

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE
2009 RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE**

Survey A: August 11-17, 2009, N=2,010

Survey B: August 20-27, 2009, N=2,003

Combined N=4,013

NOTE: QUESTION NUMBERING IS NOT CONTINUOUS BECAUSE SOME ITEMS HAVE BEEN PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

RANDOMIZE Q.145 a-c AS A BLOCK WITH Q.146a-b AND 147 AS A SEPARATE BLOCK

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.146 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose [READ IN ORDER]

And how about [INSERT NEXT ITEM]?

	-----FAVOR-----			-----OPPOSE-----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	Total	<i>Strongly Favor</i>	<i>Favor</i>	Total	<i>Strongly Oppose</i>	<i>Oppose</i>	
a. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry legally							
August 11-17, 2009	39	14	25	53	31	22	8
Mid-April 2009	35	14	21	54	31	23	11
August, 2008	39	13	26	52	30	22	9
June, 2008 ¹	40	15	25	52	31	21	8
Late May, 2008	38	15	23	49	29	20	13
November, 2007	36	12	24	54	29	25	10
August, 2007	36	13	23	55	31	24	9
Early January, 2007	37	13	24	55	33	22	8
Early November, 2006 (RVs)	30	10	20	57	31	26	13
July, 2006	35	12	23	56	31	25	9
June, 2006	33	13	20	55	32	23	12
March, 2006	39	10	29	51	28	23	10
July, 2005	36	13	23	53	31	22	11
December, 2004	32	14	18	61	38	23	7
August, 2004	29	8	21	60	35	25	11
July, 2004	32	10	22	56	33	23	12
Mid-March, 2004	32	10	22	59	35	24	9
Early February, 2004	30	9	21	63	42	21	7
November, 2003	30	10	20	62	41	21	8
October, 2003	30	9	21	58	33	25	12
Mid-July, 2003	38	10	28	53	30	23	9
March, 2001	35	8	27	57	34	23	8
June, 1996	27	6	21	65	41	24	8

¹ In May and June 2008, November 2007, June and July 2006, mid-March through August 2004, and October 2003, the question was not part of a list of items. In August 2008 and surveys conducted prior to May 2008, question asked about "allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally."

Q.146 CONTINUED...

	----FAVOR----			----OPPOSE----			(VOL.) DK/Ref
	<u>Total</u>	<i>Strongly</i>		<u>Total</u>	<i>Strongly</i>		
		<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>		<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	
b. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to enter into legal agreements with each other that would give them many of the same rights as married couples							
August 11-17, 2009	57	22	35	37	21	17	6
Mid-April 2009	53	20	33	39	21	18	8
August, 2008	54	18	36	40	21	19	6
Late May, 2008	51	21	30	41	25	16	8
July, 2006	54	19	35	42	24	18	4
July, 2005	53	22	31	40	24	16	7
August, 2004	48	15	33	45	24	21	7
July, 2004	49	18	31	43	25	18	8
Mid-March, 2004	49	16	33	44	26	18	7
October, 2003	45	14	31	47	27	20	8

ASK SURVEY A IF SUPPORT GAY MARRIAGE (1,2 IN Q.146a) [N=757]:

Q.147 Which of these statements comes closer to your view... [READ AND RANDOMIZE]

		July 2006
42	Supporters of gay marriage should not push too hard to make it legal right away, because doing so could create bad feelings against homosexuals OR Supporters of gay marriage should push hard to make it legal as soon as possible, despite the risk of creating bad feelings against homosexuals	41
45		51
13	Don't know/refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]	8

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Moving on...

Q.170 Just your impression, in the United States today, is there a lot of discrimination against [INSERT; RANDOMIZE; OBSERVE FORM SPLITS], or not? And is there a lot of discrimination against [INSERT NEXT ITEM], or not?

	Yes, there is a <u>lot of discrimination</u>	No, there is not <u>a lot of discrimination</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Evangelical Christians	27	56	17
b. Muslims	58	29	13
c. Jews	35	54	11
d. Atheists, that is, people who don't believe in God	26	59	14
e. Mormons	24	56	20

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY A ONLY [N=1011]:

f. Blacks	49	46	5
g. Gays and lesbians	64	30	6

Q.170 CONTINUED...		Yes, there is a <u>lot of discrimination</u>	No, there is not <u>a lot of discrimination</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY A ONLY [N=999]:				
h.	Hispanics	52	41	7
i.	Women	37	59	4

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

On another subject...

Q.180 Do you personally believe that [INSERT ITEM AND RANDOMIZE] is morally acceptable, morally wrong, or is it not a moral issue. [IF NECESSARY] And is [INSERT ITEM] morally acceptable, morally wrong, or is it not a moral issue?

		<u>Morally Acceptable</u>	<u>Morally Wrong</u>	<u>Not a Moral Issue</u>	(VOL.) <u>Depends on the Situation</u>	(VOL.) <u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
a.	Having an abortion					
	August 11-17, 2009	10	52	25	8	4
	February, 2006	12	52	23	11	2
b.	Homosexual behavior					
	August 11-17, 2009	9	49	35	2	6
	February, 2006	12	50	33	1	4

**ASK FORM 1 SURVEY A ONLY
[N=1001]:**

c.	Divorce					
	August 11-17, 2009	20	29	40	6	4

**ASK FORM 2 SURVEY A ONLY
[N=999]:**

d.	Drinking alcohol					
	August 11-17, 2009	20	15	56	6	3

ASK ALL:

RELIG What is your present religion, if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?

[INTERVIEWER: IF R VOLUNTEERS “nothing in particular, none, no religion, etc.” BEFORE REACHING END OF LIST, PROMPT WITH: And would you say that’s atheist, agnostic, or just nothing in particular?]

IF SOMETHING ELSE, NOTHING IN PARTICULAR OR DK/REF (RELIG=11, 12, 99) ASK:

CHR Do you think of yourself as a Christian or not?

- 40 Protestant (Baptist, Methodist, Non-denominational, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Episcopalian, Reformed, Church of Christ, Jehovah’s Witness, etc.)
- 23 Roman Catholic (Catholic)
- 2 Mormon (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints/LDS)
- * Orthodox (Greek, Russian, or some other orthodox church)
- 2 Jewish (Judaism)
- * Muslim (Islam)
- 1 Buddhist
- * Hindu
- 2 Atheist (do not believe in God)
- 3 Agnostic (not sure if there is a God)
- 2 Something else (**SPECIFY**)
- 12 Nothing in particular
- 11 Christian (**VOL.**)
- * Unitarian (Universalist) (**VOL.**)
- 2 Don’t Know/Refused (**VOL.**)

IF CHRISTIAN (RELIG=1-4, 13 OR ((RELIG=11 OR RELIG=99) AND CHR=1)):

BORN Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?

BASED ON TOTAL

- 34 Yes, would
- 40 No, would not
- 4 Don't know/Refused (**VOL.**)
- 78% Christian

ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

NOTE: ATTEND FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.

	More than <u>once a week</u>	Once <u>a week</u>	Once or twice <u>a month</u>	A few times <u>a year</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
August 11-27, 2009	14	23	16	18	16	11	1
August, 2008	13	26	16	19	15	10	1
Aug, 2007	14	26	16	18	16	9	1
July, 2006	15	25	15	18	14	12	1
July, 2005	14	27	14	19	14	11	1
Aug, 2004	13	25	15	20	15	11	1
July, 2003	16	27	15	18	14	10	*

ATTEND CONTINUED...

	<u>More than once a week</u>	<u>Once a week</u>	<u>Once or twice a month</u>	<u>A few times a year</u>	<u>Seldom</u>	<u>Never</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
March, 2003	15	24	15	21	15	9	1
March, 2002	15	25	17	18	15	9	1
Mid-Nov, 2001	16	26	14	17	16	10	1
March, 2001	17	26	17	17	15	7	1
Sept, 2000 (<i>RVs</i>)	17	28	16	17	13	8	1
June, 1997	12	26	17	20	15	10	*
June, 1996	14	25	17	21	13	9	1