

America in One Room—Election Follow-Up

Summary

The America in One Room deliberations took place in Dallas more than a year ago, September 19-22, 2019. The deliberations were sponsored by Helena and organized by the Center for Deliberative Democracy (CDD) at Stanford University, NORC at the University of Chicago and By the People Productions.

What do the deliberators from America in One Room think about the 2020 presidential election?

To explore this issue the CDD conducted a short follow-up survey with the weekend deliberators and the control group from 2019. This new fieldwork took place September 25 to October 5, 2020. NORC at the University of Chicago conducted the follow-up and succeeded in getting responses from 463 out of the original 523 deliberators and 710 out of the original 844 members of the control group.

The tables presented here compare the follow-up deliberators and control groups. They suggest that the deliberators paid significantly more attention to the campaign (p.2). They rated the government's response to the COVID 19 pandemic significantly worse than did the control group (p. 3). They rated the government's response to the public health effects of the COVID 19 significantly worse than did the control group (p.7). And they rated the government's response to the economic effects of the COVID 19 pandemic significantly worse than did the control group (p. 5).

We also asked their voting intention in the election. Among the deliberators 59.5% say they would vote for Biden if the election were held today. 31.3% say they would support Trump. In the control group the gap between the candidates is far smaller. 44.6% in the control group say they would vote for Biden while 40.8% say they would vote for Trump (see page 9). Breakdowns of the voting intention by party are shown on page 10.

The follow-up sample matches up well with the original sample both for the deliberators and the control group. The party ID percentages for Republicans, Democrats and Independents for both the original treatment and control samples and the follow-up samples are presented on page 12. Additional analyses will follow. More data about the entire project is available on the CDD site.