

NPR NATIONAL
Interview Schedule

Project #05591
December 15, 17-18, 2005
Public Opinion Strategies/Greenberg, Quinlan, Rosner Research

N=800 Likely Voters
Margin of Error \pm 3.46%

A. Are you registered to vote at this address?

100% YES

B. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed by a newspaper, television or radio station, a political party, or by a candidate for political office?

100% NO

C. Many people were not able to vote in the 2004 election for President between **(ROTATE)** George W. Bush, and John Kerry. How about you? Were you able to vote, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
99%	99%	VOTED
1%	1%	INELIGIBLE/TOO YOUNG TO VOTE

D. As you may know, there was an election for Congress and other offices in 2002. Many were not able to vote. How about you? Were you able to vote or for some reason were you unable?

(IF UNABLE/DID NOT VOTE, ASK:) Did you not vote because you were ineligible, too young, or was there some other reason?

<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
87%	85%	VOTED
--	2%	INELIGIBLE/TOO YOUNG TO VOTE
9%	9%	DID NOT VOTE
4%	4%	CAN'T REMEMBER/DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

E. I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances of you voting in the election for Congress next year: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
85%	83%	ALMOST CERTAIN
15%	17%	PROBABLY

(ROTATE Q2 & Q3 NOTE: ROTATION ORDER:)

2. If the 2006 elections for United States Congress were being held today, for whom would you vote...
(ROTATE)

(IF UNDECIDED, ASK:) Well, if the election for Congress were held today and you had to decide right now in your own district where you live which candidate would you lean...**(ROTATE)**

the Republican candidate

...or...

the Democratic candidate

...in this district?

<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
30%	33%	32%	REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
6%	7%	6%	LEAN REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
8%	8%	7%	LEAN DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
33%	39%	38%	DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE
21%	9%	16%	UNDECIDED (DO NOT READ)
1%	2%	1%	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
36%	40%	37%[^]	TOTAL REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE
42%[^]	47%	45%	TOTAL DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as President?

(IF CHOICE, ASK) And would you say you STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?

26% STRONGLY APPROVE
18% SOMEWHAT APPROVE
11% SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
42% STRONGLY DISAPPROVE

1% DONT' KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

44% TOTAL APPROVE
54%^ TOTAL DISAPPROVE

<u>3/02</u>	<u>10/02</u>	<u>5/03</u>	<u>9/03</u>	<u>11/03</u>	<u>12/03</u>	<u>2/04</u>	<u>6/04</u>	<u>7/04</u>	<u>8/04</u>	
79%	66%	66%	53%	55%	56%	53%	50%	49%	49%	TOTAL APPROVE
18%	30%	31%	43%	42%	41%	45%	48%	49%	48%	TOTAL DISAPPROVE

<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	
50%	49%	TOTAL APPROVE
47%	47%	TOTAL DISAPPROVE

4. And, do you approve or disapprove of the job the U.S. Congress is doing?

(IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE, ASK: And do you STRONGLY (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE) or just SOMEWHAT (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE)?

7% STRONGLY APPROVE
36% SOMEWHAT APPROVE
25% SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
25% STRONGLY DISAPPROVE

6% DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

43% TOTAL APPROVE
51%^ TOTAL DISAPPROVE

Thinking about issues...

5. And, which ONE of the following issue areas would be MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for a candidate for Congress? Is it.... (**RANDOMIZE**)

<u>2/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
9%	7%	Education
20%	10%	Social Security and Medicare
4%	4%	Taxes
12%	10%	Moral values
17%	17%	The economy and jobs
9%	9%	Affordable health care
9%	8%	Terrorism and National Security
5%	8%	Federal spending
9%	14%	The war in Iraq
*	2%	Crime and Illegal Drugs
NA	6%	Illegal Immigration
1%	1%	NONE OF THESE (DO NOT READ)
5%	3%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

6. Now I would like to talk you about the state of the economy. Would you describe the state of the nation's economy these days as excellent, good, not so good, or poor?

<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
4%	6%	EXCELLENT
38%	41%	GOOD
37%	36%	NOT SO GOOD
19%	17%	POOR
1%	*	DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
--	*	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
42%	47%	TOTAL EXCELLENT/GOOD
56%	52%^	TOTAL NOT SO GOOD/POOR

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

(IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE, ASK: And do you STRONGLY (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE) or just SOMEWHAT (APPROVE/DISAPPROVE)?

<u>7/05</u>	<u>12/05</u>	
24%	20%	STRONGLY APPROVE
18%	23%	SOMEWHAT APPROVE
15%	17%	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
38%	37%	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE
4%	2%	DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
--	1%	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)
43%^	43%	TOTAL APPROVE
53%	54%	TOTAL DISAPPROVE

(SPLIT SAMPLE, ASK SAMPLE A: Q8-12:) (N=398)

Now I would like to read you a list of issues and for each one please tell me whether you think the **(ROTATE)** Republican Party or Democratic Party would do a better job handling that particular issue.

	GOP	DEMS	BOTH (DNR)	NEITHER (DNR)	UNSURE (DNR)	REF (DNR)
The (first/next) one is...(RANDOMIZE)						
8.	Government spending 37%	50%	1%	7%	4%	1%
9.	The economy and jobs 36%	53%	1%	5%	4%	1%
10.	The war in Iraq 40%	48%	*	5%	5%	1%
11.	The war on terrorism 46%	37%	2%	5%	8%	2%
12.	Improving ethics in Washington, D.C. 35%	42%	1%	15%	6%	1%

(SPLIT SAMPLE, ASK SAMPLE B: Q13-17:) (N=402)

Now I would like to read you a list of issues and for each one please tell me whether you think **(ROTATE)** George W. Bush or the Democratic Party would do a better job handling that particular issue.

	BUSH	DEMS	BOTH (DNR)	NEITHER (DNR)	UNSURE (DNR)	REF (DNR)
The (first/next) one is...(RANDOMIZE)						
13.	Government spending 41%	45%	*	9%	4%	*
14.	The economy and jobs 43%	47%	—	4%	5%	*
15.	The war in Iraq 48%	43%	—	4%	4%	1%
16.	The war on terrorism 53%	36%	1%	6%	4%	*
17.	Improving ethics in Washington, D.C. 43%	41%	1%	9%	4%	1%

Next, thinking about the war in Iraq...

18. Do you think the U.S. made the right decision in going to war in Iraq or made a mistake and never should have gone to war in Iraq?

(IF THE RIGHT DECISION/A MISTAKE, THEN ASK:) And, do you think it was DEFINITELY (THE RIGHT DECISION/A MISTAKE) or just PROBABLY (THE RIGHT DECISION/A MISTAKE)?

31% DEFINITELY THE RIGHT DECISION
12% PROBABLY THE RIGHT DECISION
11% PROBABLY A MISTAKE
44% DEFINITELY A MISTAKE

2% DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

43% TOTAL RIGHT DECISION
54%^ TOTAL MISTAKE

Thinking further about Iraq...

19. I am going to read you two different viewpoints on Iraq and after I read them please tell which statement comes closest to your own opinion...(ROTATE)

Republicans say that while there are problems, we are making progress in Iraq and now is no time to cut and run. Republicans say it is more important to fight terrorists overseas before they come to America. Republicans also say that the Democratic Party cannot even agree on what needs to be done in Iraq, because some leading Democrats call for immediate withdrawal of all troops, and others want to set a date to get out, whether the job in Iraq is done or not. Republicans say that unity and leadership in America will help create a less dangerous Middle East, and that will help create a safer America.

...while...

Democrats say the Bush Administration has no plan for success in Iraq. After three years, few Iraqi forces are prepared to fight and billions of U.S. reconstruction aid has been wasted. Democrats believe we need a new direction. 2006 must be a turning point. Rather than bogging American forces down in Iraq for many years, Democrats want significant reductions in U.S. forces by the end of 2006, with benchmarks for success. Our troops have done everything that was asked of them in Iraq. We must now shift responsibilities to the Iraqi government and military and countries in the region, like Saudi Arabia, who can best bring long-term stability.

(PROMPT:) Which statement comes closest to your own point of view?

- 45% Republicans say that while there are problems, we are making progress in Iraq and now is no time to cut and run
- 51% Democrats say the Bush Administration has no plan for success in Iraq. After three years, few Iraqi forces are prepared to fight and billions of U.S. reconstruction aid has been wasted. Democrats believe we need a new direction
- 4% DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
- * REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

Thinking about a different issue...(SPLIT SAMPLE, ASK SAMPLE A: Q20:) (N=398)

20. When it comes to ethics in Washington, D.C., do you think that the ethics and corruption issues with the current Congress are more than usual, about the same as usual, or fewer than usual?

27% More than usual
63% Same as usual
7% Fewer than usual

3% DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
1% REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

(SPLIT SAMPLE, ASK SAMPLE B: Q21:) (N=402)

21. In Washington, D.C. today, do you think the problems with ethics and corruption are...(ROTATE)

more with the Republicans ...or...
more with the Democrats

...today or about equally with both parties?

(IF MORE WITH REPUBLICANS/DEMOCRATS ASK, :) And, do you feel strongly that way?

13% Strongly more with the Republicans
6% More with the Republicans
6% More with the Democrats
8% Strongly more with the Democrats
65% About equally with both parties

1% Neither (DO NOT READ)
1% DON'T KNOW (DO NOT READ)
-- REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

19% TOTAL MORE WITH REPUBLICANS
14% TOTAL MORE WITH DEMOCRATS

Thinking more about ethics...

22. I am going to read you two different viewpoints on ethics and after I read them please tell which statement comes closest to your own opinion...(ROTATE)

Democrats say that Republicans have created a culture of corruption in Washington today, with lobbyists winning favors as never before. The number of lobbyists has doubled in five years, the Republican leaders of the House and Senate are under indictment or investigation, and up to ten Republican Members of Congress are also under investigation for taking lobbyist paid trips and favors. Democrats say it is time to clean up this corrupt Congress.

...while...

Republicans say there are a few individuals in both political parties who have been caught up in scandals. Republicans say Democratic leaders such as Nancy Pelosi and Harry Reid have ethics problems of their own. Republicans say ethical problems are the fault of the individual in both parties who do wrong, not the fault of one political party or the other. Republicans say individual Congressmen should be punished, but the election should be decided on issues, not a few bad cases.

(PROMPT:) Which statement comes closest to your own point of view?

- 38% Democrats say there is a culture of Republican corruption in Washington, D.C. today
56% Republicans say there are a few individuals in both political parties who have been caught up in scandals
- 5% DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

-
23. Now, on a different topic, when you greet friends at this time of year, are you personally more likely to say "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays"?

- 79% MERRY CHRISTMAS
14% HAPPY HOLIDAYS
- 4% DEPENDS (**DO NOT READ**)
2% NEITHER (**DO NOT READ**)
1% OTHER (**DO NOT READ**)
* DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**)
1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)
-

Now, I have just a few more questions for statistical purposes only...

24. First, in what year were you born?

4% 18 - 24
 9% 25 - 34
 16% 35 - 44
 26% 45 - 54
 24% 55 - 64
 21% 65 AND ABOVE
 * REFUSED

<u>5/03</u>	<u>11/03</u>	<u>12/04</u>	<u>3/04</u>	<u>6/04</u>	<u>7/04</u>	<u>8/04</u>	<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	
4%	3%	6%	3%	6%	6%	6%	3%	4%	18-24
13%	10%	15%	11%	14%	14%	15%	9%	10%	25-34
18%	18%	17%	19%	21%	15%	19%	17%	19%	35-44
24%	27%	22%	25%	20%	23%	23%	23%	20%	45-54
20%	21%	17%	21%	17%	21%	15%	24%	19%	55-64
20%	20%	20%	20%	21%	20%	21%	22%	24%	65 and above
1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	3%	REFUSED

25. And in politics today, do you consider yourself... **(ROTATE)**

a Republican,
a Democrat,
or something else?

(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK:) Would you call yourself a STRONG (REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT) or a NOT-SO-STRONG (REPUBLICAN/ DEMOCRAT)?
(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or to the Democratic party?

24% STRONG REPUBLICAN
10% NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
8% LEAN TO REPUBLICANS

14% SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT

10% LEAN TO DEMOCRATS
11% NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
23% STRONG DEMOCRAT

* DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**
1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

41%[^] TOTAL REPUBLICAN
44% TOTAL DEMOCRAT

<u>5/03</u>	<u>11/03</u>	<u>12/03</u>	<u>2/04</u>	<u>6/04</u>	<u>7/04</u>	<u>8/04</u>	<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	
41%	39%	45%	40%	45%	39%	45%	39% [^]	45%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
37%	44%	45%	41%	48%	43%	49%	43% [^]	49%	TOTAL DEMOCRAT
25%	26%	23%	26%	27%	25%	25%	24%	26%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
11%	7%	14%	9%	10%	8%	11%	9%	10%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
5%	6%	8%	5%	8%	6%	9%	5%	9%	LEAN TO REPUBLICANS
21%	15%	9%	17%	8%	16%	7%	17%	6%	SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT
10%	8%	8%	5%	10%	5%	12%	7%	11%	LEAN TO DEMOCRATS
9%	11%	14%	9%	13%	10%	11%	8%	13%	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
18%	25%	23%	27%	25%	28%	26%	27%	25%	STRONG DEMOCRAT
1%	1%	1%	1%	*	--	*	*	1%	DON'T KNOW
*	1%	*	1%	*	2%	--	1%	--	REFUSED

26. And do you consider yourself to be...(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

conservative,
 moderate
 ...or...
 liberal

(IF CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL, ASK:) And would you consider yourself to be VERY (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL), or just SOMEWHAT (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL)?

18% VERY CONSERVATIVE
 24% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

 38% MODERATE

 11% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
 6% VERY LIBERAL

 2% UNDECIDED/NOT SURE(DO NOT READ)
 1% REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

42% TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
17% TOTAL LIBERAL

<u>5/03</u>	<u>11/03</u>	<u>12/03</u>	<u>2/04</u>	<u>6/04</u>	<u>7/04</u>	<u>8/04</u>	<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	
43%	40%	37%	39%	41%	40%	41%	41%	40%	TOTAL CONSERVATIVE
16%	19%	20%	16%	19%	23%	18%	17%^	17%	TOTAL LIBERAL
19%	19%	15%	17%	20%	19%	19%	19%	17%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
24%	21%	22%	22%	22%	21%	22%	22%	23%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
36%	37%	38%	41%	37%	35%	38%	39%	40%	MODERATE
10%	12%	12%	10%	13%	15%	10%	11%	10%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
6%	7%	8%	6%	6%	8%	8%	5%	7%	VERY LIBERAL
4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	NOT SURE
1%	*	*	1%	*	1%	--	1%	--	REFUSED

27. And what was the last grade you completed in school? **(DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)**

* SOME GRADE SCHOOL (1-8)
4% SOME HIGH SCHOOL (9-11)
25% GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
2% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (12)
25% SOME COLLEGE (13-15)
29% GRADUATED COLLEGE (16)
15% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (16+)
* REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

29% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
27% SOME COLLEGE
44% COLLEGE+

2/05 7/05

1% -- SOME GRADE SCHOOL (1-8)
4% 3% SOME HIGH SCHOOL (9-11)
30% 25% GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)
2% 3% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (12)
25% 24% SOME COLLEGE (13-15)
26% 30% GRADUATED COLLEGE (16)
12% 13% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (16+)
* 1% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

35% 28% HIGH SCHOOL OR LESS
27% 27% SOME COLLEGE
38% 43% COLLEGE +

28. And for statistical purposes only...is your total annual household income greater or less than \$60,000 dollars?

(IF LESS THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it...
(ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)

10% UNDER \$20,000
19% BETWEEN \$20,000 - \$40,000
16% OVER \$40,000

(IF GREATER THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it...
(ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)

15% UNDER \$80,000
11% BETWEEN \$80,000 - \$100,000
17% OVER \$100,000

12% REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**)

29% UNDER \$40,000
31% \$40-\$80,000
28% OVER \$80,000

29. And, for which of the following candidates did you vote for President... **(ROTATE FIRST TWO CANDIDATES)**

(IF REFUSED, ASK) I understand the confidentiality of your vote and the privacy of the voting booth, but I want to assure you that this poll is being completed for research purposes only and that all responses given will remain strictly confidential. In order to help me do the best research possible, would you now please reconsider and tell me how you voted? **(READ AND ROTATE IF NECESSARY:)**

N=800 N=772*

48%	50%	George W. Bush
46%	47%	John Kerry
		...OR...
2%	2%	Ralph Nader
1%	1%	SOMEONE ELSE (DO NOT READ) (Specify: _____)
1%	--	DID NOT VOTE (DO NOT READ)
3%	--	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

2/05 7/05

N=760*N=819

51%	47%	George W. Bush
48%	45%	John Kerry
		...OR...
1%	2%	Ralph Nader
*	2%	SOMEONE ELSE (DO NOT READ) (Specify: _____)

* Recalculated ballot excluding did not vote and refused.

30. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES)**

- 11% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK
- 77% WHITE
- 6% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO
- 2% ASIAN AMERICAN
- 3% OTHER **(DO NOT READ) (IF PUNCH , THEN ASK:)** Now I realize you just said your main ethnic or racial heritage doesn't fall into any of the categories I just mentioned...but if you had to choose JUST ONE of these categories, which is ONE would you choose?
- 2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

<u>5/03</u>	<u>11/03</u>	<u>12/03</u>	<u>2/04</u>	<u>6/04</u>	<u>7/04</u>	<u>8/04</u>	<u>2/05</u>	<u>7/05</u>	
10%	10%	10%	9%	9%	9%	10%	10%	10%	AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK
80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	79%	80%	79%	WHITE
7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%	HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO
*	*	1%	*	*	1%	--	1%	--	ASIAN AMERICAN
2%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	2%	OTHER
2%	2%	--	2%	1%	1%	--	1%	1%	REFUSED

31. Gender **(BY OBSERVATION)**

- 48% MALE
- 52% FEMALE

32. And finally, it is possible that a reporter for National Public Radio may do a news story based on some of these topics and may want to ask a few follow-up questions of some of the people we spoke to tonight. Would you be willing to have an NPR reporter have your responses on the questions about the issues we discussed and possibly call you for a brief interview?

- 60% YES
- 38% NO
- 1% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

IF YES, COLLECT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER