

FOIA MARKER

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Study #5408
 CREI
 Interviews: 1411 voters, including 310 African Americans
 Dates: February 20-26, 1999

AIDS/Africa

3. I'm going to mention some different issues, and I'd like to find out how serious a problem you consider each one to be in our country today. For each one, please tell me whether you consider it to be an extremely serious problem, a quite serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, or not that serious a problem.

	<u>Extremely Serious Problem</u>	<u>Quite Serious Problem</u>	<u>Somewhat Serious Problem</u>	<u>Not That Serious A Problem</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
The spread of AIDS in Africa.....	45	22	13	8	12

5. Now I'm going to read you another list of statements. For each statement, please tell me whether you're sure it's true, think it's probably true, think it's probably false, or are sure it's false.

	<u>Sure It's True</u>	<u>Think It's Probably True</u>	<u>Think It's Probably False</u>	<u>Sure It's False</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
The global AIDS crisis is coming under control.....	2	20	37	30	11

- 8a. Now, I'm going to mention several proposals and I'd like to get your reaction. For each proposal I read, please tell me whether your reaction is very favorable, somewhat favorable, neutral, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable.

	<u>Very Favorable</u>	<u>Somewhat Favorable</u>	<u>Neutral</u>	<u>Somewhat Unfavorable</u>	<u>Very Unfavorable</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
Increasing U.S. government assistance for international efforts to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa.....	23	31	15	14	15	2

- 14a. How much have you heard or read about the issue of AIDS in Africa -- a lot, some, just a little, or not very much? **

	<u>ALL VOTERS</u>	<u>African Americans</u>
<u>Heard/Read</u>		
A lot.....	19	31
Some.....	32	28
Just a little.....	22	22
Have not heard/read very much.....	23	16
Heard/read nothing (VOL).....	3	1
Not sure	1	2

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

AIDS/Africa

- 14b. Let me read you statements made by supporters and opponents of a proposal to increase U.S. government assistance for international efforts to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa, and please tell me who is more convincing on this matter.

Supporters say that AIDS is causing a humanitarian catastrophe in Africa that is leaving millions dead, millions of children orphaned, and threatens the political and economic stability of an entire continent.

Opponents say that the U.S. already is sending millions of dollars in aid to Africa, but we have problems here at home that should be our first priority. **

	ALL VOTERS	African Americans
Supporters more convincing	25	44
Opponents more convincing	63	44
Both (VOL)	6	5
Neither (VOL)	1	2
Not sure	5	5

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

- 14c. Why do you feel that way about increasing U.S. government assistance to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa?

(PROBE:) What are some of the best reasons to increase assistance to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa?

(PROBE:) What doubts or concerns would you have about increasing assistance? **

	ALL VOTERS	African Americans
Net Best Reasons	34	40
To help stop the spread of AIDS to our country/other parts of the globe	14	17
Humanitarian reasons, to help people in need, to save lives	7	2
Will eventually affect us, affects all of us, matter of time	6	6
It's the right thing to do, we have an obligation to help	4	2
It's affecting such a large proportion of world's population	3	4
Net Doubts And Concerns	62	49
Take care of our people first, keep our money here	46	37
U.S. can't save the world, we do too much for others	8	10
Money won't get to those who need it, gets in the wrong hands	7	4
It's their own fault, they are not educated, don't know any better	4	-
Losing battle, won't do any good, too far gone, won't help	3	4
Don't know; no response	10	12

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

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14d. Do you think that the AIDS epidemic in Africa will affect people in the United States, or not? **

	<u>ALL VOTERS</u>	<u>African Americans</u>
Yes, will affect people in the U.S.	75	83
No, will not affect people in the U.S...	16	10
Not sure	9	7

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

14e. If you knew that the U.S. assistance to help Africa deal with the AIDS epidemic would be part of a larger international effort with Europe, Japan, and other countries doing their share, would you be much more likely to support it, somewhat more likely to support it, or no more likely to support it? **

	<u>ALL VOTERS</u>	<u>African Americans</u>
Much more likely to support	37	49
Somewhat more likely to support	39	35
No more likely to support	20	12
Less likely to support (VOL)	1	-
Not sure	3	4

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14f. Now I am going to read you some reasons that people might give for supporting increased U.S. government assistance to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa . For each one, please tell me how convincing a reason it is to support increased assistance -- very convincing, fairly convincing, only somewhat convincing, or not that convincing. **

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE OF ALL VOTERS WHO SAY VERY CONVINCING

	<u>Very Convincing</u>	<u>Fairly Convincing</u>	<u>Only Somewhat Convincing</u>	<u>Not That Convincing</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
We all live on one planet, and the whole world benefits from fighting the spread of AIDS--If the epidemic has spread that much in Africa, we are fooling ourselves If we think that it won't affect the U.S.--It will, unless we do something now					
ALL VOTERS	44	14	21	16	5
African Americans	67	12	11	7	3
The AIDS epidemic is creating millions of orphans that are overwhelming the capacities of orphanages and churches, and filling the streets of many African cities. An estimated forty million children will lose a parent to AIDS by 2010					
ALL VOTERS	40	15	23	15	7
African Americans	56	18	17	6	3
The AIDS epidemic has been running rampant in Africa and has infected as many as one in every four people in several African countries, and infection rates are still climbing					
ALL VOTERS	39	14	24	15	8
African Americans	54	16	16	9	5
There are now proven treatments that will reduce the chances that a child will be born with AIDS. By making these treatments available to African children, U.S. assistance can make a positive difference in limiting the spread of AIDS					
ALL VOTERS	34	19	28	13	6
African Americans	49	19	20	8	4

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Q.14f. (cont'd)

	<u>Very Convincing</u>	<u>Fairly Convincing</u>	<u>Only Somewhat Convincing</u>	<u>Not That Convincing</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
The emphasis of U.S.-funded assistance to Africa is to help African communities help themselves, rather than try to solve their problems for them					
ALL VOTERS	29	16	27	21	7
African Americans	31	15	26	21	7
International organizations are making progress in slowing rates of new infection in some African countries, but their resources are stretched too thinly to meet the crisis					
ALL VOTERS	24	18	34	16	8
African Americans	35	16	27	14	8

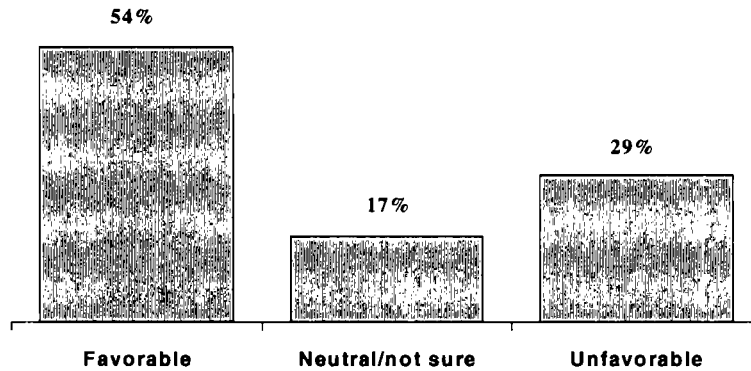
** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

14g. With all of this in mind, what is your reaction to increasing U.S. government assistance to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa -- is your reaction very favorable, somewhat favorable, neutral, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable? **

	<u>ALL VOTERS</u>	<u>African Americans</u>
Very favorable.....	23	54
Somewhat favorable	32	25
Neutral	15	6
Somewhat unfavorable	12	5
Very unfavorable.....	13	6
Not sure	5	4

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

Increase U.S. Assistance to Fight AIDS in Africa



Peter D. Hart Research Associates surveyed 1,411 registered voters, including 310 African Americans, by telephone between February 20 and 26, 1999, for the Children's Research and Education Institute.

American voters view the spread of AIDS in Africa as a serious problem. Although many voters have not heard much about the issue, they nonetheless believe that it is likely to have an impact here at home. A majority of Americans have a favorable view of a proposal to increase U.S. government assistance for international AIDS programs in Africa.

- ◆ The spread of AIDS in Africa is viewed as a serious problem by two-thirds (67%) of American voters, with 45% saying that it is an extremely serious problem and an additional 22% describing it as a quite serious problem.
- ◆ The same proportion (67%) believe that it is false to say that the global AIDS crisis is coming under control.
- ◆ In addition, three-quarters (75%) of voters believe that the AIDS epidemic in Africa will affect people in the United States.
- ◆ Although the issue is important, only 19% of voters say that they have read or heard a lot about it. Nearly half (48%) say that they have heard little or nothing about it.
- ◆ A 54% majority are favorable to a proposal to increase government assistance for international efforts to fight the spread of AIDS in Africa. Only 29% are unfavorable.
 - An overwhelming 83% majority of African Americans are favorable (55% strongly favorable), and only 10% are unfavorable.
- ◆ Support for greater assistance increases when it is placed in the context of an international effort. Three-quarters (76%) of voters say that they would be more likely to support assistance to help Africa deal with the AIDS epidemic if they knew that it would be a part of a larger international effort with Europe, Japan, and other countries doing their share.