

Spring, 2010, North Carolina/Tennessee Issues Poll

Copyright (c) 2010 Andrew J. Perrin, Steven J. Tepper, Neal Caren, Sally Morris. All rights reserved.

1. People help others in need from time to time. How important to you is it to help others in need? If very important, press 1. If somewhat important, press 2. If not important, press 3.
2. For you, what would be the most important reason to help others? If your most important reason is that you feel it is your religious duty, press 1. If your most important reason is you see it as a civic responsibility, press 2. If your most important reason is that it helps you personally to feel good, press 3. If for another reason, press 4.
3. As you may know, the state of North Carolina and cities, towns, counties and other public workplaces in North Carolina are not allowed to negotiate or sign contracts with labor unions representing their employees. Would you support or oppose a law that would allow them to do so? If you think they should be able to negotiate, press 1. If you oppose, press 2. If you have no opinion, press 3.

Next I'm going to read some qualities that one might try to encourage in children. After I read each pair, please tell me which one you think is more important to encourage in a child.

4. If you absolutely had to choose, would you say it is more important that a child obeys his parents, or that he is responsible for his own actions? Press 1 if it is more important that he obeys his parents, press 2 if it is more important that he is responsible for his own actions.
5. If you absolutely had to choose, would you say it is more important that a child has respect for his elders, or that he thinks for himself? Press 1 if it is more important that he has respect for his elders, press 2 if it is more important that he thinks for himself.
6. If you absolutely had to choose, would you say it is more important that a child follows his own conscience, or that he follows the rules? Press 1 if it is more important that he follows his own conscience, press 2 if it is more important that he follows the rules.
7. Thinking about American society in general, do you think American Society has been getting better over the last 15 years, getting worse over the last 15 years, or is about the same? Press 1 if you think it's been getting better; press 2 if you think it's been getting worse; press 3 if you think it's about the same.

(NEXT TWO QUESTIONS ASKED ONLY IF ANSWER TO 7 ABOVE IS NOT 1)

8. How concerned are you about the changes taking place in American society these days? Press 1 if you are very concerned; Press 2 if you are somewhat concerned; Press 3 if you are a just a little concerned; Press 4 if you are not at all concerned; Press 5 if you are undecided.
9. Do you think most Americans feel the way you do about the changes taking place in American society these days? Press 1 if you think most Americans feel the way that you do; Press 2 if you think about half of all Americans feel the way you do; Press 3 if you think that most Americans DO NOT feel the way you do.
10. Do you agree with this statement? There should be more rules about what can be shown on television these days. Press 1 if you strongly agree. Press 2 if you agree somewhat. Press 3 if you neither agree or nor disagree. Press 4 if you somewhat disagree. Press 5 if you strongly disagree.
11. Do you agree with this statement? There should be more rules about what people can wear in parks, shopping centers, and other public places these days. Press 1 if you strongly agree.

Press 2 if you agree somewhat. Press 3 if you neither agree nor disagree. Press 4 if you somewhat disagree. Press 5 if you strongly disagree.

12. Do you agree with this statement? There should be more rules about what can be posted on the Internet and who can read it. Press 1 if you strongly agree. Press 2 if you agree somewhat. Press 3 if you neither agree nor disagree. Press 4 if you somewhat disagree. Press 5 if you strongly disagree.
13. Of the following groups, please tell me which group you like the *least*: the Ku Klux Klan, Gay Rights Activists, Nazis, Atheists, or Communists. Press 1 if you like the Ku Klux Klan the least. Press 2 if you like Gay Rights Activists the least. Press 3 if you like Nazis the least. Press 4 if you like Atheists the least. Press 5 if you like Communists the least.
14. What would you do if you saw or heard something in a public place that made you uncomfortable or angry? Press 1 if you would ignore it or avoid that kind of place in the future. Press 2 if you would write a letter, make a phone call, or contact someone in charge. Press 3 if you would speak directly to the person or group that made you uncomfortable or angry. Press 4 if you would do something else. Press 5 if you wouldn't do anything about it. Press 6 if you are unsure or undecided.
15. Would you feel comfortable stating an opposing political opinion to disagreeing about politics with a stranger at a public park? Press 1 if you would feel comfortable; Press 2 if you would not feel comfortable.
16. How about with an acquaintance at a party? Would you feel comfortable stating an opposing political opinion to disagreeing about politics with an acquaintance at a party? Press 1 if you would feel comfortable; Press 2 if you would not feel comfortable.
17. How about with someone you work with? Would you feel comfortable disagreeing about politics with someone you work with? Press 1 if you would feel comfortable; Press 2 if you would not feel comfortable.
18. Do you think the children of people who have immigrated to this country illegally should continue to qualify as American citizens if they are born in the United States? Press 1 if you think children of illegal immigrants born in the United States should qualify as American citizens; Press 2 if you think that such children should NOT qualify.
19. Do you think immigrants who came into this country illegally but pay taxes and have not been arrested should be given the opportunity to become permanent legal residents? Press 1 if you strongly think they should be given the opportunity to become permanent legal residents; Press 2 if you somewhat think they should be given that opportunity; Press 3 if you neither agree or disagree; Press 4 if you somewhat think they should NOT be given that opportunity; Press 5 if you strongly think they should NOT be given that opportunity.

Now I'd like to ask you how you feel about certain groups and organizations. I'd like you to press 1 if you feel very positively about the group, 2 if you feel somewhat positively, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively, 4 if you feel very negatively, and 5 if you have no opinion about that group.

20. First, how about Democrats? Press 1 if you feel very positively about Democrats, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about Democrats, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about Democrats, 4 if you feel very negatively about Democrats, and 5 if you have no opinion about Democrats.
21. Now, how about Republicans? Press 1 if you feel very positively about Republicans, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about Republicans, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about Republicans, 4 if you feel very negatively about Republicans, and 5 if you have no opinion about Republicans.

22. Now, how about the Tea Party? Press 1 if you feel very positively about the Tea Party, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about the Tea Party, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about the Tea Party, 4 if you feel very negatively about the Tea Party, and 5 if you have no opinion about the Tea Party.
23. Now, how about the business community? Press 1 if you feel very positively about the business community, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about the business community, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about the business community, 4 if you feel very negatively about the business community, and 5 if you have no opinion about the business community.
24. Now, how about labor unions? Press 1 if you feel very positively about labor unions, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about labor unions, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about labor unions, 4 if you feel very negatively about labor unions, and 5 if you have no opinion about labor unions.
25. How about gays and lesbians? Press 1 if you feel very positively about gays and lesbians, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about gays and lesbians, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about gays and lesbians, 4 if you feel very negatively about gays and lesbians, and 5 if you have no opinion about gays and lesbians.
26. Now, how about atheists? Press 1 if you feel very positively about atheists, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about atheists, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about atheists, 4 if you feel very negatively about atheists, and 5 if you have no opinion about atheists.
27. Now, how about immigrants? Press 1 if you feel very positively about immigrants, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about immigrants, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about immigrants, 4 if you feel very negatively about immigrants, and 5 if you have no opinion about immigrants.
28. Now, how about the state government in {Raleigh/Nashville}? Press 1 if you feel very positively about the state government, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about the state government, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about the state government, 4 if you feel very negatively about the state government, and 5 if you have no opinion about the state government.
29. Finally, how about the U.S. Government in Washington? Press 1 if you feel very positively about the U.S. government, 2 if you feel somewhat positively about the U.S. government, 3 if you feel somewhat negatively about the U.S. government, 4 if you feel very negatively about the U.S. government, and 5 if you have no opinion about the U.S. Government.

Next, I will read several sentences about human rights. Some people believe these are basic human rights that every human is entitled to. After I read an item, please tell us how strongly you agree or disagree that it is a human right.

30. How about freedom from torture and from cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment? If you strongly agree that this is a human right, please press 1 on your keypad now. If you

somewhat agree that this is a human right, press 2 now. If you somewhat disagree that this is a human right, press 3. If you strongly disagree, press 4. If you are undecided, press 5.

31. How about freedom of thought, conscience, opinion and religion? If you strongly agree that this is a human right, please press 1 on your keypad now. If you somewhat agree that this is a human right, press 2 now. If you somewhat disagree that this is a human right, press 3. If you strongly disagree, press 4. If you are undecided, press 5.
32. How about the right to form and to join trade unions? If you strongly agree that this is a human right, please press 1 on your keypad now. If you somewhat agree that this is a human right, press 2 now. If you somewhat disagree that this is a human right, press 3. If you strongly disagree, press 4. If you are undecided, press 5.
33. How about the right to have adequate food, shelter and clothing? If you strongly agree that this is a human right, please press 1 on your keypad now. If you somewhat agree that this is a human right, press 2 now. If you somewhat disagree that this is a human right, press 3. If you strongly disagree, press 4. If you are undecided, press 5.
34. Do you generally agree with President Barack Obama's proposal to overhaul health care? Press 1 if you agree, press 2 if you disagree, press 3 if you don't know.
35. Which of the following best describes your religious affiliation? If you are a Protestant Christian such as a Baptist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, or Methodist, Press 1. If you are a Catholic, press 2. If you are Jewish, press 3. If you are Muslim, press 4. If you are another religion, press 5. If you are religious but not affiliated with a church or congregation, press 6. If you are atheist, press 7. If you are agnostic, press 8. If none of these describes your affiliation, press 9.
36. If you attend a church or other religious service at least once a week, press 1. If you attend almost every week, press 2. If you attend about once a month, press 3. If you seldom attend, press 4. If you never attend, press 5.
37. Did you vote in the November 4, 2008, presidential election, when Barack Obama and John McCain were the main candidates? Press 1 if you voted, press 2 if you did not vote, press 3 if you are not sure.
38. How long have you lived in {North Carolina/Tennessee}? If you have lived in North Carolina your whole life, press 1. If you have lived in North Carolina 20 years or more, press 2. If you have lived in North Carolina less than 20 years but moved to North Carolina in 2004 or earlier, press 3. If you moved to North Carolina in 2005 or later, press 4.
39. If you are currently married, press 1. If never married, press 2. If divorced or separated, press 3. If widowed, press 4.

40. Would you say your political opinions are conservative, moderate or liberal? If your opinions tend to be very conservative, press 1. If they tend to be somewhat conservative, press 2. If moderate, press 3. If somewhat liberal, press 4. If very liberal, press 5. If you are undecided, press 6.
41. If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an Independent, press 3. If another party, press 4. If you are undecided, press 5.
42. Have you written a letter to the editor of a newspaper or magazine in the past year, whether or not your letter was published? If you have written a letter to the editor, press 1. If you have not, press 2.
43. If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.
44. If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If Hispanic, press 3. If other, press 4.
45. If you are less than 26 years of age, press 1. If you are between 26 and 40, press 2. If you are between 41 and 55, press 3. If between 56 and 69, press 4. If you are 70 or more, press 5.
46. What was the highest grade in school or college that you completed? If you earned a graduate or professional degree, press 1. If you completed the fifth grade or less, press 1. If you completed middle school, press 2. If you completed high school, press 3. If you attended college but did not get a degree, press 4. If you have a four-year degree, press 5. If you earned a graduate or professional degree, press 6.
47. Which category best describes your total household income before taxes? Less than \$10,000, press 1. If at least \$10,000 but less than \$20,000, press 2. If at least \$20,000 but less than \$30,000, press 3. If at least \$30,000 but less than \$40,000, press 4. If at least \$40,000 but less than \$50,000, press 5. If at least \$50,000 but less than \$60,000, press 6. If at least \$60,000 but less than \$70,000, press 7. If at least \$70,000 but less than \$80,000, press 8. If \$80,000 or more, press 9.
48. Would you be willing to be contacted by a researcher for a follow-up interview based on your responses today? Even if you say yes now, you can always change your mind in the future. If you would be willing to be contacted, press 1. If not, press 2.