

**FINAL WEIGHTED TOPLINES**

	Total (n=1500)	Death penalty states (n=1144)	Non-death penalty states (n=356)
<b>Gender of respondent</b>			
Male .....	48	47	50
Female .....	52	53	50
<b>Region</b>			
New England.....	5	3	13
Middle Atlantic.....	14	6	41
East North Central .....	17	15	24
West North Central .....	7	6	12
South Atlantic.....	20	25	4
East South Central.....	6	8	0
West South Central.....	11	14	0
Mountain .....	7	8	4
Pacific .....	13	16	2
Death penalty states.....	76	100	0
Non-death penalty states.....	24	0	100

Hello. This is (caller name). I'm calling from National Opinion Surveys. We are conducting a public opinion survey and I would like to ask you some questions. I am not selling anything, and I will not ask for a contribution.

Could I please speak with the (MALE/FEMALE) in your household, 18 years or older, who celebrated a birthday most recently?

First, are you registered to vote at this address?

**IF NO, ASK FOR A FAMILY MEMBER WHO IS REGISTERED TO VOTE.  
 IF NONE, TERMINATE AND MARK TQ1 ON SAMPLE SHEET.**

These days, state and local governments often have to make tough budgetary choices. For each one of the following, please rate how high a priority it is for your state or local government on a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 means it is a very high priority, and 0 means it is not a high priority at all. If you are not sure, please say so. Here's the first one.

**[READ ITEM EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> QUESTION.]** Rate how high a priority that should be from 0 to 10, where 10 means it should be a very high priority, and 0 means it is not a high priority at all.

**RANDOMIZE Q1-7**

1. Schools and libraries

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>
10 – Priority.....	50	51	46
8 – 9 .....	28	28	28
6 – 7 .....	9	9	11
5 – Neutral .....	8	7	10
0 - 4 - Not a priority .....	3	3	4
(Don't know).....	2	2	2

	<i>Total</i> <i>(n=1500)</i>	<i>Death</i> <i>penalty</i> <i>states</i> <i>(n=1144)</i>	<i>Non-death</i> <i>penalty</i> <i>states</i> <i>(n=356)</i>
2. Public health care services.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.8</b>
10 – Priority.....	39	40	37
8 – 9.....	25	24	30
6 – 7.....	14	15	14
5 – Neutral.....	10	10	9
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	11	11	9
(Don't know).....	1	1	1
3. Emergency services like fire and rescue			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>9.0</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>
10 – Priority.....	57	58	55
8 – 9.....	27	27	29
6 – 7.....	10	10	10
5 – Neutral.....	3	3	3
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	2	2	2
(Don't know).....	1	1	0
4. Pursuing the death penalty			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>
10 – Priority.....	19	21	15
8 – 9.....	12	13	11
6 – 7.....	12	12	15
5 – Neutral.....	19	20	16
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	33	31	40
(Don't know).....	4	4	4
5. Roads and transportation			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.2</b>
10 – Priority.....	24	24	22
8 – 9.....	28	30	24
6 – 7.....	26	25	30
5 – Neutral.....	14	13	15
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	7	7	8
(Don't know).....	1	1	1
6. Police and crime prevention			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.6</b>
10 – Priority.....	50	51	45
8 – 9.....	31	30	34
6 – 7.....	12	12	12
5 – Neutral.....	4	4	5
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	3	3	3
(Don't know).....	0	0	0

	Total (n=1500)	Death penalty states (n=1144)	Non-death penalty states (n=356)
<b>7. Creating jobs</b>			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>8.4</b>
10 – Priority.....	55	55	56
8 – 9.....	19	18	21
6 – 7.....	10	11	10
5 – Neutral.....	6	7	4
0 - 4 - Not a priority.....	8	8	9
(Don't know).....	1	1	1
<b>8. SSA: I'm going to read four statements. Listen carefully, then please tell me which of them—number 1, 2, 3, or 4—is closest to your own view:</b>			
<b>READ/DO NOT RANDOMIZE:</b>			
1. The penalty for murder should be the death penalty.....	33	33	34
2. The penalty for murder should be life in prison <u>with</u> the possibility of parole.....	9	9	10
3. The penalty for murder should be life in prison with <u>no</u> possibility of parole.....	13	12	15
4. The penalty for murder should be life in prison with <u>no</u> possibility of parole, <u>and</u> a requirement to work to make restitution for the victim's family.....	39	40	37
(Don't know/refused).....	6	6	5
<b>9. SSB: I'm going to read four statements. Listen carefully, then please tell me which of them—number 1, 2, 3, or 4—is closest to your own view:</b>			
<b>READ/DO NOT RANDOMIZE:</b>			
1. The penalty for murder should be the death penalty.....	33	36	26
2. The penalty for murder should be life in prison <u>with</u> the possibility of parole.....	12	11	13
3. The penalty for murder should permanent imprisonment.....	12	11	14
4. The penalty for murder should be permanent imprisonment <u>and</u> a requirement to work to make restitution for the victim's family.....	36	35	40
(Don't know/refused).....	7	7	6
<b>10. On a scale of 0 to 10, please tell me how much you would support replacing the death penalty with a penalty of life in prison without possibility of parole? Ten means you would be <u>extremely supportive</u>, and zero means you would not be supportive <u>at all</u>, and you can choose any number in between.</b>			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>6.1</b>
10 – Supportive.....	25	24	29
8 – 9.....	18	18	17
6 – 7.....	10	10	9
5 – Neutral.....	11	11	13
0 - 4 - Not supportive.....	33	34	27
(Don't know).....	4	3	4

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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**ASK ONLY IN DEATH PENALTY STATES**

11. If your state representative voted to repeal the death penalty in your state, would that make you more or less likely to vote for him or her, or would it not make a difference? **[IF MORE/LESS LIKELY ASK:]** Is that much more/less likely or somewhat more/less likely?

Much more likely.....	16	16
Somewhat more likely.....	8	8
Somewhat less likely.....	8	8
Much less likely.....	27	27
No difference.....	38	38
(Don't know/refused).....	2	2
<b>More likely .....</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Less likely.....</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>

**ASK ONLY IN NON-DEATH PENALTY STATES**

12. If your state representative voted to bring back the death penalty in your state, would that make you more or less likely to vote for him or her, or would it not make a difference? **[IF MORE/LESS LIKELY ASK:]** Is that much more/less likely or somewhat more/less likely?

Much more likely.....	18	18
Somewhat more likely.....	11	11
Somewhat less likely.....	6	6
Much less likely.....	19	19
No difference.....	43	43
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3
<b>More likely .....</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Less likely.....</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>

**RESUME ASKING ALL**

Now, I'm going to read you some statements some people have made about the death penalty. For each one, please rate how much you agree with that statement on a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 means you are in total agreement, and 0 means you do not agree at all, and you can choose any number in between. If you are not sure, please say so. Here's the first one.

**[READ ITEM EVERY 3<sup>RD</sup> QUESTION.]** Give this statement a rating from 0 to 10, where 10 means you are in total agreement, and 0 means you do not agree at all.

**RANDOMIZE Q13-30**

13. **SSA:** The death penalty carries too much risk of executing an innocent person.

<b>Mean.....</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.2</b>
10 – Agreement.....	26	26	28
8 – 9.....	20	21	16
6 – 7.....	14	15	10
5 – Neutral.....	16	16	17
0 - 4 – Disagreement.....	23	22	28
(Don't know).....	1	1	1

	Total (n=1500)	Death penalty states (n=1144)	Non-death penalty states (n=356)
14. <b>SSB:</b> I don't trust politicians with the power to decide who lives and who dies.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>
10 – Agreement .....	38	36	44
8 – 9 .....	19	18	21
6 – 7 .....	9	9	8
5 – Neutral .....	14	15	11
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	18	19	15
(Don't know).....	2	2	2
15. <b>SSA:</b> I don't trust the government with the power to decide who lives and who dies.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.6</b>
10 – Agreement .....	31	29	36
8 – 9 .....	15	15	12
6 – 7 .....	12	12	10
5 – Neutral .....	16	15	17
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	25	26	23
(Don't know).....	2	2	2
16. <b>SSB:</b> It's not up to me to decide who lives and who dies.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>8.1</b>
10 – Agreement .....	52	52	54
8 – 9 .....	16	14	20
6 – 7 .....	7	7	7
5 – Neutral .....	10	11	8
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	14	15	10
(Don't know).....	1	1	1
17. <b>SSA:</b> With a sentence of life without parole, people at least have a chance to change while serving their time.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>6.0</b>
10 – Agreement .....	25	24	29
8 – 9 .....	15	16	14
6 – 7 .....	14	14	14
5 – Neutral .....	13	14	11
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	31	31	31
(Don't know).....	1	1	1
18. <b>SSB:</b> With a sentence of life without parole, if new evidence of innocence emerges, the case can be reopened.			
<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>8.8</b>
10 – Agreement .....	66	66	66
8 – 9 .....	14	14	15
6 – 7 .....	8	8	7
5 – Neutral .....	6	7	5
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	5	5	5
(Don't know).....	1	0	1

	<i>Death</i>	<i>Non-death</i>
	<i>penalty</i>	<i>penalty</i>
	<i>states</i>	<i>states</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>(n=1500)</i>	<i>(n=1144)</i>
	<i>(n=1500)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>

19. The Death Penalty is against my moral beliefs

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>
10 – Agreement .....	24	23	28
8 – 9 .....	11	11	11
6 – 7 .....	6	5	7
5 – Neutral .....	12	12	12
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	45	47	41
(Don't know).....	2	2	1

20. **SSA:** The death penalty system often discriminates on the basis of race.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.6</b>
10 – Agreement .....	19	18	19
8 – 9 .....	13	13	11
6 – 7 .....	9	9	12
5 – Neutral .....	14	15	11
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	43	42	44
(Don't know).....	3	3	4

21. **SSB:** The death penalty system often discriminates on the basis of race, and that is unfair.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>
10 – Agreement .....	24	22	28
8 – 9 .....	14	14	14
6 – 7 .....	10	9	11
5 – Neutral .....	12	13	9
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	36	36	34
(Don't know).....	5	5	4

22. **SSA:** We need the death penalty to deter murder and other heinous crimes.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>6.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>
10 – Agreement .....	35	36	29
8 – 9 .....	15	14	18
6 – 7 .....	11	11	11
5 – Neutral .....	10	11	7
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	28	27	34
(Don't know).....	1	1	1

23. **SSB:** We need the death penalty to show that there is a clear difference between right and wrong.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>4.9</b>
10 – Agreement .....	29	32	17
8 – 9 .....	12	12	14
6 – 7 .....	7	7	10
5 – Neutral .....	14	13	17
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	35	34	40
(Don't know).....	3	3	3

	<i>Death</i>	<i>Non-death</i>
	<i>penalty</i>	<i>penalty</i>
	<i>states</i>	<i>states</i>
<i>Total</i>		
<i>(n=1500)</i>	<i>(n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>

24. **SSA:** The death penalty would be cheaper, more efficient, and more effective if we used it more rather than less.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>
10 – Agreement .....	24	24	25
8 – 9 .....	13	14	9
6 – 7 .....	12	12	11
5 – Neutral .....	13	13	15
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	33	32	37
(Don't know).....	4	4	3

25. **SSB:** The death penalty would be cheaper, more efficient, and more effective if we limited the number of appeals.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>6.5</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.1</b>
10 – Agreement .....	34	36	25
8 – 9 .....	14	13	16
6 – 7 .....	11	10	14
5 – Neutral .....	13	13	14
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	23	22	27
(Don't know).....	5	6	5

26. The death penalty makes me personally feel safer.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>
10 – Agreement .....	19	19	18
8 – 9 .....	10	11	9
6 – 7 .....	9	8	12
5 – Neutral .....	14	15	12
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	46	46	47
(Don't know).....	1	1	2

27. If we're going to have the death penalty, we need to take every precaution to make sure innocent people are not executed.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>8.9</b>
10 – Agreement .....	71	72	70
8 – 9 .....	11	11	11
6 – 7 .....	7	7	8
5 – Neutral .....	4	4	5
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	5	5	4
(Don't know).....	1	1	2

28. With new technology like DNA evidence, we don't have to worry about innocent people being wrongly executed.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.9</b>
10 – Agreement .....	23	23	25
8 – 9 .....	16	16	17
6 – 7 .....	14	16	10
5 – Neutral .....	15	14	15
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	30	30	30
(Don't know).....	1	1	2

	<i>Death</i>	<i>Non-death</i>
	<i>penalty</i>	<i>penalty</i>
	<i>states</i>	<i>states</i>
<i>Total</i>		
<i>(n=1500)</i>	<i>(n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>

29. The death penalty is a wasteful big government program because it costs a lot of money and it is not effective.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.0</b>
10 – Agreement .....	19	18	20
8 – 9 .....	11	11	11
6 – 7 .....	11	11	11
5 – Neutral .....	13	13	14
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	42	43	39
(Don't know).....	4	4	4

30. The death penalty does not deter murder because criminals don't think about the punishment when committing their crime.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>6.9</b>
10 – Agreement .....	37	36	37
8 – 9 .....	17	17	16
6 – 7 .....	12	11	15
5 – Neutral .....	11	12	11
0 - 4 – Disagreement .....	21	22	21
(Don't know).....	2	3	1

**SPLIT SAMPLE C**

Now I am going to read you some facts about the death penalty in the United States. Please tell me whether you find these facts totally believable, somewhat believable, somewhat unbelievable, or totally unbelievable. **REPEAT PROMPT AS NEEDED**

**(RANDOMIZE Q31 – Q38)**

31. From sentencing to execution, the average appeal time of a death penalty case is 12 years, while a person who receives life without parole starts serving the sentence immediately.

Totally unbelievable .....	8	8	7
Somewhat unbelievable.....	13	14	12
(Don't know).....	12	12	12
Somewhat believable.....	35	33	38
Totally believable .....	32	32	31
<b>Unbelievable</b> .....	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Believable</b> .....	<b>67</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>69</b>

32. Since 1973, 138 people have been released from death row after being exonerated of their crimes.

Totally unbelievable .....	6	6	5
Somewhat unbelievable.....	13	14	11
(Don't know).....	13	14	10
Somewhat believable.....	37	36	39
Totally believable .....	31	30	35
<b>Unbelievable</b> .....	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Believable</b> .....	<b>68</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>74</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=356)</i>
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33. Over the past 30 years, states in the South have accounted for 80 percent of all executions and have the highest murder rate. States in the Northeast have accounted for less than 1 percent of all executions and have the lowest murder rate.

Totally unbelievable.....	12	14	8
Somewhat unbelievable.....	19	21	16
(Don't know).....	19	20	15
Somewhat believable.....	30	28	36
Totally believable.....	19	18	25
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>61</b>

34. **SSA:** Prosecuting and defending one death penalty case can cost as much as \$3 million dollars.

Totally unbelievable.....	11	11	11
Somewhat unbelievable.....	13	13	13
(Don't know).....	15	15	15
Somewhat believable.....	30	29	30
Totally believable.....	32	32	31
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>

35. **SSB:** Prosecuting and defending one death penalty case can cost as much as \$3 million dollars. But because only 1 in 10 cases results in an actual execution, the true cost to the state per execution is about \$30 million dollars, far more than the cost of a lifetime of incarceration.

Totally unbelievable.....	17	18	11
Somewhat unbelievable.....	16	15	20
(Don't know).....	14	14	16
Somewhat believable.....	29	28	30
Totally believable.....	25	25	23
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>53</b>

36. In order, the top five countries in the world who recently executed the most people were China, followed by Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and Pakistan.

Totally unbelievable.....	8	8	8
Somewhat unbelievable.....	13	12	17
(Don't know).....	18	18	17
Somewhat believable.....	32	32	32
Totally believable.....	29	30	26
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>58</b>

	<i>Death penalty Total (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>penalty states (n=356)</i>
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37. Studies in states that have had the sentence of life without parole for a long time reveal that no one with that sentence has been released from prison.

Totally unbelievable.....	14	13	16
Somewhat unbelievable.....	23	24	20
(Don't know).....	18	19	17
Somewhat believable.....	30	28	35
Totally believable.....	15	16	12
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>47</b>

38. DNA evidence is only available in less than 20% of murder cases.

Totally unbelievable.....	15	15	16
Somewhat unbelievable.....	22	22	22
(Don't know).....	17	18	14
Somewhat believable.....	29	29	30
Totally believable.....	17	16	18
<b>Unbelievable.....</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Believable.....</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>47</b>

**END SPLIT SAMPLE C SKIP TO Q47**

**SPLIT SAMPLE D**

Now I am going to read you some facts about the death penalty in the United States. Please tell me whether these facts raise serious doubts, some doubts, minor doubts, or no real doubts about the death penalty in your own mind. **REPEAT PROMPT AS NEEDED**

**(RANDOMIZE Q39 – Q46)**

39. From sentencing to execution, the average appeal time of a death penalty case is 12 years, while a person who receives life without parole starts serving the sentence immediately.

No real doubts.....	28	28	29
Minor doubts.....	18	19	17
(Don't know).....	13	14	10
Some doubts.....	24	23	26
Serious doubts.....	16	16	18
<b>No doubts.....</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Doubts.....</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>

40. Since 1973, 138 people have been released from death row after being exonerated of their crimes.

No real doubts.....	25	25	25
Minor doubts.....	14	15	10
(Don't know).....	13	13	13
Some doubts.....	27	25	34
Serious doubts.....	22	23	17
<b>No doubts.....</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Doubts.....</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>51</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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41. Over the past 30 years, states in the South have accounted for 80 percent of all executions and have the highest murder rate. States in the Northeast have accounted for less than 1 percent of all executions and have the lowest murder rate.

No real doubts .....	23	24	21
Minor doubts .....	15	15	13
(Don't know).....	17	16	20
Some doubts.....	23	21	27
Serious doubts.....	22	23	18
<b>No doubts</b> .....	<b>38</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Doubts</b> .....	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>

42. **SSA:** Prosecuting and defending one death penalty case can cost as much as \$3 million dollars.

No real doubts .....	21	22	18
Minor doubts .....	18	16	26
(Don't know).....	14	13	17
Some doubts.....	20	20	23
Serious doubts.....	27	30	16
<b>No doubts</b> .....	<b>39</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Doubts</b> .....	<b>48</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>40</b>

43. **SSB:** Prosecuting and defending one death penalty case can cost as much as \$3 million dollars. But because only 1 in 10 cases results in an actual execution, the true cost to the state per execution is about \$30 million dollars, far more than the cost of a lifetime of incarceration.

No real doubts .....	18	18	17
Minor doubts .....	15	14	18
(Don't know).....	12	12	12
Some doubts.....	24	25	22
Serious doubts.....	31	31	30
<b>No doubts</b> .....	<b>33</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Doubts</b> .....	<b>55</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>52</b>

44. In order, the top five countries in the world who recently executed the most people were China, followed by Iran, Saudi Arabia, the United States, and Pakistan.

No real doubts .....	29	30	26
Minor doubts .....	17	17	16
(Don't know).....	17	17	18
Some doubts.....	21	19	28
Serious doubts.....	16	17	12
<b>No doubts</b> .....	<b>45</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Doubts</b> .....	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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45. Studies in states that have had the sentence of life without parole for a long time reveal that no one with that sentence has been released from prison.

No real doubts .....	22	23	20
Minor doubts .....	20	20	20
(Don't know).....	17	16	20
Some doubts.....	27	27	28
Serious doubts.....	13	13	12
<b>No doubts .....</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Doubts.....</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>

46. DNA evidence is only available in less than 20% of murder cases.

No real doubts .....	18	19	15
Minor doubts .....	16	16	15
(Don't know).....	16	15	17
Some doubts.....	26	25	31
Serious doubts.....	24	25	22
<b>No doubts .....</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Doubts.....</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>53</b>

**END SPLIT SAMPLE D SKIP TO Q47  
RESUME ASKING ALL**

47. Would you favor or oppose replacing the death penalty with a penalty of life in prison with no possibility of parole if the money saved were used to fund crime prevention measures? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE ASK:]** Is that strongly favor/oppose or somewhat favor/oppose?

Strongly favor.....	44	43	46
Somewhat favor.....	21	20	23
Somewhat oppose .....	9	8	9
Strongly oppose.....	21	23	16
(Don't know/refused).....	5	5	6
<b>Favor .....</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Oppose.....</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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Now, I'm going to read you some statements people have made in support of replacing the death penalty with a sentence of life in prison with no possibility of parole. Please tell me whether each statement I read is a VERY convincing, SOMEWHAT convincing, NOT TOO convincing, or not AT ALL convincing reason to replace the death penalty with a sentence of life in prison with no possibility of parole. If you are not sure how you feel about a particular item, please say so.

**PROMPT EVERY THIRD STATEMENT:** Is that a VERY convincing, SOMEWHAT convincing, NOT TOO convincing, or not AT ALL convincing reason to support replacing the death penalty with a sentence of life in prison with no possibility of parole?

**RANDOMIZE LIST Q48-58**

**[Cost]**

48. **SSA:** By the time the costs of all the trials and appeals are taken into account, the death penalty costs more than imprisoning a criminal for life. The death penalty is a huge government program that has bogged down law enforcement and wasted millions of dollars that could be used for many other purposes. States are cutting back on police forces, shutting libraries and schools, and public hospitals are closing emergency rooms, and yet we are spending millions of dollars on a death penalty system when lifetime imprisonment with no parole would cost less.

Very convincing .....	30	30	28
Somewhat convincing .....	38	38	37
Not too convincing .....	13	12	17
Not at all convincing.....	16	16	16
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3	3
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>33</b>

**[Cost w/restitution]**

49. **SSB:** By the time the costs of all the trials and appeals are taken into account, the death penalty costs more than imprisoning a criminal for life. The death penalty is a huge government program that has bogged down law enforcement and wasted millions of dollars that could be used for many other purposes. States are cutting back on police forces, shutting libraries and schools, and public hospitals are closing emergency rooms, and yet we are spending millions of dollars on a death penalty system when lifetime imprisonment with no parole would cost less. Keep these criminals in prison for life and have them work and pay restitution to the victims' families.

Very convincing .....	32	31	36
Somewhat convincing .....	37	37	37
Not too convincing .....	14	15	14
Not at all convincing.....	13	14	9
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3	4
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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**[Victims’ Families w/restitution]**

50. **SSA:** Many victims’ family members say every time there is a court hearing, a conviction, or an appeal, the focus is on the defendant, but the family still has to go through their pain again and again. It’s very, very hard for the families. It reopens the wounds each time. When we condemn people to life without parole instead, family members will not be subjected to years of court hearings, and they can turn to the process of healing. If we replaced the death penalty with a sentence of life without parole with labor and restitution, we could use the money to help provide counseling services to victims’ families.

Very convincing .....	33	33	33
Somewhat convincing .....	36	36	35
Not too convincing .....	16	16	17
Not at all convincing.....	13	13	14
(Don’t know/refused).....	2	3	2
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>

**[Victims’ Families]**

51. **SSB:** Many victims’ family members say every time there is a court hearing, a conviction, or an appeal, the focus is on the defendant, but the family still has to go through their pain again and again. It’s very, very hard for the families. It reopens the wounds each time. When we condemn people to life without parole instead, family members will not be subjected to years of court hearings, and they can turn to the process of healing.

Very convincing .....	32	32	31
Somewhat convincing .....	37	36	41
Not too convincing .....	15	15	15
Not at all convincing.....	13	14	10
(Don’t know/refused).....	3	3	4
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>25</b>

**[Innocence]**

52. The death penalty risks executing the innocent. Many innocent people have been sent to our nation’s death rows before new evidence freed them and some innocent people may have been executed. It is unacceptable to execute innocent people, and in a system run by human beings that’s inevitable. Executing innocent people is a risk we can completely avoid by using sentences of life with no possibility of parole.

Very convincing .....	33	31	39
Somewhat convincing .....	38	39	32
Not too convincing .....	13	13	13
Not at all convincing.....	13	13	12
(Don’t know/refused).....	3	3	4
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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**[Libertarian]**

53. **SSA:** The death penalty is the worst of all the big government programs. It costs hundreds of millions of dollars, has shown no evidence of being an effective deterrent or keeping society safer, and is too big a role for the government to be taking. We should get rid of the death penalty, shrink the government and give that wasted money back to the taxpayers.

Very convincing .....	28	28	28
Somewhat convincing .....	29	27	34
Not too convincing .....	16	18	11
Not at all convincing.....	24	24	23
(Don't know/refused).....	4	4	3
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>35</b>

**[Not a deterrent]**

54. **SSB:** The death penalty is not a deterrent, and we don't need it. States without the death penalty have lower murder rates than states with it. Murders happen either in the heat of the moment, or when someone thinks they can get away with it. Criminals don't think about the chance of getting the death penalty when they're committing a crime. Instead, we should use our resources on getting violent criminals off the street and using life without parole for the worst cases.

Very convincing .....	29	27	34
Somewhat convincing .....	31	31	31
Not too convincing .....	18	19	14
Not at all convincing.....	18	19	16
(Don't know/refused).....	4	3	5
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>30</b>

**[Moral]**

55. **SSA:** Human life is the most precious thing in the world, and we need to respect it. The death penalty offers the tragic illusion that we can defend life by taking life. In reality, the death penalty diminishes all of us. Every life has value, and sometimes even the worst criminals can change and become better people after years in prison. Killing is wrong, no matter who does it.

Very convincing .....	28	27	29
Somewhat convincing .....	32	34	27
Not too convincing .....	18	17	22
Not at all convincing.....	19	19	18
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3	4
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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**[Moral w/faith]**

56. **SSB:** Human life is the most precious thing in the world, and we need to respect it. The death penalty offers the tragic illusion that we can defend life by taking life. In reality, the death penalty diminishes all of us. Every life has value, and sometimes even the worst criminals can change and become better people after years in prison. Our faiths teach us that “thou shalt not kill” and that vengeance is God’s and God’s alone. Killing is wrong, no matter who does it.

Very convincing .....	30	28	34
Somewhat convincing .....	30	29	31
Not too convincing .....	20	22	16
Not at all convincing.....	18	18	16
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3	3
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>

**[Unfairness]**

57. **SSA:** Our criminal justice system should treat all people equally, regardless of how much money they make, where they live, or the color of their skin. In reality, the death penalty is applied unevenly and unfairly, even for similar crimes. Some people are sentenced to die because they couldn’t afford a better lawyer, or because they live in a county that seeks the death penalty a lot. A system that is so arbitrary should not be allowed to choose who lives and who dies.

Very convincing .....	37	37	34
Somewhat convincing .....	32	30	37
Not too convincing .....	15	16	13
Not at all convincing.....	12	12	13
(Don't know/refused).....	4	4	3
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>

**[Unfairness w/race]**

58. **SSB:** The death penalty is particularly unfair along racial lines. Those who kill a white victim are much more likely to face the death penalty than those who kill a black victim. A system that seems to value some lives more because of race should not be deciding who lives and who dies.

Very convincing .....	29	27	34
Somewhat convincing .....	30	29	36
Not too convincing .....	16	18	10
Not at all convincing.....	21	22	16
(Don't know/refused).....	4	4	4
<b>Very /somewhat convincing .....</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>Not very /not at all convincing .....</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>27</b>

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1500)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
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59. Sometimes in a survey like this, people change their minds. On a scale of 0 to 10, please tell me how much you would support replacing the death penalty with a penalty of life in prison without possibility of parole? Ten means you would be extremely supportive, and zero means you would not be supportive at all, and you can choose any number in between.

<b>Mean</b> .....	<b>5.9</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>6.5</b>
10 – Supportive.....	27	26	27
8 – 9.....	19	18	22
6 – 7.....	12	11	15
5 – Neutral.....	11	11	10
0 - 4 - Not supportive.....	29	32	21
(Don't know).....	3	2	5

**Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.**

60. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or something else? (IF "DEMOCRAT" OR "REPUBLICAN," ASK:) Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican) or not a very strong (Democrat/Republican)? (IF "NOT SURE," CODE AS "NOT VERY STRONG") (IF "INDEPENDENT," ASK:) Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party, closer to the Democratic Party, or do you think of yourself as strictly independent? (IF "NOT SURE," CODE AS "STRICTLY INDEPENDENT.")

Strong Democrat.....	25	24	25
Not very strong Democrat.....	6	6	5
Independent/lean Democrat.....	6	6	7
<b>Democrat</b> .....	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Strictly independent</b> .....	<b>27</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Republican</b> .....	<b>31</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>
Independent/lean Republican.....	9	9	10
Not very strong Republican.....	5	5	7
Strong Republican.....	17	19	12
Other.....	3	3	2
(Not sure/nothing).....	2	2	3

61. In terms of politics, do you consider yourself VERY liberal, SOMEWHAT liberal, MODERATE, somewhat CONSERVATIVE, or VERY conservative?

Very liberal.....	11	11	10
Somewhat liberal.....	14	14	15
<b>Liberal</b> .....	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Moderate</b> .....	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Conservative</b> .....	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>
Somewhat conservative.....	19	19	19
Very conservative.....	21	22	16
(Don't know).....	5	5	4

	<i>Death</i>	<i>Non-death</i>
	<i>penalty</i>	<i>penalty</i>
	<i>states</i>	<i>states</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>(n=1144)</i>	<i>(n=356)</i>
<i>(n=1500)</i>		

62. How old are you? **(IF REFUSED, ASK:)** Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to? **(READ LIST.)**

18-24 .....	8	8	10
25-29 .....	9	9	7
30-34 .....	5	5	6
35-39 .....	11	10	13
40-44 .....	6	6	5
45-49 .....	11	12	6
50-54 .....	8	9	8
55-59 .....	8	8	8
60-64 .....	10	10	10
65-69 .....	6	5	6
70-74 .....	4	4	5
75 and older .....	11	11	11
(Refused) .....	3	3	4

63. What is the last year of schooling that you have completed? **(DO NOT READ LIST.)**

1st through 11th grade .....	7	7	6
High school graduate .....	25	25	25
Non-college post-high school (e.g., technical school) .....	3	3	2
Some college .....	26	26	27
College graduate .....	29	30	26
Postgraduate school .....	10	9	13
Not sure .....	1	1	0

64. Just to make sure we have a representative sample, could you please tell me whether you are from a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking background? **[IF "NO", ASK:]** What is your race--white, black, Asian, American Indian, or something else?

**DO NOT READ**

White/Caucasian .....	74	73	76
Black/African American .....	13	14	11
Hispanic/Latino .....	10	10	10
Asian/Pacific Islander .....	1	1	1
Native American/American Indian .....	0	0	0
(Other) .....	1	1	2
(Don't know/refused) .....	1	1	1

65. What is your religion?

Protestant (includes Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian and other Christians) .....	50	53	41
Catholic .....	24	21	32
Jewish .....	3	3	4
Muslim .....	0	0	0
Mormon, Latter Day Saints, LDS .....	1	1	1
Other .....	7	7	8
None .....	11	11	9
(Don't know/refused) .....	4	4	4

	<i>Death penalty states (n=1144)</i>	<i>Non-death penalty states (n=356)</i>
<i>Total (n=1500)</i>		

**ASK ONLY IF PROTESTANT OR CATHOLIC Q65 = 1 OR 2**

66. Do you think of yourself as a born again or evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way?

Born-again/evangelical Christian .....	35	38	25
NOT born again .....	48	45	57
(Don't know) .....	11	10	12
(Refused) .....	6	6	6

67. On average, how often would you say you attend church or religious services – once a week or more, once or twice a month, several times a year, hardly ever, or never?

Every week or more .....	41	42	37
Once or twice a month .....	18	18	18
Several times a year .....	14	13	19
Hardly ever .....	13	13	13
Never .....	11	11	9
(Don't know) .....	4	4	4

68. What is your zip code? .....

69. [RECORD RESPONDENT'S FIRST NAME FOR VERIFICATION].....

**That concludes my interview today. Thank you for your time and cooperation.**