
Aggressive ..... 20
Domineering ..... 18
O.K. ..... 17
Strong ..... 16
Nice ..... 13
Liar ..... 13
Powerful ..... 11
Distrustful ..... 10
Dishonest ..... 9
Pushy ..... 9
Snob ..... 8
Ambitious ..... 7
Fair ..... 7
Great ..... 7
Independent ..... 6

## ASK ITEM a. OF FORM 1 ONLY: <br> ASK ITEM a. OF FORM 1 ONLY:

a.F1 HILLARY CLINTON

## ASK ITEM b. OF FORM 2 ONLY:

## b.F2 ROSS PEROT

| Response | Frequency* |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rich | 39 |
| Crazy | 18 |
| Idiot | 18 |
| Egotistical | 15 |
| Nuts | 11 |
| Money | 10 |
| Arrogant | 10 |
| Intelligent | 9 |
| Independent | 9 |
| Short | 8 |
| O.K. | 8 |
| Wealthy | 8 |
| Annoying | 8 |
| Smart | 8 |
| Funny | 7 |
| Goofy | 7 |
| Outspoken | 6 |
| Interesting | 6 |
| Radical | 6 |
| Millionaire | 5 |

* This table shows the number of respondents out of 750 who offered each response; the numbers are not percentages.


## ASK ALL:

## ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...

Q. 4 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely?

## [READ AND ROTATE LIST]

|  | Very Closely | Fairly Closely | Not too Closely | Not at all Closely | $\begin{gathered} \text { (VOL) } \\ \text { DK } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The situation in Bosnia | 18 | 43 | 26 | 13 | *=100 |
| February, 1996 | 21 | 43 | 22 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| January, 1996² | 37 | 45 | 13 | 5 | *=100 |
| September, 1995 | 15 | 40 | 25 | 19 | 1=100 |
| August, 1995 | 16 | 36 | 26 | 21 | 1=100 |
| June, 1995 | 22 | 42 | 22 | 13 | $1=100$ |
| March, 1995 | 11 | 27 | 36 | 25 | $1=100$ |
| February, 1995 | 8 | 33 | 32 | 26 | $1=100$ |
| December, 1994 | 13 | 37 | 32 | 18 | *=100 |
| October, 1994 | 13 | 35 | 29 | 22 | 1=100 |
| September, 1994 | 9 | 29 | 39 | 23 | * $=100$ |
| June, 1994 | 12 | 28 | 37 | 22 | $1=100$ |
| May, 1994 | 18 | 37 | 26 | 18 | 1=100 |
| January, 1994 | 12 | 31 | 32 | 25 | * $=100$ |
| Early January, 1994 | 15 | 38 | 30 | 17 | *=100 |
| December, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 31 | 21 | $1=100$ |
| October, 1993 | 16 | 36 | 30 | 17 | $1=100$ |
| September, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 32 | 20 | $1=100$ |
| Early September, 1993 | 17 | 38 | 26 | 19 | *=100 |
| August, 1993 | 19 | 37 | 25 | 18 | 1=100 |
| May, 1993 | 23 | 34 | 28 | 13 | $2=100$ |
| February, 1993 | 15 | 32 | 33 | 20 | *=100 |
| January, 1993 | 15 | 33 | 30 | 22 | *=100 |
| September, 1992 | 10 | 27 | 31 | 31 | $1=100$ |

b. News about the Republican presidential candidates

| tial candidates | 26 | 41 | 20 | 13 | $*=100$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| January, 1996 | 10 | 34 | 31 | 24 | $1=100$ |
| September, 1995 | 12 | 36 | 30 | 22 | $*=100$ |
| August, $1995^{3}$ | 13 | 34 | 28 | 25 | $*=100$ |
| June, 1995 | 11 | 31 | 31 | 26 | $1=100$ |
| January, 1992 | 11 | 25 | 36 | 27 | $1=100$ |
| December, 1991 | 10 | 28 | 32 | 30 | $*=100$ |
| October, 1991 | 12 | 26 | 31 | 29 | $2=100$ |

3 The 1991 and 1992 trends refer to Democratic candidates.
Q. 4 con't ...
c. The terrorist bombings in Israel

| Very <br> Closely | Fairly <br> Closely | Not too <br> Closely | Not at all <br> Closely | (VOL) <br> DK |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 18 | 36 | 29 | 17 | $*=100$ |

d. The conviction of Lyle and Erik Menendez for murdering their $\begin{array}{llllll}\text { parents } & & 14 & 26 & 36 & 24 \\ & \text { January, } 1994^{4} & 12 & 28 & 34 & 25\end{array}$
e. News about the Whitewater investigation

January, 1996
August, $1995^{5}$
May, $1994^{6}$
March, $1994^{7}$
January, 1994 ${ }^{8}$
Early January, 1994
28

## ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q. 5 Thinking about the presidential primaries so far, generally do you think they have been a good way of determining who the best qualified nominees are or not?

|  | March <br> $\underline{1992}$ | Gallup <br> $\underline{1988}$ | Newsweek <br> 35 | Yes -- GO TO Q.6 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 58 | No -- GO TO Q.5a | 31 | 48 | 40 |
| $\frac{7}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused -- GO TO Q.6 | 59 | 37 | 48 |
| 3 | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{15}$ | $\underline{12}$ |  |
| 100 | 100 | 100 |  |  |

## IF "NO" ASK:

Q.5a Why do you feel that way? (open-end)

12 Negative campaigning/Mud slinging
12 Don't cover the real issues/important issues

11 Whoever has the most money to spend gets elected/Money talks
$9 \quad$ Make false promises/Promises they can't keep

8 Need money/Only those with money get involved
6 Process doesn't allow the best people to run
5 Don't like any of them
5 It's pre-determined/Political elite decides
5 Don't feel any are qualified
5 The media decides who will win/Media too involved
5 Too few choices/Not many options
5 Electoral votes are not representative of citizens
4 Popularity contest/Publicity contest
4 Not getting the facts/Information is censored
4 Not enough information on positions/Voting record
2 Need more debates

8 Other

12
Don't know

## ASK ALL:

Q. 6 So far, do you think news organizations are giving too much coverage to the 1996 presidential campaign, too little coverage to the campaign, or the right amount of coverage?

|  |  | Oct | Sept | Feb | Oct | May | Nov |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1992}$ | $\underline{1991}$ | $\underline{1988}$ | $\underline{1987}$ |
| 29 | Too much | 18 | 22 | 19 | 12 | 24 | 21 |
| 10 | Too little | 18 | 11 | 15 | 22 | 7 | 16 |
| 58 | Right amount | 60 | 62 | 62 | 58 | 62 | 58 |
| $\frac{3}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{5}$ | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{8}$ | $\underline{7}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

ASK Q. 7 AND Q.7a OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=554]
Q.7F1 Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat; Bob Dole, the Republican; and Ross Perot, an Independent. Who would you vote for?
Q.7a

F1 As of TODAY, do you lean most to Bill Clinton, the Democrat; Bob Dole, the Republican; or do you lean toward Ross Perot the Independent?

| Sept | July |
| :---: | :---: |
| 1995 | 1994 |

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS:

| 44 | Bill Clinton/Lean Clinton | 42 | 39 |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 35 | Bob Dole/Lean Dole | 36 | 36 |
| 16 | Ross Perot/Lean Perot | 19 | 20 |
| $\frac{5}{100}$ | Other candidate/Undecided (VOL.) | $\underline{3}$ | $\underline{5}$ |
| 100 |  |  |  |

ASK Q. 8 AND Q.8a OF FORM 2 ONLY: [ $\mathrm{N}=562$ ]
Q.8F2 Suppose the 1996 presidential election were being held TODAY, and the candidates were Bill Clinton, the Democrat; Bob Dole, the Republican; and an Independent or third party candidate. Who would you vote for?
Q.8a

F2 As of TODAY, do you lean most to Bill Clinton, the Democrat; Bob Dole, the Republican; or do you lean toward an Independent or third party candidate?

## BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS

45 Clinton/Lean Clinton
30 Dole/Lean Dole

20 Unnamed Independent/Third party
5 Undecided/Other

## ASK ALL:

Q. 9 Suppose there were only two major candidates for president and you had to choose between Bill Clinton, the Democrat, and Bob Dole, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
Q.9a As of TODAY, do you lean more to Bill Clinton, the Democrat, or Bob Dole, the Republican?

Jan
1996
BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [N=1116]
53 Clinton/Lean Clinton 53
41 Dole/Lean Dole 41
6 Other/Don't know/Refused
100
$\frac{6}{100}$
( $\mathrm{N}=895$ )
Q. 10 Would you say that your choice is more a vote for (INSERT CHOICE FROM Q. 9 OR Q.9a) OR more a vote against (INSERT NAME OF OTHER CANDIDATE)?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [ $\mathbf{N = 1 1 1 6 ]}$
Direction of Support:
53 Clinton

30 Pro-Clinton -- GO TO Q.10a
20 Anti-Dole -- GO TO Q. 11
3 Undecided -- GO TO Q. 11
41 Dole
15 Pro-Dole -- GO TO Q.10a
25 Anti-Clinton -- GO TO Q. 11
1 Undecided -- GO TO Q. 11
6 Don't know/Refused 100

IF "VOTE FOR" IN Q. 10 ASK:
Q.10a Is your choice more a vote for (INSERT CHOICE FROM Q.9 OR Q.9a) personally or more a vote for his party?
IF "PERSONALLY" IN Q.10a ASK:
Q.10b Do you support him more because of his personal characteristics and abilities OR more because of what he stands for politically?

BASED ON REGISTERED VOTERS: [ $\mathrm{N}=1116$ ]
Major Reason For Support:
53 Clinton
10 Party
4 Personality/Abilities
13 Political stands
21 Oppose opponent
5 Total other/Undecided
41 Dole
600 Party
3 Personality/Abilities
5 Political stands
24 Oppose opponent
3 Total other/Undecided
6 Don't know/Refused
100
Q. 11 As I read a list of phrases tell me if you think this phrase better describes Bill Clinton or if it better describes Bob Dole. (READ AND ROTATE)

|  |  | Bill <br> Clinton | Bob <br> Dole | (VOL) <br> Both | (VOL) <br> Neither | Don't <br> Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ITEMS a.-e. OF FORM 1 ONLY: [ $\mathrm{N}=751$ ] |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a.F1 | Would use good judgment in a crisis | 47 | 38 | 4 | 4 | $7=100$ |
| b.F1 | Personally likable | 67 | 22 | 4 | 4 | $3=100$ |
| c.F1 | A typical politician | 35 | 45 | 16 | 1 | $3=100$ |
| d.F1 | Can get things done | 40 | 41 | 2 | 9 | $8=100$ |
| e.F1 | Honest and truthful | 34 | 39 | 2 | 19 | $6=100$ |
| ASK ITEMS f.-j. OF FORM 2 ONLY: [ $=749$ ] |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| f.F2 | Has new ideas | 49 | 34 | 2 | 10 | $5=100$ |
| g.F2 | Intelligent | 42 | 35 | 14 | 4 | $5=100$ |
| h.F2 | Cares about people like me | 54 | 28 | 2 | 12 | $4=100$ |
| i.F2 | Keeps his promises | 32 | 35 | 1 | 23 | $9=100$ |
| j.f2 | Shares my values | 47 | 37 | 2 | 9 | 5=100 |

## ASK ALL:

## ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT:

Q. 12 Suppose the 1996 elections for U.S. Congress were being held TODAY, would you vote for the Republican Party's candidate or the Democratic Party's candidate for Congress in your district?
IF ANSWERED "OTHER" OR "DON'T KNOW" IN Q. 12 ASK:
Q.12a As of TODAY, do you LEAN more to the Republican or the Democrat?


## ASK ALL:

ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...
Q. 13 Are you concerned that Bob Dole may be too old to serve as President, OR isn't Bob Dole's age a concern for you?

26 Concerned Dole may be too old
72 Not concerned
2 Don't know/Refused 100
Q.13a In your opinion, what is it about Bob Dole's age that concerns people MOST... (READ AND ROTATE)?

17 He has old-fashioned ideas
29 He may be too old to meet the physical demands of the job of President
35 He may be too old to understand the concerns of younger generations of Americans
12 None of the above (VOL)
$\frac{7}{100} \quad$ Don't know/Refused

ASK ALL:
ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...
Q. 17 Who in Washington do you think should take the lead in solving the nation's problems -- President Clinton, or the Republican Congressional leaders?

| April | March | Feb | Dec |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1994}$ |


| 47 | President Clinton | 48 | 40 | 40 | 39 |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 36 | Republican Leaders | 36 | 40 | 38 | 43 |
| 9 | Both (VOL) | 12 | 10 | 16 | 10 |
| $\frac{8}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{4}$ | $\underline{10}$ | $\underline{6}$ | $\underline{8}$ |
| 100 |  |  | 100 | 100 |  |

ASK Q. 18 OF FORM 1 ONLY: [N=751]
Q.18F1 In dealing with Congress, do you think President Clinton ... (READ)

|  | Aug | April |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| 30 | Should go along with the Republicans more often? | $\underline{1995}$ | $\underline{1995}$ |
| 23 | Should challenge the Republicans more often? | 26 | 25 |
| 41 | Is handling the situation about right? | 27 | 27 |
| 2 | Neither (VOL) | 38 | 41 |
| $\frac{4}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused (DO NOT READ) | $\frac{2}{7}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ |

## ASK Q. 19 OR FORM 2 ONLY: [N=749]

Q.19F2 In dealing with President Clinton and the Democrats in Congress, do you think Bob Dole... (READ)

29 Should go along with the President and the Democrats more often?
24 Should challenge the President and the Democrats more often?
39 Is handling the situation about right?
2 Neither (VOL)
6 Don't know/Refused
100
Q. 20 Now a few questions about priorities for President Clinton and the Congress between now and the presidential election... As I read from a list tell me if you think the item that I read should be a priority. First ... (READ LIST AND ROTATE) should this be a top priority, important but lower priority, not too important, or should it not be done?

|  |  | Top Priority | Important But Lower Priority | Not <br> too <br> Important | Should Not be Done | Don't <br> Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ASK ITEMS a.-c. OF FORM 1 ONLY: [ $\mathrm{N}=751$ ] |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| a.F1 | Reforming immigration laws | 46 | 37 | 13 | 3 | $1=100$ |
| c.F1 | Balancing the federal budget | 72 | 22 | 3 | 2 | $1=100$ |
| ASK ITEMS d.-g. OF FORM 2 ONLY: [N=749] |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| d.F2 | Reforming the tax system | 59 | 28 | 8 | 3 | $2=100$ |
| e.F2 | Reforming the health insuranc so that people can keep their h insurance even if they lose the or change jobs | 66 | 26 | 4 | 3 | $1=100$ |
| f.F2 | Placing limits on the amount of money awarded in lawsuits involving defective products | 23 | 42 | 24 | 8 | $3=100$ |
| g.F2 | Reforming the welfare system | 70 | 23 | 4 | 2 | $1=100$ |

## ASK ALL:

Q. 22 If the President and the Republican leaders in Congress are able to make progress on the important issues facing our country, who will deserve the most CREDIT for making this happen ... (READ RESPONSES)?

35 President Clinton OR
40 Republican leaders in Congress
14 Both equally (VOL)
3 Neither (VOL)
8 Don't Know/Refused
100
Q. 23 If the President and the Republican leaders in Congress are NOT able to make progress on the important issues facing our country, who will deserve the most BLAME for this...(READ RESPONSES)?

36 President Clinton OR
41 Republican leaders in Congress
15 Both equally (VOL)
2 Neither (VOL)
6 Don't Know/Refused
$\overline{100}$
Q. 24 Now I'd like you to think about some concerns that people may have. How concerned are you, if at all, about (INSERT ITEM: ROTATE)? Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not too concerned, or not at all concerned about this? What about (NEXT ITEM)...?
a. Not having enough money for your retirement?

| Very <br> Con- <br> cerned | Somewhat <br> Con- <br> cerned | Not too <br> Con- <br> cerned | Not at <br> all Con- <br> cerned | Does <br> Not <br> Apply | Don't <br> Know |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 59 | 23 | 9 | 7 | 2 | $*=100$ |
| 48 | 29 | 10 | 8 | 4 | $1=100$ |
| 42 | 29 | 14 | 12 | 2 | $1=100$ |
| 34 | 35 | 15 | 8 | 4 | $4=100$ |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 47 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 8 | $*=100$ |
| 34 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 16 | $*=100$ |
| 28 | 16 | 14 | 21 | 21 | $*=100$ |
| 18 | 16 | 23 | 18 | 22 | $3=100$ |

c. Being unable to afford necessary health care when a family member gets sick?

October, 1995
68
March, 1994
66
October, 1995
March, 1994
42
May, 1988

16
23
18
$3=100$ 50

| 16 | 10 | 6 | $*$ | $*=100$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 17 | 9 | 7 | 1 | $*=100$ |
| 22 | 15 | 11 | 1 | $1=100$ |

d. Your children not having

| good job opportunities? | 67 | 18 | 7 | 5 | 3 | $*=100$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| October, 1995 | 57 | 23 | 6 | 4 | 10 | $0=100$ |
| March, 1994 | 51 | 21 | 8 | 8 | 12 | $*=100$ |

Q. 25 There has been a lot of talk lately about people's financial concerns about the future...

I'd like to read you two approaches for making things better for people. Approach "A" includes such things as cutting taxes, reducing regulations on business, and cutting the federal government. Approach "B" includes such things as a higher minimum wage, more government job training and education programs, and government incentives for corporations to treat their employees more fairly.
In your opinion, which is the better approach to improving things for people, "A" or "B"?
43 A. Cutting taxes, reducing regulations, cutting government
54 B. Increasing the minimum wage, government job training and education programs, and incentives to encourage corporations to treat their employees more fairly

1 Neither (VOL)
2 Don't know/Refused
100

In 1988 question asked only about losing your job.

## ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...

Q. 26 How often if ever do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues and politics -- regularly, sometimes, rarely or never?

| 18 | Regularly |
| :---: | :--- |
| 28 | Sometimes |
| 24 | Rarely |
| 30 | Never |
| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't Know/Refused |

Q. 27 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school or at home on at least an occasional basis?

| Feb | Jan |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |

61 Uses a PC at home, work or school 60

39 Does not use PC $40 \quad 41$

| $\frac{*}{100}$ | Don't know/Refused | $\underline{0}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100 | $\underline{0}$ |  |
| 100 |  |  |

## IF YES:

Q. 28 Do you ever use a computer at work, school or home to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?

|  |  | Feb | Jan |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |
| BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS: |  |  |  |
| 22 | Goes on-line | 21 | 21 |
| 39 | Does not go on-line | 39 | 38 |
| 0 | Don't know/Refused | $*$ | 0 |
| $\frac{39}{100}$ | Not a computer user | $\underline{40}$ | $\underline{41}$ |
|  |  | 100 | 100 |

## IF YES:

Q. 29 Do you ever go on-line to get information on current events, public issues and politics? IF YES: How often do you go on-line for this type of information... every day, 3 to 5 days per week, 1 or 2 days per week, once every few weeks, less often, or never?

|  |  | Feb | Jan |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS: |  |  |  |
| 2 | Everyday | $\underline{1996}$ | $\underline{1996}$ |
| 3 | 3-5 days/week | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | $1-2$ days/week | 2 | 2 |
| 3 | Once every few weeks | 4 | 3 |
| 1 | Less Often | 3 | 3 |
| 8 | No/Never | 2 | 1 |
| 0 | Don't know/Refused | 9 | 10 |
| 39 | PC user, Does not go on-line | 39 | 38 |
| $\frac{39}{100}$ | Not a computer user | $\underline{40}$ | 41 |
| 100 | 100 |  |  |

## IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED 1,2,3 OR 4 IN Q. 29 ASK:

Q.29a Do you ever go on-line to get information about the 1996 presidential campaign? IF YES: How often do you go on-line for this type of information... every day, 3 to 5 days per week, 1 or 2 days per week, once every few weeks, less often, or never?

Feb
1996

## BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:

| $*$ | Everyday | $*$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| 1 | $3-5$ days/week | 1 |
| 2 | $1-2$ days/week | 2 |
| 1 | Once every few weeks | 1 |
| $*$ | Less Often | $*$ |
| 9 | No/Never | 6 |
| 0 | Don't know/Refused | 0 |
| 9 | Does not go on-line for political/public issues | 11 |
| 39 | PC user, Does not go on-line | 39 |
| $\frac{39}{100}$ | Not a computer user | $\underline{40}$ |


[^0]:    1 In December the question asked "As best you can tell, do you approve or disapprove of Republican congressional leaders' policies and plans for the future?"

