

EAGLETON POLL 71 (SL/EP21)
OCTOBER 1988

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. Are you registered to vote here in New Jersey-- IF YES, PROBE: As a Democrat, Republican, Independent or something else?

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 OTHER/REFUSED
- 5 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

3. As of now, how likely are you to Vote in the election for president this November--will you definitely vote, probably vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?

- 1 DEFINITELY WILL VOTE
- 2 PROBABLY WILL VOTE
- 3 PROBABLY NOT VOTE [TERMINATE]
- 4 DEFINITELY NOT VOTE [TERMINATE]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [TERMINATE]

4. How much interest do you have in this election--a lot, some, a little or none at all?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NONE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

5. And how much do you care who wins the election--a lot, some, just a little: or doesn't it really make any difference to you?

- 1 LOT
- 2 SOME

3 LITTLE
 4 NO DIFFERENCE
 9 DON'T KNOW

A6. In your opinion, how much of a difference will the outcome of this election make in the way the government is run for the next few years --a great deal of difference, some difference, or not very much difference?

1 A GREAT DEAL OF DIFFERENCE
 2 SOME DIFFERENCE
 3 NOT VERY MUCH DIFFERENCE
 8 DEPENDS
 9 DON'T KNOW

B6. Who do you expect to win--Bush or Dukakis-- IF CHOICE MADE, PROBE: Do you expect it to be close, or not?

1 BUSH--CLOSE
 2 BUSH--NOT CLOSE
 3 BUSH--DON'T KNOW IF CLOSE
 4 DUKAKIS--NOT CLOSE
 5 DUKAKIS--CLOSE
 6 DUKAKIS--DON'T KNOW IF CLOSE
 9 DON'T KNOW WHO WILL WIN

KEYPUNCH: SKIP 125

7. Now I'd like to get your general feelings about the Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. For each name please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable impression. If you don't have an opinion on some just say so. First, how about (START AT DESIGNATED POINT) do you have a favorable or unfavorable impression of him. IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: "Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or only somewhat (favorable/unfavorable). Next, how about... (REPEAT RESPONSE OPTIONS AS NECESSARY)...|

A Michael Dukakis?
 B George Bush?
 C Lloyd Bentsen?
 D Dan Quayle?

8. If the election for President were held today and you had to choose between Michael Dukakis, the Democrat: and George Bush, the Republican: who would you vote for--IF RESPONDENT SAYS "OTHER," PROBE: "But if you had to choose Only between Dukakis and Bush who would you vote for?"

1 DUKAKIS
 2 BUSH
 7 OTHER
 8 WOULDND'T VOTE
 9 DON'T KNOW/UNDECIDED

9A. Are you very sure about your choice or might you change your mind before election day?

1 SURE/FIRM
 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T KNOW

9B. When did you decide who you would vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple of weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?

- 1 LAST FEW DAYS
- 2 LAST WEEK OR TWO
- 3 LAST MONTH OR TWO/AFTER CONVENTION
- 4 EARLIER/ALL ALONG
- 8 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

10. Do you lean more toward Dukakis, or more towards Bush?

12. What is the most important reason why you favor (Bush/Dukakis)?

A13. Overall, would you describe George Bush as a liberal, moderate or conservative?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSERVATIVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

A14. And would you describe Mike Dukakis as a liberal, moderate or conservative?

- 1 LIBERAL
- 2 MODERATE
- 3 CONSERVATIVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B13. How important a factor were the Vice Presidential candidates in your decision about who to support for President--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
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B14. Who do you think is more qualified to serve as President if that becomes necessary--Dan Quayle or Lloyd Bentsen?

- 1 QUAYLE
- 2 BENTSEN
- 3 NO DIFFERENCE/BOTH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

A15. How qualified do you think Republican Vice Presidential candidate Dan Quayle is to serve as President if that was necessary--highly qualified, moderately qualified or not qualified?

- 1 HIGHLY
- 2 MODERATELY
- 3 NOT QUALIFIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

A16. And how qualified to serve as President do you think Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen is--highly qualified, moderately qualified or not qualified?

- 1 HIGHLY
- 2 MODERATELY
- 3 NOT QUALIFIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

A17. We're interested in finding out which issues are important to you. Please tell me if you personally think each of the following as important, as very important, or as not very important. First, (ROTATED ITEM 1) would you classify this as important, very important, or not very important. (REPEAT RESPONSE OPTIONS EVERY THREE ITEMS)...|

- A reducing the budget deficit?
- B abortion?
- C reducing the risk of war?
- D holding down taxes?
- E reducing crime and drug use?
- F keeping the country militarily strong?
- G cleaning up and protecting the environment?
- H providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy?
- I managing the economy and keeping the country prosperous?
- J improving the educational system?
- K securing equal rights for women?

18. I'm going to read you a short list of issues. Regardless of which candidate you might favor, please tell me which one--Bush or Dukakis--you think would do a better job of handling each. First (DESIGNATED POINT ON ITEMS ABOVE DOTTED LINE)...who would be better-Bush or Dukakis...|

- A managing the economy and keeping the country prosperous?
- B keeping government honest and free from corruption?
- C providing strong leadership for the country?
- D protecting the environment?
- E reducing the federal budget deficit?
- F providing social services such as day care and aid to the needy?
- G keeping the country militarily strong?
- H coping with drug and alcohol abuse?
- J holding down taxes?

INTERVIEWERS: AFTER 18A THRU J ASKED, ASK 19 AND 20: ROTATE QUESTIONS 21 THRU 26

19. Which candidate has a clearer vision of the country's future--Bush or Dukakis?

20. And who cares more about people like you?

21. Who is more honest?

22. Who is more sincere-Bush or Dukakis?

23. And who is more competent?

24. Who is more intelligent?

25. Who would bring better people into government?

26. Who is more experienced?

A27. There has been a lot of talk about raising taxes to reduce the federal budget deficit. Do you feel that taxes should, or should not be raised to reduce the deficit?

- 1 SHOULD
- 2 SHOULD NOT
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

A28. If Mike Dukakis is elected, do you think taxes will be raised or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

A29. How about if George Bush is elected--will taxes go up or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 NO OPINION

30. If Bush is elected President, do you think we would see the same people and policies of the Reagan Administration, or would he bring new people and new ideas to Washington?

- 1 SAME AS REAGAN
- 2 NEW PEOPLE AND IDEAS
- 3 SOME SAME, SOME NEW
- 9 DON'T KNOW

31. And if Dukakis is elected, do you think we would see a major change in the nation's foreign and domestic policy, or would government continue pretty much as it has?

- 1 MAJOR CHANGE
- 2 CONTINUE AS IT HAS
- 3 SOME CHANGE, SOME SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

32. As you probably know, the Republicans have been in the White House for the last 8 years. Have you been pretty satisfied with the way things have been run, or do you think its time for a change.

- 1 PRETTY SATISFIED
- 2 TIME FOR A CHANGE
- 3 BOTH
- 9 DEPENDS ON CHANGE, DON'T KNOW

A33. Thinking about your family's financial situation over the past few years, have things gotten better, worse, or stayed the same since Ronald Reagan became President?

A34. How much of this change do you think is due to the policies of the Reagan Administration--most of it, some, or just a little?

- 1 MOST (ALL)
- 2 SOME
- 3 JUST A LITTLE
- 4 NONE
- 9 NO OPINION

A35. How about the nation as a whole. Over the last few years have things gotten better, worse, or stayed about the same?

- 1 BETTER
- 2 WORSE
- 3 SAME
- 8 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

36. 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

37. And thinking back over his entire term in office, how would you judge the Reagan Presidency? Has he been: (READ OPTIONS 1 THRU 6) (IF NECESSARY, RE-READ OPTIONS SUMMARIZING: 'One of the best, very good, above average, below average, very bad, or one of the worst?'

- 1 ONE OF THE BEST PRESIDENTS IN RECENT HISTORY,
- 2 A VERY GOOD PRESIDENT,
- 3 ABOVE AVERAGE,
- 4 BELOW AVERAGE,
- 5 A VERY BAD PRESIDENT, OR
- 6 ONE OF THE WORSE PRESIDENTS IN RECENT HISTORY
- 7 AVERAGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/DEPENDS

38. There is also an election for the U.S. Senate in New Jersey next month. How much interest do you have in this election--a lot, some, a little, or none at all?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 4 NONE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

NOTE TO INTERVIEWERS: Q.39/Q.40 AND Q.41/Q.42 SHOULD BE ROTATED: ASK PAIR WITH "X" FIRST

39. The Democratic candidate is Frank Lautenberg. How much do you know about him--a lot, some, just a little, or have you never heard of him before?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE/NOTHING
- 8 NOT HEARD OF HIM
- 9 DON'T KNOW

40. Is your general impression of Lautenberg favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion about him--IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/unfavorable)?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
- 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
- 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
- 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
- 9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW

41. The Republican candidate is Pete Dawkins. How much do you know about him--a lot, some, just a little, or have you never heard of him before?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE/NOTHING
- 9 DON'T KNOW
- 8 NOT HEARD OF HIM

42. Is your general impression of Dawkins favorable or unfavorable, or don't you really have an opinion about him--IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/unfavorable)?

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
- 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
- 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
- 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
- 9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW

43. If the election was today, would you vote for Pete Dawkins, the Republican; or Frank Lautenberg, the Democrat--IF "WOULDN'T VOTE" PROBE: Would you not vote because you're undecided now, or don't you plan to vote in the election?

- 1 DAWKINS
- 2 LAUTENBERG
- 3 WON'T VOTE
- 4 OTHER CANDIDATE

44. Are you very sure about your choice, or might you change your mind before election day?

- 1 SURE/FIRM
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/D.K.

45. When did you decide who you would vote for--in the last few days, in the last couple of weeks, in the last month or two, or did you know all along?

- 1 LAST FEW DAYS
- 2 LAST WEEK OR TWO
- 3 LAST MONTH OR TWO

4 EARLIER/KNEW ALL ALONG
8 OTHER
9 DON'T KNOW

46. Do you lean more towards Dawkins, or more towards Lautenberg?

1 DAWKINS
2 LAUTENEERG
9 NEITHER

47. Have you seen any of Lautenberg's television or radio advertisements?

1 YES
2 NO
9 DON'T KNOW

48. And has what you've seen or heard in Lautenberg's advertisements made you more likely to support him, less likely, or have they made no difference?

1 MORE LIKELY
2 LESS LIKELY
3 NO DIFFERENCE
9 DON'T KNOW

49. How useful have Lautenberg's ads been in helping you understand where the candidates stand on the issues--very useful, somewhat useful, not very useful, or not at all useful?

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

50. And how truthful and accurate do you think Lautenberg's ads have been--very, somewhat, not very, or not at all truthful?

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

51. Have you seen any of Dawkins' television or radio advertisements?

(IF YES TO Q. 51, ASK:)

52. And has what you've seen or heard in Dawkins' advertisements made you more likely to support him, less likely, or have they made no difference?

1 MORE LIKELY
2 LESS LIKELY
3 NO DIFFERENCE
9 DON'T KNOW

53. How useful have Dawkins' ads been in helping you understand where the candidates stand on the issues--very useful, somewhat useful, not very useful, or not at all useful?

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

54. And how truthful and accurate do you think Dawkins' ads have been--very, somewhat, not very, or not at all truthful?

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

B54A. Did you watch any of Wednesday's debate between Dawkins and Lautenberg on TV or listen to it on the radio?

B54B. Have you seen any news stories about their debate?

B54C. Who do you think actually got the best of the debate-Lautenberg or Dawkins--IF CHOICE MADE, PROBE: By a lot or just a little?

- 1 LAUTENBERG--A LOT
- 2 LAUTENBERG--A LITTLE
- 3 DAWKINS--A LOT
- 4 DAWKINS--A LITTLE
- 5 NOBODY WON/NO OPINION

B54D. Overall, which candidate--Dawkins or Lautenberg--has a better understanding of the problems and important issues facing New Jersey?

- 1 DAWKINS
- 2 LAUTENBERG
- 3 BOTH/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54E. And which candidate--Lautenberg or Dawkins--do you think would actually accomplish more for New Jersey in the U.S. Senate?

- 1 LAUTENBERG
- 2 DAWKINS
- 3 BOTH/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54F. Who would do a better job of helping to protect the environment here in New Jersey--Lautenberg or Dawkins?

- 1 LAUTENBERG
- 2 DAWKINS
- 3 BOTH/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54G. And who would be better at getting money from the federal government for projects and programs here in New Jersey--Dawkins or Lautenberg?

- 1 DAWKINS
- 2 LAUTENBERG
- 3 BOTH/NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54H. Overall, how effective do you think Frank Lautenberg has been in his first term as Senator--very effective, somewhat effective, not too effective, or don't you feel you know enough to judge?

- 1 VERY EFFECTIVE
- 2 SOMEWHAT EFFECTIVE
- 3 NOT TOO EFFECTIVE/NOT AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54I. Some people say Pete Dawkins moved to New Jersey less than two years ago just so he could run for the Senate, while others say he was planning to move here anyway. Do you think that running for the Senate was the only reason Dawkins moved to New Jersey, was it the main but not the only reason, or do you think he would have moved here anyway?

- 1 ONLY REASON
- 2 MAIN REASON
- 3 WOULD HAVE MOVED ANY WAY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B54J. Do you think Dawkins should have waited until he had lived in New Jersey longer before running for the Senate, or do you think he has lived here long enough?

- 1 SHOULD HAVE WAITED
- 2 LIVED HERE LONG ENOUGH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

55. If you were voting today, would you vote for the Democratic candidate or the Republican candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in your district?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
- 2 REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
- 3 OTHER CANDIDATE
- 9 UNDECIDED/NO OPINION

A56. Finally, on the ballot will be the "Jobs, Education and Competitiveness Bond Act," which would allow the state to issue \$350 million dollars in bonds. The money would be used to improve classrooms, libraries, and computer facilities and to establish advanced technology centers at New Jersey colleges and universities --have you heard or read anything about this?

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

A57. Do you think you would favor or oppose this bond act-- IF FAVOR OR OPPOSE : Do you strongly (favor/oppose) this, or just mildly (favor/oppose) it?

- 1 FAVOR--STRONGLY
- 2 FAVOR--MILDLY
- 3 OPPOSE--MILDLY
- 4 OPPOSE--STRONGLY
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

58. Most people do not vote in every election. I'm going to ask you about some past elections. If you can't recall whether you voted just say so...|

- A Did you vote in last year's election for the State Senate and Assembly?
- B What about the 1986 election for Congress?
- C The 1985 election for Governor?

59. Did you vote in the Presidential election in 1980, in 1984, in both or neither? (NOTE: RECORD 'CAN'T RECALL" OR "INELIGIBLE" AS NO)

- 1 NEITHER/ NO [Go to q.62]
- 2 1980 ONLY
- 3 1984 ONLY
- 4 BOTH [Go to q.61]

(IF #2 OR #3 TO Q.59. ASK:)

60. Did you vote for Ronald Reagan or the Democratic candidate?

- 1 REAGAN
- 2 DEMOCRAT
- 3 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

(IF #4 TO Q.59. ASK:)

61. Did you vote for Ronald Reagan once, twice or neither time?

- 1 ONCE
- 5 TWICE
- 3 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSE

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

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

- 1 DEMOCRAT [go to q.64]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.64]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF #3, 4, OR 9 TO Q.62 ASK:)

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

- 1 DEMOCRATIC PARTY
- 2 REWBLICAN PARTY

- 3 OTHER PARTY
- 4 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

64. 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.66]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to q.66]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(IF #3 OR #9 TO Q.64, ASK:)

65. 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

66. Did you receive a high school diploma?

67. 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

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

69. 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

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

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

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

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

72. Including yourself, how many people live in your household?

73. How many people under the age of 18 live in your household?

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

- 1 MARRIED
- 2 WIDOWED
- 3 DIVORCED
- 4 SEPARATED
- 5 NEVER MARRIED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

75. Does anyone in your household belong to a union?

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

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

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

77. What was your age on your last birthday?

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

78. 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

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

79a. In what county is that?

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

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

