

New Jersey Poll 14
January 1975

TIME INTERVIEW BEGAN

Hello, my name is _____. I'm a student at Rutgers University and I'm taking a survey (public opinion poll) for the Eagleton Institute. I'd like your views on some important issues facing the state of New Jersey.

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

- 1 LESS THAN ONE
- 2 1 or 2
- 3 3 - 5
- 4 6 - 10
- 5 11 - 20
- 6 21 - 30
- 7 MORE THAN 30
- 8 ALL MY LIFE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

2. How would you rate the job Gerald Ford is doing as President--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

3. Would you say you approve or disapprove of the way President Ford has been handling the problems of the economy?

- 1 APPROVE
- 2 DISAPPROVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way President Ford has been handling the nation's foreign affairs?

- 1 APPROVE
- 2 DISAPPROVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

5. How would you rate the job Congress has done during the past year--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

6. A new Congress will begin its work later this month. If you could tell this Congress to try to solve one problem what would it be?

7. There has been much talk in the last year about an "energy crisis." How serious a problem do you think the energy crisis is --is it a very serious problem, somewhat serious, or not at all serious?

- 1 VERY SERIOUS
- 2 SOMEWHAT SERIOUS
- 3 NOT AT ALL SERIOUS
- 4 NOT A PROBLEM (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

8. In the past year do you think our energy problems have gotten better or worse?

- 1 BETTER
- 2 WORSE
- 3 NO CHANGE (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

9. How long do you think it will be before we solve our energy problems--a year or two, three to five years, six to ten, eleven to twenty-five, more than 25, or never?

- 1 1 - 2
- 2 3 - 5
- 3 6 - 10
- 4 11 - 25
- 5 26 +
- 6 NEVER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

10. Which party do you think is better able to handle our energy problems--the Democrats or the Republicans?

- 1 DEMOCRATS
- 2 REPUBLICANS
- 3 NEITHER (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

11. A number of suggestions have been made about how we can help solve our energy problems. I am going to read you a list of these suggestions. For each one, could you tell me whether you favor or oppose it. Do you favor or oppose (START AT DESIGNATED POINT)|

- A Strictly enforcing the 55 mile per hour speed limit?
- B Increasing taxes on gasoline?
- C Increasing off shore drilling for oil?
- D Using atomic energy to generate more electricity?
- E Rationing gasoline?
- F Spending more money on mass transit such as trains and buses?
- G Relaxing enforcement of air and water pollution laws?
- H Placing a tax on large and powerful cars?
- I Increasing the money spent on research to develop new sources of energy?
- J Permitting more strip mining of coal?

- 1 FAVOR
- 2 OPPOSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

12. Two measures that government officials are considering right now to reduce the amount of gasoline we use are gasoline rationing or increasing the tax on gasoline by at least 20 cents a gallon. If you had to choose which would you prefer gasoline rationing or higher gasoline taxes?

- 1 RATIONING
- 2 INCREASE TAXES
- 3 NEITHER (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

13. Plans are also being made to drill for oil off the New Jersey shore. Would you be in favor of off shore oil drilling in the waters around New Jersey?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

14. Another problem facing the country is inflation. How serious a problem do you think rising prices are- very serious, somewhat serious, or not at all serious ?

- 1 VERY SERIOUS
- 2 SOMEWHAT SERIOUS
- 3 NOT AT ALL SERIOUS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

15. How serious a problem do you think recession and unemployment are--very serious, somewhat serious, or not at all serious?

- 1 VERY SERIOUS
- 2 SOMEWHAT SERIOUS
- 3 NOT AT ALL SERIOUS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

I'd like you to think of your own personal economic well being.

16. Do you think you are better off or worse off than you were one year ago?

- 1 BETTER OFF
- 2 WORSE OFF
- 3 ABOUT THE SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

17. A year from now do you think you will be better off or worse off than now?

- 1 BETTER OFF
- 2 WORSE OFF
- 3 ABOUT THE SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

18. A number of proposals have been made to deal with the problems of the economy. One proposal is for the government to control both prices and wages. Would you be in favor of the government imposing price and wage controls ?

- 1 YES
- 2 YES, IF DONE FAIRLY; IF WELL ENFORCED (Volunteered)

- 3 YES, BUT PRICES ONLY (Volunteered)
- 4 YES, BUT TEMPORARY CONTROLS ONLY (Volunteered)
- 5 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

20. Do you think the government should provide jobs for all people out of work?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

21. Which party do you think is better able to handle the problems of the economy--the Democrats or the Republicans?

- 1 DEMOCRATS
- 2 REPUBLICANS
- 3 NEITHER (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now let me ask you a few questions about politics here in New Jersey.

22. Overall, how good a job do you think the Governor of New Jersey--Brendan Byrne--is doing--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

23. How good a job do you think the New Jersey State Legislature is doing--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR
- 4 POOR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

25. State and local government has a choice of many different kinds of taxes it can use to raise money to meet the needs of the state and community. Which do you think is the fairest type of tax--a sales tax, a property tax, or an income tax?

- 1 SALES TAX
- 2 PROPERTY TAX
- 3 INCOME TAX
- 4 NONE (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

26. Which is the unfairest?

- 1 SALES TAX
- 2 PROPERTY TAX
- 3 INCOME TAX
- 4 NONE (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. During the last few months the state legislature has been discussing the possibility of raising taxes or imposing new taxes. How closely have you followed this discussion --very closely, somewhat closely or not at all closely?

- 1 VERY CLOSELY
- 2 SOMEWHAT CLOSELY
- 3 NOT AT ALL CLOSELY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

28. The New Jersey Supreme Court has declared the present system of financing public schools through the local property tax unconstitutional. The state legislature has been trying to decide on another method of financing public schools. A number of different plans have been suggested. One of these is a state income tax. Would you be in favor of a state income tax if it led to a reduction in the local property tax for schools (REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY--- DO NOT ELABORATE) ?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 DEPENDS ON PLAN (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

29. Another way to reduce the local property tax is to increase the state sales tax. Would you be in favor-of increasing the sales tax if this helped reduce the local property tax for schools (REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY--DO NOT ELABORATE)?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 DEPENDS ON PLAN (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

30. A third plan being considered is a statewide property tax. The state would collect and distribute the tax rather than the local government and the tax rate would be the same for all communities. Would you be in favor of a statewide property tax if it replaced the local property tax for schools (REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY ---DO NOT ELABORATE) ?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 DEPENDS ON PLAN (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

31. If you had to choose one of these three tax plans which would you prefer--a state income tax; an increase in the sales tax or a statewide property tax?

- 1 INCOME TAX
- 2 SALES TAX
- 3 PROPERTY TAX
- 4 NONE (Volunteered)
- 5 INCOME AND SALES (Volunteered)
- 6 INCOME AND PROPERTY (Volunteered)
- 7 SALES AND PROPERTY (Volunteered)
- 8 ALL THREE (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

32. Despite the court's order, no changes were made in the way public schools are paid for. Do you think this failure to meet the court deadline was more the Governor's fault or the Legislature's fault?

- 1 GOVERNOR
- 2 LEGISLATURE
- 3 NEITHER (Volunteered)
- 4 BOTH (Volunteered)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

33. I am going to read you a few statements about this tax debate. For each statement that I read, could you tell me whether you agree or disagree with it (START AT DESIGNATED POINT AND REPEAT CHOICES AS NECESSARY)|

- A Governor Byrne tried hard to solve the tax problem?
- B All the talk about financing public schools is just an excuse to raise taxes?
- C The legislature made an honest effort to solve a difficult problem?
- D Governor Byrne did a poor job of winning support for his program?
- E This whole question of school financing should be settled by the courts?
- F Members of the legislature were just playing politics and didn't really try to solve the problem?

- 1 AGREE
- 2 DISAGREE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

I'd like to ask you a few questions about television.

34. Do you and members of your family usually watch television stations located in Philadelphia or located in New York?

- 1 PHILADELPHIA
- 2 NEW YORK
- 3 BOTH
- 4 SOMEWHERE ELSE (Where?)
- 5 DO NOT WATCH TV
- 6 NO TV SET
- 9 DON'T KNOW

35. How do you decide what television programs to watch? For example, do you often, (START AT DESIGNATED POINT, REPEATING CHOICES AS NECESSARY)...|

- A Use TV Guide?
- B Read the listings in the daily newspapers ?
- C Find out about programs from articles and columns in the newspaper?
- D Just turn the dial and look for something you like ?
- E Find out about programs from ads on television?
- F Use a TV supplement from a Sunday newspaper ?
- G Watch shows you like and therefore know when they are on ?
- H Find out about programs from ads in the newspaper?

- 1 OFTEN
- 2 SOMETIMES
- 3 NEVER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

36. The New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority currently operates four television stations. In the past month have you watched any of these Jerseyvision channels 23, 50, 52, or 58?

1 YES [Go to q.38]

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

(IF NO OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 36, ASK:)

37. In the last month, have you or any member of your family watched a UHF television station--that is any channel between 14 and 83?

1 YES

2 NO

3 DOESN'T RECEIVE UHF

9 DON'T KNOW

(IF YES TO Q. 36, ASK:)

38. Which ones (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY) |

A Channel 23?

B Channel 50?

C Channel 52?

D Channel 58?

1 YES

2 NO

42. Have you or anyone in your family ever watched the program "Imagenes" (ee-mah-hay-nes)?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

43. Did you or anyone in your family watch on TV the high school football playoffs in Atlantic City last month?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

44. Did you or anyone in your family watch on TV the Rutgers-Princeton basketball game last month?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

45. Did you or anyone in your family watch the program "Family at War" on Channels 23, 50, 52, or 58?

1 YES

2 NO [Go to q.47]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.47]

(IF YES TO Q. 45, ASK:)

46. Did you watch it regularly every week, every now and then, or only once or twice?

- 1 REGULARLY
- 2 NOW AND THEN
- 3 ONCE OR TWICE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now turning to a different topic.

47. Since New Jersey is on the ocean it has a wide variety of beach and shore areas. Have you visited any beach or shore area in New Jersey in the past year?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.54]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.54]

48. Have you visited a salt marsh in the last year --by salt marsh we mean low wetlands covered with grass and reeds bordering coastal bays and rivers ?

- 1 YES [Go to q.50]
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF NO TO Q. 48, ASK:)

49. Have you ever visited a salt marsh?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

50. About how many days last year did you visit a salt marsh in New Jersey?

52. Have you visited the Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge in the past year?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

53. I am going to read you a list of things people do when they visit a salt marsh. For each activity could you tell me if you always, usually, occasionally, or never do this when you are at a salt marsh (START AT DESIGNATED POINT AND REPEAT --OPTIONS AS NECESSARY) |

- A Fishing?
- B Hunting?
- C Clamming?
- D Crabbing?
- E Watching animals or birds?
- F Picnicking or other types of recreation?

- 1 ALWAYS
- 2 USUALLY

- 3 OCCASIONALLY
- 4 NEVER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT [Go to q.56]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.56]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF INDEPENDENT, DON'T KNOW, OR SOMETHING ELSE TO Q. 54, ASK:)

55. As of today, do you lean more toward the Democratic Party or more toward the Republican Party?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/UNDECIDED

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

- 1 LIBERAL [Go to q.58]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to .q58]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 56, ASK:)

57. Do you lean more toward the liberal side or more toward the conservative side?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 CONSERVATIVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

58. Are you now registered to vote?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

59. Did you vote in last November's elections?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

60. Do you own or rent your apartment or house?

- 1 OWN
- 2 RENT

- 3 LIVE RENT FREE WITH PARENTS/RELATIVES
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

61. What was the last grade in school you completed?

- 1 8TH GRADE OR LESS
- 2 HIGH SCHOOL INCOMPLETE (Grades 9 , 10, 11)
- 3 HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETE (Grade 12)
- 4 SOME COLLEGE
- 5 COLLEGE GRADUATE
- 6 GRADUATE WORK
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

62. What is your religious preference?

- 1 PROTESTANT
- 2 CATHOLIC/ORTHODOX
- 3 JEWISH
- 4 OTHER (Specify)
- 5 NONE
- 9 REFUSED

63. What is your race?

- 1 WHITE
- 2 NEGRO/BLACK
- 3 OTHER (Specify)
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

64. In which of these age groups are you (READ RESPONSES) ?

- 1 18 - 20
- 2 21 - 24
- 3 25 - 29
- 4 THIRTIES (30 - 39)
- 5 FORTIES (40 - 49)
- 6 FIFTIES (50 - 59)
- 7 60 OR OVER
- 9 NO ANSWER/REFUSED

65. Is the chief wage earner in your household regularly employed?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.67]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.67]

(IF YES TO Q. 65, ASK:)

66. Does the chief wage earner get paid at an hourly rate, paid a salary, or is the chief wage earner self-employed?

- 1 HOURLY (and piecework)
- 2 SALARIED (and commissions)
- 3 SELF EMPLOYED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

67. So that we can group all answers, what is your total annual family income before taxes: under \$5,000; \$5,000 to \$10,000; \$10,000 to \$15,000; \$15,000 to \$20,000; over \$20,000?

- 1 UNDER \$5,000
- 2 \$5,000 - \$10,000
- 3 \$10,000 - \$15,000
- 4 \$15,000 - \$20,000
- 5 OVER \$20,000
- 9 REFUSED/DON'T KNOW

68. Where do you live--in what township or municipality

68a. In what county is that?

69. Thinking back over the last four weeks, if we had called you on a (day of week)--at this time, how many times would you have been home--one out of four times, two out of four times, three out of four times, or all the time?

- 1 NEVER HOME (Volunteered)
- 2 ONE OUT OF FOUR TIMES (rarely, hardly ever)
- 3 TWO OUT OF FOUR TIMES (sometimes)
- 4 THREE OUT OF FOUR TIMES (most of the time, regularly)
- 5 ALL OF THE TIME
- 9 REFUSED