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Fewer Say Islam Encourages Violence

VIEWS OF MUSLIM-AMERICANS HOLD STEADY AFTER LONDON BOMBINGS

Cited in Newdow v. Rio Linda Union School District, No. 05-17257 archived on March 25, 2010

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Jodie Allen, Senior Editor
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
Carroll Doherty, Associate Director
Pew Research Center For The People & The Press
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel (202) 419-4350
Fax (202) 419-4399
www.people-press.org

Luis Lugo, Director
Sandra Stencel, Associate Director
John Green, Senior Fellow in Religion and American Politics
Greg Smith, Research Associate
Burke Olsen, Communications Associate
Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel (202) 419-4550
Fax (202) 419-4559
www.pewforum.org

Fewer Say Islam Encourages Violence

VIEWS OF MUSLIM-AMERICANS HOLD STEADY AFTER LONDON BOMBINGS

The July 7 terrorist bombings in London drew considerable public attention and raised fears of another attack in the United States, but these concerns do not translate into less favorable opinions of either Muslim-Americans or Islam. And compared with 2003, fewer now say that Islam is more likely than other religions to encourage violence.

The latest nationwide survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, conducted among 2,000 adults between July 7, the day of the first terrorist attacks in London, and July 17, finds a majority of Americans (55%) saying they have a favorable opinion of Muslim-Americans. That is roughly the same proportion that expressed positive opinions of Muslim-Americans in Pew surveys conducted in July 2003 and March 2002, and significantly higher than the 45% holding favorable views in March 2001, prior to the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

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Most striking in the wake of the terrorist attacks in London is that the number of Americans saying that Islam is more likely than other religions to encourage violence has fallen significantly to 36% in the current survey from 44% two years ago.

U.S. attitudes toward Islam as a religion remain generally less positive than opinions about Muslim- Americans, with 39% of the public registering a favorable view of Islam, compared with 36% holding an unfavorable view. A quarter of those polled (25%) offered no opinion. These numbers are little changed from earlier surveys. In addition, most Americans (59%) say they believe Islam to be very different from their own religion, though the number seeing much in common between Islam and their religion has risen slightly from 22% in 2003 to 27% today.

Views of Islam and Muslim-Americans

	July 2003 %	July 2005 %
Islam encourages violence?		
Yes	44	36
No	41	47
Neither/DK	15	17
	100	100
Opinion of Islam?		
Favorable	40	39
Unfavorable	34	36
No opinion	26	25
	100	100
Opinion of Muslim-Americans?		
Favorable	51	55
Unfavorable	24	25
No opinion	25	20
	100	100
Islam and your religion...		
A lot in common	22	27
Very different	60	59
Don't know	18	14
	100	100

Islam and Violence

About a third of Americans (36%) say the Islamic religion is more likely to encourage violence among its followers, down from 44% two years ago. Among religious groups, the decline has been most pronounced among white mainline Protestants (22 points) and seculars (12 points).[1]

By contrast, views of whether Islam is more likely to promote violence are largely unchanged among white evangelical Protestants and white Catholics. About half of white evangelicals (49%) say the Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence, while 31% disagree. White Catholics are split over this issue; 42% believe Islam is more likely to promote violence, while 43% say it does not encourage violence more than other religions.

Islam More Likely to Encourage Violence?

	July 2003 %	July 2005 %	*Change*
Total	44	36	*-8*
White Protestant	51	40	*-11*
Evangelical	51	49	*-2*
Mainline	50	28	*-22*
White Catholic	39	42	*+3*
Secular	38	26	*-12*
Conserv. Rep.	60	49	*-11*
Mod./Lib. Rep.	45	45	*0*
Independent	34	33	*-1*
Conserv./Mod. Dem.	52	34	*-18*
Liberal Dem.	30	25	*-5*

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Among political groups, there have been large declines in the numbers of conservative and moderate Democrats, and conservative Republicans, who say that Islam is more likely than other religions to promote violence. But there continues to be a wide political divide on this question. About twice as many conservative Republicans as liberal Democrats say Islam is more apt than other religions to encourage violence (49% vs. 25%).

Religion and Global Conflict

In broad terms, the public continues to believe that religion has at least a fair amount to do with causing wars and other conflicts in the world. Three-quarters say religion has a great deal (40%) or a fair amount (35%) to do with most wars and conflicts in the world. These attitudes are essentially unchanged from 2003, when 79% said religion had at least a fair amount of responsibility for causing most global wars and conflicts.

A smaller majority of Americans (65%) also see religion as having a role in causing political conflict in the U.S. There are

Role of Religion in Causing Wars and Conflicts

	In the U.S.[1] %	Around the world[2] %
A great deal	30	40
A fair amount	35	35
Only a little	27	13
None at all	4	8
Don't know	4	4
	100	100

[1]Question asked about "political conflict in the United States."
[2]Question asked about "most wars and conflicts in the world."

[1] Seculars are people who describe themselves as atheists or agnostics, or have no religious preference and attend religious services a few times a year or less.

few major differences among religious groups in their perceptions of religion's role in causing political conflict in this country. Comparable numbers of white evangelical Protestants (62%) and seculars (66%) say that religion plays at least a fairly significant role in causing conflict in U.S. politics.

However, the public continues to decisively reject the idea that the terrorist attacks of recent years are part of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe on the one hand, and Islamic people on the other. By about two-to-one (60%-29%), Americans say recent terrorist attacks represent only a conflict with a small radical group rather than a major clash between the West and Islam. But many of those who view it as a limited conflict think it will grow into a major world conflict (26% of the general public).

Most Reject 'Clash of Civilizations'

Terrorist attacks represent...	Mid-Oct 2001 %	Aug 2002 %	July 2005 %
Major conflict w/ Islam	28	35	29
Conflict w/ small radical group	63	52	60
Don't know	9	13	11
	100	100	100

If anything, the belief that terrorism is part of a major conflict between the peoples of the West and Islam has declined a bit since 2002. Currently, about three-in-ten (29%) hold this view, down from 35% in August 2002. The balance of opinion on this measure held steady through the field period (see "Tempered Public Reaction to London Attacks," July 11).

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Opinions of Islam

As in past surveys, the public is divided in its opinion of Islam (39% favorable/36% unfavorable). There are substantial differences in attitudes toward Islam among religious groups, with white evangelical Protestants least likely to hold a favorable opinion (26%). Among high commitment evangelicals – those who attend church at least weekly and who say that religion is very important in their lives – just 21% express a favorable view of Islam.

Other religious groups take a more positive view of Islam. Identical percentages of seculars, white Catholics and mainline Protestants (42% each) express favorable opinions of Islam.

Age and education also are major factors in opinions of Islam. More than four-in-ten of those under age 50 (43%) hold favorable opinions of the Muslim faith, compared with a quarter of those ages 65 and older. Over half (53%) of people with a four-year college degree have a favorable opinion of Islam; by contrast, just 28% of those who have a high school education or less feel this way.

Views of Islam

	Fav-orable %	Unfav-orable %	DK %
July 2005	39	36	25=100
July 2003	40	34	26=100
March 2002	38	33	29=100
January 2002*	41	24	35=100
October 2001*	47	39	13=100
White Protestant	33	42	25=100
Evangelical Protestant	26	47	27=100
High Commitment	21	52	27=100
Other Evangel. Prot.	35	39	26=100
Mainline Protestant	42	34	24=100
White Catholic	42	34	24=100
Secular	42	29	29=100
18-29	43	38	19=100
30-49	43	33	24=100
50-64	38	39	23=100
65+	25	39	36=100
College grad	53	29	18=100
Some college	44	32	24=100
High school or less	28	42	30=100
Republican	32	46	22=100
Democrat	47	31	22=100
Independent	42	33	25=100

*Figures from January 2002 and October 2001 are from ABC/Beliefnet Polls.

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A plurality of Republicans (46%) express an unfavorable view of Islam; Democrats, on balance, have a favorable impression (47%). A small plurality of independents (42%) express favorable opinions of Islam.

Half Are Familiar With Islam Facts

About half of Americans were able to identify the Koran as the Islamic equivalent of the Bible (51%). That represents a modest increase from past years, when about four-in-ten knew this (42% in 2003). Similarly, about half (48%) correctly identified Allah as the name Muslims use to refer to God, no change from past surveys.

A substantial gender gap exists in knowledge of Islam, with men (57% of whom can identify Allah and 58% of whom can identify the Koran) much more knowledgeable than women (among whom only 40% can identify Allah and only 44% can identify the Koran).

Americans between the ages of 30 and 64 are more informed about Islam than are their younger counterparts and are dramatically more knowledgeable than are Americans older than 65. Interestingly, the percentage of young people (between 18 and 29) who are able to correctly identify Allah has actually declined (from 56% to 49%) since 2002.

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Knowing Islam's Basic Facts

	Percent correctly identifying ... Allah %	Koran %
Total	48	51
Men	57	58
Women	40	44
18-29	49	43
30-49	51	54
50-64	51	59
65+	35	40
College grad	67	77
Some college	58	60
H.S. or less	33	32
White Prot.	44	52
Evangelical	43	50
Mainline	46	55
White Catholic	47	51
Black Prot.	52	42
Secular	54	56

As expected, those with higher levels of education show substantially greater familiarity with basic Islamic facts. Two-thirds (67%) of college graduates could correctly identify Allah as the name by which Muslims refer to God compared with just a third (33%) of those with a high school education or less.

Despite the intensive coverage of the religion in recent years, most Americans continue to say they do not know very much about the Muslim religion. Only 33% of the public claims to know "some" or "a great deal" about Islam, a level of self-professed knowledge very similar to that observed in 2002 and 2003.

Most Feel Unfamiliar With Islam

Knowledge of Islam	Nov 2001 %	Mar 2002 %	July 2003 %	July 2005 %
A great deal	6	5	4	5
Some	32	29	27	28
Not very much	37	37	39	36
Nothing at all	24	28	29	30
Don't know	1	1	1	1
	100	100	100	100

Most Aware, Most Favorable

Those who are most knowledgeable about the basic facts of the Islamic religion continue to express more favorable opinions of Muslim-Americans and Islam than do those who are less familiar with the religion.

Knowledge of Islam Linked to Attitudes

	*Knowledge about Islam**		
	High	Mod	Low
Favorable views of...	%	%	%
Muslim-Americans	61	58	47
Islam	49	46	24
Islam and my religion....			
Have a lot in common	44	28	12
Are very different	49	61	64
Encouraging violence...			
Islam does this more	33	40	33
Islam same as others	59	46	38
Terrorist attacks represent...			
Major conflict w/ Islam	24	28	30
Conflict w/radical group	70	62	53

*Based on ability to identify Allah and the Koran.

Among those most knowledgeable about Islam (as evidenced by their ability to identify both Allah and the Koran correctly), about six-in-ten (61%) view Muslim-Americans favorably while almost half (49%) hold a favorable view of Islam. These favorability ratings compare, respectively, with 47% and 24% among the lowest knowledge group.

The better informed are also more likely than others to think that Islam and their own religion have a lot in common (44% compared with 28% of those with moderate knowledge and only 12% among the least informed group), and are more likely to indicate that Islam does not encourage violence more than do other religions (59% take this view compared with 46% and 38% of those with moderate and low knowledge, respectively).

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People most knowledgeable about Islam are also more likely to see recent terrorist attacks as part of a conflict with a small, radical group rather than as part of a major conflict between Westerners and Muslims.

Stable Views of Muslim-Americans

The public has a more favorable view of Muslim-Americans than of the Islamic religion, though the pattern of opinion is similar. Majorities in most major demographic groups have positive impressions of Muslim-Americans; some notable exceptions are people with a high school degree or less (44%), political conservatives (44%) and those ages 65 and older (40%). In no group do unfavorable opinions outnumber favorable ones.

Modest Religious Differences in Views of Muslim-Americans

	Opinion of Muslim-Americans		
	Fav	Unfav	No Opinion
	%	%	%
Total	55	25	20=100
White Protestant	53	26	21=100
Evangelical	53	29	18=100
Mainline	53	23	24=100
White Catholic	61	17	22=100
Secular	49	22	29=100

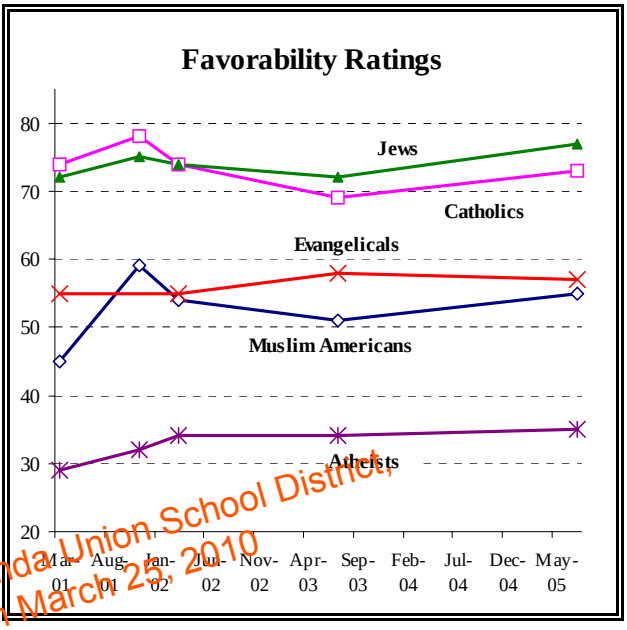
Among religious groups, favorable attitudes toward

Muslim-Americans are most prevalent among white Catholics (61%). Roughly half of white evangelical Protestants (53%), mainline Protestants (53%), and seculars (49%) express favorable opinions of Muslim-Americans.

Opinions of Other Religious Groups

The public continues to express overwhelmingly favorable opinions of Jews (77% favorable) and Catholics (73%). About six-in-ten (57%) express positive opinions of evangelical Christians, about the same number who have a favorable view of Muslim-Americans.

By comparison, just 35% express favorable opinions of atheists; 50% have a negative opinion of atheists. These opinions have been quite stable in recent years.



U.S. Views of Muslims Similar to Europe's

In a Pew Global Attitudes Project survey conducted earlier this year (May 18-22), 57% of the American public had a positive view of Muslims (as opposed to Muslim-Americans). That placed U.S. opinion of Muslims in the middle range of attitudes expressed in most European countries and Canada.

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How Western Publics View Muslims, Christians and Jews

	--Muslims--		*-Christians-*		*--Jews--*	
	Fav	Unfav	Fav	Unfav	Fav	Unfav
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Great Britain	72	14	85	6	78	6
France	64	34	84	15	82	16
Canada	60	26	83	9	78	11
United States	**57**	**22**	**87**	**6**	**77**	**7**
Russia	55	36	92	3	63	26
Poland	46	30	86	5	54	27
Spain	46	37	80	10	58	20
Netherlands	45	51	83	15	85	11
Germany	40	47	83	13	67	21

*Source: Pew Global Attitudes Project, Spring 2005 Survey

The 17-nation Pew Global Attitudes Project survey, which was released earlier this month, found that majorities ranging from 72% in Great Britain and 64% in France to 60% in Canada and 55% in Russia say they have somewhat or very favorable views of Muslims, along with 46% pluralities in both Spain and Poland. Among European countries, only in the Netherlands and Germany are unfavorable views more prevalent than favorable. (See "Islamic Extremism: Common Concern for Muslim and Western Publics," July 14).

ABOUT THE SURVEY

Results for this survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International among a nationwide sample of 2,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, from July 7-17, 2005. For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 2.5 percentage points. For results based on Form 1 (N=1,000) or Form 2 (N=1,000) only, the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

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OPINION OF ISLAM AND MUSLIM-AMERICANS

	----*Opinion of Islam*------			--*Opinion of Muslim-Americans*--			
	Favorable	Unfavorable	(VOL.) No opinion	Favorable	Unfavorable	(VOL.) DK/Ref	(N)**
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	39	36	25=100	55	25	20=100	(1000)
Sex							
Male	41	39	20	54	28	18	(477)
Female	37	33	30	55	21	24	(523)
Race							
White	38	37	25	53	25	22	(818)
Non-white	44	32	24	61	22	17	(173)
Black	44	35	21	64	26	10	(109)
Hispanic*	33	38	29	52	26	22	(63)
Race and Sex							
White Men	39	41	20	53	30	17	(391)
White Women	36	34	30	54	20	26	(427)
Age							
Under 30	43	38	19	62	25	13	(158)
30-49	43	33	24	57	22	21	(350)
50-64	38	39	23	54	25	21	(275)
65+	25	39	36	40	30	30	(202)
Sex and Age							
Men under 50	47	34	19	58	27	15	(252)
Women under 50	39	35	26	59	20	21	(256)
Men 50+	30	49	21	47	30	23	(222)
Women 50+	35	31	34	50	24	26	(255)
Education							
College Grad.	53	29	18	65	15	20	(354)
Some College	44	32	24	63	17	20	(236)
High School Grad.	30	41	29	45	33	22	(322)
< H.S. Grad.	23	45	32	41	37	22	(84)
Family Income							
$75,000+	49	36	15	63	21	16	(240)
$50,000-$74,999	42	37	21	54	27	19	(155)
$30,000-$49,999	38	39	23	52	24	24	(205)
$20,000-$29,999	36	34	30	48	23	29	(91)
<$20,000	34	35	31	55	28	17	(150)

* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.
** Sample size applies to "Opinion of Muslim-Americans" results. Sample size for "Opinion of Islam" results at least twice the size.

Question: Would you say you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of Islam (... the Muslim religion)?

Is your overall opinion of Muslim Americans very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

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	----*Opinion of Islam*------			--*Opinion of Muslim-Americans*--			
	Favorable	Unfavorable	(VOL.) No opinion	Favorable	Unfavorable	(VOL.) DK/Ref	(N)**
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	39	36	25=100	55	25	20=100	(1000)
Region							
East	45	29	26	60	20	20	(154)
Midwest	36	35	29	53	29	18	(248)
South	36	41	23	54	27	19	(389)
West	40	36	24	53	20	27	(209)
Religious Affiliation							
Total White Protestant	33	42	25	53	26	21	(452)
- Evangelical	26	47	27	53	29	18	(257)
- Non-Evangelical	42	34	24	53	23	24	(195)
White Catholic	42	34	24	61	17	22	(156)
Black Protestant	48	35	17	67	28	5	(71)
Secular	42	29	29	50	22	28	(134)
Party ID							
Republican	32	46	22	48	30	22	(329)
Democrat	47	31	22	61	21	18	(315)
Independent	42	33	25	55	25	20	(282)
Party and Ideology							
Conservative Republican	30	51	19	46	37	17	(213)
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	37	40	23	57	19	24	(106)
Conservative/Mod. Dem.	42	34	24	59	23	18	(207)
Liberal Democrat	54	26	20	70	19	11	(96)
Bush Approval							
Approve	32	44	24	50	29	21	(465)
Disapprove	46	31	23	61	21	18	(463)
Marital Status							
Married	37	38	25	52	25	23	(571)
Unmarried	41	34	25	57	24	19	(424)
Parents							
Yes	45	32	23	58	21	21	(276)
No	36	38	26	53	26	21	(724)
Labor Union							
Union Household	40	36	24	57	27	16	(120)
Non-Union Household	39	36	25	54	24	22	(875)

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VIOLENCE AND ISLAM

	-----July 2003----			----July 2005----			
	More likely to encourage violence	Doesn't encourage violence more than other religions	Neither/ DK/Ref	More likely to encourage violence	Doesn't encourage violence more than other religions	Neither/ DK/Ref	*Change in encourage violence*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	44	41	15=100	36	47	17=100	*-8*
Sex							
Male	46	41	13	42	47	11	*-4*
Female	41	42	17	30	48	22	*-11*
Race							
White	45	41	14	37	46	17	*-8*
Non-white	38	42	20	29	56	15	*-9*
Black	38	46	16	28	56	16	*-10*
Hispanic*	45	35	20	--	--	--	--
Race and Sex							
White Men	49	40	11	44	46	10	*-5*
White Women	41	43	16	31	45	24	*-10*
Age							
Under 30	34	56	10	35	55	10	*+1*
30-49	48	41	11	33	53	14	*-15*
50-64	49	37	14	37	46	17	*-12*
65+	39	31	30	43	27	30	*+4*
Sex and Age							
Men under 50	44	46	10	38	54	8	*-6*
Women under 50	42	46	12	30	52	18	*-12*
Men 50+	51	32	17	52	33	15	*+1*
Women 50+	40	36	24	30	42	28	*-10*
Education							
College Grad.	41	51	8	28	62	10	*-13*
Some College	45	43	12	33	53	14	*-12*
High School Grad.	46	37	17	42	39	19	*-4*
< H.S. Grad.	41	33	26	44	26	30	*+3*
Family Income							
$75,000+	44	46	10	37	54	9	*-7*
$50,000-$74,999	51	43	6	38	50	12	*-13*
$30,000-$49,999	46	42	12	38	48	14	*-8*
$20,000-$29,999	44	36	20	35	45	20	*-9*
<$20,000	46	39	15	35	40	25	*-11*

* The designation Hispanic is unrelated to the white-black categorization.

Question: As I read you a pair of statements, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement come closer to you own view even if neither is exactly right... The Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence among its believers, OR The Islamic religion does not encourage violence more than others.

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	-----July 2003----			----July 2005----			
	More likely to encourage violence	Doesn't encourage violence more than other religions	Neither/ DK/Ref	More likely to encourage violence	Doesn't encourage violence more than other religions	Neither/ DK/Ref	*Change in encourage violence*
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Total	44	41	15=100	36	47	17=100	*-8*
Region							
East	47	41	12	37	48	15	*-10*
Midwest	44	41	15	35	49	16	*-9*
South	43	38	19	37	43	20	*-6*
West	40	48	12	34	51	15	*-6*
Religious Affiliation							
Total White Protestant	51	34	15	40	43	17	*-11*
- Evangelical	51	36	13	50	31	19	*-1*
- Non-Evangelical	50	33	17	28	57	15	*-22*
White Catholic	39	49	12	40	45	15	*+1*
Black Protestant	36	44	20	27	57	16	*-9*
Secular	38	48	14	26	54	20	*-12*
Party ID							
Republican	53	33	14	47	39	14	*-6*
Democrat	44	42	14	30	51	19	*-14*
Independent	34	53	13	34	55	11	*0*
Party and Ideology							
Conservative Rep.	60	29	11	49	38	13	*-11*
Moderate/Liberal Rep.	44	39	17	45	39	16	*+1*
Cons./Mod. Dem.	52	35	13	34	50	16	*-18*
Liberal Democrat	30	61	9	25	55	20	*-5*
Bush Approval							
Approve	48	39	13	44	42	14	*-4*
Disapprove	38	48	14	30	54	16	*-8*
Marital Status							
Married	46	40	14	38	46	16	*-8*
Unmarried	41	44	15	34	49	17	*-7*
Parents							
Yes	46	43	11	34	49	17	*-12*
No	42	41	17	37	47	16	*-5*
Labor Union							
Union Household	44	41	15	41	51	8	*-3*
Non-Union Household	44	41	15	35	47	18	*-9*

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PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS
AND PEW FORUM ON RELIGION & PUBLIC LIFE
JULY 2005 RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE SURVEY
FINAL TOPLINE
July 7-17, 2005
N=2000

QUESTIONS 1 THROUGH 8 FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1000]:

Q.9F1 Now thinking about some specific religious groups... Is your overall opinion of **[INSERT FIRST ITEM, RANDOMIZE; ITEM e SHOULD ALWAYS COME LAST.]** very favorable, mostly favorable, mostly UNfavorable, or very unfavorable? **[INTERVIEWERS: PROBE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN "NEVER HEARD OF" AND "CAN'T RATE."]**

		-------Favorable------			-----Unfavorable-----			**(VOL)** Never	**(VOL)** Can't
		Total	*Very*	*Mostly*	Total	*Very*	*Mostly*	Heard of	Rate/Ref
a.F1	Catholics	73	*24*	*49*	14	*4*	*10*	0	13=100
	Mid-July, 2003	69	*21*	*48*	18	*6*	*12*	*	13=100
	March, 2002	74	*19*	*55*	13	*4*	*9*	*	13=100
	Mid-November, 2001	78	*29*	*49*	8	*3*	*5*	*	14=100
	March, 2001	74	*19*	*55*	13	*3*	*10*	1	12=100
	September, 2000 *(RVs)*	78	*29*	*49*	9	*3*	*6*	*	13=100
b.F1	Jews	77	*23*	*54*	7	*2*	*5*	*	16=100
	Late May, 2005	77	*37*	*40*	7	*2*	*5*	--	16=100
	Mid-July, 2003	71	*20*	*52*	9	*3*	*6*	1	18=100
	March, 2002	74	*18*	*56*	9	*2*	*7*	*	17=100
	Mid-November, 2001	75	*24*	*51*	7	*2*	*5*	*	18=100
	March, 2001	72	*16*	*56*	10	*2*	*8*	*	18=100
	September, 2000 *(RVs)*	77	*27*	*50*	8	*3*	*5*	*	15=100
	June, 1997	82	*26*	*56*	9	*2*	*7*	1	8=100
c.F1	Evangelical Christians	57	*17*	*40*	19	*5*	*14*	5	19=100
	Mid-July, 2003	58	*18*	*40*	18	*6*	*12*	3	21=100
	March, 2002	55	*13*	*42*	18	*5*	*13*	7	20=100
	March, 2001	55	*13*	*42*	16	*4*	*12*	8	21=100
	September, 2000 *(RVs)*	63	*21*	*42*	16	*3*	*13*	3	18=100
	February, 1996	39	*13*	*26*	38	*15*	*23*	11	12=100
	July, 1994	43	*10*	*33*	32	*10*	*22*	11	14=100
	May, 1990	43	*12*	*31*	38	*19*	*19*	7	12=100
d.F1	Muslim Americans	55	*9*	*46*	25	*9*	*16*	*	20=100
	Mid-July, 2003	51	*10*	*41*	24	*9*	*15*	1	24=100
	March, 2002	54	*8*	*46*	22	*8*	*14*	2	22=100
	Mid-November, 2001	59	*15*	*44*	17	*5*	*12*	1	23=100
	March, 2001	45	*7*	*38*	24	*8*	*16*	4	27=100
	September, 2000 *(RVs)*	50	*11*	*39*	21	*8*	*13*	2	27=100
e.F1	Atheists, that is, people who don't believe in God	35	*7*	*28*	50	*28*	*22*	0	15=100
	Mid-July, 2003	34	*7*	*27*	52	*33*	*19*	*	14=100
	March, 2002	34	*5*	*29*	54	*31*	*23*	*	12=100
	Mid-November, 2001	32	*7*	*25*	49	*28*	*21*	*	19=100

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Q.9F1 CONTINUED...

	-------Favorable------			-----Unfavorable-----			(VOL)	(VOL)
	Total	*Very*	*Mostly*	Total	*Very*	*Mostly*	Never Heard of	Can't Rate/Ref
March, 2001	29	*4*	*25*	57	*35*	*22*	*	14=100
September, 2000 *(RVs)*	32	*8*	*24*	52	*32*	*20*	*	16=100

ASK ALL:

Q.10X How worried are you that there will soon be another terrorist attack in the United States? **[READ]**

	Very worried	Somewhat worried	Not too worried	Not at all worried	Don't know/ Refused
July, 2005	26	42	19	12	1=100
Mid-October, 2004	17	43	27	12	1=100
August, 2004	20	44	25	10	1=100
July, 2004	17	41	26	15	1=100
June, 2004	25	42	20	12	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	20	42	25	12	1=100
Early February, 2004	13	42	28	16	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	20	45	24	10	1=100
August, 2003	13	45	29	12	1=100
March, 2003	22	42	20	14	2=100
February, 2003	34	41	17	7	1=100
January, 2003	18	50	23	8	1=100
December, 2002	31	42	18	8	1=100
Early October, 2002	20	46	22	11	1=100
Late August, 2002	16	46	25	12	1=100
June, 2002	32	44	17	7	* =100
January, 2002	20	42	28	9	1=100
December, 2001	13	39	27	19	2=100
October 15-21, 2001	29	42	18	10	1=100
October 10-14, 2001	27	40	19	12	2=100
Early October, 2001	28	45	15	11	1=100

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QUESTIONS 11 THROUGH 23 FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

Q.24X Do you think that the terrorist attacks over the past few years are a part of a major conflict between the people of America and Europe versus the people of Islam, or is it only a conflict with a small, radical group?

IF CONFLICT WITH A SMALL RADICAL GROUP (2 IN Q.24X) ASK:

Q.24Y Do you think this conflict is going to grow into a major world conflict, or do you think it will remain limited to a small, radical group?

		Aug[2] 2002	Mid-Oct 2001
29	Major conflict	35	28
60	Conflict with a radical group	52	63
26	Is going to grow into a major world conflict	19	--
31	Will remain limited to a small, radical group	28	--
3	Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**	5	--
11	Don't Know/Refused **(VOL.)**	13	9
100		100	100

[2] In 2002 and 2001 the question was worded, "Do you think the terrorist attacks are the start of a major conflict between..."

QUESTIONS 25 THROUGH 40 FOR FUTURE RELEASE

On another subject…

Q.41 How much would you say you know about the Muslim religion and its practices? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002	Mid-Nov 2001
5	A great deal	4	5	6
28	Some	27	29	32
36	Not very much	39	37	37
30	Nothing at all	29	28	24
1	Don't know/Refused	1	1	1
100		100	100	100

ASK ONLY IF R HAS A RELIGION OTHER THAN ISLAM (1,2,4,7 IN Q.33) [N=1735]:

Q.42 From what you know, do you think that the Muslim religion and your own religion have a lot in common, or do you think that the Muslim religion and your religion are very different?

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002	Mid-Nov 2001
27	A lot in common	22	27	31
59	Very different	60	57	52
14	Don't know/Refused	18	16	17
100		100	100	100

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ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1000]:

Q.43F1 Would you say you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of Islam?

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002	---- *ABC/Beliefnet* ---- Jan 2002	Oct 2001
41	Favorable	40	38	41	47
36	Unfavorable	34	33	24	39
23	No Opinion	26	29	35	13
100		100	100	100	100

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1000]:

Q.44F2 Would you say you have a generally favorable or unfavorable opinion of Islam -- the Muslim religion?

37	Favorable
36	Unfavorable
27	No opinion **(VOL.)**
100	

ASK ALL:

ROTATE QUESTIONS 45 AND 46

Q.45 Do you happen to know what name Muslims use to refer to God? *[Allah]*

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002
48	Correct Answer	45	47
14	Incorrect Answer	9	11
38	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	46	42
100		100	100

Q.46 Do you happen to know the name of the Islamic equivalent to the Bible? *[Koran]*

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002
51	Correct Answer	42	43
9	Incorrect Answer	4	8
40	Don't know/Refused (VOL.)	54	49
100		100	100

Q.47 As I read you a pair of statements, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views even if neither is exactly right.

ASK FORM 2 ONLY [N=1000]:

b.F2		July 2004	Mid-July 2003	March 2002
36	The Islamic religion is more likely than others to encourage violence among its believers	46	44	25
	-OR-			
47	The Islamic religion does not encourage violence more than others	37	41	51
3	Neither **(VOL.)**	2	3	3
14	Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**	15	12	21
100		100	100	100

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1000]:

a.F1		Late May 2005[3]	Mid-July 2003	March 2002
45	Some religions are more likely than others to encourage violence among believers	52	52	47
	-OR-			
43	Religions are all about the same in this regard	39	38	41
5	Neither **(VOL.)**	3	5	4
7	Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**	6	5	8
100		100	100	100

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ASK IF 1 IN Q.47aF1:

Q.48F1 Which one of the religions that I name do you think of as most violent--Christianity, Islam, Judaism or Hinduism?

		May 2005
5	Christianity	5
27	Islam	35
2	Judaism	2
2	Hinduism	2
2	None **(VOL.) (DO NOT READ)**	1
7	Don't know/Refused **(VOL.)**	7
43	Religions are all about the same **[in Q.47aF1]**	39
12	Neither/Don't know/Refused **(VOL.) [in Q.47aF1]**	9
100		100

[3] In Late May 2005 the question was worded "Which statement comes closer to your own views even if neither is exactly right? Some religions are more prone to violence than others; OR All religions are about the same when it comes to violence."

ASK FORM 1 ONLY [N=1000]:

Q.49F1 How much of a role does religion play in causing most wars and conflicts in the world? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

		Mid-July 2003	March 2002
40	A great deal	44	34
35	A fair amount	35	31
13	Only a little [OR]	12	20
8	None at all	6	9
4	Don't know/Refused **(VOL, DO NOT READ)**	3	6
100		100	100

Q.50F1 How much of a role does religion play in causing political conflict in the United States? **[READ, IN ORDER]**

30	A great deal
35	A fair amount
27	Only a little [OR]
4	None at all
4	Don't know/Refused **(VOL, DO NOT READ)**
100	

Now, just a few questions for statistical purposes only...

PARTY In politics TODAY, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or Independent?

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Trend	Republican	Democrat	Independent	**(VOL)** No Preference	**(VOL)** Other Party	Don't know
July, 2005	32	32	28	5	*	3=100
June, 2005	30	32	32	4	*	2=100
Mid-May, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
Late March, 2005	29	32	36	2	*	1=100
Mid-March, 2005	30	34	29	4	*	3=100
February, 2005	31	32	30	4	1	2=100
January, 2005	32	33	30	4	*	1=100
December, 2004	31	34	30	3	*	2=100
Mid-October, 2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
Late September, 2004	29	30	31	6	*	4=100
Mid-September, 2004	29	31	30	5	*	5=100
Early September, 2004	30	33	31	3	*	3=100
August, 2004	31	35	27	4	*	3=100
July, 2004	29	33	32	3	*	3=100
Yearly Totals						
2004	30	33	30	4	*	3=100
2003	30	31	31	5	*	3=100
2002	30	31	30	5	1	3=100
2001	29	34	29	5	*	3=100
2001 Post-Sept 11	*31*	*32*	*28*	*5*	*1*	*3=100*
2001 Pre-Sept 11	*28*	*35*	*30*	*5*	*	*2=100*
2000	28	33	29	6	*	4=100
1999	27	33	34	4	*	2=100
1998	28	33	32	5	*	2=100
1997	28	33	32	4	1	2=100

PARTY CONTINUED...

	Republican	Democrat	Independent	No Preference/ Other/DK
1996	29	33	33	5=100
1995	32	30	34	4=100
1994	30	32	34	4=100
1993	27	34	34	5=100
1992	28	33	35	4=100
1991	31	32	33	4=100
1990	31	33	30	6=100

	Republican	Democrat	Independent/ No Pref/Oth/DK
1989	33	33	34=100
1987	26	35	39=100

IF ANSWERED 3, 4, 5 OR 9 IN PARTY, ASK:

PARTYLN As of today do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

	Republican	Democrat	Refused to lean
July, 2005	10	14	12=36%
June, 2005	10	16	12=38%
Mid-May, 2005	9	13	14=36%
Late March, 2005	13	17	9=39%
December, 2004	14	12	9=35%
August, 2003	12	16	14=42%
August, 2002	12	13	13=38%
September, 2000	11	13	15=39%
Late September, 1999	14	15	16=45%
August, 1999	15	15	12=42%

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