

THE WHITE HOUSE **BULLETIN**

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POLL WATCH

Zogby Charts Cultural Divide Between Blue States And Red States.

Pollster John Zogby teamed up with Brad O'Leary of the O'Leary Report to examine the cultural differences that underlie Blue State/Red State elections of 2000. In a report issued this morning, Zogby said, "In 2000, the presidential election was as close to a tie as it could possibly be. George W. Bush won the so-called 'Red States' in the South, Southwest and mountain West, while Al Gore won the 'Blue States' in the Northeast, the Mid-Atlantic, the Great Lakes, and the far West. But the tie was more than about the candidates. These Red and Blue states represent two separate nations as we move into the 2004 campaign."

Zogby and O'Leary described the demographics of this divide as "the Blue States have fewer Republicans, 55-69 year olds (the most conservative age cohort), rural dwellers, conservatives, Born-Again Christians, daily or weekly attendees at a place of worship, local sports fans, gun owners, investors, military veterans, and married voters. All of these differences portend a harder sell for Republican candidates. On the other hand, the Red States, have fewer younger voters, single voters, college graduates, liberals, Catholics and Jews, union members, and non-prayers." Zogby and O'Leary also divided the country into five distinct "socioeconomic precincts": secular vs. religious; gun-owners vs. non-gun owners; investors vs. non-investors; defenders (families with people currently or formerly in the military) vs. defended; and hometown values vs. mobile values.

The polling was conducted December 15-17, 2003, and surveyed 1200 likely voters nationwide (+/- 3%). Among the highlights of their findings are:

"Clinton Values"

-- 40% of the country support the "political, economic and social values espoused by former President Bill Clinton and his wife, Senator Hillary Clinton"; 51% oppose them. -- 34% of Red State Americans support Clinton values; 56% oppose them. -- 44% of Blue State Americans support Clinton values; 46% oppose them. -- 60% of military families (including extended families with people who have or are serving in the military) oppose the Clinton values. -- 44% of people whose families have never served in the military support Clinton values; 45% oppose them. -- 42% of organized labor support Clinton values; 46% oppose them. -- 82% of Jewish voters support Clinton values; 12% oppose them. -- 90% of Muslim voters support Clinton values; 10% oppose them. -- 30% of "Christians and Catholics who attend church weekly or daily" support Clinton values; 60% oppose them. -- 29% of gun owners support Clinton values; 64% oppose them. -- 41% of non-gun owners support Clinton values; 48% oppose them.

2000 Election

-- 55% of the nation believe President Bush was "legitimately elected"; 38% do not. -- 62% of Red State Americans believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 32% do not. -- 50% of Blue State Americans believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 44% do not. -- 68% of military families believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 27% do not. -- 50% of non-military families believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 42% do not. -- 22% of Jewish voters believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 71% do not. -- 39% of single voters believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 50% do not. -- 24% of those living together believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 71% do not. -- 44% of those without a high school education believe President Bush was legitimately elected; 50% do not.

Iraq War

-- 48% of the country support President Bush's position that "we need to help create a stable government even if it requires a sustained commitment of our troops and resources"; 45% support "what is becoming the Dean and Democratic Party position," that "we should bring home our troops as quickly as possible and turn Iraq over to the United Nations or an international force that would include Russia, France, Germany, China, and NATO." -- 52% of Red State Americans support President Bush's position; 39% do not. -- 43% of Blue State Americans support President Bush's position; 50% do not. -- 56% of military families support President Bush's position; 40% do not. -- 44% of non-military families support President Bush's position; 49% do not. -- 41% of government employees support President Bush's position; 51% do not. -- 62% of gun owners support President Bush's position; 32% do not.

Guantanamo Prisoners

-- 52% of the country agrees with the US Justice Department "that terrorist prisoners captured and housed at Guantanamo Bay cannot challenge their arrest, plead their cases or talk to a lawyer because they are not US citizens and are prisoners of war"; 38% do not. -- 56% of Red State Americans agree with DOJ; 35% do not. -- 48% of Blue State Americans agree with DOJ; 41% do not. -- 40% of Democrats agree with DOJ; 51% do not. -- 60% of military families agree with DOJ; 30% do not. -- 45% of non-military families agree with DOJ; 46% do not. -- 55% of labor union members agree with DOJ; 35% do not. -- 57% of Catholics and Protestants agree with DOJ. -- 64% of gun owners support DOJ; 26% do not. -- 43% of non-gun owners support DOJ; 47% do not.

Religion

-- 62% of the country agree that "by removing prayer in school, by removing the words under God from the Pledge of Allegiance, and fighting the display of the Ten Commandments or a nativity scene, we have eliminated our moral compass in daily decision-making"; 34% do not. -- 69% of Red State Americans agree with the statement; 27% do not. -- 57% of Blue State Americans agree with the statement; 40% do not. -- 72% of African Americans agree with the statement; 28% do not. -- 59% believe "having a president who believes in God and is deeply religious, but whom most Americans believe has done a good job managing the economy and foreign policy" is more important than "having a president who is not religious, but whom most

Americans believe has done a good job managing the economy and foreign policy."

Same Sex Marriage

-- 62% of the country prefer the statement "state and federal governments should only recognize marriage between a man and a woman"; 34% prefer the statement "state and federal governments should recognize a civil union between two persons of the same sex who live together, and who seek recognition from their state, with a state license granting them the legal benefits of marriage." -- 69% of Red State Americans prefer the man and woman statement; 27% prefer the civil union statement. -- 57% of Blue State Americans prefer the man and woman statement; 40% prefer the civil union statement.

Concealed Carry And Gun Control

-- 79% of Americans support "laws that allow residents to qualify for a permit to carry a firearm to protect themselves if they pass a background check, if they participate in firearms training and pay a fee to cover administrative costs"; 18% do not. -- 66% of Americans (and 62% of "moderates") prefer the statement "there are enough laws on the books, what is needed is better enforcement of current laws regarding gun control"; 34% prefer the statement "there needs to be new and tougher gun control legislation to help in the fight against gun crime." -- 66% of Catholics support the NRA's fight against gun control. -- 65% of Protestants support the NRA's fight against gun control. -- 81% of Jews oppose the NRA's fight against gun control. -- 88% of Muslims oppose the NRA's fight against gun control. -- 81% of Americans believe "killing wild animals for food or sport is an American tradition and an essential part of wildlife management"; 14% believe "hunting is a cruel sport and should be outlawed." -- 68% of liberals believe "killing wild animals for food or sport is an American tradition and an essential part of wildlife management." -- 81% of moderates believe "killing wild animals for food or sport is an American tradition and an essential part of wildlife management." -- 80% of union members believe "killing wild animals for food or sport is an American tradition and an essential part of wildlife management." -- 80% of non-union members believe "killing wild animals for food or sport is an American tradition and an essential part of wildlife management."

Taxes

-- 41% of the country "personally" believe "the Bush tax cuts [were] good for you"; 31% felt they made no difference; 25% believe they were bad. -- 23% of liberals said the Bush tax cuts were good; 40% said they were bad. -- 34% of moderates said the Bush tax cuts were good; 30% said they were bad. -- 51% of married voters said the Bush tax cuts were good; 20% said they were bad. -- 25% of single voters said the Bush tax cuts were good; 34% said they were bad. -- 40% of Catholics said the tax cuts were good. -- 44% of Protestants said the tax cuts were good. -- 30% of Jews said the tax cuts were good; 35% said they were bad. -- 78% of Muslims said the tax cuts were good; 10% said they were bad. -- 54% of investors said the tax cuts were good; 21% said they were bad. -- 29% support a tax rate of between 10% and 20% when told, "Suppose you earned one million dollars in your job"; 27% support a rate of between 21% and 30%; 21% support a rate of more than 30%; 17% support a rate of less than 10%.

Abortion

-- 52% prefer the statement, "Abortion destroys a human life and is manslaughter"; 36% prefer, "Abortion does not destroy a life and is not manslaughter." -- 66% of Republicans believe abortion is manslaughter. -- 43% of Democrats believe abortion is manslaughter; 43% do not. -- 22% believe in more restrictions on abortion compared to what they believed "5-10 years ago"; 11% believe in fewer restrictions; 66% said their views have stayed the same.