

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS  
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE  
JULY 2006 RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY  
FINAL TOPLINE  
July 6-19, 2006  
N=2,003**

**QUESTIONS 1,2 & PORTIONS OF QUESTION 7 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED  
QUESTIONS 3 THROUGH 6 AND PORTIONS OF QUESTION 7 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

On a different subject...

Q.8 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally?

	----- FAVOR -----			----- OPPOSE -----			Don't <u>know</u>
	<u>Net</u>	<i>Strongly</i>		<u>Net</u>	<i>Strongly</i>		
		<i>Favor</i>	<i>Favor</i>		<i>Oppose</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	
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	35	24	9=100
Early February, 2004	30	9	21	63	42	21	7=100
November, 2003	30	10	20	62	41	21	8=100
October, 2003	31	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

Q.9 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose 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?

	<u>July</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2004</u>	Mid-		
			<u>July</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>Oct</u> <u>2003</u>
19 Strongly favor	22	15	18	16	14
35 Favor	31	33	31	33	31
24 Oppose	16	21	18	18	20
18 Strongly oppose	24	24	25	26	27
<u>4</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100

**IF OPPOSE GAY MARRIAGE (Q.8=3,4), ASK:**

Q.10 There has been a proposal to change the U.S. Constitution to ban gay marriage. Do you think amending the Constitution to ban gay marriage is a good idea, or a bad idea?

		June <u>2006</u>	July <u>2005</u>	Aug <u>2004</u>	July <u>2004</u>	Mid- March <u>2004</u>
35	Favor	33	36	29	32	32
56	Oppose	55	53	60	56	59
30	Good idea / Pro-Constitutional amendment	33	29	35	31	36
24	Bad idea / Anti-Constitutional amendment	19	22	22	22	21
2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	3	2	3	3	2
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100

**IF SUPPORT GAY MARRIAGE (1,2 IN Q.8), ASK [N=653]:**

Q.11 Which of these statements comes closer to your view... [INSERT; ROTATE].

41	Supporters of gay marriage should not push too hard to make it legal right away, because doing so could create bad feelings against homosexuals
	OR
51	Supporters of gay marriage should push hard to make it legal as soon as possible, despite the risk of creating bad feelings against homosexuals
<u>8</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=996]:**

Q.12F1 And do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gays and lesbians to adopt children?

	----- FAVOR -----			----- OPPOSE -----			Don't
	<i>Strongly</i>			<i>Strongly</i>			<i>know</i>
	<u>Net</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	
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

Q.13F1 In your opinion, do you think that homosexuality is...

	Oct <u>2003</u>	<i>L.A. Times</i> <u>Dec 1985<sup>1</sup></u>
36	30	20
13	14	22
38	42	42
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>
100	100	100

<sup>1</sup> In December 1985 the Los Angeles Times question was worded: "In your opinion, what causes homosexuality? Is it..."

Q.14F1 Do you think a gay or lesbian person's sexual orientation can be changed or cannot be changed?

		Oct <u>2003</u>
39	Can be changed	42
49	Cannot be changed	42
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>16</u>
100		100

Q.15F1 Do you think the question of whether gay marriage should be legal is something that should be decided at the national level, or is it something that each state should decide for itself?

48	Should be decided at the national level
46	Each state should decide for itself
<u>6</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK ALL:**

On another subject,

Q.16 There has recently been debate over whether or not women should be allowed to get the so-called "morning after pill" without a doctor's prescription...how much have you heard about this? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

25	A lot
51	A little <b>[OR]</b>
24	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)
100	

Q.17 All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing women to get the morning-after pill without a doctor's prescription?

17	Strongly favor
31	Favor
25	Oppose
16	Strongly oppose
<u>11</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)
100	

**QUESTIONS 18, 26 & 27 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 28-33**

**QUESTIONS 19 THROUGH 25 AND 34 THROUGH 42 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

Q.43 There has recently been debate over laws in some states that allow pharmacists to refuse to provide contraceptives if they are opposed to them because of their religious beliefs...how much have you heard about this? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

18	A lot
35	A little <b>[OR]</b>
47	Nothing at all
<u>*</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL. DO NOT READ)
100	

**NO QUESTION 44**

Q.45 Should pharmacists who personally oppose birth control for religious reasons be able to refuse to sell birth control pills to women who have a prescription for them, or shouldn't pharmacists be able to refuse to sell birth control pills?

		<i>CBS/NYT</i>
		Nov
		<u>2004</u>
17	Should be able to refuse to sell birth control pills	16
80	Should NOT be able to refuse to sell birth control pills	78
<u>3</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100		100

**QUESTIONS 46 THROUGH 48 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=996]:**

Q.49F1 Which comes closer to your view? Abortion should be generally available to those who want it; Abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now; Abortion should be against the law except in cases of rape, incest and to save the woman's life; Abortion should not be permitted at all.

							<i>CBS/NYT</i>
		Dec	Late	July	June	June	Feb
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1996</u>
31	Generally available	35	30	35	30	32	36
20	Available, but under stricter limits	20	19	23	21	24	22
35	Against law except rape/incest/save life	31	31	31	36	33	34
11	Abortion should not be permitted at all	11	16	9	12	9	7
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.50F1 Do you ever wonder whether your own position on abortion is the right one or not?

		<i>Gallup</i>
		Dec
		<u>1988</u>
30	Yes	33
66	No	60
<u>4</u>	Don't know/refused (VOL.)	<u>7</u>
100		100

**NO QUESTION 51**

Q.52F1 Regardless of whether or not you think abortion should be legal, do you personally believe that having an abortion is morally wrong in nearly all circumstances, morally wrong in some circumstances, or is it not a moral issue?

		July
		<u>2005</u>
24	Morally wrong in nearly all circumstances	29
49	Morally wrong in some circumstances	41
24	Not a moral issue	26
<u>3</u>	Don't Know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>4</u>
100		100

**ROTATE Q.53F1 AND Q.54F1**

Q.53F1 Which comes closer to your view about the abortion issue **[READ AND ROTATE]**

66 The country needs to find a middle ground on abortion laws, **[OR]**  
 29 There's no room for compromise when it comes to abortion laws  
5 Don't know/refused **(VOL.)**  
 100

Q.54F1 Do you think the question of whether abortion should be legally permitted is something that should be decided at the national level, or is it something that each state should decide for itself?

55 Should be decided at the national level  
 39 Each state should decide for itself  
6 Don't know/refused **(VOL.)**  
 100

Q.55F1 As you may know, the federal government has debated whether to fund certain kinds of medical research known as 'stem cell research' ... How much have you heard about this? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

		July <u>2005</u>	Dec <u>2004</u>	Aug <u>2004</u>	March <u>2002</u>
43	A lot	48	47	42	27
42	A little <b>[OR]</b>	42	41	43	52
15	Nothing at all	10	11	15	20
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.56F1 All in all, which is more important... **[READ, IN ORDER]**

		July <u>2005</u>	Dec <u>2004</u>	Aug <u>2004</u>	March <u>2002</u>
56	Conducting stem cell research that might result in new medical cures	57	56	52	43
	<b>[OR]</b>				
32	Not destroying the potential life of human embryos involved in this research	30	32	34	38
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused <b>[VOL, DO NOT READ]</b>	<u>13</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.57F1 Do you think the question of whether stem-cell research should be legally permitted is something that should be decided at the national level, or is it something that each state should decide for itself?

69 Should be decided at the national level  
 26 Each state should decide for itself  
5 Don't know/refused **(VOL.)**  
 100

**QUESTIONS 58 THROUGH 66 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=996]:**

Q.67F1 Would you generally favor or oppose teaching creationism **ALONG WITH** evolution in public schools?

	July	March	Nov
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004<sup>2</sup></u>
58 Favor	64	57	65
35 Oppose	26	33	29
<u>7</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>
100	100	100	100

*CBS/NYT*

Q.68F1 Do you think the question of whether creationism should be taught along with evolution in public schools is something that should be decided at the national level, or is it something that each state should decide for itself?

51	Should be decided at the national level
44	Each state should decide for itself
<u>5</u>	Don't know/refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	

**ASK ALL:**

RELIG What is your religious preference — Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, Mormon, or an orthodox church such as the Greek or Russian Orthodox Church? [**INTERVIEWER: IF 'OTHER RELIGION' GIVEN, FOLLOW-UP WITH "And is that a Christian religion, or not?" IF YES, CODE AS 7; IF NOT, CODE AS 8]**]

56	Protestant
23	Roman Catholic
2	Jewish
1	Mormon
1	Orthodox Church (Greek or Russian)
1	Islam/Muslim
1	Other religion - Christian ( <b>SPECIFY</b> )
2	Other religion – non-Christian ( <b>SPECIFY</b> )
11	No religion, not a believer, atheist, agnostic
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	

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<sup>2</sup> CBS/New York Times question asked about 'creation' instead of 'creationism' in Q.67F1 only.

**IF PROTESTANT OR OTHER RELIGION - CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1,7), ASK [N=1,181]:**

Q.69 As I read a list, tell me which if any of these denominations you are affiliated with. **(READ LIST)**

- 19 Baptist
- 7 Methodist
- 5 Lutheran
- 3 Presbyterian
- 2 Congregational or United Church of Christ
- 7 Nondenominational or Independent Church
- 4 Pentecostal
- 1 Episcopalian
- 1 Reformed, or
- 4 Something else **(SPECIFY)**
- 4 Nothing in particular **(DO NOT READ)**
- Don't Know/Refused **(DO NOT READ)**
- 57% Protestant/Something else

**IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1,2,4,5,7), ASK [N=1670]:**

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

- 38 Yes
- 42 No
- Don't Know/Refused
- 82% Christian/Something else

Q.70 As I read from a list, please tell me which if any of the following descriptions apply to you. (First,) **(INSERT, ROTATE; FOR CATHOLICS [RELIG=2], INSERT 'CATHOLIC'; FOR OTHER CHRISTIANS [RELIG=1,4,5,7], INSERT 'CHRISTIAN')**... does this apply to you, or not?

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/</u> <u>Ref</u>
a.	Pentecostal Christian	16	79	5=100
	July, 2005	14	78	8=100
b.	Charismatic	19	70	11=100
c.	Liberal or Progressive Christian	40	53	7=100
	July, 2005	37	54	9=100

**QUESTIONS 70dF2 THROUGH 81 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**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?

	<u>July</u> <u>2005</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>July</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2003</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2002</u>	<u>Mid-Nov</u> <u>2001</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2001</u>	<u>Sept</u> <u>2000<sup>3</sup></u>	<u>June</u> <u>1997</u>	<u>June</u> <u>1996</u>
15 More than once a week	14	13	16	15	15	16	17	17	12	14
25 Once a week	27	25	27	24	25	26	26	28	26	25
15 Once or twice a month	14	15	15	15	17	14	17	16	17	17
18 A few times a year	19	20	18	21	18	17	17	17	20	21
14 Seldom	14	15	14	15	15	16	15	13	15	13
12 Never	11	11	10	9	9	10	7	8	10	9
<u>1</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL) <u>No</u> <u>Preference</u>	(VOL) <u>Other</u> <u>Party</u>	<u>Don't</u> <u>know</u>
July, 2006	29	33	31	4	1	2=100
June, 2006	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
April, 2006	29	32	33	3	*	3=100
March, 2006	28	34	30	4	*	4=100
February, 2006	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
January, 2006	28	32	32	5	*	3=100
December, 2005	29	34	31	4	*	2=100
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
<b>Yearly Totals</b>						
2005	30	33	31	4	*	2=100
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
<i>2001 Post-Sept 11</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>2001 Pre-Sept 11</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>2=100</i>
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100

<sup>3</sup> September 2000 results are based on registered voters.



**PARTY CONTINUED...**

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Other/DK</u>
1996	29	33	33	5=100
1995	32	30	34	4=100
1994	30	32	34	4=100
1993	27	34	34	5=100
1992	28	33	35	4=100
1991	31	32	33	4=100
1990	31	33	30	6=100
1989	33	33	34=100	
1987	26	35	39=100	

**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?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Refused to lean</u>
July, 2006	11	14	13=38%
June, 2006	10	16	11=37%
April, 2006	12	17	10=39%
March, 2006	11	14	13=38%
February, 2006	11	16	10=37%
January, 2006	10	16	14=40%
December, 2005	10	16	11=37%
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%