

SLERP #140
October 13-17, 2002

Hello, my name is _____ (first and last name). I'm on the staff of the Eagleton Poll, and I'm taking a public opinion survey of New Jersey adults for Rutgers University. I'd like your views on what New Jersey is like as a place to live and some topics currently in the news. We are not selling anything, not asking for money, and all your answers will be completely confidential.

1. To begin with, for how many years have you lived in New Jersey, or have you lived here of your life? all

- 1 Two or less
- 2 3 - 5
- 3 6 - 10
- 4 11 - 20
- 5 21 or more
- 6 All my life
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

2. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

2B. As you may know, there will be an election for United States Senator from New Jersey this coming November. Do you think you will definitely vote, probably vote, probably NOT vote, or definitely not vote in the election for Senator?

- 1 Definitely will
- 2 Probably will
- 3 Probably will not [THANK AND TERMINATE]
- 4 Definitely will not [THANK AND TERMINATE]
- 9 (VOL) Don't know / Refused [THANK AND TERMINATE]

3. If the election for Senator were held today, for whom would you vote [ROTATE CHOICES] Frank Lautenberg the Democrat, or Doug Forrester the Republican?

- 1 Lautenberg [GO TO Q4a]
- 2 Forrester [GO TO Q4a]
- 3 Other candidate (VOL) [GO TO Q6]
- 8 (VOL) Wouldn't vote [GO TO Q6]
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Refused/UNDECIDED [GO TO Q4b]

- 4a. Are you very sure about voting for (FILL CANDIDATE FROM Q3); or might you change your mind before Election Day?
- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------|
| 1 | Very sure | [GO TO Q5] |
| 2 | Might change | [GO TO Q5] |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know/Refused | [GO TO Q5] |
- 4b. [IF "UNDECIDED" OR "DON'T KNOW" TO Q3 ASK:] [ROTATE OPTIONS]
At this moment do you lean [more towards Lautenberg] or [more towards Forrester]?
- | | | |
|---|--|------------|
| 1 | Lautenberg | [GO TO Q6] |
| 2 | Forrester | [GO TO Q6] |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know/Refused/NEITHER/UNDECIDED | [GO TO Q6] |
5. When did you decide who to vote for – in the last few days, in the last couple weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?
- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Last few days |
| 2 | Last couple weeks |
| 3 | Last month or two |
| 4 | Knew all along |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't know/Refused |
6. Is your opinion of FRANK LAUTENBERG favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion of him. [IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE: Is that very [favorable/unfavorable] or somewhat [favorable/unfavorable]?
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Very favorable |
| 2 | Somewhat favorable |
| 3 | Somewhat unfavorable |
| 4 | Very unfavorable |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO OPINION |
7. Is your opinion of DOUG FORRESTER favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion of him. [IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE: Is that very [favorable/unfavorable] or somewhat [favorable/unfavorable]?
- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Very favorable |
| 2 | Somewhat favorable |
| 3 | Somewhat unfavorable |
| 4 | Very unfavorable |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO OPINION |

8. Overall, how satisfied are you with the candidates now running for the U.S. Senate – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?
1. Very satisfied
 2. Somewhat satisfied
 3. Not very satisfied
 4. Not at all satisfied
 9. (VOL) Don't Know/Refused
9. How much interest do you have in the election for Senator -- a lot, some, a little, or none at all?
- 1 A lot
 - 2 Some
 - 3 A little
 - 4 None
 - 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused
10. And how closely have you been following the campaign for Senator -- very closely, somewhat closely, or not very closely so far?
- 1 Very closely
 - 2 Somewhat closely
 - 3 Not very closely
 - 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused
11. What is the most important issue to you personally in determining who to vote for?
- 1 The economy (general)/Unemployment/jobs/Stock market
 - 2 War in Iraq
 - 3 Gun control
 - 4 Corporate responsibility/Enron/Tyco/corporate scandals/greed
 - 5 Taxes and tax reform
 - 6 Social security/retirement
 - 7 Morals/ethics/personal integrity
 - 8 Defense/War on terrorism/National security/homeland security
 - 9 Health care
 - 10 Environment
 - 11 Education
 - 12 Abortion/choice
 - 13 Crime
 - 97 No Issue/party
 - 99 Don't know/Refused/Nothing

12. Which candidate do you think would do a better job of helping the economy—Forrester, Lautenberg, or wouldn't there be any difference?
- 1 Forrester
 - 2 Lautenberg
 - 3 No difference
 - 9 Don't know
13. Which candidate do you think has views closer to your own about whether the US should go to war with Iraq---Forrester, Lautenberg, or aren't you sure?
- 1 Forrester
 - 2 Lautenberg
 - 3 Not sure
 - 9 Don't know
14. Which candidate would accomplish more for New Jersey in the U.S. Senate - Forrester or Lautenberg?
- 1 Forrester
 - 2 Lautenberg
 - 3 (VOL) Both/Neither/Other
 - 9 (VOL) Don't Know/Refused
15. In deciding who to vote for in the Senate election, please tell me if each of the following is very important, somewhat important, or not very important to YOU. First... (RANDOMIZE)... -- |
- A Honesty and ethics?
 - B Environmental issues?
 - C The issue of abortion?
 - D The candidates' positions on gun control?
 - E The candidates' positions on taxes and tax reform?
 - F Preventing terrorism and strengthening national defense?
 - G The candidates' positions on protecting social security?
- 1 Very
 - 2 Somewhat
 - 3 Not Very
 - 9 (VOL) DK/REF

16. [ASK EACH ITEM IN Q15 ONLY IF “VERY IMPORTANT” IN Q16] Now let me read you back some items you said were very important. Which candidate [READ ITEM] -- Doug Forrester or Frank Lautenberg -- |

- A Is more honest?
- B Do you agree with more on environmental issues?
- C Is closer to you on the issue of abortion?
- D Is closer to your position on gun control?
- E Do you agree with more on taxes and tax reform?
- F Would do a better job preventing terrorism and strengthening defense?
- G Would do what you want on social security?

- 1. Forrester
- 2. Lautenberg
- 3 (VOL) Both/Neither/Other
- 9. (VOL) DK/REF

17. How would you describe Lautenberg – as a liberal, moderate, or conservative; or aren’t you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 4 Not sure
- 9 Refused

18. How would you describe Forrester – as a liberal, moderate, or conservative; or aren’t you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 4 Not sure
- 9 Refused

19. In the last week, have you talked about this year’s senate race with your family or friends, or haven’t you done this in the last 7 days?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don’t know

20. Have you seen or heard any campaign ads for Lautenberg on TV or radio in the last week, or not. IF "YES" ASK: TV only, radio only or both?

- 1 Yes, TV only
- 2 Yes, Radio only
- 3 Yes, both
- 4 No
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

21. Have you seen or heard any campaign ads for Forrester on TV or radio in the last week, or not. IF "YES" ASK: TV only, radio only or both?

- 1 Yes, TV only
- 2 Yes, Radio only
- 3 Yes, both
- 4 No
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

22. Have you received campaign literature about any of the senate candidates mailed to your home, or not. IF "YES" ASK: Have you received mail for Forrester, for Lautenberg, or for both candidates?

- 1 Yes, Forrester only
- 2 Yes, Lautenberg only
- 3 Yes, for both candidates
- 4 No
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

23. Do you think the Democrats should have been allowed to replace Torricelli with Lautenberg in the election in November, or should Torricelli's name have been left on the ballot?

- 1 Should have been allowed to replaced
- 2 Should have been left on the ballot
- 3 Other (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

B1. There will also be an election for the U.S. House of Representatives in your district this November. If the election were held today, would you vote for the Republican candidate or the Democratic candidate?

- 1 Republican
- 2 Democratic
- 3 (VOL) Other
- 9 (VOL) Don't know/Undecided/Refused

- B2. Did you vote in last year's election for Governor between Brett Schundler and Jim McGreevey, not vote, or can't you recall. IF YES, PROBE: Who for—McGreevey, Schundler or someone else?
- 1 Yes—McGreevey
 - 2 Yes—Schundler
 - 3 Yes—Other
 - 4 Yes—Don't know who/refused
 - 5 No/didn't vote
 - 6 (VOL) Not eligible
 - 9 (VOL) Can't recall/Don't know/Refused
- B3. And did you vote in the 2000 election for President between George Bush and Al Gore, not vote, or can't you recall. IF YES, PROBE: Did you vote for Bush or Gore?
- 1 Yes—Bush
 - 2 Yes—Gore
 - 3 Yes--Other
 - 4 No/didn't vote
 - 5 (VOL) Not eligible
 - 9 (VOL) Can't recall/Don't know/Refused
- B4. We know that most people don't vote in all elections. Usually between one-quarter to one-half of those eligible actually come out to vote. Can you tell me how often you vote in local and national elections -- Always, sometimes, rarely, or never?
- 1 Always
 - 2 Sometimes
 - 3 Rarely
 - 4 Never
 - 5 (VOL) Other (eligibility problems)
 - 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused
- B5. Some people seem to follow what's going on in government and public affairs, whether there's an election or not. Others aren't that interested. Do you follow what's going on in government and public affairs most of the time, some of the time, rarely or never?
- 1 Most of the time
 - 2 Some of the time
 - 3 Rarely
 - 4 Never
 - 9 (VOL) Don't Know/Refused/DEPENDS

D1. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------|
| 1 | Democrat | [GO TO QD3] |
| 2 | Republican | [GO TO QD3] |
| 3 | Independent | [ask QD2] |
| 4 | Something Else / Other | [ask QD2] |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO OPINION | [ask QD2] |

D2. Do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Democratic party |
| 2 | Republican party |
| 3 | (VOL) Other party |
| 4 | (VOL) Neither |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO OPINION |

D3. Regardless of the political party you might favor, do you consider yourself to be liberal, conservative, or somewhere in between?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Liberal |
| 2 | Conservative |
| 3 | Somewhere in between |
| 4 | (VOL) Other |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO OPINION |

D4. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Yes | |
| 2 | No | [GO TO QD6] |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused | [GO TO QD6] |

D5. Did you ever attend college. (IF YES, ASK: Did you graduate?)

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Yes, graduated | |
| 2 | Yes, did not graduate | [GO TO QD6] |
| 3 | Junior college--graduate | [GO TO QD6] |
| 4 | Vocational/technical school | [GO TO QD6] |
| 9 | (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NO | [GO TO QD6] |

D5A. Was this from a 4-year college, a junior college two-year program, or a vocational/technical school?

- 1 Four year college
- 2 Junior college/2 year program
- 3 Vocational/technical school
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / OTHER

D6. What was your age on your last birthday?

/ ___ / ___ / (ENTER AGE: 97=97+, 98=DK, 99 = REFUSED)

D7. Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused

D8. Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

- 1 White
- 2 Black
- 3 Asian
- 4 (VOL) Other
- 9 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused / NOT DETERMINED

D9. In what county do you live?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| 01 Atlantic | 08 Gloucester | 15 Ocean |
| 02 Bergen | 09 Hudson | 16 Passaic |
| 03 Burlington | 10 Hunterdon | 17 Salem |
| 04 Camden | 11 Mercer | 18 Somerset |
| 05 Cape May | 12 Middlesex | 19 Sussex |
| 06 Cumberland | 13 Monmouth | 20 Union |
| 07 Essex | 14 Morris | 21 Warren |
| 99 (VOL) Don't Know / Refused | | |