NASS National

FINAL/ November 14-19,1998

STUDY #7928
THE TARRANCE GROUP/LAKE SNELL PERRY & ASSOCIATES
N=1,005 Youth (15-24 years of age)*
**Note: Some questions are split-sampled -- Version A (n=499); Version B (n=506)*

Hello, I'm _____ of The Tarrance Group, a national survey research firm. We're conducting a public opinion survey among Americans between the ages of 15 and 24. We are not selling anything and will not ask for a contribution or donation.

Can you please tell me how many American citizens between the ages of 15 and 24 live at this household?

IF "NONE" (THANK AND TERMINATE)
IF "ONE" (THEN ASK, "MAY I SPEAK WITH HIM/HER?)
(REPEAT INTRODUCTION FOR RESPONDENT AND CONTINUE)
IF MORE THAN ONE (THEN ASK, "MAY I SPEAK WITH THE PERSON BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 24 WHO MOST RECENTLY CELEBRATED THEIR BIRTHDAY?)
IF "ONE OR MORE, BUT NOT HOME" (SCHEDULE A CALL BACK)
IF "ANY AWAY AT SCHOOL" (THEN ASK, "We're doing a survey for a non-profit organization on attitudes among young adults. Would you be willing to provide the phone number of the young adult who lives here, so we can include him/her in the survey?"

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1. First, are you an American citizen?

Yes	(CONTINUE)
No	(THANK, REPEAT INTRO/TERMINATE)
UNSURE	(THANK, REPEAT INTRO/TERMINATE)

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2. And, in what month and year were you born? (CALCULATE AND RECORD ACTUAL AGE)

IF BORN BEFORE NOVEMBER 1973
.. or … > (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
IF BORN AFTER NOVEMBER 1983

	15 years old	13%
VERSION 1 <	16	12%
	17	10%
	18	10%
	19	8%
VERSION 2 <	20	10%
	21	10%
	22	9%
	23	10%
	24	8%

[NOTE – QUESTIONS ARE ASKED ON BOTH VERSIONS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED]

And when you think about the future of America –

3. Do you feel more optimistic that America's best years as a country are still ahead of us, or do you feel more worried that America's best years might already be behind us?

	Total	Ages 15-18	Ages 19-22	Ages 23-24
Optimistic/best years ahead	**51%**	53%	49%	52%
Worried/best years might be behind us	**39%**	38%	41%	39%
BOTH (DNR)	**2%**	2%	2%	2%
UNSURE (DNR)	**7%**	7%	8%	7%

Now, looking ahead and thinking about things here in the U.S.--

4. What do you think is the number one issue facing our country today -- that is, what is the issue that you and perhaps your friends are most concerned about? (DO NOT READ RESPONSES, JUST RECORD)

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: After completion of interview, double-check this question for proper coding. Try to fit "Others" into a pre-existing category.

Abortion	1%
Agriculture/farming/ranching	*
AIDS	3%
Budget deficit	*
Child care	*
Children's issues	1%
Clinton (President Bill)	4%
College/affording	1%
Congress	*
Cost of living	*
Crime	5%
Cuts to government programs	*
Deficit	*
Democrats/Republicans	*
Drugs	6%
Economy	5%
Education	5%
Environment	3%
Foreign affairs	9%
Gangs	1%
Government/size/regulation	3%
Government spending	1%
Growth/overdevelopment	1%
Guns	1%
Health care (cost/quality of)	2%
Health insurance (cost/lack of)	*
Homeless/poverty	2%
Immigration	*
Jobs	5%
Job training	*
Moral concerns	4%
Politicians/incumbents	2%
Pollution	1%
Property taxes	*
Racism	3%
Religious concerns	1%
Retirement	*
Schools/school choice	*
Senior citizens	*
Social security	2%
Taxes	1%
Tax increases	*
Tobacco	*
Unemployment	1%
Values	1%
Violence	9%
Wages	1%
Welfare (reform)	1%
OTHER (SPECIFY)_____	4%
UNSURE	12%

*=less than 0.5 percent

And still thinking about this concern –

5. How confident are you that this issue will be dealt with successfully in the next few years? Are you…
(READ TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

	Total	Total/C	15-18	19-22	23-24
Extremely confident	**6%**				
Very confident		**18%**	18%	19%	16%
Very confident	**12%**				
Somewhat confident	**38%**				
Not very confident		**74%**	73%	72%	81%
Not very confident	**36%**				
UNSURE (**DNR**)	**8%**		9%	9%	3%

Now, thinking about the role of government in America –

6A. Overall, how strong of an impact would you say that government decisions have on you in your life -- would you say they have a very strong impact, somewhat of an impact, not a very strong impact, or almost no impact?

Very strong impact	27%
Somewhat of an impact	48%
Not a very strong impact	17%
Almost no impact	8%
UNSURE (DNR)	1%

[SPLIT]
Now, thinking about the role of elected officials in America –

6B. Overall, how strong of an impact would you say that elected officials' decisions have on you in your life -- would you say they have a very strong impact, somewhat of an impact, not a very strong impact, or almost no impact?

Very strong impact	21%
Somewhat of an impact	47%
Not a very strong impact	19%
Almost no impact	12%
UNSURE (DNR)	1%

(COMBINATION OF SPLIT)
6A&B: Impact of Government/ elected officials combined:

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Very strong impact	**24%**	25%	22%	26%
Somewhat of an impact	**48%**	51%	45%	45%
Not a very strong impact	**18%**	16%	20%	19%
Almost no impact	**10%**	8%	13%	9%
UNSURE (DNR)	**1%**	1%	*	1%

(ASK EVERYONE)

And –

7. Generally speaking, do you consider this impact as a good or a bad influence in your life?

	Total	Total/C	15-18	19-22	23-24
Good/strongly	**16%**				
Good		**62%**	70%	60%	47%
Good/somewhat	**46%**				
UNSURE **(DNR)**	**16%**		14%	17%	21%
Bad/somewhat	**14%**				
Bad		**22%**	17%	23%	32%
Bad/strongly	**8%**				

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:
And do you feel strongly or somewhat strongly about that?

And, thinking specifically about the American dream –

8. Should the government do more to help families achieve the American dream, or should the government stay out of these issues and let people get ahead on their own?

	Total	Total/C	15-18	19-22	23-24
Govt. can help/strongly	**39%**				
Govt. can help		**60%**	63%	60%	53%
Govt. can help/somewhat	**21%**				
UNSURE **(DNR)**	**4%**		3%	5%	6%
Govt. stay out/somewhat	**13%**				
Govt. stay out		**36%**	34%	36%	41%
Govt. stay out/strongly	**23%**				

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:
And do you feel strongly or somewhat strongly about that?

And thinking generally about people you meet in every day life –

9. Overall, do you think most people can be trusted, or do you approach most people with caution?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Most can be trusted	**32%**	35%	27%	35%
Approach with caution	**65%**	60%	71%	65%
BOTH (DNR)	**2%**	3%	1%	*
UNSURE (DNR)	**1%**	2%	1%	*

Now I'm going to read you some different goals that young people might have. Using a scale from 10 to 1, please rate each one in terms of its importance to you personally. If a particular goal is "extremely important" to you pick a number closer to 10. If it has average importance, pick a number around 5 or 6. And if a particular goal is not really important to you pick a number closer to 1. You can select any number between 1 and 10, depending on how strongly you feel. Here is the first one -- **(READ SLOWLY AND ROTATE)**

Not at all Important									Extremely Important
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

10. Becoming successful in a career

1%	*	1%	1%	4%	3%	7%	15%	19%	**51%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 49%
19-22 ..... 54%
23-24 ..... 48%

11. Having a close-knit family life

1%	*	1%	1%	3%	3%	5%	12%	15%	**61%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 53%
19-22 ..... 63%
23-24 ..... 73%

12. Doing well financially, making a lot of money

1%	1%	1%	3%	10%	10%	16%	17%	12%	**29%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 24%
19-22 ..... 36%
23-24 ..... 25%

13. Being a good American who cares about the good of the country

1%	1%	1%	2%	8%	7%	15%	22%	16%	**27%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 24%
19-22 ..... 31%
23-24 ..... 27%

14. Being involved in democracy and voting

4%	2%	4%	3%	14%	7%	12%	18%	11%	**26%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 23%
19-22 ..... 27%
23-24 ..... 30%

Not at all Important									Extremely Important
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

15. Being involved in your religion and living up to your spiritual beliefs

4%	3%	4%	5%	10%	7%	7%	13%	12%	**37%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 38%
19-22 ..... 35%
23-24 ..... 39%

16. Being involved and helping your community be a better place

1%	1%	2%	2%	9%	7%	17%	23%	15%	**25%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 22%
19-22 ..... 27%
23-24 ..... 28%

17. Gaining knowledge, education and skills

*	*	*	*	2%	2%	5%	12%	19%	**60%**

Extremely important for ages: 15-18 ..... 57%
19-22 ..... 61%
23-24 ..... 66%

(END ROTATION)

And using the same scale, with one meaning not important at all, and 10 being the most important thing in your life -

18. How important is being an American to you personally?

Not at all Important									Extremely Important
2%	1%	1%	1%	5%	4%	9%	16%	14%	**48%**

Extremely likely for ages: 15-18 ..... 44%
19-22 ..... 49%
23-24 ..... 54%

Now, thinking about politics, government and current events –

19. When you were growing up, how often did you talk about politics, government or current events with your parents – would you say you talked with them often, sometimes, not very often, or never?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Often	**21%**	19%	20%	28%
Sometimes	**33%**	32%	34%	32%
Not very often	**30%**	33%	29%	25%
Never	**16%**	16%	17%	15%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	*			

And, still thinking about these issues –

20. In general, how often do you now talk about politics, government or current events with your friends – would you say you talk with them often, sometimes, not very often, or never?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Often	**31%**	24%	30%	49%
Sometimes	**42%**	41%	46%	38%
Not very often	**20%**	26%	17%	10%
Never	**7%**	9%	7%	4%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	*			

(ASK ON VERSION 2 ONLY/VERSION 1 -- SKIP TO Q30A/B)

21. Often things come up and people are not able to register to vote. Would state records show that you happen to be currently registered to vote, or are you not registered at this time?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Yes **(TO Q24)**	**70%**	52%	70%	81%
No **(CONTINUE)**	**28%**	46%	28%	18%
UNSURE **(DNR) (CONTINUE)**	**2%**	2%	2%	*

IF "NOT REGISTERED" IN Q21, THEN ASK:

22. What is the main reason that you are not registered to vote? Is it because you….
(**READ AND ROTATE OPTIONS)**

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Have not had time to register yet	**38%**	50%	35%	30%
Have not bothered because it's not a priority	**21%**	10%	25%	22%
Do not have an interest in voting	**14%**	6%	16%	18%
Don't really know how to register	**10%**	20%	7%	5%
Have been living away from home	**10%**	2%	14%	10%
ALL OF THESE **(DNR)**	**2%**	*	1%	5%
OTHER (**DNR**)	**5%**	11%	2%	8%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	**1%**	2%	1%	3%

IF "NOT REGISTERED" IN Q21, THEN ASK:

23. How likely are you to register and vote in the next presidential election two years from now – almost certain, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Almost certain	**45%**	54%	43%	39%
Very likely	**21%**	27%	19%	18%
Somewhat likely	**17%**	5%	22%	18%
Not very likely	**18%**	14%	17%	25%

IF "REGISTERED" IN Q21, THEN ASK:

24. What was the location or office where you most recently registered to vote?

(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

High school	21%
College	3%
Post Office	4%
DMV/Driver's License Bureau	15%
Courthouse	8%
City or Town Hall	9%
Street/Sidewalk	2%
Public library	2%
Social service/welfare office	*
Church/Synagogue/Temple	6%
Shopping mall	1%
By mail	6%
Other (SPECIFY_____)	9%
UNSURE/DON'T REMEMBER	13%

(Q24/C and by age):

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
High school/ college	**24%**	30%	24%	23%
DMV/ Driver's License Bureau	**15%**	20%	15%	13%
Church/ Synagogue/ Temple	**6%**	6%	7%	4%
By mail	**6%**	10%	7%	4%
Other Government buildings	**23%**	14%	23%	25%
Other	**26%**	21%	24%	31%

IF "REGISTERED" IN Q21, THEN ASK:

25. Often things come up and people are not able to vote. Would state records show that you happened to vote in the most recent election on November 3, or did something come up that prevented you from voting?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Yes, voted (**CONINTUE**)	**50%**	47%	49%	53%
No, did not vote (**TO 28**)	**49%**	50%	51%	47%
UNSURE (**DNR) (TO 28)**	*****	3%	*	*

IF "VOTED" IN Q25, THEN ASK:

26. For you personally, what was the single most important reason that you decided to vote this year?
(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
DIDN'T THINK ABOUT IT	**12%**	10%	13%	11%
No real reason, just did it	7%			
Turned 18, became eligible	3%			
Family/parents/spouse/sibling/friend told me	1%			
I always vote/habit	1%			
CIVICS	**28%**	29%	22%	37%
My duty/responsibility	17%			
It's my right	7%			
For the future/it matters	4%			
EFFICACY	**29%**	34%	32%	22%
To voice my opinion	12%			
To make a difference	8%			
Can't complain unless you vote	3%			
My vote counts/every vote counts	6%			
SPECIFIC ISSUES/CANDIDATES	**19%**	10%	21%	18%
Support specific/my candidate	9%			
Oppose specific/ other candidate	2%			
Support specific issue/my issue (s)	7%			
Oppose specific issue/ other issue (s)	*			
PARTISAN REASONS	**7%**	3%	7%	8%
Support Democrats	2%			
Support Republicans	2%			
To oppose/send a message to Clinton	*			
Vote for third party position/candidate	*			
Party protest vote	2%			
Part of school/class assignment	1%			
OTHER_____	3%			
UNSURE (DNR)	2%			

27. *(Question omitted prior to fielding of survey)*

(EVERYONE IN VERSION 2)

Now, let me read to you a list of reasons that some people have given to explain why many young people do not vote –

28. Please tell me, in your own opinion, which one of the following is the most common reason that young people do not vote – (**READ AND ROTATE**)

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
They are not eligible because they have recently moved and are not registered	**3%**	*	4%	3%
There is no difference between the candidates	**4%**	1%	5%	3%
They do not have enough information about the candidates running	**25%**	33%	25%	23%
They do not have enough time in their busy lives	**15%**	20%	16%	11%
They don't think their vote makes a difference	**26%**	23%	24%	31%
They do not like politics or the candidates running and therefore protest by not voting	**10%**	7%	9%	13%
The mud-slinging and negative campaigns are a turnoff	**15%**	13%	16%	13%
UNSURE (DNR)	**1%**	2%	*	1%
OTHER (DNR)	**1%**	2%	1%	1%

And thinking back to the most recent November 3rd election –

29. Did you personally receive a piece of mail or a telephone call from any candidate running for office?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Yes	**46%**	36%	45%	54%
No	**53%**	62%	53%	45%
UNSURE (DNR)	**2%**	3%	2%	*

(ASK OF EVERYONE – BOTH VERSIONS 1 & 2)

Now I am going to read you a list of activities or experiences in which some young people have participated in the past. For each one, please tell me whether you have done this in the last few years:

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: How likely is it that you would do this in the future -- extremely likely, somewhat likely, not very likely or not at all likely?

HAVE DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				HAVE *NOT* DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				
Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	UNSURE (DNR)
30A. Helped an elderly or disabled friend or neighbor								
64%	22%	1%	*	3%	6%	2%	1%	*
Total/C	**87%**					**13%**		
15-18	88%					12%		
19-22	88%					12%		
23-24	84%					16%		
30B. Donated money, clothes or food to a community or church organization								
68%	21%	*	*	2%	7%	1%	*	*
Total/C	**90%**					**10%**		
15-18	93%					7%		
19-22	87%					13%		
23-24	88%					12%		
31A. Volunteered in a political campaign								
6%	8%	2%	1%	4%	19%	30%	30%	1%
Total/C	**16%**					**84%**		
15-18	18%					82%		
19-22	13%					87%		
23-24	17%					83%		
31B. Run for an elected leadership type position								
10%	9%	3%	1%	4%	13%	28%	31%	1%
Total/C	**24%**					**76%**		
15-18	31%					69%		
19-22	17%					83%		
23-24	22%					78%		

	HAVE DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				HAVE *NOT* DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				
	Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	UNSURE (DNR)
32A. Volunteered for a homeless shelter, Red Cross, environmental group or other community organization									
	32%	19%	2%	*	10%	23%	8%	6%	*
Total/C	**53%**				**47%**				
15-18	57%				43%				
19-22	50%				50%				
23-24	46%				54%				
32B. Volunteered at a church, synagogue, temple or other religious organization									
	39%	17%	3%	*	2%	16%	12%	12%	*
Total/C	**58%**				**42%**				
15-18	64%				36%				
19-22	55%				45%				
23-24	52%				48%				
33A. Joined a club or organization that deals with government or politics – like the Debate or Model UN Club									
	6%	5%	2%	1%	3%	16%	35%	31%	1%
Total/C	**14%**				**86%**				
15-18	20%				80%				
19-22	8%				92%				
23-24	10%				90%				
33B. Joined a club or organization that does not deal with politics or government – like Drama, Band or Yearbook									
	36%	18%	6%	5%	2%	7%	13%	13%	1%
Total/C	**64%**				**36%**				
15-18	77%				23%				
19-22	57%				43%				
23-24	49%				51%				
34A. Read a magazine about government, politics or current events nearly every week									
	25%	17%	2%	1%	3%	17%	21%	14%	1%
Total/C	**44%**				**56%**				
15-18	45%				55%				
19-22	38%				62%				
23-24	57%				43%				

	HAVE DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				HAVE *NOT* DONE THIS/ LIKELYHOOD OF DOING IN FUTURE				
	Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	Extremely Likely	Somewhat Likely	Not very Likely	Not at all Likely	UNSURE (DNR)
34B. Read a book about politics, government or current events that was not assigned by a teacher									
	19%	13%	4%	1%	3%	20%	20%	20%	1%
Total/C		**37%**					**63%**		
15-18		30%					70%		
19-22		40%					60%		
23-24		45%					55%		
35A. Went with your parents to vote in an election									
	18%	13%	5%	3%	10%	13%	15%	21%	2%
Total/C		**39%**					**61%**		
15-18		40%					60%		
19-22		43%					57%		
23-24		28%					72%		
35B. Played in organized competitive sports									
	41%	18%	8%	3%	3%	9%	10%	10%	*
Total/C		**69%**					**31%**		
15-18		73%					27%		
19-22		67%					33%		
23-24		63%					37%		
36A. Wrote a letter to a newspaper or government official									
	11%	12%	5%	2%	4%	25%	22%	18%	1%
Total/C		**30%**					**70%**		
15-18		34%					66%		
19-22		24%					76%		
23-24		32%					68%		
36B. Participated in a march or demonstration for a political cause									
	6%	7%	3%	*	4%	22%	32%	27%	1%
Total/C		**15%**					**85%**		
15-18		15%					85%		
19-22		15%					85%		
23-24		17%					83%		

Now, I am going to read to you a series of statements that some young people have made about government and politics in our country. Please listen as I read each one and tell me if you agree or disagree with the statement. **(READ AND ROTATE)**
IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: Is that strongly (agree/disagree) or somewhat (agree/disagree)?

	AGREE		UN-	NO	DISAGREE	
	Strng	**Smwht**	SURE **(DNR)**	DIFF. **(DNR)**	**Smwht**	**Strng**
37A. My friends don't like politics and neither do I **(PROMPT: DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THIS STATEMENT?)**	13%	18%	*	1%	31%	38%
Total/C	**31%**				**68%**	
15-18	33%				65%	
19-22	34%				66%	
23-24	18%				82%	
37B. Parents don't encourage young people to get involved in current events	19%	25%	1%	*	30%	25%
Total/C	**44%**				**55%**	
15-18	39%				60%	
19-22	43%				55%	
23-24	56%				42%	
38A. Voting in elections has little to do with the way that real decisions are made in our country	18%	20%	1%	*	28%	32%
Total/C	**38%**				**60%**	
15-18	36%				62%	
19-22	44%				54%	
23-24	31%				67%	
38B. Voting in elections is one of the most important rights we have as American citizens	62%	26%	*	*	8%	4%
Total/C	**87%**				**12%**	
15-18	87%				12%	
19-22	87%				13%	
23-24	90%				10%	
39A. The schools do not do a very good job giving young people the information needed to vote	32%	23%	2%	*	20%	23%
Total/C	**55%**				**43%**	
15-18	50%				48%	
19-22	60%				38%	
23-24	57%				38%	

	AGREE Strng	AGREE Smwht	UN-SURE	NO DIFF.	DISAGREE Smwht	DISAGREE Strng
39B. You can't trust politicians because most are dishonest	31%	27%	2%	*	31%	10%
Total/C	**57%**				**41%**	
15-18	52%				45%	
19-22	61%				37%	
23-24	62%				38%	
40A. Our generation has an important voice but no one seems to hear it	41%	26%	1%	*	22%	11%
Total/C	**66%**				**33%**	
15-18	66%				34%	
19-22	68%				31%	
23-24	62%				36%	
40B. The most important thing I can do as a citizen is to help others	66%	28%	*	*	4%	2%
Total/C	**94%**				**6%**	
15-18	95%				5%	
19-22	94%				5%	
23-24	91%				8%	
41A. Things are so complicated and the problems facing the country are so big that it doesn't seem like my vote really matters.	17%	17%	1%	*	24%	42%
Total/C	**34%**				**65%**	
15-18	34%				65%	
19-22	38%				61%	
23-24	23%				75%	
41B. Government is run by a few big interests looking out for themselves, not for the benefit of all.	30%	34%	1%	*	23%	12%
Total/C	**64%**				**35%**	
15-18	56%				43%	
19-22	67%				31%	
23-24	74%				25%	
42A. The two traditional parties – Republican and Democrat – do not represent the views of people in my generation.	19%	23%	2%	1%	38%	18%
Total/C	**42%**				**56%**	
15-18	39%				58%	
19-22	43%				54%	
23-24	47%				52%	

	AGREE Strng	AGREE Smwht	UN-SURE	NO DIFF.	DISAGREE Smwht	DISAGREE Strng
42B. Young people would vote more often if there were more independent or third-party candidates to vote for.	21%	29%	2%	1%	27%	20%
Total/C	**50%**				**47%**	
15-18	51%				46%	
19-22	50%				47%	
23-24	48%				49%	

Now I would like to read you a list of some specific suggestions that have been made about how to get young people more involved in community and political activities. Please listen as I read this list and tell me, for each one, whether you think bringing about this kind of change would make young people … a lot more likely to get involved, somewhat more likely, a little more likely, or would make them no more likely to get involved in community and political activities. **(RANDOMIZE)**

	---------- LIKELY ---------- A Lot More	Somewhat	A little	No More	UNSURE (DNR)	NO DIFF. (DNR)
43A. Giving high school students extra credit toward graduation if they get involved in community service projects **(PROMPT: WOULD THIS CHANGE MAKE YOU PERSONALLY A LOT MORE, SOMEWHAT MORE, A LITTLE MORE, OR NO MORE LIKELY TO GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY AND POLITICAL ACTIVITIES?)**	56%	28%	8%	7%	1%	*
	A Lot More	**Other**				
Total/C	**56%**	**44%**				
15-18	58%	42%				
19-22	55%	45%				
23-24	54%	46%				
43B. Giving high school students extra credit for volunteering in political campaigns.	44%	33%	10%	12%	1%	1%
Total/C	**44%**	**56%**				
15-18	49%	51%				
19-22	44%	56%				
23-24	34%	66%				
44A. Holding mock or simulated elections in school.	27%	39%	18%	16%	1%	*
Total/C	**27%**	**73%**				
15-18	25%	75%				
19-22	28%	72%				
23-24	26%	74%				

44B.	Having students participate in contests on current events modeled after TV game shows like Jeopardy.	20%	41%	14%	24%	1%	1%
	Total/C	**20%**	**80%**				
	15-18	21%	79%				
	19-22	21%	79%				
	23-24	18%	82%				
45A.	Having high schools help students to register to vote.	46%	32%	16%	6%	1%	*
	Total/C	**46%**	**54%**				
	15-18	37%	63%				
	19-22	54%	46%				
	23-24	49%	51%				
45B.	Allowing students to repay student loans by working in community service jobs.	52%	31%	9%	8%	*	*
	Total/C	**52%**	**48%**				
	15-18	46%	54%				
	19-22	56%	44%				
	23-24	56%	44%				
46A.	Changing American government classes to be more participatory and based less on traditional book learning.	36%	39%	14%	10%	1%	*
	Total/C	**36%**	**64%**				
	15-18	35%	65%				
	19-22	38%	62%				
	23-24	37%	63%				
46B.	Holding televised debates between presidential candidates that are organized and moderated by young people.	25%	44%	15%	17%	*	*
	Total/C	**25%**	**75%**				
	15-18	25%	75%				
	19-22	25%	75%				
	23-24	23%	77%				

Now I would like to read you a list of statements that some young voters have made about their decision to vote. Please listen as I read this list and tell me, for each one, whether you think this argument is convincing or not very convincing. **(RANDOMIZE)**
IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And do you feel strongly about that?

	CONVINCING				NOT CONVINCING	
	Strng	**Smwht**	UNSURE **(DNR)**	BOTH **(DNR)**	**Smwht**	**Strng**
47. If I don't like the way things are going in the country, I don't have a right to complain unless I vote. **(PROMPT: DO YOU FIND THIS ARGUMENT FOR VOTING CONVINCING OR NOT VERY CONVINCING?)**	49%	17%	*	*	13%	20%
Total/C	**66%**				**33%**	
15-18	65%				35%	
19-22	66%				33%	
23-24	69%				31%	
48. If people like me never vote and other people always vote – the result will usually be decisions that benefit other people; not me	27%	24%	2%	*	25%	23%
Total/C	**51%**				**47%**	
15-18	50%				48%	
19-22	55%				44%	
23-24	47%				52%	
49. The decline in young people voting is a serious national problem. 48%	26%	1%	*	18%	8%	
Total/C	**73%**				**25%**	
15-18	74%				25%	
19-22	71%				27%	
23-24	76%				23%	
50. If people stop voting, we will lose our democracy.	49%	23%	1%	*	15%	12%
Total/C	**71%**				**28%**	
15-18	73%				27%	
19-22	69%				30%	
23-24	74%				26%	

(END ROTATION)

When thinking about political campaigns –

51. If you were planning to vote in the next election and wanted to get information about candidates and issues, where would you go to find the most trustworthy information? **(READ AND ROTATE LIST)**

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
TV	**8%**	8%	8%	6%
Radio	**2%**	2%	1%	3%
Newspaper	**21%**	19%	23%	21%
Internet	**19%**	17%	20%	24%
Mail	**2%**	2%	3%	*
Family	**13%**	15%	12%	9%
Friends	**3%**	2%	3%	3%
Teachers	**6%**	10%	3%	1%
The political parties or	**8%**	10%	7%	5%
A non-partisan voter information organization	**13%**	9%	13%	22%
OTHER (**SPECIFY**)_____	**2%**	2%	2%	2%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	**5%**	5%	4%	3%

And thinking generally about politics and government –

52. When it comes to reading the newspaper or watching the news on TV, how much attention do you ... specifically pay to issues in politics and government --- – a great deal, quite a bit, just some, or very little?

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Great deal	**12%**	9%	13%	17%
Quite a bit	**31%**	30%	31%	32%
Just some	**36%**	38%	35%	36%
Very little	**21%**	22%	21%	16%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	*****	1%	*	*

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53. Can you tell me the name of the Governor in your state? **(DO NOT READ RESPONSES)**

Yes, can mention a name	67%
No, cannot recall name	30%
UNSURE	2%

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54. Can you tell me the name of the Vice President of the United States? **(DO NOT READ RESPONSES**)

Yes, Al Gore	79%
No, cannot recall name	19%
UNSURE	2%

---

55. How long is one term for a member of the U.S. House of Representatives?
(DO NOT READ RESPONSES)

Two years	37%
Other answer	43%
UNSURE	20%

QUESTIONS 53-55: KNOWLEDGE

Number Correct	**Total**	15-18	19-22	23-24
Three	**25%**	21%	26%	31%
Two	**44%**	41%	44%	51%
One	**21%**	26%	21%	12%
Zero	**10%**	12%	9%	6%

Now for statistical purposes only, I am going to ask you a series of additional demographic questions --

56. Are you currently a student in school?

Yes (**CONTINUE)**	68%
No (**TO Q60**)	32%
UNSURE (**DNR**) (**TO Q60**)	*

STUDENT STATUS

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
High School	**39%**	85%	2%	*
College Student	**27%**	9%	52%	20%
Non-Student	**32%**	6%	43%	71%
Other	**2%**	*	2%	8%

IF "YES" IN Q56, THEN ASK:

57. What grade or year of school are you in?

	8th Grade or below *
	9th Grade 4%
(CONTINUE) <	10th Grade 17%
	11th Grade 18%
	12th Grade 17%
	Technical/Vocational school 2%
	1st or 2nd year of college 23%
	3rd or 4th year of college 16%
(TO Q61) <	College graduate 1%
	Graduate level school 2%
	OTHER (**DNR**) *
	UNSURE (**DNR**) *

IF "HIGH SCHOOL IN Q57, THEN ASK:

Thinking now about your academic standing in school --

58. Compared to your classmates in high school, generally would you say that your grades in school are below average, about average, or above average?

Below average	2%
Average	44%
Above average	54%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	*

IF "HIGH SCHOOL" IN Q57, THEN ASK:

And –

59. Do you plan to attend a four-year college?

Yes	85%
No	10%
UNSURE (DNR)	5%

IF "NON STUDENT" IN Q56, THEN ASK:

60. What is the last grade or year of school you have completed?
(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

8th Grade or below	1%
9th Grade	1%
10th Grade	3%
11th Grade	3%
12th Grade	50%
Technical/Vocational school	3%
1st or 2nd year of college	18%
3rd or 4th year of college	4%
College graduate	14%
Graduate level school	3%

ASK OF EVERYONE

61. Are you currently employed at a paying job?

Yes (**CONTINUE**)	62%
No (**TO Q63**)	37%
UNSURE (**DNR**) (**TO Q63**)	*

WORKING STATUS

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Non-working	**37%**	59%	22%	17%
Working student	**36%**	36%	41%	22%
Working non-student	**27%**	4%	37%	62%
Other	*****	1%	*	*

IF "YES, EMPLOYED" IN Q61, THEN ASK:

62. Can you please tell me what kind of work you do? **(DO NOT READ)**
(PROBE: TRY TO FIT INTO EXISTING SECTOR/JOB TYPE CATEGORY IF POSSIBLE)

Self-employed/Own small business	2%
High-level professional manager/Executive	2%
Middle-level professional manager	6%
Professional specialty (doctor, dentist, lawyer)	7%
Computers/Technology	7%
Engineer	3%
Sales	10%
Service industry/Restaurant/Retail	32%
Government worker	3%
Military	1%
Teacher	3%
Police/Security officer	1%
Laborer/Blue-collar worker	18%
Farmer/rancher	1%
Homemaker	*
Artist/Musician	1%
Student	1%
Retired	*
OTHER (**DNR**) **(SPECIFY)**_____	2%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	1%

(ASK EVERYONE)

63. What is your parent's marital status? Are they -- • single and never married, • married, • separated, • divorced, remarried ***or*** • widowed?
[NOTE: IF AT LEAST ONE PARENT IS REMARRIED, MARK REMARRIED

		Total	**Total/C**	15-18	19-22	23-24
	Single, never married	**6%**		6%	8%	3%
	Married	**67%**		72%	64%	61%
	Separated	**5%**				
	Divorced	**13%**	**22%**	19%	23%	29%
	Remarried	**4%**				
	Father no longer living (**TO Q66**)	**3%**				
(Other)	Mother no longer living (**TO Q64**)	**1%**	**5%**	3%	5%	7%
	Both parents deceased (**TO Q70**)	**1%**				
	UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)**	**1%**				

IF FATHER STILL LIVING, THEN ASK:

And thinking specifically about your father –

64. Can you please tell me what kind of work he does? **(DO NOT READ**)
(PROBE: TRY TO FIT INTO EXISTING SECTOR/JOB TYPE CATEGORY IF POSSIBLE)

Self-employed/Own small business	7%
High-level professional manager/Executive	7%
Middle-level professional manager	5%
Professional specialty (doctor, dentist, lawyer)	6%
Computers/Technology	5%
Engineer	6%
Sales	4%
Service industry/Restaurant/Retail	7%
Government worker	6%
Military	1%
Teacher	2%
Police/Security officer	2%
Laborer/Blue-collar worker	23%
Farmer/rancher	2%
Homemaker	*
Artist/Musician	1%
Retired	7%
OTHER (**DNR**) **(SPECIFY)**_____	3%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	8%

IF FATHER STILL LIVING, THEN ASK:

Thinking about your father's level of education –

65. What is the last grade or year of school that he last completed?
(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

8th Grade or below	3%
9th Grade	1%
10th Grade	2%
11th Grade	2%
12th Grade	28%
Technical/Vocational school	3%
1st or 2nd year of college	12%
3rd or 4th year of college	4%
College graduate	26%
Graduate level school	9%
OTHER (**DNR**)	1%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	10%

IF MOTHER STILL LIVING, THEN ASK:

And thinking specifically about your mother –

66. Can you please tell me what kind of work she does? **(DO NOT READ**)
(**PROBE: TRY TO FIT INTO EXISTING SECTOR/JOB TYPE CATEGORY IF POSSIBLE**)

Self-employed/Own small business	4%
High-level professional manager/Executive	4%
Middle-level professional manager	8%
Professional specialty (doctor, dentist, lawyer)	9%
Computers/Technology	3%
Engineer	1%
Sales	5%
Service industry/Restaurant/Retail	11%
Government worker	3%
Military	*
Teacher	11%
Police/Security officer	1%
Laborer/Blue-collar worker	8%
Farmer/rancher	*
Homemaker	16%
Artist/Musician	1%
Student	6%
Retired	1%
OTHER (**DNR**) **(SPECIFY)**_____	3%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	5%

IF MOTHER STILL LIVING, THEN ASK:

Thinking about your mother's level of education –

67. What is the last grade or year of school that she last completed?
(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

8th Grade or below	2%
9th Grade	1%
10th Grade	2%
11th Grade	2%
12th Grade	32%
Technical/Vocational school	4%
1st or 2nd year of college	15%
3rd or 4th year of college	4%
College graduate	25%
Graduate level school	8%
OTHER (**DNR**)	*
UNSURE (**DNR**)	6%

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68. *(Question omitted prior to fielding of survey)*

ASK OF EVERYONE

Still thinking about your parents –

69A. From what you remember while you were growing up, would you say that your father voted during every election, most elections, only in important elections, rarely voted or never voted to your knowledge?

Every election	42%
Most elections	23%
Important elections	7%
Rarely voted	8%
Never voted	11%
UNSURE (**DNR**)	8%

SPLIT

Still thinking about your parents –

69B. From what you remember while you were growing up, would you say that your mother voted during every election, most elections, only in important elections, rarely voted or never voted to your knowledge?

Every election	41%
Most elections	27%
Important elections	8%
Rarely voted	8%
Never voted	16%
UNSURE (DNR)	7%

69A and 69B COMBINED.

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Every election	**42%**	46%	38%	38%
Most elections	**25%**	23%	28%	23%
Important elections	**8%**	8%	6%	10%
Rarely voted	**8%**	8%	7%	9%
Never voted	**11%**	10%	12%	11%
UNSURE (DNR)	**7%**	5%	9%	9%

---

70. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK: Would you call yourself a strong or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)?

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING ELSE, ASK: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or the Democrat Party

Republican/strong	13%
Republican/not strng	12%
Lean Republican	4%
Independent	24%
Lean Democrat	5%
Democrat/not strong	16%
Democrat/strong	15%
NO PREFERENCE **(DNR)**	9%
OTHER **(DNR)**	2%
REFUSED **(DNR)**	1%

PARTY ID/C

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Republican	**28%**	32%	24%	26%
Independent	**36%**	37%	36%	34%
Democrat	**36%**	31%	40%	39%

And, thinking once again about your parents –

71. Generally speaking, do you think they are Republicans, Democrats, an Independents, each in a different party or what? **(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)**

		Total	Total/C	15-18	19-22	23-24
	Both Republican	**27%**		28%	24%	30%
	Both Democrat	**32%**		29%	36%	30%
	Both Independent	**13%**		12%	13%	15%
	Mixed/Father GOP – Mother DEM	**6%**				
(Mixed)	Mixed/Father DEM – Mother GOP	**4%**	**14%**	14%	15%	14%
	Mixed/One Independent/Other GOP or DEM	**4%**				
(Other)	OTHER **(DNR)**	**9%**	**14%**	18%	12%	11%
	REFUSED **(DNR)**	**6%**				

---

72. On average, which of the following best describes how often you are on the Internet?
(READ LIST)

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Several hours per day	**10%**	9%	11%	12%
Almost every day	**17%**	16%	17%	19%
At least once per week	**27%**	30%	24%	22%
Every month or so	**11%**	11%	11%	9%
Rarely	**15%**	16%	14%	15%
Never	**19%**	16%	21%	22%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	**1%**	2%	1%	1%

---

73. On average, which of the following best describes how often you use e-mail?
(READ LIST)

Almost every day	29%
Occasionally	31%
Never	40%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	1%

INTERNET and E-MAIL COMBINED

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Daily user	**18%**	17%	18%	20%
Non-user	**15%**	11%	17%	19%
Other	**67%**	73%	64%	61%

---

74. Do you have a personal computer in your household?

Yes	72%
No	28%
UNSURE **(DNR)**	1%

Now, thinking about where you get your news, people get their news from all different places –

75. On average, which of the following best describes how often you read a newspaper?

	(READ LIST)	**Total**	**Total/C**	15-18	19-22	23-24
	Every day	**29%**		27%	31%	32%
(Weekly)	Several times a week	**28%**	**49%**	49%	50%	48%
	Once per week	**21%**				
(Not often/ Never)	At least once per month	**7%**	**21%**	24%	19%	20%
	Rarely	**10%**				
	Never	**4%**				
	UNSURE **(DNR)**	**1%**				

---

76. And how often do you attend religious services?**(DO NOT READ - RECORD ONLY)**

		Total	**Total/C**	15-18	19-22	23-24
	Every week/Once a week or more	**44%**		52%	38%	35%
(Occasionally)	Several times a month	**8%**	**35%**	33%	40%	31%
	Once a month 11%					
	Several times a year	**8%**				
	Only on holidays 9%					
(Other)	NEVER/DON'T ATTEND	**19%**	**21%**	15%	21%	34%
	UNSURE/REFUSED	**1%**				

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77. And just to make sure we have a representative sample, please tell me your race -- **(DO NOT READ)** --

		Total	**Total/C**	15-18	19-22	23-24
	White	**67%**		67%	64%	74%
	Black	**14%**		15%	13%	13%
	Hispanic / Latino	**14%**		13%	18%	10%
(Other)	Asian / Pacific American	**3%**	**5%**	5%	5%	4%
	Native American 1%					
	Other **(SPECIFY)** _____	*****				
	UNSURE / REFUSED **(DNR)**	**2%**				

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78. Sex **(BY OBSERVATION)**

	Total	15-18	19-22	23-24
Male	**47%**	45%	52%	42%
Female	**53%**	55%	48%	58%