

New Jersey Poll 20
March 1976

Hello, my name is ____ (first and last name). I'm (a student/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 5 - 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. Turning now to this year's Presidential election who would you like to see run as the Republican candidate--Ronald Reagan or Gerald Ford?

- 1 RONALD REAGAN

- 2 GERALD FORD
- 3 NEITHER (VOLUNTEERED)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

7. Who would you like to see run as the Democratic candidate (READ NAMES STARTING AT THE DESIGNATED POINT)?

- 1 JERRY BROWN
- 2 JIMMY CARTER
- 3 FRANK CHURCH
- 4 FRED HARRIS
- 5 HENRY JACKSON
- 6 MORRIS UDALL
- 7 GEORGE WALLACE
- 8 OTHER (SPECIFY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

8. Who would your second choice be (READ NAMES AGAIN IF NECESSARY STARTING AT DESIGNATED POINT) ?

- 1 JERRY BROWN
- 2 JIMMY CARTER
- 3 FRANK CHURCH
- 4 FRED HARRIS
- 5 HENRY JACKSON
- 6 MORRIS UDALL
- 7 GEORGE WALLACE
- 8 OTHER (SPECIFY)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

9. If Hubert Humphrey was a declared candidate would he be your first choice for Democratic candidate for President?

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

10. Suppose the election for President were being held right now, would you vote for Gerald Ford the Republican or ___ the Democrat-- [START AT DESIGNATED POINT] If the election were held right now, would you vote for Gerald Ford the Republican or ___ the Democrat-- Would you vote for Gerald Ford the Republican or ___ the Democrat-- And would you vote for Gerald Ford the Republican or ___ the Democrat |

- A Jimmy Carter?
- B Henry Jackson?
- C Hubert Humphrey?
- D Morris Udall ?

- 1 GERALD FORD
- 2 THE DEMOCRAT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

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

11. 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

12. 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

13. How would you rate the job the New Jersey State Supreme Court is doing--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

14. How closely have you followed the Botter decision, that is, the State Supreme Court's Robinson vs. Cahill school finance decision--very closely, somewhat closely, not very closely, or not at all?

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

15. (IF VERY OR SOMEWHAT CLOSELY: As you know,) the Court ruled that New Jersey's present system for funding public schools is unconstitutional because its heavy reliance on local property taxes does not guarantee students throughout the state a quality education. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

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

16. Some people have recently argued that schools in poor and disadvantaged communities should be given more state aid than other schools. Others say that state aid should be distributed evenly among all school districts, Which side do you agree with?

- 1 MORE STATE AID FOR SCHOOLS IN POOR COMMUNITIES
- 2 STATE AID SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED EVENLY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

17. If the State Supreme Court decided that schools in poor and disadvantaged communities should receive additional state aid, would you approve or disapprove of the decision?

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

18. Which party do you think is better able to run the state government--the Democrats or the Republicans-- IF NEITHER, ASK: If you had to choose one, which would you choose?

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

19. Which party do you think can do a better job controlling state government spending and holding taxes down?

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

20. Which party do you think can do a better job of providing state programs and services to meet people's needs?

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

21. Which party do you think can do a better job of keeping the state government honest and free from corruption?

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

22. Which of these do you think is most important for state government to do -- control spending and hold down taxes, provide programs and services to meet people's needs, or keep government honest and free from corruption?

- 1 CONTROL SPENDING
- 2 PROVIDE SERVICES
- 3 KEEP GOVERNMENT HONEST
- 9 DON'T KNOW

23. Now, I'd like to ask you a few questions about taxes here in New Jersey. The budget proposed by Governor Byrne would result in many cuts in state programs and services. Would you be in favor of a state income tax just to restore these cuts?

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

24. Would you be in favor of an income tax which resulted in reductions in the local property tax but did not provide money to restore the budget cuts?

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

25. Would you be in favor of an income tax which would raise enough money both to restore the budget cuts and to provide reductions in the local property tax?

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

26. A few weeks ago, the State Assembly passed a tax package which provides for a state income tax, reductions in local property taxes, and limitations on state and local spending. Did you know that the Assembly had already passed this package ?

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

27. Do you approve of the Assembly's vote in favor of this tax package?

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

28. If this tax package was to become law, do you think property taxes in New Jersey would be reduced next year?

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

29. Do you think the total taxes your family will pay next year would increase or decrease (if this tax package became law) ?

- 1 INCREASE
- 2 DECREASE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Turning to a different topic, I'd like to ask you a few questions about radio and television.

30. Do you own an FM radio-- IF YES: How many?

31. How often do you listen to FM radio--almost every day, once or twice a week, or only now and then?

- 1 ALMOST EVERY DAY
- 2 ONCE OR TWICE A WEEK [Go to q.33]
- 3 ONLY NOW AND THEN [Go to q.33]
- 4 NEVER (VOLUNTEERED) [Go to q.34]
- 5 DO NOT OWN FM RADIO [Go to q.34]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.33]

32. About how many hours each day do you listen to FM radio?

33. Do you listen to FM radio.. |

A at home?

B at work?

C in your car?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

Turning now to television.

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

1 YES

2 NO [Go to q.38]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.38]

(IF YES TO Q. 34, ASK:)

34. Which ones--(Circle all that apply)|

A Channel 23?

B Channel 50?

C Channel 52?

D Channel 58?

(IF WATCHED MORE THAN ONE, ASK:)

35. 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

36. Have you watched any of these "NJPTV" channels in the past week?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

37. Did you or any member of your family watch the New Jersey High School basketball championships a few weeks ago?

1 YES

2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

(ASK ALL RESPONDENTS)

38. Did you or any member of your family watch a Rutgers basketball game on television this year?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.40]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.40]

(DO NOT ASK IF NO TO Q. 34--DOES NOT WATCH "NJPTV" CHANNELS)

39. Did you watch any of these games on "NJPTV" channels 23, 50, 52, or 58?

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

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

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT [Go to q.42]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.42]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF INDEPENDENT, SOMETHING ELSE, OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 40, ASK:)

41. 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

42. 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.44]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to q.44]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN OR DON'T KNOW TO Q. 42, ASK:)

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

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

44. Are you now registered to vote?

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

45. Did you vote in last November's election?

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

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

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

47. Are there any school-age children now living in your household?

(IF NECESSARY: By school-age, I mean grades Kindergarten through 12th grade.)

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

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

- 1 YES
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF
- 3 NO [Go to q.50]
- 4 RETIRED [Go to q.50]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.50]

(IF YES OR TEMPORARILY LAID OFF TO Q. 48, ASK:)

49. 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

50. Are you or anyone in your household a union member?

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

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

- 1 8TH GRADE OR LESS
- 2 HIGH SCHOOL INCOMPLETE (Grades 9, 10, AND 11)
- 3 HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETE (Grade 12)
- 4 SOME COLLEGE
- 5 COLLEGE GRADUATE

6 GRADUATE WORK
9 NOT DETERMINED

52. What is your race ?

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

53. 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

54. Other than American do you consider yourself to be a member of any of the following nationality groups: (READ CHOICES STARTING AT DESIGNATED POINT) |

A GERMAN ?
B HUNGARIAN?
C IRISH ?
D ITALIAN?
E CZECH?
F POLISH?
G LATIN AMERICAN ?

1 YES
2 NO
9 DON'T KNOW

55. 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

56. Where do you live --in what township or municipality?
56a. In what county is that?

Thank you very much for your help,