

POLL 128A
October 12-15, 2000
Presidential Politics

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

1A. Are you currently registered to vote at the address where you now live?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO/DON= T KNOW-- TERMINATE

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. As you know, there will be an election for President this fall. 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?

- 1 Definitely will not vote [Go to QD1]
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10 Definitely will vote
- 99 Don=t know/refused

CATI PROGRAMMING: IF Q3 = 1, SKIP TO D1

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. 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. 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 C who would you vote for?

- 1 Gore [Go to Q.7]
- 2 Bush [Go to Q.8]
- 3 Buchanan [Go to Q.7]
- 4 Nader [Go to Q.7]
- 5 Other candidate [Go to Q.7]
- 9 Undecided/Don=t know [Go to Q.7]

7. At this moment do you lean more towards Bush, more towards Gore, or neither?

- 1 Bush [Go to Q.9]
- 2 Gore [Go to Q.9]
- 3 Neither/Undecided [Go to Q.9]
- 4 Other [Go to Q.9]
- 9 Don=t Know [Go to Q.9]

IF GORE OR BUSH TO Q 6, ASK

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

- 1 VERY SURE
- 2 MIGHT CHANGE/DON'T KNOW

12. 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?

1 VERY FAVORABLE

2 SOMEWHAT FAVORABLE

3 SOMEWHAT UNFAVORABLE

4 VERY UNFAVORABLE

9 NO OPINION/DON'T KNOW

13. 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|

A The budget surplus?

B Taxes?

C Social Security?

D Healthcare?

E Education?

F Abortion?

G The tense situation between Arabs and Jews in the Middle East?

H National Defense and the Military?

1 Gore

2 Bush

3 Both/same (VOL)

9 Don=t know/no opinion

14. 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 Y [RANDOMIZE) Gore or Bush|

A Shares your values?

B Cares about the needs of people like you?

C Is a strong and decisive leader?

D Has a vision for the country=s future?

E Is honest and trustworthy?

F Understands complex issues?

- 1 Gore
- 2 Bush
- 3 Both/Same (VOL)
- 4 Neither (VOL)
- 9 Don=t know

15. Did you watch either of the two televised debates between the presidential candidates, or not?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No [Go to Q.17]
- 9 Don=t know/Refused [Go to Q.17]

16. Who do you think did better in the presidential debatesBGore or Bush?

- 1 Gore
- 2 Bush
- 3 Neither/Same/Tie
- 9 Don=t know/care

21. Most people do not vote in every election. How often would you say you vote in various elections: 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

22. Can you recall if you voted in the 1996 election between Bill Clinton and Bob Dole--IF NECESSARY, PROBE: Did you vote?

- 1 Voted
- 2 Didn=t Vote
- 3 Can=t recall
- 9 Don=t Know

23. And can you recall if you voted in the 1997 election for Governor between Jim McGreevy and Christie Whitman--IF NECESSARY, PROBE: Did you vote?

- 1 Voted
- 2 Didn=t Vote
- 3 Can=t recall
- 9 Don=t know

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 [Go to Q.D1a]
- 2 Republican [Go to Q.D1a]
- 3 Independent [Go to Q.D1b]
- 4 Something Else/Other [Go to Q.D2]
- 9 Don't Know/No opinion [Go to Q.D1b]

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

- 1 Strong [Go to Q.D2]
- 2 Not Strong/Don't know [Go to Q.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

NO QUESTION D3 THIS VERSION

D4. Did you receive a high school diploma?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No/Don't Know [Go to Q.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+) [Go to Q.D7]

98 DK [Go to Q.D7]

99 REFUSED [Go to q. D5A]

CATI NOTE, IF REFUSED IN D5, ASK D5A; OTHERWISE GO TO D7

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

NO QUESTIONS D9 - D11 THIS VERSION

D12. In which county do you live?

- 1 Atlantic
- 2 Bergen
- 3 Burlington
- 4 Camden
- 5 Cape May
- 6 Cumberland
- 7 Essex
- 8 Gloucester
- 9 Hudson
- 10 Hunterdon
- 11 Mercer
- 12 Middlesex
- 13 Monmouth
- 14 Morris
- 15 Ocean
- 16 Passaic
- 17 Salem
- 18 Somerset
- 19 Sussex
- 20 Union
- 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

