Religious and Moral Issues

Data represent responses from 694 randomly sampled South Carolinians over the age of 18. Data using all respondents has a Margin of Error of +/- 3.72%. As is true with all survey data, subsets that do not utilize all respondents (e.g. breakdown by political party) have a slightly higher margin of error. Data were collected between Feb. 7 and Feb. 28, 2007.

Q.96 Ok, now for some different questions, at the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life, losing its influence or remaining the same?

- Increasing its influence 26.4%
- Losing its influence 46%
- Remaining the same 25.5%
- Don't know/Refused 2%

Q.97 Would you like to see organized religion have more influence on government policy in this nation, less influence, or keep its influence as it is now?

- More influence 41.4%
- Less influence 22.1%
- Keep its influence as it is now 31.9%
- Don't know/Refused 4.6%

Q.98 What percentage of your local community would you say are regular church goers?

The mean % is 54.88 %

Q.99 How important would you say religion is in your own life: Very important, Fairly important, or Not very important?

- Very important 75.5%
- Fairly important 17.2%
- Not Very important 7%
- Don't know/Refused 0.30%
Q.100 What, if any, is your religious preference: Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Mormon, Jehovah's Witness, Muslim, or an Orthodox religion such as the Greek or Russian Orthodox Church?

Protestant 76.4%
Roman Catholic 8.4%
Jewish 0.70%
Mormon 0.40%
Jehovah's Witness 0.30%
Muslim
Orthodox
No religious preference 9.2%
Don't know/Refused 4.6%

Q.101 Which protestant denomination are you? (if answered “Protestant” above)
(interviewer: if answer is under 10 code as 09,08,07, 06, etc.)

Baptist 48.3%
Methodist 13.8%
Episcopalian 4.4%
Presbyterian 8.6%
Church of Christ 1.1%
AME 0.60%
Pentecostal 3.8%
Nazarenes 0.20%
Lutheran 2.9%
Non-Denominational 9.6%
Other 6.7%

Q.102 Do you believe that the Bible is the literal word of God and without error?

Yes 64.7%
No 30.9%
Don't Know / Refused 4.4%
The Winthrop Poll Findings

Q.103 How often do you attend your church's primary weekly worship services--every week, about 3 times a month, twice a month, once a month, every 6 weeks, every 3 months, once or twice a year, or never?

- Every week 47.7%
- About 3 times a month 13.5%
- Twice a month 11%
- About once a month 4.7%
- About every 6 weeks 1.7%
- About every 3 months 2.1%
- About once or twice a year 7.3%
- Never 10.6%
- Don't know/Refused 1.4%

Q.105 Next, we're interested in South Carolinian's views of gays and lesbians. Please remember that if you're just not comfortable answering a question, you can just let me know and we'll move on, okay? First, do you think that sexual relations between two adults of the same sex is always wrong, almost always wrong, wrong only sometimes, or not wrong at all?

- Always wrong 57.3%
- Almost always wrong 4.3%
- Wrong only sometimes 6.8%
- Not wrong at all 19.6%
- Don't Know / Refused 11.9%

Q.92 All else being equal, do you think you could vote for a Homosexual for President?

- yes 40.4%
- no 50.7%
- not sure 8.1%
- dk/r 0.90%

Q.93 All else being equal, do you think you could vote for a Homosexual for Governor?

- yes 42.2%
- no 48.9%
- not sure 7.9%
- dk/r 1.0%

Q.94 All else being equal, do you think you could vote for a Homosexual for Mayor?

- yes 45.0%
- no 46.4%
- not sure 7.4%
- dk/r 1.2%

For further information on the Winthrop Poll, please contact Dr. Scott Huffmon at 803/323-4669.
Q.95 All else being equal, do you think you could vote for a Homosexual for School Board?

yes 39.3%
no 51.7%
not sure 8.2%
dk/r 0.80%

Q.58 What is your opinion of Christians?

[if they don't answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 70.9%
somewhat favorable 18%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 5.7%
somewhat unfavorable 1.2%
very unfavorable 2.3%
not familiar 0.10%
don't know/ refused 1.7%

Q.60 What is your opinion of Mormons? [if they don't answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 9.8%
somewhat favorable 26.3%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 24.8%
somewhat unfavorable 10.4%
very unfavorable 11.1%
not familiar 9.7%
don't know/ refused 7.9%

Q.62 What is your opinion of Homosexuals? [if they don't answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 8.2%
somewhat favorable 18.2%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 26.3%
somewhat unfavorable 11.6%
very unfavorable 31.8%
not familiar 0.60%
don't know/ refused 3.4%

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Q.64 What is your opinion of Evangelicals? [if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 17.3%
somewhat favorable 28.2%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 18.9%
somewhat unfavorable 11.5%
very unfavorable 6.5%
not familiar 10.5%
don't know/ refused 7.1%

Q.66 What is your opinion of Muslims? [if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 6.7%
somewhat favorable 20.9%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 28.2%
somewhat unfavorable 15.7%
very unfavorable 16.9%
not familiar 4.1%
don't know/ refused 7.6%

Q.67 What is your opinion of Atheists or Agnostics? [if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 5.1%
somewhat favorable 11.3%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 23.7%
somewhat unfavorable 17.4%
very unfavorable 32.5%
not familiar 4.3%
don't know/ refused 5.7%

Q.69 What is your opinion of Jews? [if they don’t answer using the scale you described, prompt them to do so]

very favorable 29.7%
somewhat favorable 39.1%
neither favorable nor unfavorable 22.4%
somewhat unfavorable 1.5%
very unfavorable 1.3%
not familiar 1.8%
don't know/ refused 4.1%

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The Winthrop Poll Findings

[ Next, I'm going to read some aspects of life in America today. For each one, please say whether you are -- Very satisfied, Somewhat satisfied, Somewhat dissatisfied, or Very dissatisfied.]

Q.14 How about --The moral and ethical climate in the nation?

   Very satisfied 2.9%
   Somewhat satisfied 21.1%
   Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied 4.4%
   Somewhat unsatisfied 31.9%
   Very unsatisfied 37.3%
   Don't know/Refused 2.4%

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