

EAGLETON POLL 84
(SL/EP34)
JUNE 1991

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. How would you rate the job Jim Florio is doing as Governor-excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

3. And how would you rate the job 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

4. How good a job are the representatives from your district in the State Senate and Assembly doing--excellent, good, only fair or poor?

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

5. How would you rate the job George Bush is doing as President-excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

- 1 EXCELLENT
- 2 GOOD
- 3 ONLY FAIR

4 POOR
9 DON'T KNOW

6. And, how would you rate the job Dan Quayle is doing as Vice President--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

7. Thinking about the various activities in government and politics that citizens can take part in such as voting, learning about candidates, paying attention to public issues, and attending public meetings--overall, how would you rate the job you are doing as a citizen--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

8. Governor Florio has been in office about a year and a half--What would you say has been the Florio administration's greatest achievement--PROBE: Is there anything Florio has done that has been particularly good for the state--RECORD ONE RESPONSE--IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE, PROBE: Which of these do you think is more important for New Jersey?

98 NO ACHIEVEMENT/HASN'T DONE ANYTHING
99 DON'T KNOW/CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING

9. And, what would you say has been the biggest failure of the Florio administration--PROBE: Is there anything Florio has done Or failed to do that has been bad for the state--RECORD ONE RESPONSE--IF MORE THAN ONE RESPONSE, PROBE: Which of these do you think is more important for New Jersey?

98 NO FAILURES/NOTHING BAD FOR STATE
99 DON'T KNOW/CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING

10. Recently Governor Florio has been the spokesperson for a number of different public service messages on radio and television--Have you heard or seen any of these messages?

1 YES, HAVE HEARD OR SEEN MESSAGES
2 NO, HAVE NOT READ OR SEEN MESSAGES
9 DON'T KNOW

11. I would like to get some idea of how you feel about different organizations or institutions that exist to serve you and others--For each one I mention such as (STARTING POINT) tell me whether you have a lot of confidence in them, some confidence in them, or not very much confidence--By confidence I mean that you feel they are doing what they ought to be doing--Let's start with (STARTING POINT), do you have a lot of confidence, some, or not very much -- |

- A Your local public schools?
- B Rutgers University?
- C Labor Unions?
- D Newspapers?
- E Television news?
- F Large corporations?
- G Church, or organized religion?
- H New Jersey Political Parties?
- I The national government?
- J Your local government?
- K New Jersey state government?
- L Public opinion polls?
- M Hands Across New Jersey?
- N The New Jersey Democratic Party?
- O The New Jersey Republican Party?

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

12. Generally speaking, would you say things in New Jersey are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

- 1 RIGHT DIRECTION
- 2 WRONG TRACK
- 9 DON'T KNOW

13. 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

14. Did you vote in the election for Governor in 1989?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.16]
- 3 INELIGIBLE [Go to q.16]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.16]

15. Did you vote for Jim Courter (PRONOUNCED CORE-TER) the Republican or Jim Florio the Democrat?

- 1 COURTER
- 2 FLORIO
- 3 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

16. I'm going to read a list of things people sometimes do to get involved in politics and their community--First, (START AT DESIGNATED POINT)--Have you done this in the past year, or not -- |

- A Helped out in an election campaign?
- B Done volunteer work in the community?
- C Done work for a group active in political causes?
- D Taken part in a political protest?

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

Now I'd like to ask you about some issues in the news

17. Do you have any type of gun in your home?

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

18a. Do you think you or someone in your household will purchase a gun in the future?

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

18b. Did you ever have any kind of gun in your home in the past?

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

18c. Is that a hand gun, a shotgun, a rifle, or a semi-automatic weapon?

- 1 HANDGUN
- 2 SHOTGUN
- 3 RIFLE
- 4 SEMI-AUTOMATIC WEAPON
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

18d. Is the gun used for hunting, target shooting, protection, or something else?

- 1 HUNTING
- 2 TARGET SHOOTING
- 3 PROTECTION
- 4 COMB-HUNTING, TARGET SHOOTING & PROTECTION
- 5 COMB-HUNTING & TARGET SHOOTING
- 6 COMB-HUNTING & PROTECTION
- 7 COMB-TARGET SHOOTING & PROTECTION
- 5 SOMETHING ELSE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

19. Are you a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA)?

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

20. Is anyone in your household a member?

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

21. What is your personal view on the issue of gun control in New Jersey--Do you think that the laws on gun ownership should be more strict than they are now, less strict, are they about right or don't you know anything about the current gun laws?

- 1 MORE STRICT THAN THEY ARE NOW
- 2 LESS STRICT THAN THEY ARE NOW
- 3 THEY ARE ABOUT RIGHT
- 4 DON'T KNOW ABOUT CURRENT LAWS
- 9 NOT SURE/REFUSED

22. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements--First, (START AT DESIGNATED POINT) PROBE: Do you agree/disagree strongly or mildly -- |

A Owning a gun is a right all Americans should have?

B Using a gun for sporting activities like target shooting or hunting can be enjoyable?

C There should be a one week waiting period to investigate the background of someone who wants to buy a gun?

D A private citizen carrying a gun is just asking for trouble?

E Strict gun control laws make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to get guns, but not more difficult for criminals?

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 MILDLY AGREE
- 3 MILDLY DISAGREE
- 4 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

23. Recently, a New Jersey law went into effect making it illegal to own semi-automatic assault weapons in New Jersey--Have you read or heard anything about this law?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO [Go to q.25]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.25]

24. How much have you read or heard about it--a lot, some or just a little?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 JUST A LITTLE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

25. In addition to making the sale and purchase of semi-automatic assault weapons illegal in New Jersey, the law requires current owners to sell them out-of-state, turn them in to police, or disable them--Anyone possessing a banned weapon faces a maximum of five years in prison--Would you say that you support or oppose this law--PROBE: Do you support/oppose it strongly or mildly?

- 1 SUPPORT STRONGLY
- 2 SUPPORT MILDLY
- 3 OPPOSE MILDLY
- 4 OPPOSE STRONGLY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

26. A proposal to change this law includes allowing current owners assault weapons to keep them in working condition provided they register them with the state--Do You support or oppose allowing current owners of assault weapons to keep them in working condition--PROBE: Do you support/oppose it strongly or mildly?

- 1 SUPPORT STRONGLY
- 2 SUPPORT MILDLY
- 3 OPPOSE MILDLY
- 4 OPPOSE STRONGLY
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. Have you ever hunted with any kind of gun?

- 1 YES [Go to q.29]
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF "NO OR DON'T KNOW" TO Q. 27, ASK:)

28. Has anyone in your household gone hunting with any kind of gun in the past two years?

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

29. Have you ever gone target shooting with any kind of gun?

- 1 YES [Go to q.31]
- 2 NO [Go to q.30]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.30]

(IF "NO OR DON'T KNOW" TO Q. 29. ASK)

30. Has anyone in your household gone target shooting with any kind of gun in, the past two years?

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

31. On another topic, there has been discussion lately about legalizing living wills--A living will is when adults decide ahead of time if artificial means of life support should or should not be used when they become unable to make medical decisions on their own--Have you read or heard anything about living wills?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

9 DON'T KNOW

32. How much have you read or heard about living wills--a lot, some, or just a little?

- 1 A LOT
- 2 SOME
- 3 A LITTLE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

33. Do you support or oppose the right of an individual to make a living will-- IF NECESSARY, READ DESCRIPTION OF LIVING WILL AGAIN: A LIVING WILL ALLOWS PEOPLE TO INDICATE AHEAD OF TIME WHETHER ARTIFICIAL MEANS OF LIFE SUPPORT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE USED IF THEY BECOME UNABLE TO MAKE MEDICAL DECISIONS--PROBE: Do you support/oppose it strongly or mildly?

- 1 STRONGLY SUPPORT
- 2 MILDLY SUPPORT
- 3 MILDLY OPPOSE
- 4 STRONGLY OPPOSE
- 5 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW

34. A "living will" gives the patient the option of either specifying ahead of time if artificial means of life support should or should not be used, or designating a friend or family member to make that decision--If you were to make a living will, do you think you would specify ahead of time if life support should or should not be used or would you designate a friend or family member to decide?

- 1 WOULD SPECIFY AHEAD OF TIME
- 2 WOULD DESIGNATE SOMEONE
- 3 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

35. Do you think that you will make a living will before you might need medical care at a hospital, or will you wait until you have the need for treatment before considering a living will?

- 1 WILL MAKE LIVING WILL BEFORE NEED
- 2 WILL WAIT UNTIL THEY HAVE NEED FOR HOSPITAL CARE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

36. Beginning this December, patients receiving any kind of treatment in most hospitals will be told of their right to make a living will--If you were to require hospital care, would you make a living will, or not?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO
- 3 DEPENDS
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

37. Some say that while they support the idea of a living will, there should be some restrictions on the type of treatment that may be refused, such as feeding tubes--Others feel that an individual should be able to refuse any type of artificial life support--What do you think--Should there be restrictions on what may be refused or shouldn't there be restrictions?

- 1 SHOULD BE RESTRICTIONS
- 2 SHOULD NOT BE RESTRICTIONS
- 3 DEPENDS ON WHAT IS RESTRICTED
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE

38. Do you own or keep any pets in your household?

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

39. What kinds of pets do you have--FOR EACH ONE NAMED, ASK: How many (NAME PET) do you have -- |

(8=8 OR MORE; 9=DON'T KNOW)

- A Dog?
- B Cat?
- C Bird?
- D Fish?
- E Snake?
- F Small furry animals like mice, gerbils, rabbits, hamsters, etc.?
- G Other (Specify:_____)?
- H Other (Specify:_____)?

- 1-7 [code responses]
- 8 8 OR MORE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF "DOG OR CAT" TO Q. 39. ASK:)

40. Has your (NAME DOG, CAT, OR DOGS AND CATS FROM Q. 39) had a rabies shot in the past year?

- 1 HAD SHOT
- 2 DID NOT HAVE SHOT
- 3 HAVE HAD SHOT, NOT IN THE PAST YEAR
- 9 DON'T KNOW

41. As far as you know, in your town is there a law that dogs have to have a license and a rabies shot?

- 1 YES, HAS A LAW
- 2 NO, DOES NOT HAVE A LAW
- 3 IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING A LAW
- 9 DON'T KNOW

42. In your opinion, should or shouldn't there be a law in your town requiring dogs to have a license and a rabies shot?

- 1 YES, SHOULD BE
- 2 NO, SHOULD NOT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

43. And, in your town is there a law that cats have to have a license and a rabies shot?

- 1 YES, HAS A LAW
- 2 NO, DOES NOT HAVE A LAW
- 3 IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING A LAW
- 9 DON'T KNOW

44. In your opinion, should or shouldn't there be a law in your town requiring cats to have a license and a rabies shot?

- 1 YES, SHOULD BE
- 2 NO, SHOULD NOT
- 9 DON'T KNOW

45. How much have you read or heard about the spreading rabies epidemic in New Jersey--a great deal, some, not much; or nothing at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME
- 3 NOT MUCH
- 4 NOTHING AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

46. And, how concerned are you about this spreading rabies epidemic in New Jersey--very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

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

Just a few more questions so we can classify your answers.

D1. In politics as of today, do you consider Yourself a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or something else?

- 1 DEMOCRAT [Go to q.D3]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.D3]
- 3 INDEPENDENT [Go to q.D2]
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER [Go to q.D2]
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION [Go to q.D2]

(IF #3, 4, OR 9 TO Q. D1, ASK)

D2. 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

D3. 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.D5]
- 2 CONSERVATIVE [Go to q.D5]
- 3 SOMEWHERE IN BETWEEN
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

D4. 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

D5. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 YES [Go to q.D6]
- 2 NO [Go to q.D7]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.D7]

D6. 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

D7. Are you Currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF [Go to q.D10]
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D10]
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D10]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D10]

(IF #1 OR 2 TO Q. D7, ASK:)

D8. 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

D9. Are you the chief wage earner in your household?

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

D10. Is the chief wage earner in your household currently employed, temporarily laid off, retired or not employed?

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF [Go to q.D12]
- 3 RETIRED [Go to q.D12]

- 4 NOT EMPLOYED [Go to q.D12]
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED [Go to q.D12]

D11. 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

D12. 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

D13. 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

D13a. DO you have any children who are younger than 18 Years old?

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

D14. Are you white, black or of Hispanic origin?

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

D15. Do you consider yourself to be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, or something else?

- 1 CATHOLIC
- 2 PROTESTANT
- 3 JEWISH
- 4 NONE/ATHEIST/AGNOSTIC
- 5 OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

D16. What was your age on your last birthday?

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

99 REFUSED

D17. 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

D18. Where you live--in what township or municipality?

D18a. In what county is that?

D19. SO that we can group all answers, is your total annual family income before taxes: Under \$35,000; between \$35,000 to just under \$70,000; or \$70,000 or more?

- 1 UNDER \$10,000 [Go to q.D19a]
- 2 \$10,001 - \$20,000 [Go to q.D19a]
- 3 \$20,001 - \$30,000 [Go to q.D19a]
- 4 \$30,001 - \$50,000 [Go to q.D19b]
- 5 OVER \$50,000 [Go to q.D19b]
- 9 REFUSED/DON'T KNOW

D19a. Is that: under \$10,000; \$10,000-\$20,000; \$20,000-\$30,000, or over \$30,000?

- 1 UNDER \$10,000
- 2 \$10,000-\$20,000
- 3 \$20,000-\$30,000
- 4 OVER \$30,000
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D19b. Is that: \$35,000 to \$50,000 or over \$50,000?

- 1 \$35,000 TO \$50,000
- 2 OVER \$50,000
- 9 DON'T KNOW