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Church-State Concerns Persist

FAITH-BASED PROGRAMS STILL POPULAR, LESS VISIBLE

Results from the
2009 Annual Religion and Public Life Survey

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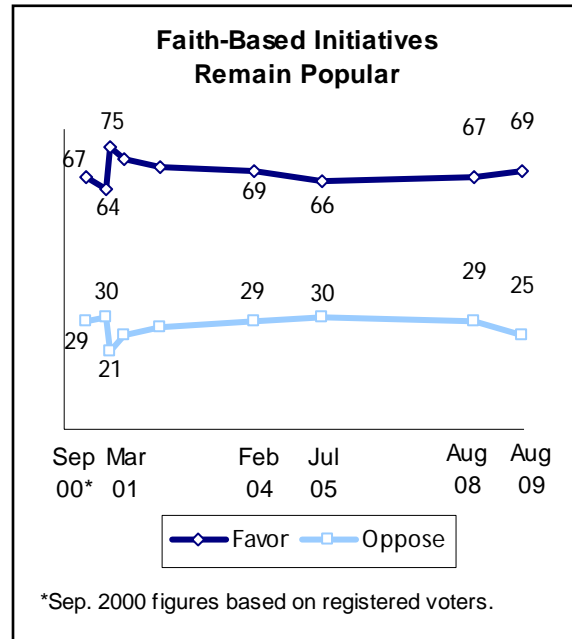
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Church-State Concerns Persist

FAITH-BASED PROGRAMS STILL POPULAR, LESS VISIBLE

More than eight years after former President George W. Bush unveiled his faith-based initiative to make it easier for religious groups to receive government funding to provide social services, the policy continues to draw broad public support. But as was the case when Bush first announced the initiative, many Americans express concerns about blurring the lines between church and state.

Currently, 69% of Americans say they favor allowing churches and other houses of worship, along with other organizations, to apply for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling. Just 25% oppose allowing faith-based groups to seek government funding to help the needy.



Support is somewhat below the peak of 75% measured in March 2001 when Bush made the faith-based initiative a key piece of his early agenda. Notably, Republicans are less supportive of this program now than they were during the early months of the Bush administration. Currently, 66% of Republicans favor allowing houses of worship to seek government funding to provide social services, down from 81% in March 2001. By contrast, more Democrats favor this than did so in 2001 (77% now vs. 70% then). As a result of these shifts, Democrats are now more supportive of this program than are Republicans, according to a survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, conducted Aug. 11-27 among 4,013 adults reached on both landlines and cell phones.

As a candidate in 2008, then-Sen. Barack Obama backed the concept of faith-based initiatives, while vowing to revamp the Bush-era program. Yet it was not a major issue during last year's campaign, which was dominated at first by the war in Iraq and then by the economy. Indeed, most Americans are unaware of President Obama's – and Bush's – positions regarding faith-based funding. Just 27% know that Obama favors allowing houses of worship to apply for government funding to provide social services; 18% incorrectly say that Obama opposes this

policy, while more than half (54%) give no answer. Bush’s stance is not much better known: just 36% know that Bush favored such a policy.

The public’s concerns about government funding for faith-based organizations – and people’s assessments of the potential benefits – have changed very little since 2001. A majority of the public views the possibility that the government might get too involved in religious organizations as an important concern (69%). And a smaller but still sizeable majority views the idea that people who receive help from faith-based groups might be forced to take part in religious practices as an important concern (60%). Roughly half see interference with the separation between church and state (52%) as an important concern, and nearly as many say the same about the possibility that such programs might not meet the same standards as government programs (48%) and that they might increase religious divisions (47%).

In addition, about three-quarters (74%) say religious organizations that receive government funds to provide services should not be able to hire only people who share their religious beliefs, a long-running point of contention in the debate.

At the same time, the survey finds strong support for several arguments in favor of funding these programs. The need for a range of service options and the potential that the people providing the services would be more caring and compassionate are cited most often as important reasons for favoring such programs (78% and 68%, respectively).

The public expresses reservations about certain religious groups vying for government dollars. While majorities think that most religions or denominations should be able to apply for government funding to provide social services, more than half (52%) say they oppose allowing Muslim mosques to apply for government funding. That is up slightly from 46% in March 2001. There is even greater opposition to allowing groups that encourage religious conversion as part of the services they provide to apply for government funding. More than six-in-ten (63%) oppose those groups being allowed to seek government funding, not much different from the 59% that said the same in 2001.

When people are asked generally whether religious organizations, non-religious organizations or the government can do the best job providing services for the needy, a plurality (37%) chooses religious organizations. That is up slightly from 2008 (31%) and matches the percentage expressing this view in 2001.

More Say Religious Groups Are Best Able To Feed the Homeless

<i>Which group can do the best job?</i>	March 2001	Aug 2009	<i>Change</i>
	%	%	
Religious organization	40	52	+12
Non-religious group	25	21	-4
Fed/state gov't agency	28	21	-7
None/Don't know	7	6	
	100	100	

Q261d. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Yet there has been a sharp increase since 2001 in the proportion saying that religious organizations could do the best job of feeding the homeless. Currently, 52% say religious organizations could do the best job in feeding the homeless, compared with 21% who say a non-religious group and the same percentage who say a federal or state government agency. In March 2001, 40% said that religious organizations could best provide this service, while a quarter (25%) said a non-religious group and 28% cited a federal or state government agency.

With the economy struggling, nearly one-in-ten Americans (9%) say they recently have turned to religious groups to help make ends meet. That is comparable with the 7% that say they have sought help from non-religious community organizations.

Minorities and people with low family incomes are more likely than others to report receiving assistance from religious groups in order to make ends meet: 15% of African-Americans and 17% of Hispanics have turned to their church or another house of worship for aid, compared with 6% of non-Hispanic whites. Blacks also are more likely than whites to say they have sought help from non-religious organizations (12% vs. 6%).

	House of worship %	Non-religious organization %
Total	9	7
White non-Hispanic	6	6
Black non-Hispanic	15	12
Hispanic	17	10
<i>Family income</i>		
\$75,000 or more	2	2
\$30,000-74,999	5	6
Less than \$30,000	20	16
Q115f-g.		

In addition, 20% of those in households earning less than \$30,000 a year say they have gotten help from their church or house of worship to make ends meet, while 16% say they have gotten help from non-religious community or volunteer organizations. Smaller proportions of those with higher incomes have relied on religious groups and non-religious organizations for help to make ends meet.

Groups Differ in Support for Faith-Based Programs

As was the case in March 2001, there are sizable age and racial differences in support for faith-based programs. Eight-in-ten (80%) of those younger than age 30 support the idea of allowing houses of worship to apply for government funds to provide social services. That compares with a smaller majority of those age 65 and older (56%).

While 85% of African-Americans support this policy, 65% of whites agree. Black support for faith-based initiatives is unchanged from March 2001, while white support has slipped by eight points. Among Hispanics, support for this policy is almost as high (80%) as among African-Americans.

Among religious groups, 65% of white evangelicals favor allowing churches to apply for government funds to provide social services, down from 77% in March 2001. White non-Hispanic Catholics have also become somewhat less supportive of such initiatives (72% currently vs. 81% in March 2001).

Support for Faith-Based Initiatives			
<i>Favor allowing faith-based groups to apply for gov't funding*</i>	March 2001	Aug 2009	01-09 change
	%	%	
Total	75	69	-6
18-29	83	80	-3
30-49	77	74	-3
50-64	72	63	-9
65+	59	56	-3
White**	73	65	-8
Black	84	85	+1
Hispanic	--	80	--
College grad+	71	66	-5
Some college	73	70	-3
HS or less	77	71	-6
Republican	81	66	-15
Democrat	70	77	+7
Independent	74	65	-9
Protestant	74	69	-5
White evangelical	77	65	-12
White mainline	65	63	-2
Black Protestant	84	88	+4
Catholic	81	74	-7
White Catholic	81	72	-9
Unaffiliated	66	62	-4

Q145a.
 * Allowing churches and other houses of worship, to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment to people who need them.
 ** Whites and blacks, including those in religious groups, are non-Hispanic.

Views of Funding for Specific Religious Groups

Public opinion continues to vary widely about which religious groups should be allowed to apply for government funding to provide services to the needy. As was the case eight years ago, majorities say religious charities (68%), Catholic churches (60%), individual houses of worship (59%), Protestant churches (56%), evangelical Christian churches (55%) and Jewish synagogues (52%) should be eligible for government funding.

But fewer than half (48%) favor allowing Mormon churches to apply for government funding to provide social services. And a majority (52%) opposes permitting Muslim mosques to be eligible for such funding; just 39% favor this. There is even greater opposition (63%) to allowing groups that encourage religious conversion as part of the services they provide to apply for government funding.

What Groups Should Be Eligible for Government Funds?			
	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%
Religious charities	68	27	5=100
Catholic churches	60	36	4=100
Individual houses of worship	59	36	6=100
Protestant churches	56	35	9=100
Evangelical Christian churches	55	38	7=100
Jewish synagogues	52	36	11=100
Mormon churches	48	43	9=100
Muslim mosques	39	52	9=100
Groups that encourage religious conversion	28	63	9=100

Q.262a-i. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Republicans and white evangelical Protestants are now more opposed to Muslim mosques being permitted to apply for government funding for social services than they were eight years ago. By more than two-to-one (64% to 30%), Republicans now oppose allowing Muslim mosques to apply for government funds to provide social services. In March 2001, 51% of Republicans opposed mosques being eligible for such finding while 37% favored this. Currently, 44% of independents and 41% of Democrats favor allowing Muslim mosques to apply for faith-based funding, little changed from 2001, when 44% of independents and 36% of Democrats favored allowing this.

Among religious groups, two-thirds of white evangelical Protestants (66%) say they oppose Muslim mosques being eligible for faith-based funding – up 14 points since 2001. There has been less change among members of other religious groups.

The public has consistently opposed allowing groups that encourage religious conversion to apply for federal funds to assist the needy. However, there is more support for this among African-Americans and Hispanics than among non-Hispanic whites.

Nearly four-in-ten African-Americans (39%) and 35% of Hispanics say that religious groups that encourage conversion should be eligible to apply for funding to provide social services, compared with just 25% of non-Hispanic whites. A similar divide between African-Americans and whites was evident in 2001, when 45% of blacks supported this and 30% of whites did so.

More Blacks, Hispanics Say Groups That Proselytize Should Be Eligible for Funds

	<u>Favor</u> %	<u>Oppose</u> %	<u>DK</u> %	<u>N</u>
Total	28	63	9=100	2003
White	25	66	8=100	1557
Black	39	50	11=100	160
Hispanic	35	54	12=100	149
Protestant	31	59	9=100	1099
White evangelical	33	60	7=100	465
White mainline	24	68	8=100	402
Black Protestant	40	47	13=100	135
Catholic	30	62	8=100	437
White Catholic	26	66	7=100	338
Unaffiliated	19	71	10=100	302

Q.262i. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

Religious Hiring Remains Unpopular

The public also continues to overwhelmingly reject the idea that religious groups that receive funding for social service programs should be able to hire only people who share their religious beliefs. Nearly three-quarters (74%) say religious groups that receive government funding should not be allowed to hire only people who share their religious beliefs, compared with 21% who say this should be allowed.

While the idea of religion-based hiring by funding recipients is widely opposed, relatively large minorities of Republicans (32%) and white evangelical Protestants (33%) say this practice should be permitted. By comparison, fewer than a quarter of those in other political or religious groups say that religious groups that receive government money to provide social services should be able to restrict hiring only to individuals who share their religious beliefs.

Should Groups Getting Government Funding Be Able To Limit Hiring To Those Who Share Their Religious Beliefs?

	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Total	21	74	5=100
Republican	32	62	5=100
Democrat	12	84	4=100
Independent	21	74	5=100
Protestant	26	68	6=100
White evangelical	33	61	6=100
White mainline	21	72	7=100
Black Protestant	15	80	4=100
Catholic	19	78	4=100
White Catholic	17	80	3=100
Unaffiliated	8	88	4=100

Q265. Figures may not add to 100% because of

Who Can Best Help the Needy?

Opinions about whether religious organizations – rather than non-religious groups or government agencies – can best provide services to needy people have changed very little since 2001, although there have been modest shifts since last year.

Currently, 37% say that religious organizations can do the best job of providing services to people in need; 28% say non-religious, community-based organizations can best perform this task; and 25% say federal and state government agencies can best provide services to the needy. The balance of opinion about this issue was nearly identical in 2001 (37% religious organizations, 28% government agencies and 27% non-religious groups). In 2008, roughly equal percentages said religious organizations (31%), government agencies (31%) and non-religious groups (29%) could best provide help for the needy.

Over the past year, these views have become considerably more partisan. Currently, more than half of Republicans (56%) say that religious organizations can best provide services to the needy, up 16 points from 2008 and higher than the percentage saying that in 2001 (49%). By contrast, opinions among Democrats and independents have changed little, when compared with either 2008 or 2001.

What Groups Can Do the Best Job of Providing Services for the Needy?

	March 2001	Aug 2008	Aug 2009
<i>Can do best job...</i>	%	%	%
Religious organizations	37	31	37
Non-religious organizations	27	29	28
Government agencies	28	31	25
None/Don't know	8	9	10
	100	100	100

Q260. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

More Republicans, White Evangelicals Say Religious Organizations Can Best Help Needy

	March 2001	Aug 2008	Aug 2009	08-09 <i>change</i>
<i>% saying religious orgs. can best help needy...</i>	%	%	%	
Total	37	31	37	+6
Republican	49	40	56	+16
Democrat	33	23	28	+5
Independent	32	31	32	+1
Protestant	44	36	47	+11
White evangelical	53	47	60	+13
White mainline	32	24	35	+11
Black Protestant	40	35	43	+8
Catholic	33	29	34	+5
White non-Hispanic	35	27	38	+11
Unaffiliated	18	17	19	+2

Q.260.

In addition, a clear majority (60%) of white evangelical Protestants now say that religious organizations can best perform this role, up 13 points from last year; in 2001, a smaller majority of white evangelicals (53%) expressed this view. White non-Hispanic Catholics also are more likely now than they were last year (38% now, 27% then) to view religious organizations as best able to serve the needy. But opinions among white non-Hispanic Catholics are about the same as in 2001 (35%).

Religious Groups Preferred for Feeding Homeless

A narrow majority of Americans (52%) now say that religious organizations can do the best job in feeding the homeless, while 21% name federal and state government agencies and the same number (21%) choose non-religious community-based groups. These opinions have changed substantially since 2001, when 40% named religious organizations, 28% said government agencies and 25% said non-religious community groups.

There have been smaller changes since 2001 in opinions about which organizations can best provide other specific social services. Notably, there have been declines in the percentages choosing federal and state government agencies in several areas, including as the best providers of health care (down 13 points) and job training (down 10 points). These changes are consistent with the declines in favorable ratings for both the federal government and state governments in recent years.

(See [Budget Woes Take Toll on Views of State Governments](#),” released Aug. 11, 2009).

Religious Groups Now Seen as Best Able To Feed the Homeless				
<i>Can do best job...</i>	Relig <u>org</u> %	Non-relig <u>group</u> %	Fed/state <u>gov't</u> %	None/ <u>DK</u> %
Feeding the homeless				
August 2009	52	21	21	6=100
March 2001	40	25	28	7=100
Mentoring young people				
August 2009	42	38	12	8=100
March 2001	40	39	15	6=100
Counseling teens about pregnancy				
August 2009	39	39	15	8=100
March 2001	39	42	12	7=100
Counseling/educating prisoners				
August 2009	38	23	31	8=100
March 2001	40	18	35	7=100
Child care				
August 2009	32	34	27	7=100
March 2001	29	32	29	10=100
Drug treatment				
August 2009	29	40	24	8=100
March 2001	27	36	31	6=100
Health care				
August 2009	12	34	43	11=100
March 2001	9	28	56	7=100
Job training				
August 2009	7	35	51	7=100
March 2001	5	28	61	6=100

Q 261a-i. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.

As with general views about which groups can best provide aid to the needy, opinions about who can best feed the homeless have become more partisan since 2001. Currently, 66% of Republicans say religious organizations can best carry out this task, up 20 points from eight years ago. More independents also say religious organizations can best feed the homeless – up from 39% in 2001 to 51% in the latest survey. Democrats’ views have changed little over this period (37% in 2001, 41% currently).

There have been changes in opinions among some religious groups as well. Majorities of white evangelicals (65%) and white non-Hispanic Catholics (54%) say religious organizations can do the best job in feeding the homeless; in 2001, 49% of white evangelicals and 42% of white non-Hispanic Catholics expressed this view.

More Partisan Views of Which Groups Can Do Best Job of Feeding the Homeless				
<i>Can do best job in feeding the homeless...</i>	Relig <u>org</u>	Non-relig <u>group</u>	Fed/state <u>gov't</u>	None/ <u>DK</u>
Aug 2009	%	%	%	%
Total	52	21	21	6=100
Republican	66	16	14	4=100
Democrat	41	23	32	4=100
Independent	51	25	17	7=100
<i>Rep-Dem difference</i>	+25	-7	-18	
March 2001				
Total	40	25	28	7=100
Republican	46	26	21	6=100
Democrat	37	24	34	6=100
Independent	39	26	30	5=100
<i>Rep-Dem difference</i>	+9	+2	-13	
Q 261d. Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.				

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 4,013 adults, 18 years of age or older. Interviews were conducted in two waves, the first from August 11-17, 2009 (Survey A) and the second from August 20-27, 2009 (Survey B). In total, 3,012 respondents were interviewed on a landline telephone, and 1,001 were interviewed on a cell phone, including 347 who had no landline telephone. Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish. Both the landline and cell phone samples were provided by Survey Sampling International. For detailed information about our survey methodology, see <http://people-press.org/methodology/>.

The combined landline and cell phone sample is weighted using an iterative technique that matches gender, age, education, race/ethnicity, region, and population density to parameters from the March 2008 Census Bureau's Current Population Survey. The sample is also weighted to match current patterns of telephone status and relative usage of landline and cell phones (for those with both), based on extrapolations from the 2008 National Health Interview Survey. The weighting procedure also accounts for the fact that respondents with both landline and cell phones have a greater probability of being included in the sample.

The following table shows the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey. The topline survey results included at the end of this report clearly indicate whether each question in the survey was asked of the full sample, Survey A only or Survey B only.

Group	Sample Size	Plus or minus...
Total sample	4,013	2.0 percentage points
Survey A	2,010	2.5 percentage points
Form 1	1,011	3.5 percentage points
Form 2	999	3.5 percentage points
Survey B	2,003	2.5 percentage points
Form 1	1,034	3.5 percentage points
Form 2	969	3.5 percentage points

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.

ABOUT THE PROJECTS

This survey is a joint effort of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life. Both organizations are sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts and are projects of the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan “fact tank” that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. The Center’s purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of the Center’s current survey results are made available free of charge.

The Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life seeks to promote a deeper understanding of issues at the intersection of religion and public affairs. It studies public opinion, demographics and other important aspects of religion and public life in the U.S. and around the world. It also provides a neutral venue for discussions of timely issues through roundtables and briefings.

This report is a collaborative product based on the input and analysis of the following individuals:

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**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

ASK ALL SURVEY A:

Q.115 And thinking about your personal finances, have you done any of the following lately? (First,) Have you **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE a-e BLOCK FIRST, THEN ASK f, THEN ASK g LAST]**, or not? **[IF RESPONDENT SAYS THIS DOES NOT APPLY, CODE AS NO]**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
f. Gotten help from your church or house of worship to help make ends meet August 11-17, 2009	9	91	*
g. Gotten help from a non-religious community or volunteer organization to help make ends meet August 11-17, 2009	7	93	*

Now, on some issues...

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

Q.145 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose **[READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM a. ALWAYS FIRST]**? And how about **[INSERT NEXT ITEM]**?

NOTE: Q.145a WAS ASKED AS Q.249 IN SURVEY B. Q.249 IS PRESENTED HERE WITH Q.145a.

	<u>-----FAVOR-----</u>			<u>-----OPPOSE-----</u>			<u>(VOL.)</u>
	<u>Strongly</u>			<u>Strongly</u>			
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling to people who need them							
August 11-27, 2009 ¹	69	25	44	25	10	16	5
August, 2008	67	26	41	29	10	19	4
July, 2005	66	25	41	30	8	22	4
February, 2004	69	28	41	29	10	19	2
March, 2002	70	26	44	27	9	18	3
June, 2001	72	30	42	25	10	15	3
March, 2001	75	30	45	21	8	13	4
February, 2001	64	28	36	30	11	19	6
September, 2000 (RVs)	67	32	35	29	12	17	4

ASK ALL:

a. Allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply, along with other organizations, for government funding to provide social services such as job training or drug treatment counseling to people who need them

August 11-27, 2009 ¹	69	25	44	25	10	16	5
August, 2008	67	26	41	29	10	19	4
July, 2005	66	25	41	30	8	22	4
February, 2004	69	28	41	29	10	19	2
March, 2002	70	26	44	27	9	18	3
June, 2001	72	30	42	25	10	15	3
March, 2001	75	30	45	21	8	13	4
February, 2001	64	28	36	30	11	19	6
September, 2000 (RVs)	67	32	35	29	12	17	4

1 Q.145a was asked as part of a list, while Q.249 was asked as a standalone question. The introduction to Q.249 read, "On another subject..."

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.260 In general, who do you think can do the best job of providing services to people in need... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE]**

		Aug <u>2008</u>	Mar <u>2001</u>
37	Religious organizations	31	37
28	Non-religious, community-based organizations [OR]	29	27
25	Federal and state government agencies	31	28
*	Family/friends/other [VOL. DO NOT READ]	--	--
2	None of the above [VOL. DO NOT READ]	3	2
8	Don't know/Refused [VOL. DO NOT READ]	6	6

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.261 Now, thinking about some specific problem areas. For each item that I read, please tell me WHO you think could do the best job of providing services to people in need. (First,) **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE AND OBSERVE FORM SPLITS]**... who could do the best job providing these types of services: a religious organization, a non-religious community-based group, or a federal or state government agency?

	Religious <u>organization</u>	Non-religious community- <u>based group</u>	Federal/ state govt. <u>agency</u>	(VOL.) <u>None of</u> <u>the above</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
a.F1	Treatment for drug and alcohol addiction				
	August 20-27, 2009	40	24	2	6
	March, 2001	27	31	2	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
b.F2	Literacy training				
	August 20-27, 2009	36	43	1	8
	March, 2001	12	49	2	6
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
c.F1	Mentoring programs for young people				
	August 20-27, 2009	38	12	2	6
	March, 2001	40	15	2	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
d.F2	Feeding the homeless				
	August 20-27, 2009	21	21	1	5
	March, 2001	40	28	2	5
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
e.F1	Counseling teens about pregnancy				
	August 20-27, 2009	39	15	3	5
	March, 2001	39	12	3	4
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
f.F2	Child care				
	August 20-27, 2009	34	27	2	5
	March, 2001	29	29	4	6
ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:					
g.F1	Health care				
	August 20-27, 2009	34	43	4	7
	March, 2001	9	56	2	5

Q.261 CONTINUED...

	<u>Religious organization</u>	<u>Non-religious community-based group</u>	<u>Federal/state govt. agency</u>	<u>(VOL.) None of the above</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:					
h.F2 Job training					
August 20-27, 2009	7	35	51	1	6
March, 2001	5	28	61	1	5

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

i.F1 Counseling and educating prisoners					
August 20-27, 2009	38	23	31	2	6
March, 2001	40	18	35	2	5

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.262 I'm going to read the names of some specific religious groups. For each one that I name, please tell me whether you would favor or oppose this group applying for government funds to provide social services to people who need them. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE WITHIN BLOCKS, BEGINNING WITH a./b., THEN c. THRU h.; ITEM i. SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST. OBSERVE FORM SPLITS.]

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. Individual churches, synagogues and other houses of worship			
August 20-27, 2009	59	36	6
August, 2008	60	36	4
March, 2001	60	35	5
b. Charitable organizations that have a religious affiliation			
August 20-27, 2009	68	27	5
August, 2008	68	28	4
March, 2001	69	26	5

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

c.F1 Catholic churches			
August 20-27, 2009	60	36	4
August, 2008	61	35	4
March, 2001	62	32	6

ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:

d.F2 Protestant churches			
August 20-27, 2009	56	35	9
August, 2008	59	35	6
March, 2001	61	31	8

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

e.F1 Muslim mosques			
August 20-27, 2009	39	52	9
August, 2008	40	53	7
March, 2001	38	46	16

ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:

f.F2 Jewish synagogues			
August 20-27, 2009	52	36	11
August, 2008	55	39	6
March, 2001	58	34	8

Q.262 CONTINUED...

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
ASK FORM 2 SURVEY B [N=969]:			
g.F2 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, or Mormon churches			
August 20-27, 2009	48	43	9
August, 2008	50	44	6
March, 2001	51	41	8

ASK FORM 1 SURVEY B [N=1034]:

h.F1 Evangelical Christian churches			
August 20-27, 2009	55	38	7
August, 2008	55	38	7
March, 2001	52	35	13

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

i. Groups that encourage religious conversion as part of the services they provide			
August 20-27, 2009	28	63	9
August, 2008	32	61	7
March, 2001	32	59	9

RANDOMIZE Q.263 AND Q.264

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.263 Here are a few reasons why some people OPPOSE the idea of allowing churches and other houses of worship to use government money to provide social services. Please tell me whether each one is an important concern of yours, or not. (First,) **[READ AND RANDOMIZE WITH ITEM a. ALWAYS FIRST]**... Is this an important concern of yours, or not?

	<u>Important</u> <u>concern</u>	<u>Not important</u> <u>concern</u>	<u>(VOL.)</u> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. This would interfere with the separation between church and state			
August 20-27, 2009	52	45	3
March, 2001	52	45	3
b. The people who receive these services might be forced to take part in religious practices			
August 20-27, 2009	60	38	3
March, 2001	60	38	2
c. The programs may not meet the same standards as government-based programs			
August 20-27, 2009	48	48	4
March, 2001	47	48	5
d. This might increase religious divisions within this country			
August 20-27, 2009	47	49	4
March, 2001	48	48	4
e. Government might get too involved in what religious organizations do			
August 20-27, 2009	69	28	3
March, 2001	68	30	2

RANDOMIZE Q.263 AND Q.264

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.264 Here are a few reasons why some people FAVOR the idea of allowing churches and other houses of worship to use government money to provide social services. Please tell me whether you think each one is an important reason to favor this, or not? (First,) [READ AND RANDOMIZE]... Do you think this is an important reason, or not?

	Important <u>reason</u>	Not important <u>reason</u>	(VOL.) <u>DK/Ref</u>
a. Religious groups could do a better job because the power of religion can change people's lives			
August 20-27, 2009	59	37	3
March, 2001	62	35	3
b. The people who provide the services would be more caring and compassionate			
August 20-27, 2009	68	28	4
March, 2001	72	25	3
c. Religious groups could provide services more efficiently than government programs			
August 20-27, 2009	59	36	5
March, 2001	60	36	4
d. People who need social services should have a variety of options to pick from			
August 20-27, 2009	78	19	3
March, 2001	77	20	3

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.265 If religious organizations do use government funds to provide social services, do you think these organizations should be allowed to ONLY hire people who share their religious beliefs, or should they not be allowed to do this?

		<u>Aug</u> <u>2008</u>	<u>March</u> <u>2001</u>
21	Should be allowed to only hire people who share their religious beliefs	22	18
74	Shouldn't be allowed to do this	73	78
5	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	5	4

NO QUESTIONS 266 TO 269

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.270 From what you know, does Barack Obama favor or oppose allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply for government funding to provide social services?

27	Favor
18	Oppose
54	Don't know/Refused (VOL)

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK SURVEY B IF Q.270=1 [N=492]

Q.271 Do you think Barack Obama emphasizes this issue too much, too little, or about the right amount?

- 10 Too much
- 18 Too little
- 66 About the right amount
- 6 Don't know/Refused (VOL.)

RANDOMIZE Q.270/Q.271 BLOCK WITH Q.272

ASK ALL SURVEY B:

Q.272 From what you know, did George W. Bush favor or oppose allowing churches and other houses of worship to apply for government funding to provide social services?

- 36 Favor
- 16 Oppose
- 48 Don't know/refused (VOL.)

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 once a week	Once a week	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	Seldom	Never	(VOL.) DK/Ref
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	*
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 (RVs)	17	28	16	17	13	8	1
June, 1997	12	26	17	20	15	10	*
June, 1996	14	25	17	21	13	9	1

ASK ALL:

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, or Independent?

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?

NOTE: PARTY/PARTYLN FOR BOTH SURVEY A AND SURVEY B ARE PRESENTED HERE.

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	(VOL.) No preference	(VOL.) Other party	(VOL.) DK/ Ref	Lean Rep	Lean Dem
August 20-27, 2009	26	32	36	3	*	3	14	16
August 11-17, 2009	23	33	38	3	*	3	16	15
July, 2009	22	34	37	5	*	2	15	14
June, 2009	25	34	34	3	*	3	11	16
May, 2009	23	39	29	4	*	4	9	14
April, 2009	22	33	39	3	*	3	13	18
March, 2009	24	34	35	5	*	2	12	17
February, 2009	24	36	34	3	1	2	13	17
January, 2009	25	37	33	3	*	2	11	16
December, 2008	26	39	30	2	*	3	8	15
Late October, 2008	24	39	32	2	*	3	11	15
Mid-October, 2008	27	35	31	4	*	3	9	16
Early October, 2008	26	36	31	4	*	3	11	15
Late September, 2008	25	35	34	3	1	2	13	15
Mid-September, 2008	28	35	32	3	*	2	12	14
August, 2008	26	34	34	4	*	2	12	17
July, 2008	24	36	34	3	*	3	12	15
June, 2008	26	37	32	3	*	2	11	16
Late May, 2008	25	35	35	2	*	3	13	15
April, 2008	24	37	31	5	1	2	11	15
March, 2008	24	38	29	5	*	4	9	14
Late February, 2008	24	38	32	3	*	3	10	17
Early February, 2008	26	35	31	5	*	3	11	14
January, 2008	24	33	37	4	*	2	12	18

PARTY/PARTYLN CONTINUED...

				(VOL.)	(VOL.)	(VOL.)		
	<u>Republican</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Independent</u>	No	Other	DK/	<i>Lean</i>	<i>Lean</i>
				preference	party	Ref	<i>Rep</i>	<i>Dem</i>
<i>Yearly Totals</i>								
2008	25.3	35.8	31.7	3.8	.3	3.1	10.5	15.4
2007	25.4	32.9	33.7	4.6	.4	3.1	10.7	16.7
2006	27.6	32.8	30.3	5.0	.4	3.9	10.2	14.5
2005	29.2	32.8	30.3	4.5	.3	2.8	10.2	14.9
2004	29.7	33.4	29.8	3.9	.4	2.9	11.7	13.4
2003	29.8	31.4	31.2	4.7	.5	2.5	12.1	13.0
2002	30.3	31.2	30.1	5.1	.7	2.7	12.6	11.6
2001	29.2	33.6	28.9	5.1	.5	2.7	11.7	11.4
<i>2001 Post-Sept 11</i>	<i>30.9</i>	<i>31.8</i>	<i>27.9</i>	<i>5.2</i>	<i>.6</i>	<i>3.6</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>9.4</i>
<i>2001 Pre-Sept 11</i>	<i>28.2</i>	<i>34.6</i>	<i>29.5</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>.5</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>11.7</i>	<i>12.5</i>
2000	27.5	32.5	29.5	5.9	.5	4.0	11.6	11.6
1999	26.6	33.5	33.7	3.9	.5	1.9	13.0	14.5
1998	27.5	33.2	31.9	4.6	.4	2.4	11.8	13.5
1997	28.2	33.3	31.9	4.0	.4	2.3	12.3	13.8
1996	29.2	32.7	33.0	5.2	--	--	12.7	15.6
1995	31.4	29.7	33.4	5.4	--	--	14.4	12.9
1994	29.8	31.8	33.8	4.6	--	--	14.3	12.6
1993	27.4	33.8	34.0	4.8	--	--	11.8	14.7
1992	27.7	32.7	35.7	3.9	--	--	13.8	15.8
1991	30.9	31.4	33.2	4.5	--	--	14.6	10.8
1990	31.0	33.1	29.1	6.8	--	--	12.4	11.3
1989	33	33	34	--	--	--	--	--
1987	26	35	39	--	--	--	--	--