

Free Speech

Now, we want to ask about the recent terrorist attacks in Paris where gunmen stormed the offices of satire magazine Charlie Hebdo. This has led to debate about freedom of expression on religious matters, especially concerning the activities of media organizations who publish cartoons and other visual material that are offensive to or forbidden by certain religions.

1. How much, if anything, have you read or heard about the attack in Paris, France on the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo?

A lot

A little

Nothing at all

2. Thinking about Charlie Hebdo magazine, which of the following is closest to your view

It was right for the magazine to publish cartoon images of the Prophet Muhammad

It was wrong to publish these images

3. In the aftermath of the shooting there was a lot of debate about whether Canadian news organizations should re-print or broadcast the same images of Muhammad featured in Charlie Hebdo. Suppose you had been in a position to give advice to major Canadian news outlets on whether they should or should not have re-printed the same images, what would your advice have been.

Do re-print the images

Do not re-print the images

4. When approaching the issue of balancing the rights of media to portray religious images in any way they choose and the feelings and sensibilities of people of different religious faiths, which of the two would you say is the most important? (please choose anywhere on the scale that best describes your own feelings)

LEFT END OF SCALE:

Respect for religious feelings are most important

RIGHT END OF SCALE:

Freedom of speech is most important