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For The People & The Press

NEWS Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

Huge Racial Divide Over Katrina and its Consequences
TWO-IN-THREE CRITICAL OF BUSH'S RELIEF EFFORTS

- Americans depressed and angry
- Domestic issues make a comeback
- Gas price woes, recession worries
- Most have donated to relief effort
- Media coverage well regarded
- CNN gains most from disaster coverage

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Huge Racial Divide Over Katrina and Its Consequences
TWO-IN-THREE CRITICAL OF BUSH’S RELIEF EFFORTS

The American public is highly critical of President Bush’s handling of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. Two-in-three Americans (67%) believe he could have done more to speed up relief efforts, while just 28% think he did all he could to get them going quickly. At the same time, Bush’s overall job approval rating has slipped to 40% and his disapproval rating has climbed to 52%, among the highest for his presidency. Uncharacteristically, the president’s ratings have slipped the most among his core constituents – Republicans and conservatives.

However, the public also faults state and local governments, as well as the federal government, for the response to Katrina and its aftermath. While 58% think the federal government has done only a fair or poor job in reacting to the devastation along the Gulf Coast, about half (51%) give sub-par ratings to state and local governments in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The storm and recent spike in gas prices have triggered a major shift in public priorities. For the first time since the 9/11 terror attacks, a majority of Americans (56%) say it is more important for the president to focus on domestic policy than the war on terrorism. While most Americans are already feeling the pinch from higher gas prices, nearly half (46%) say they are very concerned the hurricane will send the nation into an economic recession.

Post-Katrina Views of Bush				
<i>In handling relief efforts, President Bush...</i>				
Did all he could				%
Could have done more				28
Don’t know				67
				<u>5</u>
				100
<i>Bush job as president</i>				
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>
	%	%	%	%
Approve	50	43	44	40
Disapprove	43	50	48	52
Don’t know	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Priority for Bush</i>				
Domestic policy	40	--	--	56
War on terrorism	44	--	--	25
Both/Neither (vol.)	14	--	--	13
Don’t know	<u>2</u>	--	--	<u>6</u>
	100			100

The latest national survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, conducted Sept. 6-7 among 1,000 Americans, finds that the hurricane has had a profound psychological impact on the public. Fully 58% of respondents say they have felt depressed because of what’s happened in areas affected by the storm. In recent years, this percentage is only surpassed by the 71% reporting depression in a survey taken just days the Sept. 11 attacks. But it is significantly greater than the percentage who reported feeling depressed in the opening days of the current war in Iraq.

Half of those polled (50%) say they have felt angry because of what happened in areas hard hit by the hurricane. But overall opinion on this measure obscures a substantial racial divide in reactions to the disaster – as many as 70% of African Americans say they have felt angry, compared with 46% of whites. Blacks are twice as likely as whites to know people directly affected by the hurricane and are generally much more critical of the government’s response to the crisis.

In addition, blacks and whites draw very different lessons from the tragedy. Seven-in-ten blacks (71%) say the disaster shows that racial inequality remains a major problem in the country; a majority of whites (56%) say this was not a particularly important lesson of the disaster. More striking, there is widespread agreement among blacks that the government's response to the crisis would have been faster if most of the storm's victims had been white; fully two-thirds of African Americans express that view. Whites, by an even wider margin (77%-17%), feel this would not have made a difference in the government's response.

The survey finds that while the hurricane has drawn broad public attention, rising gas prices have attracted as much interest as reports on the storm's impact. Roughly seven-in-ten are paying close attention to each story (71% gas prices, 70% hurricane's impact). That represents the highest level of interest in gas prices in the two decades of Pew's News Interest Index.

Americans give news organizations generally good marks for their coverage of Katrina. About two-thirds (65%) say the coverage has been excellent or good, compared with only a third who say it has been only fair or poor. Only 21% feel that there has been too much coverage of the disaster; most (62%) say the amount of coverage has been appropriate.

Katrina Through the Prism of Race			
<i>Gov't response if most victims had been white?</i>	<u>Total</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>
	%	%	%
Faster	26	17	66
The same	68	77	27
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Shows racial inequality still a major problem?</i>			
Yes	38	32	71
No	50	56	22
Don't know	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100
Number of cases	(1,000)	(712)	(211)
In order to gain enough interviews to report on this group accurately, the survey includes an oversample of African Americans. For all results based on the total population, statistical adjustments (weighting) are used to ensure that the correct national racial and ethnic characteristics are met.			

Post-Katrina Partisanship

The deep and enduring differences over Bush’s presidency are once again evident in attitudes toward government’s response to the disaster. Fully 85% of Democrats and 71% of independents think the president could have done more to get aid to hurricane victims flowing more quickly. Republicans, on balance, feel the president did all he could to get relief efforts going, but even among his own partisans 40% say he could have done more.

Similarly, Democrats are much more critical than Republicans of the federal government’s handling of the disaster. Roughly three-quarters of Democrats (76%) rate the federal government’s efforts in this area as only fair or poor. Most Republicans (63%) give the federal government positive marks for its response to the hurricane.

More than half of Democrats (56%) say they feel less confident in the government’s ability to handle a major terrorist attack as a result of this crisis. A 65% majority of Republicans say the government’s response to Katrina had no effect on their views on this issue.

There is greater partisan agreement over how state and local governments in Louisiana and Mississippi performed in dealing with the storm and its aftermath. Narrow majorities of Republicans, independents and Democrats believe governments in the affected areas did only a fair or poor job in responding to the disaster.

Beyond the government’s response to the hurricane, Republicans and Democrats also disagree about future policy priorities. By more than three-to-one, both Democrats and independents say Bush should now focus more on domestic policy rather than the war on terrorism. But Republicans are evenly divided over priorities, with as many saying it is more important for Bush to focus on the war on terror as believe he should focus on domestic matters.

Partisanship Persists in Storm’s Wake				
	– Party ID –			
<i>In handling relief effort, President Bush...</i>	<u>All</u> %	<u>Rep</u> %	<u>Dem</u> %	<u>Ind</u> %
Did all he could	28	53	12	25
Could have done more	67	40	85	71
Don’t know	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Response of federal government</i>				
Excellent/good	38	63	22	34
Only fair/poor	58	32	76	64
Don’t know	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Response of State/local governments</i>				
Excellent/good	41	40	44	41
Only fair/poor	51	54	51	52
Don’t know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Can gov’t handle a major terror attack?</i>				
Less confident now	42	25	56	46
No effect	46	65	32	45
More confident now	7	7	8	7
Don’t know/Refused	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100	100
Number of cases	(1,000)	(271)	(367)	(300)

Strikingly, there is even a partisan pattern in the emotional reactions to the hurricane and its impact. More than two-thirds of Democrats (68%) say they have felt depressed as a result of the storm, compared with just 45% of Republicans. However, comparable percentages of Republicans, Democrats and independents – and blacks and whites – report having made donations to help those affected by the hurricane. Overall, 56% of Americans say they have already made a donation to the relief efforts, while another 28% say they plan to do so.

Made a Donation?		
	Jan <u>Tsunami</u>	Sept <u>Katrina</u>
	%	%
Yes	30	56
Plan to	30	28
No	37	15
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100

And despite the reports of looting and other crimes in Katrina's chaotic aftermath, most Americans say that in general they are more optimistic about human nature in the wake of the storm. Six-in-ten (59%) say events have made them more optimistic, while just 22% are more pessimistic about human nature.

A Man-Made Disaster?

A quarter of Americans say the severity of Hurricane Katrina is the result of global climate change, but many more (66%) say it is just the kind of severe weather event that happens from time to time. There is a partisan divide on this issue – Democrats (31%) and independents (29%) are more likely to see a link to global warming than are Republicans (16%).

Katrina Fueled by Global Warming?	
<i>Katrina's severity was...</i>	%
Just a random event	66
Caused by global climate change	25
Don't know	<u>9</u>
	100

Black-White Perspectives on Katrina

African Americans across the country have had stronger reactions to the disaster in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast than have whites. Blacks make harsher judgments of the federal government’s response to the crisis, perceive the plight of disaster victims in a different light, and feel more emotionally connected to what’s happened.

More than eight-in-ten blacks (85%) say Bush could have done more to get relief efforts going quickly, compared with 63% of whites. Blacks are also considerably more critical of the federal government’s performance in general – 77% say the federal government’s response was only fair or poor, compared with 55% of whites. While both of these attitudes are also strongly related to partisanship, these racial differences remain even when party affiliation is taken into account.

The disaster has had a far more significant personal impact on blacks than whites. African Americans are nearly twice as likely as whites (43% vs. 22%) to say they have a close friend or relative who was directly affected. African Americans are also much more likely than whites to report feeling depressed and angry because of what’s happened in areas affected by the hurricane.

Blacks also hold more sympathetic attitudes toward the people who became stranded by the flooding in New Orleans. An overwhelming majority (77%) say most of those who stayed behind did so because they didn’t have a way to leave the city, not because they wanted to stay

(16%). Most whites agree, but by a slimmer 58% to 32% margin. Most blacks (57%) also think people who took things from homes and businesses in New Orleans were mostly ordinary people trying to survive during an emergency. Just 38% of whites see it that way, while as many (37%) say

A Racial Response to the Disaster		
	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>
<i>Personal reactions...</i>	%	%
– Have felt depressed	55	73
– Have felt angry	46	70
– Have a close friend/relative	22	43
<i>To get relief efforts moving</i>		
Bush did all he could	31	11
Could have done more	63	85
Don’t know	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
<i>Federal gov’t response</i>		
Excellent/Good	41	19
Only fair/Poor	55	77
Don’t know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100
<i>State & local gov’t response</i>		
Excellent/Good	41	46
Only fair/Poor	51	48
Don’t know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100
<i>People who stayed behind</i>		
Wanted to stay	32	16
Didn’t have a way to leave	58	77
Don’t know	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100
<i>People taking things during the flooding were...</i>		
Ordinary people surviving	38	57
Criminals taking advantage	37	21
Both/Depends (vol.)	20	17
Don’t know	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100
<i>Acts of violence during the flooding were...</i>		
Ordinary people		
who were desperate	23	44
Criminals taking advantage	61	39
Both/Depends (vol.)	10	7
Don’t know	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>
	100	100
Number of cases	(712)	(211)

most who took things were criminals taking advantage of the situation.

Iraq Overshadowed

Seven-in-ten Americans say they have paid very close attention to news of the hurricane’s impact, somewhat fewer than very closely followed reports on the 9/11 terrorist attacks (74%). But another major news story has attracted as much public interest; as gas prices have shot up so has public attention to news reports on the topic (71% very closely).

The public’s attentiveness to these two stories has overshadowed interest in other major events – notably the war in Iraq and the nomination of John Roberts as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Only about a third say they paid very close attention to the situation in Iraq, despite high levels of American, and especially Iraqi, casualties in recent weeks. This marks the lowest level of public attention to news from Iraq since the start of the war.

Most Closely Followed News Stories 1986-2005		
	<u>Very</u> %	<u>Fairly</u> %
Challenger disaster (7/86)*	80	16
9/11 terrorist attacks (9/01)	74	22
San Francisco earthquake (11/89)	73	22
High price of gasoline (9/05)	71	19
Rodney King verdict & riots (5/92)	70	22
Hurricane Katrina (9/05)	70	21
Crash of TWA flight 800 (7/96)	69	23
Girl trapped in Texas well (10/87)*	69	21
H.S. shooting in Littleton, CO (4/99)	68	24
End of Persian Gulf War (3/91)	67	25
Hurricane Andrew (9/92)	66	27
Floods in the Midwest (8/93)	65	27
Sniper shootings in D.C. (10/02)	65	26
Northridge / L.A. earthquake (1/94)	63	31
Situation in Iraq (5/03)	63	29

* Asked as part of news stories covered over the past year. All others asked as part of news stories covered over this past month.

Just 18% have paid very close attention to Roberts’ nomination as chief justice of the United States, and the lack of public interest shows in people’s evaluations of the nominee. By a 35% to 19% margin, more say they believe Roberts should be confirmed than say he should not, but nearly half (46%) volunteer no opinion on the matter. Similarly, while 20% say they are concerned that Roberts is too conservative, 39% are not concerned about his ideology and more than a third (36%) have no opinion on the question. Even among Democrats, more are uncertain on both of these questions than express opposition to or concern about Roberts’ confirmation.

Main Source of Disaster News

Television, and cable news channels in particular, are the main sources of news for most Americans during a crisis, and that was again the case for Hurricane Katrina. As occurred after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and during the start of the war in Iraq, the proportion of Americans who cited cable news channels as a main source of news grew dramatically.

In this instance, CNN made the greatest gains. In June, 18% of Americans cited CNN as a source of most of their news about national and international issues. Following Katrina, 31% say CNN is a main source of news. The Fox News Channel and MSNBC also saw sizable, though smaller, audience gains from Katrina.

Television’s larger audience came at the expense of newspapers, the internet and radio. While still a primary source of information for many Americans on the disaster, all three are cited less frequently in this situation than under normal circumstances.

Cable Dominates Disaster			
<i>Main source</i>	<i>Issues Katrina</i>		
	<u>June</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Change</u>
	%%		
Television	74	89	+15
CNN	18	31	+13
Fox News	16	22	+6
Local news	13	19	+6
ABC	12	14	+2
NBC	12	12	0
CBS	9	8	-1
MSNBC	5	9	+4
CNBC	2	3	+1
Newspapers	44	35	-9
Internet	24	21	-3
Radio	22	17	-5

In June, respondents were asked where they get most of their news about “national and international issues.”
 In the current survey, respondents were asked where they get most of their news about “the impact of Hurricane Katrina.”
 In both cases, respondents can list more than one source.

Disaster Coverage Rated Favorably

Overall, two-thirds give news organizations excellent (28%) or good (37%) ratings for their coverage of the impact of Katrina. This is considerably more favorable than the public’s ratings a year ago for press coverage of the presidential election campaign. Current evaluations of coverage are in line with views of other major recent events, though considerably lower than the overwhelmingly positive media ratings following 9/11 (56% excellent, 33% good).

	Press Gets Mostly Favorable		<i>NET</i>
	<u>Good</u>	<u>Positive</u>	
	%		%
Hurricane Katrina {9-05}	28	37	65
2004 campaign* {10-04}	15	39	54
Iraq war* {4-03}	32	42	74
Space Shuttle disaster* {2-03}	34	43	77
9/11 Attacks {9-01}	56	33	89

*Figures based on those who followed story very or fairly closely.

All in all, most (62%) say the amount of coverage given to Katrina’s aftermath is appropriate, while less than a quarter (21%) say there has been too much. There is a considerable partisan divide on this, however – Republicans are more likely than Democrats to say there has been too much

coverage of the impact of Katrina (27% vs. 15% of Democrats).

Different Sources, Divergent Views

Previous Pew surveys have shown the Fox News audience to be highly supportive of the president. This remains the case today, with Fox viewers reacting far more favorably to the president’s handling of the disaster than those who cite other outlets as their major source of news on the hurricane.

In addition, a plurality of Fox News viewers (42%) say that people who took things from businesses and homes in New Orleans were mostly criminals taking advantage of the situation. The balance of opinion among those who rely on other outlets – CNN, network news, newspapers and the internet – is

that people who stole were mostly ordinary people trying to survive in an emergency.

	----- <i>Main Source of News</i> -----				
	CNN	Fox News	Network news	Newspapers	Internet
<i>Bush’s reaction...</i>	%	%	%	%	%
Did all he could	24	46	23	26	30
Could have done more	73	50	72	69	66
Don’t know	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100	100	100
<i>People taking things...</i>					
Ordinary people					
who were desperate	47	30	41	40	47
Criminals taking					
advantage of situation	31	42	34	32	30
Both/Depends (vol.)	17	23	19	20	20
Don’t know	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100	100
<i>Made a donation</i>					
Yes	67	60	51	54	66
Plan to	23	30	34	34	26
No/Don’t know	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100	100

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, including an oversample of African Americans, during the period September 6-7, 2005. The oversample of African Americans is designed to allow a sufficient number of interviews for reporting results of this demographic group. The national sample of telephone households was supplemented with an additional 103 interviews with African Americans whose households had been recently contacted for past Pew Research Center national surveys. Demographic weighting was used to ensure that the survey results reflect the correct racial and ethnic composition of national adults, based on U.S. Census information.

Based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL

	-----July 2005-----			-----September 2005-----			Change in	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>(N)</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	44	48	8=100	40	52	8=100	-4	(1000)
Sex								
Male	45	47	8	42	51	7	-3	(419)
Female	43	49	8	38	53	9	-5	(581)
Race								
White	49	44	7	45	46	9	-4	(712)
Non-white	24	66	10	22	71	7	-2	(273)
Black	14	79	7	15	79	6	+1	(211)
Race and Sex								
White Men	51	41	8	47	45	8	-4	(290)
White Women	47	46	7	43	47	10	-4	(422)
Age								
Under 30	42	49	9	38	53	9	-4	(127)
30-49	46	46	8	43	48	9	-3	(349)
50-64	45	47	8	36	58	6	-9	(273)
65+	38	56	6	41	48	11	+3	(235)
Sex and Age								
Men under 50	45	46	8	46	47	7	+1	(199)
Women under 50	44	47	9	38	52	10	-6	(277)
Men 50+	44	49	7	36	56	8	-8	(215)
Women 50+	41	52	7	40	52	8	-1	(293)
Education								
College Grad.	42	52	6	45	52	3	+3	(354)
Some College	49	45	7	44	46	10	-5	(234)
H.S. Grad or less	42	48	10	36	54	10	-6	(402)
Family Income								
\$75,000+	50	44	5	44	53	3	-6	(218)
\$50,000-\$74,999	55	39	5	42	53	5	-13	(165)
\$30,000-\$49,999	39	51	9	41	53	6	+2	(221)
\$20,000-\$29,999	36	55	9	38	51	11	+2	(118)
<\$20,000	36	56	8	28	61	11	-8	(142)

Question: Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Continued on next page...

	-----July 2005-----			-----September 2005-----			<i>Change in</i>	
	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Approve</u>	<u>(N)</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	44	48	8=100	40	52	8=100	-4	(1000)
Region								
Northeast	43	49	8	36	59	5	-7	(198)
Midwest	43	49	8	39	48	13	-4	(254)
South	48	46	7	44	48	8	-4	(360)
West	38	50	11	38	55	7	0	(188)
Religious Affiliation								
Total White Protestant	59	35	7	50	39	11	-9	(393)
- Evangelical	67	27	6	59	29	12	-8	(189)
- Non-Evangelical	48	45	8	41	49	10	-7	(204)
White Catholic	53	43	5	41	52	7	-12	(180)
Seculars	25	65	10	26	71	3	+1	(89)
Party ID								
Republican	88	9	3	79	19	2	-9	(271)
Democrat	18	76	6	19	75	6	+1	(367)
Independent	32	58	10	33	57	10	+1	(300)
Party and Ideology								
Conservative Republican	91	6	3	84	14	2	-7	(158)
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	81	15	4	70	26	4	-11	(104)
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	21	74	5	24	70	6	+3	(247)
Liberal Democrat	12	82	5	11	86	3	-1	(108)
Close Friend or Relative								
Affected by Hurricane								
Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	39	54	7	N/A	(248)
No	N/A	N/A	N/A	40	51	9	N/A	(746)
Bush Approval for								
Hurricane								
Approve	N/A	N/A	N/A	79	16	5	N/A	(372)
Disapprove	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	83	5	N/A	(540)
Follow Hurricane News								
Very Closely	N/A	N/A	N/A	39	55	6	N/A	(745)
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	41	45	14	N/A	(255)
Main Source of								
Hurricane News								
CNN	N/A	N/A	N/A	29	64	7	N/A	(324)
Fox News	N/A	N/A	N/A	57	38	5	N/A	(229)
Network News	N/A	N/A	N/A	39	52	9	N/A	(291)
Newspapers	N/A	N/A	N/A	37	56	7	N/A	(374)
Internet	N/A	N/A	N/A	41	51	8	N/A	(198)

GOVERNMENT RESPONSES TO HURRICANE KATRINA

	-----State and Local Governments-----			-----Federal Government-----		
	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Only fair/Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Only fair/Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	41	51	8=100	38	58	4=100
Sex						
Male	38	53	9	39	58	3
Female	44	50	6	37	59	4
Race						
White	41	51	8	41	55	4
Non-white	46	47	7	25	72	3
Black	46	48	6	19	77	4
Race and Sex						
White Men	36	55	9	44	54	2
White Women	44	50	6	39	56	5
Age						
Under 30	48	41	11	38	59	3
30-49	46	49	5	40	58	3
50-64	35	57	8	34	64	2
65+	33	59	8	41	51	8
Sex and Age						
Men under 50	43	49	8	42	56	2
Women under 50	50	44	6	37	60	3
Men 50+	31	60	10	36	60	3
Women 50+	37	57	6	37	57	6
Education						
College Grad.	27	63	10	34	63	3
Some College	49	45	6	47	51	2
H.S. Grad. or Less	46	48	6	37	59	4
Family Income						
\$75,000+	35	60	5	39	59	2
\$50,000-\$74,999	40	54	6	38	61	1
\$30,000-\$49,999	41	53	6	35	61	4
\$20,000-\$29,999	52	41	7	35	63	2
<\$20,000	50	48	2	40	58	2

Question: How would you rate the job state and local governments in Louisiana and Mississippi have been doing responding to Hurricane Katrina?

How would you rate the job the federal government has been doing responding to Hurricane Katrina?

Continued on next page...

	-----State and Local Governments-----			-----Federal Government-----		
	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Only fair/Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Excellent/Good</u>	<u>Only fair/Poor</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	41	51	8=100	38	58	4=100
Region						
Northeast	35	57	8	31	66	3
Midwest	41	52	7	37	59	4
South	46	48	6	44	51	5
West	41	50	9	37	62	1
Religious Affiliation						
Total White Protestant	43	51	6	44	51	5
- Evangelical	45	49	6	54	41	5
- Non-Evangelical	40	54	6	35	59	6
White Catholic	35	59	6	40	58	2
Seculars	29	58	13	27	72	1
Party ID						
Republican	40	54	6	63	32	5
Democrat	44	51	5	22	76	2
Independent	41	52	7	34	64	2
Party and Ideology						
Conservative Republican	38	55	7	64	30	6
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	40	57	3	61	38	1
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	47	49	4	29	68	3
Liberal Democrat	38	53	9	10	89	1
Close friend or relative affected by Hurricane						
Yes	43	51	6	34	63	3
No	41	51	8	40	57	3
Bush Job Approval						
Approve	44	52	4	66	31	3
Disapprove	39	53	8	16	82	2
Bush Approval for Hurricane						
Approve	46	50	4	74	24	2
Disapprove	39	54	7	13	84	3
Follow Hurricane News						
Very closely	40	54	6	37	61	2
Not very closely	44	44	12	41	52	7
Main Source of Hurricane News						
CNN	43	50	7	35	63	2
Fox News Channel	32	64	4	51	47	2
Network News	45	48	7	36	62	2
Newspapers	36	57	7	36	61	3
Internet	37	55	8	35	62	3

WAS RACE A FACTOR IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANE?

	-----Racial lessons from Hurricane-----			If most victims had been white...		
	Racial inequality remains a major	Not a particularly important lesson of		Response would have	Wouldn't have made any	
	<u>problem</u>	<u>the disaster</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>been faster</u>	<u>difference</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	38	50	12=100	26	68	6=100
Sex						
Male	37	51	12	24	70	6
Female	40	49	11	27	67	6
Race						
White	32	56	12	17	77	6
Non-white	62	30	8	59	35	6
Black	71	22	7	66	27	7
Race and Sex						
White Men	31	57	12	16	78	6
White Women	34	54	12	18	76	6
Age						
Under 30	42	51	7	27	66	7
30-49	38	52	10	27	69	4
50-64	40	46	14	28	66	6
65+	34	49	17	20	73	7
Sex and Age						
Men under 50	37	52	11	25	69	6
Women under 50	42	52	6	29	66	5
Men 50+	36	50	14	24	70	6
Women 50+	38	45	17	26	68	6
Education						
College Grad.	35	55	10	25	70	5
Some College	36	53	11	26	69	5
H.S. Grad. or Less	41	46	13	27	66	7
Family Income						
\$75,000+	33	57	10	28	71	1
\$50,000-\$74,999	36	56	8	25	70	5
\$30,000-\$49,999	47	48	5	26	67	7
\$20,000-\$29,999	40	50	10	26	67	7
<\$20,000	49	38	13	32	60	8

Question: In your view, did this disaster show that racial inequality remains a major problem in this country, or don't you think this was a particularly important lesson of the disaster?

Most of the people stranded in New Orleans following the hurricane were African American. Do you think the government's response to the situation would have been faster if most of the victims had been white, or don't you think this would have made any difference?

Continued on next page...

	-----Racial lessons from Hurricane-----			If most victims had been white...		
	Racial inequality remains a major	Not a particularly important lesson of		Response would have	Wouldn't have	
	<u>problem</u>	<u>the disaster</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>been faster</u>	<u>made any difference</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total	38	50	12=100	26	68	6=100
Region						
Northeast	45	47	8	27	68	6
Midwest	33	55	12	21	72	7
South	41	47	12	25	69	6
West	33	52	15	31	63	6
Religious Affiliation						
Total White Protestant	26	62	12	12	81	7
- Evangelical	25	61	14	10	84	6
- Non-Evangelical	28	62	10	15	78	7
White Catholic	39	51	10	17	77	6
Seculars	46	39	15	35	58	7
Party ID						
Republican	23	64	13	8	87	5
Democrat	55	35	10	42	53	5
Independent	38	55	7	25	70	5
Party and Ideology						
Conservative Republican	22	67	11	8	88	4
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	24	64	12	9	87	4
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	47	40	13	33	63	4
Liberal Democrat	70	26	4	58	33	8
Close Friend or Relative Affected by Hurricane						
Yes	41	50	9	31	64	5
No	37	50	13	24	70	6
Bush Job Approval						
Approve	22	66	12	9	88	3
Disapprove	53	38	9	40	53	7
Bush Approval for Hurricane						
Approve	20	69	11	9	89	2
Disapprove	55	35	10	41	52	7
Follow Hurricane News						
Very Closely	40	50	10	30	65	5
Other	35	49	16	15	75	10
Main Source of Hurricane News						
CNN	45	43	12	34	60	6
FOX	33	58	9	22	76	2
Networks	41	48	11	28	65	7
Newspapers	44	44	12	30	65	5
Internet	35	59	6	23	71	6

PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
HURRICANE KATRINA SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
September 6-7, 2005

N = 1,000 (103 Oversample of African Americans)

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? **[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Overall do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? [IF STILL DEPENDS ENTER AS DK]**

	<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>		<u>Approve</u>	Dis- <u>approve</u>	Don't <u>know</u>
September, 2005	40	52	8=100	January, 2003	58	32	10=100
July, 2005	44	48	8=100	2002			
June, 2005	42	49	9=100	December, 2002	61	28	11=100
Late May, 2005	42	48	10=100	Late October, 2002	59	29	12=100
Mid-May, 2005	43	50	7=100	Early October, 2002	61	30	9=100
Late March, 2005	49	46	5=100	Mid-September, 2002	67	22	11=100
Mid-March, 2005	45	46	9=100	Early September, 2002	63	26	11=100
February, 2005	46	47	7=100	Late August, 2002	60	27	13=100
January, 2005	50	43	7=100	August, 2002	67	21	12=100
2004				Late July, 2002	65	25	10=100
December, 2004	48	44	8=100	July, 2002	67	21	12=100
Mid-October, 2004	44	48	8=100	June, 2002	70	20	10=100
August, 2004	46	45	9=100	April, 2002	69	18	13=100
July, 2004	46	46	8=100	Early April, 2002	74	16	10=100
June, 2004	48	43	9=100	February, 2002	78	13	9=100
May, 2004	44	48	8=100	January, 2002	80	11	9=100
Late April, 2004	48	43	9=100	2001			
Early April, 2004	43	47	10=100	Mid-November, 2001	84	9	7=100
Late March, 2004	47	44	9=100	Early October, 2001	84	8	8=100
Mid-March, 2004	46	47	7=100	Late September, 2001	86	7	7=100
February, 2004	48	44	8=100	Mid-September, 2001	80	9	11=100
Mid-January, 2004	56	34	10=100	Early September, 2001	51	34	15=100
Early January, 2004	58	35	7=100	August, 2001	50	32	18=100
2003				July, 2001	51	32	17=100
December, 2003	57	34	9=100	June, 2001	50	33	17=100
November, 2003	50	40	10=100	May, 2001	53	32	15=100
October, 2003	50	42	8=100	April, 2001	56	27	17=100
September, 2003	55	36	9=100	March, 2001	55	25	20=100
Mid-August, 2003	56	32	12=100	February, 2001	53	21	26=100
Early August, 2003	53	37	10=100				
Mid-July, 2003	58	32	10=100				
Early July, 2003	60	29	11=100				
June, 2003	62	27	11=100				
May, 2003	65	27	8=100				
April 10-16, 2003	72	22	6=100				
April 9, 2003	74	20	6=100				
April 2-7, 2003	69	25	6=100				
March 28-April 1, 2003	71	23	6=100				
March 25-27, 2003	70	24	6=100				
March 20-24, 2003	67	26	7=100				
March 13-16, 2003	55	34	11=100				
February, 2003	54	36	10=100				

Q.2 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling [INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]

	<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
a. The economy	33	60	7=100
July, 2005	38	53	9=100
Mid-May, 2005	35	57	8=100
February, 2005	43	50	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	38	55	7=100
Early September, 2004	44	49	7=100
August, 2004	42	52	6=100
July, 2004	42	52	6=100
June, 2004	43	50	7=100
Early April, 2004	39	53	8=100
Mid-January, 2004	47	47	6=100
September, 2003	43	48	9=100
February, 2003	43	48	9=100
January, 2003	47	45	8=100
Early October, 2002	49	40	11=100
June, 2002	53	36	11=100
January, 2002	60	28	12=100
Early September, 2001	47	44	9=100
February, 2001	50	22	28=100
b. The situation in Iraq	34	58	8=100
July, 2005	35	57	8=100
Mid-May, 2005	37	56	7=100
February, 2005	40	53	7=100
January, 2005	45	50	5=100
Mid-October, 2004	37	56	7=100
Early September, 2004	47	45	8=100
August, 2004	43	52	5=100
July, 2004	42	53	5=100
June, 2004	42	51	7=100
Late April, 2004	44	48	8=100
Early April, 2004	40	53	7=100
Mid-January, 2004	59	37	4=100
September, 2003	52	40	8=100
April 10-16, 2003 ¹	77	17	6=100
April 8-9, 2003	71	23	6=100
--April 9, 2003	76	18	6=100
--April 8, 2003	65	28	7=100
April 2-7, 2003	73	21	6=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	69	26	5=100
March 25-27, 2003	73	23	4=100
March 23-24, 2003	72	22	6=100
March 20-22, 2003	70	23	7=100
February, 2003	56	37	7=100

¹ From March to April 2003 the item was worded: "... dealing with the war in Iraq?"

Q.2 CONTINUED...		<u>Approve</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>DK/Ref.</u>
	January, 2003	56	36	8=100
	Early October, 2002	56	34	10=100
c.	Terrorist threats	49	41	10=100
	July, 2005	49	40	11=100
	Mid-May, 2005	57	35	8=100
	February, 2005	59	34	7=100
	January, 2005	62	33	5=100
	Mid-October, 2004	49	40	11=100
	Early September, 2004	62	32	6=100
	August, 2004	58	37	5=100
	July, 2004	54	40	6=100
	June, 2004	56	35	9=100
	Late April, 2004	55	36	9=100
	Early April, 2004	53	38	9=100
	<i>Gallup</i> : December, 2003	65	33	2=100
	September, 2003	64	28	8=100
	February, 2003	67	25	8=100
	January, 2003	69	23	8=100
	Early October, 2002	71	22	7=100
	June, 2002	74	18	8=100
	Mid-September, 2001 ²	85	6	9=100
	Clinton : Early September, 1998	72	20	8=100
d.	The impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast	38	52	10=100

Q.3 Right now, which is more important for President Bush to focus on domestic policy or the war on terrorism? [INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS “HURRICANE RELIEF” ENTER AS “DOMESTIC POLICY”]

		<u>Jan 2005</u>	<u>Aug 2002</u>	<u>Jan 2002</u>
56	Domestic policy	40	29	33
25	War on terrorism	44	43	52
1	Neither (VOL.)	1	1	*
12	Both (VOL.)	13	22	13
<u>6</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
100		100	100	100

² In Mid-September, 2001 the question was worded: “...dealing with the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington.” In Early September 1998 the question was worded: “Do you approve or disapprove of the way Bill Clinton is handling current threats from international terrorist groups?”

Q.4 Now I will read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past month. As I read each item, tell me if you happened to follow this news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE.]

	Very Closely	Fairly Closely	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/Ref
a. News about the current situation in Iraq	32	40	20	7	1=100
July, 2005	43	37	13	6	1=100
June, 2005	41	39	12	7	1=100
Mid-May, 2005	42	42	11	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2005	40	39	14	5	2=100
February, 2005	38	45	13	4	*=100
January, 2005	48	37	11	4	*=100
December, 2004	34	44	15	6	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	42	38	11	8	1=100
Early September, 2004	47	37	9	6	1=100
August, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
July, 2004	43	40	11	6	*=100
June, 2004	39	42	12	6	1=100
April, 2004	54	33	8	5	*=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	36	12	4	1=100
Early February, 2004	47	38	10	4	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	48	39	9	4	*=100
December, 2003	44	38	11	6	1=100
November, 2003	52	33	9	5	1=100
October, 2003	38	40	14	7	1=100
September, 2003	50	33	10	6	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	45	39	10	5	1=100
Early July, 2003	37	41	13	8	1=100
June, 2003	46	35	13	6	*=100
May, 2003	63	29	6	2	*=100
April 11-16, 2003 ³	47	40	10	2	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	54	34	9	2	1=100
March 20-24, 2003	57	33	7	2	1=100
March 13-16, 2003 ⁴	62	27	6	4	1=100
February, 2003	62	25	8	4	1=100
January, 2003	55	29	10	4	2=100
December, 2002	51	32	10	6	1=100
Late October, 2002	53	33	8	5	1=100
Early October, 2002	60	28	6	5	1=100
Early September, 2002	48	29	15	6	2=100
b. The high price of gasoline these days	71	19	7	3	*=100
Mid-May, 2005	58	27	9	5	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	50	32	13	5	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	64	22	8	5	1=100
August, 2004	52	29	10	8	1=100
July, 2004	56	25	11	7	1=100
June, 2004	58	26	9	6	1=100

³ From March 20 to April 16, 2003 the story was listed as "News about the war in Iraq."

⁴ From October 2002 to March 13-16, 2003 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will take military action in Iraq." In Early September 2002 the story was listed as "Debate over the possibility that the U.S. will invade Iraq."

Q.4 CONTINUED...

	Very <u>Closely</u>	Fairly <u>Closely</u>	Not too <u>Closely</u>	Not at all <u>Closely</u>	DK/Ref
April, 2004	46	30	15	8	1=100
Early April, 2004	58	23	10	8	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	47	27	14	10	2=100
September, 2003	45	27	15	11	1=100
March, 2003	52	27	11	9	1=100
February, 2003	53	25	12	9	1=100
June, 2001	56	31	7	5	1=100
May, 2001	61	26	6	6	1=100
Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1=100
June, 2000 ⁵	61	25	9	5	*=100
March, 2000	58	28	10	4	*=100
October, 1990	62	26	8	4	*=100
September, 1990	56	28	11	5	*=100
August, 1990	57	27	10	5	1=100
c. The impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast					
	70	21	7	2	*=100
July, 2005 (<i>Hurricanes affecting the Gulf Coast</i>)	38	37	17	8	*=100
Early October, 2002 (<i>Gulf of Mexico and Louisiana</i>)	38	34	18	10	*=100
d. The nomination of John Roberts as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court					
	18	26	25	29	2=100
July, 2005 (<i>Retirement of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor</i>)	24	29	24	22	1=100

Q.5 How much of a problem has the rising price of gasoline been for you and your family lately [READ]?

33	A very serious problem
36	A somewhat serious problem
21	A minor problem
10	Not a problem at all
*	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
100	

⁵ In August 1990 through June 2000 the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

Q.6 How have you been getting most of your news about the impact of Hurricane Katrina? From television, from newspapers, from radio, from magazines, or from the Internet? [ACCEPT TWO ANSWERS: IF ONLY ONE RESPONSE IS GIVEN, PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL RESPONSE]

	Television	News- papers	Radio	Magazines	Internet	Other (VOL)	Don't Know/ Refused
September, 2005 (Hurricane Katrina)	89	35	17	*	21	3	*
June, 2005 ⁶	74	44	22	5	24	2	1
December, 2004	74	46	21	4	24	2	3
October, 2003	80	50	18	4	20	2	1
August, 2003	79	46	15	3	18	2	1
Early July, 2003	79	45	16	5	19	1	*
March, 2003 (War in Iraq)	89	24	19	*	11	2	*
February, 2003	83	42	19	4	15	3	*
January, 2003	81	44	22	4	17	2	1
January, 2002	82	42	21	3	14	2	*
Mid-September, 2001 (Terror Attacks)	90	11	14	*	5	1	1
Early September, 2001	74	45	18	6	13	1	*
February, 2001	76	40	16	4	10	2	1
October, 1999	80	48	19	5	11	2	*
January, 1999	82	42	18	4	6	2	*
January, 1996	88	61	25	8	--	2	*
September, 1995	82	63	20	10	--	1	1
January, 1994	83	51	15	10	--	5	1
September, 1993	83	60	17	9	--	3	*
January, 1993	83	52	17	5	--	1	1
Early January, 1991	82	40	15	4	--	1	*

IF '1' TELEVISION AS EITHER 1ST OR 2ND RESPONSE IN Q.6 ASK:

Q.6a Have you been getting most of your news about the disaster from [READ, RANDOMIZE ITEMS 2 THRU 4 AND 5 THRU 8 SEPARATELY, AND RANDOMIZE SETS OF ITEMS (LOCAL; NETWORK; CABLE). ACCEPT MULTIPLE ANSWERS BUT DO NOT PROBE FOR ADDITIONAL]

BASED ON TOTAL:		June	Dec	Oct	Aug	Early	
		<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
19	Local news programming	13	15	17	17	17	16
14	ABC Network news	12	11	12	12	12	11
8	CBS Network news	9	9	8	10	11	11
12	NBC Network news	12	14	13	15	14	15
31	CNN Cable news	18	20	20	26	27	28
9	MSNBC Cable news	5	6	6	7	9	8
22	The Fox News Cable Channel	16	19	17	18	22	16
3	CNBC Cable news	2	3	-- ⁷	3	3	4
3	(DO NOT READ) Don't know/Refused	4	3	4	4	3	2

⁶ In June 2005 and earlier the question was worded "news about national and international issues," except in March 2003, when the question was worded "news about the war in Iraq," and in Mid-September 2001, when the question was worded "news about the terrorist attacks." In September 1995, question wording did not include "international." In Early January 1991 the question asked about "the latest developments in the Persian Gulf."

⁷ In October 2003, CNBC Cable news item was not asked due to programming error.

ASK ALL:

Q.7 In general, how would you rate the job the press has done in covering the impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast **[READ]**

		<i>Terrorist Attacks</i>
		<u>Sept 2001</u>
28	Excellent	56
37	Good	33
18	Only fair	6
15	Poor	3
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>
100		100

Q.8 Do you think news organizations are giving too much, too little, or the right amount of coverage to the impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast?

		<i>Terrorist Attacks</i>
		Early Oct
		<u>2001</u>
21	Too much coverage	32
13	Too little coverage	2
62	Right amount of coverage	63
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>
100		100

Q.9 Have you yourself felt depressed because of what's happened in areas affected by the hurricane?

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
September, 2005		58	41	1=100
April 2-7, 2003	<i>(Iraq War)</i>	36	63	1=100
March 28-April 1, 2003	<i>(Iraq War)</i>	41	58	1=100
March 25-27, 2003	<i>(Iraq War)</i>	40	59	1=100
March 23-24, 2003	<i>(Iraq War)</i>	35	63	2=100
March 20-22, 2003	<i>(Iraq War)</i>	30	69	1=100
Early November, 2001 ⁸	<i>(Terror Attack)</i>	24	75	1=100
Mid-October, 2001	<i>(Terror Attack)</i>	31	66	3=100
Early October, 2001	<i>(Terror Attack)</i>	42	57	1=100
Mid-September, 2001	<i>(Terror Attack)</i>	71	27	2=100
Late January, 1991	<i>(Gulf War)</i>	50	49	1=100

⁸ In Early November and Mid-October 2001 the question was worded "...concerns about terrorist attacks or the war against terrorism?" In Early October and Mid-September 2001, the question was worded " ...the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?"

Q.10 Have you yourself felt angry because of what's happened in areas affected by the hurricane?

Terrorist Attacks

Early Oct

2001

50	Yes	87
50	No	12
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>
100		100

Q.11 Do you, yourself, have a close personal friend or relative who was directly affected by the hurricane, or not?

24	Yes
75	No
<u>1</u>	Don't Know/Refused
100	

Q.12 How concerned are you that the impact of Hurricane Katrina will cause a nationwide economic recession?
[READ]

46	Very concerned
34	Somewhat concerned
11	Not too concerned
7	Not at all concerned
<u>2</u>	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
100	

ROTATE Q.13 Q.14

Q.13 How would you rate the job state and local governments in Louisiana and Mississippi have been doing responding to Hurricane Katrina? **[READ]**

9	Excellent
32	Good
29	Only fair
22	Poor
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
100	

Q.14 How would you rate the job the federal government has been doing responding to Hurricane Katrina?
[READ]

8	Excellent
30	Good
29	Only fair
29	Poor
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]
100	

IF 'ONLY FAIR' OR 'POOR' (3,4 IN Q.14) ASK [N=603]:

Q.15 From what you've seen and read, what was the biggest reason why the FEDERAL government did not do a good job responding to this emergency [**READ AND RANDOMIZE**]

33 Lack of planning for this type of emergency
29 Lack of coordination among government agencies
32 Poor leadership in Washington
6 [**VOL. DO NOT READ**] Don't know/Refused
100

ASK ALL:

Q.16 In your opinion, did President Bush do all he could to get relief efforts going quickly or do you think he could have done more?

28 Did all he could
67 Could have done more
5 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.17 Thinking about the people who stayed in New Orleans during the storm and became stranded by the flooding, do you think... [**READ AND ROTATE**]

29 Most stayed behind because they wanted to
OR
62 Most stayed behind because they didn't have a way to leave the city
9 [**VOL. DO NOT READ**] Don't know/Refused
100

Q.18 In your view, did this disaster show that racial inequality remains a major problem in this country, or don't you think this was a particularly important lesson of the disaster?

38 Showed that racial inequality remains a major problem
50 Not a particularly important lesson of the disaster
12 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.19 Do you think the severity of Hurricane Katrina is the result of global climate change, or is Hurricane Katrina just the kind of severe weather event that happens from time to time?

25 Result of global climate change
66 Just happens from time to time
9 Don't know/Refused
100

Q.20 Have you or anyone in your household made a donation to help those affected by the hurricane, are you planning to do so, or is this something you don't think you will do right now?

***Earthquake/Tsunami
in Indian Ocean***

Jan 2005

56	Yes, have made a donation	30
28	Planning to do so	30
15	No, don't think will donate right now	37
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL)	<u>3</u>
100		100

NO QUESTION 21

Q.22 Has what you've seen, heard and read in the wake of Hurricane Katrina made you more optimistic about human nature or more pessimistic about human nature?

59	More optimistic	
22	More pessimistic	
9	Made no difference (VOL.)	
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused	
100		

NO QUESTIONS 23 - 25

Q.26 Were you, personally, surprised by incidents of violence and looting in New Orleans during the disaster, or didn't this surprise you?

44	Surprised	
55	Not surprised	
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	
100		

Q.27 Do you think the people who took things from businesses and homes in New Orleans were... [**READ AND ROTATE**]

41	Mostly ordinary people trying to survive during an emergency	
	OR	
35	Mostly criminals trying to take advantage of the situation	
18	[VOL. DO NOT READ] Both/Depends	
<u>6</u>	[VOL. DO NOT READ] Don't know/Refused	
100		

Q.28 Do you think the people who committed violent acts in New Orleans were... [**READ AND ROTATE**]

27	Mostly ordinary people who became desperate during an emergency	
	OR	
57	Mostly criminals trying to take advantage of the situation	
9	[VOL. DO NOT READ] Both/Depends	
<u>7</u>	[VOL. DO NOT READ] Don't know/Refused	
100		

Q.29 Has the government's response to this disaster affected your confidence in the government's ability to handle a major terrorist attack, or not? **[IF YES: Has it made you more confident or less confident?]**

7 Yes, more confident
 42 Yes, less confident
 46 No
5 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
 100

Q.30 Most of the people stranded in New Orleans following the hurricane were African American. Do you think the government's response to the situation would have been faster if most of the victims had been white, or don't you think this would have made any difference?

26 Yes, would have been faster
 68 No, wouldn't have made any difference
6 Don't know/Refused
 100

On a different subject for a moment...

Q.31 From what you've heard or read, do you think the U.S. Senate should or should not confirm John Roberts as the next Chief Justice of the Supreme Court?

35 Should
 19 Should not
46 Don't know/Refused
 100

Q.32 From what you've heard or read, are you concerned that John Roberts is too conservative, too liberal, or aren't you concerned about his ideology?

20 Concerned that he is too conservative
 5 Concerned that he is too liberal
 39 Not concerned about his ideology
36 Don't know/Refused
 100

Now, just a few questions for statistical purposes only...

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

<i>Trend</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	(VOL)	(VOL)	<u>Don't know</u>
				No Preference	Other Party	
September, 2005	27	33	33	4	*	3=100
July, 2005	31	34	29	4	*	2=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
Late March, 2005	29	32	36	2	*	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
February, 2005	31	32	30	4	1	2=100
January, 2005	32	33	30	4	*	1=100
December, 2004	31	34	30	3	*	2=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100

PARTY CONTINUED...

				(VOL) No	(VOL) Other	
<i>Trend</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Late September, 2004	29	30	31	6	*	4=100
Mid-September, 2004	29	31	30	5	*	5=100
Early September, 2004	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
				(VOL) No	(VOL) Other	
<i>Yearly Totals</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	31	32	28	5	1	3=100
2001 Pre-Sept 11	28	35	30	5	*	2=100
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100
				No Preference/ <u>Other/DK</u>		
1996	29	33	33	5=100		
1995	32	30	34	4=100		
1994	30	32	34	4=100		
1993	27	34	34	5=100		
1992	28	33	35	4=100		
1991	31	32	33	4=100		
1990	31	33	30	6=100		
			Independent/ <u>No Pref/Oth/DK</u>			
1989	33	33	34=100			
1987	26	35	39=100			

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	Refused to lean
September, 2005	10	15	15=40%
July, 2005	9	15	11=35%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%