

# Survey Questionnaire

## Religion and Public Life, 2000-2004

This study is based on two national telephone surveys of randomly selected adults aged 18 and older. The tracking survey included 1,004 adults and was conducted between July 28 and August 2, 2004; it averaged 13 minutes in length. The baseline survey, which was published in a 2000 Public Agenda report entitled *For Goodness' Sake: Why So Many Want Religion to Play a Greater Role in American Life*, included 1,507 adults and was conducted between November 4 and November 25, 2000; it averaged 30 minutes in length. The margin of error for both surveys is plus or minus three percentage points; it is higher when comparing percentages across subgroups.

Results of less than 0.5 are signified by an asterisk (\*). Results of zero are signified by a dash (-). Responses may not always total 100% due to rounding. Combining answer categories may produce slight discrepancies between the numbers in these survey results and the numbers in the press release.

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %		2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>1</b>			<b>How important an influence is your religious faith in your life—is it the most important influence, a very important influence, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?</b>		
			Most important	28	28
			Very important	40	40
			Somewhat important	22	17
			Not too important	6	8
			Not at all important	4	7
			Don't know	*	*
<b>2</b>			<b>When elected officials who are deeply religious have to vote on issues related to the DEATH PENALTY, do you think that:</b>		
			They should base their vote on their own religious views	31	36
			They should be willing to compromise with other elected officials whose views are different	60	55
			[Vol.] Depends on the elected officials' religious views	5	3
			Don't know	4	6
<b>3</b>			<b>[Base: Should base DEATH PENALTY votes on their own religious views]</b>	(n=450)	(n=357)
			<b>Would you want them to base their vote on their religious views even if their religious views were totally different from yours?</b>		
			Yes	67	76
			No	28	21
			Don't know	6	3
<b>4</b>			<b>When elected officials who are deeply religious have to vote on issues related to POVERTY AND WELFARE, do you think that:</b>		
			They should base their vote on their own religious views	24	27
			They should be willing to compromise with other elected officials whose views are different	68	66
			[Vol.] Depends on the elected officials' religious views	5	4
			Don't know	3	3
<b>5</b>			<b>[Base: Should base poverty and welfare votes on their own religious views]</b>	(n=350)	(n=270)
			<b>Would you want them to base their vote on their religious views even if their religious views were totally different from yours?</b>		
			Yes	71	83
			No	26	15
			Don't know	3	2
<b>6</b>			<b>When elected officials who are deeply religious have to vote on issues related to ABORTION, do you think that:</b>		
			They should base their vote on their own religious views	35	42
			They should be willing to compromise with other elected officials whose views are different	57	51
			[Vol.] Depends on the elected officials' religious views	5	3
			Don't know	4	4

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>7</b> <i>[Base: Should base ABORTION votes on their own religious views]</i> (n=478) (n=413)		
<b>Would you want them to base their vote on their religious views even if their religious views were totally different from yours?</b>		
Yes	65	80
No	31	18
Don't know	4	3
<b>8</b> <b>When elected officials who are deeply religious have to vote on issues related to GAY RIGHTS, do you think that:</b>		
They should base their vote on their own religious views	31	38
They should be willing to compromise with other elected officials whose views are different	60	54
[Vol.] Depends on the elected officials' religious views	4	4
Don't know	5	4
<b>9</b> <i>[Base: Elected officials should base GAY RIGHTS votes on their own religious views]</i> (n=440) (n=370)		
<b>Would you want them to base their vote on their religious views even if their religious views were totally different from yours?</b>		
Yes	67	82
No	27	15
Don't know	6	3
<b>10</b> <b>When elected officials who are deeply religious have to vote on issues related TO GAY MARRIAGE IN PARTICULAR, do you think that:</b>		
They should base their vote on their own religious views	N/A	38
They should be willing to compromise with other elected officials whose views are different	N/A	53
[Vol.] Depends on the elected officials' religious views	N/A	4
Don't know	N/A	5

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>11</b> <i>[Base: Elected officials should base GAY MARRIAGE votes on their own religious views]</i> (n=374)		
<b>Would you want them to base their vote on their religious views even if their religious views were totally different from yours?</b>		
Yes	N/A	84
No	N/A	15
Don't know	N/A	1
<b>12</b> <b>If many more of our elected officials were deeply religious, do you think that the laws and policy decisions they make would probably be better, would probably be worse, or would be neither better nor worse?</b>		
Probably better	47	45
Probably worse	11	17
Neither better nor worse	39	33
Don't know	4	5
<b>13</b> <b>How close does this statement come to your own view: Even elected officials who are deeply religious sometimes have to make compromises and set their convictions aside to get results while in government—is this very close, somewhat close, not too close, or not close at all to your own view?</b>		
Very close	46	38
Somewhat close	38	37
Not too close	7	10
Not close at all	8	14
Don't know	2	2
<b>14</b> <b>How close does this statement come to your own view: When politicians talk about their religious faith during elections, they are just saying what they think people want to hear—is this very close, somewhat close, not too close, or not close at all to your own view?</b>		
Very close	39	35
Somewhat close	35	35
Not too close	13	12
Not close at all	10	13
Don't know	3	5

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>15 Do you think that voters should seriously consider the religious affiliation of candidates when they decide whom to support, or is it wrong to do so?</b>		
Should seriously consider religious affiliation	37	42
It's wrong to do so	58	52
Don't know	5	5
<b>16 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office who draws emotional comfort and strength from religion, or would this make no difference to you?</b>		
More likely	52	50
Less likely	7	5
No difference	39	43
Don't know	2	2
<b>17 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office who always votes for legislation according to his or her religious convictions, or would this make no difference to you?</b>		
More likely	26	27
Less likely	40	34
No difference	29	35
Don't know	5	4
<b>18 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office who keeps religious faith separate from actions while in government, or would this make no difference to you?</b>		
More likely	40	41
Less likely	24	22
No difference	33	35
Don't know	3	3
<b>19 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office who is open about NOT believing in God, or would this make no difference to you?</b>		
More likely	11	11
Less likely	54	52
No difference	33	35
Don't know	3	2

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>20 Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for political office who relies on church leaders for advice on how to vote on specific legislation, or would this make no difference to you?</b>		
More likely	25	21
Less likely	44	39
No difference	29	38
Don't know	3	2
<b>21 Can you tell me the specific religious affiliation of President George W. Bush?</b>		
[Vol.] "Methodist"	6	8
[Vol.] "Born Again"	7	2
[Vol.] "Protestant"	10	11
[Vol.] "Christian"	N/A	18
[Vol.] Incorrect response	14	18
Don't know	64	43
<b>22 Can you tell me the specific religious affiliation of the Democratic nominee for President, John Kerry?</b>		
[Vol.] "Catholic" or "Roman Catholic"	N/A	37
[Vol.] "Christian"	N/A	4
[Vol.] Incorrect response	N/A	4
Don't know	N/A	56
<b>23 Which statement comes closer to your own view?</b>		
The nation needs more politicians with honesty and integrity—it does not need more politicians who are religious	48	48
If more politicians were religious, they would be more likely to be honest and have integrity	49	48
Don't know	4	4
<b>24 Would you like the news media to devote more attention to the religious backgrounds and beliefs of candidates running for elected office, less attention, or should things stay the same?</b>		
More attention	26	25
Less attention	22	32
Stay the same	50	41
Don't know	2	2

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<p><b>[Now I'm going to ask you some questions about religious leaders and their role in politics. By "religious leaders" we mean people like ministers, priests, or rabbis, not elected officials who are religious.]</b></p>		
<b>25</b>	<p><b>How close does this statement describe your own view about religious leaders who regularly speak out on political issues: These religious leaders have as much right as anyone else to participate in the political process—is that very close, somewhat close, not too close or not close at all to your own view?</b></p>	
	Very close	55 54
	Somewhat close	30 29
	Not too close	8 7
	Not close at all	6 8
	Don't know	2 2
<b>26</b>	<p><b>How close does this statement describe your own view about religious leaders who regularly speak out on political issues: When these religious leaders speak out, they are intruding into areas that are best left to politicians—is that very close, somewhat close, not too close or not close at all to your own view?</b></p>	
	Very close	16 18
	Somewhat close	32 24
	Not too close	23 24
	Not close at all	25 31
	Don't know	3 3
<b>27</b>	<p><b>Do you think that our political system would be threatened if religious leaders and groups were to become a lot more involved in politics, or do you think our political system could easily handle this type of involvement?</b></p>	
	Political system would be threatened	31 33
	Political system could easily handle this	63 61
	Don't know	6 7

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>28</b>	<p><i>[Base: Political system could easily handle this]</i> (n=936) (n=605)</p> <p><b>What if these religious leaders and groups were fundamentalist or ultra-orthodox? Do you think that our political system would be threatened, or could it easily handle this type of involvement?</b></p>	
	Political system would be threatened	21 25
	Political system could easily handle this	70 68
	Don't know	9 8
<b>29</b>	<p><b>If more religious leaders were to take public positions on specific legislation and urge their congregations to adopt their point of view, would you see this as positive, negative, or would you be neutral?</b></p>	
	Strongly positive	11 9
	Positive	14 14
	Neutral	50 47
	Negative	14 15
	Strongly negative	8 13
	Don't know	2 3
<b>30</b>	<p><b>And if more religious leaders were to urge their congregations to vote for the candidates they prefer, would you see this as positive, negative, or would you be neutral?</b></p>	
	Strongly positive	9 7
	Positive	10 11
	Neutral	46 39
	Negative	20 24
	Strongly negative	14 19
	Don't know	2 1
<b>30A</b>	<p><b>Suppose that a company has several deeply religious MUSLIM workers who need to take two or three breaks each day for religious observance. Do you think that the company should be required to give them the time they need, or is that not really the company's responsibility?</b></p>	
	<i>[Split sample]</i> (n=495) (n=329)	
	Company should be required to give them the time	42 38
	Not really the company's responsibility	50 57
	Don't know	8 5

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>30B</b> Suppose that a company has several deeply religious JEWISH workers who need to take two or three breaks each day for religious observance. Do you think that the company should be required to give them the time they need, or is that not really the company's responsibility?		
<i>[Split sample]</i>	(n=492)	(n=331)
Company should be required to give them the time	44	44
Not really the company's responsibility	50	50
Don't know	6	6
<b>30C</b> Suppose that a company has several deeply religious CHRISTIAN workers who need to take two or three breaks each day for religious observance. Do you think that the company should be required to give them the time they need, or is that not really the company's responsibility?		
<i>[Split sample]</i>	(n=490)	(n=329)
Company should be required to give them the time	33	32
Not really the company's responsibility	62	62
Don't know	5	5
<b>31</b> Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, Democrat, Independent, or something else?		
Republican	32	32
Democrat	33	29
Independent	25	27
Something else	10	11
Don't know	1	1
<b>32</b> <i>[Base: Independent]</i>	(n=360)	(n=265)
<b>Do you lean toward the Republican or Democratic party, or do you not lean either way?</b>		
Republican	23	24
Democrat	23	31
Don't lean either way	54	45
Don't know	*	*

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>33</b> These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district, or haven't you been able to register so far?		
Yes	N/A	85
No	N/A	15
Don't know	N/A	*
<b>34</b> Many people weren't able to vote in the 2000 election for President between George Bush, Al Gore, and Ralph Nader. How about you? Were you able to vote, or for some reason were you unable to vote?		
Voted	N/A	77
Did not vote	N/A	21
[Vol.] Ineligible/too young	N/A	2
Don't know/Can't Remember	N/A	1
<b>35</b> What are your chances of voting in the election for President this year: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?		
Almost certain	N/A	83
Probably	N/A	6
50-50	N/A	4
Will not vote	N/A	6
Don't know	N/A	*

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>36 What is your religious preference, if any?</b>		
No religion/secular	11	9
Agnostic	1	2
Atheist	1	1
Amish	-	-
Assemblies of God	1	1
Baha'i	*	-
Baptist	17	16
Born-again Christian	*	1
Brethren	*	-
Buddhist	1	*
Catholic	24	24
Charismatic	*	*
Christian	8	15
Christian Scientist	*	-
Church of God	1	*
Church of Christ	1	1
Congregational	*	*
Disciples of Christ	*	*
Dutch Reformed/Reformed	*	-
Episcopalian	1	1
Ethical Culture	-	-
Evangelical Christian	1	*
Friends	-	-
Greek Orthodox	*	-
Hindu	*	*
Holiness/Holy	*	-
Humanist	-	-
Islam	*	*
Jehovah's Witness	*	1
Jewish	1	1
Jew for Jesus/Messianic Jew	*	-
Latter Day Saints	1	1
Lutheran	5	4
Mennonite	-	-
Methodist	8	5
Mormon	1	1
Muslim	*	*
Nazarene	*	1
Pentecostal	2	2
Presbyterian	3	2
Protestant	5	7
Quaker	-	*
Reformed/Dutch Reformed	*	-
Russian Orthodox	*	-
Scientology	-	-

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
Seventh Day Adventist	*	1
Shintoist	*	-
Southern Baptist	1	1
Taoist	-	-
Unitarian	1	*
United Church of Christ	*	*
Wesleyan	*	*
Other Religion [specify]	2	2
Don't know	1	1
<b>37 Would you describe yourself as an EVANGELICAL Christian, or not?</b>		
Yes	25	26
No	75	74
<b>38 Would you describe yourself as a Born-Again Christian, or not?</b>		
Yes	N/A	37
No	N/A	63
<b>39 Which of the following comes closest to your view about deeply religious people:</b>		
They should spread the word of God whenever they can	35	41
They should be very careful about doing this so that they do not offend people	46	37
They should keep their faith a private matter altogether	18	21
Don't know	1	2
<b>40 How often, if ever, do you attend religious services—never, a few times a year, about once a month, nearly every week, every week, or more than once a week?</b>		
Never	13	12
A few times a year	24	25
About once a month	11	13
Nearly every week	14	14
Every week	22	24
More than once a week	15	12
Don't know	*	*

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>41 What is the highest level of school you completed?</b>		
Less than High School	6	5
High School graduate	26	26
Some College or Trade School, no degree	22	24
Associates or 2-year degree	12	11
Bachelor's or 4-year degree	22	22
Graduate degree	13	12
Don't know	-	*
<b>42 What is your age?</b>		
18-34	29	32
35-49*	35	31
50-64*	21	20
65+	15	17
Don't know	*	*
* Note: In 2000, age categories were 35-50 and 51-64, respectively.		
<b>43 Are you white, black or African American, Hispanic, Asian, or something else?</b>		
White	81	75
Black/African American	8	11
Hispanic	6	9
Asian	2	2
Something else	3	4
Don't know	*	-
<b>44 I'm going to read some ranges of annual household income. Please stop me when I read the one that best describes your total household income in [1999/2003].</b>		
\$15,000 or Under	11	11
\$15,001 to 25,000	13	12
\$25,001 to 35,000	16	14
\$35,001 to 50,000	19	19
\$50,001 to 75,000	20	20
Over \$75,000	17	21
Don't know	4	3
<b>Region</b>		
Northeast	20	18
Midwest	24	23
South	35	35
West	22	24

	2000 (n=1,507) %	2004 (n=1,004) %
<b>Urbanicity</b>		
Rural	23	24
Suburban	52	46
Urban	24	30
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	48	47
Female	52	53