

North Carolina Survey

Informed Consent

Consent to Participate in Research

Election Survey (Study #: 12-0237 and 12-0273)

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I. Purpose of this Research/Project

The purpose of this study is to learn how people make decisions in elections.

II. Procedure

For this study, you will be asked to answer questions about politics.

The total time to complete this web-based questionnaire is **less than 15 minutes**.

III. Risks

There are no anticipated physical or psychological risks associated with participating in this study.

IV. Extent of Anonymity and Confidentiality

We take confidentiality very seriously. We do not collect any identifying information, and your survey is completely anonymous.

V. Freedom to Withdraw

You may choose not to answer specific questions or respond to study situations without penalty. Your participation is voluntary, and you should be aware that even if you agree to participate, you are free to withdraw from the study at any time, without penalty.

1. *

- By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read the above information and agree to participate in this research study.

2. In what state do you currently live?

- Alabama
- Alaska

- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada

- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

NOTE: Please do NOT use the browser's navigation buttons (e.g., "Back," "Reload," etc.). Doing so will corrupt your survey responses. Unfortunately, this means that you may not go back and change your answers once you have clicked "Next."

Not a NC Resident

Presidential/Gubernatorial Approval

3. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

- Approve
 - Disapprove
 - Unsure
-

4. Overall, do you approve or disapprove of the way Beverly Perdue is handling her job as governor?

- Approve
 - Disapprove
 - Unsure
-

5. In general, do you have a positive, negative, or neutral opinion of Governor Perdue?

- Positive
 - Negative
 - Neutral
 - Unsure
-

6. In general, do you think things in North Carolina are headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

- Right direction
 - Wrong track
 - Unsure
-

7. How much of the time do you think you can trust government in Raleigh — that is, the governor and General Assembly of North Carolina — to do what is right?

- Just about always
- Most of the time
- Some of the time

- Almost never
-

8. Would you say the government in Raleigh is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves or for the benefit of all the people?

- A few big interests
 - Benefit of all the people
-

9. Do you think the people in the state government waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes, waste some of the money we pay in taxes, or don't waste very much of the money we pay in taxes?

- Waste a lot of money
 - Waste some of the money
 - Don't waste very much of the money
-

Attitudes toward SSM

10. Do you think that same-sex couples should be allowed to marry in North Carolina?

- Yes, same-sex couples should be allowed to marry
 - No, same-sex couples should not be allowed to marry
-

11. A civil union affords a couple — both same-sex and opposite-sex couples alike — the same legal status as married couples without granting a marriage license. Do you think same-sex couples should be allowed to form a civil union that is recognized by North Carolina?

- Yes, same-sex couples should be allowed to form a civil union
 - No, same-sex couples should not be allowed to form a civil union
-

12. To the best of your knowledge, do you know if North Carolina law currently prohibits same-sex marriage?

- Yes, state law prohibits same-sex marriage
- No, state law does not prohibit same-sex marriage
- Don't know

13. Which statement comes closest to your opinion about how judges should make decisions:

- A judge should be allowed to interpret the law when rendering a decision
 - A judge should apply the law as strictly as possible when rendering a decision
-

14. Do you favor or oppose same-sex couples being allowed to adopt children?

- Favor
 - Oppose
 - Unsure
-

15. Which statement comes closest to your opinion:

- It is acceptable for police officers' decisions to be influenced by a suspect's personal attributes, including race, age, and gender.
 - It is unacceptable for police officers' decisions to be influenced by a suspect's personal attributes, including race, age, and gender.
-

16. Do you have any friends or relatives or coworkers who have told you, personally, that they are gay or lesbian?

- Yes
 - No
-

NC Legislative Approval

17. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way the North Carolina General Assembly is handling its job?

- Approve
 - Disapprove
 - Unsure
-

18. In general, do you have a positive, negative, or neutral opinion of the North Carolina General Assembly?

- Positive
 - Negative
 - Neutral
 - Unsure
-

19. Do you happen to know which party has the most seats in both houses of the North Carolina General Assembly?

- Democrats
 - Republicans
 - Independents
-

SSM Amendment 1 Treatment

On May 8, 2012, voters in North Carolina will vote on Amendment 1.

This constitutional amendment is proposed to us by the state legislature.

Please consider the following official description of the amendment:

Constitutional amendment to provide that marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized by this State.

20. If the election were today, how would you vote on Amendment 1?

- For
 - Against
-

SSM Amendment 1 Control

On May 8, 2012, voters in North Carolina will vote on Amendment 1.

Please consider the following official description of the amendment:

Constitutional amendment to provide that marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized by this State.

21. If the election were today, how would you vote on Amendment 1?

- For
 - Against
-

SSM Amendment 1 Post Questions

22. Do you happen to know who is responsible for placing this constitutional amendment (Amendment 1) on the ballot?

- Governor Perdue placed the amendment on the ballot
 - North Carolina's General Assembly placed the amendment on the ballot
 - Citizens of North Carolina placed the amendment on the ballot
 - North Carolina's Supreme Court placed the amendment on the ballot
 - Don't know
-

23. Do you happen to know if President Barack Obama supported, opposed, or took no position on Amendment 1?

- Supported
 - Opposed
 - No position
-

24. Do you happen to know if Governor Beverly Perdue supported, opposed, or took no position on Amendment 1?

- Supported
 - Opposed
 - No position
-

25. Do you happen to know if Pat McCrory supported, opposed, or took no position on Amendment 1?

- Supported
- Opposed

No position

Judicial Elections Treatment

On May 8, 2012, voters in North Carolina will select the candidates who should move on to the general election in November for the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

26. Of the following two candidates for one of the seats on the Court of Appeals, which candidate do you prefer?

- Wanda Bryant (Democrat)
 - Marty McGee (Republican)
-

Judicial Elections Control

On May 8, 2012, voters in North Carolina will select the candidates who should move on to the general election in November for the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

27. Of the following two candidates for one of the seats on the North Carolina Court of Appeals, which candidate do you prefer?

- Wanda Bryant
 - Marty McGee
-

Humanitarianism Scale

28. Now we would like you to indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
The dignity and welfare of people should be the most important concern in any society.	<input type="radio"/>				
A person should always be concerned about the well-being of others.	<input type="radio"/>				
For quality control					

purposes, please select "Disagree."	<input type="radio"/>				
I believe it is best not to get involved taking care of other people's needs.	<input type="radio"/>				
It is better not to be too kind to people, because kindness will only be abused.	<input type="radio"/>				
People tend to pay more attention to the well-being of others than they should.	<input type="radio"/>				
One should always find ways to help others less fortunate than oneself.	<input type="radio"/>				
All people who are unable to provide for their basic needs should be helped by others.	<input type="radio"/>				
One of the problems of today's society is that we are often too kind to people who don't deserve it.	<input type="radio"/>				

Empathy and Egalitarianism Scales

29. Again, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly Agree
I am NOT good at predicting how someone will feel.	<input type="radio"/>				
This country would be better off if we worried less about how equal people are.	<input type="radio"/>				
Other people tell me I am good at understanding how they are feeling and what they are thinking.	<input type="radio"/>				

If wealth were more equal in this country we would have many fewer problems.	<input type="radio"/>				
It is hard for me to see why some things upset people so much.	<input type="radio"/>				
I am quick to spot when someone in a group is feeling awkward or uncomfortable.	<input type="radio"/>				
Incomes should be more equal because every family's needs for food, housing, and so on, are the same.	<input type="radio"/>				
We have gone too far in pushing equality in this country.	<input type="radio"/>				
I find it easy to put myself in somebody else's shoes.	<input type="radio"/>				

Political Knowledge - 1

Please answer the following questions about the government in Washington and Raleigh as best you can. Many people don't know the answers, so if there are any questions that you don't know the answers to, just choose "don't know" and go on to the next question.

30. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not?

- Congress
- President
- Supreme Court
- Don't know

31. Do you happen to know what job or office Harry Reid currently holds?

- Secretary of Defense
- Speaker of the House

- Senate Majority Leader
 - Attorney General
 - Don't know
-

32. How much of a majority of the both the House of Representatives and Senate are required to override a presidential veto?

- A simple majority
 - 3/5ths
 - 2/3rds
 - 3/4ths
 - All members of Congress
 - Congress cannot override a presidential veto
 - Don't know
-

33. Do you happen to know which party has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington, DC?

- Republican Party
 - Democratic Party
 - Independents
 - Don't know
-

34. Who is the current Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives?

- John Boehner
 - Nancy Pelosi
 - Tip O'Neill
 - Eric Cantor
 - Don't know
-

35. Who is the current Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court?

- John Roberts
 - Antonin Scalia
 - Eric Holder
 - Robert Gates
 - Don't Know
-

36. Do you happen to know who is the current Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives?

- Joe Hackney
 - Thom Tillis
 - Walter Dalton
 - Phil Berger
 - Don't know
-

37. Do you happen to know who is the current Secretary of State of North Carolina?

- Thom Tillis
 - Beverly Perdue
 - Elaine Marshall
 - Pat McCrory
 - Don't know
-

NC Legislative Approval Post Experiment

38. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the way the North Carolina General Assembly is handling its job?

- Approve
 - Disapprove
 - Unsure
-

39. In general, do you have a positive, negative, or neutral opinion of the North Carolina General Assembly?

- Positive
 - Negative
 - Neutral
 - Unsure
-

Condition: Threat

Now we would like you to read the following press release and answer the questions that follow on the next page.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HONDURANS TO IMMIGRATE TO NORTH CAROLINA

April 9, 2012 - Raleigh, NC – In collaboration with local law enforcement and other state agencies, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office has drafted a plan to begin allowing hundreds of Hondurans to immigrate to North Carolina. Honduras is a republic in Central America with an estimated population of almost eight million people.

A report from the non-partisan Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) noted that these Honduran immigrants will require a wide range of tax-payer funded state services to help them begin their new lives in North Carolina. The report also indicated that the influx of Hondurans may increase competition for jobs in various sectors of the economy. Finally, the CIS report stated that these immigrants have limited English-language ability and exposure to American culture, so it is very likely they will take some time to fully assimilate into the U.S.

Condition: Humanitarianism

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A report from the non-partisan Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) noted that the purpose of the plan is to help these Honduran immigrants escape extremely harsh and unsafe conditions in their home country. Nearly two-thirds of the Honduran population live below the poverty line and have limited access to clean drinking water, food, and employment. The Honduran government is also known for brutally repressing its citizens, whose rights are routinely violated by excessive use of police force that often ends in fatalities. In short, the CIS report suggests that poverty and government repression threaten the lives of many Hondurans simply trying to survive.

Condition: Combined

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A report from the non-partisan Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) noted that these Honduran immigrants will require a wide range of tax-payer funded state services to help them begin their new lives in North Carolina. The report also indicated that the influx of Hondurans may increase competition for jobs in various sectors of the economy. Finally, the CIS report stated that these immigrants have limited English-language ability and exposure to American culture, so it is very likely they will take some time to fully assimilate into the U.S.

Yet, the CIS report also noted that the purpose of the plan is to help these Honduran immigrants escape extremely harsh and unsafe conditions in their home country. Nearly two-thirds of the Honduran population live below the poverty line and have limited access to clean drinking water, food, and employment. The Honduran government is also known for brutally repressing its citizens, whose rights are routinely violated by excessive use of police force that often ends in fatalities. In

short, the CIS report suggests that poverty and government repression threaten the lives of many Hondurans simply trying to survive.

Condition: Control

Now we would like you to read the following press release and answer the questions that follow on the next page.

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HONDURANS TO IMMIGRATE TO NORTH CAROLINA

April 9, 2012 - Raleigh, NC – In collaboration with local law enforcement and other state agencies, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office has drafted a plan to begin allowing hundreds of Hondurans to immigrate to North Carolina. Honduras is a republic in Central America with an estimated population of almost eight million people. The climate is generally pleasant and temperate, with dry and wet seasons. The terrain includes mountainous areas, coastal beaches, and jungle lowlands. It is notable for its production of minerals, tropical fruit, and recently for exportation of clothing for the international market.

Immigration Policy

Below are some general questions about immigration policy. Please answer them as best you can.

40. In your view, should the number of immigrants permitted to come to the U.S. and live in North Carolina be increased, decreased, or kept at its current level?

- Increased
 - Decreased
 - Kept at its current level
-

41. Should legal immigrants to North Carolina be immediately eligible for government services or should they have to wait a year or more for them?

- Immediately eligible

- Wait 1 year
 - Wait more than 1 year
-

42. What do you think should happen to undocumented immigrants who have lived and worked in the North Carolina for at least two years...

- They should be given a chance to keep their jobs and eventually apply for legal status.
 - They should be deported back to their native country.
-

43. Do you support or oppose requiring local police to check people's immigration status that are encountered during routine activities like traffic stops?

- Strongly Support
 - Support
 - Neither Support nor Oppose
 - Oppose
 - Strongly Oppose
-

44. Do you support or oppose requiring everyone living in North Carolina--including legal immigrants--to exchange their old driver's licenses for newer, fraud-proof cards that can be used to verify employment eligibility?

- Strongly Support
 - Support
 - Neither Support nor Oppose
 - Oppose
 - Strongly Oppose
-

45. Do you support or oppose allowing the children of undocumented immigrants to attend public schools in North Carolina?

- Strongly Support
- Support
- Neither Support nor Oppose

- Oppose
 - Strongly Oppose
-

Demographics

46. Finally, we have some questions about you. These questions help us ensure that different types of people are represented in our survey.

Are you male or female?

- Male
 - Female
-

47. In what year were you born? (YYYY)

48. Please select your county of residence.

- Alamance
- Alexander
- Alleghany
- Anson
- Ashe
- Avery
- Beaufort
- Bertie
- Bladen
- Brunswick
- Buncombe
- Burke
- Cabarrus
- Caldwell

- Camden
- Carteret
- Caswell
- Catawba
- Chatham
- Cherokee
- Chowan
- Clay
- Cleveland
- Columbus
- Craven
- Cumberland
- Currituck
- Dare
- Davidson
- Davie
- Duplin
- Durham
- Edgecombe
- Forsyth
- Franklin
- Gaston
- Gates
- Graham
- Granville
- Greene
- Guilford

- Halifax
- Harnett
- Haywood
- Henderson
- Hertford
- Hoke
- Hyde
- Iredell
- Jackson
- Johnston
- Jones
- Lee
- Lenoir
- Lincoln
- Macon
- Madison
- Martin
- McDowell
- Mecklenburg
- Mitchell
- Montgomery
- Moore
- Nash
- New Hanover
- Northampton
- Onslow
- Orange
- Pamlico

- Pasquotank
- Pender
- Perquimans
- Person
- Pitt
- Polk
- Randolph
- Richmond
- Robeson
- Rockingham
- Rowan
- Rutherford
- Sampson
- Scotland
- Stanly
- Stokes
- Surry
- Swain
- Transylvania
- Tyrrell
- Union
- Vance
- Wake
- Warren
- Washington
- Watauga
- Wayne

- Wilkes
 - Wilson
 - Yadkin
 - Yancey
-

49. What is your five-digit zip code?

50. Do you consider yourself White, Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, or something else?

- White / Caucasian
- Black / African American
- Hispanic / Latino
- Asian / Pacific Islander
- Native American
- Other (SPECIFY)

Ideology

51. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

- Did not finish High School (No GED)
 - High School Diploma or GED
 - Vocational/Technical Degree
 - Some College
 - Four-year College Degree
 - Graduate Degree
-

52. Which of the following income categories best depicts your household's annual income in 2011?

- Under \$25,000

- \$25,001 - \$50,000
 - \$50,001 - \$75,000
 - \$75,001 - \$100,000
 - \$100,001 - \$125,000
 - \$125,001 - \$150,000
 - Over \$150,000
 - Unsure
 - Decline to state
-

53. There's a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Which of the following best describes your own political views?

- Very Liberal
 - Liberal
 - Moderate
 - Conservative
 - Very Conservative
-

54. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

- Strong Republican
 - Republican
 - Independent
 - Democrat
 - Strong Democrat
-

55. Do you plan to vote in the North Carolina primary on May 8th?

- Yes, I plan to vote
- Yes, I have already voted

- No, I will not vote in this election
 - Unsure or undecided
-

Thank You!

Thank you, this completes the study!

The news story that you read about Hondurans immigrating to North Carolina was fictional—that is, it was not based upon real events. You were assigned to read 1 of 4 versions of that news story to measure how different types of information about immigrants influenced your opinions about immigration.
