

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS**  
**NOVEMBER 2005 THE RIGHT TO DIE, II**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**November 9 - 27, 2005**  
**N=1,500**

**ROTATE Q.1 AND Q.2**

Q.1 Generally, how would you say things are these days in your life -- would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?

		Late March <u>2003</u>	Feb <u>2003</u>	Sept <u>1996</u>	Sept <u>1992</u>	Late Jan <u>1991</u> <sup>1</sup>	<i>NORC</i> Feb <u>1990</u>
29	Very happy	29	29	34	17	12	33
56	Pretty happy	51	51	53	48	52	58
14	Not too happy	16	17	11	34	33	9
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

Q.2 All in all, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in this country today?

	<u>Sat- isfied</u>	<u>Dis- satisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
November, 2005	34	59	7=100
Early October, 2005	29	65	6=100
July, 2005	35	58	7=100
Late May, 2005	39	57	4=100
February, 2005	38	56	6=100
January, 2005	40	54	6=100
December, 2004	39	54	7=100
Mid-October, 2004	36	58	6=100
July, 2004	38	55	7=100
May, 2004	33	61	6=100
Late February, 2004	39	55	6=100
Early January, 2004	45	48	7=100
December, 2003	44	47	9=100
October, 2003	38	56	6=100
August, 2003	40	53	7=100
April, 2003 <sup>2</sup>	50	41	9=100
January, 2003	44	50	6=100
November, 2002	41	48	11=100
September, 2002 <sup>3</sup>	41	55	4=100
Late August, 2002	47	44	9=100
May, 2002	44	44	12=100

<sup>1</sup> For Late January 1991 and February 1990 the question was worded "Taken all together, how would you say things are these days..."

<sup>2</sup> Asked April 8, 2003 only; N=395.

<sup>3</sup> The September 2002 trend is from a Pew Global Attitudes Project survey, fielded August 19 to September 8, 2002 and released December 4, 2002.

**Q.2 CONTINUED...**

	<u>Sat- isfied</u>	<u>Dis- satisfied</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
March, 2002	50	40	10=100
Late September, 2001	57	34	9=100
Early September, 2001	41	53	6=100
June, 2001	43	52	5=100
March, 2001	47	45	8=100
February, 2001	46	43	11=100
January, 2001	55	41	4=100
October, 2000 (RVs)	54	39	7=100
September, 2000	51	41	8=100
June, 2000	47	45	8=100
April, 2000	48	43	9=100
August, 1999	56	39	5=100
January, 1999	53	41	6=100
November, 1998	46	44	10=100
Early September, 1998	54	42	4=100
Late August, 1998	55	41	4=100
Early August, 1998	50	44	6=100
February, 1998	59	37	4=100
January, 1998	46	50	4=100
September, 1997	45	49	6=100
August, 1997	49	46	5=100
January, 1997	38	58	4=100
July, 1996	29	67	4=100
March, 1996	28	70	2=100
October, 1995	23	73	4=100
June, 1995	25	73	2=100
April, 1995	23	74	3=100
July, 1994	24	73	3=100
March, 1994	24	71	5=100
October, 1993	22	73	5=100
September, 1993	20	75	5=100
May, 1993	22	71	7=100
January, 1993	39	50	11=100
January, 1992	28	68	4=100
November, 1991	34	61	5=100
Late February, 1991 (Gallup)	66	31	3=100
August, 1990	47	48	5=100
May, 1990	41	54	5=100
January, 1989	45	50	5=100
September, 1988 (RVs)	50	45	5=100
May, 1988	41	54	5=100
January, 1988	39	55	6=100

Q.3 We're interested in what things people are talking about with family, friends and co-workers. As I read from a list, tell me if this is something that you've talked about recently, or not? (First,) how about...(INSERT ITEM; ROTATE)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
a. News about the current situation in Iraq	78	22	*=100
b. The high price of gasoline these days	91	9	*=100
c. How good a job President Bush is doing these days	69	30	1=100
d. The indictment of Vice President Cheney's chief of staff Lewis "Scooter" Libby	36	63	1=100
e. Recent movies now in the theaters	46	54	*=100
January, 1998 <i>Movies like Titanic and Amistad</i>	64	36	*=100
f. Hurricanes that struck the U.S. this year	89	11	*=100
January, 1998 <i>Unusual winter weather</i>	85	15	*=100
g. The outbreak of a flu spread by birds or chickens	54	46	*=100
January, 1998	56	44	*=100
h. President Bush's nominations for the Supreme Court	52	47	1=100

Q.4 Now I have some questions on the subject of aging. First, do you think you would like to live to be 100 years old, or not?

	<u>May 1990</u>
43 Yes	39
47 No	49
8 It depends (VOL.)	9
<u>2</u> Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>3</u>
100	100

Q.5 When you think about getting old, what do you LOOK FORWARD TO the most? (**DO NOT READ, ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**)

	<u>May 1990</u>
35 Not having to work, having free time, retirement	46
19 Ability to share lives of family, children, grandchildren, etc.	14
10 Having good health/being active	13
4 Travel	7
2 Being able to experience changes in the world	3
18 Other	15
9 Nothing	8
6 Don't know	7

Q.6 When you think about getting old, what WORRIES you the most? (**DO NOT READ, ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**)

	<u>May 1990</u>
32 General health problems, unspecified	31
19 Being poor/income problems	23
8 Being unable to take care of self, being dependent	11
4 Dying	5
3 Health care/insurance costs	-
3 Being alone	3
2 Being unable to do things I enjoy (sports, sex, work)	3
1 My mind/senility/mental health	4
1 Getting some other disease	3
1 Getting Alzheimer's disease	1
1 Worries about children/grandchildren	-
1 Social security mentions	-
1 Getting cancer	1
12 Other	11
13 Nothing	11
1 Don't know	4

Q.7 Which comes closer to your view? In all circumstances, doctors and nurses should do everything possible to save the life of a patient. Or, sometimes there are circumstances where a patient should be allowed to die.

	<u>May 1990</u>
22 Always save a life	15
70 Sometimes let a patient die	73
<u>8</u> It depends ( <b>VOL-1990</b> )/DK ( <b>VOL</b> )	<u>12</u>
100	100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=748]:**

Q.8F1 In some states, it's legal to stop medical treatment that is keeping a terminally ill patient alive, or never start the treatment in the first place, if that's what the patient wants. Do you approve or disapprove of laws that let PATIENTS decide about being kept alive through medical treatment?

	<u>May 1990</u>
84 Approve	79
10 Disapprove	13
<u>6</u> It depends ( <b>VOL-1990</b> )/DK ( <b>VOL</b> )	<u>8</u>
100	100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=752]**

Q.9F2 In some states, it's legal for doctors to prescribe lethal doses of drugs that a terminally ill patient could use themselves to commit suicide. Do you approve or disapprove of laws that let doctors assist patients who want to end their lives this way?

46	Approve
45	Disapprove
<u>9</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK ALL**

Q.10 How much ATTENTION do you think doctors and nurses pay to instructions from patients about whether or not they want treatment to keep them alive? Do you think doctors and nurses pay a lot of attention, some attention, or very little attention to patients' instructions?

		<u>May 1990</u>
30	A lot of attention	20
38	Some attention	37
17	Very little attention	26
2	No attention at all (VOL.)	2
<u>13</u>	Don't know	<u>15</u>
100		100

Q.11 When a severely handicapped child is born, do you think the parents have the right to REFUSE medical treatment that might save the infant's life, or do you think the infant, no matter how handicapped, should receive as MUCH treatment as possible?

		<u>May 1990</u>
28	Parents can refuse treatment	32
60	Should receive most treatment possible	52
<u>12</u>	It depends (VOL-1990)/DK (VOL)	<u>16</u>
100		100

Q.12 Do you think a person has a moral right to end his or her own life under any of the following circumstances? First, . . . (READ IN ORDER)

		Depends (VOL-1990)/ Don't		
		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Know (VOL)</u>
a.	when this person has a disease that is incurable?	53	39	8=100
	May, 1990	49	41	10=100
	April, 1975 <i>Gallup</i>	40	53	7=100
b.	when this person is suffering great pain and has no hope of improvement?	60	34	6=100
	May, 1990	55	34	11=100
	April, 1975 <i>Gallup</i>	41	51	8=100
c.	when this person is an extremely heavy burden on his or her family?	29	62	9=100
	May, 1990	29	57	14=100
	April, 1975 <i>Gallup</i>	20	72	8=100

**QUESTION 12 CONTINUED...**

		Depends ( <b>VOL-1990</b> )/ Don't		
		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Know (VOL)</u>
d.	when this person is ready to die because living has become a burden?	33	58	9=100
	May, 1990	27	59	14=100

I have a few more questions on this subject, and some may be hard for you to think about. Because of the importance of these issues, we very much appreciate your honest answers. If there's any question that you really don't want to answer, please just tell me.

Q.13 If a patient with a terminal disease is unable to communicate and has not made his or her own wishes known in advance, should the closest family member be allowed to decide whether to continue medical treatment, or should a family member not be allowed to make this decision?

		<u>May 1990</u>
74	Allowed	71
15	Not allowed	16
5	It depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	5
<u>6</u>	Don't know	<u>8</u>
100		100

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=748]:**

Q.14F1 We sometimes hear of cases where a person has killed a spouse because the husband or wife was suffering terrible pain from a terminal disease. Do you think the actions of these people are never justified, sometimes justified, or always justified?

		<u>May 1990</u>
29	Never justified	20
55	Sometimes justified	63
6	Always justified	7
<u>10</u>	Don't know	<u>10</u>
100		100

**ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=752]:**

Q.15F2 We sometimes hear of cases where a person has helped a spouse commit suicide because the husband or wife was suffering terrible pain from a terminal disease. Do you think the actions of these people are never justified, sometimes justified, or always justified?

25	Never justified
53	Sometimes justified
14	Always justified
<u>8</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )
100	

**ASK ALL:**

Q.16 Can you imagine you, YOURSELF, taking action like this if someone you loved was suffering terribly from an illness that was terminal?

		<u>May 1990</u>
33	Yes	28
58	No	59
<u>9</u>	It depends ( <b>VOL-1990</b> )/DK ( <b>VOL</b> )	<u>13</u>
100		100

Q.17 Now I'm going to describe a few medical situations that sometimes happen, and for each one, please tell me what you would want YOUR OWN DOCTOR to do, if you could make the choice. If you had a disease with no hope of improvement and you were suffering a great deal of physical pain, would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?

		<u>May 1990</u>
34	Do everything possible to save life	28
53	Stop treatment	59
6	It depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	6
<u>7</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>7</u>
100		100

Q.18 How about if you had a disease with no hope of improvement that made it hard for you to function in your day-to-day activities? (**REPEAT IF NECESSARY:** Would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?)

		<u>May 1990<sup>4</sup></u>
43	Do everything possible to save life	40
42	Stop treatment	44
5	It depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	8
<u>10</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>8</u>
100		100

Q.19 How about if you had an illness that made you totally dependent on a family member or other person for all of your care? (**REPEAT IF NECESSARY:** Would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?)

		<u>May 1990<sup>5</sup></u>
38	Do everything possible to save life	31
44	Stop treatment	51
7	It depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	7
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>11</u>
100		100

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<sup>4</sup> In May 1990 the following statement was EXCLUDED from the end of the question: "...so you could die?"

<sup>5</sup> In May 1990 the following statement was EXCLUDED from the end of the question: "...so you could die?"

Q.20 These next questions are about your parents. First, is your **(RANDOMLY ROTATE “mother/father”)** still living?

			<i>May 1990</i>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
61	47	Yes	63	49
39	51	No	37	51
*	2	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*
<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

**ASK IF “NO/REFUSED” (2,9 IN Q.20):**

Q.21 Is your **(PARENT NOT ASKED ABOUT ABOVE)** still living?

**SUMMARY OF Q.20/Q.21**

66	Has at least one living parent
33	No living parent
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>100</u>	

**[NOTE: ONE PARENT SELECTED FROM Q.20/Q.21 FOR FOLLOWING]**

**ASK Q22-Q27 IF PARENT LIVING [N=887]:**

Q.22 What do you think your father/mother would want his/her doctor to do in these same situations? If he/she had a disease with no hope of improvement and was suffering a great deal of physical pain, do you think he/she would want HIS/HER OWN DOCTOR to do everything possible to save his/her life, or would he/she want the doctor to stop treatment so he/she could die?

			<i>May 1990</i>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
35	34	Do everything possible to save life	31	32
52	51	Stop treatment	54	50
1	2	It depends (VOL.)	2	2
<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>13</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

Q.23 How about if he/she had a disease with no hope of improvement that made it hard to function in day-to-day activities? **(REPEAT IF NECESSARY: Do you think he/she would want the doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save his/her life, or would he/she want the doctor to STOP TREATMENT so he/she could die?)**

			<i>May 1990<sup>6</sup></i>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
44	41	Do everything possible to save life	39	38
41	43	Stop treatment	43	42
3	2	It depends (VOL.)	2	2
<u>12</u>	<u>14</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>		<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>

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<sup>6</sup> In May 1990 the following statement was EXCLUDED from the end of the question: “...so he/she could die?”



Q.24 How about if he/she had an illness that made him/her totally dependent on a family member or other person for all of his/her care? (**REPEAT IF NECESSARY:** Do you think he/she would want the doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save his/her life, or would he/she want the doctor to STOP TREATMENT so he/she could die?)

			<i>May 1990</i> <sup>7</sup>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
47	41	Do everything possible to save life	33	32
37	45	Stop treatment	49	48
2	1	It depends ( <b>VOL.</b> )	2	2
<u>14</u>	<u>13</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>
100	100		100	100

Q.25 Have you ever had a conversation with your father/mother (**ASK ABOUT SAME PARENT AS Q. 24**) about his/her wishes for medical treatment in circumstances like those we've been talking about?

			<i>May 1990</i>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
57	48	Yes	43	28
43	51	No	56	72
<u>*</u>	<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
100	100		100	100

Q.26 As far as you know, are his/her wishes regarding medical treatment written down somewhere?

			<i>May 1990</i>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
40	38	Yes	16	16
44	39	No	67	64
<u>16</u>	<u>23</u>	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	<u>17</u>	<u>20</u>
100	100		100	100

Q.27 How old is your father/mother (**ASK ABOUT SAME PARENT AS Q. 24**)? (**RECORD EXACT AGE**)

			<i>May 1990</i> <sup>8</sup>	
<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>		<u>Mother</u>	<u>Father</u>
13	11	Less than 50 years old	19	15
27	25	50-59	28	31
22	28	60-69	28	32
20	19	70-79	15	16
15	13	80 or older	9	6
<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	Don't know/refused	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
100	100		100	100

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<sup>7</sup> In May 1990 the following statement was EXCLUDED from the end of the question: "...so he/she could die?"

<sup>8</sup> In May 1990 ages were recorded in ranges instead of exact age using the question: "About what age is your father/mother?"

MARITAL Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married? (IF R SAYS "SINGLE," PROBE TO DETERMINE WHICH CATEGORY IS APPROPRIATE)

51	Married
6	Living with a partner
10	Divorced
2	Separated
8	Widowed
22	Never been married
0	Single (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ASK MARRIED (1 IN MARITAL) [N=808]:**

Q.28 Have you ever had a conversation with your husband/wife about his/her wishes for medical treatment in circumstances like those we've been talking about?

		<u>May 1990</u>
69	Yes	51
30	No	49
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>*</u>
100		100

Q.29 As far as you know, are his/her wishes written down somewhere?

		<u>May 1990</u>
27	Yes	11
70	No	87
<u>3</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>
100		100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.30 Before today, how much had you thought about your own wishes for medical treatment if you were in the kind of circumstances like those we've been talking about? Had you given this a great deal of thought, some thought, not very much thought, or no thought at all?

		<u>May 1990</u>
35	A great deal of thought	28
36	Some thought	36
18	Not very much thought	22
10	No thought at all	13
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

Q.31 Are your own wishes for medical treatment written down somewhere?

		<b>Based on Total<sup>9</sup></b>		<b>Based on those who have given thought to issues (Q30=1,2,3)</b>	
		<u>Nov 2005</u>	<u>May 1990</u>	<u>Nov 2005</u>	<u>May 1990</u>
27	Yes	27	12	29	13
72	No	63	75	70	87
-	<i>Given no thought (Q30=4)</i>	(10)	(13)	-	-
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	*	*	<u>1</u>	*
100		100	100	100	100

Q.32 With whom, if anyone, have you discussed your wishes for your own medical treatment in these kinds of circumstances? (OPEN END; DO NOT READ. ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES. PROBE FOR SPECIFICITY IF R SAYS "FAMILY MEMBER." PROBE FOR "ANY OTHERS?")

		<b>Based on Total</b>		<b>Based on those who have given thought to issues (Q30=1,2,3)</b>	
		<u>Nov 2005</u>	<u>May 1990</u>	<u>Nov 2005</u>	<u>May 1990</u>
38	Husband/wife	37	30	42	35
17	Child	17	13	19	15
14	Parent	14	13	15	15
12	Other relative	11	12	13	13
5	Friend	5	8	5	9
2	Doctor or nurse	2	3	2	4
2	All family	2	-	2	-
1	Attorney/lawyer	1	-	2	-
*	Minister or priest	*	*	*	*
4	Other	4	2	4	3
27	No one	19	31	22	36
-	<i>Given no thought (Q30=4)</i>	(10)	(13)	-	-
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1	*	1	*

Q.33 Have you ever heard of a "living will"?

ASK IF 'YES' (1 IN Q.33):

Q.35 Do you happen to have a "living will" for yourself?

		<u>May 1990</u>
95	Yes, have heard of living will	71
29	Yes, have a living will	12
66	No, do not have one	59
*	Don't know/refused	*
5	No, have not heard of a living will	28
<u>0</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

## NO QUESTION 34

<sup>9</sup> In 1990, respondents who said they had given no thought at all to their own wishes for medical treatment were not asked whether their wishes were written down somewhere (Q.31) or with whom they had discussed their wishes (Q.32).

**ASK ALL:**

Q.36 Have you had any personal experience in the last five years with a relative or close friend suffering from a terminal illness or in a coma?

		<i>Kaiser/Harvard/ Boston Globe</i>
		<u>Oct 1991</u>
42	Yes	42
58	No	57
<u>*</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>1</u>
100		100

**ASK IF YES (1 IN Q.36) [N=641]:**

Q.37 How recently did this happen? Within the past 12 months, within the past two years, or before that?

31	Within past 12 months
27	Within past 2 years
41	Before that
<u>1</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

Q.38 Did the issue of withholding life-sustaining treatment come up, or not?

		<i>Kaiser/Harvard/ Boston Globe</i>
		<u>Oct 1991</u> <sup>10</sup>
<b>BASED ON TOTAL [N=1500]:</b>		
23	Yes, issue came up	21
18	No	20
1	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	1
<u>58</u>	No personal experience with terminal illness	<u>58</u>
100		100

**ASK IF 'YES' (1 IN Q.38):**

Q.39 When this happened, did you help at all in making decisions about how much medical treatment should be given?

<b>BASED ON TOTAL [N=1500]:</b>	
10	Yes, helped to make medical treatment decisions
13	No, did not help
0	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
<u>77</u>	No personal experience with this issue
100	

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<sup>10</sup> The question from the October 1991 survey from the Kaiser Foundation/Harvard School of Public Health/Boston Globe was worded: "Was the issue of whether or not it was appropriate to withhold life-sustaining treatment raised by the family or a doctor at any time?"

**ASK ALL:**

**ROTATE Q.40 AND Q.41**

Q.40 In March, Congress passed a bill that required the federal courts to hear the case of Terri Schiavo, the brain-damaged Florida woman who later died after her feeding tube was removed... Do you believe that Congress did the right thing in getting involved in the case, or do you think Congress should have stayed out of the case?

		<u>July 2005</u>
17	Believe that Congress did the right thing	20
72	Believe that Congress should have stayed out of the case	74
<u>11</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>6</u>
100		100

Q.41 Which political party -- the REPUBLICAN Party or the DEMOCRATIC Party -- do you think could do a better job of dealing with issues related to end-of-life decisions?

22	Republican Party
34	Democratic Party
2	Both Equally (VOL.)
16	Neither (VOL.)
<u>26</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)
100	

**ROTATE Q.42 AND Q.43**

Q.42 Which comes closer to your view? Abortion should be generally available to those who want it; Abortion should be available but under stricter limits than it is now; Abortion should be against the law except in cases of rape, incest and to save the woman's life; Abortion should not be permitted at all.

		<u>July 2005</u>	<u>June 1997</u>	<u>June 1996</u>	<u>CBS/NYT Feb 1996</u>
30	Generally available	35	30	32	36
19	Available, but under stricter limits	23	21	24	22
31	Against law except rape/incest/save life	31	36	33	34
16	Abortion should not be permitted at all	9	12	9	7
<u>4</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
100		100	100	100	100

Q.43 Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

		<u>July<sup>11</sup> 2005</u>	Mid- <u>July 2003</u>	<u>March 2002</u>	<u>March 2001</u>	<u>Sept 1999</u>	<u>June 1996</u>
61	Favor	68	64	67	66	74	78
27	Oppose	24	30	26	27	22	18
<u>12</u>	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
100		100	100	100	100	100	100

<sup>11</sup> The trend from July 2005 and before was part of a series of items. The question was worded: "I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in this country today. All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?"

I just have a few more questions that will be used for statistical purposes.

**ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=748]:**

**COMPUTER** Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home or anywhere else on at least an occasional basis?

**ASK ALL:**

**INTERNET** Do you ever go online to access the Internet or World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

	<i>Computer User</i>			<b>Based on Total Respondents:</b> <i>Goes Online</i>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
Late November, 2005	77	23	*=100	72	28	*=100
September, 2005	77	22	1=100	72	27	1=100
June, 2005	77	23	*=100	69	31	*=100
Late May, 2005	76	24	*=100	70	29	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	78	22	*=100	72	28	0=100
December, 2004	80	20	*=100	72	28	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	79	21	*=100	72	28	*=100
Early September, 2004	78	22	*=100	72	28	*=100
August, 2004	75	25	*=100	68	32	0=100
April, 2004	73	27	0=100	66	34	*=100
March, 2004 <sup>12</sup>	75	25	*=100	68	32	*=100
August, 2003	77	23	*=100	67	33	*=100
Mid-July, 2003	75	25	*=100	65	35	*=100
June, 2003	75	25	0=100	67	33	0=100
January, 2003	76	24	0=100	67	33	*=100
December, 2002	76	24	*=100	67	33	*=100
Early October, 2002	75	25	*=100	63	37	*=100
August, 2002	78	22	*=100	69	31	*=100
June, 2002	74	26	*=100	66	34	*=100
May, 2002	75	25	*=100	66	34	*=100
April, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2002	71	29	*=100	62	38	0=100
January, 2002	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-November, 2001	73	27	0=100	62	38	0=100
Mid-September, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	*=100
June, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
May, 2001	75	25	*=100	64	36	0=100
April, 2001	72	28	*=100	62	38	0=100
February, 2001	72	28	0=100	60	40	*=100
January, 2001	71	29	*=100	61	39	0=100
July, 2000	68	31	1=100	55	45	*=100
June, 2000	68	31	1=100	56	44	*=100
April, 2000	68	32	*=100	54	46	*=100
March, 2000 <sup>13</sup>	72	28	0=100	61	39	0=100
February, 2000	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
January, 2000	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100

<sup>12</sup> Beginning in 2004, the online use question is asked of all respondents (in previous years it was asked only of those who identified themselves as computer users). This modification was made to adjust to changes in technology and means of access to the Internet, and increases the percent who are classified as Internet users by 1-2 percentage points.

<sup>13</sup> In March 2000, "or anywhere else" was added to the question wording.

**COMPUTER CONTINUED...**

**Based on Total Respondents:**

	<i>Computer User</i>			<i>Goes Online</i>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
December, 1999	67	33	*=100	53	47	0=100
October, 1999	67	33	*=100	50	50	0=100
Late September, 1999	68	32	*=100	52	48	*=100
September, 1999	70	30	*=100	53	47	0=100
August, 1999	67	33	*=100	52	48	0=100
July, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	0=100
June, 1999	64	35	1=100	50	50	*=100
May, 1999	66	33	1=100	48	52	0=100
April, 1999	71	29	*=100	51	49	*=100
March, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
February, 1999	68	32	*=100	49	51	*=100
January, 1999	69	31	*=100	47	53	*=100
Early December, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	0=100
November, 1998	--	--	--	37	63	*=100
Early September, 1998	64	36	*=100	42	58	*=100
Late August, 1998	66	34	0=100	43	57	*=100
Early August, 1998	66	34	*=100	41	59	*=100
April, 1998	61	39	*=100	36	64	0=100
January, 1998	65	35	*=100	37	63	0=100
November, 1997	66	34	*=100	36	63	1=100
June, 1997	60	40	0=100	29	71	0=100
Early September, 1996	56	44	*=100	22	78	0=100
July, 1996	56	44	*=100	23	77	0=100
April, 1996	58	42	*=100	21	79	*=100
March, 1996	61	39	*=100	22	78	0=100
February, 1996	60	40	0=100	21	79	*=100
January, 1996	59	41	0=100	21	79	0=100
June, 1995 <sup>14</sup>	--	--	--	14	86	*=100

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<sup>14</sup> The 1995 figure combines responses from two separate questions: (1) Do you or anyone in your household ever use a modem to connect to any computer bulletin boards, information services such as CompuServe or Prodigy, or other computers at other locations? (IF YES, PROBE: Is that you, someone else or both?) (2) Do you, yourself, ever use a computer at (work) (school) (work or school) to connect with computer bulletin boards, information services such as America Online or Prodigy, or other computers over the Internet?

**IF R ATTENDS RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT LEAST ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH  
(ATTEND=1,2,3) ASK [N=770]:**

Q.44 Does the clergy at your place of worship ever speak out on the issue of **(READ AND RANDOMIZE)**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK</u>
a. Abortion	52	45	3=100
October, 2003	63	35	2=100
June, 1996	60	39	1=100
b. The situation in Iraq	50	47	3=100
October, 2003	53	45	2=100
March, 2003 <sup>15</sup>	57	41	2=100
c. The death penalty	27	69	4=100
October, 2003	28	69	3=100
June, 1996	27	70	3=100
d. Assisted suicide or end-of-life decisions	33	64	3=100
June, 1996 <sup>16</sup>	29	66	5=100

**ASK ALL:**

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)	Don't know
				No Preference	Other Party	
Late November, 2005	27	34	29	5	1	4=100
Early November, 2005	28	34	31	5	*	2=100
Late October, 2005	29	33	31	5	*	2=100
Early October, 2005	26	34	34	4	*	2=100
September 8-11, 2005	31	32	33	3	*	1=100
September 6-7, 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

<sup>15</sup> In March 2003 the question was not asked as part of a list and was worded: "Has the clergy at your place of worship spoken recently about the issue of war with Iraq, or not?"

<sup>16</sup> In June 1996, the item was worded "right to die laws."



**PARTY CONTINUED...**

					(VOL)	(VOL)
				No	Other	Don't
<i>Yearly Totals</i>	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<u>Preference</u>	<u>Party</u>	<u>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
<i>2001 Post-Sept 11</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3=100</i>
<i>2001 Pre-Sept 11</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>*</i>	<i>2=100</i>
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>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	<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>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<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>	<u>Refused to lean</u>
Late November, 2005	9	13	17=39%
Early November, 2005	11	14	13=38%
Late October, 2005	11	15	12=38%
Early October, 2005	11	18	11=40%
September 8-11, 2005	10	18	9=37%
September 6-7, 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%