

**ARI American Voter Study
Final Survey Questionnaire
(September 2)**

Today, we're talking with Americans about a number of different issues concerning life here in the US today. Please remember that all our survey questions have no right or wrong answers – we are just looking for people's honest opinions.

Context/Life Satisfaction

1. First of all, what do you think are the most important issues facing the United States today? Please select your top two or three from the list below -- or type one in if yours is not on the list.

[Display in these blocks. Rotate blocks and items within blocks if possible. Otherwise, keep this order.]

The economy
Jobs/Unemployment
Deficits/Govt Debt
Taxes
Cost of living

Health Care
Education/Post-secondary
Social security

Crime/Guns/Police
Race-related issues
Environment/Climate change

Terrorism/Security
Trade/NAFTA/TPP/China

Leadership/Politics
Washington/Gridlock

[ANCHOR] Other Issue: _____

2. Please indicate your own personal level of satisfaction with the following specific things in your own life and your own community today:

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]

Your own personal financial situation

Your access to quality health care

Your family's access to quality education

The fairness of the police and courts for people like you

The health of the environment in your community

How welcome you feel as a part of the community you live in

The amount of crime in your community

Job opportunities in your community

The transportation infrastructure you use (such as roads/bridges/transit)

And overall, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in the US today [Anchor]

[COLUMNS]

Very Dissatisfied

Moderately Dissatisfied

Moderately Satisfied

Very Satisfied

3. [AR] Thinking about your life overall... For you, personally, what is more important -- opportunity or security?

OPPORTUNITY is much more important

OPPORTUNITY is somewhat more important

SECURITY is somewhat more important

SECURITY is much more important

Don't know

4. And, would you say you are optimistic or pessimistic about each of the following?

[ROWS – KEEP THIS ORDER]

Your own future

The future of your community

The future of America

The future of the next generation

[COLUMNS]

Very Pessimistic

Moderately Pessimistic

Moderately Optimistic

Very Optimistic

Values Trade-offs

Now we will present you with a series of paired statements on various subjects concerning life and issues in America today. For each pair, please select the statement that more closely reflects your own beliefs, values and attitudes about that subject. (Even if you don't completely agree with that option, please choose the one *closest* to your view).

[Do not display pair labels] [Randomize presentation of pairs, and statements within pairs]

5.Families

We should work towards...

Greater acceptance of people who are LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, "queer")

OR

More recognition of the importance of traditional families where a man is married to a woman

6.Cultural diversity

Which is closer to your view:

Minorities should do more to fit in better with mainstream American society

OR

We should encourage cultural diversity, with different groups keeping their own customs and languages

7.Immigration

On the immigration front, our priority should be:

Looking for ways to facilitate citizenship for undocumented residents from countries like Mexico

OR

Taking a harder line on deporting illegal immigrants

8. Religion

In America, we should.....

Keep God and religion completely out of public life

OR

Publicly celebrate the role of faith in our collective lives

9. Women in America

In the American workplace:

Large public companies should be required to recruit and hire women so they're equally represented in senior management

OR

Leave it to large public companies to make their own hiring decisions, even if it means fewer women in senior management

10. Social safety net vs work ethic

There should be....

More public support for the poor, the disadvantaged and those in economic trouble

Or

More emphasis on a system that rewards hard work and initiative

11. Environment

Overall, should we

Emphasize environmental protection over economic growth

OR

Emphasize economic growth over environmental protection

12. Capitalism vs mixed economy

Overall, it would be better to.....

Leave the economy more to the free market

OR

Have more government involvement and regulation of the economy

13. Role of Government

Should we

Reduce the size of the national government and its programs to save taxpayer money

Or

Expand the national government and its programs to address the important issues facing the country

14. International Affairs

Internationally, America should.....

Be actively involved in efforts to resolve conflicts in troubled regions

OR

Stay out of conflicts in other parts of the world

15. Justice

When it comes to the American justice system, priority should be given to...

Crime prevention and the rehabilitation of those convicted of crimes

OR

Longer sentences to punish criminals

16. "Obamacare"

"Obamacare" should be...

Strengthened and expanded so more Americans have health coverage

OR

Cancelled, and leave health coverage up to individual Americans and the marketplace

17. Gun Control

On gun control, which do you see as the highest priority:

Tougher gun laws banning the sale of assault rifles

OR

Upholding the constitutional rights of gun owners to own the weapons they are legally entitled to

18. Race

Broadly speaking, would you say....

African Americans bring on most of their own problems

OR

Most of the problems facing African Americans are the result of fundamental racism in America

19. Threat to America

What would you say is the greater threat to the safety of America today:

Islamic terrorists abroad plotting to kill innocent Americans

OR

Unstable people here at home with easy access to very deadly weapons

20. Income Inequality

Thinking about the wealthiest 1% of Americans, do you view them as:

Job creators who are driving the US economy

OR

Rich people who don't pay their fair share in taxes

21. Cultural Superiority

Which is closest to your view:

America is a blessed nation that remains a model for the rest of the world

OR

America is a nation in decline that has a lot to learn from other cultures and societies

22. Freedom vs security

When you think about national security vs. personal privacy, would you say:

Security and anti-terrorism efforts mean we may have to infringe on civil liberties such as personal privacy

OR

Security and anti-terrorism efforts don't justify weakening civil liberties such as personal privacy

23. NAFTA

What is your overall view of NAFTA – the North American Free Trade Agreement?

We should get out of NAFTA, it's hurting us

OR

We should keep NAFTA, it's a benefit to us

Attitudes

24. Here are some statements you might hear about the country and how things are going. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with each one, strongly or moderately. Remember there are no right or wrong answers.

[Randomize Statements]

It seems like the values and ideals I care about most are losing ground

It's impossible for people like me to have any real influence on the political decisions that affect me

If you work hard, it is possible to be very successful no matter what your background

I would feel uncomfortable if my son or daughter were planning to marry someone from a different cultural or religious background

America is the greatest country on earth

I generally trust the government to act in the best interests of the people

Religion is very important in my day-to-day life

I will end up more financially secure than my parents

The "American dream" is not as promising as it used to be

Strongly Disagree
Moderately Disagree
Moderately Agree
Strongly Agree

Personality/Psyche Assessment

Authoritarianism gauge

25. For each of the pairs below, please indicate which one you think is more important for a child to have:

[Rotate pairs]

Independence

OR

Obedience

26. Good manners

OR

Curiosity

General Outlook on life

27. And here are some more paired statements having to do with one's own general outlook on life. For each pair, please select the statement that you personally consider *most* important in your own general outlook. (Again, you may feel positive about both choices, but we want you to select the one that's *most* important for you.)

[Randomize pairs. Rotate statements within pairs]

What would you say is the better way to get ahead:

Obey the rules

OR

Bend the rules

28. In terms of individual success, would you say:

People who are rich mostly got there through hard work

OR

People who are rich mostly got there through family connections or luck

29. Would you say:

I prefer to express my views even if others don't agree

OR

I prefer to keep my views to myself

30. In your view:

Most of the stories you see in the news can't be trusted

OR

News media do a good job presenting the facts

31. Would you say:

I think it is important to have new experiences that challenge you

OR

I prefer to stay with what I know

32. Would you describe yourself as:

Someone who doesn't worry very much

OR

Someone who is often anxious

Politics/Vote Quadrants

33. Thinking about the upcoming US Presidential election, which of the two main candidates are you currently more inclined to support?

[Rotate presentation of two main candidates at top of list]

Hillary Clinton

Donald Trump

Other/Not Sure/Undecided

Won't Vote

[Ask all not selecting Clinton or Trump]

34. If you had to choose, which of the two major party candidates would you say you *lean* towards?

Hillary Clinton

Donald Trump

(Neither) – [not offered, but accept non response]

35. Overall, considering the main candidates' personalities, views and policies -- Do you like or dislike:

[Rows – same order as above]

Hillary Clinton

Donald Trump

Dislike very much

Dislike

Like

Like very much

For Clinton supporters:

36. You've indicated you are inclined to support (or are leaning towards) Hillary Clinton. All things considered, would you say you are:

More likely to support Clinton for what she stands for

More likely to support Clinton to block Trump from being President

For Trump supporters:

37. You've indicated you are inclined to support (or are leaning towards) Donald Trump. All things considered, would you say you are:

More likely to support Trump for what he stands for

More likely to support Trump to block Clinton from becoming President

Screen for Registered and Likely Voters

[ASK ALL RESPONDENTS]

(P) 38. How likely are you to vote in the general election this November?

Definitely will vote

Probably will vote

Probably will not vote

Definitely will not vote

(P) 39. Which of these statements best describes you?

You are ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that you are registered to vote at your current address

You are PROBABLY registered, but there is a chance your registration has lapsed

You are NOT registered to vote at your current address

Don't know

(P) 40. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat or independent?

Republican

Democrat

Independent

No preference

Other party

Not Sure/Don't Know

Rather Not Say

[All those not Republican or Democrat]

(P) 41. As of today, do you lean more to the Republican Party or more to the Democratic Party?

[Response not required]

Republican

Democrats

Defining Demo's

We have some quick final questions that will help us with our survey analysis.

Socio/Engagement profilers:

42. Please indicate how much the following statements describe you:

[Randomize Items:]

It's important to me to keep up on news and current events

I am very interested in politics

I am actively involved in different activities and organizations in my community

Does not describe me at all

A bit

Fairly well
Describes me very well

Basic Demographics:

Region/State/Sub-region Gender

Age

Education

HH Income

Kids in household

Race/Ethnicity

Vote 2012

Work status

[Ask all Working f-t or p-t and Retired]

43. Which of the following very broad categories best describes the kind of work you are doing right now (or, if you're now retired, what kind of work did you do for most of your working life?)
(Please try to choose the category that is closest to the type of work you do, even if not an exact fit.)

Professional – examples: nurse, engineer, teacher, CA

“Knowledge/Creative” occupations – examples: HR, marketing, research

Manager/Executive – examples: store manager, business exec.

IT/Information Technology

Office work/Admin – examples: receptionist, EA, clerk

Sales & Service/Retail/Hospitality -- examples: cashier, food service

Skilled Trade – examples: electrician, plumber, carpenter

Labor – examples: driver, landscaping, construction, warehouse

Other (Please specify)

Family history:

44. In terms of your own family history, were you born in the U.S. or in another country?

In the US

In another country

[If born in US:]

45. Were your parents born in the US?

Yes, both parents born here

One parent here, one elsewhere

No, both parents born outside US
 Not Sure

[If both parents born here:]

46. And what about your grandparents – how many of them were born in the US?

3 or 4 grandparents born here
 1 or 2 grandparents born here
 All grandparents born elsewhere
 Not Sure

[If born in another country:]

47. And, did you first arrive in the United States as a child or an adult?

As a child
 As an adult

[If born in another country:]

48. And, how many years have you lived in the United States?

Fewer than 10 years
 10-20 years
 20-30 years
 30 years or more

49. And we want a rough idea of how much people have travelled. What about you and your travel to:

[Rows, keep this order:]

Other states and regions in the US
 Elsewhere in North America (Canada and Mexico)
 Outside of North America (that is, beyond Canada and Mexico)

Columns:

Not at all
 A few (1 to 5) short trips
 Many (6+) short trips
 Travelled extensively there

50. Which one of the following best describes your religion?

Roman Catholic
 United Church
 Anglican
 Lutheran
 Presbyterian
 Baptist

Pentecostal
Other evangelical Christian
Other Christian
Muslim
Hindu
Jewish
Sikh
Buddhist
No religious identity
Other (Specify)

51. Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services?

More than once a week
Once a week
Once or twice a month
A few times a year
Seldom
Never