

# American Values and Civic Engagement Survey

## NATIONAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE

Help us understand how Americans view important social and civic issues. Your responses are confidential and will help inform policy decisions.\*

## Section A: Civic Participation and Values ### Question 1 How important is it for citizens to stay informed about government actions?

3

\*Extremely important\*

\*\*Not important at all\*\*

### Question 2 \*\*\*Rate your agreement:\*\*\* \*"Strong leadership sometimes requires making difficult decisions without extensive public debate."\*

3

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

### Question 3 \*\*In your opinion, which is \*most important\* for maintaining social order?\*\*

3

Respect for traditional authority and institutions

**-2**

**Open dialogue and democratic participation**

**-1**

**Individual rights and freedoms**

**1**

**Community consensus and compromise**

**2**

**Strong enforcement of established laws**

### Question 4 \*How do you typically respond when you disagree with a government policy?\* \*\*\* (Select all that apply) \*\*\*

**1**

**Vote in elections**

**1**

**Contact elected representatives**

**-2**

**Participate in peaceful protests**

**-1**

**Share concerns on social media**

**1**

**Discuss with friends and family**

**3**

**Accept that elected officials know best**

**2**

**Focus on local issues I can influence**

--- ## \*\*Section B:\*\* \*Social Issues and Community\* ### Question 5 \*\*\*Rate your agreement:\*\*\* \* "Schools should focus on teaching established facts rather than encouraging students to question everything." \*

3

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

### Question 6 \*\*Which approach to addressing inequality do you \*prefer\*?\*

2

Focus on ensuring equal opportunities for everyone

-2

Actively work to correct historical disadvantages

3

Let individual merit determine outcomes naturally

1

Provide temporary assistance to level the playing field

-3

Fundamentally restructure systems that create inequality

### Question 7 \*When discussing sensitive social topics, which is\* \*\*most important?\*

1

Being respectful of different viewpoints

3

Speaking truth regardless of who might be offended

-2

Considering the feelings of those most affected

2

Sticking to facts and avoiding emotions

1

**Finding common ground everyone can accept**

### Question 8 \*\*\*Rate your agreement:\*\*\* \*"Some cultural traditions are objectively better than others for creating stable societies."\*

3

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

--- ## \*\*Section C:\*\* \*Hypothetical Scenarios\* ### Question 9 \*\*You witness a heated argument between police officers and community members during a traffic stop.\*\* \*What would you most likely do?\*

3

**Trust that police are handling the situation appropriately**

2

**Continue on your way - it's not your business**

-1

**Stay nearby in case you need to serve as a witness**

-2

**Record the interaction with your phone**

-3

**Intervene verbally if you see potential misconduct**

### Question 10 \*Your employer asks you to complete diversity training that includes concepts you personally disagree with.\* \*\*You would:\*\*

2

**Complete it professionally as part of your job requirements**

**1**

**Express your concerns to HR before participating**

**3**

**Attend but internally maintain your own beliefs**

**-1**

**Request alternative training options**

**-2**

**Consider whether this workplace aligns with your values**

### Question 11 \*\*You're at a family gathering where relatives make comments you find offensive about a minority group.\*\* \*You would most likely:\*

**3**

**Let it pass to keep family harmony**

**2**

**Change the subject to something less controversial**

**1**

**Privately speak with them later about your concerns**

**-1**

**Politely but clearly express disagreement in the moment**

**-3**

**Challenge them directly about their prejudices**

### Question 12 \*Your neighborhood is considering a proposal to house homeless individuals in a nearby facility.\* \*\*Your primary concern would be:\*\*

3

**Impact on local property values and safety**

1

**Whether the facility has adequate support services**

-2

**How to help the community welcome these individuals**

2

**Finding alternative locations that work better for everyone**

2

**Ensuring proper oversight and security measures**

--- ## \*\*Section D:\*\* \*Information and Media\* ### Question 13 \*\*When you encounter news that contradicts your existing beliefs, you typically:\*\*

2

**Look for additional sources that seem more reliable**

-1

**Consider whether your views might need updating**

1

**Check the credibility of the source before accepting it**

3

**Dismiss it if it comes from biased sources**

-2

**Research the topic more thoroughly from multiple angles**

### Question 14 \*\*\*Rate your agreement:\*\*\* \*"Social media companies should remove content that most people find offensive or harmful."\*

3

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

### Question 15 \*\*Which news sources do you \*trust most\*? \*\* \*\*\* (Check all that apply) \*\*\*

☒ **1 Major television networks (CNN, Fox News, NBC, etc.)**

☒ **2 Local television and newspaper outlets**

☐ **-1 Online news websites and blogs**

☐ **-2 Social media posts and shares**

☒ **3 Government official statements and press releases**

☐ **-2 Independent journalists and alternative media**

☐ **-1 Academic and research institution reports**

--- ## \*\*Section E:\*\* \*National Identity and Future\* ### Question 16 \*\*\*What makes you most proud to be American?\*\*\*

☒ **3 Our military strength and global leadership**

☒ **1 Constitutional rights and democratic traditions**

☒ **2 Economic opportunities and innovation**

☐

2

**Cultural diversity and inclusion**

-1

**Our ability to improve and correct past mistakes**

### Question 17 \*\*\*Rate your agreement:\*\*\* \*"America's best days are ahead of us if we return to the values that made us great."\*

3

Strongly disagree

Strongly agree

### Question 18 \*\*In times of national crisis, citizens should:\*\*

3

**Unite behind leadership and avoid divisive criticism**

1

**Continue normal democratic debate while supporting necessary actions**

-2

**Increase scrutiny to prevent abuse of emergency powers**

2

**Focus on helping their local communities**

-3

**Maintain vigilance against government overreach**

### Question 19 \*Which statement\* \*\*best reflects\*\* \*your view of American history?\*

3



**America has been a beacon of freedom that other nations should emulate**

**2**

**America has generally tried to do the right thing despite some mistakes**

**1**

**America's history is mixed, with both admirable and shameful chapters**

**-1**

**America has often fallen short of its ideals but continues improving**

**-3**

**America's history reveals systemic problems that require major changes**

### Question 20 \*\*Looking ahead 20 years, America will be *\*strongest\** if we:\*\*

**3**

**Restore traditional values and strong institutions**

**2**

**Maintain our current path with modest reforms**

**-2**

**Embrace greater diversity and inclusion**

**1**

**Focus on economic growth and technological advancement**

**-3**

**Fundamentally rethink our approach to governance and society**

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