

EAGLETON POLL 105 (SL/EP55)

OCTOBER 1995

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 Christie Whitman is doing as Governor--excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

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

3. As far as you know, which party controls the New Jersey State Legislature -- the Republicans or Democrats?

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 8 OTHER/SPLIT (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

4. In November, there will be an election for the representatives from your district in the State Assembly--How much have you read or heard about this election -- 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

5. As of now, how likely are you to vote in the November election for the New Jersey Assembly -- do you think you definitely will vote, probably will vote, probably not vote, or definitely not vote?

- 1 DEFINITELY WILL VOTE
- 2 PROBABLY WILL VOTE
- 3 PROBABLY NOT VOTE
- 4 DEFINITELY NOT VOTE [Go to q.13]

9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.13]

6. How interested are you in the outcome of the election for New Jersey State Assembly -- very interested, somewhat interested, not very interested, or not at all interested?

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

7. If the election were held today, would you vote for the Democratic or Republican candidates for the State Assembly from your district?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC [Go to q.9]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.9]
- 3 1 DEM., 1 REP. [Go to q.9]
- 4 1 DEM., DON'T KNOW OTHER [Go to q.9]
- 5 1 REP., DON'T KNOW OTHER [Go to q.9]
- 6 WON'T VOTE (VOL) [Go to q.9]
- 7 REFUSED TO SAY (VOL)
- 8 OTHER (VOL) [Go to q.9]
- 9 DON'T KNOW

[IF 7 OR 9 IN Q7, ASK Q8]

8. Are you leaning more toward the Democratic candidates or the Republican candidates?

- 1 DEMOCRATIC
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 ONE OF EACH
- 4 ONE DEM/DK OTHER
- 5 ONE REP/DK OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

9. And in past elections, did you usually favor the Democratic or the Republican candidates for the State Assembly?

- 1 DEMOCRAT
- 2 REPUBLICAN
- 3 DEPENDS ON CANDIDATES
- 4 NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE (TOO YOUNG, NOT IN STATE)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

10. This year there will also be independent candidates for the State Assembly on the ballot--How likely are you to consider voting for an independent candidate -- very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely or not at all likely?

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

11. If a candidate in your district campaigns with Governor Christie Whitman, will this make you more likely to support that candidate, less likely to support that candidate, or won't it make any difference?

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

12. What do you think is the most important issue in this year's Assembly election?

13. Thinking about the future of the Democratic and Republican parties in New Jersey, in the next few years, which political party will be the most successful in getting their candidates elected?

(READ ITEMS 1 & 2) (ROTATE)

- 1 THE DEMOCRATS
- OR
- 2 THE REPUBLICAN
- 3 INDEPENDENTS (VOL)
- 4 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 5 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

14. And, in the next few years, which political party will be the most successful in getting their programs and policies passed?

(READ ITEMS 1 & 2) (ROTATE)

- 1 THE DEMOCRATS
- OR
- 2 THE REPUBLICANS
- 3 INDEPENDENTS (VOL)
- 4 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 5 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

15. In the next few years, which political party do you trust the most to do what is best for New Jersey?

(READ ITEMS 1 & 2) (ROTATE)

- 1 THE DEMOCRATS
- OR
- 2 THE REPUBLICANS
- 3 INDEPENDENTS (VOL)
- 4 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 5 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

16. Overall, how much do you think you have benefited from New Jersey's 30 percent state income tax reduction--a great deal, some, not much, or not at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME

- 3 NOT MUCH
- 4 NOT AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

17. Have you made an estimate of how much less your state income tax is because of the 30 percent state income tax reduction?

- 1 YES [Go to q.18a]
- 2 NO [Go to q.18b]
- 9 DON'T KNOW [Go to q.18b]

IF YES TO Q.17, ASK:

18a. And, what is your best estimate of the actual amount of money you have saved because of the 30 percent state income tax reduction?

\$_____

IF ANO@ OR ADK@ TO Q.17, ASK:

18b. Is there an amount that you think you should have saved?

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

18b1. IF YES: What is it?

\$_____

19. Overall, how satisfied are you with the 30 percent state income tax reduction--very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied?

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

20A. And, why do you feel that way (FIRST MENTION)?

20B. And, why do you feel that way (SECOND MENTION)?

20C. And, why do you feel that way (THIRD MENTION)?

21. In general, do you think the 30 percent state income tax reduction has helped or hurt
|

A Wealthy New Jerseyans?

B Middle class New Jerseyans?

C Working poor New Jerseyans who earn incomes just above the poverty level?

D New Jerseyans who are on welfare?

- 1 HELPED
- 2 HURT
- 3 NEITHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW

22. How much have you read or heard about the federal tax cuts that have been proposed in Congress--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

23. How much do you think you will benefit from the proposed federal tax cuts -- a great deal, some, not much, or not at all?

- 1 A GREAT DEAL
- 2 SOME
- 3 NOT MUCH
- 4 NOT AT ALL
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

24. Thinking about the federal funds that New Jersey receives for state programs, do you think federal tax cuts will increase, decrease, or not change the amount of federal funding that New Jersey receives?

- 1 INCREASE
- 2 DECREASE
- 3 NOT CHANGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

25. Which concerns you more about the two parties -- that: the Democrats will not go far enough in cutting taxes or that the Republicans will go too far in cutting taxes ?

(ROTATE)

- 1 THE DEMOCRATS WILL NOT GO FAR ENOUGH IN CUTTING TAXES
- OR
- 2 THE REPUBLICANS WILL GO TOO FAR IN CUTTING TAXES
- OR
- 3 NEITHER (VOL)
- OR
- 4 DEPENDS (VOL)
- OR
- 5 BOTH (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

26. If Congress reduces spending on some programs this year, should these savings mainly be used: to reduce the deficit or to lower taxes?

(ROTATE)

- 1 TO REDUCE THE DEFICIT
- OR
- 2 TO LOWER TAXES
- OR
- 3 NEITHER (VOL)
- 4 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 5 BOTH (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

27. From what you know of the Republican plan to change Medicare, do you approve or disapprove -- do you mildly or strongly approve/disapprove?

- 1 STRONGLY APPROVE
- 2 MILDLY APPROVE
- 3 MILDLY DISAPPROVE
- 4 STRONGLY DISAPPROVE
- 9 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

28. If you had to choose would you prefer: BALANCING THE FEDERAL BUDGET OR PREVENTING MEDICARE FROM BEING SIGNIFICANTLY CUT?

(ROTATE)

- 1 BALANCING THE FEDERAL BUDGET
- OR
- 2 PREVENTING MEDICARE FROM BEING SIGNIFICANTLY CUT
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 DEPENDS
- 5 BOTH
- 9 DON'T KNOW

29. And, if you had to choose would you prefer: CUTTING FEDERAL TAXES OR PREVENTING MEDICARE FROM BEING SIGNIFICANTLY CUT?

(ROTATE)

- 1 CUTTING FEDERAL TAXES
- OR
- 2 PREVENTING MEDICARE FROM BEING SIGNIFICANTLY CUT
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 DEPENDS
- 5 BOTH

30. Do you think the Republican plan to change Medicare will increase, decrease, or not change the amount of federal funds New Jersey receives for Medicare?

- 1 INCREASE
- 2 DECREASE
- 3 NOT CHANGE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

[ASK 30a ONLY FOR THOSE WHO ANSWERED #1-5 OR #8 TO Q.7]

30a. And, has this plan to change Medicare made you more likely or less likely to vote for the Republican candidates in the upcoming State Assembly Elections, or has it made no difference in your vote?

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

On a different topic,

31a. There are many different types of organizations that people can donate money to-- During the last year, about how many different organizations have asked you for some type of donation?

31b. And, about how many different organizations have you donated money to?

32. And would you say that is more, less, or about the same as the number of organizations that you donated to the year before in 1994?

- 1 MORE
- 2 LESS
- 3 SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

CONDITIONAL: IF Q.31a IS NOT A0@ zero, SKIP TO Q.38

33A. Could you please tell me what types of organizations you donated money to in the last year--PROBE: Are there any others (FIRST MENTION)?

33B. Could you please tell me what types of organizations you donated money to in the last year--PROBE: Are there any others (SECOND MENTION)?

33C. Could you please tell me what types of organizations you donated money to in the last year--PROBE: Are there any others (THIRD MENTION)?

PROBE IF NOT MENTIONED IN Q.33:

34. And, during the last year do you remember if you donated money to|

- A Your local fire department?
- B Your local police department?
- C Your local first aid squad?

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

35. What is your best estimate of the total amount of money that you donated to organizations in the past year?

\$ _____

- 8 REFUSES
- 9 DON'T KNOW

IF DON'T KNOW OR REFUSES IN QC.35, PROBE:

36. Would you say the total amount of money that you donated in the past year was -- \$50 or less, \$51-\$100, \$101-\$150, \$151-\$200, or more than \$200?

- 1 \$50 OR LESS
- 2 \$51-\$100
- 3 \$101-\$150
- 4 \$151-\$200

- 5 MORE THAN \$200
- 9 DON'T KNOW

37. Thinking about all of your donations this year, was the amount of money you donated to organizations this year about the same as you gave last year, or was it a larger or a smaller amount?

- 1 LARGER AMOUNT
- 2 SMALLER AMOUNT
- 3 ABOUT THE SAME
- 9 DON'T KNOW

38. Overall, would you have liked to have donated more money to organizations, or do you feel that the amount of money you donated is about what you wanted to give?

- 1 LIKED TO HAVE DONATED MORE
- 2 GAVE WHAT WANTED TO GIVE
- 3 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

39. How concerned are you about knowing how much of the money that you donate goes to the organization and how much of that amount goes to pay for the fundraising -- 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/REFUSED

40. For how many of the organizations that you donated to, do you know the amount of your donation that goes to the organization itself and the amount of your donation that is used to pay for the fund raising--all of them, about half of them, less than half of them, or none of them?

- 1 ALL OF THEM
- 2 ABOUT HALF OF THEM
- 3 LESS THAN HALF OF THEM
- 4 NONE OF THEM
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now I have a few questions about the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday.

41. Thinking about all of the different holidays that you celebrate, overall, on a rating scale from 1 to 10 where a ONE is your least favorite holiday and a TEN is your most favorite holiday, what rating would you give Thanksgiving--Remember, you can use any number between 1 and 10 when you give your rating?

- 1 LEAST FAVORITE
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

- 9
- 10 MOST FAVORITE
- 99 DON'T KNOW

42. Do you plan to eat the traditional turkey dinner for Thanksgiving?

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

42a. And, do you plan to spend Thanksgiving with your family, with friends, or on your own?

- 1 FAMILY
- 2 FRIENDS
- 3 FAMILY AND FRIENDS
- 4 ON OWN
- 5 OTHER (specify: _____)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

43. What is the one thing that you are the most thankful for this year?

44. And, how thankful would you say that you are this year--very thankful, somewhat thankful, not very thankful, or not at all thankful?

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

45. Would you say that you're more thankful, less thankful, or about as thankful as you were at Thanksgiving last year?

- 1 MORE THANKFUL
- 2 LESS THANKFUL
- 3 ABOUT AS THANKFUL
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now I'd like to ask a few questions about taking care of babies--Even if you have never had experience with babies, I'd just like to get your opinions on a couple of issues:

B1. People have different ways of handling a baby under two years old who cries for long periods of time--For each way I mention, please tell me whether you think it is a very good way, a somewhat good way, or not a good way to handle a baby who has been crying--First [READ ITEM]--is this a very good way, a somewhat good way, or not a good way to handle a baby under two years old who has been crying -- |

- A Ignore the baby?
- B Pick up and hold the baby ?
- C Shake the baby?

- 1 VERY GOOD WAY
- 2 SOMEWHAT GOOD WAY
- 3 NOT A GOOD WAY

- 8 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

B-2. Have you personally ever shaken a baby under two years old to stop him or her from crying?

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

B-3. I'm going to read you a number of statements about the possible effects of shaking a baby--For each one I read, please tell me whether you agree or disagree with it--First, do you agree or disagree that [READ ITEM]--[PROBE: Do you agree/disagree strongly or mildly] -- |

A Shaking a baby who is crying is better than spanking?

B Shaking cannot hurt a baby if you only do it once or twice?

C Shaking a baby can lead to health problems which might not show up until the child is older?

D Shaking a baby can cause physical disabilities such as blindness, hearing loss, and mental retardation?

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 MILDLY AGREE
- 3 MILDLY DISAGREE
- 4 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 8 DEPENDS (VOL)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

Now I have a few questions about popular music.

46. Could you please tell me the name of your favorite popular singing group of all time?
[A group is 3 or more people -- BUT DO NOT PROBE IF THEY NAME ONE PERSON]

DO NOT READ

- 1 BEATLES
- 2 OTHER (SPECIFY. _____)
- 9 DON'T KNOW

47. Overall, on a rating scale from 1 to 10 where 1 is your least favorite groups and a 10 is your most favorite group what rating would you give the Beatles. Remember, you can use any number between 1 and 10 when you give your rating?

- 1 LEAST FAVORITE
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 MOST FAVORITE
- 99 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.XD2]
- 2 REPUBLICAN [Go to q.XD2]
- 3 INDEPENDENT
- 4 SOMETHING ELSE/OTHER
- 9 DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION

(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

XD2. Are you currently registered to vote here in New Jersey?

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

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

(IF #3 OR 9 TO Q. D3, ASK)

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

(IF "YES" TO Q. D5, ASK:)

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
- 3 RETIRED
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED
- 9 OTHER/REFUSED

(IF EMPLOYED TO Q.D7, ASK:)

XD7a. And how concerned are you that you might become unemployed within the next year-- Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not too concerned about becoming unemployed?

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

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

- 1 YES [Go to q.D12]
- 2 NO
- 9 DON'T KNOW

(IF "NO" TO Q. D9, ASK:)

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

- 1 EMPLOYED
- 2 TEMPORARILY LAID OFF
- 3 RETIRED
- 4 NOT EMPLOYED
- 9 DON'T KNOW

[IF EMPLOYED TO D.10, ASK]

XD10a. And, how concerned are you that the chief wage earner in your household might become unemployed within the next year-- Are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not too concerned about the chief wage earner becoming unemployed?

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

NOTE: D.11 IS SKIPPED

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

XD13A. Do you have any children under the age of 18?

- 1 YES [Go to q.XD13B]
- 2 NO [Go to q.XD13C]
- 9 Don't Know [Go to q.XD13C]

XD13B. And what is the age of the YOUNGEST child?

- / / / (Code years 0-18: code 0 for all less than 1; 19=Don't know/refused)
- 0 Less than 1
 - 19 Don't Know/Refused

XD13C. Do you ever watch or take care of children under the age of 5--[IF "YES" PROBE:
Do you do this regularly, occasionally, or rarely]?

- 1 YES, Regularly
- 2 YES, Occasionally
- 3 YES, Rarely
- 4 NO, Never
- 9 Don't Know

D14. Are you white, black or of Hispanic or Asian 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 OTHER
- 5 NONE/ATHEIST/AGNOSTIC
- 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 WHICH OF THESE AGE GROUPS 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

D.18 Where do you live-- in what township or municipality?

D18A. In what county is that?

/ / / / /

 County Town

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 \$35,000 [Go to q.D19a]
- 2 \$35,000 TO \$69,999 [GO to q.D19b]
- 3 \$70,000 OR MORE
- 9 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