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# Many Americans Hear Politics From the Pulpit 

More say their clergy have spoken out about issues than about specific presidential candidates

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# Many Americans Hear Politics From the Pulpit More say their clergy have spoken out about issues than about specific presidential candidates 

As the calendar turned from spring to summer and the political season transitioned from the primaries to the general election campaign, many American churchgoers were hearing at least some discussion of social and political issues from the pulpits at their houses of worship, a new Pew Research Center survey finds. Religious liberty and homosexuality were chief among the issues they were hearing about, with four-in-ten saying they heard from clergy on each of these topics during the spring and early summer. Roughly three-in-ten say their clergy talked about abortion, similar to the share who heard about immigration. And one-in-five churchgoers reported hearing about the environment and economic inequality.

In the new survey, conducted online and by mail June 5-July 7 among a nationally representative sample of 4,602 adults, $40 \%$ of Americans reported attending religious services at least once or twice in the few months before the poll was conducted. Within this group, about two-thirds ( $64 \%$ ) say they heard clergy at their church or other place of worship speak about at least one of the six social and political issues mentioned in the survey, with nearly half (46\%) indicating that religious leaders had spoken out on multiple issues.

Fewer recent churchgoers (14\%) say they heard their clergy speak directly in support of or against a specific presidential candidate in the months leading up to the survey. Black Protestants were particularly likely to hear this type of message: Among black Protestants who have been in church recently, roughly three-in-ten (29\%) have heard clergy speak out in support of a candidate mostly Hillary Clinton - and an equal share have heard religious leaders speak out against a candidate (primarily Donald Trump). Smaller shares of Catholic, white evangelical Protestant and white mainline Protestant churchgoers - roughly one-in-ten or fewer - say their clergy have publicly supported or opposed particular candidates.

When it comes to specific political issues, the ideological tenor of messages emanating from pulpits varies by topic. About three-in-ten people who recently attended religious services say they heard clergy speak out in defense of religious liberty - a position mainly associated with political conservatives in the U.S. in recent years - while just $2 \%$ say their clergy contended that religious liberty is not really under attack (although 6\% say they heard both messages). Recent churchgoers also have heard a more conservative perspective on abortion; 22\% say they have heard religious leaders speak out against abortion and just $3 \%$ have heard clergy argue primarily in support of abortion rights.

By contrast, Americans report hearing mainly traditionally liberal ideas in their houses of worship about immigration and

## Americans hear mostly conservative tone from pulpit about religious liberty and abortion, more liberal take on immigration and the environment

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, \% who say the clergy have spoken out about ...

| Religious liberty | In defense of religious liberty | Don't believe it is under attack | Both | NET |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 32\% | 2\% | 6\% | 40\% |
|  | Against abortion | In support of abortion rights |  |  |
| Abortion | 22 | 3 | 4 | 29 |
|  | Need stricter enforcement | Need to welcome/ support immigrants |  |  |
| Immigration | 4 | 19 | 4 | 27 |
| Environmental issues | Against environmental regulations | Need to protect environment |  |  |
|  | \| 1 | 16 | 4 | 22 |
| Homosexuality | Against homosexuality | To encourage acceptance |  |  |
|  | 20 | 12 | 7 | 39 |
| Economic inequality | In support of capitalismfree markets | On the problem of econ. inequality |  |  |
|  |  | 10 | 4 | 18 |

Note: Figures may not add to subtotals indicated due to rounding.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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the environment. Roughly one-in-five of those who have attended religious services recently say their clergy have spoken out about the need to be welcoming and supportive toward immigrants, compared with just $4 \%$ whose clergy have expressed a desire mainly for stricter immigration enforcement. And while $16 \%$ say religious leaders have spoken out in favor of protecting the environment, just $1 \%$ say they have heard their clergy speak out only against environmental regulations.

When it comes to homosexuality and economic inequality, there are more even splits in the types of messages people say they get from their clergy. For instance, one-in-five adults who attended
religious services in the months leading up to the survey say their clergy spoke out against homosexuality, but $12 \%$ say their clergy urged acceptance of gays and lesbians, and an additional $7 \%$ say they heard both types of messages.

Most people surveyed say political speech is the exception, not the rule, in their churches, synagogues, mosques or other houses of worship. Indeed, more than three-quarters of those who attended religious services in the months leading up to the survey say their clergy discussed social and political issues only sometimes, rarely or never. Just 7\% say their clergy "often" speak out on social and political issues. Furthermore, the U.S. Internal Revenue Code places limits on the political activities of taxexempt nonprofit organizations, including churches; they are prohibited from coming out in favor of one candidate over another (though not from discussing political issues) if they wish to retain their tax-exempt status.

Still, some Americans - 14\% of those who attended religious services in the spring and early summer - say their clergy have spoken out in support of, or in opposition to, one of the presidential candidates during this campaign season. One-in-ten (9\%) say they have heard clergy speak out in support of a candidate, including $6 \%$ who say they heard support for Hillary Clinton and $1 \%$ who heard support for Donald Trump. A similar share of churchgoers (11\%) say they have heard religious leaders speak out against a candidate, including $7 \%$ who say their clergy have come out in opposition to Trump and $4 \%$ who have heard opposition to Clinton. These figures include some people (6\%) who have heard both types of arguments.

Compared with other groups, black Protestant churchgoers report hearing more direct talk about candidates from church leaders. They have heard much more support for Clinton (28\%) than for Trump (2\%) and have heard clergy speak out against

## Half say clergy rarely or never talk politics

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, \% who say the clergy ___ speak out about social and political issues

|  | $\%$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Often | 7 |
| Sometimes | 29 |
| Rarely or never | 49 |
| DK/Ref | $\underline{15}$ |
|  | 100 |

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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## Few hear clergy speak out about candidates

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, \% saying clergy have spoken out ...

| In support of or against a <br> presidential candidate <br> (or both) |  |
| :--- | :---: |
| $\quad$ In support of | 14 |
| Against | 9 |

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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PEW RESEARCH CENTER Trump (20\%) more often than against Clinton (7\%). Smaller shares of white evangelical Protestant churchgoers report hearing their clergy speak out in support of (4\%) or against (7\%) specific
candidates, and the message is more mixed; for instance, $2 \%$ have heard clergy speak out against Trump and $2 \%$ say clergy spoke out in support of him.

## Religious liberty, homosexuality among issues addressed by clergy

The issues and messages that churchgoers hear about during services vary somewhat by religious tradition. ${ }^{1}$ White evangelical Protestants who have attended services in recent months are particularly likely to say they have heard clergy address the issue of religious liberty. About half (49\%) have heard their clergy speak out about this topic, compared with roughly four-in-ten Catholic churchgoers (38\%) and about a third of white mainline Protestants (36\%) and black Protestants (32\%). ${ }^{2}$

Substantial shares of white evangelical (46\%), white mainline (35\%) and black Protestants (39\%) have heard clergy talk about homosexuality in recent months, but the messages differ across the three traditions. Nearly twice as many mainline Protestant churchgoers have heard clergy encourage the acceptance of gays and lesbians (21\%) as have heard religious leaders speak out against homosexuality (11\%). But white evangelicals and black Protestants are more likely to say they have heard clergy preach against homosexuality than speak out in favor of acceptance; in fact, fully a third of white evangelicals say their clergy have spoken out primarily against homosexuality, compared with $6 \%$ who have heard church leaders urge acceptance of gays and lesbians.

White evangelicals and Catholics are more likely than white mainline and black Protestants to have recently heard clergy speak out against abortion. For both groups, the message is consistently conservative. A third of white evangelical churchgoers and roughly three-in-ten Catholics who have attended Mass recently say they have heard religious leaders argue against abortion, while very few ( $1 \%$ and $2 \%$, respectively) have heard clergy speak in support of abortion rights.

While Catholics report hearing mostly conservative messages from the pulpit on the issues of religious liberty and abortion, they tend to hear more liberal messages about immigration and the environment. About a third of Catholic churchgoers have heard clergy speak out about the need to be welcoming and supportive of immigrants in recent months, compared with only $3 \%$ who heard clergy talk solely about a need for stricter immigration enforcement. And about a quarter of Catholics heard church leaders talk about the need to protect the environment, while fewer than $1 \%$ heard a message primarily against environmental regulations.

[^1]
## Half of white evangelical churchgoers hear clergy speak out about religious liberty

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, $\%$ who say the clergy have spoken out about ...
NET Religious liberty
In defense of religious liberty
To say they don't believe it is under attack
Both
NET Homosexuality
Against homosexuality
To encourage acceptance of gays and lesbians
Both
NET Abortion
Against abortion
In support of abortion rights
Both
NET Immigration
About need to welcome/support immigrants
About need for stricter immigration enforcement
Both
NET Environmental issues
About the need to protect the environment
Against environmental regulations
Both
NET Economic inequality
On the problem of economic inequality
In defense of capitalism or free markets
Both

| All recent <br> attendees | White <br> $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | White <br> Protestant <br> evangelical |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 40 | 42 | 49 | 36 | 32 | Black <br> mainline |
| Protestant |  |  |  |  |  | | Catholic |
| :---: |

Note: Figures may not add to subtotals indicated due to rounding. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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When given the chance to name any other political or social issues that clergy have spoken out about in recent months (aside from those the survey mentioned directly), most Americans who have attended religious services recently (81\%) did not name any additional topics. Among those who did, a wide variety of issues were mentioned, including $5 \%$ who mentioned social welfare issues such as LGBT issues, topics having to do with poverty, hunger or homelessness, or equal rights or anti-discrimination. Another $4 \%$ mentioned topics having to do with religious and moral issues, such as acceptance and tolerance more generally, and a similar share ( $4 \%$ ) mentioned a variety of political or policy issues like the upcoming presidential election, terrorism or foreign policy. ${ }^{3}$

[^2]
## Churches and the 2016 campaign: Many say their clergy encourage voting, but not necessarily for a particular candidate

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services at least once or twice in recent months, about a third (32\%) say the clergy at their place of worship encouraged people in the congregation to vote in a primary or participate in a caucus, and four-in-ten say religious leaders have encouraged congregants to vote in the general election for president.

Fully half of black Protestant churchgoers say their clergy encouraged them to vote during the primaries, and about six-in-ten say their clergy have already encouraged them to vote in the general election. Nearly half of white evangelical Protestants (46\%) have also been encouraged to vote in the upcoming election, while fewer white mainline Protestants and Catholics say their clergy already have urged them to cast a ballot this fall.

## Four-in-ten churchgoers say clergy have encouraged congregation to vote in November

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, \% who say the clergy at their place of worship have encouraged people in the congregation to ...

|  | Vote in a <br> primary/ <br> participate in <br> a caucus <br> $\%$ | Vote in the <br> general <br> election for <br> president |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| All recent attendees | 32 | $\%$ |
| Protestant | 34 | 40 |
| White evangelical | 33 | 43 |
| White mainline | 22 | 46 |
| Black Protestant | 50 | 27 |
| Catholic | 25 | 59 |

Note: Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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While many churchgoers have heard their clergy encouraging people to go out and vote, only about one-in-ten say they have heard direct support for (9\%) or opposition to (11\%) a specific candidate. Among those who have heard religious leaders speak out for a candidate, Hillary Clinton is the name mentioned most often, with $6 \%$ of recent churchgoers saying their clergy have spoken out in support of her in the past few months. Donald Trump's name is most commonly mentioned among those who have heard clergy speak out against a particular candidate; $7 \%$ have heard him mentioned in this context.

## Three-in-ten black Protestant churchgoers have heard their clergy support Clinton, one-in-five have heard opposition to Trump

Among U.S. adults who have attended religious services in the past few months, $\%$ who say the clergy at their place of worship have spoken out in support of or against a specific candidate or candidates

|  | All recent <br> attendees | Protestant | White <br> evangelical | White <br> mainline | Black <br> Protestant | Catholic |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NET In support of at least one candidate | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ | $\%$ |
| Hillary Clinton | 6 | $\mathbf{9}$ | $\mathbf{4}$ | $\mathbf{2}$ | $\mathbf{2 9}$ | $\mathbf{6}$ |
| Donald Trump | 7 | 2 | $<1$ | 28 | 5 |  |
| Other | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | $<1$ |
| NET Against at least one candidate | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 2 |
| Hillary Clinton | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{1 1}$ | $\mathbf{7}$ | $\mathbf{5}$ | $\mathbf{2 9}$ | $\mathbf{8}$ |
| Donald Trump | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 |
| Other | 7 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 20 | 7 |

[^3]Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted June 7-July 5, 2016.
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Compared with other groups, black Protestants are more apt to say they have heard their clergy speak out directly about political candidates. Fully $28 \%$ of black Protestants say their clergy spoke out in support of Clinton in recent months, and an additional 8\% say church leaders supported Bernie Sanders. In addition, one-in-five black Protestants say their clergy have spoken out against Donald Trump, and 7\% have heard religious leaders speak out against Clinton.

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## Methodology

## Survey conducted June 7-July 5, 2016

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by the Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults living in households. Respondents who selfidentify as internet users and who provided an email address participate in the panel via monthly self-administered Web surveys, and those who do not use the internet or decline to provide an email address participate via the mail. The panel is being managed by Abt SRBI.

The analysis in this report is based on 4,602 respondents, including 2,258 respondents who said they had attended religious services at least once or twice in the previous few months, who participated in the June 7-July 5, 2016, wave of the panel (4,172 by Web and 430 by mail). The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 4,602 respondents is plus or minus 2.3 percentage points and the margin of sampling error among recent churchgoers is plus or minus 3.3 percentage points.

Members of the American Trends Panel were recruited from two large, national landline and cellphone random-digit-dial (RDD) surveys conducted in English and Spanish. At the end of each survey, respondents were invited to join the panel. The first group of panelists were recruited from the 2014 Political Polarization and Typology Survey, conducted Jan. 23-March 16, 2014. Of the 10,013 adults interviewed, 9,809 were invited to take part in the panel and a total of 5,338 agreed to participate. 4 The second group of panelists were recruited from the 2015 Survey on Government, conducted Aug. 27-Oct. 4, 2015. Of the 6,004 adults interviewed, all were invited to join the panel, and 2,976 agreed to participate. 5

Participating panelists provided either a mailing address or an email address to which a welcome packet, a monetary incentive and future survey invitations could be sent. Panelists also receive a small monetary incentive after participating in each wave of the survey.

The Web component of the June 7-July 5, 2016, wave had a response rate of 82\% (4,172 responses among 5,071 Web-based individuals in the panel); the mail component had a response rate of $75 \%$ (430 responses among 574 non-Web individuals in the panel). Taking account of the combined,

[^4]weighted response rate for the recruitment surveys (10.0\%) and attrition from panel members who were removed at their request or for inactivity, the cumulative response rate for the June 7 -July 5 , 2016, ATP wave is $2.9 \%{ }^{6}$

The ATP data were weighted in a multi-step process that begins with a base weight incorporating the respondents' original survey selection probability and the fact that in 2014 some panelists were subsampled for invitation to the panel. Next, an adjustment was made for the fact that the propensity to join the panel and remain an active panelist varied across different groups in the sample. The final step in the weighting uses an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race, Hispanic origin and region to parameters from the U.S. Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey. Population density is weighted to match the 2010 U.S. Decennial Census. Telephone service is weighted to estimates of telephone coverage for 2016 that were projected from the July-December 2015 National Health Interview Survey. Volunteerism is weighted to match the 2013 Current Population Survey Volunteer Supplement. It also adjusts for party affiliation using an average of the three most recent Pew Research Center general public telephone surveys. Internet access is adjusted using a measure from the 2015 Survey on Government. Frequency of internet use is weighted to an estimate of daily internet use projected to 2016 from the 2013 Current Population Survey Computer and Internet Use Supplement. Sampling errors and statistical tests of significance take into account the effect of weighting. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish, but the Hispanic sample in the American Trends Panel is predominantly native born and English speaking.

[^5]The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the $95 \%$ level of confidence for different groups in the survey:

| Survey conducted June 7-July 5, 2016 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group | Unweighted sample size | Plus or minus ... |
| Total sample | 4,602 | 2.3 percentage points |
| Protestant | 2,095 | 3.4 percentage points |
| White evangelical | 877 | 5.2 percentage points |
| White mainline | 712 | 5.8 percentage points |
| Black Protestant | 282 | 9.2 percentage points |
| Catholic | 833 | 5.4 percentage points |
| Attended religious services in the past few months | 2,258 | 3.3 percentage points |
| Protestant | 1,362 | 4.2 percentage points |
| White evangelical | 683 | 5.9 percentage points |
| White mainline | 344 | 8.3 percentage points |
| Black Protestant | 194 | 11.1 percentage points |
| Catholic | 511 | 6.8 percentage points |

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request.

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.

Pew Research Center undertakes all polling activity, including calls to mobile telephone numbers, in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and other applicable laws.

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2016 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL WAVE 18 June FINAL TOPLINE
June 7 - July 5, 2016
TOTAL N= 4,602
WEB RESPONDENTS \(\mathbf{N}=4,172\)
MAIL RESPONDENTS \(\mathbf{N}=43 \mathbf{4}^{7}\)
```


## OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

## ASK ALL:

ATTEND_FEW Have you attended religious services at least once or twice in the past few months?

| June 7-July 5 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2016}{40}$ | Yes |
| 58 | No |
| 2 | No answer |

## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

CLERGY_ABORT In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out...
[RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]

```
June 7-July 5
2016
22 Against abortion
3 In support of abortion rights
4 Both
70 Neither
1 No answer
```


## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

## [ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]

CLERGY_IMMIG In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out... [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]

| June 7-July 5 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2016}{19}$ |  |
| 4 | About the need to be welcoming and supportive of immigrants |
| 4 | About the need for stricter immigration enforcement |
| 71 | Both |
| 1 | Neither |
|  | No answer |

[^6]```
ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)
[N= 2,258]:
CLERGY_LIBERTY In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out...
                            [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]
June 7-July 5
    2016
    32 In defense of religious liberty
    2 To say they don't really believe religious liberty is under attack
        6 Both
        59 Neither
        1 No answer
```

```
ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)
[N=2,258]:
CLERGY ECON
    In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out...
    [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]
```

June 7-July 5
2016
10 On the problem of economic inequality
4 In defense of capitalism or free markets
4 Both
80 Neither
2 No answer

## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

## [ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]:

CLERGY_ENVIRON In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out... [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]

June 7-July 5

2016
16 About the need to protect the environment
$1 \quad$ Against environmental regulations
4 Both

76 Neither
2 No answer

ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

| June 7-July 5 |  |
| :---: | :--- |
| $\frac{2016}{20}$ | Against homosexuality |
| 12 | To encourage acceptance of gays and lesbians |
| 7 | Both |
| 59 | Neither |
| 2 | No answer |

## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

## [ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]:

CLERGY_OTHER Are there any other social or political issues that clergy at your place of worship have spoken out about in the past few months?

## NOTE: RESULTS MAY NOT SUM TO 100\% OR TO SUBTOTALS INDICATED BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE PERMITTED

```
June 7-July 5
2016
5 NET Social welfare issues
2 LGBT issues
1 Poverty, hunger and homelessness; caring for those in need
1 Equal rights and anti-discrimination
1 Family issues
<1 Abortion
<1 General concern for country/world
<1 Racism
NET Religious and moral issues
1 Acceptance/love/tolerance/being welcoming
1 Follow God/Jesus/the Bible/religion
1 Religious liberty/religious freedom/religious persecution
1 America is declining in morals or religious belief/country needs religion
NET Political and policy issues
1 Voting and the election/presidential candidates
1 Terrorism and violence
1 Foreign policy/war/need for peace
1 Immigration and refugees
<1 Gun control and gun violence
<1 Healthcare and health issues
1 Other
<1 Uncodeable
81 No
5 No answer
```

ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

|  | Yes | No | No answer |
| :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a.Vote in a presidential primary or <br> participate in a caucus? <br> June 7-July 5, 2016 | 32 | 66 | 2 |
| b.Vote in the general election for <br> president? <br> June 7-July 5, 2016 | 40 | 57 | 2 |

## [RANDOMIZE THE ORDER OF CLERGY_SUPPORT, CLERGY_SUPPORT2 AND CLERGY_AGAINST, CLERGY_AGAINST2]

ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)
[ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]:
CLERGY_SUPPORT In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out IN SUPPORT of a presidential candidate or candidates?

ASK IF "CLERGY HAS SPOKEN OUT IN SUPPORT" (CLERGY_SUPPORT=1) [N=129]:
CLERGY_SUPPORT2 Which presidential candidate or candidates has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out in support of?[Check all that apply] [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 5]

## BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS

NOTE: RESULTS DO NOT SUM TO SUBTOTALS INDICATED BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES WERE PERMITTED

June 7-July 5
$\underline{2016}$
9
1

6
1
3
1
$<1$

2

NET Yes, clergy member did speak out in favor of candidates
Spoke out in favor of Donald Trump
Spoke out in favor of Hillary Clinton
Spoke out in favor of Ted Cruz
Spoke out in favor of Bernie Sanders
Spoke out in favor of John Kasich
Spoke out in favor of Other, specify:
No
No answer

## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

## [ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]:

CLERGY_AGAINST In the past few months, has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out AGAINST a presidential candidate or candidates?

ASK IF "CLERGY HAS SPOKEN OUT AGAINST" (CLERGY_AGAINST=1) [N=190]:

## CLERGY_AGAINST2

Which presidential candidate or candidates has the clergy at your place of worship spoken out against? [Check all that apply] [RANDOMIZE OPTIONS 1 THROUGH 5]

## BASED ON THOSE WHO HAVE ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS

## NOTE: RESULTS DO NOT SUM TO SUBTOTALS INDICATED BECAUSE MULTIPLE RESPONSES

 WERE PERMITTED| June 7-July 5 <br> $\frac{2016}{11}$ <br>  <br> 7 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 4 | NET Yes, clergy member did speak out against candidates |
| 4 | Spoke out against Donald Trump |
| 2 | Spoke out against Hillary Clinton |
| 2 | Spoke out against Ted Cruz |
| 1 | Spoke out against Bernie Sanders |
| $<1$ | Spoke out against John Kasich |
| 86 | Spoke out against Other, specify: |
| 2 | No answer |

## ASK IF "ATTENDED RELIGIOUS SERVICES IN PAST FEW MONTHS" (ATTEND_FEW=1)

## [ $\mathrm{N}=2,258$ ]:

CLERGY_SPK In general, how much do the clergy at your place of worship speak out about social and political issues? [REVERSE SCALE ORDER FOR RANDOM ½ OF SAMPLE]

June 7-July 5

2016
7 Often
29
49
14
1

Sometimes
Rarely or never
Not sure
No answer


[^0]:    11/2/16: This report has been revised to include updated data in categorizing white Protestants into the "white evangelical Protestant" and "white mainline Protestant" categories. Originally, the report relied partly on data from a previous wave of the American Trends Panel to make these categorizations.

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ For more detail on social and political views and partisan identity by religious tradition in the U.S., see the July 2016 Pew Research Center report "Evangelicals Rally to Trump, Religious "Nones' Back Clinton" and Chapter 4 in the 2015 Pew Research Center report "U.S. Public Becoming Less Religious."
    ${ }^{2}$ Members of all major U.S. religious groups who said they have attended religious services recently were included in the full sample, but the sample sizes of smaller groups such as Jews, Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists were not large enough to separately analyze what these groups are hearing from their clergy.

[^2]:    ${ }^{3}$ See topline for full results on this question.

[^3]:    Note: Figures may not add to subtotals because multiple responses were permitted. Whites and blacks include only those who are not Hispanic.

[^4]:    ${ }^{4}$ When data collection for the 2014 Political Polarization and Typology Survey began, non-internet users were subsampled at a rate of $25 \%$, but a decision was made shortly thereafter to invite all non-internet users to join. In total, $83 \%$ of non-internet users were invited to join the panel.
    ${ }^{5}$ Respondents to the 2014 Political Polarization and Typology Survey who indicated that they are internet users but refused to provide an email address were initially permitted to participate in the American Trends Panel by mail, but were no longer permitted to join the panel after Feb. 6, 2014. Internet users from the 2015 Survey on Government who refused to provide an email address were not permitted to join the panel.

[^5]:    ${ }^{6}$ Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves are removed from the panel. These cases are counted in the denominator of cumulative response rates.

[^6]:    7
    Question wording in this topline is that from the web version of the survey. Question wording and format was adapted for the paper questionnaire delivered by mail; this questionnaire is available on request. All questions asked in both modes unless noted

