

A SURVEY OF ATTITUDES TOWARD  
THE AMERICAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

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Introduction

This report presents the findings of a survey conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc., among a representative sample of the American electorate.

Between July 10 and July 14, 1986, Hart Research conducted telephone interviews with 1,000 adults who report that they regularly vote in federal and state elections. Individual interviews lasted an average of 25 minutes.

Respondents were selected by scientific random sampling techniques and the use of a random-digit dialing system. With a sample of this size, the statistical margin of error at the 95% confidence level is plus or minus 3%.

This survey was commissioned by People for the American Way. The research was supervised by Geoffrey D. Garin, President of Hart Research.

This report conforms with the disclosure standards of the American Association of Public Opinion Research and the National Council on Public Polls.

Overview of Key Findings Concerning  
The Courts and Court Appointments

Familiarity with the Judiciary

- Three-fifths of all Americans feel they are generally familiar with the workings of the U.S. Supreme Court. Overall, 59% report that they know a lot (21%) or some (38%) about the Supreme Court; 26% say they know just a little about the Court, and 15% say they know hardly anything about it. When asked about their familiarity with the entire federal court system, 51% say they know a lot or some about it, while 32% know just a little or hardly anything about it. The Supreme Court ranks somewhat below the U.S. Congress in voter familiarity; 67% say they know a lot or some about the Congress.
- Large majorities of the electorate indicate familiarity with specific facts about the court system. For example, 80% say they know that there are nine judges on the Supreme Court. Seventy-eight percent say they know that a presidential nominee to the federal courts must be approved by a majority vote of the U.S. Senate. Seventy-eight percent say they know that federal court judgeships are lifetime appointments.
- Despite his recent nomination as chief justice of the Supreme Court, substantive familiarity with William Rehnquist is a distinctly minority phenomenon among the electorate. Sandra Day O'Connor is somewhat more widely known.

--Just 30% of the voters say they are familiar with William Rehnquist and know something about him, another 28% say they just know his name, and 42% are unfamiliar with his name. Among those with an opinion of Justice Rehnquist, 12% are mainly favorable, 10% are neutral, and 5% are mainly unfavorable.

--Sixty percent of the voters say they know something about Sandra Day O'Connor, 20% say they just know her name, and 20% say they are unfamiliar with her name. Among those who report an impression of her, 39% are mainly favorable, 16% are neutral, and 3% are mainly unfavorable.

--Three-fifths of all voters say they know something about Edwin Meese, and 28% say they just know his name; 12% report they are unfamiliar with Mr. Meese's name. Among those with an opinion, 16% are mainly favorable toward the Attorney General, 23% are neutral, and 16% are mainly unfavorable.

Criteria for Court Appointments

- From among twelve considerations, voters place the highest priority on three qualities in the selection of federal judges:
  - Seventy-four percent stress the importance of "being a fair and open-minded person who avoids personal prejudice."
  - Seventy-one percent assign the highest rating to "having a spotless record of honesty and personal integrity."
  - Sixty-three percent place very high priority on "having a strong commitment to ensuring that women and minorities have equal rights under the law."
- Three other factors are rated as highly important by a near majority of the electorate: "having a distinguished record of experience as a lawyer" (46%), "having a distinguished record of service in other judicial positions" (45%), and "taking a strong 'law and order' approach on issues involving law enforcement" (45%).
- Of the twelve considerations presented to them, voters put the lowest priority on ideological considerations. Just 18%, for example, place a high degree of importance on "having a very conservative philosophy on issues," and only 10% stress the importance of "having a very liberal philosophy."
- Just 22% think that "taking a strong 'pro-life' position in opposition to legalized abortion" should be a priority consideration in the selection of federal judges.

### The Senate's Role in Judicial Appointments

- The vast majority of voters consistently express support for the ideas that the Senate should play an active role in reviewing a judicial nominee and that it should make an independent decision about whether a president's nominee is in the best interests of the country.

--Eighty-six percent say it is very or quite important for the Senate to play an active role in reviewing a president's selection for a federal judgeship, including 69% who feel this is very important.

--When given a choice, 75% say the Senate should make an independent decision about whether the president's selection is in the country's best interests, while only 18% say the Senate should go along with the president's choice if the person is honest and competent.

--By a margin of 78% to 16%, voters endorse the position that "it is important for the Senate to make sure that judges on the Supreme Court represent a balanced point of view" over the position that "the Senate should let a president put whomever he wants on the Supreme Court, so long as the person is honest and competent."

--Seventy-eight percent of all voters agree with the idea that "under our system of checks and balances, it would be wrong to give a president too much power to impose his philosophy on the Supreme Court."

- Voters were asked whether each of ten factors would be a valid reason for the Senate to oppose a president's selection for a federal judgeship. Majorities say seven factors would be valid reasons for Senate opposition:

--"The person has made statements about black people that indicate he is prejudiced against them" (83%);

--"The person had been caught cheating in law school" (79%);

--"The American Bar Association has said the person's qualifications are only the bare minimum" (68%);

--"The person has been a supporter of the Socialist Party" (67%);

--"The person has been a supporter of the John Birch Society" (62%);

--"The person has been convicted of drunk driving" (59%);

--"The person is committed to repealing the Supreme Court decision that protects a woman's right to choice on abortion" (57%).

Using the Abortion Issue as a "Litmus Test" for Judges

- Fully 74% of all voters say they support the Supreme Court decision that "leaves the choice on abortion mainly up to a woman and her doctor, without government interference," while 20% feel this decision should be reversed. Clear majorities among virtually all demographic subgroups support the decision--ranging from 85% among non-fundamentalist Protestants, 80% among voters in white-collar households, and 80% among college-educated voters, to 59% among born-again Protestants, 68% among Catholics, 68% among voters with no education beyond high school, and 69% among blue collar workers.
- By an overwhelming margin of 77% to 14%, voters believe it is a bad idea for a president to "consider only people who believe government should be able to restrict a woman's right to choice on abortion" in making federal court appointments. This includes a 60% majority of the electorate who strongly feel that this is a bad idea. Opposition is the rule throughout the range of subgroups--including Republicans (by 71% to 16%) and conservatives (by 68% to 20%). Even those who believe the Supreme Court's abortion decision should be reversed say, by a margin of 59% to 31%, that it would be wrong to make this position a prerequisite for a court appointment.

Positions on Constitutional Issues

- When asked about the Supreme Court decision that "requires police to inform suspects of their rights, including the right to have a lawyer present when being questioned by the police," 86% say they support this decision and 9% say the decision should be reversed.
- By 71% to 17%, voters say they support the Court decisions that "require the government to maintain a strict separation of church and state." At the same time, however, voters say by 52% to 37% that they favor reversing the decision that "bans officially organized group prayer in the public schools."
- By 46% to 36%, voters support the decisions that "permit employers to use affirmative action hiring goals for minorities and women, to make up for past discrimination."
- Ninety-six percent of all voters agree that "state and local governments should be required to abide by the Bill of Rights."
- By 53% to 38%, voters oppose the assertion that Attorney General Meese "is doing the right thing by using the power of his office to put pressure on stores to stop selling Playboy and Penthouse."
- By 76% to 17%, voters concur that "the Supreme Court should consider changing times and modern realities in applying the principles of the Constitution." By 57% to 34%, voters reject the assertion that "the Supreme Court should only consider the original intent of the Founding Fathers when they wrote the Constitution 200 years ago."

## TABLES

A KEY TO THE SYMBOLS USED IN THESE TABLES

- (m) Multiple responses accepted; totals may be greater than 100%.
- @ Percentages calculated only on the basis of those respondents who expressed an opinion; "not sure" responses excluded from calculations.
- + Base too small to be statistically reliable.
- ++ Base too small to be statistically analyzed.
- (VOL) Volunteered response.
- NA Not applicable.

Q.4a.

T1

INDICATIONS OF HOW MUCH RESPONDENT KNOWS ABOUT  
SELECTED BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

	<u>A</u> <u>Lot</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Some</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Just A</u> <u>Little</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Hardly</u> <u>Anything</u> <u>%</u>
The U.S. Congress	27	40	25	8
Respondent's state legislature	22	38	27	13
The U.S. Supreme Court	21	38	26	15
Respondent's state and local courts	22	35	30	13
The federal court system	15	36	32	17



INDICATIONS OF HOW MUCH RESPONDENT KNOWS ABOUT  
THE U.S. SUPREME COURT AND THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

	- - U.S. Supreme Court			- - - Federal Courts - - -		
	A Lot/ Some %	Just A Little/ Hardly Anything %	Not Sure %	A Lot/ Some %	Just A Little/ Hardly Anything %	Not Sure %
All Voters	59	41	-	51	49	-
Republicans	66	34	-	58	41	1
Independents	52	47	1	49	51	-
Democrats	55	44	1	45	54	1
Age 18-24	60	40	-	53	47	-
Age 25-34	58	42	-	52	48	-
Age 35-49	63	37	-	55	45	-
Age 50-64	60	40	-	51	49	-
Age 65 and over	52	47	1	45	53	2
Upper income white collar workers	74	26	-	64	36	-
Lower income white collar workers	67	33	-	56	43	1
Blue collar workers	48	52	-	42	58	-
Retirees	52	46	2	46	53	1
College graduates	77	23	-	68	32	-
Some college	62	37	1	52	47	1
High school or less	45	55	-	39	61	-
Whites	60	40	-	52	48	-
Blacks	49	50	1	47	53	-

Q.5.

T3 .

INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT ALREADY KNEW SELECTED  
FACTS ABOUT THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

	<u>Already</u> <u>Knew</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Had Not</u> <u>Known</u> <u>Before</u> <u>%</u>	<u>Not</u> <u>Sure</u> <u>%</u>
There are nine judges, or "justices," on the Supreme Court	80	19	1
Once the president selects a person to serve on the Supreme Court and other federal courts, the selection must be approved by a majority vote of the United States Senate	78	21	1
Supreme Court judges and other federal judges are appointed to a lifetime position on the court	78	22	-

INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT ALREADY KNEW SELECTED  
FACTS ABOUT THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

There are nine judges, or "justices," on the Supreme Court.

	Proportion Who Already Knew %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>80</u>
Republicans	84
Independents	80
Democrats	77
Age 18-24	86
Age 25-34	75
Age 35-49	84
Age 50-64	78
Age 65 and over	81
Upper income white collar workers	88
Lower income white collar workers	81
Blue collar workers	76
Retirees	79
College graduates	93
Some college	81
High school or less	71
Whites	81
Blacks	74

(cont'd)

Q.5.

T4  
(cont'd)

INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT ALREADY KNEW SELECTED  
FACTS ABOUT THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

Once the president selects a person to serve on the Supreme Court and other federal courts, the selection must be approved by a majority vote of the United States Senate.

	Proportion Who Already Knew %
<u>All Voters</u>	78
Republicans	79
Independents	76
Democrats	78
Age 18-24	72
Age 25-34	75
Age 35-49	79
Age 50-64	77
Age 65 and over	83
Upper income white collar workers	84
Lower income white collar workers	84
Blue collar workers	70
Retirees	79
College graduates	87
Some college	80
High school or less	70
Whites	78
Blacks	74

(cont'd)

Q.5.

T4  
(cont'd)

INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT ALREADY KNEW SELECTED  
FACTS ABOUT THE FEDERAL COURT SYSTEM

Supreme Court judges and other federal judges are appointed to a lifetime position on the court.

	Proportion Who Already Knew %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>78</u>
Republicans	84
Independents	75
Democrats	74
Age 18-24	75.
Age 25-34	70
Age 35-49	80
Age 50-64	79
Age 65 and over	84
Upper income white collar workers	93
Lower income white collar workers	81
Blue collar workers	66
Retirees	80
College graduates	93
Some college	84
High school or less	63
Whites	81
Blacks	56

FAMILIARITY WITH SELECTED PUBLIC FIGURES, AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS THOSE  
FIGURES AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THEM

Know Something About Public Figure

	Mainly Favor- able %	Neu- tral %	Mainly Un- Favor- able %	Not Sure Of Opinion %	Just Know The Name %	Unfami- liar With Name %
Sandra Day O'Connor	39	16	3	2	20	20
Edwin Meese	16	23	16	5	28	12
William Rehnquist	12	10	5	3	28	42

FAMILIARITY WITH SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR, AND ATTITUDES TOWARD HER  
AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH HER

- - - Know Something About Her - - - -

	Mainly Favorable	Neutral	Mainly Unfavorable	Not Sure Of Opinion	Just Know The Name	Unfa- miliar With Name
	%	%	%	%	%	%
All Voters	39	16	3	2	20	20
Republicans	46	13	2	2	18	19
Independents	32	16	2	3	27	20
Democrats	36	18	4	2	18	22
Age 18-24	35	21	5	4	19	16
Age 25-34	38	15	4	1	19	23
Age 35-49	39	15	3	2	20	21
Age 50-64	38	16	1	2	24	19
Age 65 and over	39	15	3	3	18	22
Upper income white collar workers	55	15	4	3	13	10
Lower income white collar workers	34	20	4	3	19	20
Blue collar workers	29	12	2	2	29	26
Retirees	42	13	3	1	18	23
College graduates	50	19	5	3	11	12
Some college	39	16	2	3	17	23
High school or less	31	13	2	1	29	24
Whites	40	16	3	2	19	20
Blacks	24	12	3	1	30	30

FAMILIARITY WITH EDWIN MEESE, AND ATTITUDES TOWARD HIM  
AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH HIM

- - - Know Something About Him - - - -

	Mainly Favorable %	Neutral %	Mainly Unfavorable %	Not Sure Of Opinion %	Just Know The Name %	Unfa- miliar With Name %
All Voters	16	23	16	5	28	12
Republicans	28	24	8	3	25	12
Independents	10	28	16	5	30	11
Democrats	9	20	23	5	30	13
Age 18-24	13	19	13	2	29	24
Age 25-34	13	27	12	4	33	11
Age 35-49	16	22	18	5	26	13
Age 50-64	16	23	19	5	27	10
Age 65 and over	19	25	16	6	26	8
Upper income white collar workers	23	29	19	5	18	6
Lower income white collar workers	16	28	16	4	26	10
Blue collar workers	10	19	14	5	35	17
Retirees	14	24	18	3	31	10
College graduates	21	25	27	4	18	5
Some college	17	25	15	6	27	10
High school or less	11	21	9	4	36	19
Whites	17	24	15	4	29	11
Blacks	5	22	22	4	28	19



FAMILIARITY WITH WILLIAM REHNQUIST, AND ATTITUDES TOWARD HIM  
AMONG RESPONDENTS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH HIM

- - - Know Something About Him - - - -

	Mainly Favorable %	Neutral %	Mainly Unfavorable %	Not Sure Of Opinion %	Just Know The Name %	Unfa- miliar- With Name %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>42</u>
Republicans	20	9	1	2	29	39
Independents	7	8	4	5	30	46
Democrats	7	12	8	3	26	44
Age 18-24	9	4	6	2	26	53
Age 25-34	10	9	4	3	24	50
Age 35-49	12	9	5	2	30	42
Age 50-64	12	12	5	4	31	36
Age 65 and over	14	11	4	4	28	39
Upper income white collar workers	22	12	5	3	30	28
Lower income white collar workers	12	10	7	3	31	37
Blue collar workers	4	6	3	3	26	58
Retirees	13	12	6	3	25	41
College graduates	24	14	7	2	27	26
Some college	8	10	5	5	30	42
High school or less	5	6	3	3	27	56
Whites	13	10	4	3	28	42
Blacks	2	5	6	1	33	53

Q.7.

RATINGS OF SELECTED CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHOOSING FEDERAL JUDGES <sup>1</sup>

	Mean Score	Very Important			Not So Important		(Not Sure
		(9-10) %	(7-8) %	(5-6) %	(1-4) %	%)	
Being a fair and open-minded person who avoids personal prejudice	8.9	74	19	3	4	(1)	
Having a spotless record for honesty and personal integrity	8.8	71	18	7	4	-	
Having a strong commitment to ensuring that minorities and women have equal rights under the law	8.5	63	24	9	4	(1)	
Taking a strong "law-and-order" approach on issues involving law enforcement	8.1	45	39	12	4	(1)	
Having a distinguished record of service in other judicial positions	7.9	45	34	16	5	(1)	
Having a distinguished record of experience as a lawyer	7.8	46	31	16	7	(1)	
Being rated as highly qualified by the American Bar Association and other lawyers' groups	7.5	33	42	18	7	(1)	
Being a religious person who believes in God	6.9	38	21	21	20	(1)	
Having a strong commitment to the principle of separation of church and state	6.9	29	32	25	14	(2)	
Having a very conservative philosophy on issues	6.0	18	28	32	22	(3)	
Taking a strong "pro-life" position in opposition to legalized abortion	5.3	22	16	22	40	(4)	
Having a very liberal philosophy on issues	5.2	10	20	37	33	(4)	

<sup>1</sup>Based on a ten-point scale on which a rating of "10" means the respondent thinks the quality is very important for consideration in selecting federal judges and a rating of "1" means it is not very important.

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY SELECTED CONSIDERATIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN CHOOSING  
FEDERAL JUDGES, WITH GROUPS MOST AND LEAST LIKELY TO SAY VERY IMPORTANT <sup>1</sup>

	Proportion Who Say Very Important (9-10) %	Groups Most Likely To Say Very Important:		Groups Least Likely To Say Very Important:	
			%		%
Being a fair and open-minded person who avoids personal prejudice	74			Age 65 and over	63
				Retirees	65
Having a spotless record for honesty and personal integrity	71	Above-average awareness on courts	80	Age 18-24	61
		Republicans	77	Below-average awareness on courts	63
		Conservatives	76	Liberals	65
		Age 50-64	76	Blacks	66
		Upper income white collar workers	76		
		Reagan voters	75		
Having a strong commitment to ensuring that minorities and women have equal rights under the law	63	Blacks	83	Consistently support presidential discretion	53
		Mondale voters	71	Republicans	58
		Blue collar workers	70		
		Independents	68		
		Liberals	68		
		Retirees	68		
Having a distinguished record of experience as a lawyer	46	Blacks	64	College graduates	37
		Age 65 and over	53	Men	39
		Women	52	Consistently support presidential discretion	41
		Retirees	51	South	41
				Upper income white collar workers	40
Having a distinguished record of service in other judicial positions	45	Above-average awareness on courts	55	Below-average awareness on courts	29
		College graduates	53	Age 18-24	33
		Upper income white collar workers	51	Consistently support presidential discretion	35
		West	51	Age 65 and over	37
				Born-again Protestants	38
				Retirees	39
				High school or less	39
				Moderates	40
Taking a strong "law-and-order" approach on issues involving law enforcement	45	Conservatives	58	Mondale voters	34
		Republicans	56	Liberals	34
		Consistently support presidential discretion	53	College graduates	37
		Above-average awareness on courts	53	Lower income white collar workers	38
		Reagan voters	51	Democrats	38
		Some college	50	Age 25-34	39
Being a religious person who believes in God	38	Born-again Protestants	68	College graduates	22
		Blacks	63	Above-average awareness on courts	23
		Age 65 and over	56	Upper income white collar workers	25
		Retirees	54	Age 18-24	28
		Below-average awareness on courts	51	Age 25-34	29
		High school or less	50	Liberals	30
		Conservatives	49	Catholics	32
		South	48	Northeast	33
		Women	44	Protestants/not born-again	33

(cont'd)

<sup>1</sup> Based on a ten-point scale on which a rating of "10" means the respondent thinks the quality is very important for consideration in selecting federal judges and a rating of "1" means it is not very important.

Q.7.

T10  
(cont'd)

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY SELECTED CONSIDERATIONS ARE VERY IMPORTANT IN CHOOSING  
FEDERAL JUDGES, WITH GROUPS MOST AND LEAST LIKELY TO SAY VERY IMPORTANT #1

	Proportion Who Say Very Important (9-10) %	Groups Most Likely To Say Very Important:		Groups Least Likely To Say Very Important:	
			%		%
Being rated as highly qualified by the American Bar Association and other lawyers' groups	33	Blacks	49	Catholics	26
		Other Protestants/ not born-again	38	Consistently support presidential discretion	27
				Mixed/neutral on Senate role	28
Having a strong commitment to the principle of separation of church and state	29	West	37	Age 18-24	19
		Mondale voters	36	Below-average awareness on courts	24
		Age 50-64	36		
		Above-average awareness on courts	36		
		Age 65 and over	34		
Taking a strong "pro-life" position in opposition to legalized abortion	22	High school or less	31	Protestants/not born-again	14
		Born-again Protestants	31	Mondale voters	15
		Consistently support presidential discretion	30	College graduates	16
		Age 65 and over	29	Above-average awareness on courts	17
		Conservatives	27	Liberals	17
Having a very conservative philosophy on issues	18	Blacks	32	Above-average awareness on courts	10
		Consistently support presidential discretion	30	College graduates	11
		Age 65 and over	28	Liberals	12
		Born-again Protestants	26	Upper income white collar workers	12
		Below-average awareness on courts	25	Men	13
		Conservatives	25	Age 25-34	13
		High school or less	24		
Having a very liberal philosophy on issues	10	Blacks	23	College graduates	4
		Below-average awareness on courts	17	Above-average awareness on courts	4

#1 Based on a ten-point scale on which a rating of "10" means the respondent thinks the quality is very important for consideration in selecting federal judges and a rating of "1" means it is not very important.

Q.10a,b,11b.

T11

PERCEPTIONS OF HOW IMPORTANT IT IS THAT THE SENATE TAKE AN ACTIVE  
ROLE REVIEWING THE PRESIDENT'S FEDERAL JUDGESHIP APPOINTMENTS

	Very Important %	Quite Important %	Just Somewhat Important %	Not Really Important %	Not Sure %
<u>All Voters</u>	69	17	10	3	1
Republicans	60	22	13	4	1
Independents	69	18	10	3	-
Democrats	78	12	7	2	1

PERCEPTIONS OF WHETHER THE SENATE SHOULD GO ALONG WITH THE PRESIDENT'S FEDERAL  
JUDGESHIP APPOINTMENTS OR SHOULD MAKE AN INDEPENDENT DECISION

	Make Independent Decision %	Senate Should Go Along %	Depends (VOL) %	Not Sure %
<u>All Voters</u>	75	18	5	2
Republicans	68	25	5	2
Independents	80	13	5	2
Democrats	78	15	4	3

PERCEPTIONS OF HOW THE SENATE SHOULD DEAL WITH SUPREME COURT APPOINTMENTS

Position A: The Senate should let a president put whomever he wants on the Supreme Court, so long as the person is honest and competent.

Position B: It is important for the Senate to make sure that the judges on the Supreme Court represent a balanced point of view

	Position A %	Position B %	Some Of Both (VOL) %	Not Sure %
<u>All Voters</u>	16	78	4	2
Republicans	25	69	4	2
Independents	12	82	5	1
Democrats	11	83	4	2

PERCEPTIONS OF WHETHER SELECTED REASONS FOR SENATE OPPOSITION TO A  
FEDERAL COURT APPOINTMENT ARE VALID

	<u>Valid</u> %	<u>Not</u> <u>Valid</u> %	<u>Depends</u> <u>(VOL)</u> %
The person has made statements about black people that indicate he is prejudiced against them	83	14	3
The person had been caught cheating in law school	79	18	3
The American Bar Association has said the person's qualifications are only the bare minimum	68	28	4
The person has been a supporter of the Socialist Party	67	29	4
The person has been a supporter of the John Birch Society	62	32	6
The person has been convicted of drunk driving	59	32	9
The person is committed to repealing the Supreme Court decision that protects a woman's right to choice on abortion	57	38	5
The person's philosophy tends to be very liberal, rather than moderate	40	52	8
The person's philosophy tends to be very conservative, rather than moderate	35	56	9
The person's views and legal interpretations tend to put him in a small minority among his fellow judges	30	63	7

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY SELECTED REASONS FOR SENATE OPPOSITION TO A FEDERAL COURT APPOINTMENT  
ARE VALID AND NOT VALID, WITH GROUPS MOST LIKELY TO TAKE EACH POSITION

	Proportion	Groups Most Likely To Say Valid		Proportion	Groups Most Likely To Say Not Valid	
	Who Say Valid %		%	Who Say Not Valid %		%
The person has made statements about black people that indicate he is prejudiced against them	83	Liberals	89	14	Below-average awareness on courts	22
		Upper income white collar workers	89		Age 65 and over	22
		Lower income white collar workers	89		Retirees	22
		West	88		Blue collar workers	19
		Mondale voters	88			
The person had been caught cheating in law school	79	West	87	18		
		Age 18-24	84			
		Age 25-34	84			
The American Bar Association has said the person's qualifications are only the bare minimum	68	Age 18-24	78	28	Consistently support presidential discretion	44
		Above-average awareness on courts	75		Below-average awareness on courts	35
		Upper income white collar workers	75		Retirees	34
		Blacks	74			
		Mondale voters	74			
		College graduates	73			
The person has been a supporter of the Socialist Party	67	Republicans	77	29	Blacks	40
		Conservatives	74		Mondale voters	40
		Upper income white collar workers	74		Age 65 and over	40
		Reagan voters	74		Age 18-24	37
		West	72		Liberals	37
		Age 35-49	72		Retirees	35
The person has been a supporter of the John Birch Society	62	Upper income white collar workers	71	32	Democrats	34
		College graduates	70		Age 18-24	44
		Mondale voters	70		Blue collar workers	41
		Liberals	69		Below-average awareness on courts	40
		West	68		Consistently support presidential discretion	40
		Above-average awareness on courts	67		High school or less	39
		Lower income white collar workers	67		Conservatives	38
					Born-again Protestants	38
					South	37

(cont'd)

PROPORTIONS WHO SAY SELECTED REASONS FOR SENATE OPPOSITION TO A FEDERAL COURT APPOINTMENT  
ARE VALID AND NOT VALID, WITH GROUPS MOST LIKELY TO TAKE EACH POSITION

	Proportion	Groups Most Likely To Say Valid		Proportion	Groups Most Likely To Say Not Valid	
	Who Say Valid %		%	Who Say Not Valid %		%
The person has been convicted of drunk driving	59	Conservatives	66	32	Men	40
		Women	66		Above-average awareness on courts	38
		Below-average awareness on courts	65		College graduates	38
		High school or less	65		Catholics	38
		Age 65 and over	64			
The person is committed to repealing the Supreme Court decision that protects a woman's right to choice on abortion	57	Mondale voters	66	38	Conservatives	44
		West	64		Men	44
		Liberals	63		Republicans	43
		Retirees	63		Age 35-49	43
		Protestants/not born-again	62		Catholics	43
The person's philosophy tends to be very liberal, rather than moderate	40	Age 65 and over	50	52	Liberals	66
		Retirees	50		Age 25-34	63
		Born-again Protestants	49		Consistently support presidential discretion	59
		Conservatives	48		Above-average awareness on courts	57
		Republicans	46		Midwest	57
		Mixed/neutral on Senate role	45			
		South	45			
		Age 50-64	45			
		Blacks	45			
The person's philosophy tends to be very conservative, rather than moderate	35	Retirees	46	56	Consistently support presidential discretion	68
		Blacks	46		Age 25-34	66
		Age 65 and over	44		Age 18-24	65
		Women	41		Men	63
		High school or less	40		Upper income white collar workers	63
The person's views and legal interpretations tend to put him in a small minority among his fellow judges	30	Age 65 and over	41	63	Independents	62
		Retirees	41		College graduates	62
		Below-average awareness on courts	35		Age 18-24	70
		Mixed/neutral on Senate role	35		Blue collar workers	70
					Northeast	69



INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT SUPPORTS OR WOULD  
REVERSE SELECTED SUPREME COURT DECISIONS

	<u>Support</u> %	<u>Reverse</u> %	<u>Some Of Both/ Depends (VOL)</u> %	<u>Not Sure/ No Opinion</u> %
The decision that requires the police to inform suspects of their rights, including the right to have a lawyer present when being questioned by the police	86	9	3	2
The decision that leaves the choice on abortion mainly up to a woman and her doctor, without government interference	74	20	3	3
The decisions that require the government to maintain a strict separation of church and state	71	17	5	7
The decisions that permit employers to use affirmative action hiring goals for minorities and women to make up for past discrimination	46	36	6	12
The decision that bans officially organized group prayer in the public schools	37	52	6	5

INDICATIONS OF WHETHER RESPONDENT SUPPORTS OR WOULD REVERSE  
A SELECTED SUPREME COURT DECISION

The decision that leaves the choice on abortion mainly up to a woman and her doctor, without government interference.

	<u>Support</u>	<u>Reverse</u>	<u>Some Of</u> <u>Both/</u> <u>Depends</u>	<u>Not Sure/</u> <u>No</u> <u>Opinion</u>
	%	%	%	%
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
Republicans	68	24	4	4
Independents	77	16	4	3
Democrats	76	18	3	3
Men	73	18	4	5
Women	74	21	3	2
Age 18-24	76	19	5	-
Age 25-34	78	18	2	2
Age 35-49	72	21	3	4
Age 50-64	75	17	5	3
Age 65 and over	67	24	3	6
Upper income white collar workers	80	16	3	1
Lower income white collar workers	81	14	2	3
Blue collar workers	69	22	5	4
Retirees	67	25	4	4
College graduates	80	16	2	2
Some college	76	18	4	2
High school or less	68	23	4	5
Born-again Protestants	59	30	5	6
Other Protestants/not born-again	85	9	3	3
Catholics	68	26	3	3

PERCEPTIONS OF WHETHER IT IS A GOOD IDEA FOR A PRESIDENT TO CONSIDER AS FEDERAL COURT  
APPOINTEES ONLY THOSE WHO BELIEVE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO  
RESTRICT A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOICE ON ABORTION

	Good Idea, Feel Strongly %	Good Idea, No Strong Feelings %	Bad Idea, Feel Strongly %	Bad Idea, No Strong Feelings %	Depends (VOL) %	Not Sure %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
Republicans	12	4	52	19	6	7
Independents	8	3	66	17	3	3
Democrats	10	5	61	16	4	4
Men	10	4	60	18	4	4
Women	11	4	59	17	4	5
Age 18-24	12	4	58	20	2	4
Age 25-34	8	4	68	13	4	3
Age 35-49	11	3	62	17	4	3
Age 50-64	9	4	57	20	5	5
Age 65 and over	15	6	49	16	5	9
Upper income white collar workers	7	5	65	20	2	1
Lower income white collar workers	11	3	59	19	5	3
Blue collar workers	11	3	63	14	3	6
Retirees	13	5	48	18	7	9
College graduates	8	4	62	20	3	3
Some college	8	2	64	15	5	6
High school or less	13	6	54	17	5	5
Born-again Protestants	15	6	54	13	7	5
Other Protestants/not born-again	9	3	60	20	3	5
Catholics	11	5	56	19	4	5

REACTIONS TO A SELECTED STATEMENT

As attorney general, Ed Meese is doing the right thing by using the power of his office to put pressure on stores to stop selling Playboy and Penthouse.

	<u>Agree</u> %	<u>Disagree</u> %	<u>Not Sure</u> %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>9</u>
Republicans	42	51	7
Independents	39	52	9
Democrats	33	55	12
Men	30	63	7
Women	45	44	11
Age 18-24	23	68	9
Age 25-34	29	62	9
Age 35-49	36	58	6
Age 50-64	43	47	10
Age 65 and over	54	31	15
Upper income white collar workers	23	70	7
Lower income white collar workers	38	54	8
Blue collar workers	37	53	10
Retirees	52	35	13
College graduates	29	63	8
Some college	36	55	9
High school or less	44	45	11

REACTIONS TO SELECTED STATEMENTS ABOUT THE SUPREME COURT

	In making decisions, the Supreme Court should consider changing times and modern realities in applying the principles of the Constitution			In making decisions, the Supreme Court should only consider the original intent of the Founding Fathers when they wrote the Constitution 200 years ago		
	Agree %	Disagree %	Not Sure %	Agree %	Disagree %	Not Sure %
<u>All Voters</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>9</u>
Republicans	72	22	6	36	56	8
Independents	77	15	8	32	58	10
Democrats	78	15	7	34	58	8
Men	77	17	6	36	58	6
Women	74	18	8	32	57	11
Age 18-24	79	17	4	38	55	7
Age 25-34	81	13	6	29	66	5
Age 35-49	74	19	7	31	61	8
Age 50-64	77	16	7	31	57	12
Age 65 and over	68	21	11	50	38	12
Upper income white collar workers	79	16	5	27	63	10
Lower income white collar workers	81	13	6	33	61	6
Blue collar workers	78	16	6	35	60	5
Retirees	65	23	12	44	42	14
College graduates	77	17	6	30	62	8
Some college	76	18	6	30	60	10
High school or less	75	17	8	40	52	8

## APPENDIX

Peter D. Hart Research Associates, Inc. Interviewer: 1000 RESPONDENTS  
 1724 Connecticut Avenue N.W. County: July 10-14, 1986  
 Washington, D.C. 20009 State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 202/234-5570

Respondent: Male .50 4-1 Female .50 -2

Study #2414 AREA SAMPLE POINT EDBM DATE  
 National--Courts P.C. \_\_\_\_\_ July \_\_\_\_\_, 1986  
 July 1986 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_

I'm calling from Peter D. Hart Research Associates, the national public opinion polling firm based in Washington, D.C. We are conducting a survey to find out what Americans are thinking on some issues, and I'd really appreciate the chance to get your opinions on a few questions. But first, could you tell me how many men/women age 18 or older live here and are at home now? \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

(IF ONLY ONE, BEGIN INTERVIEW. IF MORE THAN ONE, LOOK AT CATEGORY MARKED BELOW AND ASK TO SPEAK WITH THAT PERSON.)

TWO AT HOME \_\_\_\_\_ THREE OR MORE AT HOME \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEW YOUNGER \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEW YOUNGEST  
 \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEW OLDER \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEW 2ND YOUNGEST  
 \_\_\_\_\_ INTERVIEW OLDEST

- 1a. First of all, could you tell me if you are eligible to vote at this address?

Yes, eligible to vote.... 100 -1 CONTINUE  
 No, not eligible..... --- -2 TERMINATE AND  
 Not sure..... --- -3 DO NOT COUNT

- 1b. When there are elections for offices like president, governor, or senator, do you vote in nearly all of these elections, most of them, about half of them, less than half, or hardly any of them?

Nearly all..... 71 -1  
 Most..... 20 -2 CONTINUE  
 About half..... 9 -3  
 Less than half.... --- -4 TERMINATE AND  
 Hardly any..... --- -5 DO NOT COUNT  
 Not sure..... --- -6 TOWARD QUOTA

- 2a. Generally speaking, how do you feel about the way Ronald Reagan is handling the job of president--do you strongly approve, mildly approve, mildly disapprove, or strongly disapprove?

Strongly approve..... 38 -1  
 Mildly approve..... 35 -2  
 Mildly disapprove..... 11 -3  
 Strongly disapprove..... 13 -4  
 Not sure..... 3 -5

- 2b. Using a scale of 1 to 5, I'd like you to rate your feelings toward the Reagan Administration's approach to a few issues. If you have a lot of confidence in the Reagan Administration's approach on a particular issue, select a number closer to 5. If you have doubts and concerns about the Reagan Administration's approach, select a number closer to 1. You can use any number between 1 and 5 to show how you feel. If you are not sure or have no opinion about a particular item, just say so. (ASK RESPONDENT IF HE/SHE UNDERSTANDS THE SCALE. THEN READ EACH ITEM AND ASK FOR RATING. IF RESPONDENT IS NOT SURE OR HAS NO OPINION ON A PARTICULAR ITEM, RECORD A "6.")

	415	112	Cannot Base
Promoting economic growth.....	<u>46</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>4</u>
Reforming the tax system so it is fair to the middle class.....	<u>35</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>
Dealing with the federal budget deficit.....	<u>25</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>6</u>
Protecting the civil rights of women and minorities.....	<u>34</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>6</u>
Working for nuclear arms control.....	<u>39</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>5</u>
Protecting the environment from toxic wastes.....	<u>26</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>8</u>
Selecting highly qualified judges to the federal courts.....	<u>41</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>13</u>

3. I'm going to mention the names of a few public figures. For each one, please tell me if you know something about this person, just know the name, or are not familiar with the name. (FOR EACH NAME, BELOW ASK:) How about (READ NAME)--do you know something about this person, do you just know the name, or aren't you familiar with this name?

(IF "KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT THE PERSON," ASK:) Would you say your opinion of (READ NAME) is mainly favorable, neutral, or mainly unfavorable?

A) Edwin Meese

KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HIM		
Mainly favorable.....	16	-1
Neutral.....	21	-2
Mainly unfavorable.....	16	-3
Not sure of opinion.....	5	-4
JUST KNOW THE NAME .....	28	-5
UNFAMILIAR WITH NAME .....	12	-6

B) William Rehnquist

KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HIM		
Mainly favorable.....	12	-1
Neutral.....	10	-2
Mainly unfavorable.....	5	-3
Not sure of opinion.....	3	-4
JUST KNOW THE NAME .....	28	-5
UNFAMILIAR WITH NAME .....	42	-6

C) Sandra Day O'Connor

KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HER		
Mainly favorable.....	39	-1
Neutral.....	16	-2
Mainly unfavorable.....	3	-3
Not sure of opinion.....	2	-4
JUST KNOW THE NAME .....	20	-5
UNFAMILIAR WITH NAME .....	20	-6

(FORM A)

- 4a. I'd like to find out how familiar you are with some different branches of government--in terms of what they generally do and how they operate. For each one I mention, please tell me if you feel you know a lot about that branch of government, know some about it, know just a little about it, or know hardly anything at all about it. (FOR EACH ITEM LISTED BELOW, ASK:) How much do you feel you know about (READ ITEM)--a lot, some, just a little, or hardly anything at all?

	A Lot	Some	Just A Little	Hardly Anything	Not Sure
The U.S. Congress.....	<u>27</u> -1	<u>40</u> -2	<u>25</u> -3	<u>8</u> -4	<u>0</u> -5
Your state legislature...	<u>22</u> -1	<u>38</u> -2	<u>27</u> -3	<u>13</u> -4	<u>0</u> -5
Your state and local courts.....	<u>22</u> -1	<u>35</u> -2	<u>30</u> -3	<u>13</u> -4	<u>0</u> -5
The federal court system.	<u>15</u> -1	<u>36</u> -2	<u>32</u> -3	<u>17</u> -4	<u>0</u> -5
The U.S. Supreme Court...	<u>21</u> -1	<u>38</u> -2	<u>26</u> -3	<u>15</u> -4	<u>0</u> -5

- 4b. What are your main impressions--both favorable and unfavorable--of the U.S. Supreme Court and the decisions it has made in recent years? (PROBE:) In what ways has the Supreme Court had a positive influence? What decisions has it made that you particularly support? (PROBE:) In what ways has the Supreme Court had a negative influence? What decisions has it made that you particularly would want to see changed?

5. Many people know less about the Supreme Court than about other parts of the government, and there are many Americans who are unfamiliar with how judges are appointed to the federal courts. I'm going to read you some facts about the federal court system; for each one, I'd like you to tell me if this is something you already knew or something you may not have known before. (READ EACH ITEM AND ASK:) Is this something you already knew or something you may not have known before?

- A) There are nine judges, or "justices," on the Supreme Court.

Already knew..... 80 -1  
 Had not known before..... 19 -2  
 Not sure..... 1 -3

- B) Once the president selects a person to serve on the Supreme Court and other federal courts, the selection must be approved by a majority vote of the United States Senate.

Already knew..... 78 -1  
 Had not known before..... 21 -2  
 Not sure..... 1 -3

- C) Supreme Court judges and other federal judges are appointed to a lifetime position on the court.

Already knew..... 78 -1  
 Had not known before..... 22 -2  
 Not sure..... 0 -3



6. I'm going to read you some decisions that the Supreme Court has made on various issues. For each one, please tell me if you tend to support this decision or tend to feel the decision should be reversed. If you have no opinion on a particular issue, feel free to say so. (READ EACH ITEM AND ASK:) Do you tend to support this decision or tend to feel the decision should be reversed?

- A) The decision that leaves the choice on abortion mainly up to a woman and her doctor, without government interference.

Support.....	<u>74</u>	-1
Reverse.....	<u>20</u>	-2
Some of both/depends (VOL)...	<u>3</u>	-3
Not sure/no opinion.....	<u>3</u>	-4

- B) The decision that requires the police to inform suspects of their rights, including the right to have a lawyer present when being questioned by the police.

Support.....	<u>86</u>	-1
Reverse.....	<u>9</u>	-2
Some of both/depends (VOL)...	<u>3</u>	-3
Not sure/no opinion.....	<u>2</u>	-4

- C) The decisions that require the government to maintain a strict separation of church and state.

Support.....	<u>71</u>	-1
Reverse.....	<u>17</u>	-2
Some of both/depends (VOL)...	<u>5</u>	-3
Not sure/no opinion.....	<u>7</u>	-4

- D) The decision that bans officially organized group prayer in the public schools.

Support.....	<u>37</u>	-1
Reverse.....	<u>52</u>	-2
Some of both/depends (VOL)...	<u>6</u>	-3
Not sure/no opinion.....	<u>5</u>	-4

- E) The decisions that permit employers to use affirmative action hiring goals for minorities and women to make up for past discrimination.

Support.....	<u>46</u>	-1
Reverse.....	<u>36</u>	-2
Some of both/depends (VOL)...	<u>6</u>	-3
Not sure/no opinion.....	<u>12</u>	-4

7. There has been a good deal of talk lately about what factors should be considered in appointments to the Supreme Court and the other federal courts. I'm going to read you some possible considerations for selecting federal judges, and I'd like you to rate the importance of each one on a scale of 1 to 10. If you think a particular consideration is very important, pick a number around 8, 9, or 10. If you think a consideration is of medium importance, pick a number around 5 or 6. And if you think a consideration is not so important, you should pick a number around 1, 2, or 3. You can select any number between 1 and 10, but only use the number 10 if you think something is of the utmost importance. (ASK RESPONDENT IF HE/SHE UNDERSTANDS THE SCALE. THEN READ ITEM AND ASK FOR RATING. IF RESPONDENT IS NOT SURE ON A PARTICULAR ITEM, RECORD THE LETTER "A.")

	Median	9-10	7-8	5-6	1-4
A) Being rated as highly qualified by the American Bar Association and other lawyers' groups.....	7.4	33	42	18	7
B) Having a strong commitment to the principle of separation of church and state.....	6.9	29	32	25	14
C) Taking a strong "law-and-order" approach on issues involving law enforcement.....	7.8	45	39	12	4
D) Having a distinguished record of service in other judicial positions.....	7.7	45	34	16	5
E) Taking a strong "pro-life" position in opposition to legalized abortion.....	4.6	22	16	22	40
F) Having a spotless record for honesty and personal integrity.....	9.1	71	18	7	4
G) Having a strong commitment to ensuring that minorities and women have equal rights under the law.....	8.7	63	24	9	4
H) Having a distinguished record of experience as a lawyer.....	7.8	46	31	16	7
I) Being a religious person who believes in God.....	7.1	38	21	21	20
J) Being a fair and open-minded person who avoids personal prejudice.....	9.1	74	19	3	4
K) Having a very conservative philosophy on issues.....	5.6	16	28	32	22
L) Having a very liberal philosophy on issues.....	4.6	10	20	37	33

8. In making appointments to the federal courts, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for a president to consider only people who believe government should be able to restrict a woman's right to choice on abortion? (IF RESPONDENT SAYS "GOOD IDEA" OR "BAD IDEA," ASK:) And do you feel strongly about that?

Good idea, feel strongly.....	10	-1
Good idea, no strong feelings.....	4	-2
Bad idea, feel strongly.....	60	-3
Bad idea, no strong feelings..	17	-4
Depends (VOL).....	4	-5
Not sure.....	5	-6

(FORM A ONLY:)

9. What particular concerns would you have if nearly all the judges on the Supreme Court were conservatives? (PROBE:) In what areas do you think a very conservative Supreme Court might make the wrong kinds of decisions or go too far?

(FORM B ONLY:)

9. What particular concerns would you have if nearly all the judges on the Supreme Court were liberals? (PROBE:) In what areas do you think a very liberal Supreme Court might make the wrong kinds of decisions or go too far?

- 10a. Once the president selects the person he wants to appoint to a federal judgeship, the U.S. Senate must approve the selection by a majority vote. How important do you think it is for the Senate to play an active role in reviewing the president's selection--very important, quite important, just somewhat important, or not really important?

Very important.....	<u>69</u>	-1
Quite important.....	<u>17</u>	-2
Just somewhat important..	<u>10</u>	-3
Not really important....	<u>3</u>	-4
Not sure.....	<u>1</u>	-5

- 10b. Generally speaking, do you think the Senate should go along with the president's selection if the person is honest and competent, or do you think the Senate should make an independent decision about whether the president's selection is in the best interests of the country?

Senate should go along...	<u>18</u>	-1
Make independent decision	<u>75</u>	-2
Depends (VOL).....	<u>5</u>	-3
Not sure.....	<u>2</u>	-4

- 11a. I'm going to read you some reasons that senators might have for opposing a president's selection for a federal judgeship. For each one I mention, please tell me whether or not you think this would be a valid reason for the Senate to oppose a federal court appointment. (READ EACH REASON AND ASK:) Do you think this is a valid reason for the Senate to oppose a federal court appointment?

	Valid		Not Valid		Depends (Not Sure)		
	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	
A) The person has been convicted of drunk driving.....	59	-1	32	-2	9	-3	(11) -4
B) The person has been a supporter of the John Birch Society.....	62	-1	32	-2	6	-3	(22) -4
C) The American Bar Association has said the person's qualifications are only the bare minimum.....	68	-1	28	-2	4	-3	(6) -4
D) The person is committed to repealing the Supreme Court decision that protects a woman's right to choice on abortion..	57	-1	38	-2	5	-3	(6) -4
E) The person's views and legal interpretations tend to put him in a small minority among his fellow Judges....	30	-1	63	-2	7	-3	(10) -4
F) The person has been a supporter of the Socialist Party.....	67	-1	29	-2	4	-3	(8) -4
G) The person has made statements about black people that indicate he is prejudiced against them.....	82	-1	14	-2	3	-3	(3) -4
H) The person had been caught cheating in law school.....	79	-1	18	-2	3	-3	(2) -4
I) The person's philosophy tends to be very liberal, rather than moderate..	40	-1	52	-2	8	-3	(7) -4
J) The person's philosophy tends to be very conservative, rather than moderate..	35	-1	56	-2	9	-3	(8) -4

- 11b. I'm going to read you two positions people might take on how the Senate should deal with Supreme Court appointments. Please tell me which position comes closer to your own point of view. (READ POSITIONS SLOWLY.)

Position A: The Senate should let a president put whomever he wants on the Supreme Court, so long as the person is honest and competent.

Position B: It is important for the Senate to make sure that the Judges on the Supreme Court represent a balanced point of view.

Position A.....	18	-1
Position B.....	78	-2
Some of both (VOL).....	4	-3
Not sure.....	2	-4

12. Now I want to read you a few short statements. For each one, please tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with the statement. (READ EACH STATEMENT AND ASK:) Do you tend to agree or disagree?

	Agree	Dis- agree	Not Sure
A) Jerry Falwell and other right wing groups have too much influence over the appointment of federal judges.....	37	-1 36	-2 27 -3
B) State and local governments should be required to abide by the Bill of Rights....	96	-1 2	-2 2 -3
C) In making decisions, the Supreme Court should consider changing times and modern realities in applying the principles of the Constitution.....	76	-1 17	-2 7 -3
D) In making decisions, the Supreme Court should only consider the original intent of the Founding Fathers when they wrote the Constitution 200 years ago..	34	-1 57	-2 9 -3
E) As attorney general, Ed Meese is doing the right thing by using the power of his office to put pressure on stores to stop selling Playboy and Penthouse.....	38	-1 53	-2 9 -3
F) Under our system of checks and balances, it would be wrong to give a president too much power to impose his philosophy on the Supreme Court.....	78	-1 15	-2 7 -3
G) The American Bar Association and other lawyers' groups have too much influence over the appointment of federal judges....	34	-1 36	-2 30 -3
H) The Reagan Administration has appointed too many lower court judges who do not meet high standards of excellence.....	29	-1 31	-2 40 -3

**FACTUAL INFORMATION** : These last few questions are for statistical purposes only.

F1. In what age group are you? (READ LIST.)

18-24.....	10	-1	50-64.....	24	-4
25-34.....	22	-2	65 and over.....	16	-5
35-49.....	28	-3	Refused.....	2	-6

F2. What type of work does the head of the household usually do? What is the job called? (BE SURE TO CLASSIFY PROPERLY. WRITE JOB DESCRIPTION IN SPACE BELOW. IF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD IS UNEMPLOYED, GET USUAL OCCUPATION.)

High-level professional.....	7	-1	Skilled labor....	29	-6
Middle-level professional.....	13	-2	Sam- and unskilled labor	4	-7
Executive, manager...	7	-3	Farm, ranch.....	1	-8
Sales, proprietor...	10	-4	Housewife.....	1	-9
White collar.....	10	-5	Retired.....	18	-0
			Student.....	1	-A
			Other (describe below).....	1	-B

JOB DESCRIPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

F3 (ASK ONLY OF WOMEN.) Do you, yourself, work outside the home full-time, work outside the home part-time, or don't you work outside the home?

Work full-time.....	21	-1	Don't work.....	20	-3
Work part-time.....	9	-2	Not sure/refused..	1	-4

F4. What is the last grade of school you have completed?

8th grade or less..	4	-1	Some college.....	17	-4
Some high school..	7	-2	2-year college grad	11	-5
High school graduate.....	32	-3	4-year college grad	23	-6
			Not sure.....	1	-7

F5a. What is your religious preference?

<b>Protestant</b>		
Baptist.....	22	-1
Methodist.....	9	-2
Presbyterian/Episcopalian.....	8	-3
Other Protestant.....	14	-4
Catholic.....	26	-5
Jewish.....	2	-6
Latter-Day Saints/Mormons.....	1	-7
Other.....	8	-8
No religion.....	10	-9

F5b. Would you call yourself a born-again Christian--that is, have you personally had a conversion experience related to Jesus Christ?

Yes.....	30	-1	Not sure.....	4	-3
No.....	66	-2			

F6. Regardless of how you may vote, how would you describe your overall point of view in terms of the political parties? Would you say you are mostly Democratic, leaning Democratic, completely independent, leaning Republican, or mostly Republican?

Mostly Democratic....	27	-1	Leaning Republican	14	-4
Leaning Democratic....	12	-2	Mostly Republican.	19	-5
Completely Independent	26	-3	Not sure.....	2	-6

F7. When you think about your political point of view, would you describe your views as very liberal, fairly liberal, moderate, fairly conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal....	6	-1	Fairly conservative	23	-4
Fairly liberal..	17	-2	Very conservative..	8	-5
Moderate.....	42	-3	Not sure.....	4	-6

F8. Did you get a chance to vote in the 1984 presidential election between Ronald Reagan and Walter Mondale? (IF "YES," ASK:) For whom did you vote--Reagan or Mondale?

Voted--Reagan..... 57 -1  
 Voted--Mondale..... 26 -2  
 Voted--Other/refused/can't recall... 7 -3  
 Did not vote/can't recall if voted.. 10 -4

F9. For statistical purposes only, we need to know your total family income for 1985. I will read you a list of categories and you just tell me which one best represents your total family income.

Less than \$10,000. 9 -1 \$30,000 to \$35,000 10 -6  
 \$10,000 to \$15,000 10 -2 \$35,000 to \$40,000 7 -7  
 \$15,000 to \$20,000 10 -3 \$40,000 to \$50,000 9 -8  
 \$20,000 to \$25,000 11 -4 More than \$50,000. 12 -9  
 \$25,000 to \$30,000 10 -5 Not sure/refused.. 12 -9

F10. What is your race?

White..... 86 -1  
 Black..... 10 -2  
 Hispanic..... 2 -3  
 Asian..... 1 -4  
 Not sure..... 1 -5

May we please have your name and the town in which you live for validation purposes?

RESPONDENT'S NAME: (PLEASE PRINT)

Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
 (circle one)

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Code \_\_\_\_\_

RECORD THE FOLLOWING--DO NOT ASK

Length of Interview

Less than 10 minutes..... 1 -1  
 10 minutes to 15 minutes..... 8 -2  
 16 minutes to 20 minutes..... 23 -3  
 21 minutes to 25 minutes..... 35 -4  
 26 minutes to 30 minutes..... 20 -5  
 More than 30 minutes..... 15 -6

THIS IS A BONA FIDE INTERVIEW AND HAS BEEN OBTAINED  
 ACCORDING TO MY AGREEMENT WITH HABY RESEARCH, INC.

Interviewer's Name: (PLEASE SIGN) \_\_\_\_\_

Interview Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Interview Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Interview (o'clock, a.m., p.m.): \_\_\_\_\_

Validated By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Sample Point Number: \_\_\_\_\_