

## Final Topline Report

# Annenberg Supreme Court: Lawyer Component

Prepared by Princeton Survey Research Associates International  
for the Annenberg Foundation Trust at Sunnyslands and The Annenberg Public Policy Center

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n = 859 lawyers admitted to practice before the Supreme Court or the Courts of Appeals

Form A: N=423

Form B: N=436

Field Dates: 03.18.2005 – 05.16.2005

Q1. Which comes closer to your point of view about the Supreme Court?

Base	859
You consider yourself a strict constructionist OR	25%
You consider yourself a legal realist who believes the Court should take today's circumstances into account in decisions	62%
Don't know	2%
Refused	11%

Q2a. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: Most of the time the Supreme Court Justices know the result they want in a case and craft their legal reasoning to reach that result. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?

Base	859
Strongly agree	20%
Somewhat agree	47%
Somewhat disagree	25%
Strongly disagree	5%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q2b. Please tell me how much you agree or disagree with the following statement: Most of the time the Supreme Court Justices closely follow the Constitution, the law and the precedents in deciding cases. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?

Base	859
Strongly agree	23%
Somewhat agree	57%
Somewhat disagree	15%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

Q3a. Thinking about the courts at various levels in the country, do you feel that the courts in general have too much power, too little power or about the right amount of power?

Base	859
Too much power	10%
Too little power	5%
About the right amount of power	85%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q3b. Thinking about the courts at various levels in the country, do you feel that the state courts have too much power, too little power or about the right amount of power?

Base	859
Too much power	10%
Too little power	8%
About the right amount of power	81%
Don't know	1%
Refused	*

Q3c. Thinking about the courts at various levels in the country, do you feel that the US District courts have too much power, too little power or about the right amount of power?

Base	859
Too much power	15%
Too little power	5%
About the right amount of power	80%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q3d. Thinking about the courts at various levels in the country, do you feel that the US Courts of Appeals have too much power, too little power or about the right amount of power?

Base	859
Too much power	14%
Too little power	4%
About the right amount of power	81%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q3e. Thinking about the courts at various levels in the country, do you feel that the US Supreme Court has too much power, too little power or about the right amount of power?

Base	859
Too much power	13%
Too little power	2%
About the right amount of power	84%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q4. Overall, to what extent is the current Supreme Court involved in policy making—to a great extent, moderate extent, some extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	23%
Moderate extent	47%
Some extent	26%
Not at all	2%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q5. And, in your opinion, is the Court's involvement in policy making good or bad for our democratic system of government?

Base	859
Good	58%
Bad	36%
Don't know	3%
Refused	2%

Q6. Which statement comes closer to your view?

Base	859
The Supreme Court does not follow public opinion and this is a troubling antidemocratic aspect of the Supreme Court OR	6%
The Supreme Court does not follow public opinion and this is a safeguard that helps ensure stability in our system of government	90%
Don't know	2%
Refused	3%

Q7a. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court--The Court is taking on too many matters best left to Congress. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	17%
Somewhat disagree	39%
Strongly disagree	36%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q7b. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court--The Court was correct to take up the Florida recount case in the 2000 presidential election. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	29%
Somewhat agree	28%
Somewhat disagree	13%
Strongly disagree	28%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q7c. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court--The Court's decisions are too intrusive on the rights of the state. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	20%
Somewhat disagree	46%
Strongly disagree	26%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q7d. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court--The Court is overturning too many federal laws. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	2%
Somewhat agree	9%
Somewhat disagree	51%
Strongly disagree	36%
Don't know	2%
Refused	1%

Q7e. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court--The Court makes decisions about issues they don't fully understand. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	3%
Somewhat agree	14%
Somewhat disagree	32%
Strongly disagree	49%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q7f. And here are some comments that are sometimes made about the Supreme Court. The Court makes decisions in too many cases that are not within its mandate. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	3%
Somewhat agree	14%
Somewhat disagree	39%
Strongly disagree	42%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q8a. Now, thinking about the current Congress and current Supreme Court, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statement--Congress should take away the right of the Supreme Court to decide certain types of controversial issues.

Base	859
Strongly agree	2%
Somewhat agree	4%
Somewhat disagree	13%
Strongly disagree	80%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q8b. Now, thinking about the current Congress and current Supreme Court, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statement--The Supreme Court can usually be trusted to make decisions that are right for the country as a whole.

Base	859
Strongly agree	23%
Somewhat agree	57%
Somewhat disagree	14%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q8c. Now, thinking about the current Congress and current Supreme Court, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statement--The decisions of the Supreme Court favor some groups more than others.

Base	859
Strongly agree	10%
Somewhat agree	39%
Somewhat disagree	31%
Strongly disagree	18%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q8d. Now, thinking about the current Congress and current Supreme Court, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statement--The Supreme Court gets too mixed up in politics.

Base	859
Strongly agree	6%
Somewhat agree	29%
Somewhat disagree	42%
Strongly disagree	21%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q8e. Now, thinking about the current Congress and current Supreme Court, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with each of the following statement--The Supreme Court should have the right to say what the Constitution means, even when the majority of people disagree with the Court's decision.

Base	859
Strongly agree	76%
Somewhat agree	18%
Somewhat disagree	2%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q9. Over the last decade has the Supreme Court become more involved in policy making, less involved in policy making or has its role in policy making remained unchanged?

Base	859
More involved	28%
Less involved	12%
Role remained unchanged	56%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q10a. Generally speaking, how much do you trust Congress to operate in the best interests of the American people—a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

Base	859
A great deal	4%
A fair amount	34%
Not too much	47%
Not at all	14%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q10b. Generally speaking, how much do you trust the president to operate in the best interests of the American people—a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

Base	859
A great deal	14%
A fair amount	34%
Not too much	31%
Not at all	20%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q10c. Generally speaking, how much do you trust the Supreme Court to operate in the best interests of the American people—a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

Base	859
A great deal	32%
A fair amount	58%
Not too much	8%
Not at all	1%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

Q10d. Generally speaking, how much do you trust the federal government as a whole to operate in the best interests of the American people—a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

Base	859
A great deal	5%
A fair amount	50%
Not too much	39%
Not at all	5%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q10e. Generally speaking, how much do you trust the judicial branch as a whole to operate in the best interests of the American people—a great deal, a fair amount, not too much, or not at all?

Base	859
A great deal	29%
A fair amount	62%
Not too much	7%
Not at all	1%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q11. In general, has your opinion of the Supreme Court improved, declined, or remained the same in the past 10 years?

Base	859
Improved	10%
Declined	34%
Remained the same	55%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q12. Some argue that the decisions of the Rehnquist Court suggest that the majority of Justices don't think Congress pays enough attention to the Constitution. Do you think this assessment is valid or not?

Base	859
Valid	62%
Not valid	33%
Don't know	3%
Refused	3%

Q13. To what extent, if at all, do you think that the president and Congress sometimes pass vague legislation in order to leave the tough decisions up to the federal courts? Does this happen to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	18%
Moderate extent	41%
Small extent	30%
Not at all	9%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q14a. In general, to what extent **should** the Supreme Court's decisions be influenced by public opinion—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	*
Moderate extent	11%
Small extent	31%
Not at all	58%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q14b. In general, to what extent **should** the Supreme Court's decisions be influenced by the president—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	1%
Moderate extent	8%
Small extent	16%
Not at all	75%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q14c. In general, to what extent **should** the Supreme Court's decisions be influenced by Congress—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	6%
Moderate extent	16%
Small extent	19%
Not at all	58%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q14d. In general, to what extent **should** the Supreme Court's decisions be influenced by conservative interest groups—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	*
Moderate extent	2%
Small extent	10%
Not at all	86%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q14e. In general, to what extent **should** the Supreme Court's decisions be influenced by liberal interest groups—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	*
Moderate extent	3%
Small extent	10%
Not at all	85%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q15a. To what extent do you think the current Supreme Court is influenced by public opinion when making their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	3%
Moderate extent	26%
Small extent	50%
Not at all	19%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

Q15b. To what extent do you think the current Supreme Court is influenced by the president when making their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	5%
Moderate extent	31%
Small extent	39%
Not at all	22%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q15c. To what extent do you think the current Supreme Court is influenced by Congress when making their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	4%
Moderate extent	29%
Small extent	42%
Not at all	22%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%



Q15d. To what extent do you think the current Supreme Court is influenced by conservative interest groups when making their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	11%
Moderate extent	27%
Small extent	36%
Not at all	23%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q15e. To what extent do you think the current Supreme Court is influenced by liberal interest groups when making their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	2%
Moderate extent	12%
Small extent	42%
Not at all	41%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q16. Recently, the Supreme Court ruled that imposing the death penalty on convicted murderers who committed their crimes while a minor violates the Constitution. The ruling acknowledged “the overwhelming weight of international opinion against the juvenile death penalty.” To what extent, if at all, do you think the Supreme Court should take into account international opinion when it rules on US domestic issues—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	3%
Moderate extent	26%
Small extent	35%
Not at all	34%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q17. Has your opinion of the Supreme Court improved, declined, or remained the same since the Court ruled on the Florida recount case in the 2000 presidential election?

Base	859
Improved	5%
Declined	35%
Remained the same	59%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q18. Do you think there should be a mandatory retirement age for Supreme Court Justices, or not?

Base	859
Yes	37%
No	62%
Don't know	1%
Refused	*

Q19. If there was a mandatory retirement age, what do you think it should be?

Base	859
64 years old or younger	*
65-70	10%
71-75	27%
over 75 years old	35%
Refused	29%

Q20. Some recent Supreme Court nominees have refused to state their personal views on some controversial issues facing the Court. Do you think Supreme Court nominees should be required to state their personal views on controversial issues that might come before the Court or do you think that they should be allowed to refuse to state their views?

Base	859
Be required to state their personal views	25%
Be allowed to refuse to state their personal views	74%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q21. Do you think the Court's independence would be compromised if judicial nominees were required to disclose their personal views or not?

Base	859
Yes	65%
No	34%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q22. Is it appropriate for the president to ask a potential nominee to the Supreme Court how the nominee would rule on a controversial Constitutional issue?

Base	859
Yes	39%
No	59%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q23. In its "advise and consent" role, should the Senate only consider a Supreme Court nominee's legal qualifications and background or should the Senate also consider how that nominee might vote on controversial issues?

Base	859
Consider legal qualifications and background	63%
Consider how nominee might vote	34%
Don't know	2%
Refused	1%

Q24. Some people say potential Supreme Court nominees who are well qualified but have extensive written record of their views in past rulings have a more difficult time making it on the Court than nominees who do not have extensive written record of their views. Do you agree or disagree with this?

Base	859
Agree	89%
Disagree	9%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q25. How serious a problem is this for appointing qualified people to the Court—very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

*Based on those who agree that Supreme Court nominees who are well qualified but have extensive written record of their views in past rulings have a more difficult time making it on the Court than nominees who do not have extensive written record of their views*

Base	762
Very serious	30%
Somewhat serious	47%
Not too serious	18%
Not at all serious	4%
Don't know	1%
Refused	*

Q26. How important is it to you that President Bush's nominees agree with your position on abortion—very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not at all important?

Base	859
Very important	21%
Somewhat important	31%
Not very important	23%
Not at all important	22%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q27. When the president chooses a Supreme Court nominee, should the president only consider that person's legal qualifications and background or should the president also consider how that nominee might vote on controversial issues?

Base	859
Consider legal qualifications and background	54%
Consider how nominee might vote	43%
Don't know	2%
Refused	2%

Q28. Some people believe that the process of confirming judges to the Supreme Court has become increasingly political. Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with this?

Base	859
Strongly agree	72%
Somewhat agree	22%
Somewhat disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

Q29. Who is most responsible for the politicization of the nomination process—the political parties, the White House, interest groups, the news media or the Supreme Court itself?

Base	859
Political parties	46%
White House	17%
Interest groups	27%
News media	5%
Supreme Court	1%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q30. Under current Senate rules, those opposed to a judicial nominee can block confirmation with a filibuster that requires 60 Senators to override it. Which comes closer to your view? The use of the filibuster to block judicial nominees is a violation of the democratic principle of majority rule OR the use of the filibuster to block judicial nominees to federal court is a tradition in the Senate designed to protect the rights of all in this country.

Base	859
Use of filibuster to block nominees is a violation	33%
Use of filibuster to block nominees is a tradition	64%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q31. How confident are you that the current president will make good choices in his nominees to replace Justices who leave the US Supreme Court—very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident, or not at all confident?

Base	859
Very confident	18%
Somewhat confident	20%
Not too confident	19%
Not at all confident	42%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q32a. How do you feel about the way Congress is handling its job? Is it doing a very good, good, fair or poor job?

Base	859
Very good	1%
Good	10%
Fair	44%
Poor	44%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q32b. How do you feel about the way the president is handling its job? Is it doing a very good, good, fair or poor job?

Base	859
Very good	10%
Good	23%
Fair	23%
Poor	44%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q32c. How do you feel about the way the Supreme Court is handling its job? Is it doing a very good, good, fair or poor job?

Base	859
Very good	15%
Good	56%
Fair	26%
Poor	3%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

Q32d. How do you feel about the way the judicial branch as a whole is handling its job? Is it doing a very good, good, fair or poor job?

Base	859
Very good	17%
Good	61%
Fair	19%
Poor	2%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

Q32e. How do you feel about the way the federal government as a whole is handling its job? Is it doing a very good, good, fair or poor job?

Base	859
Very good	1%
Good	24%
Fair	55%
Poor	19%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q33a. Now I'd like to ask about the workload of the courts at various levels in the country. Do you think that the courts in general are generally overworked, have the right amount of work, or do not take on as much work as they can?

Base	859
Generally overworked	51%
Have the right amount of work	40%
Do not take on as much work as they can	6%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q33b. Now I'd like to ask about the workload of the courts at various levels in the country. Do you think that state courts are generally overworked, have the right amount of work, or do not take on as much work as they can?

Base	859
Generally overworked	58%
Have the right amount of work	30%
Do not take on as much work as they can	8%
Don't know	2%
Refused	2%

Q33c. Now I'd like to ask about the workload of the courts at various levels in the country. Do you think that US District courts are generally overworked, have the right amount of work, or do not take on as much work as they can?

Base	859
Generally overworked	49%
Have the right amount of work	39%
Do not take on as much work as they can	8%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q33d. Now I'd like to ask about the workload of the courts at various levels in the country. Do you think that US Courts of Appeal are generally overworked, have the right amount of work, or do not take on as much work as they can?

Base	859
Generally overworked	31%
Have the right amount of work	55%
Do not take on as much work as they can	9%
Don't know	3%
Refused	3%

Q33e. Now I'd like to ask about the workload of the courts at various levels in the country. Do you think that the US Supreme Court is generally overworked, have the right amount of work, or do not take on as much work as they can?

Base	859
Generally overworked	15%
Have the right amount of work	60%
Do not take on as much work as they can	20%
Don't know	2%
Refused	2%

Q34. Which of the following statements comes closer to your beliefs about the Supreme Court?

Base	859
The Court is fair and objective in its rulings	32%
The Court is sometimes politically motivated in its rulings	65%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

Q35. To what extent do you think Supreme Court Justices have a good understanding of the lives of the individuals most affected by their decisions—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	14%
Moderate extent	53%
Small extent	28%
Not at all	4%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q36. How important is it for the Supreme Court to have a good understanding of the lives of the individuals most affected by their decisions—very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?

Base	859
Very important	35%
Somewhat important	47%
Not too important	13%
Not important at all	3%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q37. Overall, to what extent do you think the decisions of the Supreme Court impact your life personally—to a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	22%
Moderate extent	46%
Small extent	28%
Not at all	2%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q38. Judging by its recent decisions, do you think the Supreme Court is generally liberal, generally conservative, or is it making decisions more on a case-by-case basis?

Base	859
Generally liberal	7%
Generally conservative	50%
Making decisions on a case-by-case basis	42%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q39a. As I read you a list of some recent decisions by the Supreme Court, please tell me if you generally agree or disagree with each one. What about the recent decision that Guantanamo detainees have a right to legal review? Do you generally agree or disagree with this decision?

Base	859
Agree	80%
Disagree	17%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q39b. As I read you a list of some recent decisions by the Supreme Court, please tell me if you generally agree or disagree with each one. What about the recent decision striking down federal sentencing guidelines? Do you generally agree or disagree with this decision?

Base	859
Agree	80%
Disagree	15%
Don't know	2%
Refused	3%

Q39c. As I read you a list of some recent decisions by the Supreme Court, please tell me if you generally agree or disagree with each one. What about the recent decision that a state can make it a crime if a person refuses to give his name when stopped by the police? Do you generally agree or disagree with this decision?

Base	859
Agree	54%
Disagree	41%
Don't know	3%
Refused	2%

Q39d. As I read you a list of some recent decisions by the Supreme Court, please tell me if you generally agree or disagree with each one. What about the recent decision that barred enforcement of the Child Online Protection Act of 1998, which required Internet sellers of hard-core porn to verify that users of their sites were 18 years or older? Do you generally agree or disagree with this decision?

Base	859
Agree	53%
Disagree	40%
Don't know	4%
Refused	3%

Q39e. As I read you a list of some recent decisions by the Supreme Court, please tell me if you generally agree or disagree with each one. What about the recent decision that capital punishment is not Constitutional for crimes committed while a minor? Do you generally agree or disagree with this decision?

Base	859
Agree	71%
Disagree	26%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q40. In general, do you think the Court should be a lot more open and transparent in its procedures and decision-making process than it is, somewhat more open and transparent or should the Court remain as it is?

Base	859
A lot more	6%
Somewhat more	20%
Remain the same	73%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q41. The discussions among the Justices as they decide cases are confidential, with no one outside of the nine Justices allowed in the room. How consistent is this with our democratic process of government—very consistent, somewhat consistent, not too consistent, or not consistent at all?

Base	859
Very consistent	72%
Somewhat consistent	19%
Not too consistent	5%
Not consistent at all	2%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q42. When the Supreme Court hears a case, only people actually in the courtroom can see and listen to the Supreme Court Justices. Do you think the Court should allow television cameras in the courtroom so that others can see and hear the arguments?

Base	859
Yes	48%
No	51%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%



Q43. And, in your opinion, to what extent would allowing TV cameras in the courtroom increase public understanding of the issues before the Supreme Court—a great extent, moderate extent, small extent, or not at all?

Base	859
Great extent	19%
Moderate extent	26%
Small extent	34%
Not at all	20%
Don't know	*
Refused	*

Q44. Federal judges currently earn between \$150,000 and \$200,000 a year and in recent years have not received the same cost-of-living adjustments that other federal employees have received. Do you think the salaries of the federal judges should be increased, decreased, or stay about the same?

Base	859
Increased	65%
Decreased	1%
Stay about the same	32%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q45. Which statement do you agree with more?

Base	859
The best and most experienced lawyers will not be willing to take a judgeship if their salary does not keep up with inflation	46%
Serving as a judge is a service to the country and although they are not paid as much as many lawyers in private practice, the honor, prestige, and protection of being a judge for life is fair compensation	51%
Don't know	1%
Refused	2%

Q46acong. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions Congress makes are often negatively influenced by special interest groups.

*Based on Form A respondents*

Base	423
Strongly agree	55%
Agree	41%
Disagree	3%
Strongly disagree	*
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q46bcong. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions Congress makes are often negatively influenced by poorly informed citizens.

*Based on Form A respondents*

Base	423
Strongly agree	26%
Agree	42%
Disagree	26%
Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	2%
Refused	1%

Q46ccong. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions Congress makes are often based more on political beliefs than facts.

*Based on Form A respondents*

Base	423
Strongly agree	51%
Agree	41%
Disagree	5%
Strongly disagree	1%
Don't know	1%
Refused	1%

Q46apres. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions the president makes are often negatively influenced by special interest groups.

*Based on Form B respondents*

Base	436
Strongly agree	42%
Agree	37%
Disagree	13%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	2%
Refused	3%

Q46bpres. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions the president makes are often negatively influenced by poorly informed citizens.

*Based on Form B respondents*

Base	436
Strongly agree	20%
Agree	34%
Disagree	33%
Strongly disagree	7%
Don't know	3%
Refused	2%

Q46cpres. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statement: The policy decisions the president makes are often based more on political beliefs than facts.

*Based on Form B respondents*

Base	436
Strongly agree	44%
Agree	34%
Disagree	16%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	2%
Refused	2%

Q47. Do you believe that the Democratic and Republican parties sincerely disagree about how the government can best serve the nation, or do you believe that they just attack one another for political purposes?

Base	859
Sincerely disagree	59%
Just attack one another	36%
Don't know	3%
Refused	3%

Q48. Just a few questions about your media habits. What is your *primary* source of news about national and international issues—television, newspapers, radio or the Internet?

Base	859
Television	20%
Newspapers	54%
Radio	8%
Internet	16%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q49. What is your *second* source of news about national and international issues— television, newspapers, radio or the Internet?

*Based on those who have a primary source of news about national and international issues*

Base	852
Television	36%
Newspapers	25%
Radio	20%
Internet	19%
Don't know	*
Refused	1%

Q50. How often, if at all, do you listen to radio shows that invite listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues or politics—almost every day, every week, twice a month, once a month, or never?

Base	859
Almost every day	18%
Every week	19%
Twice a month	9%
Once a month	15%
Never	38%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

Q51.1. (First Mention) Which talk radio hosts did you listen to in the past month?

*Based on those who listen to a radio show that invites listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues, or politics*

Base	524
Jim Bohannon	2%
Bob Brinker	2%
Dr. Joy Browne	1%
Jim Cramer	2%
Dr. Dean Edell	2%
Al Franken	11%
Bob Grant	1%
Sean Hannity	12%
Don Imus	9%
Laura Ingraham	1%
Ron Insana	*
Tom Joyner	*
John and Ken	-
Larry King	7%
Tom Leykis	-
G. Gordon Liddy	*
Rush Limbaugh	8%
Bill O'Reilly	3%
Michael Reagan	-
Diane Rehm	6%
Michael Savage	*
Dr. Laura Schlessinger	*
Doug Stephan	-
Howard Stern	2%
Bruce Williams	*
Other [Record verbatim]	18%
Don't know	6%
Refused	6%

Q51.2. (Second Mention) Which talk radio hosts did you listen to in the past month?

*Based on those who listen to a radio show that invites listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues, or politics*

Base	254
Jim Bohannon	-
Bob Brinker	-
Dr. Joy Browne	-
Jim Cramer	1%
Dr. Dean Edell	3%
Al Franken	3%
Bob Grant	*
Sean Hannity	14%
Don Imus	12%
Laura Ingraham	4%
Ron Insana	2%
Tom Joyner	*
John and Ken	-
Larry King	14%
Tom Leykis	1%
G. Gordon Liddy	1%
Rush Limbaugh	12%
Bill O'Reilly	7%
Michael Reagan	*
Diane Rehm	4%
Michael Savage	2%
Dr. Laura Schlessinger	1%
Doug Stephan	-
Howard Stern	4%
Bruce Williams	-
Other [Record verbatim]	15%
Don't know	-
Refused	-

Q51.3. (Third Mention) Which talk radio hosts did you listen to in the past month?

*Based on those who listen to a radio show that invites listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues, or politics*

Base	165
Jim Bohannon	-
Bob Brinker	-
Dr. Joy Browne	-
Jim Cramer	-
Dr. Dean Edell	1%
Al Franken	1%
Bob Grant	-
Sean Hannity	5%
Don Imus	7%
Laura Ingraham	6%
Ron Insana	5%
Tom Joyner	1%
John and Ken	-
Larry King	12%
Tom Leykis	1%
G. Gordon Liddy	3%
Rush Limbaugh	16%
Bill O'Reilly	15%
Michael Reagan	1%
Diane Rehm	5%
Michael Savage	5%
Dr. Laura Schlessinger	1%
Doug Stephan	-
Howard Stern	7%
Bruce Williams	1%
Other [Record verbatim]	9%
Don't know	-
Refused	-

Q51.4. (Fourth Mention) Which talk radio hosts did you listen to in the past month?

*Based on those who listen to a radio show that invites listeners to call in to discuss current events, public issues, or politics*

Base	105
Jim Bohannon	-
Bob Brinker	-
Dr. Joy Browne	1%
Jim Cramer	-
Dr. Dean Edell	-
Al Franken	-
Bob Grant	-
Sean Hannity	-
Don Imus	5%
Laura Ingraham	8%
Ron Insana	2%
Tom Joyner	-
John and Ken	-
Larry King	9%
Tom Leykis	1%
G. Gordon Liddy	3%
Rush Limbaugh	17%
Bill O'Reilly	25%
Michael Reagan	3%
Diane Rehm	7%
Michael Savage	6%
Dr. Laura Schlessinger	4%
Doug Stephan	1%
Howard Stern	4%
Bruce Williams	2%
Other [Record verbatim]	5%
Don't know	-
Refused	-

Q52a. Now, I would like to ask you about where you got your news during the past week. Please tell me how many days in the past week, if any, you did each of the following. How many days in the past week did you watch national network news on TV—by which I mean Peter Jennings on ABC, Bob Schieffer on CBS, Brian Williams on NBC, or Jim Lehrer on PBS?

Base	859
Zero	38%
One	13%
Two	10%
Three	10%
Four	6%
Five	6%
Six	2%
Seven	12%
Don't know	-
Refused	2%

Q52b. Now, I would like to ask you about where you got your news during the past week. Please tell me how many days in the past week, if any, you did each of the following. How many days in the past week did you watch cable news, such as CNN, Fox News Channel or MSNBC?

Base	859
Zero	21%
One	10%
Two	13%
Three	11%
Four	9%
Five	7%
Six	5%
Seven	24%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

Q52c. Now, I would like to ask you about where you got your news during the past week. Please tell me how many days in the past week, if any, you did each of the following. How many days in the past week did you watch local TV news—for example, 'Eyewitness News' or 'Action News?'

Base	859
Zero	24%
One	12%
Two	10%
Three	11%
Four	7%
Five	12%
Six	5%
Seven	18%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

Q52d. Now, I would like to ask you about where you got your news during the past week. Please tell me how many days in the past week, if any, you did each of the following. How many days in the past week did you read a daily newspaper?

Base	859
Zero	3%
One	5%
Two	4%
Three	3%
Four	3%
Five	7%
Six	6%
Seven	68%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

Q53a. How often, if at all, do you read the following newspapers or news sources? *The New York Times*—do you read this every day, a few times a week, about once a week, less than weekly, or rarely?

Base	859
Every day	24%
A few times a week	13%
About once a week	9%
Less than weekly	15%
Rarely or never	37%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

Q53b. How often, if at all, do you read the following newspapers or news sources? *The Los Angeles Times*—do you read this every day, a few times a week, about once a week, less than weekly, or rarely?

Base	859
Every day	*
A few times a week	1%
About once a week	1%
Less than weekly	5%
Rarely or never	87%
Don't know	*
Refused	6%

Q53c. How often, if at all, do you read the following newspapers or news sources? *Wall Street Journal*—do you read this every day, a few times a week, about once a week, less than weekly, or rarely?

Base	859
Every day	12%
A few times a week	13%
About once a week	10%
Less than weekly	23%
Rarely or never	40%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

Q53d. How often, if at all, do you read the following newspapers or news sources? *Washington Post*—do you read this every day, a few times a week, about once a week, less than weekly, or rarely?

Base	859
Every day	8%
A few times a week	7%
About once a week	3%
Less than weekly	11%
Rarely or never	66%
Don't know	*
Refused	4%

Q53e. How often, if at all, do you read the following newspapers or news sources? *AP wire*—do you read this every day, a few times a week, about once a week, less than weekly, or rarely?

Base	859
Every day	16%
A few times a week	13%
About once a week	5%
Less than weekly	7%
Rarely or never	53%
Don't know	1%
Refused	5%

D1. Are you currently admitted to practice before the US Supreme Court?

Base	859
Yes	51%
No	49%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

D2. Have you ever personally participated in or observed an oral argument before the US Supreme Court?

Base	859
Yes	35%
No	64%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

D3. Have you clerked for the US Supreme Court?

Base	859
Yes	5%
No	95%
Don't know	-
Refused	*

D4rec. For how many years have you been practicing law?

Base	859
1-9	10%
10-19	26%
20-29	34%
30 or more	29%
Refused	1%

D5rec. What is your age?

Base	859
18-29	1%
30-49	44%
50-64	44%
65+	10%
Refused	1%



D6. Are you, yourself, of Hispanic origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

Base	859
Yes	2%
No	97%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

D7. What is your race?

Base	859
White	95%
Black	2%
Asian	1%
Other or mixed race (SPECIFY)	1%
Don't know	-
Refused	1%

D8. How often do you go to religious services or some other place to worship?

Base	859
Every week	26%
Almost every week	12%
Once or twice a month	12%
A few times a year	32%
Never	17%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%

D9. How would you describe your political thinking? Would you say you are very liberal, liberal, moderate, conservative, or very conservative?

Base	859
Very liberal	6%
Liberal	24%
Moderate	46%
Conservative	20%
Very conservative	2%
Don't know	*
Refused	2%