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FROM: Caroline Leedy

DATE: 5/12/00

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING COVER): _____

MESSAGE:

Conducted 7/13-14/99; surveyed 722 adults; margin of error +/- 4%; Sample^: surveyed 371; MoE +/- 5%; Sample^^: surveyed 351; MoE 5% (Release, 7/15). [Click here to see entire national poll.](#)

What do you think is the single most important problem for the government -- the President and Congress -- to address in the coming year?

	All	GOP	Dem	Ind
Health care	14%	12%	18%	12%
Social Security	8	9	8	7
Budget deficit/				
National debt	6	6	4	7
Education	5	4	10	3
Medicare/Medicaid	5	5	8	3
Taxes	5	6	3	6
Economy	3	3	3	3
Poverty/Homelessness	3	2	1	6
Crime	2	3	2	2
Guns	2	1	3	2
Foreign policy	2	3	3	2
Jobs and unemployment	2	1	2	3
Moral values	2	5	-	2
Welfare	2	2	2	2
Youth crime/violence	2	2	1	3
Social issues	2	-	2	2
Other	17	14	14	18
DK/NA	18	22	16	17

Conducted 4/22; surveyed 450 adults; margin of error +/- 5% (release, 4/23). [Click here to see entire national poll.](#)

Do you favor or oppose the nationwide BAN on assault weapons?

	All	Parents	Non	8/96
			Parents	
Favor	71%	69%	73%	72%
Oppose	25	28	23	24
DK/NA	4	3	4	4

Would you favor or oppose a BAN on the sale of all handguns, except those that are issued to law enforcement officers?

	All	Parents	Non	6/94
			Parents	
Favor	43%	47%	40%	46%
Oppose	53	51	54	50
DK/NA	4	2	6	4

Is your opinion of the National Rifle Association favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't

DK/Ref.

6

5

What do you think is more important to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?

All 12/'93

Protect right of		
Americans to own guns	30%	34%
Control gun ownership	65	57
Don't know/Refused	5	9

ZOGBY

Conducted 8/17-19/99; surveyed 1,007 likely voters; margin of error +/- 3.2% (release, 8/26). [Click here](#) to see entire national poll.

Congress recently passed new gun laws. Which of the following two statements comes closest to your own opinion?

Statement A: These laws will prohibit acts of gun violence like what happened recently in Atlanta, Columbine High School, and Los Angeles.

Statement B: These laws are cosmetic and Congress is just reacting to the press which is blaming gun owners for the action of criminals and the mentally ill.

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind	Men	Wom
Statement A	31%	41%	21%	28%	23%	38%
Statement B	55	42	68	58	65	47
Neither	10	13	7	11	11	9
Not sure	4	4	5	3	2	6

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Handguns should be banned.

	All	Dem	GOP	Ind	Men	Wom
Agree	24%	27%	19%	25%	16%	30%
Disagree	74	69	80	73	84	65
Not sure	3	5	1	2	0	5

Conducted 8/17-19/99; surveyed 1,007 likely voters; margin of error +/- 3.2% (release, 8/25). [Click here](#) to see entire national poll.

The Canadian government system says it is a privilege to own a gun and citizens do so at the total discretion and control of the state. Under the American government system, gun ownership is considered an individual right under the constitution. Which system would you prefer to live under, the Canadian system or the American system?

Associated Press Poll
 Conducted by ICR
 Latest: April 14-18, 2000.
 N=829 adults nationwide

4/00	8/99	5/99 %	4/99 %	%	%
"Do you favor stricter gun control laws or do you oppose them?"					
Favor		60	56	63	55
Oppose		30	39	31	34
Don't know		10	5	6	11

"Which of these do you think is more likely to decrease gun violence: better enforcement or tougher gun laws?"

Better enforcement	42
Tougher laws	33
Neither (vol.)/Don't know	25

"Do you favor or oppose laws requiring that all guns be sold with a trigger lock, which must be unlocked before the gun can be fired?"

Favor	76
Oppose	20
Don't know	4

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press
 Princeton Survey Research Assoc.
 April 12-16, 2000
 N=1,000 adults nationwide.

Form 1 registered voters (N=358):

"Suppose a member of Congress voted AGAINST gun control. Do you think this member should be reelected, or not?"

	4/00	7/99
	%	%
Should be	44	35
Should not be	41	55
Don't know/Refused	15	10

Form 2 registered voters (N=358):

"Suppose a member of Congress voted FOR gun control. Do you think this member should be re-elected, or not?"

	4/00	7/99
	%	%
Should be	60	69
Should not be	25	25
Don't know/Refused	15	6

All respondents:

"Please tell me if you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party could do a better job of reflecting your views about gun control?"

	4/00	6/99	12/93
%	%	%	
Republican Party	30	34	32
Democratic Party	36	42	42
Both equally (vol.)	4	4	-
Neither (vol.)	7	8	8
Don't know/Refused	23	12	18

Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll.

April 7-9, 2000.

N=1,006 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 3.

"In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More Strict	Less Strict	Kept As Now	No Opinion	
	%	%		%	%
4/00	61	7	30	2	

12/99	60	10	29	1
8/99	66	6	27	1
6/99	62	6	31	1
5/99	65	5	28	2
4/99	66	7	25	2
2/99	60	9	29	2
4/95	62	12	24	2
12/93	67	7	25	1
3/93	70	4	24	2
1991	68	5	25	2
1990	78	2	17	3

BC News/Washington Post Poll.
 March 30-April 2, 2000.
 N=1,083 adults nationwide.

"How important will handling the issue of gun control be to you in deciding how to vote in the 2000 presidential election in November: very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not important at all?"

	4/00	10/99	9/99
	%	%	%
Very important	62	61	56
Somewhat important	21	24	25
Not too important	8	8	9
Not important at all	9	6	9
No opinion	-	1	1

"Do you favor or oppose stricter gun control laws in this country?"

	4/00	9/99	8/99	5/99
	%	%	%	%
Favor	64	63	63	67
Oppose	34	35	34	31
No opinion	2	2	3	1

"Do you think stricter gun control laws would reduce the amount of violent crime in this country, or not?"

	4/00	9/99
%	%	
Yes	51	50
No	48	48
No opinion	2	1

"What do you think is the best way to reduce gun violence in this country: by passing stricter gun control laws, or by stricter enforcement of existing laws?"

	%
Passing stricter laws	33
Stricter enforcement of laws	53
Both (vol.)	7
Neither (vol.)	5
No opinion	2

"Do you think the National Rifle Association has too much influence, too little influence, or the right amount of influence over gun control laws in this country?"

	4/00	9/99
	%	%
Too much	44	47
Too little	18	17
Right amount	32	31
No opinion	6	5

"Do you or does anyone in your house own a gun, or not?"

4/00	9/99
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		%	%
Yes	43	44	
No	56	56	

Fox News/Opinion Dynamics Poll.

March 22-23, 2000.

N=900 registered voters nationwide. MoE +/- 3.

	ALL %	Gun Owners %
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"The National Rifle Association says failed enforcement of gun laws is the reason for gun violence, but the Clinton Administration says guns and access to guns are the problem. Which comes closer to your view: lack of enforcement of gun laws is the problem, or guns and access to guns are the problem?"

Enforcement	36	49
Guns	44	32
Neither/Both (vol.)	14	15
Not sure	6	5

"Which of the following do you think is more likely to decrease gun violence: better enforcement of existing gun laws, or more laws and restrictions on obtaining guns?"

Better enforcement	41	54
More laws	37	24
Both (vol.)	14	13
Not sure	8	8

"Do you think President Clinton is serious about imposing stronger gun control laws, or is he more interested in having a political issue to use against Republicans in the upcoming election?"

Serious about laws	40	35
Wants political issue	45	50
Not sure	15	15

CNN/Time Poll conducted by Yankelovich Partners.

Latest: March 8-9, 2000.

N=1,559 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 2.5.

"Do you favor or oppose the federal government requiring people to get a license in order to legally own a handgun?"

	Favor	Not Oppose	Sure
	%	%	%
3/00	72	25	3
7/99	77	21	-

ABC News.com Poll.

March 3-7, 2000.

N=1,012 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 3. Field work by ICR.

"Say a child takes a gun owned by his parents and uses it to shoot someone. Do you think the parent should or should not be charged with a crime for failing to prevent the child from getting the gun?"

%

Should be charged 75

Should not be 15

No opinion 10

Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll.
 Latest: Jan. 13-16, 2000.
 N=1,027 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 3.

"Would you favor or oppose the registration of all handguns?"

	Favor	Oppose	No Opinion
	%	%	%
1/00	73	26	1
2/99	79	19	2
1993	81	18	1
1991	80	17	3
1990	81	17	2
1985	70	25	5
1982	66	30	4

"Do you think the amount of gun-related violence in America could be significantly reduced by stricter enforcement of the current gun laws, or is it also necessary to pass new gun laws?"

	%
Stricter enforcement	41
New gun laws	47
Other (vol.)	2
Neither (vol.)	7
No opinion	3

CNN/Tim Poll conducted by Yankelovich Partners.

Latest: Jan. 5-6, 2000.

N=1,589 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 2.3.

"Do you favor or oppose stricter gun control laws?"

	1/00	7/99
	%	%
Favor	59	61
Oppose	36	36
Not sure	5	3

Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll.

Latest: Dec. -12, 1999.

N=1,037 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 3.

"In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More Strict %	Less Strict %	Kept As Now %	No Opinion %
12/99	60	10	29	1
8/99	66	6	27	1
6/99	62	6	31	1
5/99	65	5	28	2
4/99	66	7	25	2
2/99	60	9	29	2
4/95	62	12	24	2
12/93	67	7	25	1
3/93	70	4	24	2
1991	68	5	25	2
1990	78	2	17	3

"To what extent do you blame gun manufacturers in the United States for crimes committed with guns in this country? Do you blame them completely, a lot, a little, or not at all?"

	%
Completely	4
A lot	20
A little	24
Not at all	51
No opinion	1

"As you may know, the U.S. Justice Department is considering filing a lawsuit against the gun manufacture industry seeking to recover the costs associated with gun-related crimes. The companies that manufacture guns in the U.S. have stated the charges have no merit. Which side do you agree with more in this dispute: [rotate] the Justice Department or the gun manufacturers?"

	%
The gun manufacturers	67
The Justice Department	28
Both equally (vol.)	1
Neither (vol.)	1
No opinion	3

Los Angeles Times Poll.

Nov. 13-18, 1999.

N=1,430 registered voters nationwide.

"What is your personal view on gun control laws? Generally speaking, do you think they ought to be more strict than they are now, or less strict, or do you think the laws we have now are about right?"

	ALL	Demo-	Indepen-	Repub-
	%	crats	dents	licans
More strict	56	69	51	45
Less strict	9	6	11	11
About right	31	21	35	40
Don't know	4	4	3	4

ABC News/Washington Post Poll. =0DLatest: August 30-September 2, 1999.
N=1,526 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 3. Field work by TNS Intersearch.

"Do you favor or oppose stricter gun control laws in this country?"

	9/99	8/99	5/99
	%	%	%
Favor	63	63	67
Oppose	35	34	31
No opinion	2	3	1

"Would you support or oppose a law requiring background checks on people buying guns at gun shows?"

	%
Support	90
Oppose	9
No opinion	1

"How about a law requiring trigger locks on all stored guns?"

	%
Support	79
Oppose	20
No opinion	1

"How about a law requiring a nationwide ban on the sale of assault weapons?"

	%
Support	77
Oppose	22
No opinion	1

"How about a law requiring a nationwide ban on gun sales by mail order and over the Internet?"

	%
Support	66
Oppose	33
No opinion	1

"How about a law requiring all handgun owners to register their firearms with the government?"

	%
Support	75
Oppose	24
No opinion	1

"How about a law requiring a nationwide ban on the sale of handguns, except to law enforcement officers?"

	%
Support	32
Oppose	65

No opinion 3

"How about a law requiring a nationwide ban on people carrying a concealed weapon?"

%

Support 49
Oppose 48
No opinion 2

"Do you think stricter gun control laws would reduce the amount of violent crime in this country, or not?"

%

Yes 50
No 48
No opinion 1

"All in all, how do you feel about the way Congress has handled the issue of gun control? Would you say you're pleased about it, satisfied but not pleased, dissatisfied but not angry, or angry about it?"

%

Pleased 4
Satisfied, not pleased 33
Dissatisfied, not angry 41
Angry 18
No opinion 4

"Do you think the National Rifle Association has too much influence, too little influence, or the right amount of influence over gun control laws in this country?"

%

Too much 47
Too little 17
Right amount 31
No opinion 5

"Do you or does anyone in your house own a gun, or not?"

%

Yes 44
No 56

Asked of those with a gun in their household:

"Do you personally own a gun, or not?"

%

Yes 66
No 34

Asked of those own a gun:

"Why do you own a gun? What's the main reason?"

%

Hunting 49
Protection 26
Target/Sport 8
Collect/Hobby 4

Second Amendment/constitutional right	4
Other	10

"Have you ever called, written to, or e-mailed a public official
expressing your views on gun control?"

	%
Yes	10
No	90

"Have you ever given money to an organization concerned with the gun
control issue?"

	%
Yes	13
No	86
No opinion	1

"Have you ever voted for or against a political candidate mainly
because of their position on gun control?"

	%
Yes	14
No	85
No opinion	1

CBS News Poll.

August 15, 1999.

N=736 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 4(total sample).

	ALL %	Repub- licans %	Inde- Demo- crats %	pen- dents %
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"Last April in Littleton, Colorado, two high school students attacked their classmates with guns and bombs. And in the past few weeks there have been office shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, and in Alabama, and a shooting last week at a Los Angeles community center and day camp. How closely have you been following news about these shootings? Have you been following it very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?"

Very closely	39	42	39	36
Somewhat closely	45	45	47	44
Not too closely	12	11	11	14
Not at all	2	1	1	4
Follow some (vol.)	1	1	2	2
Don't know/No answer	1	0	0	0

"What do you think is the main reason why events like these happen?"

Lack of parental supervision	27	26	31	25
Guns/Lack of gun control	12	9	17	10
Lack of religion/moral values	9	17	5	8
Shooters had problems	9	7	10	8
Media promotes violence	7	7	6	8
Lack of discipline in school	6	3	5	8
Family breakdown in society	5	5	4	5
Society's fault	5	7	2	6
Hatred between groups	2	1	3	2
Laws not enforced	2	3	2	1
Other	6	7	3	8
Don't know/No answer	10	8	12	11

"Is there any one thing that you think could prevent events like these from happening?"

Better parenting	20	19	20	22
Better/Stricter gun control	14	12	19	10
Society having better morals	9	13	7	8
Discipline in schools	6	4	6	8
Better law enforcement	4	6	5	3
Strengthen families	4	6	3	2

Teach people not to hate	2	1	2	3
Clean up movie/TV violence	2	2	2	1
More mental health treatment	2	1	4	1
No/Nothing	22	24	18	26
Other	2	1	2	1
Don't know/No answer	11	9	12	11

"Do you think the Second Amendment of the Constitution guarantees all Americans the right to own guns, or does it not necessarily guarantee that?"

Does guarantee	48	59	41	46
Not necessarily	38	30	44	39
Don't know/No answer	14	11	15	15

"In general, do you feel the laws covering the sale of handguns should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

More strict	67	62	74	65
Less strict	5	6	0	8
Kept as they are now	23	30	19	21
Don't know/No answer	5	2	7	6

"Do you think Congress will pass stricter gun control laws this year, or not?"

Will	39	37	40	39
Will not	49	53	48	46
Don't know/No answer	12	10	12	15

"Do you think Congress should pass stricter gun control laws this year, or not?"

Should	67	60	75	66
Should not	28	38	19	28
Don't know/No answer	5	2	6	6

"Regardless of how you usually vote, do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party would do a better job dealing with gun control?"

Democratic Party	33	11	59	27
Republican Party	29	55	10	25
Both (vol.)	3	3	2	3
Neither (vol.)	12	13	10	11
Don't know/No answer	23	18	19	34

"Do you favor or oppose the nationwide ban on assault weapons?"

	8/99	4/99
	%	%
Favor	76	71
Oppose	21	25
Don't know/No answer	3	4

"Would you favor or oppose a ban on the sale of all handguns, except those that are issued to law enforcement officers?"

	8/99	4/99
	%	%

Favor	35	43
Oppose	61	53
Don't know/No answer	4	4

Newsweek Poll conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates.
 August 12-13, 1999.
 N=753 adults nationwide. MoE +/- 4 (total sample).

"Please tell me whether you favor or oppose the following proposals to regulate guns in this country. What about [see below]? Do you favor or oppose this proposal?"

	Favor %
"establishing a mandatory waiting period before a handgun could be purchased to allow time to check a buyer's background"	
ALL	93
Gun owners	91
Non-gun owners	94
"requiring child safety locks to be sold with all new handguns"	
ALL	89
Gun owners	85
Non-gun owners	91
"requiring all handgun owners to attend a course on gun safety"	
ALL	84
Gun owners	80
Non-gun owners	88
"requiring all handgun owners to register with the government"	
ALL	74
Gun owners	66
Non-gun owners	81
"banning the manufacture, sale, and possession of semi-automatic assault guns, such as the AK-47"	
ALL	68
Gun owners	63
Non-gun owners	73
"requiring owners of hunting rifles to register with the government"	
ALL	61
Gun owners	45
Non-gun owners	74
"banning gun shows where people often buy and sell guns without much supervision or regulation"	
ALL	51
Gun owners	38
Non-gun owners	60
"penalizing gun manufacturers or distributors whose weapons fall into the hands of children"	
ALL	41

Gun owners	31
Non-gun owners	47

"banning the possession of handguns except by the police and other authorized persons"

ALL	37
Gun owners	21
Non-gun owners	50

"Do you think stricter gun control laws would reduce the amount of violent crime in this country a lot, a little, or not at all?"

	ALL	Repub- licans	Demo- crats	Indepen- dents
	%	%	%	%
A lot	33	26	43	31
A little	35	39	33	30
Not at all	29	32	21	35
Don't know	3	3	3	4

"As you may know, some cities have filed lawsuits against gun manufacturers to recover money spent by hospitals and police dealing with gun violence. Do you think gun manufacturers should be held responsible for these costs, or not?"

	%
Should be	26
Should not be	66
Don't know	8

"In general, which political party do you agree with more on the issue of gun control: the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?"

	ALL	Gun Owners	Non-Gun Owners
	%	%	%
Democratic Party	34	28	38
Republican Party	26	35	21
Both (vol.)	8	8	8
Don't know	32	29	33

Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll.

Latest: June 25-27, 1999.

N=1,016 adults nationwide.

"Thinking about how the gun issue might affect your vote for major offices, would you: [rotate] only vote for a candidate who shares your views on gun control; consider a candidate's position on gun control as just one of many important factors when voting; or would you not consider gun control as a major issue?"

	6/99	5/99
	%	%
Only vote for candidate who shares views	15	15
Just one of many important factors	62	64
Wouldn't consider gun control as a major issue	21	19
No opinion	2	2

"Which party do you think can do a better job of reflecting your views about gun control: [rotate] the Republican party or the Democratic Party?"

	6/99	5/99
	%	%
Democratic Party	44	42
Republican Party	41	39
Neither (vol.)	6	8
No opinion	9	11

NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll conducted by the polling organizations of Peter Hart (D) and Robert Teeter (R).

June 16-19, 1999.

N=2,011 adults nationwide:

"Let me read you two positions on government regulation of firearms.

Between these positions, which do you tend to side with more?

Position A: The government goes too far in restricting the rights of citizens to own firearms. Position B: The government does not do enough to regulate access to firearms."

	%
A. Goes too far	37
B. Does not do enough	59
Not sure	4

=0DThe Harris Poll.

June 10-15, 1999.

N=1,006 adults nationwide.

"In general, would you say you favor stricter gun control, or less strict gun control?"

	6/99	4/98
	%	%
Stricter	63	69
Less strict	25	23
Neither (vol.)	10	7
Don't know	2	1

"In general, do you favor stricter or less strict laws relating to the control of handguns?"

	6/99	4/98
	%	%
Stricter	73	76
Less strict	20	19
Neither (vol.)	5	5
Don't know	2	-

Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll.

June -13, 1999.

N=1,022 adults nationwide.

"Now, on the subject of guns: Please tell me whether you would generally favor or oppose each of the following proposals which some people have made to reduce the amount of gun violence. How about [see below]?"

	Mixed		No	
Favor	Oppose	(vol.)	Opinion	
%	%	%	%	
"Impose a mandatory prison sentence for felons who commit crimes with guns"				
89	9	1	1	
"Mandatory background checks before people -- including gun dealers -- could buy guns at gun shows"				
87	12	-	1	
"Require safety locks or trigger guards to be included with all new handgun purchases"				
85	14	1	-	
"Raise the minimum age for handgun possession to 21 years of age"				
82	17	1	-	
"The registration of all firearms"				
79	20	1	-	
"Impose a lifetime ban on gun ownership for any juvenile convicted of a felony"				
77	21	1	1	
"Ban the importing of high capacity ammunition clips"				
68	29	-	3	
"Hold parents legally responsible if their children commit crimes with the parents' guns"				
57	39	3	1	

Fox News/Opinion Dynamics Poll.
May 19-20, 99.
N=912 registered voters nationwide.

"Do you think that people should have to complete an instruction course and get a license to own a gun -- similar to what they have to do to drive a car?"

	Gun	
	ALL	Owners
	%	%
Yes	77	68
No	19	28
Not sure	4	5

"If your congressional representative votes for tougher gun control measures, will you be more likely or less likely to vote for him or her in the next election?"

	Gun	
	ALL	Owners
	%	%
More likely	61	46
Less likely	20	31
No difference		
(vol.)	12	15
Not sure	7	8

Associated Press Poll conducted by ICR.
Latest: April 28-May 2, 1999.
N=1,006 adults nationwide.

	4/28 - 5/2/99 %	4/16-19/99 %
"Do you favor stricter gun control laws or do you oppose them?"		
Favor	63	55
Oppose	31	34
Don't know	6	11

"Which of these is more likely to decrease gun violence: better enforcement of existing gun laws or tougher gun laws?"

Better enforcement	39	47
Tougher laws	51	42
Neither (vol.)/Don't know	10	11

"Do you think the parents should face charges if they have a child under 18 who commits a crime with a gun?"

Yes	39
No	52
Don't know	9

Associated Press Poll conducted by ICR.

April 16-19, 1999.

N=765 adults nationwide.

"As you may know, several cities have filed lawsuits against gun manufacturers to recover money spent by hospitals and police departments dealing with gun violence. Do you think gun manufacturers should be held responsible for these costs, or not?"

	%
Should be	21
Should not be	70
Don't know	8

"The federal government requires background checks for most gun purchases. Do you think these background checks help reduce the number of crimes committed with guns, or not?"

	%
Do help	52
Do not	42
Don't know	5

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:ñJ(¼¿ ØØš Í i(Nationwide Polls on the Gun Issue

Pew Research Center for the People & the Press survey conducted by Princeton Survey Research
Assoc.
May 2-6, 2000.
N=1,303 adults nationwide.

✱ "What do you think is more important: to protect the right of Americans to own guns or
to control gun ownership?"

	5/00	3/00	6/99	5/99	12/93
	%	%	%	%	%
Protect rights	38	29	33	30	34
Control ownership	57	66	62	65	57
Don't know/Refused	5	5	5	5	9

"In your opinion, how likely is it that the president and Congress will pass significant
new gun control laws this year? Is it very likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not
at all likely?"

	%
Very likely	14
Somewhat likely	34
Not too likely	25
Not at all likely	21
Don't know/Refused	6

Maryland

Penn, Schoen & Berland conducted 512 interviews among likely Maryland voters January 25 to February 3, 2000.

The margin of error is plus or minus 4.3% at the 95% confidence level. The findings represent the views of a cross section of Maryland voters as a whole.

Do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose new legislation to provide the following?

Strongly favor Total favor / oppose Among all Gun in home only 1 Mandatory registration of handguns 74 85/14 74/23 2 Expanding the list of people prohibited from purchasing handguns to include those convicted of violent misdemeanors, such as assault and spousal abuse 73 85/14 87/12 3 Requiring potential handgun purchasers to obtain a license from the police in order to purchase a handgun, with a fingerprint-based background check 72 85/15 75/24 4 Requiring potential handgun owners to pass a handgun safety test before they can purchase one 70 88/11 87/12 5 Mandatory gun-safety training before allowing someone to buy a gun of any type 69 86/13 79/21 6 Requiring ballistics fingerprinting of all new guns prior to sale 60 82/15 73/26 7 Mandatory registration of rifles and shotguns 58 70/29 51/48 8 Require that all new handguns sold in Maryland are personalized and child-proof 54 76/23 61/39 9 Making anyone who illegally sells a handgun financially responsible for any damages caused by the handgun 52 71/27 61/36 10 Imposing taxes on the sale of handguns and ammunition to fund the enforcement of handgun laws 51 69/31 51/48 11 Mandatory gun-safety training for anyone who already owns a handgun 50 76/22 63/36

Summary – 3 in 4 Maryland voters want personalized and child-proof guns

More than three-fourths of Maryland voters (76%) favor new legislation which would require that all new handguns sold in Maryland are personalized and child-proof. Less than one-quarter (23%) are opposed.

Among Maryland voters who have a gun at home, 61% favor new legislation which requires that all new handguns be personalized and childproof.

Support for personalized, child-proof handguns important to voters

This proposed personalized, childproof handgun legislation could have a tremendous impact on Marylanders' next vote for the General Assembly. A 20-point advantage for a Democratic candidate becomes a 42-point advantage if the Democrat supports this proposal and the Republican candidate is opposed. A Republican who supports the proposal has a 22-point advantage against a Democrat who is opposed.

Stop gun raffles

Two-thirds of Maryland voters (66%) want to "stop gun raffles because we need fewer guns in our society, not more." Only 29% say, "gun raffles should be permitted because it is one way that groups can raise money for their activities."

Ballistics fingerprinting

More than four-fifths of Maryland voters (82%) favor ballistics fingerprinting of all new guns prior to sale. Only 15% are opposed to this measure. Ballistics fingerprinting is an example of an existing technology which can be employed immediately to help the police catch criminals who use guns.

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POLL RELEASES

March 1, 2000

Recent Shootings in Michigan and Pennsylvania Bring Attention Back to Guns in America

Gallup surveys measure America's opinions about guns

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

PRINCETON, NJ -- Two separate events -- one in Pennsylvania, the other in Michigan -- have once again focused attention on issues and opinions involving gun ownership, and on the laws regarding gun usage and gun registration. A six-year-old girl was shot and killed in Mount Morris Township in Michigan Tuesday and, in a separate incident Wednesday, two people were killed and three others wounded during a shooting spree in suburban Pittsburgh.

Gallup polls conducted in 1999 and 2000 show that approximately a third of Americans own guns. A majority of Americans, 66%, believe that laws covering the sale of firearms should be made stricter. When asked about the control of gun violence, 41% of the public believe that stricter enforcement of current gun laws is enough to reduce violence, while 47% believe that new gun laws are needed. Almost three-quarters of Americans -- 73% -- favor the registration of all handguns. A majority favors holding parents legally responsible for felonies involving guns committed by their children.

For a complete look at Gallup's trends on America's opinions about guns and gun laws, see
<http://www.gallup.com/poll/indicators/indGuns.asp>.

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Polls This Century

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To the Editor

FAQ

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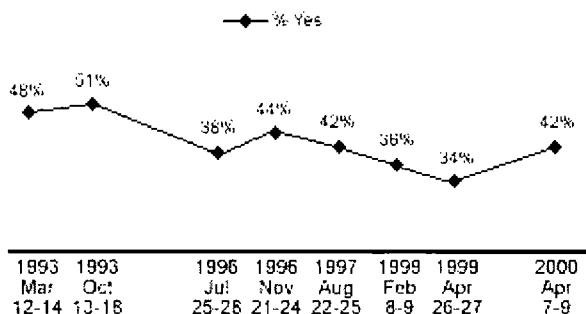
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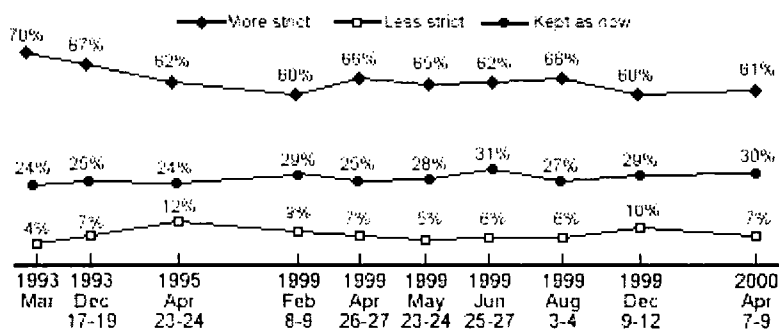
Guns in the home

Do you have a gun in your home?

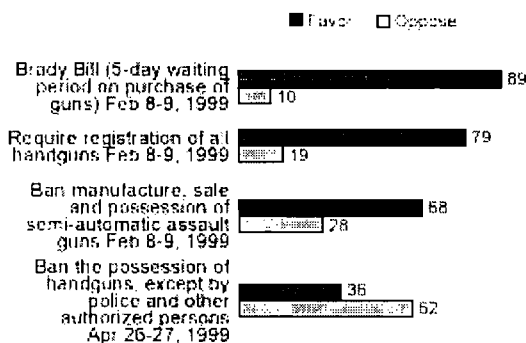


Laws covering sale of firearms

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?



Guns and gun control



Do you have a gun in your home?

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& Policy

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Lifestyle

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POLL ANALYSIS

POLL TRENDS

POLL TOPICS:

SPECIAL REPORT
Setting the Stage
Election 2000
Polls This Century

Social Audits

From the Editor

To the Editor

FAQ

	Yes	No	No opinion
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1999 Apr 26-27	34%	64	2
1999 Feb 8-9	36%	62	2
1997 Aug 22-25	42%	57	1
1996 Nov 21-24	44%	54	2
1996 Jul 25-28	38%	60	2
1993 Oct 13-18	51%	48	1
1993 Mar 12-14	48%	51	1
1991	46%	53	1
1990	47%	52	1
1989	47%	51	2
1985	44%	55	1
1983	40%	58	2
1980	45%	53	2
1975	44%	54	2
1972	43%	55	2
1968	50%	50	--
1965	48%	52	--
1959	49%	51	--

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as now	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9	61%	7	30	2
1999 Dec 9-12	60%	10	29	1
1999 Aug 3-4	66%	6	27	1
1999 Jun 25-27	62%	6	31	1
1999 May 23-24	65%	5	28	2
1999 Apr 26-27	66%	7	25	2
1999 Feb 8-9	60%	9	29	2
1995 Apr 23-24**	62%	12	24	2
1993 Dec 17-19	67%	7	25	1
1993 Mar	70%	4	24	2
1991	68%	5	25	2
1990	78%	2	17	3

**asked of half sample

Next, what is your overall opinion of the National Rifle Association, also known as the NRA, very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

	Very favor- able	Mostly favor- able	Mostly unfavor- able	Very unfavor- able	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9	15%	36	20	19	10
1999 Apr 26-27	14%	37	22	18	9
1995 Jun 5-6	14%	28	25	26	7
1993 Mar	22%	33	18	14	13

Would you favor or oppose the registration of all handguns?

	Favor	Oppose	No opinion
2000 Jan 13-16	73%	26	1
1999 Feb 8-9	79%	19	2
1993 Dec	81%	18	1
1991	80%	17	3
1990	81%	17	2
1985	70%	25	5
1982	66%	30	4
1938*	84%	16	--

(*) Question wording: *Do you think all owners of pistols and revolvers should be required to register with the government*

Do you think the amount of gun related violence in America could be significantly reduced by stricter enforcement of the current gun laws, or is it also necessary to pass new gun laws?

	Stricter enforcement of current laws	Necessary to pass new gun laws	OTHER (vol.)	NEITHER (vol.)	No opinion
2000 Jan 13-16	41%	47	2	7	3

To what extent do you blame gun manufacturers in the United States for crimes committed with guns in this country - do you blame them completely (or) a lot (or) a little (or) not at all?

1999 Dec 9-12

Completely	4%
A lot	20
A little, or	24
Not at all	51
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

As you may know, the U.S. Justice Department is considering filing a lawsuit against the gun manufacture industry seeking to recover the costs associated with gun-related crimes. The companies that manufacture guns in the U.S. have stated the charges have no merit. Which side do you agree with more in this dispute: the Justice Department (or) the gun manufacturers [ROTATED]?

1999 Dec 9-12

The Justice Department	28%
The gun manufacturers	67
Both equally(vol.)	1
Neither (vol.)	1
No opinion	<u>3</u>
	100%

Thinking about how the gun issue might affect your vote for major offices, would you: 1) Only vote for a candidate who shares your views on gun control; 2) Consider a candidate's position on gun control as just one of many important factors when voting (or would you) 3) Not consider gun control as a major issue?

Date	Must share view	One of many factors	Not a major factor	No Opinion
1999 Jun 25-27	15%	62%	21%	2%
1999 May 23-24	15	64	19	2

Other Poll Results Related to Guns

Would you generally favor or oppose each of the following proposals which some people have made to reduce the amount of gun violence?

A. Raise the minimum age for handgun possession to 21 years of age

1999 June 11-13

Favor	82%
Oppose	17
MIXED (vol.)	1
No opinion	<u>*</u>
	100%

B. Hold parents legally responsible if their children commit crimes with the parents' guns

1999 June 11-13

Favor	57%
Oppose	39
MIXED (vol.)	3
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

C. Require safety locks or trigger guards to be included with all new handgun purchases

1999 June 11-13

Favor	85%
Oppose	14
MIXED (vol.)	1
No opinion	<u>*</u>
	100%

D. Ban the importing of high-capacity ammunition clips

1999 June 11-13

Favor	68%
Oppose	29
MIXED (vol.)	*
No opinion	<u>3</u>
	100%

E. Impose a mandatory prison sentence for felons who commit crimes with guns

1999 June 11-13

Favor	89%
Oppose	9
MIXED (vol.)	1
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

F. Impose a lifetime ban on gun ownership for any juvenile convicted of a felony

1999 June 11-13

Favor	77%
Oppose	21
MIXED (vol.)	1
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

G. Mandatory background checks before people -- including gun dealers -- could buy guns at gun shows

1999 June 11-13

Favor	87%
Oppose	12
MIXED (vol.)	*
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

H. The registration of all firearms

	Favor	Oppose	MIXED (vol.)	No opinion
1999 Jun 11-13	79%	20%	1%	*%
1998 Sep 25-Oct 1	67	30	--	3
1998 Sep 9-11	67	30	--	3
1980 Sep 12-15	60	37	--	3
1975 Mar 28-31	67	27	--	6

Would you favor or oppose a federal law that would require gun owners to have liability insurance?

1999 Mar 5-7

Favor	64%
Oppose	33
No opinion	<u>3</u>
	100%

Have you ever fired a gun?

	1999 Mar 5-7	1993 Dec 17-21
Yes	67%	74%
No	33	26
No opinion	* —	* —
	100%	100%

Not including military combat, has anyone close to you -- such as a friend or relative -- ever been shot by a gun?

	1999 Mar 5-7	1993 Dec 17-21
Yes	31%	36%
No	69	64
No opinion	* —	* —
	100%	100%

A recent court case found that gun manufacturers were liable for shootings committed with weapons they had manufactured and that they had been allowed to flow illegally into certain states with strict anti-gun laws. What is your opinion? Should gun manufacturers be held liable when their weapons are used in this manner, or not?

	1999 Feb 26-28
Yes, should	41%
No, should not	58
No opinion	<u>1</u>
	100%

More generally, would you favor or oppose allowing local governments to sue gun manufacturers in order to recover the costs incurred because of gun violence in their areas?

	1999 Feb 26-28
Favor	36%
Oppose	61
No opinion	<u>3</u>
	100%

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POLL RELEASES

May 8, 2000

Little Difference Between Gore and Bush on Important Dimensions in Election

Vote choice mostly related to party affiliation; personal characteristics more important than issues

by David W. Moore

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

PRINCETON, NJ -- At this early stage of the presidential campaign, the electorate as a whole does not see much difference between the two presumptive nominees of the Republican and Democratic Parties, Texas Governor George W. Bush and Vice President Al Gore, respectively. As often happens, especially early in a campaign, voters seem to be relying primarily on their party affiliation as a guide for choosing a candidate to support. But party affiliation is not a perfect predictor of candidate preference. In addition to party, voters' evaluations of the candidates' personal characteristics have some impact on the vote, while voters' assessments of the candidates' abilities to handle the issues are less important.

According to the latest Gallup poll, conducted April 28-30, 48% of likely voters say they are either Republicans (36%) or independents who "lean" to the Republican Party (12%), while 46% say they are either Democrats (34%) or independents who "lean" to the Democratic Party (12%). But whether one leans to the party, or initially identifies with the party, the vote pattern is essentially the same. Republicans support Bush by a 91% to 4% margin, while Democrats choose Gore by 87% to 8%. Independents who do not lean to either party -- representing only 6% of the electorate -- are about evenly divided, tilting toward Bush by a 44% to 41% margin. Bush's overall 5-point lead comes mostly from the greater support he receives from his own party members (an 87-point lead) than what Gore receives from his party (a 79-point lead). The fact that those most likely to vote in the election are also slightly more Republican than Democratic (by two percentage points, as noted above) adds to Bush's advantage.

"Drivers" of the Election: Party and Personal Characteristics

In the poll, voters were asked to indicate which of the two major candidates could better handle eight issues, and separately to indicate which candidate was better described by eight positive personal characteristics. For the most part, voters picked the candidates who corresponded to their initial vote choice in these evaluations, so all of the evaluations correlate highly with presidential vote. And, not surprisingly, on most of the characteristics, the evaluations between the candidates are quite close, a reflection of the close presidential vote.

Still, the scores the candidates received varied among the 16 items, and these variations give an intriguing insight into the factors that are "driving" the election at this point in the campaign. A special statistical analysis of the responses allows each item to be rank ordered in its importance in explaining the current presidential vote.

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Election 2000

Polls This Century

Social Audits

From the Editor

To the Editor

FAQ

The results are shown in the table below.

Importance of Personal Characteristics and Issues In Presidential Vote Choice				
	Importance Score	Favors Bush	Favors Gore	Advantage to Bush (+) or Gore (-)
Party Identification	100	48	46	2
Can manage government effectively (9D)	79	43	40	3
Cares about needs of people like you (9B)	57	39	42	-3
Puts country ahead of own interests (9E)	45	37	37	0
Vision for future (9H)	44	42	38	4
Shares your values (9A)	39	43	40	3
Taxes (10H)	25	47	38	9
Education (10D)	19	41	46	-5
Economy (10A)	17	43	44	-1
Social Security and Medicare (10G)	16	41	46	-5
Understands complex issues (9F)	11	36	41	-5
Gun issue (10C)	6	43	37	6
Foreign affairs (10B)	4	43	42	1
Health care (10F)	4	37	49	-12
Strong and decisive leader (9C)	3	50	30	20
Not too extreme (9G)	3	38	42	-4
Crime (10E)	2	52	32	20

The analysis shows that taking into account all of the 16 items, as well as party identification, it is the latter that provides the highest correlation with presidential vote choice. Thus, it is assigned the value of 100. The other "importance scores" indicate how important each succeeding item is, compared to party identification, in explaining how people say they would vote. The second most important item is how people evaluated Gore and Bush on their ability to manage government effectively, and with a score of 79, this item is estimated to be 79% as important as party. This item also favors Bush, with 43% of likely voters choosing the Texas governor, compared with 40% who choose the vice president, as the candidate who would manage government more effectively.

After party identification, the five items next greatest in importance are all personal characteristics, and Bush beats Gore on three of the items, while Gore wins on just one item (the candidates tie on one). But for all five items, the margins in favor of the leading candidate are small.

The first *issue* (as opposed to personal characteristics) that appears in the list is taxes, with an importance score of 25 and a net advantage to Bush of 9. Education is the next issue, favoring Gore by 5 points, but with a lower importance score of 19. Bush does particularly well on the issue of crime, with 52% saying he could better handle the issue, compared with just 32% who say that about Gore. But with an importance score of only 2, crime appears not to be a particularly salient issue right now and gives Bush little help despite his higher

evaluation.

Similarly, Bush does particularly well on the dimension of "strong and decisive leader," with 50% of voters saying that description applies to him, while only 30% say it applies to Gore -- a net advantage to Bush of 20 percentage points. However, the statistical analysis shows that the importance score of that item is only a 3, suggesting it does not explain very well how people would vote.

Party Identification Is Related to Issues

While party identification is the most important "driver" of the presidential vote, as it is in most elections, that fact does not mean that issues are not important. Gallup polls show major differences between Republicans and Democrats on most issues, differences that are generally magnified among political representatives of each party. Thus, to choose a party is also to make a decision about issues in general -- because on most major issues, Republican representatives tend to be conservative and Democratic representatives tend to be liberal.

The analysis here shows that while most voters support the candidate of their party, some voters do not -- and for them, there are issues and personal characteristics that explain their "defections." Furthermore, the 6% of voters who consider themselves independent (and do not lean to either party) also rely on the issues and characteristics to make a decision. This analysis shows which of those items are most important -- beyond party affiliation.

For now, it is the perceived personal characteristics of the candidates, rather than how the candidates might handle the issues, that are more likely to pull some Democrats away from Gore and some Republicans away from Bush, and also help independents decide which of the two candidates to support. As the campaign progresses, and voters become more aware of the issue differences among the candidates, it could well be that the issues will become more important than they are now in explaining the vote.

Survey Methods

The results reported here are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,003 adults, 18 years and older, conducted April 28-30, 2000. The sample includes 499 respondents who are considered most likely to vote. For results based on this sample of likely voters, one can say with 95 percent confidence that the maximum error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 5 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

9. *Thinking about the following characteristics and qualities, please say whether you think each one applies more to Al Gore or more to George W. Bush. How about ... ? (RANDOM ORDER)*

BASED ON -- 499 -- LIKELY VOTERS; +/- 5 PCT. PTS.

		BOTH/ George W. Bush	SAME (vol.)	NEITHER (vol.)	No opinion
Al Gore					

A. *Shares your values*

2000 Apr 28-30	40%	43	4	7	6
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

B. *Cares about the needs of people like you*

2000 Apr 28-30	42%	39	4	9	6
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

1999 Jun 4-5	44%	44	2	4	6
--------------	-----	----	---	---	---

C. *Is a strong and decisive leader*

2000 Apr 28-30	30%	50	5	8	7
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

1999 Jun 4-5	30%	59	2	3	6
--------------	-----	----	---	---	---

D. *Can manage the government effectively*

2000 Apr 28-30	40%	43	5	5	7
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

E. *Puts the country's interests ahead of his own political interests*

2000 Apr 28-30	37%	37	5	12	9
----------------	-----	----	---	----	---

F. *Understands complex issues*

2000 Apr 28-30	41%	36	9	6	8
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

G. *Is not too extreme in his political views*

2000 Apr 28-30	42%	38	5	6	9
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

H. *Has a vision for the country's future*

2000 Apr 28-30	38%	42	9	5	6
----------------	-----	----	---	---	---

10. Next, regardless of which presidential candidate you support, please tell me if you think Al Gore or George W. Bush would better handle each of the following issues. How about ... ? (RANDOM ORDER)

BASED ON -- 499 -- LIKELY VOTERS; +/- 5 PCT. PTS.

	Al Gore	George W. Bush	SAME (vol.)	No opinion
A. The economy				
2000 Apr 28-30	44%	43	4	9
2000 Mar 10-12	46%	45	4	5
1999 Jun 11-13	35%	55	2	8
B. Foreign affairs				
2000 Apr 28-30	42%	43	4	11
2000 Mar 10-12	46%	44	2	8
1999 Jun 11-13	36%	53	2	9

C. *The gun issue*

2000 Apr 28-30	37%	43	4	16
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

2000 Mar 10-12	44%	42	2	12
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

D. Education

2000 Apr 28-30	46%	41	5	8
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

2000 Mar 10-12	48%	41	5	6
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

E. Crime

2000 Apr 28-30	32%	52	6	10
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

2000 Mar 10-12	37%	51	4	8
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

F. Health care

2000 Apr 28-30	49%	37	3	11
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

2000 Mar 10-12	54%	34	3	9
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

G. Social Security and Medicare

2000 Apr 28-30	46%	41	2	11
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

2000 Mar 10-12	49%	40	3	8
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

H. Taxes

2000 Apr 28-30	38%	47	3	12
-------------------	-----	----	---	----

2000 Mar 10-12	41%	48	3	8
-------------------	-----	----	---	---

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POLL RELEASES

April 20, 2000

One in Three Say It Is Very Likely That Columbine-Type Shootings Could Happen in Their Community

Many have asked their children to stop taunting other students

by *Mark Gillespie*

GALLUP NEWS SERVICE

PRINCETON, NJ -- Eleven American students have died in school-related homicides or suicides this school year, and statistics from the National School Safety Center show American students are 99 times more likely to be shot and killed on the street or at home than at school.

However, as the country marks the first anniversary Thursday of the massacre at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, a new CNN/*USA Today*/Gallup poll finds three out of ten Americans say it is very likely that a similar school shooting spree could happen in their community -- a finding identical to that of a similar poll conducted the day after the Columbine shootings. Another 36% say it is "somewhat likely" that a Columbine-type attack could occur in their community, while 31% believe such an attack in their community is unlikely. Among parents of school-aged children, there is slightly greater optimism -- 36% of parents believe such an attack is unlikely in their community.

Despite that, the Columbine shootings appear to have awakened parents to the possibility of violence in their children's schools. Among parents of school-aged children, 40% are "much more concerned" about their child's safety at school "as a result of the shooting at Columbine," while 30% are "somewhat more concerned." Another 28% say their level of concern is about the same as it was before the shootings.

However, when the "Columbine factor" is taken out of the equation, concern among parents appears to have dropped slightly in the year since the shootings. When asked, "thinking about your oldest child, when he or she is at school, do you fear for his or her physical safety," 43% said yes, compared to 55% in the previously mentioned post-Columbine poll. This appears to indicate that parents may associate the Columbine attack with a general feeling about the potential for violence at their child's school when specifically reminded about last year's incident, but express slightly greater confidence in their child's safety when asked about it without reference to Columbine.

Parents Taking Limited Action to Ensure School Safety

Gallup interviewers asked parents of school-aged children about steps they may have taken as a result of the Columbine shootings. Eight out of ten (80%) have spoken with their children about making fun of unpopular students or groups -- reportedly a key factor in the Columbine massacre. A majority of Americans (57%) have taken steps to check on security measures in place at the schools their children attend, and 44% say they now supervise their children's activities more closely than before. However, just 38% say the shootings have led them to become more active in their child's school in the past year.

Seventy-two percent of parents say their children's schools have increased

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Election 21
Polls This

Social Audits

From the Editor

To the Editor

FAQ

security measures since the Columbine shootings, and the majority -- 68% -- say they are satisfied with those steps to prevent future acts of school violence. On the other hand, 28% say their schools have not gone far enough, while 4% say their schools have gone too far.

While schools nationwide have taken steps to tighten security on campus, such as ID badges for students and staff and the installation of metal detectors, Americans appear to be split on whether anything that can be done will prevent violent acts such as the Columbine shootings from happening again. Forty-eight percent of parents say that "government and society can take action that will be effective in preventing shootings like the one in Colorado from happening again," while 49% of parents, as well as of the public at large, say shootings such as the Columbine case will happen again "regardless of what action is taken by government and society."

Slight Drop in Support for Stricter Gun Laws

Gallup polls conducted over the last decade consistently show strong support for stricter laws covering the sale of firearms. However, it does not appear that the Columbine shootings have had a major impact on the American public's attitudes toward gun control. While there was a minor spike in support for stricter gun laws immediately after the shootings -- 66% of Americans expressed support for this position in a CNN/*USA Today*/Gallup poll -- the latest poll shows a slight drop in support to 61%, while 30% say current firearms laws should be kept as they are now.

There is also strong support for so-called "parental responsibility" laws, which would hold a parent legally responsible for crimes committed by a child with that parent's firearms. Sixty-nine percent of Americans -- both parents of school-aged students and non-parents -- would favor such a law, while 24% would oppose it.

Survey Methods

The results below are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,007 adults, 18 years and older, conducted April 7-9, 2000. For results based on this sample, one can say with 95 percent confidence that the maximum error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 3 percentage points. In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls. For results based on the subsample of 291 parents with children in grades K-12, one can say with 95 percent confidence that the maximum error attributable to sampling and other random effects is plus or minus 6 percentage points.

As you may know, it has been nearly one year since the shooting at Columbine High School, the Littleton, Colorado school where 2 students killed 12 of their classmates and one teacher. In your opinion, how likely is it that these kinds of shootings could happen in your community, is it -- very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, or very unlikely?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9					
National adults	30%	36	18	13	3
K-12 parents	30%	33	24	12	1
.					
1999 Apr 21	30%	38	14	15	3
1998 Apr 18-20**	37%	34	15	12	2

** NBC/Wall Street Journal question wording: "As you may know, two young boys recently shot and killed several people at a school in Jonesboro, Arkansas. In your opinion, how likely is it that these kinds of shootings could happen in your community -- is it very likely, somewhat likely, somewhat unlikely, or very unlikely?"

Which of the following statements comes closer to your overall view --
[ROTATED: government and society can take action that will be effective in preventing shootings like the one in Colorado from happening again (or) shootings like the one in Colorado will happen again regardless of what action is taken by government and society]?

	Government and society can prevent	Shootings will happen regardless of actions taken	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9			
National adults	47%	49	4
K-12 parents	48%	49	3
.			
1999 Apr 21	53%	43	4

Specifically as a result of the shooting at Columbine, would you say you feel
[ROTATED: much more concerned about your child's safety today than you did before (or) somewhat more concerned (or) about the same (or) somewhat less concerned (or) much less concerned about your child's safety today than you did before]?

BASED ON -- 291-- PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12; +/- 6 PCT PTS

	Much more concerned	Somewhat more concerned	About the same	Somewhat less concerned	Much less concerned	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9	40%	30	28	1	1	*

Here are some things which some parents may have done and others have not as a result of the Columbine High School shooting. Specifically as a result of the Columbine shooting [RANDOM ORDER] ... ? Next, ...?

BASED ON -- 291 -- PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12; +/- 6 PCT PTS

	Yes	No	No opinion
A. Have you become more involved in your children's school or schools in the past year than you were before			
2000 Apr 7-9	38%	61	1
B. Have you supervised your own children's activities more closely than you had before			
2000 Apr 7-9	44%	56	*
C. Have you taken steps to find out about the security measures in place at your children's school or schools			
2000 Apr 7-9	57%	42	1
D. Have you spoken to your children about not making fun of unpopular students or groups			
2000 Apr 7-9	80%	19	1

Thinking about the school or schools your children attend, would you say your schools have gone too far, have not gone far enough or are doing the right amount to prevent acts of school violence from occurring?

BASED ON -- 291 -- PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12; +/- 6 PCT PTS

	Gone too far	Not gone far enough	Right amount	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9	4%	28	68	*

As far as you know, have your local schools taken steps in the past year to prevent acts of violence similar to Columbine?

BASED ON -- 291 -- PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12; +/- 6 PCT PTS

	Yes	No	No opinion
2000 Apr 7-9	72%	17	11

Would you generally favor or oppose a law that would hold parents legally responsible if their children commit crimes with the parents' guns?

Favor	69%
Oppose	24
No opinion	7

In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as now	No opinion
	%	%	%	%
2000 Apr 7-9	61	7	30	2
1999 Dec 9-12	60	10	29	1
1999 Aug 3-4	66	6	27	1
1999 Jun 25-27	62	6	31	1
1999 May 23-24	65	5	28	2
1999 Apr 26-27	66	7	25	2
1999 Feb 8-9	60	9	29	2
1995 Apr 23-24^	62	12	24	2
1993 Dec 17-19	67	7	25	1
1993 Mar	70	4	24	2
1991	68	5	25	2
1990	78	2	17	3

^Asked of half sample

* Less than 0.5%

For a complete review of Gallup's long-term trends on gun ownership and gun laws, see <http://www.gallup.com/poll/indicators/indGuns.asp>.

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