

"returning to the closed primary system" for its House races, according to state Sen. **Jay Dardenne** (R). He said the legis. needs to act early in the '98 special session to "fix the problem created" when the Supreme Court ruled the state's "method of electing members of Congress violates federal law." Dardenne believes if the legis. doesn't act, a federal court "will impose its own corrective measure, which would probably be the 'closed primary' system that existed before 1975" (12/16).

Fields Back In The State Senate

Ex-Rep. **Cleo Fields** (D) "overwhelmed five opponents" 12/13, capturing three of every four votes cast, in a special state Senate election. Fields, who returns to the state Senate where he served until his election to Congress in '92, rec'd 74% of the vote (*Advocate*, 12/14). ([Back to Contents](#))

► POLL UPDATE

33 CBS/NYT: How To Question Affirmative Action

1,258 adults surveyed 12/6-9; margin of error +/- 3%. Oversample of 424 CA adults (Cal); margin of error +/- 5%. And oversample of 173 blacks (Blk) (release, 12/13).

What Word/Phrase Comes To Mind When Hear "Affirmative Action?"

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal	4/95
Equal rights	14%	13%	23%	16%	9%
Discrimination	11	12	4	13	6
Doesn't work	3	4	3	4	2
Racism	2	2	2	4	1
Minorities	2	2	1	1	4

Affirmative Action Necessary To Ensure Companies Have Racially Diverse Workforce?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Necessary	44%	38%	80%	46%
Not necessary	51	57	17	49

Affirmative Action Necessary To Ensure More Black Doctors?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Necessary	29%	24%	65%	31%
Not necessary	63	69	28	62

Who Has Better Chance Of Getting Ahead In Today's Society?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
White people	43%	39%	63%	47%
Black people	5	7	1	3
Equal	46	49	30	46

Who Has Better Chance Of Getting Ahead In Today's Society?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Men	50%	51%	41%	56%
Women	8	7	13	6
Equal	40	39	43	36

Give Preference Where There Has Been Job Discrimination Against Women In The Past?

How Important For Company To Have A Racially Diverse Workforce?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Very important	40%	32%	77%	44%
Somewhat impor.	32	36	13	30
Not too impor.	15	17	3	13
Not at all imp.	10	11	5	9

How Important For College To Have A Racially Diverse Student Body?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Very important	43%	36%	76%	52%
Somewhat impor.	35	39	15	25
Not too impor.	12	13	5	10
Not at all imp.	9	10	2	10

Laws To Protect Minorities From Discrimination

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Necessary	69%	65%	88%	70%
Not necessary	27	31	9	28

Laws 30 Years Ago To Protect Minorities From Discrimination

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Necessary	88%	87%	91%	90%
Not Necessary	9	9	7	6

Laws To Protect Women From Discrimination

	All	Men	Wom	Cal
Necessary	67%	60%	74%	67%
Not necessary	30	37	23	30

Give Preference Where There Has Been Job Discrimination Against Blacks In The Past?

JULIE -
Did you see this?
Joe

	All	Men	Wom	Cal	10/95
Yes	37%	32%	42%	38%	44%
No	51	55	46	49	47

With Equally Qualified College Applicants, Accept Minority To Achieve Racial Balance/Racial Balance Should Not Be Factor?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Accept minority	20%	20%	25%	21%
Race not factor	69	69	63	64

What Usually Happens In Average Company When Equally Qualified People Compete For Job?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Black hired	19%	22%	3%	14%
White hired	47	41	83	48

Employers/Colleges Using Outreach Programs To Hire Min. Workers/ Find Min. Students

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Favor	60%	56%	80%	66%
Oppose	27	30	8	25

Good Idea In Hiring/Promotion College Admis. To Select Equally Qualfied Woman Over Man?

	All	Men	Wom	Cal
Good idea	34%	28%	39%	34%
Bad idea	39	42	36	36

Which Is Bigger Problem In Workplace? Blacks Losing Out Because Of Discrim/Whites Losing Out Because Of Affirm. Action?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Blacks losing	35%	31%	63%	39%
Whites losing	34	39	10	29

To Make Up For Past Discrim, Programs Which Impose Quotas For Racial Minorities

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Favor	19%	15%	48%	22%
Oppose	72	78	37	69

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal	2/96
Yes	35%	31%	62%	34%	29%
No	52	57	23	52	61

What Should Happen To Affirmative Action Programs In The Future?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
End now	12%	13%	0%	17%
Phase out	40	45	17	35
Continue	41	35	80	40

Affirm. Action Programs In Hiring/Promoting/College Admis. Be Cont'd/Abolished?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Continue	41%	35%	80%	41%
Abolish	47	52	14	49

What Should Happen To Affirm. Action Programs?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Leave them	24%	21%	36%	24%
Change them	43	41	56	38
Abolsh them	25	30	3	27

Good Idea To Select Equally Qualified Minority Over White?

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Good idea	32%	31%	38%	35%
Bad idea	38	38	36	35

To Make Up For Past Discrim, Programs Which Give Preferential Treatment To Racial Minorities

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Favor	26%	21%	51%	29%
Oppose	65	70	36	61

To Make Up For Past Discrim, Programs Which Make Special Efforts To Help Minorities

	All	Wht	Blk	Cal
Favor	55%	50%	80%	58%
Oppose	39	44	11	35

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34 FOX NEWS/OPINION DYNAMICS: The Other Denver Trial

904 regis. voters surveyed 12/9-12/11; margin of error +/- 3% (release, 12/15).

Was Terry Nichols Involved In OKC Bombing?

	All	Wom	Men	Dem	GOP	Ind	9/97
Yes	77%	78%	77%	78%	84%	74%	74%
No	4	4	3	5	1	5	6

Nichols Involvement Compared To That Of Tim McVeigh

	All	Wom	Men	Dem	GOP	Ind
More	9%	8%	9%	11%	7%	10%
Less	46	45	46	49	52	37
Equal	30	30	30	26	31	34

If Convicted, What Should Nichols' Punishment Be?