## PEW RESEARCH CENTER FINAL TOPLINE February 16 - March 14, 2007 N=2,020

#### SOME DEMOGRAPHICS WERE ASKED EARLIER IN THE INTERVIEW FOR SCREENING PURPOSES QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 31 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

#### ASK ALL:

Next, I have some questions about raising children in this country today.

Q.32 All in all, do you think MOTHERS of children under 18 are now doing a BETTER job as parents than their own mothers did 20 or 30 years ago, a WORSE job -- or about the SAME job?

				March
				1997
<u>All</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>		<u>Women</u>
9	9	8	Better	11
56	59	54	Worse	56
29	27	31	About the same	27
<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100	100	100		100
(N=2020)	(N=892)	(N=1128)		(N=1101)

Q.33 In general, do you think it's easier to be a mother today than it was 20 or 30 years ago, more difficult, or about the same?

				March
				1997
<u>All</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>		<u>Women</u>
11	11	12	Easier	7
70	69	71	More difficult	81
17	17	17	About the same	10
<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	*	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>
100	100	100		100
(N=2020)	(N=892)	(N=1128)		(N=1101)

Q.34 All in all, do you think FATHERS of children under 18 are now doing a BETTER job as parents than their own fathers did 20 or 30 years ago, a WORSE job -- or about the SAME job?

<u>All</u>	<u>Men</u>	Women	
21	15	27	Better
47	55	40	Worse
28	26	29	About the same
<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	

Q.35 In general, do you think it's easier to be a father today than it was 20 or 30 years ago, more difficult, or about the same?

<u>All</u>	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	
12	11	13	Easier
60	59	62	More difficult
26	28	24	About the same
<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	100	100	

# Q.36 What would you say is the BIGGEST CHALLENGE in raising children today? [OPEN END; RECORD ANSWER; ACCEPT UP TO THREE RESPONSES]

- 38 Societal influences/Keeping them away from societal influences and dangers (NET) Society / Influence of society (General) / Outside influences / Temptations / Things exposed to
  - 13 (General)
  - 10 Drugs & Alcohol / Keeping them off drugs
  - 7 Peer pressure
  - 5 TV / Internet / Movies / Media / Technology / Music
  - Keeping them out of trouble / Keep on the right path / Keeping them focused / Keeping them off 4 the streets
  - 2 Crime / Violence / Gangs
  - 2 Safety / Keeping them safe
  - 1 Pop culture / Culture
  - 1 Sex / Keeping them from sex
  - 1 Fast paced world / Fast paced life / Have to grow up fast
- 31 Discipline/Morals/Other childrearing goals (NET)
  - 8 Discipline / Maintaining discipline / Obedience / Control
  - 8 Teaching them morals, values, religion / Right & wrong
  - Just being there for them / Taking care of them / Raising them / Giving them love / Keeping track of 7 them /
    - Being a good parent / Providing for them
  - 3 Teaching respect, manners, character, responsibility; being grounded
  - 2 Communication / To get them to listen / To give them advice
  - 1 Patience & understanding
  - 1 Not spoiling them / Stuck on material things
  - 1 Creating a sense of family life / Family structure / Stable family relationships
  - 1 Raise in a healthy way / Make sure eat/Health
  - \* Keeping them happy
  - \* Consistency
- 10 Time, work balance, single parents (NET)
  - 5 Time to be with them / Quality time
  - 2 Balance work & home / Balance / Have to work
  - 2 Both parents working
  - 1 Absent parents / Poor parenting
  - 1 Being a single parent / Doing it on your own / Broken homes / Having both parents in the home
- 8 Costs / Affording it / Expensive / Finances / Money / Income
- 7 Education / Keeping them in school
- 1 Government interference / Laws preventing parents from disciplining kids / Be parent without government being involved
- 12 Other / Everything
- 7 Don't know / Refused

Figures add to more than 100% due to multiple responses.

### **QUESTIONS 37 THROUGH END HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**