

POLL 66
(SL/EP16)
AUGUST 1987

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 on some topics currently in the news

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

- 1 LESS THAN ONE
- 2 ONE OR TWO
- 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. Overall, how would you rate the job Ronald Reagan is doing as President--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

5. Do you think that Ronald Reagan is a strong leader, or not?

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

6. Do you think that most of the time Ronald Reagan is in charge of what goes on in his administration, or do you think that most of the time other people are really running the government?

- 1 REAGAN IN CHARGE
- 2 OTHERS RUN GOVERNMENT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

7. Ronald Reagan has said he did not know that the money from the Iranian arms sale was going to help the Contras who are fighting against the government of Nicaragua. Do you think he was telling the truth or was he lying when he said that?

- 1 TELLING TRUTH
- 2 HE WAS LYING
- 9 DON'T KNOW

8. Thinking about the whole Iran-Contra matter, do you think any laws were broken, or not?

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

9. Did you hear or see any of President Reagan's recent speech about the Iran-Contra affair--IF YES, PROBE: Did this make you more supportive of the administration's actions, less supportive, or did your views not change?

- 1 NO/DIDN'T SEE OR HEAR ANY OF SPEECH
- 2 YES, MORE SUPPORTIVE
- 3 YES, LESS SUPPORTIVE
- 4 YES, NO CHANGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about the environment in New Jersey.

10. Overall, how good a job do you feel state government is doing in protecting the environment in New Jersey--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

11. Some people say that anti-pollution laws discourage the growth of jobs and industry. If you had to choose between maintaining strict anti-pollution laws or relaxing those laws to create more jobs in New Jersey, which would you choose?

- 1 MAINTAIN STRICT LAWS
- 2 RELAX LAWS
- 8 BOTH/REJECTS CHOICE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

12. Now I'm going to read you a short list of problems. For each, please tell me whether you think it is a very serious problem, somewhat serious, or not too serious. First, how about (DESIGNATED POINT), is this very, somewhat or not too serious...|

- A water pollution In New Jersey?
- B disposal of solid waste, or garbage in New Jersey?
- C air pollution in New Jersey?
- D disposal of toxic wastes in New Jersey?

13. Thinking about your family's health, how concerned are you with the quality of the air you breathe--very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

- 1 VERY CONCERNED
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
- 3 NOT VERY CONCERNED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

14. How would you rate the air quality in the area where you live--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

16. Would you favor or oppose efforts to reduce air pollution if they caused taxes to go up?

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

17. Thinking again about your family's health, how concerned are you about the quality of the water you drink--very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

- 1 VERY CONCERNED
- 2 SOMEWHAT CONCERNED
- 3 NOT VERY CONCERNED
- 8 DRINKS BOTTLE/"SAFE" WATER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

18. And thinking about the quality of the water in the area where you live; would you rate it as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

20. Would you favor or oppose efforts to reduce water pollution if they caused taxes to go up?

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

21. And how concerned are you personally about the problem of toxic and chemical wastes in the area where you live--very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

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

23. How would you rate the job state government is doing in cleaning-up toxic waste-- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

24. I'm going to read you some possible ways to reduce the amount of toxic waste in New Jersey. Please just tell me whether you think each is a very good way, a pretty good way, or not a good way. First, how about (DESIGNATED POINT) . . .is this a very good, pretty good, or not a good way to reduce the amount of toxic wastes...|

- A building a new facility to incinerate and store toxic materials?
- B requiring industry to cut back production of products that make toxic wastes?
- C sending the toxic materials to some other state?
- D encouraging people to reduce their use of household products with toxic chemicals?

25. There has been some talk lately about New Jersey building new facilities to handle toxic wastes. Most material would be burned in an incinerator with the remaining ash being stored. Have you read or heard anything about this?

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

26. There has been a lot of discussion lately about where new disposal facilities should be located and how these places should be selected. I'm going to read you a list of different groups and would like you to tell me how much you would trust each to make a fair decision. Using a scale of 1 to 7, with 1 meaning that you would not trust them at all, and 7 meaning that you would trust them completely, first tell me how much you would trust (DESIGNATED POINT). Remember 1 is no trust and 7 is high trust. INTERVIEWERS: EVERY THREE ITEMS PROBE: "And how much would you trust..." ...|

- A New Jersey Governor Tom Kean?
- B The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection?
- C A task force made up of scientists?
- D A board appointed by the Governor?
- E The New Jersey Supreme Court?
- F The federal government's Environmental Protection Agency?
- G The State Legislature?

27. Suppose the state said that a new facility was necessary, and decided that a location about 40 miles away from you was the best place to put it for environmental reasons. Do you think you would oppose that decision or not?

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

IF "NOT OPPOSE" OR "DON'T KNOW" TO Q.27. ASK:)

28. If the state said the best place was located 15 miles away from where you live, would you oppose it or not?

29. How about if it was located 5 miles away or in the community next to you?

30. And if the state government said they wanted to build a toxic waste treatment plant in your community which they said would not be a health hazard, would you oppose such a facility, or would you be willing to accept it?

31. I'm going to read you a list of some things people in communities might be offered if a disposal facility was built there. For each, please tell me if you definitely would accept a facility, might accept it, or would continue to oppose it. First, how about... (DESIGNATED POINT) would you definitely accept it, might accept it, or oppose it...|

- A if you did not have to pay any property taxes for 10 years?
- B if at least 15 local residents were hired to work at the facility?
- C if all the streets in your town were repaved?
- D if you were given \$100 dollars a month for 10 years?
- E if all community residents were given free health check-ups every year?
- F If a new library was built in your community?
- G if outside experts visited the facility every year to guarantee its safety?
- H if the community got a percentage of the profits the facility made?

32. Here are some things people might do to oppose a toxic waste facility. If the state planned to build a facility in your area please tell me if you think you would, or would not do each one of the following. First, (DESIGNATED POINT) do you think you would or would-not do this...|

- A contribute to a legal defense fund to try to stop construction?
- B take part in a peaceful protest at the construction site?
- C stage a sit-in at the facility site even if you might get arrested?
- D put a blockade around the site so construction cannot begin?
- E move out of your community?

33. Suppose the state said that a new facility was necessary to meet the needs of everyone living in New Jersey and that even though they might not like it, a specific community would have to be selected to house the facility. Whose side do you think you would favor more in this dispute: the state, who says a new facility is necessary to serve the public; or the community, who says they do not want the facility located in their backyard?

34. Suppose there was some new environmental situation in your town that you felt might threaten your family's health. On a scale of 1 to 7, how much would you believe each of the following if they said it was completely safe, where 1 means you would not believe them at all and 7 is you would believe them fully. First, how about (DESIGNATED POINT)... Remember, 1 means you wouldn't believe them at all and 7 means very believable. INTERVIEWERS: EVERY 3 ITEMS PROBE: How much would you believe...|

- A New Jersey Governor Tom Kean?
- B The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection?
- C A panel of scientists?
- D Your mayor or local councilman?
- E The New Jersey Department of Health?
- F The federal government's Environmental Protection Agency?
- G Your local newspaper?
- H A family doctor?

35. Have you heard or read anything about an environmental problem called radon (PRONOUNCED RAYDON)?

36. And have you read or heard anything about the barrels of radon-contaminated soil in the North Jersey communities of Montclair, West Orange or Glen Ridge--IF YES, PROBE: How much--a lot, some or just a little?

- 1 YES--A LOT
- 2 YES--SOME
- 3 YES--A LITTLE
- 4 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

38. Radon is a colorless, odorless gas that is produced by nature. If trapped in a house it can build up to an unhealthy level. Do you know what disease is caused by radon--IF YES, ASK: What disease is that?

- 1 LUNG CANCER
- 2 CANCER--UNSPECIFIED OR OTHER
- 3 OTHER
- 4 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

39. People from homes with high radon levels have been found to have a higher incidence of lung cancer. About how many homes in New Jersey do you think may have a radon problem--1 in 5, 1 in 10, 1 in 100, or 1 in 1000?

- 1 1 IN 5
- 2 1 IN 10
- 3 1 IN 100
- 4 1 IN 1000
- 9 DON'T KNOW

40. Do you think radon might be a problem in your own home?

41. Has your home been tested for radon, are you planning to have it done, or would you say it is not necessary, or haven't you decided?

- 1 HAD IT TESTED/TESTING IN PROGRESS
- 2 PLAN TO HAVE DONE
- 3 NOT NECESSARY
- 4 HAVEN'T DECIDED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

42. If a house has a radon problem, who do you think should be responsible for fixing it--the individual homeowner or the government?

- 1 INDIVIDUAL HOMEOWNER
- 2 GOVERNMENT
- 8 BOTH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

44. Testing homes for radon might cost between \$75 and \$100 dollars. Do you think the state should require all homes to get this test before they are allowed to be sold, or not?

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

45. As you may know, New Jersey is also running out of space for the disposal of solid waste or garbage. How much have you heard or read about this--a lot, pretty much, just a little or nothing at all?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 PRETTY MUCH
- 3 LITTLE
- 4 NOTHING
- 9 DON'T KNOW

46. And how serious is the problem of garbage and solid waste disposal in your community--very serious, somewhat serious, not very serious, or not serious at all?

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

48. Have you read or heard anything about a new law that would require people to separate their trash into paper, glass and aluminum?

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

48A. Do you favor or oppose this law?

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

49. Does your household now separate its trash this way?

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

50. Does your household now recycle newspapers, bottles or cans?

51. Is this something you do voluntarily, or are you required to do it by your township or municipality?

- 1 VOLUNTARY
- 2 REQUIRED
- 3 BOTH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

52. Suppose a new facility to handle solid waste had to be built somewhere in your county. If your community was chosen, do you think you would oppose that decision or not oppose it--IF OPPOSE: Would you be strongly or mildly opposed to this?

- 1 NOT OPPOSE
- 2 OPPOSE MILDLY

- 3 OPPOSE STRONGLY
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

53. If you received a reduction in your property taxes for housing the facility, would you oppose this decision or not?

- 1 OPPOSE
- 2 NOT OPPOSE
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

54. If a garbage incinerator and storage facility was built in your community, do you think it would: (DESIGNATED POINT) Would it...|

- A lower property values in your town?
- B present a health threat to residents?
- C make your town a less desirable place to live?
- D give off an unpleasant odor?
- E cause you to move to another town?

55. For how many years have you lived at your current residence?

56. If you could choose between owning or renting your home, which would you prefer?

- 1 OWN
- 2 BOTH--WON'T MAKE CHOICE
- 3 RENT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

57A. Would you prefer a single detached house, a townhouse, or a condominium?

- 1 SINGLE DETACHED HOUSE
- 2 TOWNHOUSE
- 3 CONDOMINIUM
- 4 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

57B. Would you prefer a single detached house, a townhouse, a garden apartment, a high rise apartment, or an apartment in smaller building?

- 1 SINGLE DETACHED HOUSE
- 2 TOWNHOUSE
- 3 GARDEN APARTMENT
- 4 HIGH RISE APARTMENT
- 5 APARTMENT IN SMALLER BUILDING
- 6 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

58. How would you describe the community you live in--is it a city, a suburb, or a rural area?

58a. [IF SUBURB] Do you live in an older suburb or a newer suburb?

58b. [IF RURAL] Do you live in a small town or in a sparsely populated area?

59. For each type of community I read, please tell me whether you would consider it a very desirable place to live, somewhat desirable, or not very desirable. First, how about living in (START AT DESIGNATED POINT)... would that be very desirable, somewhat, or not very desirable...|

- A a city?
- B an older suburb?
- C a developing suburb?
- D a small town?
- E rural area?

59f. Thinking about those you said would be very desirable (REREAD CIRCLED ITEMS IN BOX), which do you find the most desirable?

- 1 CITY
- 2 OLDER SUBURB
- 3 DEVELOPING SUBURB
- 4 SMALL TOWN
- 5 RURAL
- 9 DON'T KNOW/RESUSES TO CHOOSE

60. In thinking about your housing costs such as rent or mortgage payments, taxes, and insurance--about how much money do you spend on housing in the average month?

61. Would you say your monthly housing costs are less than \$300, from \$300 to \$500, \$500 to \$750, \$750 to \$1,000 from \$1,000 to \$1,500, or more than \$1,500?

- 1 LESS THAN \$300
- 2 \$300 TO \$500
- 3 \$500 TO \$750
- 4 \$750 TO \$1,000
- 5 \$1,000 TO \$1,500
- 6 MORE THAN \$1,500
- 9 DON'T KNOW

62. And what is the most you would be able to afford for monthly housing costs?

63. Would you say you could afford less than \$300, from \$300 to \$500, \$500 to \$750, \$750 to \$1,000 from \$1,000 to \$1,500, or more than \$1,500?

- 1 LESS THAN \$300
- 2 \$300 TO \$500
- 3 \$500 TO \$750
- 4 \$750 TO \$1,000
- 5 \$1,000 TO \$1,500
- 6 MORE THAN \$1,500
- 9 DON'T KNOW

64. If you wanted to move from your current home to some other place in New Jersey, how satisfied are you with your chances of finding acceptable housing that you could afford--very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

- 1 VERY SATISFIED
- 2 SOMEWHAT SATISFIED

- 3 SOMEWHAT DISSATISFIED
- 4 VERY DISSATISFIED
- 5 DEPENDS
- 6 WON'T MOVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

65. Are you currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

66. Do you get paid at an hourly rate, a salary, or are you self-employed?

- 1 HOURLY (AND PIECEWORK)
- 2 SALARIED (AND COMMISSIONS)
- 3 SELF-EMPLOYED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

67. How far would you be willing to travel to get to work--less than 10 miles, 10 to 20 miles, 20 to 30 miles, 30 to 50 miles, or more than 50 miles?

- 1 LESS THAN 10 MILES
- 2 10 TO 20 MILES
- 3 20 TO 30 MILES
- 4 30 TO 50 MILES
- 5 MORE THAN 50 MILES
- 9 DON'T KNOW

68. Is public transportation available for you to get to work--IF YES: Do you usually use it, or not?

69. If public transportation were available, would you use it, or not?

70. About how far would you be willing to travel to pick up a mass transit line--up to 5 miles, 5 to 10 miles, 10 to 20 miles, or more than 20 miles?

- 1 UP TO 5 MILES
- 2 5 TO 10 MILES
- 3 10 TO 20 MILES
- 4 MORE THAN 20 MILES
- 9 DON'T KNOW

71. If you were looking for a house or apartment, how important would it be for you to have public transportation close by--very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

- 1 VERY IMPORTANT
- 2 SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT
- 3 NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- 4 NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT
- 5 DEPENDS
- 6 WON'T BE MOVING
- 9 DON'T KNOW

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

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT

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

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

- 1 DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- 2 REPUBLICAN PARTY
- 3 OTHER PARTY
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

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

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 CONSERVATIVE
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

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

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 CONSERVATIVE
- 3 OTHER/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

76. Did you receive a high school diploma?

77. Did you ever attend college--IF YES, ASK: "Did you graduate?"

- 1 YES, GRADUATED
- 2 YES, DID NOT GRADUATE
- 3 JUNIOR COLLEGE--GRADUATE
- 4 VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL
- 5 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

78. Are you the chief wage earner in your household?

79. Is the chief wage earner in your household currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

(IF #1 OR #2 TO Q.79. ASK.)

80. Does/did 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

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

- 1 OWN
- 2 OWN AND RENT
- 3 RENT
- 4 LIVE RENT FREE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

82A. Is this a single detached house, a townhouse, or a condominium, or something else?

- 1 SINGLE DETACHED HOUSE
- 2 TOWNHOUSE
- 3 CONDOMINIUM
- 4 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

82B. Is this a single detached house, a townhouse, a garden apartment, a high rise apartment or an apartment in a smaller building?

- 1 SINGLE DETACHED HOUSE
- 2 TOWNHOUSE
- 3 GARDEN APARTMENT
- 4 HIGH RISE APARTMENT
- 5 APARTMENT IN A SMALLER BUILDING
- 6 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

83. Are you married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

84. Do you have any children?

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

85. Are you white, black or of Hispanic origin?

- 1 WHITE
- 2 BLACK
- 3 HISPANIC
- 4 OTHER (SPECIFY: 1
- 9 NOT DETERMINED

86. What was your age on your last birthday?

(CODE # OF YEARS, 99=REFUSED AND CODE)

86A. In what age group are you [read choices]?

- 1 18-20
- 2 21-24
- 3 25-29
- 4 THIRTIES (30-39)
- 5 FORTIES (40-49)
- 6 FIFTIES (50-59)
- 7 60-64

8 65 OR OVER
9 NO ANSWER/REFUSED

88. Where do you live--in what township or municipality?
88a. In what county is that?

89. So that we can group all answers, what is your total annual family income before taxes: Under \$10,000; \$10,000 to \$15,000; \$15,000 to \$20,000; \$20,000 to \$30,000; \$30,000 to \$50,000: over \$50,000?

1 UNDER \$10,000
2 \$10,001 - \$15,000
3 \$15,001 - \$20,000
4 \$20,001 - \$30,000
5 \$30,001 - \$50,000
6 OVER \$50,000
9 REFUSED/DON'T KNOW