

Justice

1. [T] Over the past five years or so, would you say there has been an increase, decrease, or no change in the amount of crime in your community?

Increase
No change
Decrease
Not sure

2. [T] In the past two years, have you yourself been a victim of crime which involved the police, such as an assault, a break-in or some other type of crime?

Yes
No

3. [T] How much confidence do you have in each of these elements of the Canadian justice system?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

The RCMP
Your provincial police force-[ONTARIO AND QC ONLY?]
Your local municipal police (or local RCMP detachment)
Criminal courts in your province
The Supreme Court of Canada

[COLUMNS]

A complete lack of confidence
Not a lot of confidence
A lot of confidence
Complete confidence
Don't know

4. Two recent cases involving high-profile, well-known defendants have resulted in acquittals for the accused person: The trial of Sen. Mike Duffy on charges of fraud, breach of trust, and bribery and the trial of former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi on charges of sexual assault and choking.

Please indicate how closely you followed each case while it was in the news. Would you say you:

[ROWS – ROTATE]

The trial of Sen. Mike Duffy
The trial of Jian Ghomeshi

[COLUMNS]

Followed it in the news and discussing it with friends and family
Saw some media coverage and had the odd conversation about it

Just scanned headlines
Haven't seen or heard anything about it

5. As mentioned, both of these cases ended in acquittals (that is, not-guilty verdicts). Some people say that ultimately these two cases were weak, and the trials themselves were a waste of time. Others say the trials were worthwhile because they created a public record of the accusation and the evidence.

Which of the following would you say is closer to your opinion on each case?

[ROWS – ROTATE]

The trial of Sen. Mike Duffy on charges of fraud, breach of trust, and bribery
The trial of former CBC host Jian Ghomeshi on charges of sexual assault and choking

[COLUMNS]

This case was a waste of time
This case was worthwhile
Not sure/Can't say

Q6. The following statements – one about each of these cases – have been made since the trials concluded. Would you say you agree or disagree with each one?

[ROWS – ROTATE]

Political pressure from the Prime Minister's office was the main reason Duffy's case was brought to trial, more than the evidence against him
Public outcry pressured the Crown to bring Jian Ghomeshi's case to trial whereas a "regular" person would not have been charged on the same evidence

[COLUMNS]

Strongly disagree
Moderately disagree
Moderately agree
Strongly agree