

NEW JERSEY POLL 15
March 1975

TIME INTERVIEW BEGAN

Hello, my name is ____ (first and last name). I'm (a student at/on the staff of) 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

2A. What in your opinion are the two or three most important issues facing the state of New Jersey (FIRST MENTION)?

2B. What in your opinion are the two or three most important issues facing the state of New Jersey (SECOND MENTION)?

2C. What in your opinion are the two or three most important issues facing the state of New Jersey (THIRD MENTION)?

3. 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

4. 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

5. 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

6. 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

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Congress has been handling the problems of the economy?

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

8. Congress is now discussing the possibility of an income tax rebate. Each family would have from \$100 to \$200 of their income tax returned. What do you think you would do with a \$200 rebate (CIRCLE AS MANY AS ARE MENTIONED)|

- A EVERY DAY LIVING EXPENSES?
- B SPEND IT ON A LUXURY ITEM ?
- C DOWN PAYMENT ON A LARGE PURCHASE?
- D SAVE IT ?
- E PAY OFF OLD DEBTS ?
- F SOMETHING ELSE (Specify) ?
- G DON'T KNOW ?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know

9. Some people are very interested in what's going on in government; others aren't that interested. Would you say you follow what's going on in government most of the time, some of the time, only now and then, or hardly at all?

- 1 MOST OF TIME
- 2 SOME OF THE TIME
- 3 ONLY NOW AND THEN
- 4 HARDLY AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

10. Which one do you follow most closely--international affairs, national affairs, state affairs, or local affairs ?

- 1 INTERNATIONAL
- 2 NATIONAL
- 3 STATE
- 4 LOCAL
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

11. I'm going to ask you a series of questions about where you get your information about government and politics. Do you regularly get it (START AT DESIGNATED POINT AND REPEAT QUESTIONS AS NECESSARY) |

- A From Newspapers?
- B From Television?

- C From Radio?
- D From Friends and Acquaintances?
- E From Magazines and Periodicals?

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

(IF NONE OR ONLY ONE MENTIONED, SKIP TO Q. 13, NEXT PAGE)

12. Which of these do you consider most valuable-- PROBE: Which one do you follow most closely?

- 1 NEWSPAPERS
- 2 TELEVISION
- 3 RADIO
- 4 FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES
- 5 MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS
- 9 DON'T KNOW/ALL THE SAME

13. Turning now to politics here in New Jersey, where do you get your information about what's going on in Trenton and throughout the state-- Do you regularly get it... (START AT DESIGNATED POINT AND REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY.) |

- A From Newspapers?
- B From Television?
- C From Radio ?
- D From Friends and Acquaintances?
- E From Magazines and Periodicals?

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

IF NONE OR ONLY ONE MENTIONED, SKIP TO Q. 15, NEXT PAGE

14. Which of these do you consider most valuable for state news-- PROBE: Which one do you follow most closely for state news?

- 1 NEWSPAPERS
- 2 TELEVISION
- 3 RADIO
- 4 FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES
- 5 MAGAZINES AND PERIODICALS
- 9 DON'T KNOW/ALL THE SAME

15. Do you usually watch television stations located in Philadelphia or located in New York?

- 1 PHILADELPHIA
- 2 NEW YORK
- 3 BOTH [Go to q.17]
- 4 DOESN'T WATCH TV [Go to q.20]
- 5 NO TV SET [Go to q.20]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.20]

IF PHILADELPHIA OR NEW YORK TO Q. 15, ASK:)

16. Do you also occasionally watch television stations located in Philadelphia/New York (READ OTHER CITY) ?

- 1 PHILADELPHIA-YES
- 2 NEW YORK--YES
- 3 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF BOTH TO Q. 15, ASK:)

17. Which do you watch more?

- 1 PHILADELPHIA
- 2 NEW YORK
- 3 NEITHER/BOTH (VOLUNTEERED ONLY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

18. 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.18A]
- 2 NO [Go to q.20]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.20]

(IF YES TO Q. 18, ASK:)

18. Which ones (CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY) |

- A Channel 23?
- B Channel 50?
- C Channel 52?
- D Channel 58?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know

(IF WATCHED MORE THAN ONE, ASK:)

19. Which do you watch the most?

- 1 CHANNEL 23
- 2 CHANNEL 50
- 3 CHANNEL 52
- 4 CHANNEL 58
- 5 NONE/ALL (VOLUNTEERED ONLY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Turning now to a different topic. . . .

20. In your opinion, is your federal government very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not at all corrupt?

- 1 VERY CORRUPT
- 2 SOMEWHAT CORRUPT

3 NOT AT ALL CORRUPT
9 DON'T KNOW

21. Is your state government very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not at all corrupt?

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

22. And is your local government very corrupt, somewhat corrupt, or not at all corrupt?

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

23. How much confidence do you have in your federal government--a lot of confidence, some confidence or not very much confidence-- By confidence I mean do you feel they are doing what they ought to be doing?

1 A LOT OF CONFIDENCE
2 SOME CONFIDENCE
3 NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
9 DON'T KNOW

24. What about your state government --do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, or not very much confidence in it?

1 A LOT OF CONFIDENCE
2 SOME CONFIDENCE
3 NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
9 DON'T KNOW

25. And what about your local government--do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence or not very much confidence in it?

1 A LOT OF CONFIDENCE
2 SOME CONFIDENCE
3 NOT VERY MUCH CONFIDENCE
9 DON'T KNOW

START AT DESIGNATED POINT

26a. Would you say your state government is pretty much run for a few big interests, looking out for themselves, or is it run for the benefit of all people in the state?

1 FEW BIG INTERESTS
2 PARTLY BOTH (VOLUNTEERED ONLY)
3 ALL THE PEOPLE
9 DON'T KNOW

26b. How much attention do you feel your state government pays to what the people think when it decides what to do--a lot of attention, some attention, not much attention, or no attention?

- 1 A LOT OF ATTENTION
- 2 SOME ATTENTION
- 3 NOT MUCH ATTENTION
- 4 NO ATTENTION
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. Could you tell me the name of the governor of New Jersey-- PROBE: What is it?

- 1 BRENDAN BYRNE
- 2 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

28. As far as you know, is the Governor of New Jersey a Democrat or a Republican?

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

29. Which party controls the New Jersey State Legislature--the Democrats or the Republicans?

- 1 DEMOCRATS
- 2 REPUBLICANS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

30. Can you name any member of the New Jersey State Senate in Trenton?

(INTERVIEWERS: FILL IN CODE)

31. 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

32. 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

33. Over the past year, the Governor, Legislature and Courts have considered different ways of financing public schools. 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 ONLY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

34. Governor Byrne has submitted a budget to the State Legislature. He has proposed a state income tax combined with a reduction in the sales tax and some reduction in the local property tax. Would you be in favor of such a plan?

(REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY--DO NOT ELABORATE)

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

35. Governor Byrne claims that he has submitted a greatly reduced state budget which includes severe cuts in state programs and services. Do you feel that severe cuts have been made in this year's budget?

(REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY--DO NOT ELABORATE)

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 ONLY IN CERTAIN PROGRAMS(VOLUNTEERED ONLY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

36. Do you feel that further substantial cuts could be made in this budget?

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

37. One of the areas in which cuts have been made is in state aid to local schools. Do you expect this will cause the local property tax in your area to go up?

(REPEAT QUESTION AS NECESSARY--DO NOT EXPLAIN)

- 1 YES
- 2 NO--TAXES WILL STAY THE SAME OR GO DOWN
- 9 DON'T KNOW

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

Now just a few more questions so we can classify your answers.

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT[Go to q.40]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.40]

- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF INDEPENDENT, SOMETHING ELSE OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 38, ASK:)

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

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

40. 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.42]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to q.42]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 40, ASK:)

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

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

42. Are you now registered to vote?

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

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

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

DO NOT ASK Q. 44 AND Q. 45 UNTIL WEDNESDAY EVENING

44. Many municipalities held school board elections (yesterday/last Tuesday). Was there such an election in your municipality?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.46]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.46]

(IF YES TO Q. 44, ASK:)

45. Did you happen to vote in that election?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

46. Are there any school-age children now living in your household (By school-age, I mean grades Kindergarten through 12th grade.) ?

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

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

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

48. 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

49. What is your religious preference?

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

50. What is your race?

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

51. 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

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

- 1 YES
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF

- 3 NO [Go to q.54]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.54]

(IF YES TO Q. 52, ASK:)

53. 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

54. 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

55. Where do you live--in what township or municipality?

55A. In what county is that?

56. 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 ONLY)
- 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