

2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 190: Press Freedom
March 23-29, 2026

Questionnaire (English)

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("Don't know" in phone mode) and 99 ("Refusal" in phone mode and "No answer" in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

CODEBOOK FOR ATP SAMPLE VARIABLES TO BE USED IN SURVEY PROGRAMMING LOGIC

X_FORM

1 Form 1

2 Form 2

Note: Flag to randomly assign panelists to one of two forms (Form 1, Form 2) and weight within form
Source: Randomly assigned for each survey.

-----**MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE**-----
-----**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**
-----**TXT: KNOWLEDGEQ_PREFACE**
DISPLAY TO ALL:

The next few questions are a little different. For each, please answer them as best as you can. We want to measure what you already know. Please do not look up the answers or ask someone else. If you don't know the answer, you can select "Not sure."

QUE: KNOW_FA1**ASK ALL:**

[PN: RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

Which of the following is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 The right to bear arms
- 2 Freedom to own property
- 3 The right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness
- 4 Freedom of the press {CORRECT}

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 5 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
 - 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused
-

QUE: KNOW_FA2**ASK ALL:**

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

Which of the following is true in the U.S.?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 It is legal for social media companies to restrict content posted on their sites or apps {CORRECT}
- 2 It is not legal for social media companies to restrict content posted on their sites or apps

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: KNOW_FA3

ASK ALL:

Can the U.S. government legally force social media companies to remove false information posted on their sites or apps?

[PN: IF CATI:] **(READ LIST)**

1 Yes

2 No {CORRECT}

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

3 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: KNOW_FA4

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] As you may know, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of the press.

[PN: IF WEB:] As far as you know, does the U.S. Constitution...

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] As you may know, the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guarantees freedom of the press. As far as you know, does the U.S. Constitution **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] Does the U.S. Constitution **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)**

BATTERY ITEMS:

GOV Protect the press from interference by the U.S. government

PRIV Protect the press from interference by private companies

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Yes {CORRECT FOR GOV}

2 No {CORRECT FOR PRIV}

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

3 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

[PN: DISABLE THE "BACK" BUTTON ON THIS SCREEN. RESPONDENTS SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BACK UP TO THE PREVIOUS SCREEN.]

BAT: KNOW_FA5

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] Is each of the following protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution?

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] Is each of the following protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution? First, **(INSERT ITEM)**. Is this protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution? **(READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] Next, **(INSERT ITEM)**. **(READ AS NECESSARY: Is this protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution? (READ LIST))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

NEWS Information or opinions published by news organizations

INFL Information or opinions expressed by influencers or creators

ORD Information or opinions expressed by ordinary people

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Yes {CORRECT}

2 No

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

[PN: DISABLE THE "BACK" BUTTON ON THIS SCREEN. RESPONDENTS SHOULD NOT BE ABLE TO BACK UP TO THE PREVIOUS SCREEN.]

2026 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
Wave 195: Press Freedom
June 22-28, 2026

Questionnaire (English)

Note: The questions presented below are part of a larger survey conducted on the American Trends Panel. For all questions, the 98 ("Don't know" in phone mode) and 99 ("Refusal" in phone mode and "No answer" in web mode) codes are combined in the data for analytical purposes.

PN = Programming note

CODEBOOK FOR ATP SAMPLE VARIABLES TO BE USED IN SURVEY PROGRAMMING LOGIC

X_FORM

1 Form 1

2 Form 2

Note: Flag to randomly assign panelists to one of two forms (Form 1, Form 2) and weight within form
Source: Randomly assigned for each survey.

-----**MAIN QUESTIONNAIRE BEGINS HERE**-----
-----**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**
-----**QUE: POLFREE**

{New; based on POLINTOL W48 4-19}

ASK ALL:**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**In the U.S., how free do you think people who share your political views are to openly express those views?**[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)**

- 1 Extremely free
- 2 Very free
- 3 Somewhat free
- 4 A little free
- 5 Not at all free

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 6 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: NEWSSOCIETY

{W164 2-25, W145 4-24}

ASK ALL:**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

Overall, how important do you think the freedom of the press is to the well-being of society?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Extremely important
- 2 Very important
- 3 Somewhat important
- 4 A little important
- 5 Not at all important
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: FREEDOM

{W164 2-25, mod W145 4-24}

ASK ALL:**[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]****[PN: IF WEB:]** In the U.S....**[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:]** In the U.S., **(INSERT ITEM) (READ LIST)****[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:]** Next, in the U.S., **(INSERT ITEM) (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)****BATTERY ITEMS:**

PRESS How free is the media to report the news? {W164 2-25, mod W145 4-24}

SAY How free are people to say what they want? {W164 2-25, mod W145 4-24}

INTERNET How free are people to use the internet? {W164 2-25, mod W145 4-24}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Completely free

2 Somewhat free

3 Not very free

4 Not at all free

98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused**QUE: NEWSRESTRICT**

{Split form; mod W164 2-25 to change "press freedoms" to "freedom of the press", W145 4-24, based on JRESTRICT}

ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

How concerned are you, if at all, about potential restrictions on freedom of the press in the United States?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

1 Extremely concerned

2 Very concerned

3 Somewhat concerned

4 A little concerned

5 Not at all concerned

98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: NEWSRESTRICTBAT

{Split form; new}

ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]****[PN: IF WEB:]** How concerned are you, if at all, about potential restrictions on each of the following in the United States?**[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:]** How concerned are you, if at all, about potential restrictions on each of the following in the United States? First, **(INSERT ITEM)**. Are you **(READ LIST)**?**[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:]** Next, **(INSERT ITEM)**. **(READ AS NECESSARY:** How concerned are you, if at all, about potential restrictions on this in the United States? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))****BATTERY ITEMS:**

REL	Freedom of religion {new}
PRESS	Freedom of the press {heavy mod NEWSRESTRICT W164 2-25, W145 4-24}
ARMS	The right to bear arms {new}
VOTE	The right to vote {new}
ASSEM	Freedom for people to assemble peacefully {new}
SPEECH	Freedom of speech {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1	Extremely concerned
2	Very concerned
3	Somewhat concerned
4	A little concerned
5	Not at all concerned
98	[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
99	[PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: PRESSFREE

{New}

ASK ALL:**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

Which of these statements comes closer to your views, even if neither is exactly right?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

1	It is more important for the press to be free to report the news, even if some reporting is inaccurate
2	It is more important to prevent inaccurate reporting, even if it limits freedom of the press
98	[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Don't know
99	[PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

BAT: PFNEWS

{New}

ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]**

[PN: IF WEB:] Do you think the U.S. government should be able to require a news organization to take down a news story if it...

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] Do you think the U.S. government should be able to require a news organization to take down a news story if it **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] What about if it **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ AS NECESSARY: Do you think the U.S. government should be able to require a news organization to take down a news story in this case? (READ LIST))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

FALSE	Contains false information {new}
POL	Clearly favors one political side {new}
CRITIC	Is critical of the government {new}
NATSEC	Poses a risk to national security {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Yes, the U.S. government should be able to do this
 2 No, the U.S. government should not be able to do this

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PFPOST

{New}

ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]**

[PN: IF WEB:] Do you think a U.S. social media company should be able to take down someone's post if it...

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] Do you think a U.S. social media company should be able to take down someone's post if it **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] What about if it **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ AS NECESSARY)**: Do you think a U.S. social media company should be able to take down someone's post in this case? **(READ LIST)**

BATTERY ITEMS:

FALSE	Contains false information {new}
POL	Clearly favors one political side {new}
CRITIC	Is critical of the government {new}
NATSEC	Poses a risk to national security {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Yes, a U.S. social media company should be able to do this
 2 No, a U.S. social media company should not be able to do this

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

3 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PFFALSE

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] If a U.S. news organization publishes false information, when, if ever, do you think...

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] If a U.S. news organization publishes false information, when, if ever, do you think **(INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] When, if ever, do you think **(INSERT ITEM)?**

(READ AS NECESSARY: If a U.S. news organization publishes false information, when, if ever, do you think this should happen? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

CORRECT	The news organization should issue a public correction {new}
FIRE	The news organization should fire the journalist who reported the story {new}
FINE	The U.S. government should fine the news organization {new}
REMOVE	The U.S. government should require the news organization to take down the story {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1	In all or almost all cases
2	In most cases
3	In some cases
4	In few cases
5	In no or almost no cases

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

6 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?

99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PFGOVT

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST;
INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] How often, if ever, is it acceptable for the U.S. government to...

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How often, if ever, is it acceptable for the U.S. government to **(INSERT ITEM)**? Is it **(READ LIST)**?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] Next, for the U.S. government to **(INSERT ITEM)**.

(READ AS NECESSARY: How often, if ever, is it acceptable for the U.S. government to do this? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

SOURCE	Force journalists to reveal the identity of unnamed government sources {new}
LICENSE	Take away a news organization's license to broadcast {new}
ACCESS	Give journalists access to public officials in exchange for positive coverage {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Always acceptable
- 2 Usually acceptable
- 3 Sometimes acceptable
- 4 Rarely acceptable
- 5 Never acceptable

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

6 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PFNEWSORG

{New}

ASK ALL:

[**PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS PFGOVT, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE**]

[**PN: IF WEB:**] How often, if ever, is it acceptable for U.S. news organizations to...

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How often, if ever, is it acceptable for U.S. news organizations to **(INSERT ITEM)**? Is it **(READ LIST)**?

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] Next, for U.S. news organizations to **(INSERT ITEM)**.

(READ AS NECESSARY: How often, if ever, is it acceptable for U.S. news organizations to do this? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

ANON	Keep a source's identity secret {new}
LEAK	Publish confidential information from government sources {new}
ARR	Record police or other law enforcement officers making an arrest in public {new}
MED	Publish information about a politician's personal life {new}
MIL	Publish classified details about military operations during an active conflict {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Always acceptable
- 2 Usually acceptable
- 3 Sometimes acceptable
- 4 Rarely acceptable
- 5 Never acceptable

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

6 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Not sure [**PN: IF CATI:**] Or are you not sure?

99 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Web blank / [**PN: IF CATI:**] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

[PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NEWSCORP/NEWSCORPINFL AND NEWSGOVT/NEWSGOVTINFL; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

QUE: NEWSCORP

{W164 2-25, W145 4-24; heavy mod NEWSFINCORP W72 8-20}

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

How much, if at all, do you think that U.S. news organizations are influenced by corporations and financial interests?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

5 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

BAT: NEWSCORPINFL

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSCORP, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] How much do you think corporate and financial interests influence...

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] How much do you think corporate and financial interests influence (INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] Next, how much do you think corporate and financial interests influence (INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

BATTERY ITEMS:

ACC The accuracy of the news {new}
 STORY Which news stories get covered {new}
 BAL The balance of political perspectives in the news {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

5 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

[PN: RANDOMIZE ORDER OF NEWSCORP/NEWSCORPINFL AND
NEWSGOVT/NEWSGOVTINFL; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION IN DATA FILE]

QUE: NEWSGOVT

{W164 2-25, W145 4-24}

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSCORP, HOLDING 5
AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

How much, if at all, do you think that U.S. news organizations are influenced by government
and political interests?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

5 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

BAT: NEWSGOVTINFL

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSCORPINFL; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS
1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS NEWSCORP, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE
RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] How much do you think government and political interests influence...

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:] How much do you think government and political
interests influence (INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST)

[PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:] Next, how much do you think
government and political interests influence (INSERT ITEM)? (READ LIST IF NECESSARY)

BATTERY ITEMS:

ACC The accuracy of the news {new}
STORY Which news stories get covered {new}
BAL The balance of political perspectives in the news {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not very much
- 4 Not at all

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

5 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?

99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ) Refused

QUE: POWNERCORP

{Split form; new}

ASK IF FORM 1 (X_FORM=1):**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN2, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

How acceptable or unacceptable do you think it is for the owner of a U.S. news organization to stop it from publishing a story because it goes against the owner's business interests?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Completely acceptable
- 2 Somewhat acceptable
- 3 Somewhat unacceptable
- 4 Completely unacceptable

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]5 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused**QUE: POWNERPOL**

{Split form; new}

ASK IF FORM 2 (X_FORM=2):**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN2, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**

How acceptable or unacceptable do you think it is for the owner of a U.S. news organization to stop it from publishing a story because it goes against the owner's political interests?

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 Completely acceptable
- 2 Somewhat acceptable
- 3 Somewhat unacceptable
- 4 Completely unacceptable

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]5 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUE: NEWSPOW

{New}

ASK ALL:**[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 98, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]**How much power and influence in politics today do U.S. news organizations have?**[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)**

- 1 Too much power and influence
- 2 Not enough power and influence
- 3 About the right amount
- 98 **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Don't know
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: NEWSCENSOR

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN, HOLDING 6 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

[PN: IF WEB:] How often, if ever, do you think each of the following intentionally keeps important news from reaching the American public?

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How often, if ever, do you think each of the following intentionally keeps important news from reaching the American public? First, **(INSERT ITEM). (READ LIST)**

[PN: IF CATI: **READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] What about **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ AS NECESSARY:** How often, if ever, do you think they intentionally keep important news from reaching the American public? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY))**

BATTERY ITEMS:

SM Social media companies {new}
 NEWS News organizations {new}
 JOUR Individual journalists {new}
 GOVT The U.S. government {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

1 Extremely often
 2 Often
 3 Sometimes
 4 Rarely
 5 Never

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

6 [PN: IF WEB:] Not sure [PN: IF CATI:] Or are you not sure?
 99 [PN: IF WEB:] Web blank / [PN: IF CATI:] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

BAT: PFCRITIC

{New}

ASK ALL:

[**PN: RANDOMIZE ITEMS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-4/4-1 IN SAME ORDER AS ROTATION_GEN2, HOLDING 5 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE**]

[**PN: IF WEB:**] How acceptable or unacceptable do you think it is for...

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR FIRST ITEM:**] How acceptable or unacceptable do you think it is for **(INSERT ITEM)**? Is it **(READ LIST)**?

[**PN: IF CATI: READ FOR SUBSEQUENT ITEMS:**] Next, how acceptable or unacceptable do you think it is for **(INSERT ITEM)**? **(READ LIST IF NECESSARY)**

BATTERY ITEMS:

POL Politicians to publicly criticize news organizations and journalists {new}

JOUR News organizations and journalists to publicly criticize politicians {new}

RESPONSE CATEGORIES:

- 1 Completely acceptable
- 2 Somewhat acceptable
- 3 Somewhat unacceptable
- 4 Completely unacceptable

[**PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE**]

5 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Not sure [**PN: IF CATI:**] Or are you not sure?

99 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Web blank / [**PN: IF CATI:**] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

[**PN: DISPLAY TO ALL:**]

Now we'd like to ask about the current presidential administration.

QUE: MEDIA_ADMIN25

{W164 2-25}

ASK ALL:

[**PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT SHOWN IN PARENS; ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-5/5-1, HOLDING 98 AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE RANDOMIZATION AND ROTATION IN DATA FILE**]

Do you think that [**PN: RANDOMIZE INSERT** "the Trump administration and the U.S. news media"; "the U.S. news media and the Trump administration"] currently have a...

[**PN: IF CATI:**] **(READ LIST)**

- 1 Very good relationship
- 2 Somewhat good relationship
- 3 Neutral relationship
- 4 Somewhat bad relationship
- 5 Very bad relationship

98 [**PN: IF CATI:**] **(DO NOT READ)** Don't know

99 [**PN: IF WEB:**] Web blank / [**PN: IF CATI:**] **(DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: PFADMIN1

{New}

ASK ALL:

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 4, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

During this Trump administration, would you say...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 The press has become more free
- 2 The press has become less free
- 3 There has been no change

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 4 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused

QUE: PFADMIN2

{New}

ASK IF THINKS PRESS IS MORE OR LESS FREE (PFADMIN1=1,2):

[PN: ROTATE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1-2/2-1, HOLDING 3, 4, AND 99 LAST; INCLUDE ROTATION IN DATA FILE]

And, do you think **[PN: IF PFADMIN1=1 INSERT "the press becoming more free"; IF PFADMIN1=2 INSERT "the press becoming less free"]** is...

[PN: IF CATI:] (READ LIST)

- 1 A good thing for the country
- 2 A bad thing for the country
- 3 Neither a good nor bad thing for the country

[PN: INSERT A LINE OF SPACE]

- 4 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Not sure **[PN: IF CATI:]** Or are you not sure?
- 99 **[PN: IF WEB:]** Web blank / **[PN: IF CATI:] (DO NOT READ)** Refused