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Teens Losing Respect For Politicians  
**WHITE HOUSE SCANDAL HAS FAMILIES TALKING**

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## Teens Losing Respect For Politicians

### WHITE HOUSE SCANDAL HAS FAMILIES TALKING

The Clinton-Lewinsky scandal has American parents talking with their children about everything from whether the President lied or should be punished, to broader discussions about values and sex. Parents of younger children wait for their kids to start these conversations, while parents of teenagers are as likely to bring up the subject themselves as are their teens.

Many parents, particularly those of teenagers, say that the scandal is leading to more family discussions of politics in general. But significant percentages of these same parents say that the scandal is leading to a loss of respect for politicians among their children. Further, while few see the scandal harming their children's moral development, many parents of younger children worry that it will tarnish their kids' views of government.

Most older children and teenagers are also talking amongst themselves about Clinton and Lewinsky. But schools and churches are reported to be relatively quiet on the subject. Few elementary or middle school parents say that the controversy has been discussed by teachers or at religious school or services.

Only half say their high school age children have talked about it with teachers, and just one-in-four say it was discussed in Sunday school.

The aspect of the story of most interest to children what will ultimately happen to President Clinton. Teenagers are more often reported to be *amused* by the allegations against Clinton than *disturbed* by them. Many parents of younger children say that their 8-to-10-year-olds are *confused* by the controversy.

Even though many parents have talked about the subject with their children, the news media — especially TV — is providing young people with most of their information about the scandal. Nearly 40% of parents of younger children say they have been more careful about what their children are watching on the news since the release of the Starr report. As many as 21% of teenagers read at least part of the Starr report and even more watched the videotape of Clinton's grand jury testimony, according to their parents.

#### American Kids and the White House Scandal

	--- Age of Child ---		
	8-10	11-13	14-17
<i>Parents are talking with their kids about:</i>	%	%	%
The scandal			
A lot/Some	35	51	65
Not much/Not at all	65	49	35
Don't know	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	100	100	100
Politics generally			
More now	22	33	43
Less now	5	3	3
Same	70	64	53
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Kids losing respect for politicians</i>			
Yes	29	42	51
No	65	53	42
Don't know	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100

As with opinion about the scandal itself, partisanship colors even parenting on the subject. Children of Republicans talk more about the Clinton scandal to family and friends and are said to be suffering more disillusionment with politics than the average child, while the exact opposite is said to be true of children from Democratic families.

These are among the results of a nationwide survey of 597 parents who have one or more children between the ages of 8 and 17. Conducted September 19-23, 1998, the survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 5 percentage points.

***Scandal Draws in Kids***

The Clinton-Lewinsky scandal is capturing the attention of American children, especially teenagers. Parents of high school age children have discussed the controversy with their kids at least as much as they have talked about the Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa home run race and more than a host of other news topics ranging from terrorist attacks to the cloning of sheep. Only schoolyard shootings have generated more discussion between teens and parents. The survey results suggest that there is less discussion of the scandal between parents and younger children because many parents wait for their youngsters to bring up the subject, rather than initiate a discussion themselves.

Among parents with 14-to-17-year-olds, 29% say they have discussed the scandal a lot with their teens, compared to 13% of parents with 11-to-13-year-olds and only 6% of parents with 8-to-10-year-olds. Although parents of teens spend more time talking about *most* news stories with their kids than do parents of younger children, the gap is greatest for this controversy.

The scandal is spurring some parents — particularly those of high school students — to spend more time talking about politics with their children than they did before. Fully 43% of parents of children over age 13 say they have discussed politics with their teens more since the news first broke; 33% of parents with children between ages 11 and 13 agree, along with 22% of parents with younger children (ages 8 through 10).

<b>Teen Interest Highest</b>			
	<i>---Age of Child---</i>		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
<i>How interested is your child in the scandal?</i>	%	%	%
Very/Fairly	19	27	47
Not too/Not at all	81	72	52
Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Who brings up the subject?</i>			
Child brings it up	70	65	45
Parents bring it up	24	25	47
Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

Teenagers are also reported to be more interested in the scandal than are younger children. Almost half of parents of teens describe their children as at least fairly interested in the scandal. In contrast, 57% of parents of 8-to-10-year-olds and one-third of parents of 11-to-13-year-olds say their children are not at all interested in the controversy.

Among parents of young children, 70% say that their conversations about the scandal are initiated by their children. This compares with only 45% of parents of teenagers. With teens, parents are just as likely to bring up the topic themselves as to wait for a question (47% to 45%).

Clinton detractors talk more about the scandal with their children than do Clinton supporters. A quarter of those who disapprove of the job Clinton is doing (24%) discuss the scandal a lot with their kids, compared to 12% of those who approve of Clinton’s job performance. Evangelical Christians also discuss the scandal at higher than average rates.

Overall, 41% of parents say they have spent a lot of time talking to their kids about school shootings. Nearly one-third (30%) have talked a lot about the McGwire-Sosa home run race.

Parents and kids have talked about terrorist attacks against Americans almost as often as they have talked about the Clinton scandal. Half have talked about terrorism a lot (14%) or some (37%). Parents have spent relatively less time talking about cloning, local campaigns and elections, and the problems in Russia.

Kids also talk about the Clinton scandal with their friends and classmates, according to their parents. Nearly half of

parents say their kids have talked about the allegations against Clinton with their friends and classmates. Only 17% say their kids have not discussed the scandal and 36% are not sure. Again, older children are discussing the scandal at much higher rates than are younger kids. Fully 65% of parents with teenagers say their teens have talked about the issue with friends. This compares with 29% of parents with kids between ages 8 and 10.

	---Age of Child---		
	8-10	11-13	14-17
<i>Percent talking some/a lot about ...</i>	%	%	%
Schoolyard shootings	73	84	87
McGwire-Sosa race	54	56	54
Clinton-Lewinsky	35	51	65
Terrorism	43	50	63
Cloning	32	29	35
Local campaigns & elections	40	35	43
Problems in Russia	16	15	26

Just as Republican parents are more likely to talk about the scandal with their children, they report that their youngsters are among the most likely to be talking about it with friends and classmates.

The scandal is being addressed by some teachers, especially at the high school level. Half of parents with 14-to-17-year-olds say the subject has been discussed by teachers. Far fewer parents of middle school and elementary school students are aware of the topic being addressed by teachers — only 28% and 15%, respectively say their children’s teachers have discussed it.

One-in-four high school age children have discussed the scandal at Sunday school or religious services, according to their parents. Fewer than one-in-five children under age 14 have heard about it at church. The children of Evangelical Christians are much more likely than others to have discussed the matter at church.

***TV the Main Source for Kids***

Parents say children of all ages are getting most of their information about the scandal from television news, although few children actually watched the live broadcast of Clinton’s nationally-televised address or his videotaped grand jury testimony. More than half of parents say television news is the primary source of their children’s information about the scandal, followed by discussions with parents and friends. Fewer than 10% of children get most of their information about the scandal from newspapers or the Internet, according to parents.

Although more than half of parents say the scandal has had no effect on the amount of television news their children see, parents of youngsters ages 8 to 10 express more concern than parents of teenagers (38% vs. 13%, respectively say they are being more careful). Similarly, while more than half of children age 11 and older have access to the Internet, few parents say they are more careful about allowing their kids to go online since release of the Starr report.

<b>Partisanship Matters Even for Kids</b>			
	<u>Rep.</u>	<u>Dem.</u>	<u>Indep.</u>
	%	%	%
<i>Talking about scandal with parents</i>			
A lot/Some	64	46	42
Not too much/Not at all	36	54	58
Don’t know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	100	100	100
<i>Talking about scandal with friends</i>			
Yes	61	46	39
No	10	14	23
Don’t know/Refused	<u>29</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>38</u>
	100	100	100
<i>How interested in scandal</i>			
Very/Fairly	43	30	22
Not too/Not at all	56	69	78
Don’t know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>*</u>
	100	100	100

Most parents say their children have not seen any of the more graphic presentations of the scandal in recent weeks. Just 30% of parents of teens say their children saw part of Clinton's videotaped testimony, while only 21% say their kids had read part of the Starr report or saw Clinton's nationally-televised address. Among younger children, even fewer saw either of these broadcasts or read any of the Starr report.

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
<i>Percent of children who...</i>	%	%	%
Saw Clinton's televised address	10	13	21
Read any parts of Starr's report	3	6	21
Saw any part of Clinton's testimony	16	17	30

***Talk Is About Morals, Values***

When the scandal comes up in conversation between parents and children, most families talk about topics like morals and values, parents' views about Clinton, and whether or not Clinton lied. Across all age groups, at least half of parents have used the scandal to talk to their children about morals and values in general, and nearly as many have discussed their own views of Clinton and whether Clinton lied.

Many parents of teenagers have also talked about other aspects of the scandal, including whether Clinton should be punished and whether he should be forgiven, although these topics come up much less frequently with younger children. Indeed, 46% of parents with children between ages 8 and 10 say they have not discussed the Clinton scandal at all with their youngsters.

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
<i>Percent of parents who've talked about...</i>	%	%	%
Morals and values	51	68	79
Own views on Clinton	45	64	74
Whether Clinton lied	43	57	71
Sex in general	33	58	72
If Clinton should be punished	31	44	67
If Clinton should be forgiven	31	43	56
Clinton's apology	29	44	58
Own views on Lewinsky	22	38	55
If Clinton had sex	17	40	58
Own views on Starr	21	35	45
Impeachment process	14	23	30

Not surprisingly, a child's age is a major factor in whether or not the sexual aspects of the scandal have come up in conversation. Fully 58% of parents have talked with *teenage* children about whether Clinton had sex with Monica Lewinsky, compared to 40% of parents with children between ages 11 and 13 and just 17% of parents with children between ages 8 and 10. Across all age groups, fewer than one-third of parents have discussed the impeachment process with their children.

Parents who don't like Clinton tend to discuss the president's troubles with their children more than do parents who are Clinton supporters. Three-quarters of parents who disapprove of Clinton (74%) have talked to their children about whether or not Clinton lied, compared to just 47% of parents who approve of the way Clinton is handling his job. Similarly, 62% of parents who disapprove of the president have discussed Clinton's apology with their children, compared to 33% of those who approve of Clinton.

The different types of scandal-related topics that have been discussed do not vary substantially between mothers with sons and mothers with daughters. Among fathers, however, some topics came up more frequently with daughters than with sons. Fully 60% of fathers say they have discussed their own views about Clinton with their daughters, for example, compared to 48% of fathers who have discussed their views of Clinton with their sons. Similarly, 40% of fathers have talked to their daughters about whether Clinton and Lewinsky had sex, compared to 31% of fathers who have discussed the topic with their sons.

***How Will It End?***

At least half of parents say their children are interested in how things will end up for Clinton. This is true across all age groups — 50% of parents with youngsters between ages 8 and 10, 60% among those with children 11 to 13, and 69% among parents of teenagers.

Younger children are most likely to be confused by the scandal story: 44% of parents of children between ages 8 and 10 say their kids are confused, compared to 36% of parents of children between 11 and 13, and just 24% of parents of teenagers. One-third of parents say their teenage children are amused by the scandal.

<b>Reactions to Clinton Scandal</b>			
<i>Percent of children who have been...</i>	<i>----- Age of Child -----</i>		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
	%	%	%
Interested in what will happen to Clinton	50	60	69
Curious	33	44	41
Confused	44	36	24
Amused	11	29	34
Disturbed	18	13	21

At the same time, most parents say they are more upset than their children by the scandal, while roughly one-third of parents say neither they nor their children are very upset by the allegations against President Clinton.

### ***Consequences for Kids***

Parents see the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal manifesting itself in different ways for different age children. Parents of high school students are more likely to express concern that the scandal has caused their child to lose respect for politicians, while parents of elementary and middle school kids are more likely to see the controversy as harmful to their children’s attitudes about politics and government more broadly.

Half of parents with a teenager (51%) say the scandal has made their child less respectful of politicians. Overall, Republican parents express more concern about this than do Democratic parents (53% vs. 33%, respectively). Most parents say they had more respect for the president when *they* were young than their children do now. Fully 60% of parents of older children and over half of parents of children between the ages of 8 and 13 say this is so.

<b>Child Losing Respect for Politicians?</b>			
	---Parent's Party ID---		
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%
Yes	53	33	37
No	43	59	59
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>
	100	100	100

About half of all parents say that learning about the issue will not affect their children’s attitude toward politics and government. The remainder are split on the nature of the lesson. Some 30% of parents of children ages 8-10 think the scandal will harm their children’s interest in politics, while a similar percentage of parents of teens believe it may help.

Not surprisingly, Republicans are more concerned about the long-term implications of the scandal for the next generation of adults than are Democrats. Republicans think the issue will be more influential on their children’s interest in politics than Democrats do. Moreover, Republicans think the scandal will be more detrimental to their children’s views of government than do Democrats (44% vs. 27%, respectively).

<b>Lessons More Harmful for Younger Kids</b>			
	---Age of Child---		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
	%	%	%
<i>Interest in Politics...</i>			
Will help	18	21	<b>30</b>
Will hurt	<b>30</b>	25	17
Won't make difference	48	52	51
Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100
<i>View of Government...</i>			
Will help	9	15	20
Will hurt	<b>42</b>	36	29
Won't make difference	46	48	48
Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100



Overall, parents say that the impact of the scandal on their children is more political than moral. Over 60% of parents of children under the age of 14 and 70% of parents of older children say that learning about this issue will not make much of a difference in their children's moral development.

Three-quarters of all parents believe that the best lesson for their children would be for Congress to take some action against President Clinton, but they are split as to what that action should be: 37% favor impeachment; 39% favor a formal reprimand or censure. There are clear partisan differences among parents' views concerning which measure would serve as the better lesson: 60% of Republicans prefer impeachment; 49% of Democrats favor censure.

## PARENTS' VIEWS ON SCANDAL

	<i>How Much Discussed with Child</i>			<i>Best Lesson for Child</i>			
	A lot/ <u>Some</u>	Not Much/ <u>Not at all</u>	<u>DK</u>	<u>Impeach</u>	Reprimand/ <u>Censure</u>	No Formal <u>Action</u>	<u>DK</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>Total</b>	50	50	0=100	37	39	15	9=100
<b>Parent</b>							
Mother	52	48	0=100	34	41	15	10=100
Father	47	53	0=100	41	36	13	10=100
<b>Child</b>							
Son	48	52	0=100	33	42	15	10=100
Daughter	51	49	0=100	40	36	14	10=100
<b>Education</b>							
College+	57	43	0=100	38	41	12	9=100
H.S. or less	43	57	0=100	35	37	18	10=100
<b>Party ID</b>							
Republican	64	36	0=100	60	26	5	9=100
Democrat	46	54	0=100	16	49	22	13=100
Independent	42	58	0=100	35	47	15	3=100

Questions: I am going to read a list of things that have been in the news recently. For each, please tell me how much, if at all, you have talked about it with this child. First, how much have you talked about... the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal a lot, some, not too much, or not at all?

If the investigation into the Clinton-Lewinsky matter continues, what do you think would be the best lesson for your child? — if Clinton is impeached and removed from office, if Clinton is formally reprimanded or censured, but not removed from office, OR if no formal action is taken against Clinton?

## **ABOUT THIS SURVEY**

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates among a nationwide sample of 597 parents who have one or more child between the ages of 8 and 17, during the period September 19-23, 1998. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 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.

## **SURVEY METHODOLOGY IN DETAIL**

The respondents in this survey are from two combined samples. One sample of 297 parents was identified as part of a nationwide survey of all adults, drawn from a random digit sample of telephone numbers selected from telephone exchanges in the continental United States. Additionally, an oversample of 300 adults who had been identified as parents in previous Pew Research Center nationwide surveys were reinterviewed for the current survey. These parents had been interviewed earlier this year in surveys that were also drawn from random digit samples of telephone numbers selected from telephone exchanges in the continental United States. In all cases, the random digit aspect of the sample is used to avoid "listing" bias and provides representation of both listed and unlisted numbers (including not-yet-listed). The design of the sample ensures this representation by random generation of the last two digits of telephone numbers selected on the basis of their area code, telephone exchange, and bank number.

The telephone exchanges were selected with probabilities proportional to their size. The first eight digits of the sampled telephone numbers (area code, telephone exchange, bank number) were selected to be proportionally stratified by county and by telephone exchange within county. That is, the number of telephone numbers randomly sampled from within a given county is proportional to that county's share of telephone numbers in the U.S. Only working banks of telephone numbers are selected. A working bank is defined as 100 contiguous telephone numbers containing three or more residential listings.

The samples were released for interviewing in replicates. Using replicates to control the release of sample to the field ensures that the complete call procedures are followed for the entire sample. The use of replicates also insures that the regional distribution of numbers called is appropriate. Again, this works to increase the representativeness of the sample.

At least five attempts were made to complete an interview at every sampled telephone number. The calls were staggered over times of day and days of the week to maximize the chances of making a contact with a potential respondent. All interview breakoffs and refusals were re-contacted at least once in order to attempt to convert them to completed interviews. Except when recontacting adults previously identified as parents, in each contacted household interviewers asked to speak with the "youngest male 18 or older who is at home." If there is no eligible man at home, interviewers asked to speak with "the oldest woman 18 or older who is at home." This systematic respondent selection technique has been shown empirically to produce samples that closely mirror the population in terms of age and gender.

Non-response in telephone interview surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population, and these subgroups are likely to vary also on questions of substantive interest. In order to compensate for these known biases, the sample data are weighted in analysis.

The demographic weighting parameters are derived from a special analysis of the most recently available Census Bureau's Current Population Survey (March 1996). This analysis produced population parameters for the demographic characteristics of households with parents of one or more children between the ages of 8 and 17, which were then compared with the sample characteristics to construct sample weights. The analysis only included households in the continental United States that contain a telephone. The weights are derived using an iterative technique that simultaneously balances the distributions of all weighting parameters.

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE PRESS**  
**SURVEY OF PARENT REACTION TO SCANDAL**  
**FINAL TOPLINE**  
**Sept 19-23, 1998**  
**N=597**

Hello, I am \_\_\_\_\_ calling for Princeton Survey Research Associates in Princeton, New Jersey. We are conducting a telephone opinion survey for leading newspapers and TV stations around the country. I'd like to ask a few questions of the youngest male, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home. [IF NO MALE, ASK: May I please speak with the oldest female, 18 years of age or older, who is now at home?]

**THE QUESTIONS IN THE REST OF THIS SURVEY ARE ABOUT YOUR (AGE) YEAR OLD (BOY/GIRL). PLEASE THINK ABOUT (HIM/HER) WHEN GIVING YOUR ANSWERS.**

Q.22 In general, how often, if ever, do you discuss politics with your (AGE) year old (boy/girl)?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Regularly	10	18	29
Sometimes	29	35	36
Hardly ever	33	31	24
Never	28	16	11
DK/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	100	100	100
 <i>Number of Interviews:</i>	 <i>(201)</i>	 <i>(168)</i>	 <i>(221)</i>

Q.23 I am going to read a list of things that have been in the news recently. For each, please tell me how much, if at all, you have talked about it with this child. First, how much have you talked about (**INSERT ITEM; ROTATE**)... a lot, some, not too much, or not at all? What about...

		<u>A</u>		Not too	Not at	DK/
		<u>Lot</u>	<u>Some</u>	<u>Much</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Ref</u>
a.	The Clinton-Lewinsky scandal					
	Child: 8-10	6	29	19	46	0=100
	Child: 11-13	13	38	24	25	0=100
	Child: 14-17	29	36	19	16	0=100
b.	Campaigns and elections in your area					
	Child: 8-10	4	36	22	38	*=100
	Child: 11-13	9	26	26	38	1=100
	Child: 14-17	10	33	29	28	0=100
c.	Terrorist attacks against Americans at home and abroad					
	Child: 8-10	12	31	22	35	0=100
	Child: 11-13	12	38	24	26	0=100
	Child: 14-17	19	44	20	17	0=100
d.	Problems in Russia					
	Child: 8-10	2	14	20	64	0=100
	Child: 11-13	2	13	22	63	0=100
	Child: 14-17	7	19	26	48	0=100
e.	Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa breaking Roger Maris' home run record					
	Child: 8-10	29	25	10	36	0=100
	Child: 11-13	33	23	17	27	0=100
	Child: 14-17	28	26	20	26	0=100
f.	The shootings that have occurred at school yards across the country					
	Child: 8-10	30	43	13	14	0=100
	Child: 11-13	47	37	9	7	0=100
	Child: 14-17	47	40	9	4	0=100
g.	The cloning of sheep and other animals					
	Child: 8-10	7	25	20	48	*=100
	Child: 11-13	6	23	26	45	0=100
	Child: 14-17	10	25	24	41	*=100

Q.24 How interested would you say your child is in the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal — very interested, fairly interested, not too interested, or not at all interested?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Very interested	3	8	9
Fairly interested	16	19	38
Not too interested	24	39	30
Not at all interested	57	33	22
Don't know/Refused	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

**IF “1, 2 OR 3” IN QUESTION 23a, ASK; OTHERWISE, GO TO Q.26 [N=431]:**

Q.25 In general, did your conversations about the scandal start because of something your CHILD asked or said, or did YOU usually bring up the subject yourself?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Child asked or said something	70	65	45
Respondent brought up subject	24	25	47
Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.26 I'd like you to think back to when you were your child's age. Thinking about who was President then, do you think you had MORE respect, LESS respect or the same amount of respect for that president than your child has for Bill Clinton?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
More	50	53	60
Less	11	6	8
Same amount	33	34	26
Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100

Q.27 Do you think your child has talked about the allegations against President Clinton with (his/her) friends and classmates, hasn't (he/she) talked about it, or don't you know?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Yes, has discussed	29	50	65
No, hasn't discussed	30	10	6
Don't know/Refused	<u>41</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>29</u>
	100	100	100

Q.28 As far as you know, has this subject been discussed (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE)

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL)</u> <u>Don't Attend</u>	<u>DK/</u> <u>Ref</u>
a. By teachers at school				
Child: 8-10	15	41	0	44=100
Child: 11-13	28	30	0	42=100
Child: 14-17	50	18	0	32=100
b. When your child attended Sunday school or religious services				
Child: 8-10	15	65	5	15=100
Child: 11-13	19	54	6	21=100
Child: 14-17	25	49	11	15=100

**IF “1, 2 OR 3” IN QUESTION 23a, ASK; OTHERWISE, GO TO Q.30:**

Q.29 I'm going to read to you a list of topics that sometimes come up when parents and children talk about the allegations against President Clinton. As I read each one, please tell me if you have talked about it with your (AGE) year old child, or not. First, have you talked about..., or haven't you discussed this? (READ LIST; ROTATE ITEMS a THRU h AS A BLOCK FIRST, then ROTATE ITEMS i thru k AS A BLOCK)

	<u>Yes, talked</u> <u>About</u>	<u>No,</u> <u>Have not</u>	<u>DK/</u> <u>Ref</u>	<u>Have Not</u> <u>Discussed</u> <u>Scandal</u>
a. Whether Clinton had sex with Monica Lewinsky				
Child: 8-10	17	36	1	46=100
Child: 11-13	40	34	0	26=100
Child: 14-17	58	26	*	16=100
b. Whether Clinton lied				
Child: 8-10	43	11	0	46=100
Child: 11-13	57	17	0	26=100
Child: 14-17	71	13	*	16=100
c. Clinton's apology				
Child: 8-10	29	24	1	46=100
Child: 11-13	44	27	3	26=100
Child: 14-17	58	24	2	16=100
d. The way the impeachment process works				
Child: 8-10	14	40	0	46=100
Child: 11-13	23	51	0	26=100
Child: 14-17	30	54	0	16=100
e. Morals and values in general				
Child: 8-10	51	3	0	46=100
Child: 11-13	68	6	0	26=100
Child: 14-17	79	5	0	16=100
f. Whether Clinton should be punished				
Child: 8-10	31	23	*	46=100
Child: 11-13	44	30	0	26=100
Child: 14-17	67	17	0	16=100



**Q.29 CONTINUED ...**

		Yes, talked <u>About</u>	No, <u>Have not</u>	DK/ <u>Ref</u>	Have Not Discussed <u>Scandal</u>
g.	Whether Clinton should be forgiven				
	Child: 8-10	31	23	0	46=100
	Child: 11-13	43	31	*	26=100
	Child: 14-17	56	28	*	16=100
h.	Sex in general				
	Child: 8-10	33	21	0	46=100
	Child: 11-13	58	16	0	26=100
	Child: 14-17	72	12	0	16=100
i.	Your own views about President Clinton				
	Child: 8-10	45	9	0	46=100
	Child: 11-13	63	11	0	26=100
	Child: 14-17	74	10	0	16=100
j.	Your own views about Monica Lewinsky				
	Child: 8-10	22	32	0	46=100
	Child: 11-13	38	35	1	26=100
	Child: 14-17	55	29	0	16=100
k.	Your own views about Kenneth Starr				
	Child: 8-10	21	33	0	46=100
	Child: 11-13	34	40	0	26=100
	Child: 14-17	45	38	1	16=100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.30 Since the allegations against President Clinton first appeared in the news, are you having more conversations about politics with this child, fewer conversations about politics with this child, or about the same amount of conversations about politics with this child?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
More	22	33	43
Fewer	5	3	3
Stayed the same	70	64	53
Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

Q.31 Where do you think your child is getting MOST of her/his information about this issue — from talking to you, talking to friends, watching television news, reading the newspaper, or going online to the Internet?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Talking with parent	25	22	17
Talking with friends	7	8	11
Watching TV news	55	65	58
Reading the newspaper	1	*	5
Internet	0	1	4
Other (VOL)	6	2	3
Don't know/Refused	<u>6</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100

Q.32 Do you happen to know if your child watched Clinton's televised address following his grand jury testimony on television, didn't (he/she) see it, or don't you know?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Yes, watched	10	13	21
No, didn't watch	76	67	52
Don't know/Refused	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>27</u>
	100	100	100

Q.33 Do you happen to know if your child has read any part of the ACTUAL report by Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr regarding President Clinton, hasn't (he/she) read any part, or don't you know?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Yes, read it	3	6	21
No, didn't read it	87	74	48
Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>31</u>
	100	100	100

**ASK QUESTION 34 AFTER SEPTEMBER 20 ONLY [N=331]:**

Q.34 Do you happen to know if your child has seen any part of the videotapes of Clinton's grand jury testimony on television, hasn't (he/she) seen it, or don't you know?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Yes, watched	16	17	30
No, didn't watch	69	58	37
Don't know/Refused	<u>15</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>33</u>
	100	100	100

Q.35 In your opinion, who do you think is more upset by these allegations — you, your child, or don't you think that either one of you is very upset?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Myself	65	58	53
My child	1	1	5
Both equally (VOL)	2	5	10
Neither	32	36	31
Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

Q.36 Each child might react differently to the charges against President Clinton. As I read from a list of possible reactions, please tell me if, in your opinion, your child has reacted this way, or not. (First), do you think that hearing about this issue has made your child... (INSERT ITEM; ROTATE) or not?

		<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>DK/</u> <u>Ref</u>
a.	Curious to learn more about the story			
	Child: 8-10	33	66	1=100
	Child: 11-13	44	51	5=100
	Child: 14-17	41	53	6=100
b.	Confused by the story			
	Child: 8-10	44	54	2=100
	Child: 11-13	36	62	2=100
	Child: 14-17	24	73	3=100
c.	Disturbed			
	Child: 8-10	18	82	*=100
	Child: 11-13	13	84	3=100
	Child: 14-17	21	74	5=100
d.	Amused			
	Child: 8-10	11	87	2=100
	Child: 11-13	29	69	2=100
	Child: 14-17	34	61	5=100
e.	Less respectful of politicians			
	Child: 8-10	29	65	6=100
	Child: 11-13	42	53	5=100
	Child: 14-17	51	42	7=100
f.	Interested in what will happen to President Clinton			
	Child: 8-10	50	49	1=100
	Child: 11-13	60	37	3=100
	Child: 14-17	69	27	4=100

Q.37 Since the release of the Starr report, have you been any more careful about your child watching television news, or hasn't this affected what television news you let (him/her) see?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
More careful	38	30	13
No effect	57	68	86
Don't allow them to watch TV news (VOL)	5	2	*
Don't know/Refused	<u>*</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
	100	100	100

Q.38 Does your child have access to the World Wide Web or the Internet?

**IF YES ("1") IN Q.38 ASK:**

Q.39 Since the release of the Starr report, have you been any more careful about allowing your child to go on the Internet, OR hasn't this affected how much you let (him/her) go online?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Yes, child has access	38	50	65
More careful	7	12	7
No effect	31	36	58
Don't know/Refused	*	2	0
No access	61	49	33
Don't know/Refused	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100

**ASK ALL:**

Q.40 Do you think that learning about this issue will help or harm your child's interest in politics, or don't you think it will make much of a difference?

	----- Age of Child -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Help	17	21	30
Harm	30	25	17
Not much difference	49	52	51
Don't know/Refused	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	100	100	100

Q.41 Do you think that learning about this issue will help or harm your child's view of government, or don't you think it will make much of a difference?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Help	9	15	20
Harm	42	36	28
Not much difference	46	48	49
Don't know/Refused	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100

Q.42 Do you think that learning about this issue will help or harm your child's moral development or don't you think it will make much of a difference?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Help	17	20	22
Harm	20	14	5
Not much difference	61	64	70
Don't know/Refused	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100

**ASK FORM 1:**

Q.43a If the investigation into the Clinton-Lewinsky matter continues, what do you think would be the best lesson for your child? — if Clinton is impeached and removed from office, if Clinton is formally reprimanded or censured, but not removed from office, OR if no formal action is taken against Clinton?

**ASK FORM 2:**

Q.43b If the investigation into the Clinton-Lewinsky matter continues, what do you think would be the best lesson for your child — if no formal action is taken against Clinton, if Clinton is formally reprimanded or censured, but not removed from office, OR if Clinton is impeached and removed from office?

	----- <i>Age of Child</i> -----		
	<u>8-10</u>	<u>11-13</u>	<u>14-17</u>
Impeach	37	35	38
Reprimand/Censure	39	45	34
No formal action	14	13	17
Don't know/Refused	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>11</u>
	100	100	100