

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**2012 VALUES SURVEY**  
**April 4-15, 2012**  
**N=3008**

**QUESTIONS 1-2, 7-8, 17-18, 35-36 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**QUESTIONS 3-5, 9-16, 30, 40-41, 45-59 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**NO QUESTIONS 6, 22-29, 31-34, 37-39, 42-44**

**ASK FORM A ONLY [N=1494]:**

On a different subject ...

Q.19FA Do you think abortion should be **[READ] [PLEASE READ CATEGORIES IN REVERSE ORDER FOR HALF THE SAMPLE]**

|                                 | Legal<br>in all<br><u>cases</u> | Legal<br>in most<br><u>cases</u> | Illegal<br>in most<br><u>cases</u> | Illegal<br>in all<br><u>cases</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> | NET<br><i>Legal in<br/>all/most</i> | NET<br><i>Illegal in<br/>all/most</i> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Apr 4-15, 2012                  | 23                              | 31                               | 23                                 | 16                                | 7                       | 53                                  | 39                                    |
| Nov 9-14, 2011                  | 20                              | 31                               | 26                                 | 17                                | 6                       | 51                                  | 43                                    |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011              | 19                              | 35                               | 25                                 | 16                                | 5                       | 54                                  | 41                                    |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011              | 18                              | 36                               | 26                                 | 16                                | 4                       | 54                                  | 42                                    |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010              | 17                              | 33                               | 27                                 | 17                                | 7                       | 50                                  | 44                                    |
| August 11-27, 2009              | 16                              | 31                               | 27                                 | 17                                | 8                       | 47                                  | 45                                    |
| April, 2009                     | 18                              | 28                               | 28                                 | 16                                | 10                      | 46                                  | 44                                    |
| Late October, 2008              | 18                              | 35                               | 24                                 | 16                                | 7                       | 53                                  | 40                                    |
| Mid-October, 2008               | 19                              | 38                               | 22                                 | 14                                | 7                       | 57                                  | 36                                    |
| August, 2008                    | 17                              | 37                               | 26                                 | 15                                | 5                       | 54                                  | 41                                    |
| June, 2008                      | 19                              | 38                               | 24                                 | 13                                | 6                       | 57                                  | 37                                    |
| November, 2007                  | 18                              | 33                               | 29                                 | 15                                | 5                       | 51                                  | 44                                    |
| October, 2007                   | 21                              | 32                               | 24                                 | 15                                | 8                       | 53                                  | 39                                    |
| August, 2007                    | 17                              | 35                               | 26                                 | 17                                | 5                       | 52                                  | 43                                    |
| AP/Ipsos-Poll: February, 2006   | 19                              | 32                               | 27                                 | 16                                | 6                       | 51                                  | 43                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: December, 2005        | 17                              | 40                               | 27                                 | 13                                | 3                       | 57                                  | 40                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: April, 2005           | 20                              | 36                               | 27                                 | 14                                | 3                       | 56                                  | 41                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: December, 2004        | 21                              | 34                               | 25                                 | 17                                | 3                       | 55                                  | 42                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: May, 2004             | 23                              | 31                               | 23                                 | 20                                | 2                       | 54                                  | 43                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: January, 2003         | 23                              | 34                               | 25                                 | 17                                | 2                       | 57                                  | 42                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: August, 2001          | 22                              | 27                               | 28                                 | 20                                | 3                       | 49                                  | 48                                    |
| ABC/BeliefNet: June, 2001       | 22                              | 31                               | 23                                 | 20                                | 4                       | 53                                  | 43                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: January, 2001         | 21                              | 38                               | 25                                 | 14                                | 1                       | 59                                  | 39                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: September, 2000 (RVs) | 20                              | 35                               | 25                                 | 16                                | 3                       | 55                                  | 41                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: July, 2000            | 20                              | 33                               | 26                                 | 17                                | 4                       | 53                                  | 43                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: September, 1999       | 20                              | 37                               | 26                                 | 15                                | 2                       | 57                                  | 41                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: March, 1999           | 21                              | 34                               | 27                                 | 15                                | 3                       | 55                                  | 42                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: July, 1998            | 19                              | 35                               | 29                                 | 13                                | 4                       | 54                                  | 42                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: August, 1996          | 22                              | 34                               | 27                                 | 14                                | 3                       | 56                                  | 41                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: June, 1996            | 24                              | 34                               | 25                                 | 14                                | 2                       | 58                                  | 39                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: October, 1995         | 26                              | 35                               | 25                                 | 12                                | 3                       | 61                                  | 37                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: September, 1995       | 24                              | 36                               | 25                                 | 11                                | 4                       | 60                                  | 36                                    |
| ABC/WaPo: July, 1995            | 27                              | 32                               | 26                                 | 14                                | 1                       | 59                                  | 40                                    |

**ASK FORM B ONLY [N=1514]:**

Next,

Q.20FB What do you think is more important – to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

|                     | Protect right<br><u>to own guns</u> | Control<br><u>gun ownership</u> | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Apr 4-15, 2012      | 49                                  | 45                              | 6                       |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011  | 47                                  | 49                              | 5                       |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011  | 48                                  | 47                              | 6                       |
| Jan 13-16, 2011     | 49                                  | 46                              | 6                       |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010  | 46                                  | 50                              | 4                       |
| Mar 10-14, 2010     | 46                                  | 46                              | 7                       |
| Mar 31-Apr 21, 2009 | 45                                  | 49                              | 6                       |
| April, 2008         | 37                                  | 58                              | 5                       |
| November, 2007      | 42                                  | 55                              | 3                       |
| April, 2007         | 32                                  | 60                              | 8                       |
| February, 2004      | 37                                  | 58                              | 5                       |
| June, 2003          | 42                                  | 54                              | 4                       |
| May, 2000           | 38                                  | 57                              | 5                       |
| April, 2000         | 37                                  | 55                              | 8                       |
| March, 2000         | 29                                  | 66                              | 5                       |
| June, 1999          | 33                                  | 62                              | 5                       |
| May, 1999           | 30                                  | 65                              | 5                       |
| December, 1993      | 34                                  | 57                              | 9                       |

**ASK FORM B ONLY [N=1514]:**

Q.21FB Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally?

|                                 | -----Favor----- |                       |              | -----Oppose----- |                        |               | (VOL.)<br><u>DK/Ref</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
|                                 | <u>Total</u>    | <u>Strongly favor</u> | <u>Favor</u> | <u>Total</u>     | <u>Strongly oppose</u> | <u>Oppose</u> |                         |
| Apr 4-15, 2012                  | 47              | 22                    | 25           | 43               | 22                     | 21            | 11                      |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 <sup>1</sup> | 46              | --                    | --           | 44               | --                     | --            | 9                       |
| Feb 22-Mar 1, 2011              | 45              | 20                    | 25           | 46               | 25                     | 21            | 9                       |
| Aug 25-Sep 6, 2010              | 43              | 16                    | 27           | 47               | 26                     | 22            | 10                      |
| Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010              | 41              | 17                    | 24           | 48               | 24                     | 24            | 10                      |
| Aug 11-17, 2009                 | 39              | 14                    | 25           | 53               | 31                     | 22            | 8                       |
| Mid-April, 2009                 | 35              | 14                    | 21           | 54               | 31                     | 23            | 11                      |
| August, 2008                    | 39              | 13                    | 26           | 52               | 30                     | 22            | 9                       |
| June, 2008                      | 40              | 15                    | 25           | 52               | 31                     | 21            | 8                       |
| Late May, 2008                  | 38              | 15                    | 23           | 49               | 29                     | 20            | 13                      |
| November, 2007                  | 36              | 12                    | 24           | 54               | 29                     | 25            | 10                      |
| August, 2007                    | 36              | 13                    | 23           | 55               | 31                     | 24            | 9                       |
| Early January, 2007             | 37              | 13                    | 24           | 55               | 33                     | 22            | 8                       |
| Early November, 2006 (RVs)      | 30              | 10                    | 20           | 57               | 31                     | 26            | 13                      |
| July, 2006                      | 35              | 12                    | 23           | 56               | 31                     | 25            | 9                       |
| June, 2006                      | 33              | 13                    | 20           | 55               | 32                     | 23            | 12                      |
| March, 2006                     | 39              | 10                    | 29           | 51               | 28                     | 23            | 10                      |
| July, 2005                      | 36              | 13                    | 23           | 53               | 31                     | 22            | 11                      |
| December, 2004                  | 32              | 14                    | 18           | 61               | 38                     | 23            | 7                       |
| August, 2004                    | 29              | 8                     | 21           | 60               | 35                     | 25            | 11                      |
| July, 2004                      | 32              | 10                    | 22           | 56               | 33                     | 23            | 12                      |
| Mid-March, 2004                 | 32              | 10                    | 22           | 59               | 35                     | 24            | 9                       |
| Early February, 2004            | 30              | 9                     | 21           | 63               | 42                     | 21            | 7                       |
| November, 2003                  | 30              | 10                    | 20           | 62               | 41                     | 21            | 8                       |
| October, 2003                   | 30              | 9                     | 21           | 58               | 33                     | 25            | 12                      |
| Mid-July, 2003                  | 38              | 10                    | 28           | 53               | 30                     | 23            | 9                       |

<sup>1</sup> In Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011, July 21-Aug 5, 2010, Aug 11-17, 2009, August 2008, August 2007, Early January 2007, Early November 2006, March 2006, July 2005, December 2004, Early February 2004, November 2003, Mid-July 2003, March 2001 and June 1996 the question was asked as part of a list of items. In August 2009, April 2009, May 2008 and June 2008, the question read "allowing gay and lesbian couples;" all other instances read "allowing gays and lesbians."

## Q.21FB CONTINUED...

|             | -----Favor----- |                   |       | -----Oppose----- |                    |        | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------|------------------|--------------------|--------|------------------|
|             | Total           | Strongly<br>favor | Favor | Total            | Strongly<br>oppose | Oppose |                  |
| March, 2001 | 35              | 8                 | 27    | 57               | 34                 | 23     | 8                |
| June, 1996  | 27              | 6                 | 21    | 65               | 41                 | 24     | 8                |

**ASK ALL:**

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

**ASK IF INDEP/NO PREF/OTHER/DK/REF (PARTY=3,4,5,9):**

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

|                      | Republican | Democrat | Independent | (VOL.)<br>No<br>preference | (VOL.)<br>Other<br>party | (VOL.)<br>DK/Ref | Lean<br>Rep | Lean<br>Dem |
|----------------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Apr 4-15, 2012       | 24         | 31       | 39          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 15          | 15          |
| Mar 7-11, 2012       | 24         | 34       | 36          | 3                          | 1                        | 2                | 16          | 17          |
| Feb 8-12, 2012       | 26         | 32       | 36          | 4                          | 1                        | 2                | 13          | 17          |
| Jan 11-16, 2012      | 22         | 31       | 42          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 17          | 16          |
| Jan 4-8, 2012        | 26         | 31       | 35          | 4                          | *                        | 4                | 14          | 14          |
| Dec 7-11, 2011       | 23         | 33       | 38          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 12          | 17          |
| Nov 9-14, 2011       | 24         | 33       | 38          | 3                          | 1                        | 2                | 16          | 15          |
| Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011   | 23         | 33       | 38          | 2                          | 1                        | 3                | 18          | 16          |
| Aug 17-21, 2011      | 24         | 30       | 40          | 3                          | *                        | 3                | 17          | 18          |
| Jul 20-24, 2011      | 24         | 32       | 38          | 4                          | *                        | 2                | 16          | 14          |
| Jun 15-19, 2011      | 26         | 34       | 32          | 4                          | *                        | 4                | 13          | 13          |
| May 25-30, 2011      | 24         | 33       | 38          | 3                          | *                        | 2                | 15          | 17          |
| Mar 30-Apr 3, 2011   | 25         | 32       | 37          | 3                          | *                        | 3                | 17          | 16          |
| <b>Yearly Totals</b> |            |          |             |                            |                          |                  |             |             |
| 2011                 | 24.3       | 32.3     | 37.4        | 3.1                        | .4                       | 2.5              | 15.7        | 15.6        |
| 2010                 | 25.2       | 32.7     | 35.2        | 3.6                        | .4                       | 2.8              | 14.5        | 14.1        |
| 2009                 | 23.9       | 34.4     | 35.1        | 3.4                        | .4                       | 2.8              | 13.1        | 15.7        |
| 2008                 | 25.7       | 36.0     | 31.5        | 3.6                        | .3                       | 3.0              | 10.6        | 15.2        |
| 2007                 | 25.3       | 32.9     | 34.1        | 4.3                        | .4                       | 2.9              | 10.9        | 17.0        |
| 2006                 | 27.8       | 33.1     | 30.9        | 4.4                        | .3                       | 3.4              | 10.5        | 15.1        |
| 2005                 | 29.3       | 32.8     | 30.2        | 4.5                        | .3                       | 2.8              | 10.3        | 14.9        |
| 2004                 | 30.0       | 33.5     | 29.5        | 3.8                        | .4                       | 3.0              | 11.7        | 13.4        |
| 2003                 | 30.3       | 31.5     | 30.5        | 4.8                        | .5                       | 2.5              | 12.0        | 12.6        |
| 2002                 | 30.4       | 31.4     | 29.8        | 5.0                        | .7                       | 2.7              | 12.4        | 11.6        |
| 2001                 | 29.0       | 33.2     | 29.5        | 5.2                        | .6                       | 2.6              | 11.9        | 11.6        |
| 2001 Post-Sept 11    | 30.9       | 31.8     | 27.9        | 5.2                        | .6                       | 3.6              | 11.7        | 9.4         |
| 2001 Pre-Sept 11     | 27.3       | 34.4     | 30.9        | 5.1                        | .6                       | 1.7              | 12.1        | 13.5        |
| 2000                 | 28.0       | 33.4     | 29.1        | 5.5                        | .5                       | 3.6              | 11.6        | 11.7        |
| 1999                 | 26.6       | 33.5     | 33.7        | 3.9                        | .5                       | 1.9              | 13.0        | 14.5        |
| 1998                 | 27.9       | 33.7     | 31.1        | 4.6                        | .4                       | 2.3              | 11.6        | 13.1        |
| 1997                 | 28.0       | 33.4     | 32.0        | 4.0                        | .4                       | 2.3              | 12.2        | 14.1        |
| 1996                 | 28.9       | 33.9     | 31.8        | 3.0                        | .4                       | 2.0              | 12.1        | 14.9        |
| 1995                 | 31.6       | 30.0     | 33.7        | 2.4                        | .6                       | 1.3              | 15.1        | 13.5        |
| 1994                 | 30.1       | 31.5     | 33.5        | 1.3                        | --                       | 3.6              | 13.7        | 12.2        |
| 1993                 | 27.4       | 33.6     | 34.2        | 4.4                        | 1.5                      | 2.9              | 11.5        | 14.9        |
| 1992                 | 27.6       | 33.7     | 34.7        | 1.5                        | 0                        | 2.5              | 12.6        | 16.5        |
| 1991                 | 30.9       | 31.4     | 33.2        | 0                          | 1.4                      | 3.0              | 14.7        | 10.8        |
| 1990                 | 30.9       | 33.2     | 29.3        | 1.2                        | 1.9                      | 3.4              | 12.4        | 11.3        |
| 1989                 | 33         | 33       | 34          | --                         | --                       | --               | --          | --          |
| 1987                 | 26         | 35       | 39          | --                         | --                       | --               | --          | --          |