

Sept 6-13, 2000

Presidential and Senate Politics, Parkway Tolls, NJN

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 the upcoming election. We are not selling anything, not asking for money, and all your answers will be completely confidential.

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

- 1 Two or less
- 2 3-5
- 3 6 - 10
- 4 11 - 20
- 5 21 or more
- 6 All My Life
- 9 Don't Know

2. All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

- 1 Satisfied
- 2 Dissatisfied
- 9 No Opinion

3. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO/DON'T KNOW-- SKIP TO GSP1

4. As you know, there will be an election for President this fall. 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. In your opinion, how much of a difference will the outcome of this election make in the way the government is run over the next few years--a great deal of difference, some, or not very much difference?

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Some
- 3 Not very much
- 8 Depends
- 9 Don't know

6. How often would you say you vote: always, nearly always, part of the time, or seldom?

- 1 Always
- 2 Nearly Always
- 3 Part of the Time
- 4 Seldom
- 5 Never (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

7. I'd like you to rate your chances of voting in the upcoming November election on a scale of 10 to 1. If 10 represents a person who DEFINITELY will vote and 1 represents a person who definitely will NOT vote, where would you place yourself?
–10 definitely will; 1 definitely will not

/___/___/ Record actual number; 99 = Don't know/refused

CATI PROGRAMMING: IF Q7 = 1, OR 2 OR 3; SKIP TO GSPI

8. Now, suppose the 2000 presidential election were being held TODAY. If you had to choose between [ROTATE ITALICS] *Al Gore, the Democrat; George W. Bush, the Republican; Pat Buchanan, of the Reform Party; and Ralph Nader, of the Green Party* — who would you vote for?

- 1 Gore—GO TO Q 10
- 2 Bush—GO TO Q10
- 3 Buchanan—Go TO Q 11
- 4 Nader—GO TO Q11
- 5 Other candidate—GO TO Q11
- 9 Undecided/Don't know—GO TO Q9

IF "UNDECIDED OR DON'T KNOW TO Q.8, ASK:

9. At this moment do you lean more towards Bush or more towards Gore?

- 1 Bush – SKIP TO Q12
- 2 Gore – SKIP TO Q12
- 3 Neither/Undecided. – SKIP TO Q12
- 4 Other—SKIP TO Q11
- 9 Don't Know—SKIP TO Q12

IF GORE OR BUSH TO Q 8, ASK

10. Are you very sure about voting for (Bush/Gore); or might you change your mind before election day?

- 1 VERY SURE—GO TO Q12
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T KNOW—GO TO Q12

11. Suppose there were only two major candidates for president and you had to choose between Al Gore, the Democrat; and George W. Bush, the Republican. Who would you vote for?
- 1 Al Gore
 - 2 George W. Bush
 - 3 Other candidate (VOL)
 - 4 Wouldn't Vote (VOL)
 - 9 Don't know
12. And who do you expect to actually win the election—Gore or Bush?
- 1 Gore
 - 2 Bush
 - 3 Other (VOL)
 - 9 Don't know
13. There will also be an election for the U.S. Senate in New Jersey. 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
14. If the election for the Senate were held today, would you vote for (CATI RANDOMIZE NAMES IN ITALICS) *Bob Franks, the Republican*; or *Jon Corzine (KORE-ZIGN), the Democrat*?
- 1 Franks –SKIP TO Q16
 - 2 Corzine –SKIP TO Q16
 - 7 Neither/Other –SKIP TO Q17
 - 8 Wouldn't vote –SKIP TO Q17
 - 9 Don't know/Undecided –ASK Q15

IF "UNDECIDED OR DON'T KNOW TO Q14 ASK:

15. At this moment do you lean more towards Franks or more towards Corzine?
- 1 Franks – SKIP TO Q17
 - 2 Corzine– SKIP TO Q17
 - 9 Neither/Undecided. – Q17
16. Are you very sure about voting for (Franks/Corzine); or might you change your mind before election day?
- 1 VERY SURE
 - 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T KNOW

17. I'd like to learn a little more about your opinions of the candidates. After I read each name, please tell me if your general impression of him is favorable or unfavorable, or if you don't really have an opinion about him. First (RANDOMIZE...) Favorable or unfavorable. **(IF FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE, PROBE: Is that very (favorable/unfavorable) or somewhat (favorable/ unfavorable)|**

A George W. Bush?

B Al Gore?

C Democrat Jon Corzine?

D Republican Bob Franks?

Response Options Q 17A-D

- 1 VERY FAVORABLE
 2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE
 3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE
 4 VERY UNFAVORABLE
 9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW
18. How much thought have you given to the upcoming presidential election: quite a lot or only a little?
- 1 Quite a lot
 2 Some (VOL)
 3 Little
 4 None (VOL)
 9 Don't know
19. Where have you been getting *most* of your news about the Presidential election campaign—from television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet?
- 1 Television—ASK Q20
 2 Newspapers
 3 Radio
 4 Magazines
 5 Internet
 6 Other
 9 Don't know/Refused

IF RESPONDENT ANSWERED '1' TELEVISION IN Q19 ASK:

20. Do you get most of your news about the presidential campaign from *network* tv news, from *local* tv news, or from *cable* news networks such as CNN and MSNBC?
- 1 Network
 2 Local
 3 Cable
 4 **(DO NOT READ)** Other/Combination/All (VOL)
 9 Don't know

21. Ordinarily, do you find that you go looking for the latest news about the presidential campaign, OR do you typically happen to come across campaign news without looking for it?
- 1 Go looking for campaign news
2 Come across campaign news without looking
9 Don't know/Refused
- 22A. Thinking ahead, what do you think is the most important issue facing the country that whoever is elected president will have to deal with [FIRST MENTION]?
- 22B. Thinking ahead, what do you think is the most important issue facing the country that whoever is elected president will have to deal with [SECOND MENTION]?
- 22C. Thinking ahead, what do you think is the most important issue facing the country that whoever is elected president will have to deal with [THIRD MENTION]?
23. What's your impression...do George W. Bush and Al Gore take different positions on the issues, or are they pretty similar in their positions on the issues?
- 1 Different positions
2 Pretty similar positions
9 Don't know/Refused
24. Regardless of which presidential candidate you support, please tell me if you think Al Gore or George W. Bush would better handle each of the following issues. How about...(RANDOMIZE)...Gore or Bush (CATI SPLIT HALF FORMS A& B).|
- A1 The budget surplus?
A2 Taxes?
A3 Social Security?
A4 Managing the economy?
A5 Healthcare?
A6 Education?
- B1 The gun issue?
B2 Abortion?
B3 National Defense and the Military?
B4 Managing the economy?
B5 Education?
B6 Medicare?

Response Options

- 1 Gore
2 Bush
3 Both/same (VOL)
9 Don't know/no opinion

CATI: ROTATE Q25 AND Q26

25. In terms of his issue positions would you describe Al Gore as liberal, moderate, conservative, or aren't you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 8 Depends/Mixture (VOL)
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

26. In terms of his issue positions, would you describe George W. Bush as liberal, moderate, conservative, or aren't you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 8 Depends/Mixture (VOL)
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

27. Thinking about the following characteristics and qualities, please say whether you think each one applies more to Al Gore or more to George W. Bush. How about... [RANDOMIZE) Gore or Bush. CATI: SPLIT HALF FORM A & B]]

- A1 Shares your values?
- A2 Cares about the needs of people like you?
- A3 Is a strong and decisive leader?
- A4 Generally agrees with you on issues you care about?
- A5 Is someone you would be proud to have as president?
- A6 Has a vision for the country's future?

- B1 Can manage government effectively?
- B2 Has a vision for the country's future?
- B3 Is honest and trustworthy?
- B4 Understands complex issues?
- B5 Generally agrees with you on issues you care about?
- B6 Shares your values?

Response Options 27a,b1-6

- 1 Gore
- 2 Bush
- 3 Both/Same (VOL)
- 4 Neither (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

28. Now I'm going to name some other political figures. Just quickly tell me whether your general impression is favorable, unfavorable, or if you have no opinion. First (RANDOMIZE).|

- A Joe Lieberman?
- B Dick Cheney?
- C Christie Whitman?
- D Bill Clinton?
- E Ralph Nader?
- F Pat Buchanan?

Response Options 28A-F

- 1 Favorable
- 2 Unfavorable
- 9 No Opinion

ROTATE QUESTIONS 29A & 29B

29A. Do you think Vice Presidential candidate Joe Lieberman will help or hurt the Democratic ticket?

- 1 Help
- 2 Hurt
- 3 No difference (VOL)
- 4 Don't Know

29B. Do you think Vice Presidential candidate Dick Cheney will help or hurt the Republican ticket?

- 1 Help
- 2 Hurt
- 3 No difference (VOL)
- 4 Don't Know

30. Do you plan to watch the televised debates between the presidential candidates, or not?

- 1 Yes, plan to watch
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know/Refused

31. Who do you expect to do better in the presidential debates--Gore or Bush?

- 1 Gore
- 2 Bush
- 3 Neither/Same/Tie
- 9 Don't know/care

32. And who do you expect to do better in the Vice Presidential debate--Lieberman or Cheney?

- 1 Lieberman

- 2 Cheney
- 3 Neither/Same/Tie
- 9 Don't know/care

33. Turning back to the Senate contest, how much have you heard or read about the New Jersey Senate election between Jon Corzine and Bob Franks—a lot, some, just a little, or nothing at all?

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

CATI ROTATE QUESTIONS 34 and 35... LEAD PHRASE, “The campaign for Senate is just starting....)

34. ...How much do you think you know about Republican Bob Franks-- a lot, some, just a little, or nothing at all?

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

35. ...How much do you think you know about Democrat Jon Corzine -- a lot, some, just a little or nothing at all?

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

36. I am going to read a list of some of the issues that will probably be discussed in this year's Senate election campaigns. As I read each one, please tell me how important the candidates' positions on that issue will be in influencing your vote—extremely important, pretty important, or less important [RANDOM ORDER A-H] |

- A Education?
- B Health care?
- C Social security?
- D Gun control?
- E How the federal budget surplus should be used?
- F Tax policy?
- G The death penalty?
- H How much government spends on social programs?

Response Options 36 A-H

- 1 Extremely
- 2 Pretty
- 3 Less
- 9 Don't know

CATI RANDOMIZE 37A AND 37B**ASK 37A BELOW ONLY IF 34 EQ 1 2 OR 3**

37A. How would you describe Bob Franks in terms of his issue positions—as liberal, moderate, conservative, or aren't you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 8 Depends/Mixture (VOL)
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

ASK 37B BELOW ONLY IF 35 EQ 1 2 OR 3

37B. How would you describe Jon Corzine in terms of his issue positions—as liberal, moderate, conservative, or aren't you sure?

- 1 Liberal
- 2 Moderate
- 3 Conservative
- 8 Depends/Mixture (VOL)
- 9 Don't know/Not sure

38. This next question is a little long, so please listen carefully. Democratic candidate Jon Corzine's platform calls for universal access to health care, long-term care, making prescription drugs available to the elderly, universal pre-school and access to higher education for everyone. Republican candidate Bob Franks believes that government should be less active in providing all these services and that Corzine's plans would cause an increase in taxes. First, how do you feel about the *idea* of government providing these services—is this something you think government should do, or would it be government trying to do too much?

- 1 Govt should do
- 2 Govt doing too much
- 3 Depends (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

39. Second, do you think government can afford these services by using the surplus and being more efficient, or do you think that taxes would have to be raised to pay for them?

- 1 Government can afford
- 2 Would mean a tax increase
- 3 Depends (VOL)
- 9 Don't know

40. As you probably know there is also a US Senate election in New York between Rick Lazio and Hillary Clinton. How much have you heard or read about that election—a lot, some, just a little, or nothing at all?

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

41. If you could vote in the New York election, would you vote for Rick Lazio, the Republican; or Hillary Clinton, the Democrat?

- 1 Lazio
- 2 Clinton
- 3 Wouldn't vote/Neither (VOL)
- 4 Other
- 9 Don't know

42. Most people do not vote in every election. I'm going to read you some past elections. Please just tell me whether you're *certain* you voted in it or not. CATI: ON FORM A, ASK A THROUGH D IN ORDER; FROM B ASK D, C, B THEN A IN ORDER |

A The 1996 election for President between Clinton and Dole?

B The 1997 election for Governor between Whitman and McGreevy?

C The 1998 election for Congress in your district?

D The 1999 election for the New Jersey Assembly?

Response Codes for 42A-D

- 1 Yes, Certain I voted
- 2 No/Don't Know/Can't say

CATI PROGRAMMING: IF NOT REGISTERED, Q3 EQ 2 SAY, "Now just a final few questions so that we can classify your answers...ASK ONLY D4, D4a, D5, D5A, D12, D12A , D15, D16

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

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

- 1 Democrat –ASK D1a
- 2 Republican -ASK D1a
- 3 Independent –SKIP TO D1b
- 4 Something Else/Other –SKIP TO D2
- 9 Don't Know/No opinion –SKIP TO D1b

D1a. Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican), or a not so strong(Democrat/Republican)?

- 1 Strong —SKIP TO D2
- 2 Not Strong/Don't know—SKIP TO D2

D1b. 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

D2. 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
- 4 Other
- 9 Don't Know/No opinion

D3. Which of the following BEST describes the area where you now live: READ OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 3?

- 1 A large city or urban area
- 2 A suburban area
- 3 OR a rural area
- 9 Other/don't know/refused

D4. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No/Don't Know--SKIP TO D5

D4A. Not counting vocational or technical school, did you ever attend college? **(IF YES, ASK: Did you graduate? IF YES, ASK: Was that from a 2 year or a 4 year program?)**

- 1 No, never attended
- 2 Yes, attended but did not graduate
- 3 Yes, graduated from 2 year program/Junior college
- 4 Yes, graduated from 4 year program
- 9 Don't know/refused

D5. What was your age on your last birthday?

 / / / **(ENTER AGE: 97=97+, 98=DK, 99 = REFUSED)**
CATI NOTE, IF REFUSED IN D5, ASK D5A; OTHERWISE GO TO D6

D5A. Were you born before 1946, between 1946 and 1964, or after 1964?

- 1 before 1946

- 2 between 1946 and 1964
- 3 after 1964
- 9 Refused/don't know

D6. Are you married, living as married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

- 1 Married
- 2 Living as married
- 3 Widowed
- 4 Divorced
- 5 Separated
- 6 Never married
- 9 Don't know

D7. Are you of Latino or Hispanic origin, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No/Don't know

D8. Are you white, black or of Asian origin?

- 1 White
- 2 Black
- 3 Asian
- 4 Other
- 9 Not determined

D9. Do you consider yourself to be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim, some other religion, atheist or agnostic?

- 1 Catholic
- 2 Protestant
- 3 Jewish
- 4 Muslim
- 5 Other
- 6 Atheist/Agnostic
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

D10. Including yourself, how many adults--that is people 18 or over, live in your household?

- 1 One
- 2 Two
- 3 Three or more
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

D11. Are you the parent or guardian of any children under 18 now living in your household?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

9 Don't know/Refused

D12. In which county do you live?

01 Atlantic	08 Gloucester	15 Ocean
02 Bergen	09 Hudson	16 Passaic
03 Burlington	10 Hunterdon	17 Salem
04 Camden	11 Mercer	18 Somerset
05 Cape May	12 Middlesex	19 Sussex
06 Cumberland	13 Monmouth	20 Union
07 Essex	14 Morris	21 Warren

99 Don't know/Refused

D13. 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; between \$70,000 to just under \$100,000; or \$100,000 or more?

- 1 UNDER \$35,000
- 2 \$35,000 TO \$69,999
- 3 \$70,000 TO \$100,000
- 4 \$100,000 OR MORE
- 9 DON'T KNOW

D14. Not counting cell phones, how many DIFFERENT telephone numbers for incoming calls reach this household--this does not include those lines that are ONLY used for fax machines and computers?

- 1 One
- 2 Two
- 3 Three
- 4 Four or more
- 9 Don't Know/Refused

D15. Thanks. You've been very helpful. The results of the poll will be released in the Newark Star-Ledger. Sometimes we need to recontact people to verify that this interview took place, or someone writing up the results may want to know more about how you feel. Would it be okay for us to recontact you if necessary? (IF YES, ASK: Could I please have just your first name?)

- 1 YES -----> RECORD NAME: _____
- 2 NO

Verify phone number; Thank you very much for your help.