

Deliberative Polling—Pre-survey

1. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant, 10 is extremely important, and 5 is exactly in between, how important do you think each of the following is to being a good citizen?

	Completely Unimportant					Neither important nor unimportant					Extremely important		No opinion
a. Voting in elections	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
b. Discussing politics with others	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
c. Being informed about politics and political issues	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
c. Serving one's country through military or public service	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

2. And how strongly would you favor or oppose each of the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Neither favor nor oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly		No Opinion
a. Making Election Day a national holiday	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Allowing Election Day registration	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Allowing felons to vote after they have served their sentences	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Replacing the Electoral College with direct election of the president	1	2	3	4	5		99

3. And on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely ineffective, 10 is completely effective, and 5 is exactly in-between, how effective do you think each of the following measures would be in increasing voter participation?

	Completely ineffective					Neither effective nor ineffective					Completely effective		No opinion
a. Making Election Day a national holiday	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
b. Allowing Election Day registration	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
c. Allowing felons to vote after they have served their sentences	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
d. Replacing the Electoral College with direct election of the president	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
e. Fining people who don't vote	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

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4. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant, 10 is extremely important, and 5 is exactly in between, how important do you think it is to increase political participation in the US?

Completely Unimportant					Neither important nor unimportant					Extremely important		No opinion
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

5. And please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly			No Opinion
a. Felons have paid their debt to society after they have served their sentences	1	2	3	4	5			99
b. Felons have shown that they are incapable of being responsible citizens	1	2	3	4	5			99
c. We have too many national holidays	1	2	3	4	5			99
d. The Electoral College makes many voters irrelevant in the presidential election	1	2	3	4	5			99

6. And how strongly would you favor or oppose each of the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Neither favor nor oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly			No opinion
a. Adopting proportional representation for legislative elections	1	2	3	4	5			99
b. Making it easier for third party candidates to get on the ballot	1	2	3	4	5			99
c. Adopting term limits for members of Congress	1	2	3	4	5			99
d. Putting non-partisan commissions in charge of redistricting	1	2	3	4	5			99
e. Requiring all state presidential primaries to be on the same day	1	2	3	4	5			99

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7. And on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely ineffective, 10 is completely effective, and 5 is exactly in between, how effective do you think each of the following measures would be in increasing choice for voters?

	Completely ineffective					Neither effective nor ineffective					Completely effective		No opinion
a. Adopting proportional representation for legislative elections	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
b. Making it easier for third party candidates to get on the ballot	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
c. Adopting term limits for members of Congress	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
d. Putting non-partisan commissions in charge of redistricting	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
e. Requiring all state presidential primaries to be on the same day	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

8. And please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly		No opinion
a. Every voter should have equal say in selecting our presidential candidates, no matter where he or she lives	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Elections in the United States do not currently provide enough choice for voters	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Under proportional representation, the makeup of the government would reflect the vote totals more closely than it does now	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Proportional representation creates unstable, fragmented governments	1	2	3	4	5		99
e. Term limits produce candidates with fresher ideas	1	2	3	4	5		99
f. People should have the right to vote for legislators who are doing a good job no matter how long they have been in office	1	2	3	4	5		99
g. A state that has ten times the number of voters should have ten times the say in selecting our presidential candidates	1	2	3	4	5		99

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9. And how strongly would you favor or oppose each of the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Neither favor nor oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly		No opinion
a. Requiring broadcasters to air more public affairs programming	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Providing free TV air time to candidates	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Using public funds to see to it that everyone has access to the internet	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Providing public funding for non-partisan civic education groups to inform voters	1	2	3	4	5		99

10. And on a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely ineffective, 10 is completely effective, and 5 is exactly in-between, how effective do you think each of the following measures would be in increasing political knowledge?

	Completely ineffective					Neither effective nor ineffective					Completely effective		No opinion
a. Requiring broadcasters to air more public affairs programming	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
b. Providing free TV air time to candidates	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
c. Using public funds to see to it that everyone has access to the internet	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99
d. Providing public funding for non-partisan civic education groups to inform voters	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

11. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is completely unimportant, 10 is extremely important, and 5 is exactly in-between, how important do you think it is for American citizens to be informed about politics?

Completely unimportant					Exactly in between					Extremely important		No opinion
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		99

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12. And please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly		No Opinion
a. Political candidates should focus more on policy issues in their campaigns	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Political candidates focus too much on attacking other candidates in their campaigns	1	2	3	4	5		99

13. And how strongly would you favor or oppose each of the following?

	Favor strongly	Favor somewhat	Neither favor nor oppose	Oppose somewhat	Oppose strongly		No opinion
a. Keeping public service voluntary	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Keeping public service voluntary, but expanding volunteer public service programs like AmeriCorps and Peace Corps	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Requiring a period of public service from everyone, in either the military or a civilian program	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Requiring a period of military service from everyone	1	2	3	4	5		99

14. And please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following.

	Agree Strongly	Agree Somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly		No opinion
a. Having an all-volunteer military ensures that military personnel are motivated and suited to military life	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. Having an all-volunteer military shifts the burden of service on to poor people who have fewer educational and professional opportunities	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Requiring a period of public service would help Americans appreciate the responsibilities as well as the benefits of citizenship	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Mandatory public service runs contrary to the idea of personal liberty	1	2	3	4	5		99
e. Public service obligations should be the same for men and women	1	2	3	4	5		99

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15. And please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with each of the following.

	Agree strongly	Agree somewhat	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree somewhat	Disagree strongly		No opinion
a. People with views different from mine often have very good reasons for their opinions	1	2	3	4	5		99
b. I consider myself well-qualified to participate in politics	1	2	3	4	5		99
c. Public officials care a lot about what people like me think	1	2	3	4	5		99
d. Most public policy issues are so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on	1	2	3	4	5		99
e. People like me don't have any say about what the government does	1	2	3	4	5		99
f. Everyone should be involved in politics	1	2	3	4	5		99

Now we are coming to some questions to which not everyone may know the answer. If you come a question which you don't know the answer, just say so and move on to the next one.

16. About how many Americans are prevented from voting because of criminal convictions?

- 1) 50,000
- 2) 500,000
- 3) 5,000,000
- 4) 15,000,000
- 99) Couldn't say

17. Does "gerrymandering" reshape districts to...?

- 1) Increase electoral competition
- 2) Ensure a majority for one party over another
- 3) Include independents in the primary process
- 4) Make them much smaller
- 99) Couldn't say

18. Approximately what percentage of eligible American voters actually vote in a given presidential general election?

- 1) 10%
- 2) 30%
- 3) 50%
- 4) 70%
- 99) Couldn't say

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19. Which of the following countries has a system of "compulsory voting"?

- 1) Ireland
- 2) United Kingdom
- 3) Australia
- 4) South Korea
- 99) Couldn't say

20. At present, who must register with the selective service system in the US?

- 1) Nobody
- 2) Men between 18 and 25 years old
- 3) Both men and women between 18 and 25 years old
- 4) Men and women who receive federal grants for education
- 99) Couldn't say

21. A candidate is elected President of the United States if he or she...

- 1) Gets more votes than any other candidate
- 2) Gets a majority of all the votes cast
- 3) Gets more Electoral College votes than any other candidate
- 4) Gets a majority of Electoral College votes
- 99) Couldn't say

22. How often are congressional districts redrawn?

- 1) Every 5 years
- 2) Every 10 years
- 3) Every 15 years
- 4) Every 20 years
- 99) Couldn't say

23. Which two states have traditionally had the earliest presidential primary events for determining their delegates to the parties' national conventions?

- 1) Nevada and South Carolina
- 2) Iowa and New Hampshire
- 3) Indiana and New Mexico
- 4) Wyoming and Delaware
- 5) Michigan and Florida
- 99) Couldn't say

24. In the last 7 days, how many days did you...?

	None	1-2 days	3-4 days	Almost every day
a. Watch the news on TV	1	2	3	4
b. Read a daily newspaper	1	2	3	4
c. Read news sources on the internet	1	2	3	4

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25. On average, how often do you participate in a conversation about public affairs?

- 1) Practically never
- 2) About once a month
- 3) About once a week
- 4) Several times a week
- 5) Almost every day

26. Generally speaking, how interested would you say you are in politics in the U.S.?

- 1) Not at all interested
- 2) Not very interested
- 3) Somewhat interested
- 4) Very interested