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RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATIONS

Questionnaire and Topline Results from a National Survey of Catholic Voters

Interviewing conducted October 10 -15, 2000
N = 1,003 likely voters in Presidential election 2000
Data have been weighted by race, age, gender and region.
Margin of sampling error is ± 3.1 percentage points.
Percents may add to 99% or 101% due to rounding
* indicates less than 1% , -- indicates zero

1. If the election for President were held today, would you vote for the Republican George W. Bush, the Democrat Al Gore, Green Party candidate Ralph Nader, or the Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan?	BUSH.....39%
	GORE.....43
	NADER.....4
	BUCHANAN.....1
	SOMEONE ELSE.....*
	UNDECIDED.....12
	REFUSED.....1
2. (IF UNDECIDED) Are you leaning towards:	BUSH.....3%
	GORE.....4
	NADER.....*
	BUCHANAN.....--
	SOMEONE ELSE.....--
	UNDECIDED.....6
	REFUSED.....*
	NOT ASKED.....87

Using this 1 to 7 scale, how high a priority would you personally want the next president to give to each of these issues? (1 means lowest priority and 7 means highest priority)

	% saying "7"
3. Improving public education	39%
4. Protecting the environment	24%
5. Fighting crime	35%
6. Improving the health care system	45%
7. Protecting Social Security and Medicare	46%
8. Strengthening our military defense	23%
9. Reducing poverty in America	24%
10. Promoting moral values in the country	31%
11. Enacting tougher gun control	21%
12. Cutting taxes	28%
13. Advancing gay rights	4%
14. Protecting American jobs	31%

	% saying "7"
15. Fighting racism	22%
16. Protecting a woman's right to choose abortion	21%
17. Promoting human rights around the world	15%
18. Fighting drug abuse	24%

19. Do you agree or disagree that it should be legal for a woman to have an abortion?	STRONGLY AGREE.....	38%
	SOMEWHAT AGREE	28
	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE.....	15
	STRONGLY DISAGREE	19
	REFUSED	1

Do you support or oppose each of the following?

	Support		Oppose		DK
	Strngly	Smwt	Smwt	Strngly	
20. The death penalty for persons convicted of murder	51%	29	10	9	1
21. School vouchers, which give parents money from tax revenues to help pay tuition costs, for their children to go to private or religious school instead of public school	27%	30	19	22	1
22. Making it legal for doctors to assist in the suicide of a terminally ill patient	21%	35	21	22	1
23. The US providing funding for voluntary family planning in developing countries	8%	30	35	27	*
24. Allowing public schools to start each day with a prayer in the classrooms	31%	41	16	12	*
25. Making it illegal to buy or sell handguns anywhere in the US	20%	19	23	37	*
26. Using more of the budget surplus to preserve Social Security and Medicare, rather than for a tax cut	38%	35	17	9	1
27. Making gay and lesbian marriage legal	12%	20	19	48	1

If a candidate for President took a position different from yours on each of these issues, would it :
 Definitely make you vote against him, Maybe make you vote against him,
 Would not change your vote.

	Def vote agnst	Maybe vote agnst	Would not change	DK
28. Gun control	18%	37	36	9
29. The death penalty	14%	34	42	10
30. Social Security and Medicare	23%	44	26	7
31. Abortion	26%	35	29	10

Here are some questions about Catholics and elections.

32. How much do you worry that candidates for office this year are anti-Catholic?	VERY MUCH	9%
	SOMEWHAT	19
	NOT VERY MUCH.....	32
	NOT AT ALL.....	40

33. How important are the views of the Catholic Bishops in the US for you in deciding whom to vote for?	VERY IMPORTANT	5%
	SOMEWHAT	20
	NOT VERY.....	36
	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	39
	REFUSED	*

34. Should the Catholics Bishops make public statements regarding candidates for office?	YES.....	41%
	NO.....	59
	REFUSED	1

35. Do you believe Catholics have a religious obligation to vote for candidates who oppose legal abortion?	YES.....	29%
	NO.....	70
	REFUSED	1

36. Do you think the Catholic Bishops should use the political arena to advance their moral opinions?	YES.....	29%
	NO.....	70
	REFUSED	1

37. The UN currently recognizes the Vatican as a nonmember state permanent observer (the same status as Switzerland). The Vatican representative cannot vote in the General Assembly. However, this status allows the Vatican to participate as a voting member in international UN conferences such as those on women, population and the environment. No other religion or church has this status in the UN.

Do you think :	
the UN should continue to consider the	CONSIDER AS
Vatican as a nonmember state, or	NON-MEMBER STATE45%
should the Vatican be treated like other	TREAT LIKE
religions which participate in the UN as non	OTHER RELIGIONS51
governmental organizations?	REFUSED4

38. Thinking about the morality of abortion,	NEVER12%
do you believe abortion can be a	ONLY IN
morally acceptable choice: never, only in	RARE CIRCUMSTANCES49
rare circumstances, in many	IN MANY CIRCUMSTANCES.....33
circumstances or in all circumstances.	IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.....6
	REFUSED1

Demographics

1. Are you	MARRIED68%
	WIDOWED3
	SEPARATED2
	DIVORCED6
	SINGLE21
	REFUSED*

<i>(Based on 719 respondents who are married)</i>	YES.....74%
2. Is your wife or husband Catholic?	NO.....25
	REFUSED1

3. Do you have any children 18 or younger	YES.....37%
living in your household?	NO.....63
	REFUSED*

(Based on 344 respondents who have children under age 18)

4. Are any of your children in Catholic parochial school?

YES.....	20%
NO.....	80
REFUSED.....	*

5. Do you generally think of yourself as pro-life or pro-choice on abortion?

PRO-LIFE.....	41%
PRO-CHOICE.....	58
REFUSED.....	2

IDEOLOGY

VERY LIBERAL.....	3%
LIBERAL.....	14
MODERATE.....	50
CONSERVATIVE.....	20
VERY CONSERVATIVE.....	4
DON'T KNOW.....	9
REFUSED.....	1

PARTY ID

DEMOCRAT.....	46%
INDEPENDENT.....	15
REPUBLICAN.....	39

EDUCATION

<HS/HS.....	23%
SOME COLLEGE.....	38
COLLEGE GRAD.....	28
GRADUATE WORK.....	10
REFUSED.....	*

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

<\$25,000.....	7%
\$25K-\$50K.....	25
\$50K-\$100K.....	43
\$100K+.....	13
REFUSED.....	14

RACE

WHITE.....	89%
BLACK.....	1
HISPANIC.....	9
OTHER.....	*
REFUSED.....	*

ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES	ONCE A WEEK OR MORE.....35%
	ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH.....13
	FEW TIMES A YEAR23
	SELDOM/NEVER.....28
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED *

REGION	NORTHEAST35%
	MIDWEST22
	SOUTH.....22
	WEST20

GENDER	MALE49%
	FEMALE.....51
