

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**MAY 1999 NEWS INTEREST INDEX**  
**— FINAL TOPLINE —**  
**May 12-16, 1999**  
**N=1,179**

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]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
May, 1999	56	34	10=100
April, 1999	56	38	6=100
March, 1999	62	31	7=100
February, 1999	64	30	6=100
Mid-January, 1999	66	29	5=100
January, 1999	63	30	7=100
Late December, 1998	71	27	2=100
Early December, 1998	61	32	7=100
November, 1998	65	29	6=100
September 21-22, 1998	62	33	5=100
September 19-20, 1998	55	36	9=100
Early September, 1998	61	33	6=100
Late August, 1998	62	32	6=100
Early August, 1998	63	28	9=100
June, 1998	59	32	9=100
May, 1998	62	28	10=100
April, 1998	62	28	10=100
March, 1998	65	26	9=100
Early February, 1998	71	26	3=100
January, 1998	61	30	9=100
November, 1997	58	31	11=100
September, 1997	58	29	13=100
August, 1997	59	32	9=100
June, 1997	54	34	12=100
May, 1997	57	34	9=100
April, 1997	55	34	11=100
February, 1997	60	32	8=100
Early February, 1997	57	30	13=100
January, 1997	59	31	10=100
November, 1996	57	34	9=100
July, 1996	54	38	8=100
June, 1996	54	38	8=100
April, 1996	53	39	8=100
March, 1996	55	38	7=100
February, 1996	51	39	10=100
January, 1996	50	43	7=100
October, 1995	48	42	10=100
September, 1995	45	42	13=100

**Q.1 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
August, 1995	44	44	12=100
June, 1995	50	40	10=100
April, 1995	47	43	10=100
March, 1995	44	44	12=100
February, 1995	44	44	12=100
December, 1994	41	47	12=100
November, 1994	48	40	12=100
October, 1994	41	47	12=100
Early October, 1994	38	47	15=100
September, 1994	41	52	7=100
July, 1994	45	46	9=100
June, 1994	42	44	14=100
May, 1994	46	42	12=100
March, 1994	45	42	13=100
January, 1994	51	35	14=100
Early January, 1994	48	35	17=100
December, 1993	48	36	16=100
October, 1993	44	42	14=100
September, 1993	49	35	16=100
Early September, 1993	43	43	14=100
August, 1993	39	46	15=100
May, 1993	39	43	18=100
Early May, 1993	45	37	18=100
April, 1993	49	29	22=100
February, 1993	56	25	19=100

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the job the Republican 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 Republican leaders in Congress are doing? IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
May, 1999	38	44	18=100
March, 1999	38	47	15=100
February, 1999	37	51	12=100
Mid-January, 1999	36	51	13=100
January, 1999	38	50	12=100
Late December, 1998	39	56	5=100
Early December, 1998	38	49	13=100
November, 1998	41	48	11=100
September 21-22, 1998	44	44	12=100
September 19-20, 1998	46	41	13=100
Early September, 1998	44	37	19=100
Late August, 1998	48	36	16=100
Early August, 1998	43	37	20=100
June, 1998	42	38	20=100
May, 1998	40	41	19=100
April, 1998	41	40	19=100
March, 1998	43	39	18=100
January, 1998	43	41	16=100
November, 1997	41	43	16=100
August, 1997	42	44	14=100

**Q. 2 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
June, 1997	33	50	17=100
May, 1997	40	44	16=100
April, 1997	40	44	16=100
February, 1997	44	42	14=100
January, 1997	38	47	15=100
November, 1996	40	43	17=100
July, 1996	38	48	14=100
June, 1996	36	50	14=100
April, 1996	39	46	15=100
March, 1996	35	51	14=100
February, 1996	33	53	14=100
January, 1996	36	54	10=100
October, 1995	36	51	13=100
September, 1995	36	50	14=100
August, 1995	38	45	17=100
June, 1995	41	45	14=100
April, 1995	44	43	13=100
March 1995	43	39	18=100
December, 1994	52	28	20=100

Q.3 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling the nation's foreign policy? **[IF DON'T KNOW, ENTER AS DON'T KNOW. IF "DEPENDS", PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling the nation's foreign policy? IF STILL DEPENDS, ENTER AS DON'T KNOW]**

		<i>Newsweek</i>											
		April	March	Sept	Sept	Jan	June	Oct	July	Oct	Sept	Aug	June 30-July 1
		<u>1999</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1993</u>
46	Approve	51	56	61	54	52	39	50	38	39	47	52	49
43	Disapprove	39	34	30	34	39	52	42	53	46	33	25	35
<u>11</u>	DK/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

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? **[INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS BUT ALWAYS ASK "e" LAST]**

		Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>
a.	NATO air strikes against Serbian forces	32	38	19	10	1=100
	Late April, 1999	41	39	13	7	*=100
	April, 1999	41	37	16	6	0=100
	March, 1999 <sup>1</sup>	43	32	15	9	1=100
	February, 1999 <sup>2</sup>	11	30	28	30	1=100
	Mid-January, 1999 <sup>3</sup>	9	21	24	44	2=100
	March, 1998 <sup>4</sup>	5	12	26	55	2=100
b.	The bombing of the Chinese embassy in Belgrade by a NATO warplane	24	33	25	17	1=100
c.	The events following the shooting of students and teachers at a Colorado high school	59	31	7	2	1=100
	Late April, 1999 <sup>5</sup>	68	24	6	2	*=100
d.	Tornadoes in Oklahoma and Kansas	38	40	15	6	1=100
<b>ALWAYS ASK "e" LAST:</b>						
e.	Accusations that China stole nuclear technology from U.S. laboratories	18	24	24	31	3=100
	March, 1999	19	24	24	32	1=100

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1 In March 1999, the story was listed as "NATO air strikes against Serbian forces in Kosovo."

2 In February 1999, the story was listed as "NATO efforts to end ethnic conflict in Kosovo, Serbia."

3 In Mid-January, 1999, the story was listed as "The massacre of 45 people in Kosovo, Serbia."

4 In March 1998, the story was listed as "Ethnic conflict in Kosovo, Serbia."

5 In April 1999, the story was listed as "The shooting of students and teachers by two students at a Colorado high school."

**ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

Q.4f How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

	Just About <u>Always</u>	Most Of the <u>Time</u>	Only <u>Sometimes</u>	(VOL) <u>Never</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>
May, 1999	3	28	62	5	2=100
February, 1999	4	27	64	4	1=100
November, 1998	4	22	61	11	2=100
February, 1998	5	29	61	4	1=100
November, 1997	2	36	60	2	*=100
NES <sup>6</sup> , 1996	2	25	70	2	1=100
1994	2	19	74	3	2=100
1992	3	26	68	2	1=100
1990	3	25	69	2	1=100
1988	4	37	56	2	1=100
1986	3	35	58	2	2=100
1984	4	40	53	1	2=100
1982	2	31	62	2	3=100
1980	2	23	69	4	2=100
1978	2	27	64	4	3=100
1976	4	30	62	1	3=100
1974	2	34	61	1	2=100
1972	5	48	44	1	2=100
1970	7	47	44	*	2=100
1968	7	54	37	*	2=100
1966	17	48	28	3	4=100
1964	14	62	22	*	2=100
1958	16	57	23	0	4=100

Q.5F1/

Q.8F2<sup>7</sup> Do you think news organizations gave too much coverage to the shootings in Littleton, Colorado, too little coverage to the shootings in Littleton, Colorado, or the right amount of coverage?

45	Too much coverage
4	Too little coverage
48	Right amount of coverage
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.6F1/

Q.7F2<sup>7</sup> Do you think news organizations generally give too much coverage to violence in inner-city schools, too little coverage to violence in inner-city schools, or the right amount of coverage?

45	Too much coverage
18	Too little coverage
32	Right amount of coverage
<u>5</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

<sup>6</sup> Trend numbers for 1958 through 1996 are from the American National Election Studies.

<sup>7</sup> These questions were asked in two forms: Form 1 respondents were asked Q.5 and Q.6 as they appear above; for Form 2 respondents, the two questions (Q.7 and Q.8) were read in reverse order.

**ASK ALL:  
ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

Q.9 Do you happen to know the annual salary of the President of the United States? **(IF YES, ASK: How much is the president's salary?)**

- \* Figure given is LESS than \$50,000
- 2 Figure given is \$50,000 to under \$100,000
- 5 Figure given is \$100,000 to under \$150,000
- 4 Figure given is \$150,000 to under \$200,000
- 19 \$200,000
- 5 Figure given is MORE than \$200,000 but less than \$250,000
- 4 Figure given is MORE than \$250,000 but less than \$500,000
- 1 Figure given is MORE than \$500,000
- 60 Don't know/Refused
- 100

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 [N=854]**

		Have			<i>Based on Those Who Have Heard</i>				
		Have	Have not	DK/	Good	Some	No	DK/	
		<u>Heard</u>	<u>Heard</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>Chance</u>	<u>Chance</u>	<u>Chance</u>	<u>Ref.</u>	<u>(N)</u>
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)

**Q.10/11 CONTINUED ...**

		<i>Based on Those Who Have Heard</i>							
		Have <u>Heard</u>	Have not <u>Heard</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>	Good <u>Chance</u>	Some <u>Chance</u>	No <u>Chance</u>	DK/ <u>Ref.</u>	(N)
i.	Lamar Alexander February, 1999	48 42	51 57	1=100 1=100	6 6	27 27	59 60	8=100 7=100	(442) (421)
j.	Al Gore February, 1999	97 98	3 2	0=100 0=100	20 22	27 30	49 45	4=100 3=100	(831) (910)
k.	Jesse Jackson February, 1999	99 98	1 2	0=100 *=100	15 12	31 30	51 56	3=100 2=100	(846) (904)
l.	Bill Bradley February, 1999	60 55	38 44	2=100 1=100	12 14	39 41	40 39	9=100 6=100	(529) (531)
m.	Senator John Kerry of Massachusetts February, 1999 <sup>8</sup>	52 38	46 61	2=100 1=100	8 8	37 37	44 48	11=100 7=100	(468) (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.]**

		<i>Based on Those Who Could Rate</i>							
		---- Conservative ----			---- Liberal ----			DK/ <u>Refused</u>	(N) <sup>9</sup>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>		
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		
	<i>Newsweek</i> : 1984	16	9	31	19	12	13=100		

<sup>8</sup> In February, 1999, was identified as only "John Kerry."

<sup>9</sup> 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.

**ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

Q.13 Do you approve or disapprove of NATO forces, including the United States, conducting air strikes against Serbia to force the Serbs to agree to the terms of the peace agreement and end the fighting in Kosovo?

		<u>April 1999</u>	<u>March 1999</u>
53	Approve	62	60
38	Disapprove	29	29
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>
100		100	100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=580]:**

Q.14 If the air strikes do not stop Serbian military attacks in Kosovo, would you favor or oppose sending U.S. ground troops to Kosovo along with troops from other NATO countries?

		<u>April 1999</u>
44	Favor	47
49	Oppose	48
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>5</u>
100		100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=599]:**

Q.15 If the air strikes do not stop Serbian military attacks in Kosovo, would you favor or oppose sending U.S. ground troops to Kosovo along with troops from other NATO countries to try to end the conflict in Kosovo?

		<u>April 1999</u>
44	Favor	51
50	Oppose	42
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>7</u>
100		100



**ASK ALL:**

Q.16 Here are some reasons being given for using U.S. troops to help secure peace in Kosovo, Serbia. For each one, please tell me whether, in your opinion, it is a very important reason, a somewhat important reason, a not too important reason, or not at all important reason for the use of U.S. troops. How about... **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS)** — is this a very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important reason for the use of U.S. troops?

	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Not too Important</u>	<u>Not at all Important</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
a. To prevent a larger war involving other countries in that part of Europe	52	27	8	8	5=100
April, 1999	56	24	11	7	2=100
March, 1999	53	29	9	6	3=100
b. To prevent the killing of citizens in Kosovo	69	18	4	4	5=100
April, 1999	69	19	6	5	1=100
March, 1999 <sup>10</sup>	67	21	4	6	2=100
c. To end starvation and a major refugee problem in that region	57	26	6	7	4=100
April, 1999	59	26	8	5	2=100
March, 1999 <sup>11</sup>	56	29	6	6	3=100

Q.17 How worried are you **(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE ITEMS)** — very worried, somewhat worried, not too worried, or not at all worried?

	<u>Very Worried</u>	<u>Somewhat Worried</u>	<u>Not too Worried</u>	<u>Not at all Worried</u>	<u>DK/Refused</u>
a. That U.S. troops in Kosovo might suffer casualties	56	31	7	3	3=100
April, 1999	66	25	5	3	1=100
March, 1999	55	31	9	3	2=100
b. About the financial cost of sending U.S. troops to Kosovo	35	35	16	11	3=100
April, 1999	38	35	16	11	*=100
March, 1999	21	33	26	17	3=100
c. That U.S. troops could be involved in Kosovo for a long time	49	33	11	4	3=100
April, 1999	63	25	9	3	*=100
d. That U.S. attacks against Serbian forces are hurting our relations with Russia	23	37	22	14	4=100
April, 1999	28	31	21	18	2=100

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<sup>10</sup> March 1999 trend was worded, “To prevent the killing of innocent citizens in Kosovo.”

<sup>11</sup> March 1999 trend was worded, “To prevent starvation and a major refugee problem in that region.”

**Q.17 CONTINUED ...**

	<u>Very Worried</u>	<u>Somewhat Worried</u>	<u>Not too Worried</u>	<u>Not at all Worried</u>	<u>DK/ Refused</u>
<b>FORM 1 ONLY [N=580]:</b>					
e. That innocent people are being hurt or killed by U.S. and NATO air strikes	50	34	9	4	3=100

**FORM 2 ONLY [N=599]:**

f. That Serbian civilians are being hurt or killed by U.S. and NATO air strikes April, 1999	37 40	40 38	13 16	6 5	4=100 1=100
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**BASED ON THOSE WHO SAID THEY FOLLOWED THE BOMBING “VERY”, “FAIRLY” OR “NOT TOO CLOSELY” IN Q.4b [N=985]:**

Q.17g Some people have charged that the U.S. bombed the Chinese embassy in Belgrade on purpose. Other people say the bombing was just a mistake. What is your opinion — did the U.S. bomb the Chinese embassy on purpose, or was the bombing just a mistake?

13	U.S. bombed Chinese embassy on purpose
77	Bombing just a mistake
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

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

	<u>December 1993</u>
44 Favor	45
50 Oppose	51
<u>6</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>
100	100

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

	<u>December 1993</u>
30 Protect right of Americans to own guns	34
65 Control gun ownership	57
<u>5</u> Don't know/Refused	<u>9</u>
100	100

**NOW, ON A DIFFERENT SUBJECT...**

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

19	A large city
22	A suburb near a large city
37	A small city or town
21	OR a rural area
<u>1</u>	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?

		<u>February 1997</u>
28	Excellent	25
38	Very good	31
24	Good	28
8	Only fair	11
2	Poor	4
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
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?

		<u>February 1997</u>
35	Big	25
40	Moderate	41
18	Small	24
5	No impact at all	8
<u>2</u>	Don't Know/Refused	<u>2</u>
100		100

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

44	Yes
56	No
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

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 <u>Problem</u>	Somewhat Serious <u>Problem</u>	Not Too Serious <u>Problem</u>	Not At All Serious <u>Problem</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
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 <u>1993</u>	<i>Harris</i> <u>1971</u>
63	TV news too full of violence	52	42
33	News not too full of violence	44	52
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
100		100	100

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 <u>1997</u>	Feb <u>1993</u>	<i>Harris</i> <u>1971</u>
70	Too much violence	75	72	71
25	A reasonable amount	21	25	24
3	Very little violence	2	2	3
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
100		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?

		<u>Very Concerned</u>	<u>Somewhat Concerned</u>	<u>Not too Concerned</u>	<u>Not at all Concerned</u>	<u>Don't Know/ Refused</u>
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
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**NEXT, ON ANOTHER SUBJECT...**

Q.29 In your opinion, how often should Congress get a pay raise — every year, every 2 to 5 years, every 6 to 10 years, less often, or never?

8	Every year
41	Every 2 to 5 years
19	Every 6 to 10 years
10	Less often
14	Never
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Q.30 In your opinion, how often should the president get a pay raise — every year, every 2 to 5 years, every 6 to 10 years, less often, or never?

8	Every year
39	Every 2 to 5 years
19	Every 6 to 10 years
11	Less often
17	Never
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=580]:**

Q.31 The president now earns \$200,000 a year and also gets housing and travel expenses. The president's salary has not been increased since 1969. Do you think the next president, whoever he or she is, should get a pay increase, or don't you think the president's pay should be increased?

41	President should get a pay increase
55	President should not get a pay increase
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=599]:**

Q.32 The president's salary has not been increased since 1969. Do you think the next president, whoever he or she is, should get a pay increase, or don't you think the president's pay should be increased?

49	President should get a pay increase
39	President should not get a pay increase
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**BASED ON THOSE WHO SAID "PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT GET INCREASE" IN Q.31 OR Q.32**

**[N=537]:**

Q.33 Why do you oppose a pay increase for the president — because you think presidents already earn enough, because you think presidents don't do a good job these days, or for some other reason?

54	Because presidents already earn enough
9	Because presidents are not doing a good job
35	Some other reason
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.34 If the pay for the next president IS increased from the current salary of \$200,000, how much do you think the president's salary should be increased? **(READ)**

48	By \$10,000 or less
15	By \$20,000
4	By \$30,000
12	By \$50,000, or
9	By \$75,000?
6	<b>(DO NOT READ)</b> Should not be increased
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused
100	

Finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only...

Q.35 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, or at home on at least an occasional basis?

		March	Feb	Jan	Early Dec	Early Sept	Early Aug	Early April	Jan	Nov	June	Early Sept	July	April	March	Feb	Jan
		1999	1999	1999	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	1997	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996
66	Yes	68	68	69	64	64	66	61	65	66	60	56	56	58	61	60	59
33	No	32	32	31	36	36	34	39	35	34	40	44	44	42	39	40	41
<u>1</u>	DK/Ref	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	0	0
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

**IF YES (USE A COMPUTER) IN Q.35, ASK:**

Q.36 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

**BASED ON TOTAL RESPONDENTS:**

		March	Feb	Jan	Early Dec	Nov	Early Sept	Early Aug	Nov	July	June
		1999	1999	1999	1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	1996	1995 <sup>12</sup>
48	Goes online	49	49	47	42	37	42	43	36	23	14
52	Does not go online	51	51	53	58	63	58	57	63	77	86
<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused	*	*	*	0	*	*	*	1	0	*
100		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

12

The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions:

(1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?)  
 (2) Do you, yourself, ever use a computer at (work) (school) (work or school) to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?