

# National Public Radio

## Gay Marriage and Civil Unions

December 24, 2003





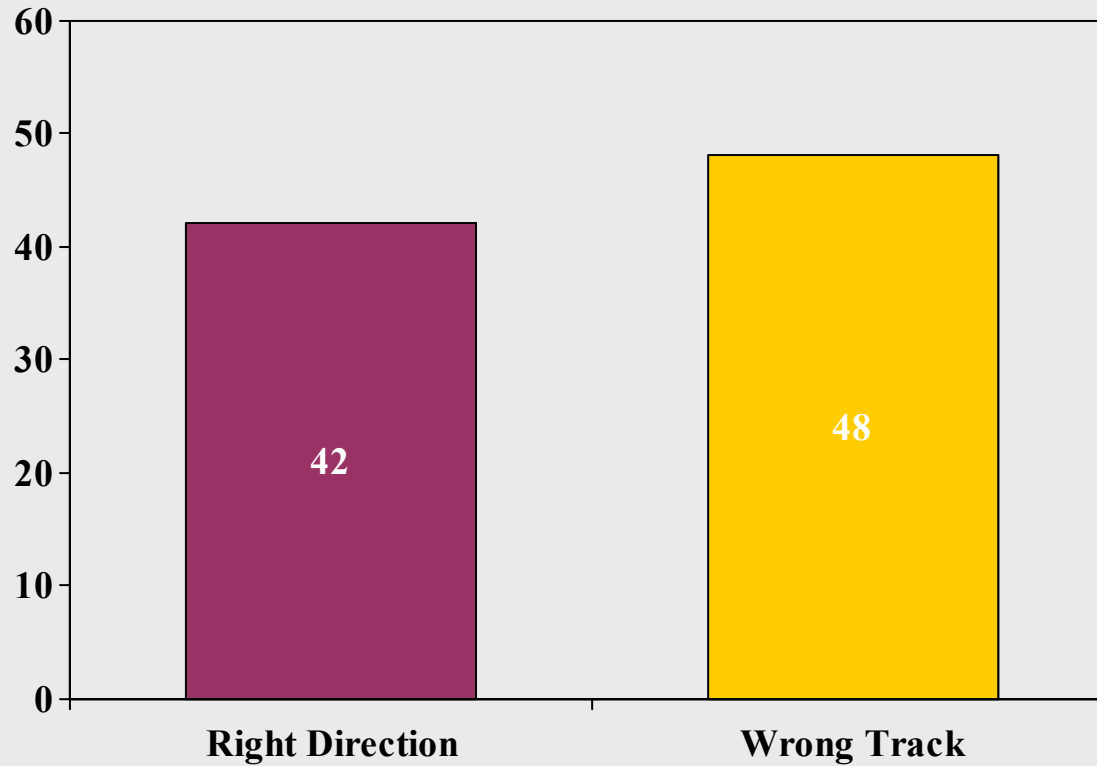
# Methodology

- **The reported results on public attitudes come from a national survey conducted by Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research (GQR) and Public Opinion Strategies (POS) for National Public Radio (NPR). The firms, together with NPR, developed questions to inform a news segment for Morning Edition. GQR added the NPR questions to an omnibus national survey that fielded December 10-15, 2003. This is the twelfth survey in the series.**
- **With a view to the upcoming elections, the surveys were conducted with likely voters. All participants were registered voters, voted in the 2000 presidential election or the 2002 congressional elections (or were not eligible) and indicated they were almost certain or certain to vote in 2004. The sample of potential respondents was generated by random digit dial methodology. GQR interviewed 1,002 voters, with a margin of error of +/- 3.1.**



# Direction of the Country

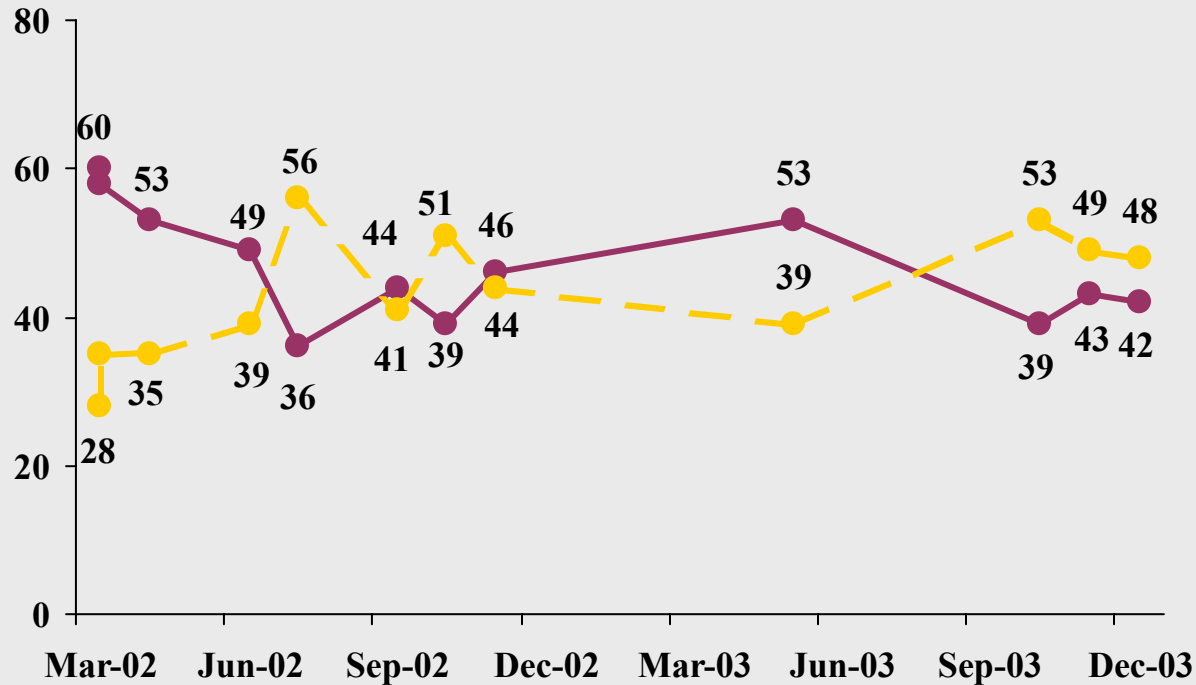
December of 2003





# Direction of the Country

March of 2002-December of 2003



—●— Right Direction —●— Wrong Track

*“Generally speaking, do you think that things in this country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?”*

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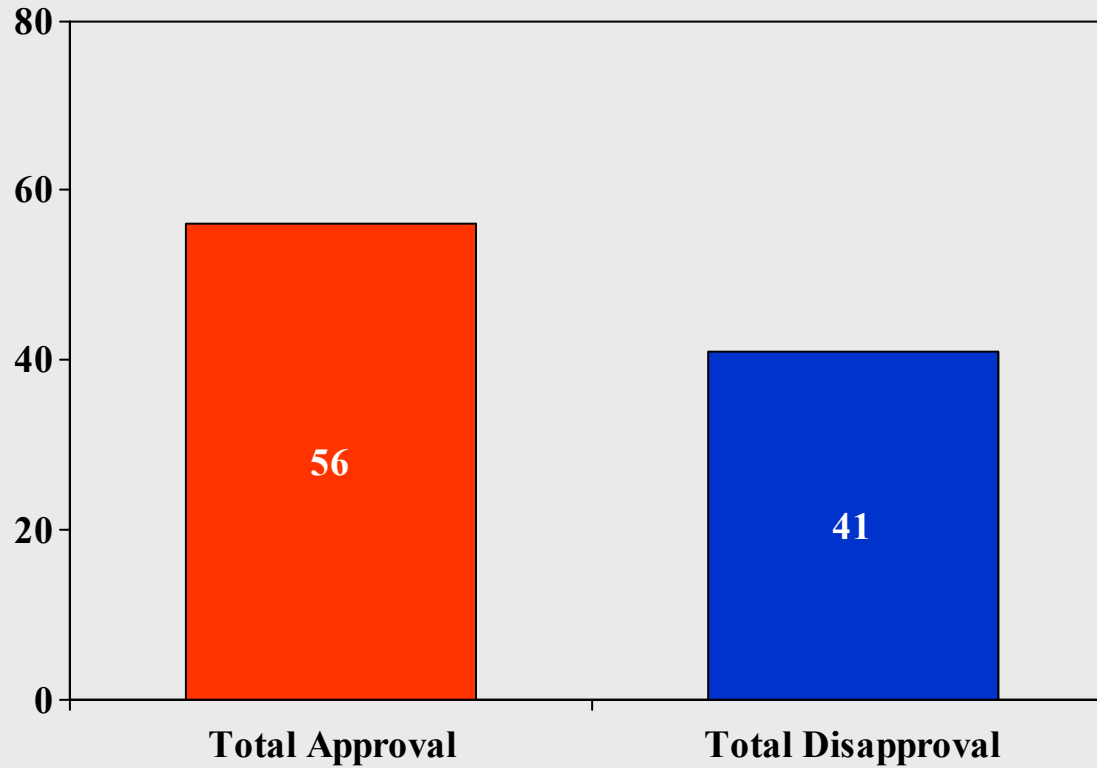
December 24, 2003

Figure # 3



# Bush Job Approval

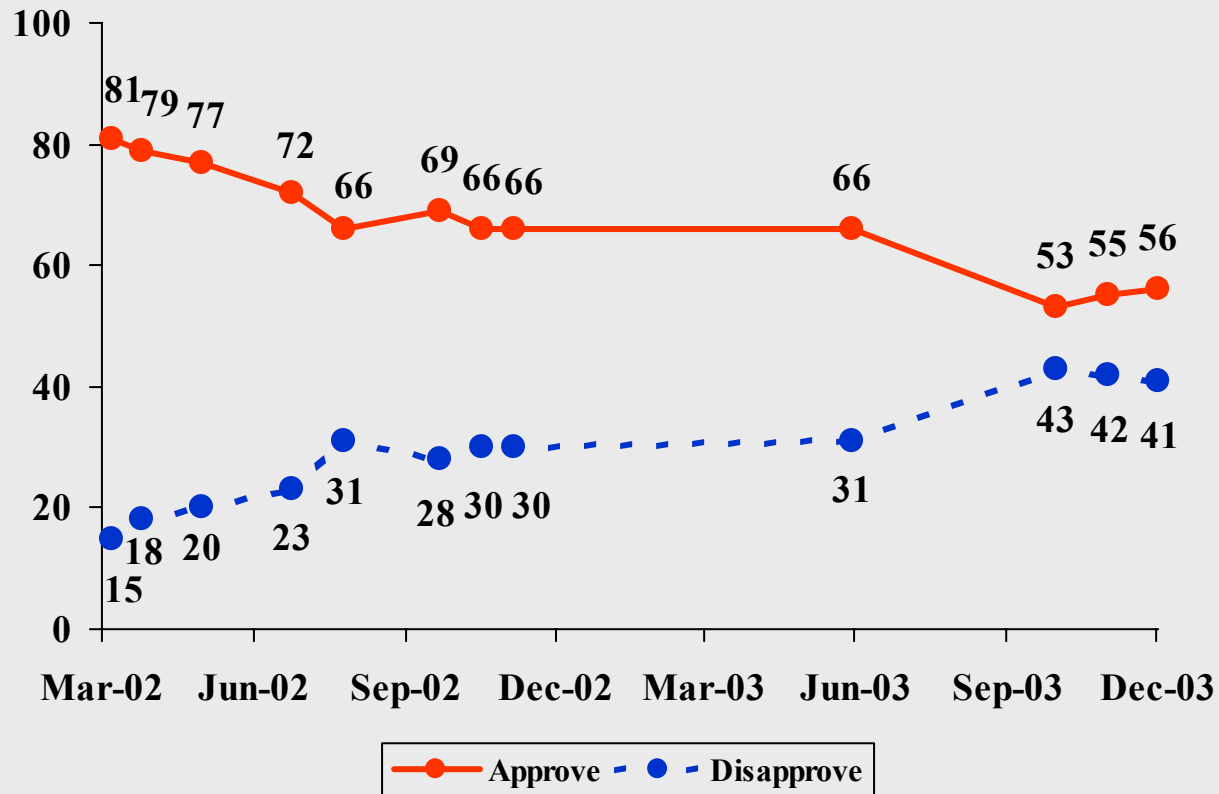
December of 2003





# Bush Job Approval

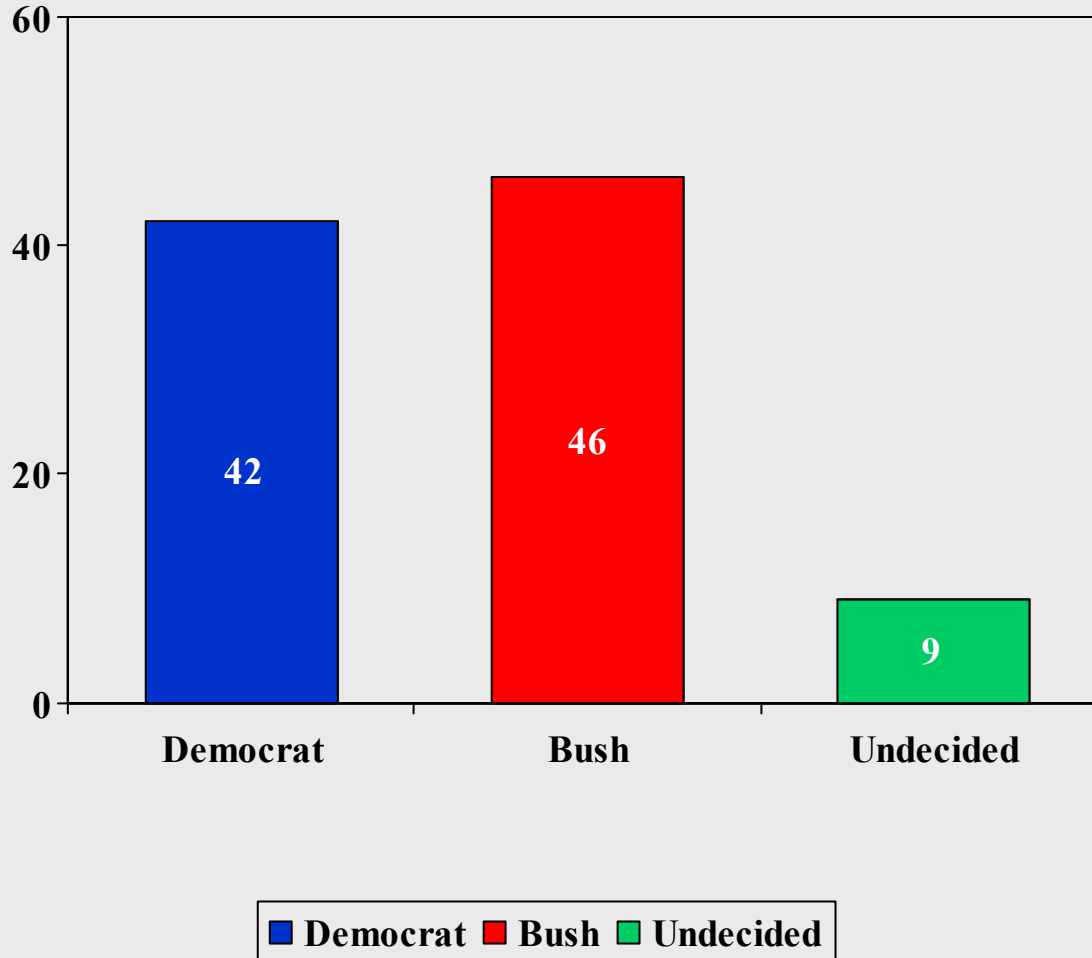
March of 2002-December of 2003





# Generic Presidential Vote

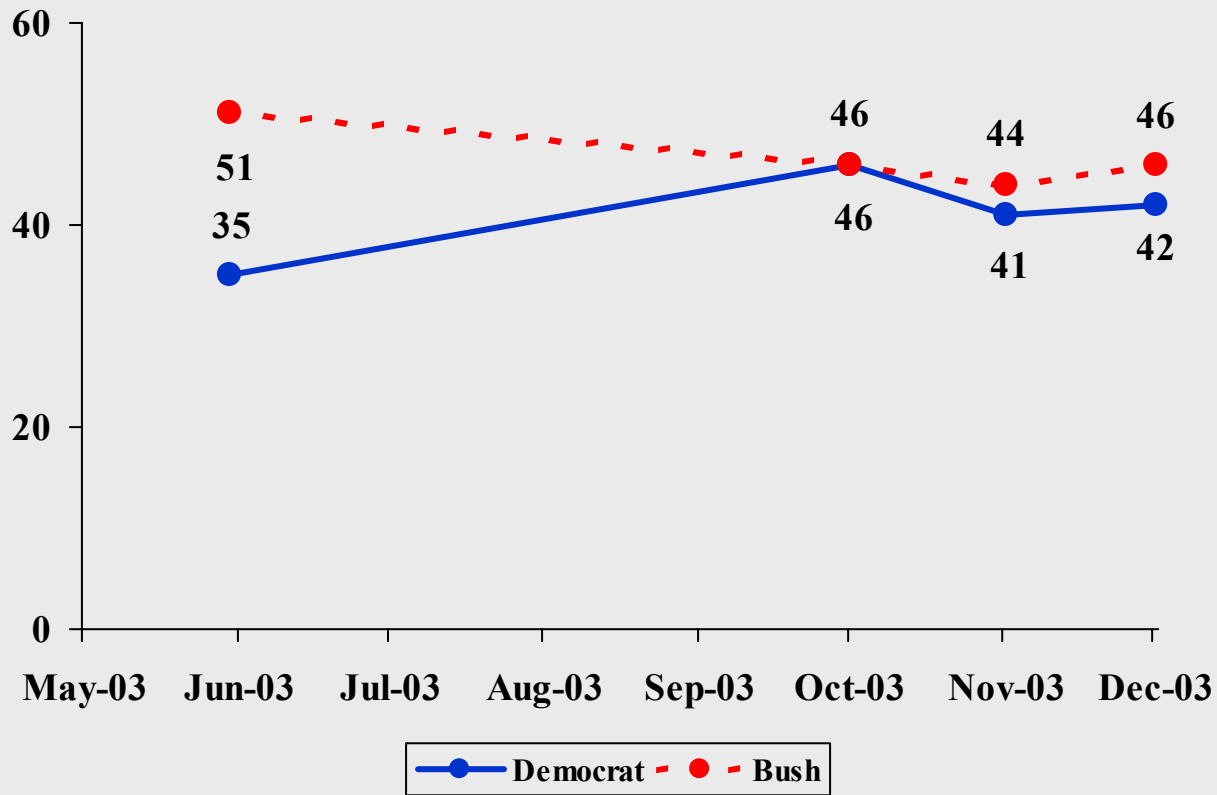
December of 2003





# Generic Presidential Vote

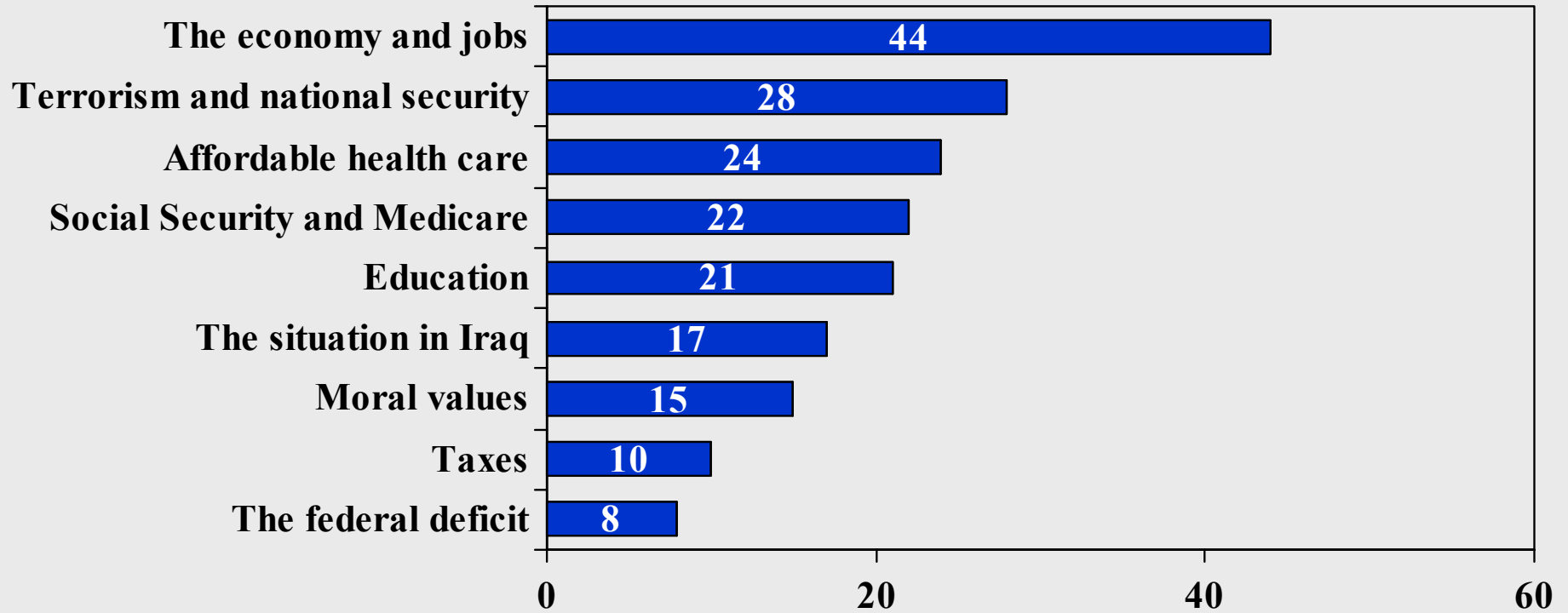
March of 2002-December of 2003





# Issues in Deciding Presidential Vote

Percent Responding – Top Two Choices



*“And, which one of the following issue areas would be MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for a candidate for President? Is it...”*



# Issues in Deciding Presidential Vote Over Time

Percent Responding – Top Two Choices

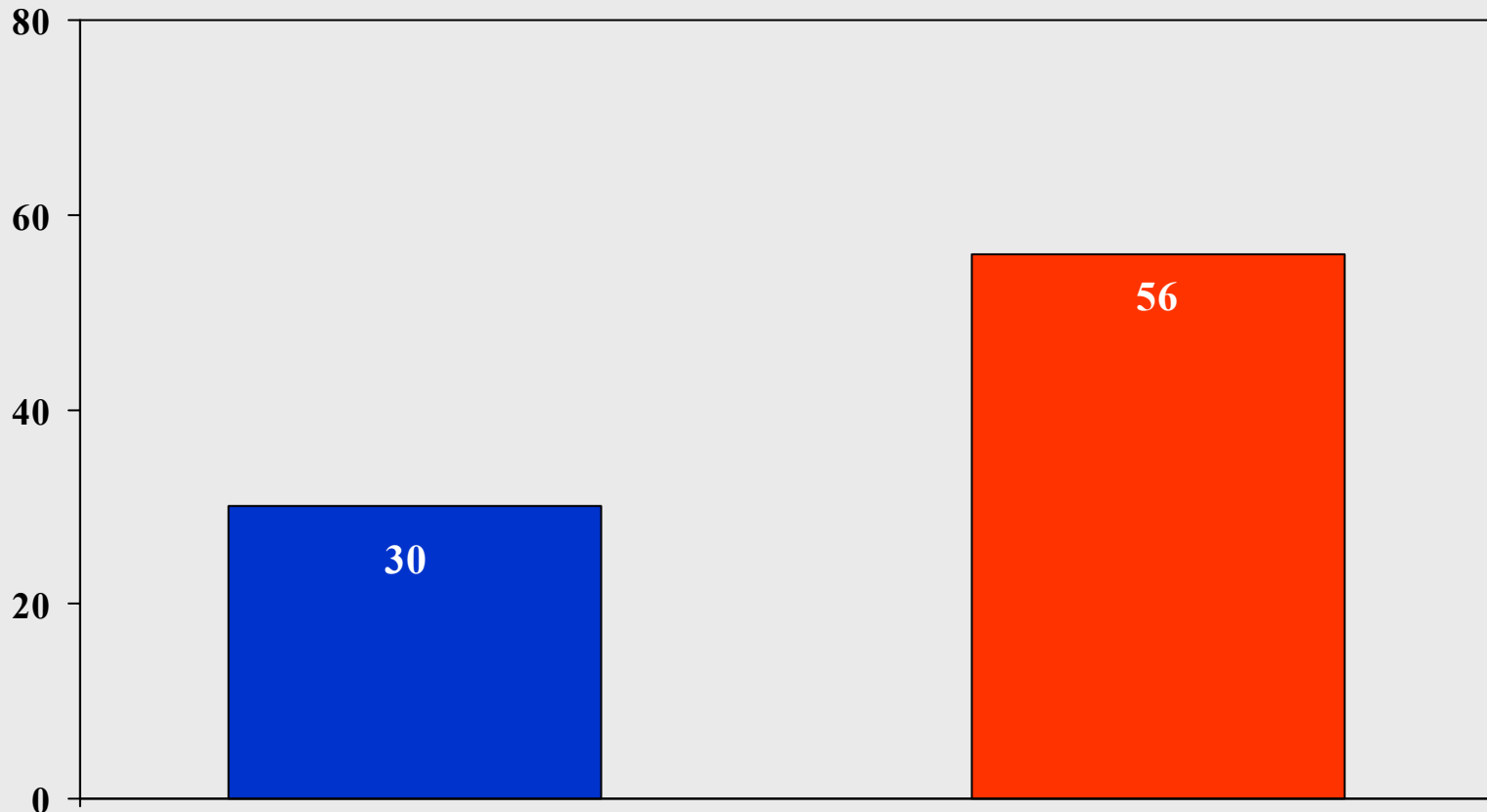
COMBINED 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> CONCERNS									
	Econ/ Jobs	Terr/ Nat Sec	Aff. HC	SS & Med	Educ	Sit. Iraq	Moral Values	Taxes	Fed Def
Total									
12-15-03	44	28	24	22	21	17	15	10	8
11-13-03	44	24	23	19	16	28	17	9	5
10-1-03	51	28	22	19	21	14	17	9	8
5-29-03	46	26	21	22	21	n/a	17	10	n/a

*“And, which one of the following issue areas would be MOST important to you in deciding how to vote for a candidate for President? Is it... ”*



# Gay Marriage

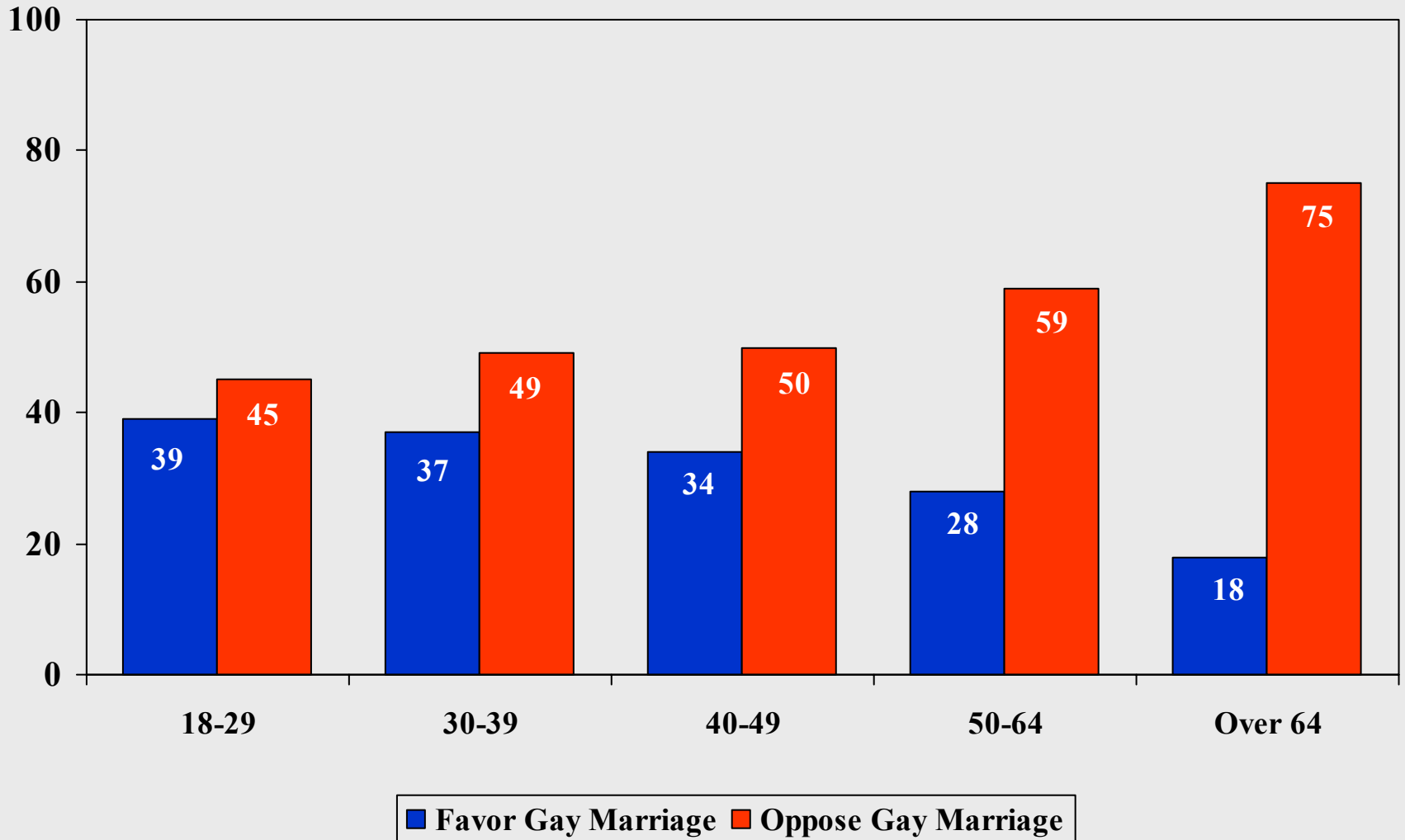
(All Respondents)



■ Favor Gay Marriage ■ Oppose Gay Marriage



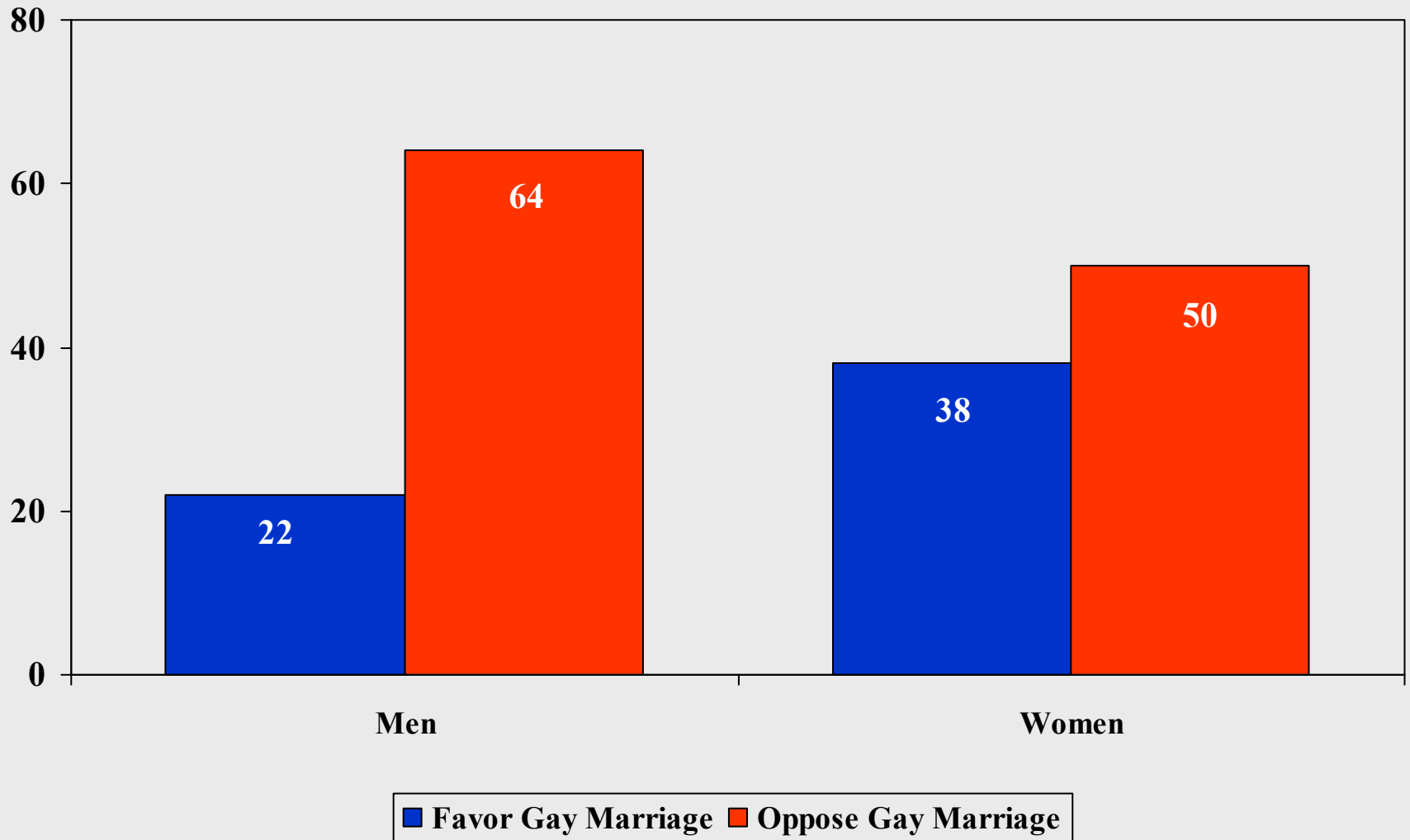
# Gay Marriage (By Age)





# Gay Marriage

(By Gender)





# Civil Unions

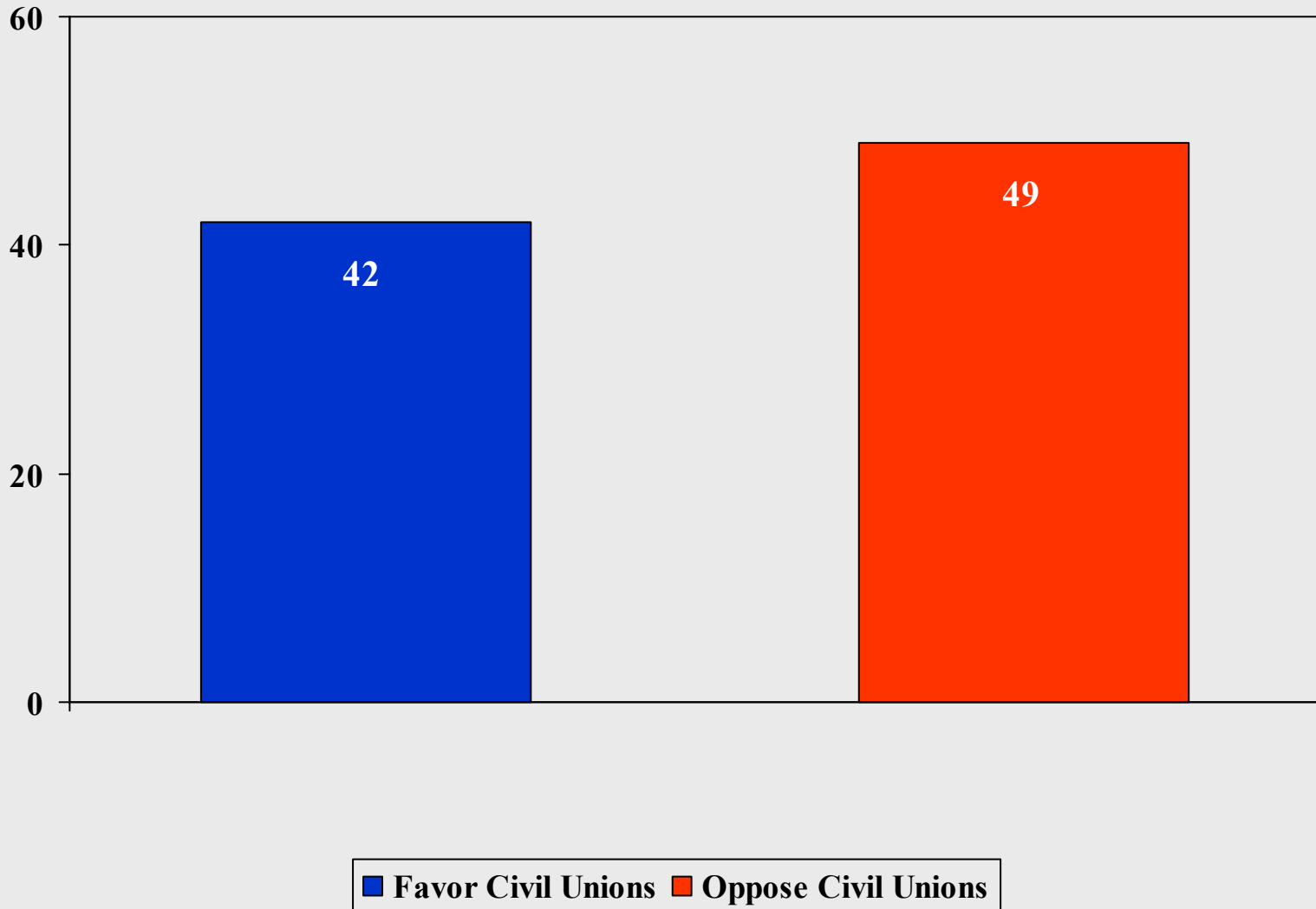
(Some Rights)

HALF SAMPLE A - Do you favor or oppose a law that would allow homosexual couples to legally form civil unions, *giving them some of the legal rights of married couples?*



# Civil Unions

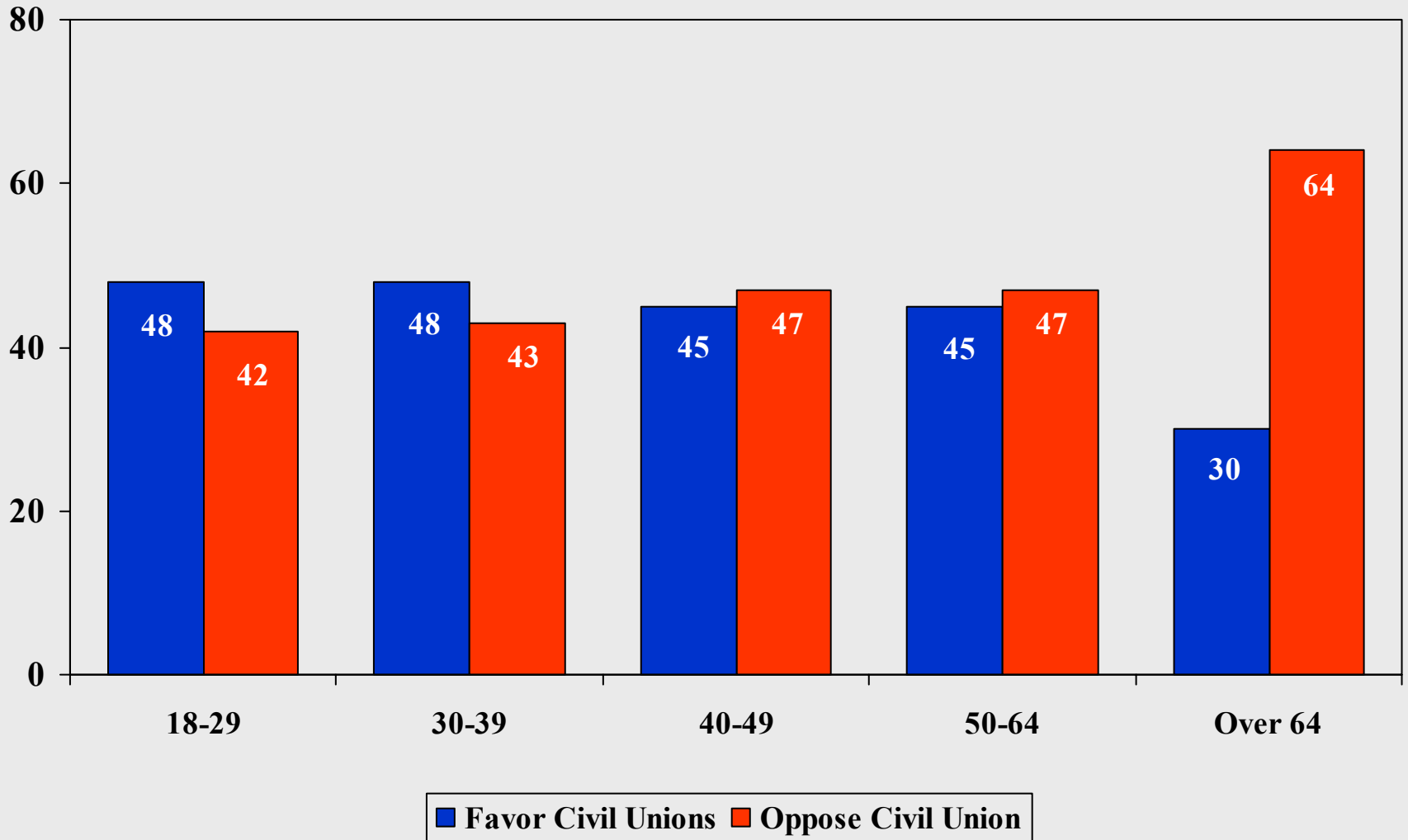
(Some Rights – All Respondents)





# Civil Unions

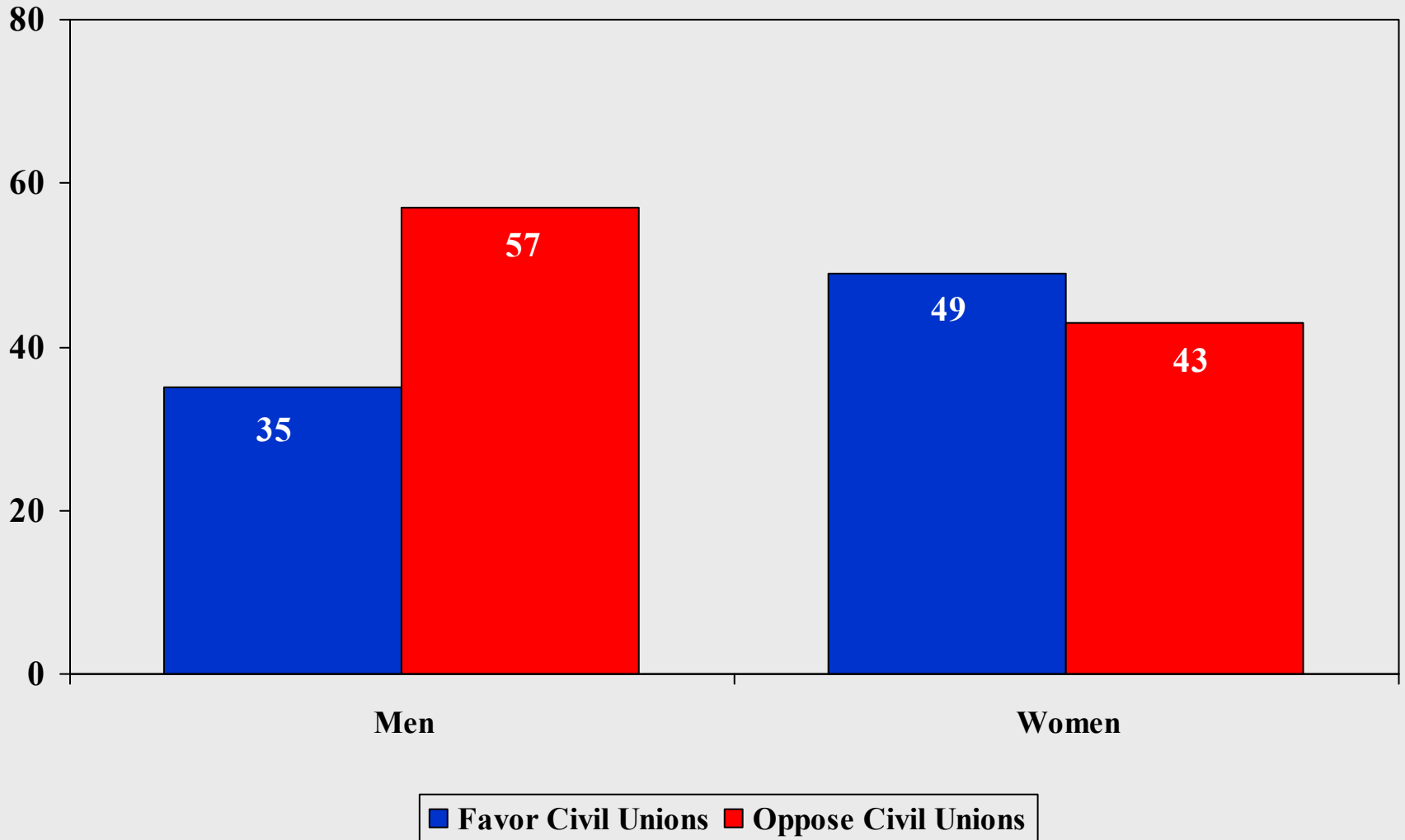
(Some Rights by Age)





# Civil Unions

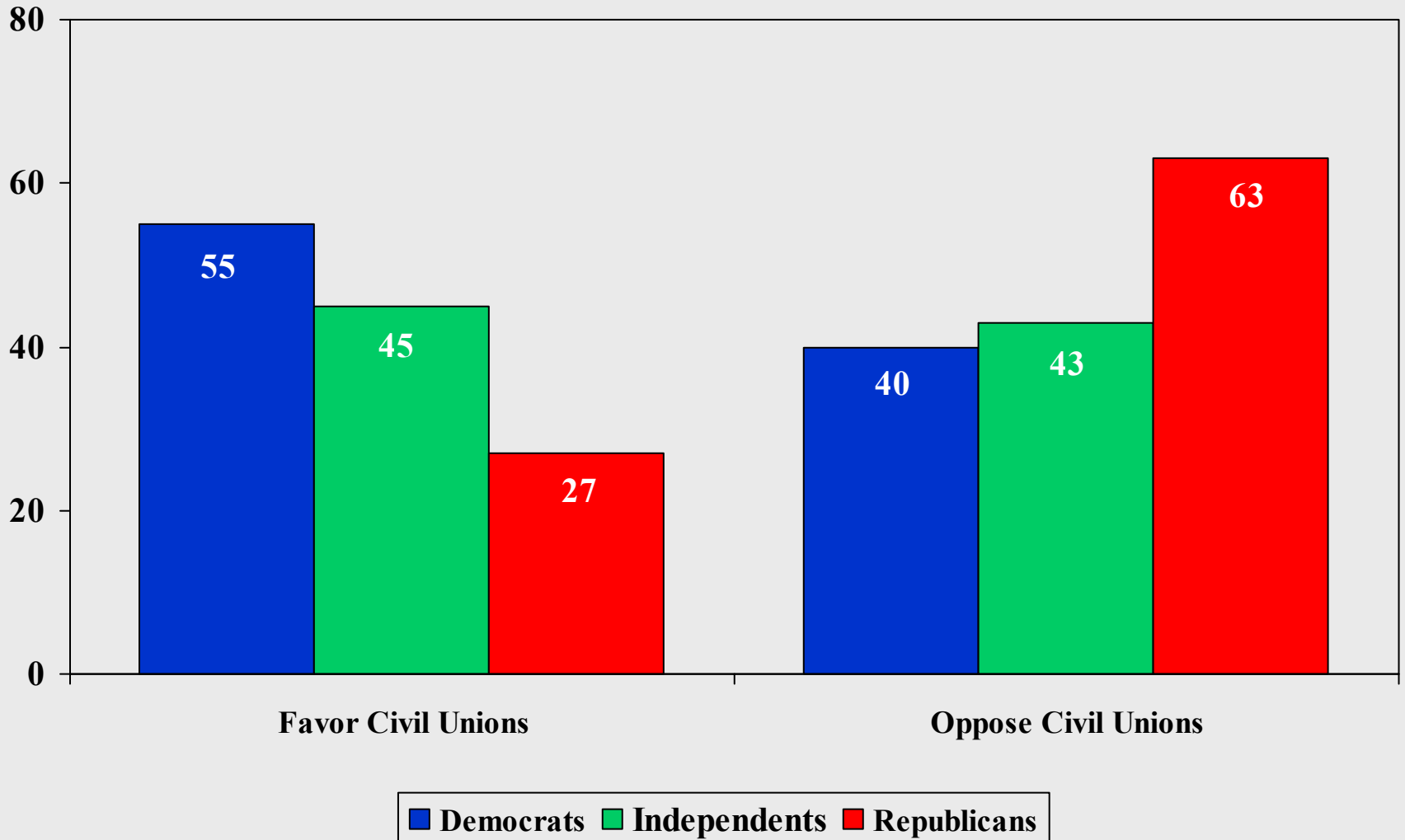
(Some Rights by Gender)





# Civil Unions

(Some Rights by Party)





# Civil Unions

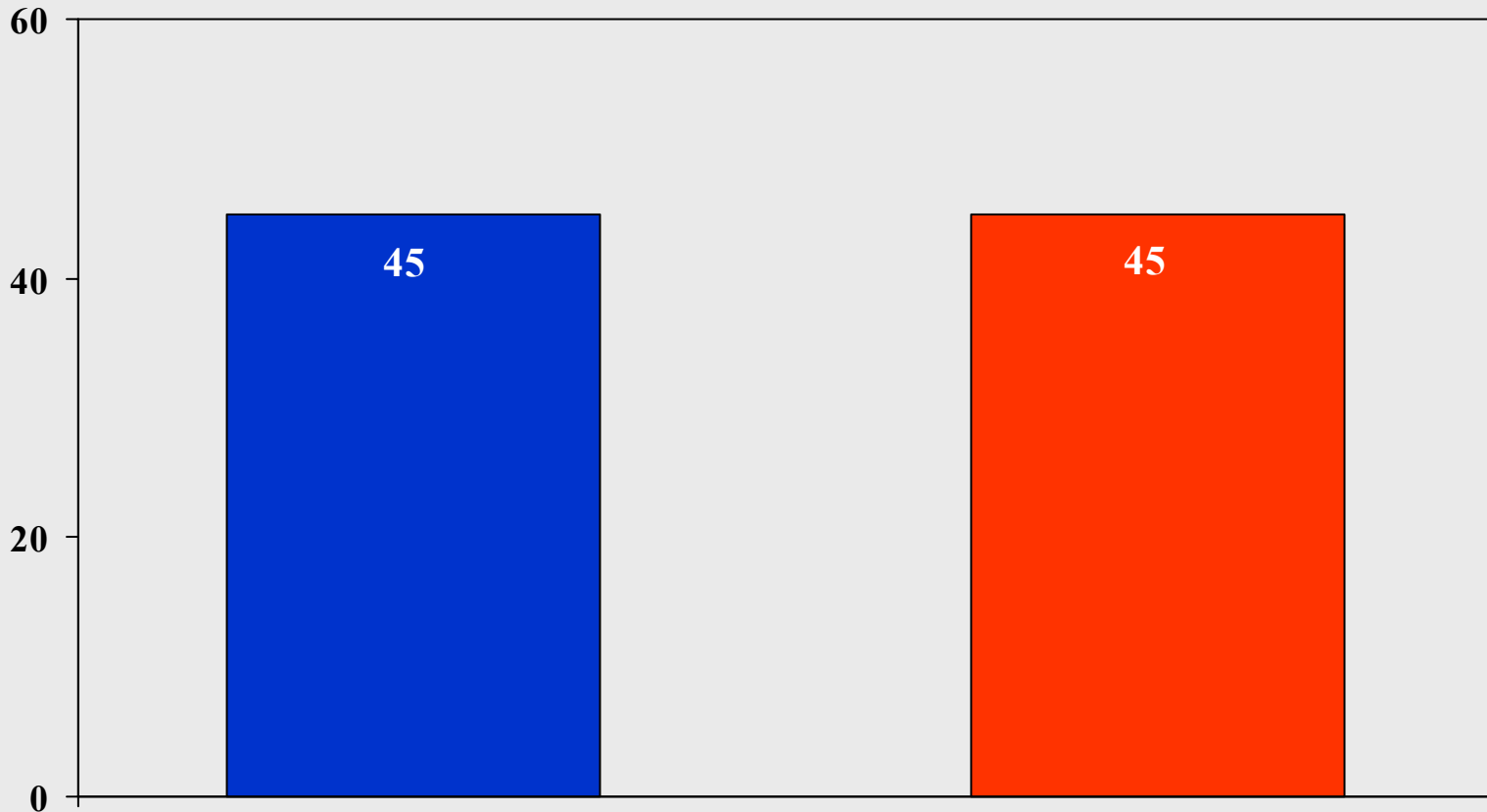
(Specific Rights)

HALF SAMPLE B - Do you favor or oppose a law that would allow homosexual couples to legally form civil unions, *giving them the legal rights of married couples in areas such as health insurance, inheritance, pension coverage, and hospital visitation privileges?*



# Civil Unions

(Specific Rights by All Respondents)

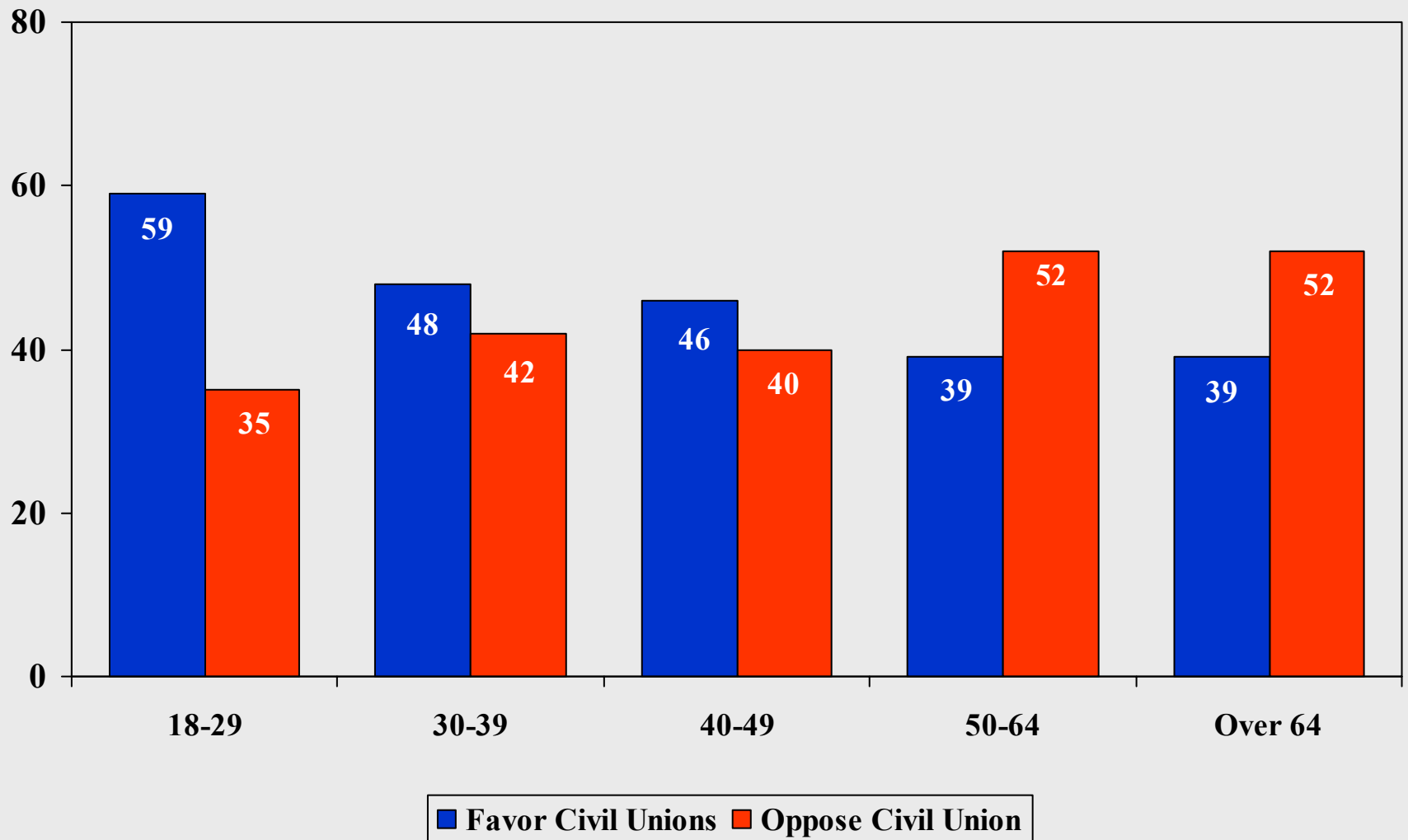


■ Favor Civil Unions ■ Oppose Civil Unions



# Civil Unions

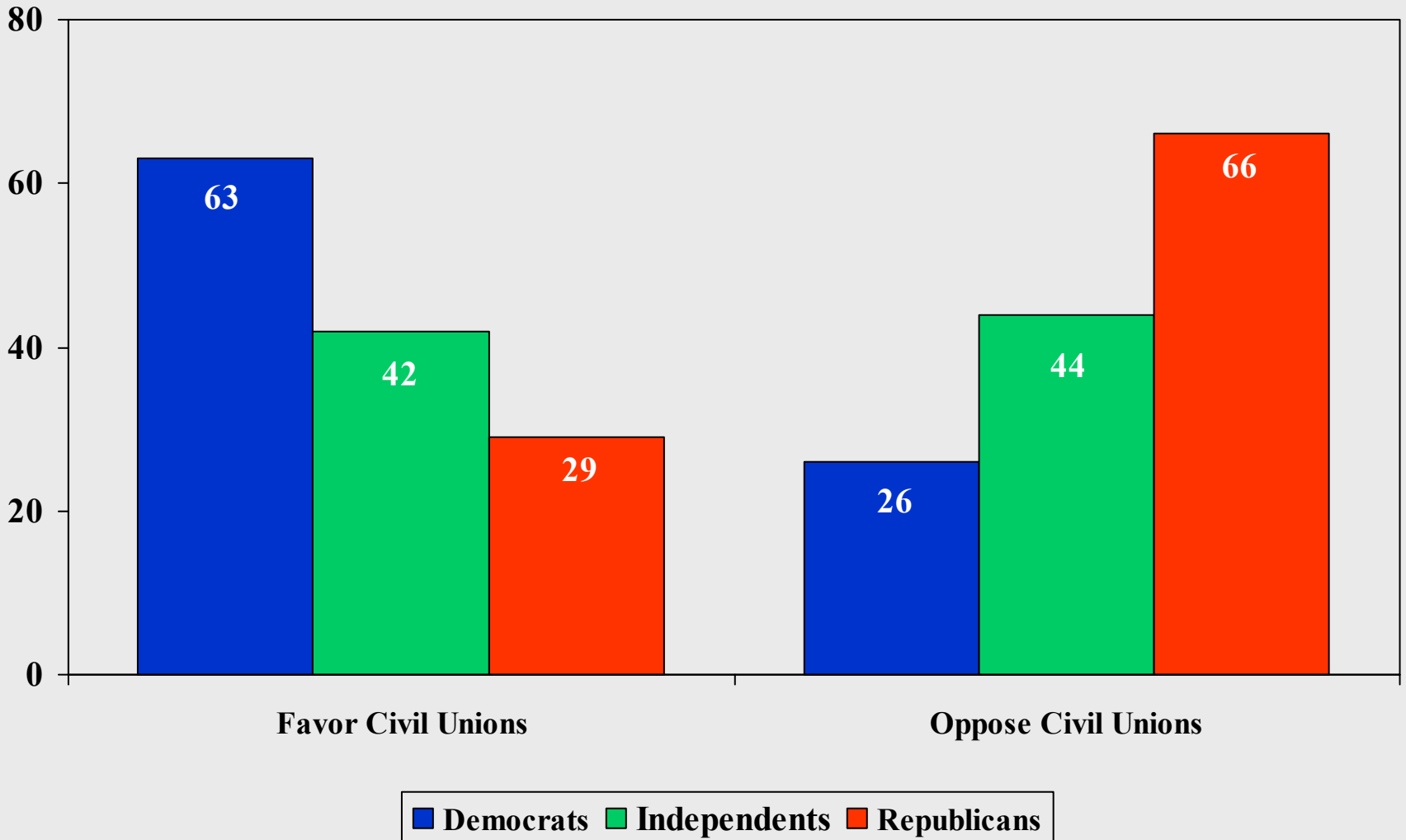
(Specific Rights by Age)





# Civil Unions

(Specific Rights by Party)



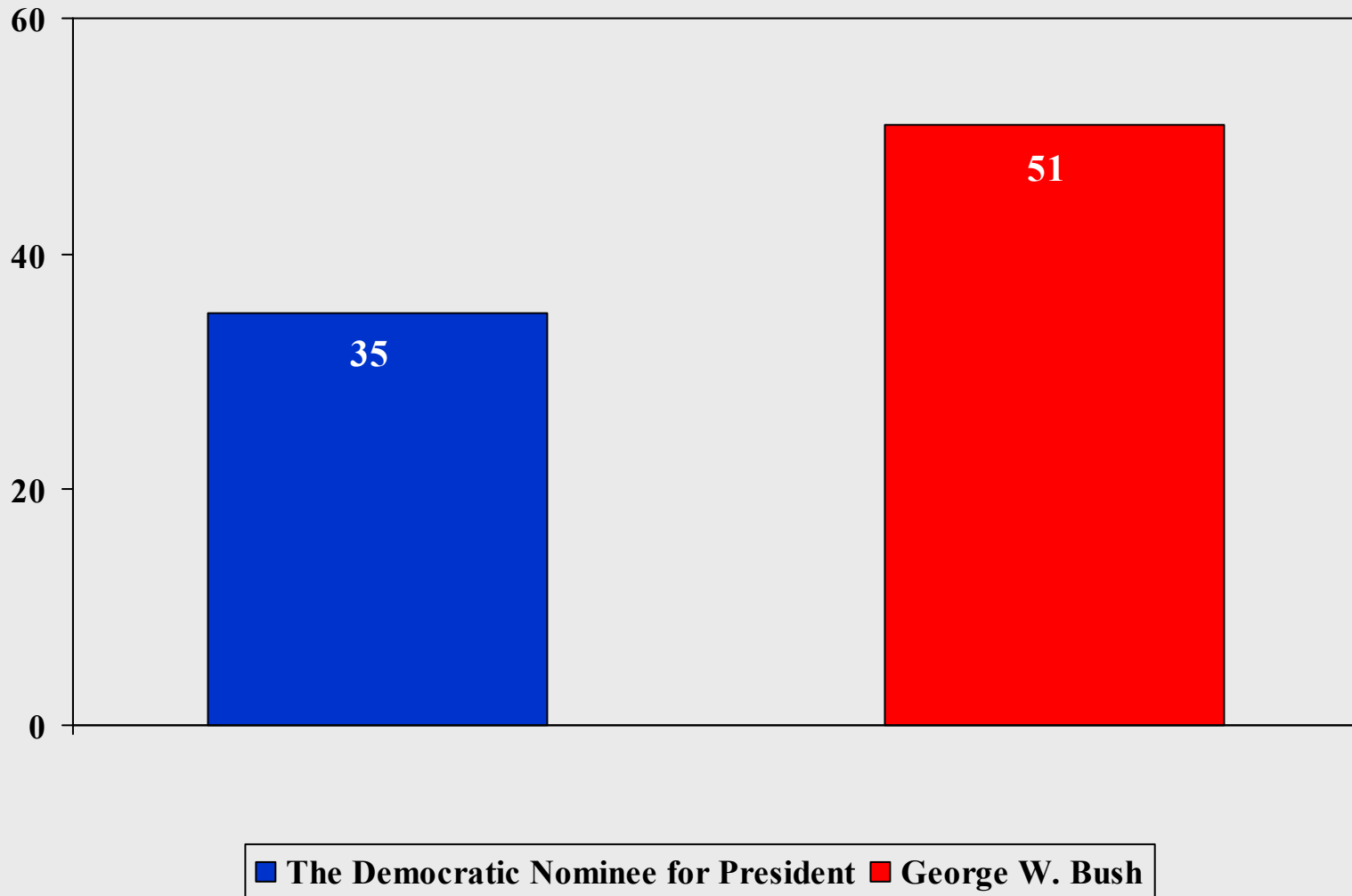


## Presidential Vote with Civil Union Position

And, now, thinking about the campaign for president and the issue of civil unions, which means that homosexual couples can form legal unions with some of the rights of married couples, for whom would you vote if you learned that the Democratic nominee **SUPPORTS** civil unions **WHILE** Republican George W. Bush **OPPOSES** civil unions?



# Presidential Vote with Civil Union Position



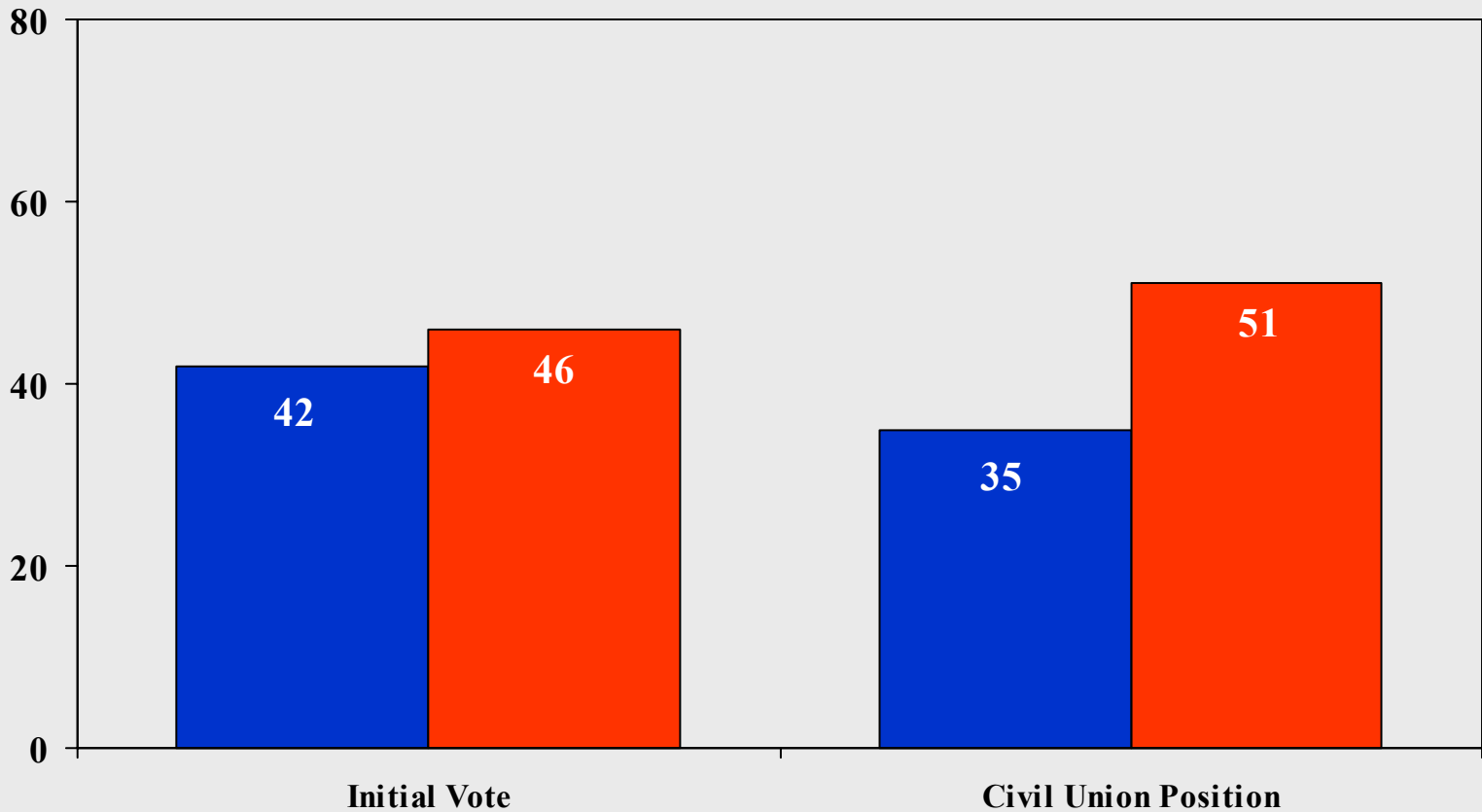
National Public Radio December 24, 2003 Figure # 23

*“And, now, thinking about the campaign for president and the issue of civil unions, which means that homosexual couples can form legal unions with some of the rights of married couples, for whom would you vote if you learned that the Democratic nominee SUPPORTS civil unions WHILE Republican George W. Bush OPPOSES civil unions?”*



# Presidential Vote

(Initial Vote and Civil Union Position)

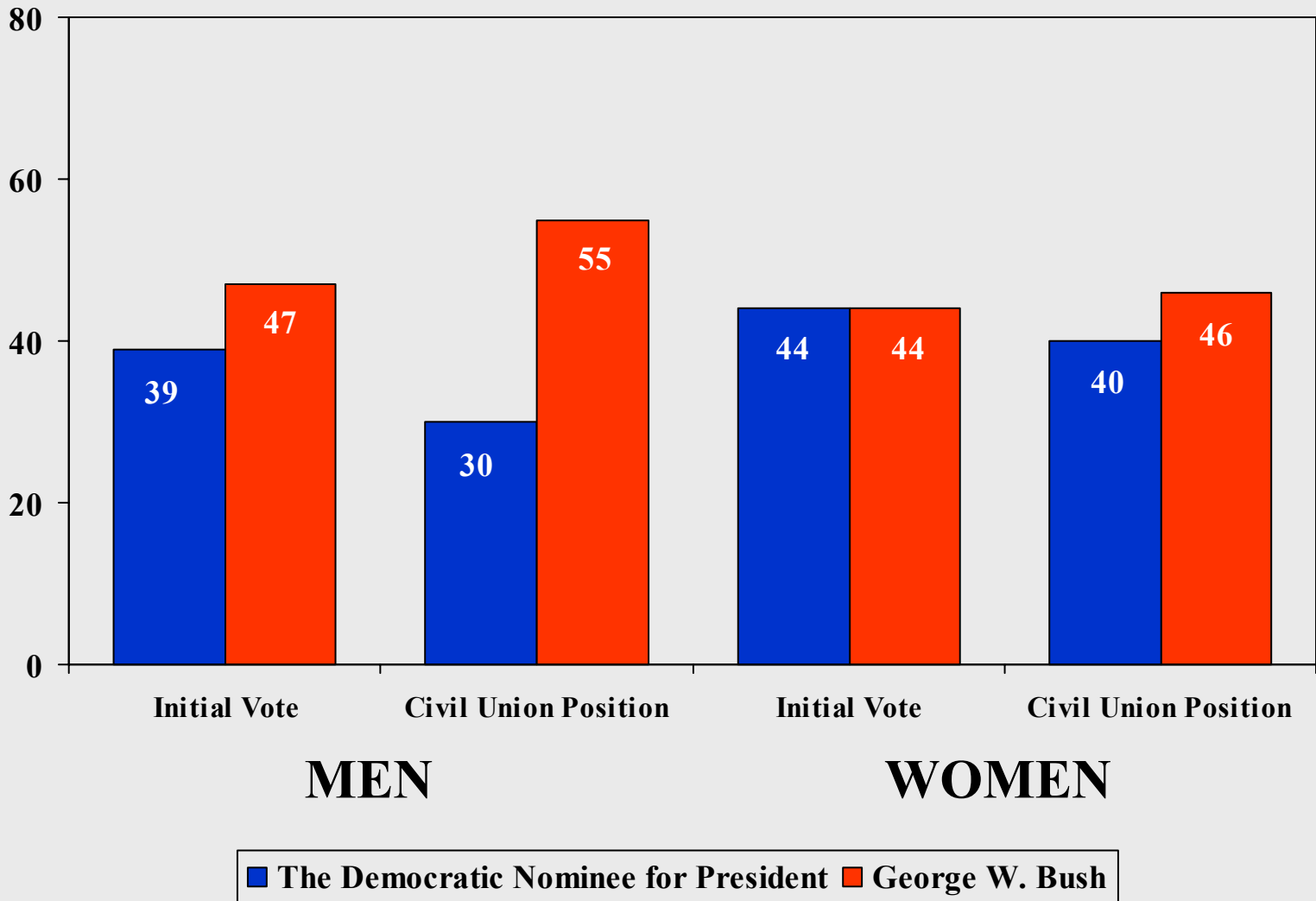


■ The Democratic Nominee for President ■ George W. Bush



# Presidential Vote by Gender

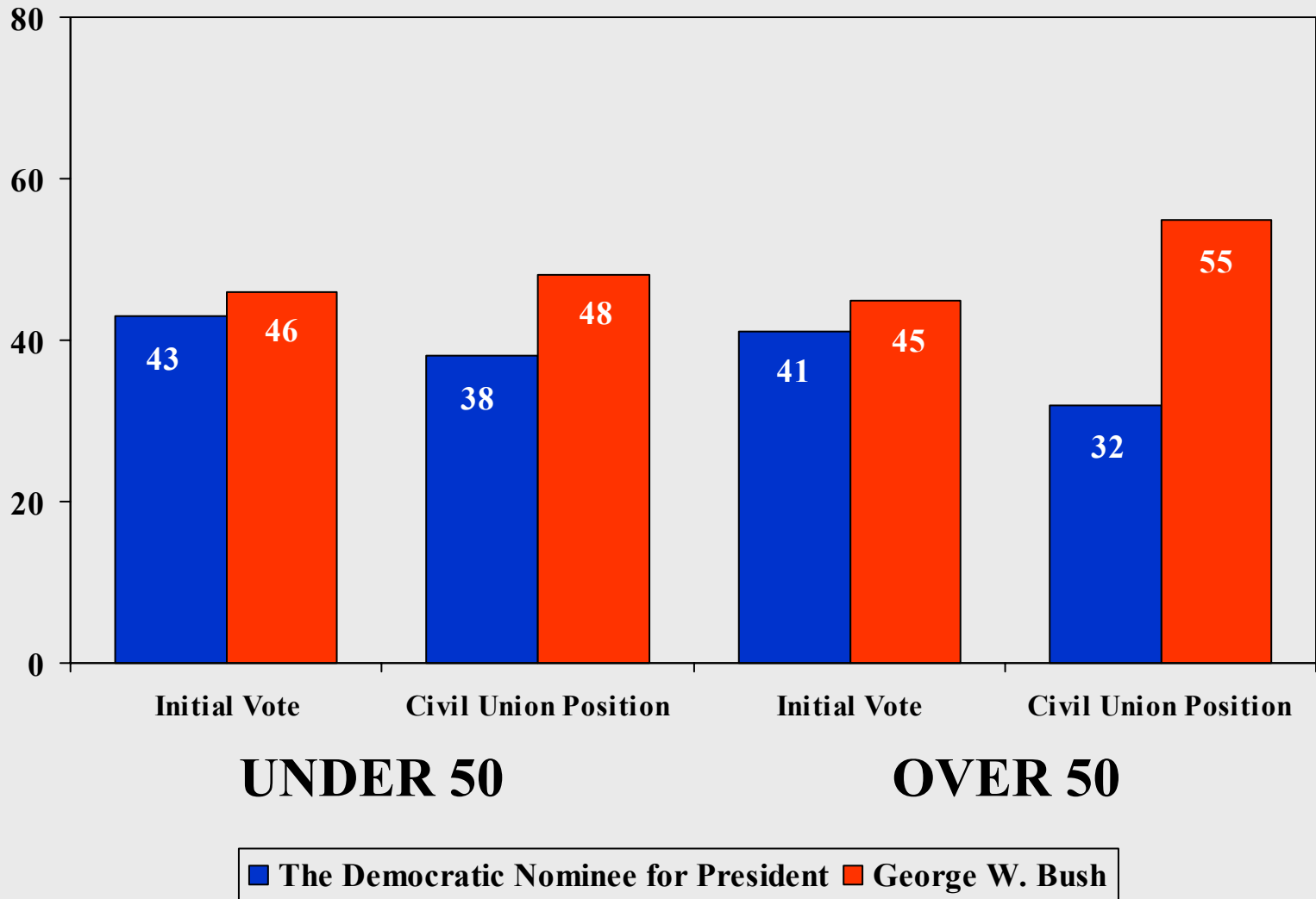
(Initial Vote and Civil Union Position)





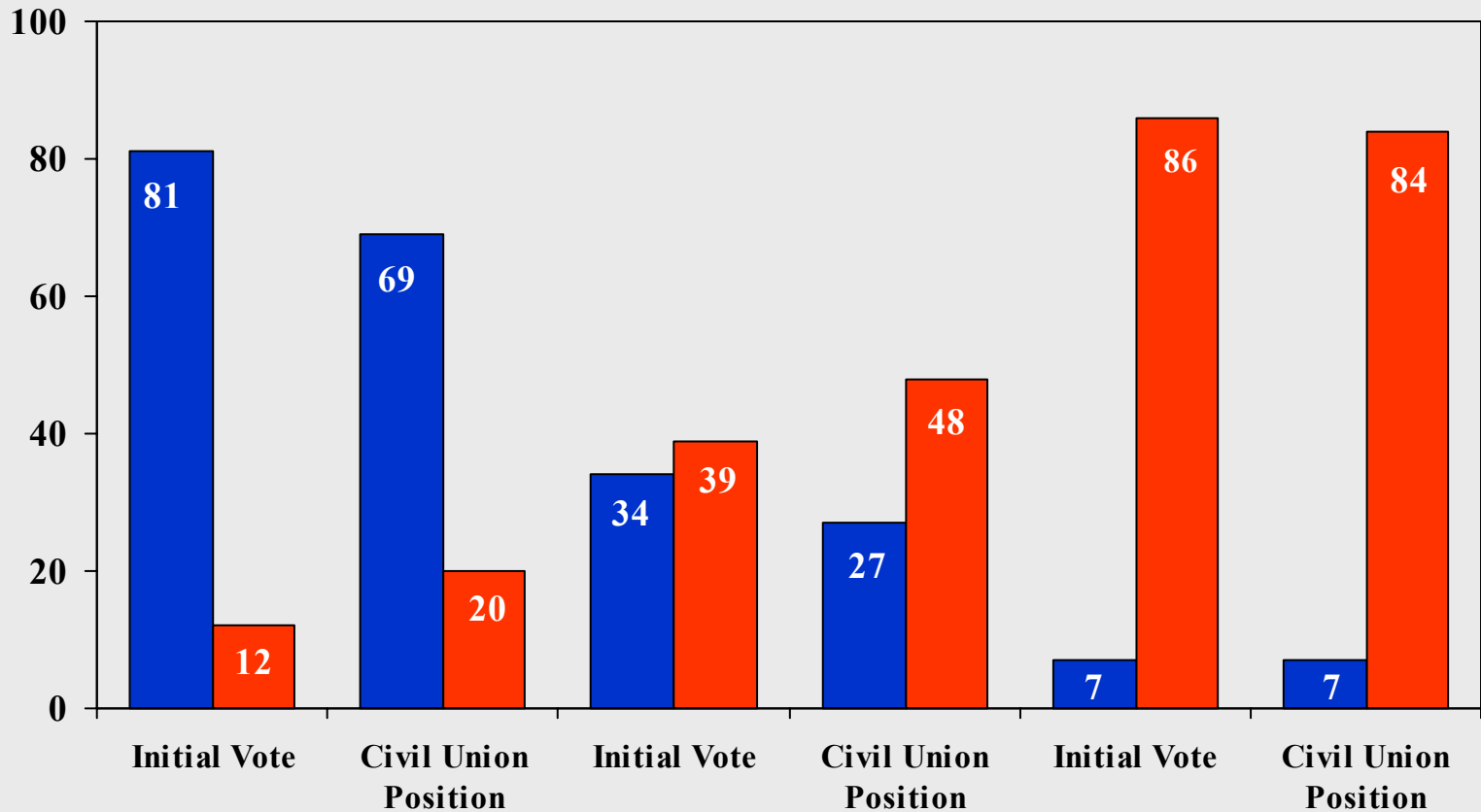
# Presidential Vote by Age

(Initial Vote and Civil Union Position)





# Presidential Vote by Party ID (Initial Vote and Civil Union Position)



**Democrats**

**Independents**

**Republicans**

■ The Democratic Nominee for President ■ George W. Bush



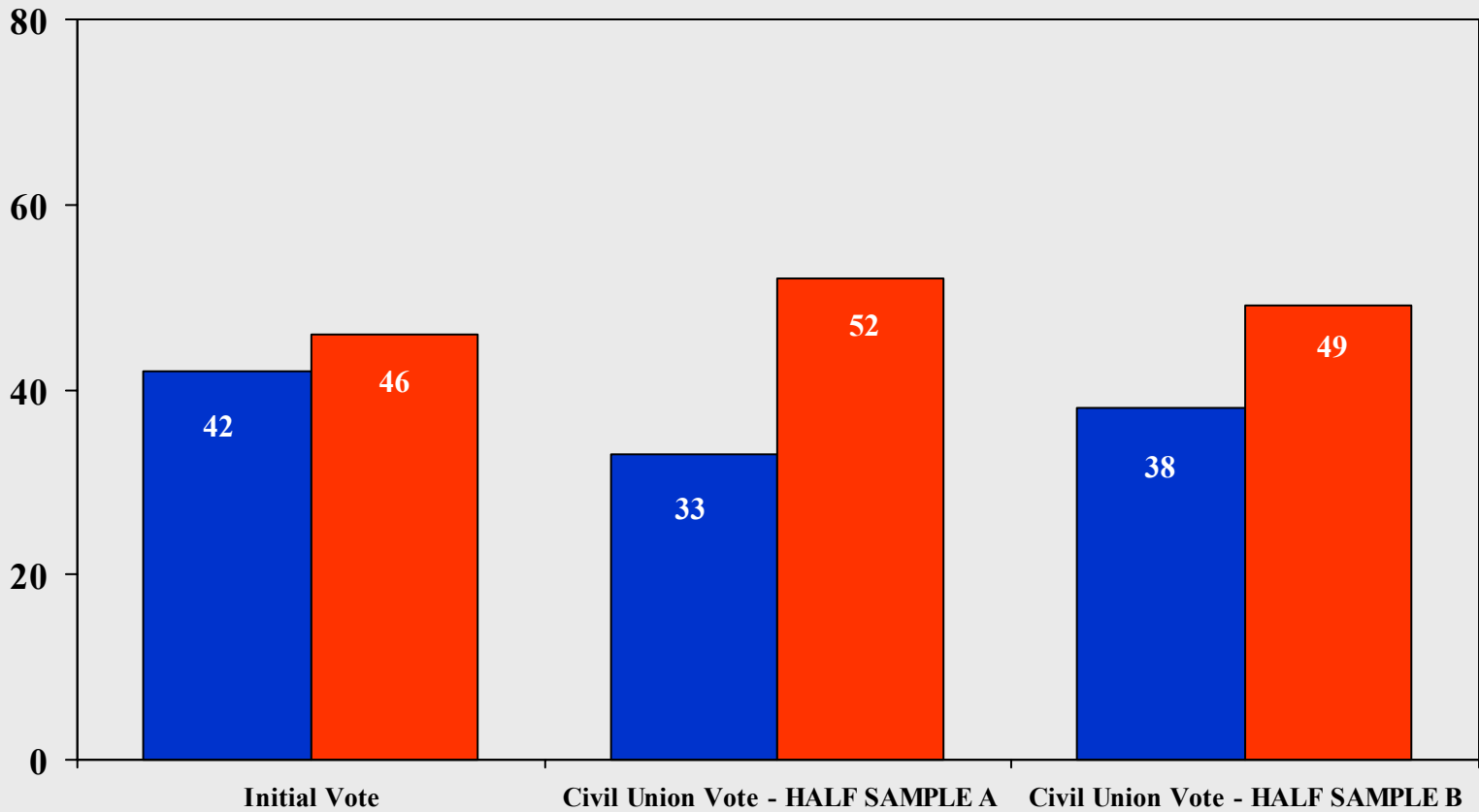
HALF SAMPLE A -  
Do you favor or oppose  
a law that would allow  
homosexual couples to  
legally form civil  
unions, *giving them  
some of the legal rights  
of married couples?*

HALF SAMPLE B - Do you  
favor or oppose a law that  
would allow homosexual  
couples to legally form civil  
unions, *giving them the legal  
rights of married couples in  
areas such as health  
insurance, inheritance,  
pension coverage, and  
hospital visitation privileges?*



# Presidential Vote

(Civil Union Vote Based on Explanation of Civil Unions)

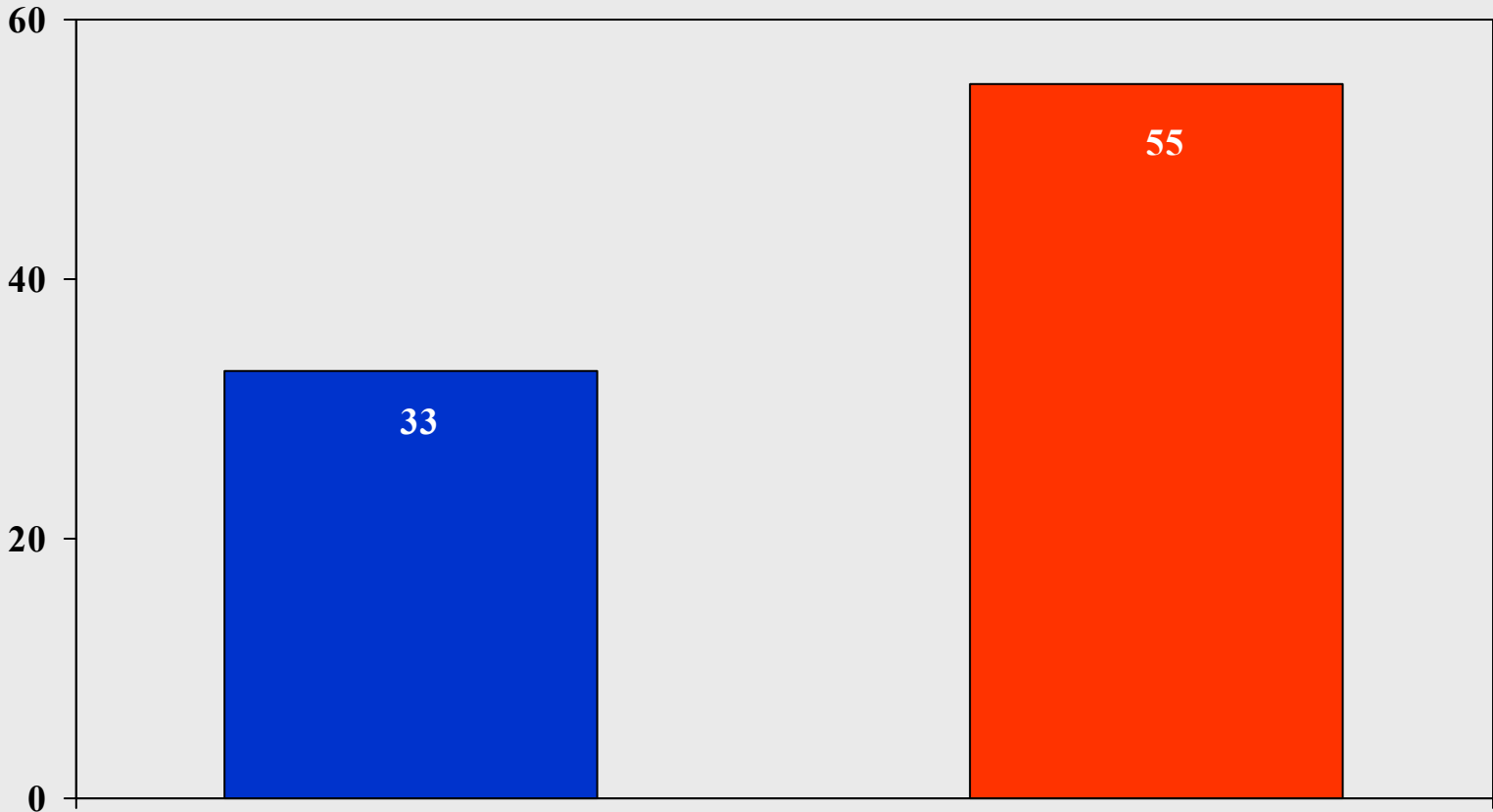


■ The Democratic Nominee for President ■ George W. Bush



# Equal Rights For All OR Marriage Just Between Men and Women

(All Respondents)



*Some Democrats say allowing same sex couples to enter into civil unions help make sure that everyone in the country has equal rights and is treated with the same dignity and respect. Same sex couples, who are in committed relationships, should be afforded the same rights as married couples such as health care and retirement benefits and inheritance.*

*Some Republicans say we should think of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Republicans say there is little difference between calling it a civil union and gay marriage. We should continue to recognize heterosexual marriage as ensuring, promoting, and supporting a tested social structure for the bearing and raising of children.*

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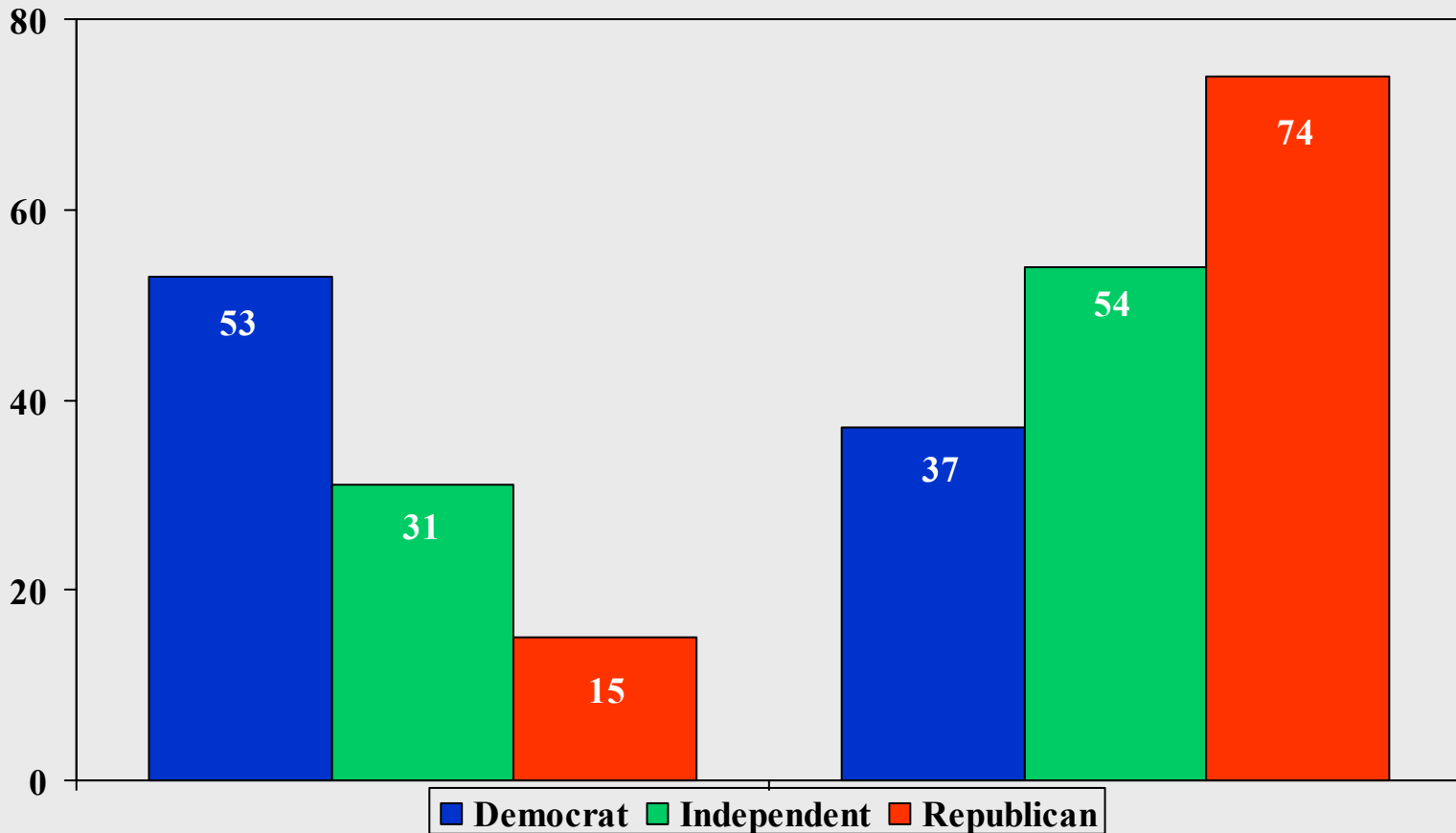
*Now I'm going to read you some statements. As I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right..."*

Figure # 30



# Equal Rights For All OR Marriage Just Between Men and Women

(By Party)



*Some Democrats say allowing same sex couples to enter into civil unions help make sure that everyone in the country has equal rights and is treated with the same dignity and respect.*

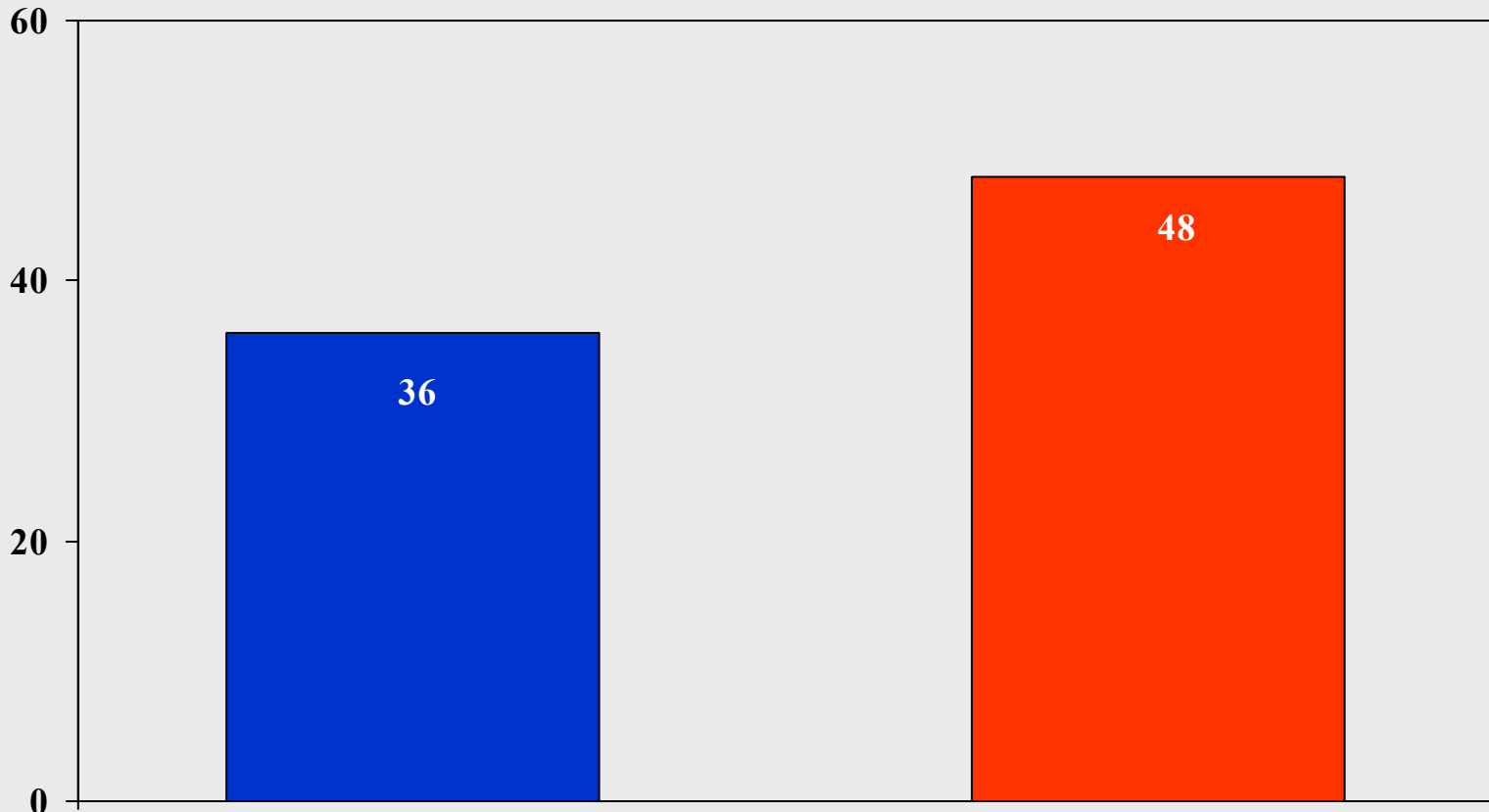
*Some sex couples, who are in committed relationships, should be afforded the same rights as married couples such as health care and retirement benefits and inheritance.*

*Some Republicans say we should think of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Republicans say there is little difference between calling it a civil union and gay marriage. We should continue to recognize heterosexual marriage as ensuring, promoting, and supporting a tested social structure for the bearing and raising of children.*



# Equal Rights For All OR Change Through Legislation

(All Respondents)



*Some Democrats say allowing same sex couples to enter into civil unions help make sure that everyone in the country has equal rights and is treated with the same dignity and respect. Same sex couples, who are in committed relationships, should be afforded the same rights as married couples such as health care and retirement benefits and inheritance.*

*Some Republicans say we should think of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Any obstacle the gay community faces can be addressed by changing legislation to make sure that people and their partners are eligible for benefits regardless of marital status. We do not need to change the common definition of how we think about marriage.*

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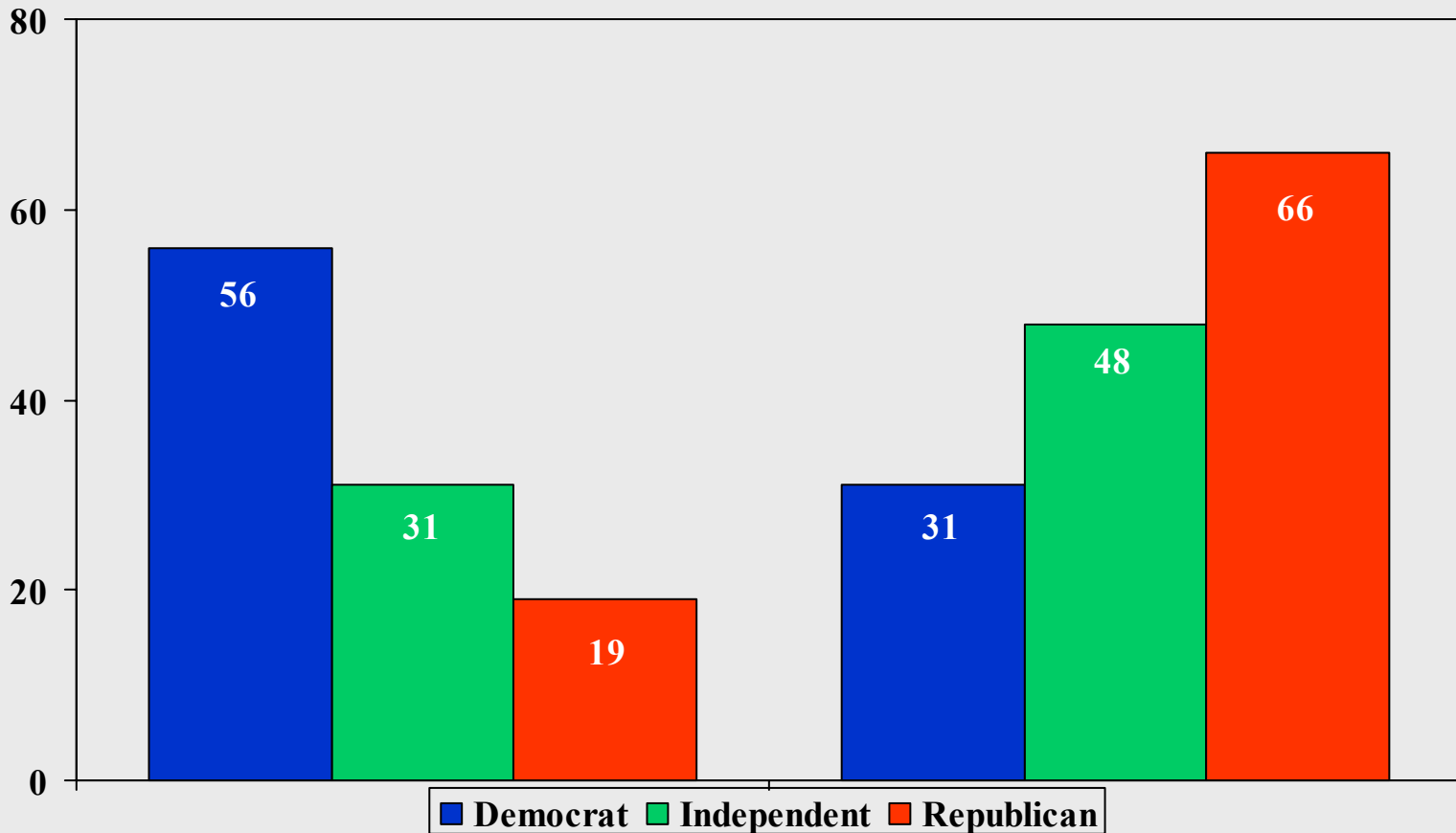
*Now I'm going to read you some statements. As I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right..."*

Figure # 32



# Equal Rights For All OR Change Through Legislation

(By Party)



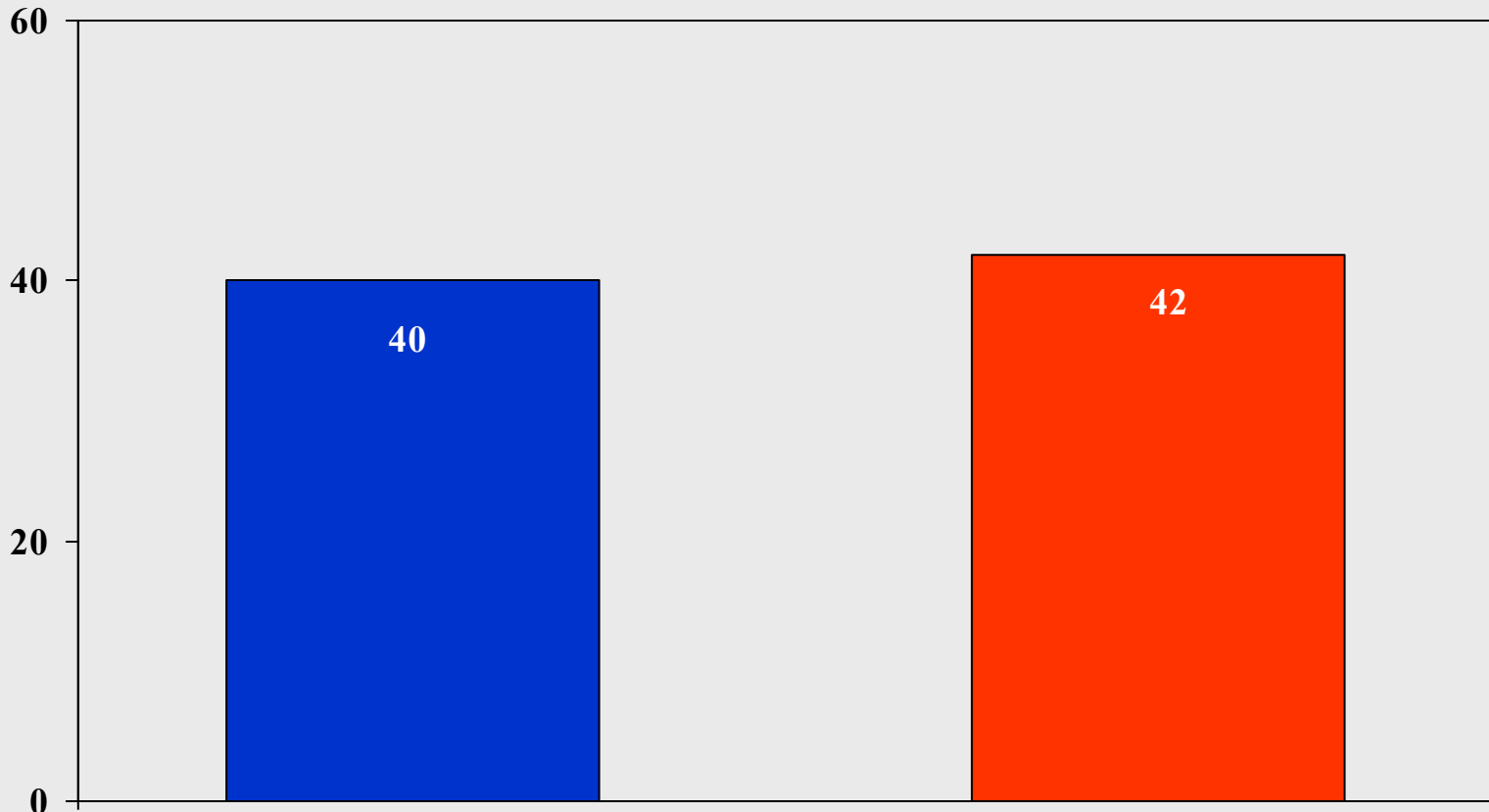
*Some Democrats say allowing same sex couples to enter into civil unions help make sure that everyone in the country has equal rights and is treated with the same dignity and respect. Same sex couples, who are in committed relationships, should be afforded the same rights as married couples such as health care and retirement benefits and inheritance.*

*Some Republicans say we should think of marriage as being between a man and a woman. Any obstacle the gay community faces can be addressed by changing legislation to make sure that people and their partners are eligible for benefits regardless of marital status. We do not need to change the common definition of how we think about marriage.*



# Government Invading Privacy OR Advancing Too Quickly

(All Respondents)



*By barring civil unions, Republicans are using government to dictate the personal and private choices people make about their families and denying people their equal rights. We should respect people's fundamental right to privacy and afford all families the same rights.*

*By championing civil unions, Democrats are moving too far, too fast to change thousands of years of how we think about and define marriage. Our country SHOULD be tolerant and you can respect people's right to privacy without demanding and promoting a new right for gay marriage.*

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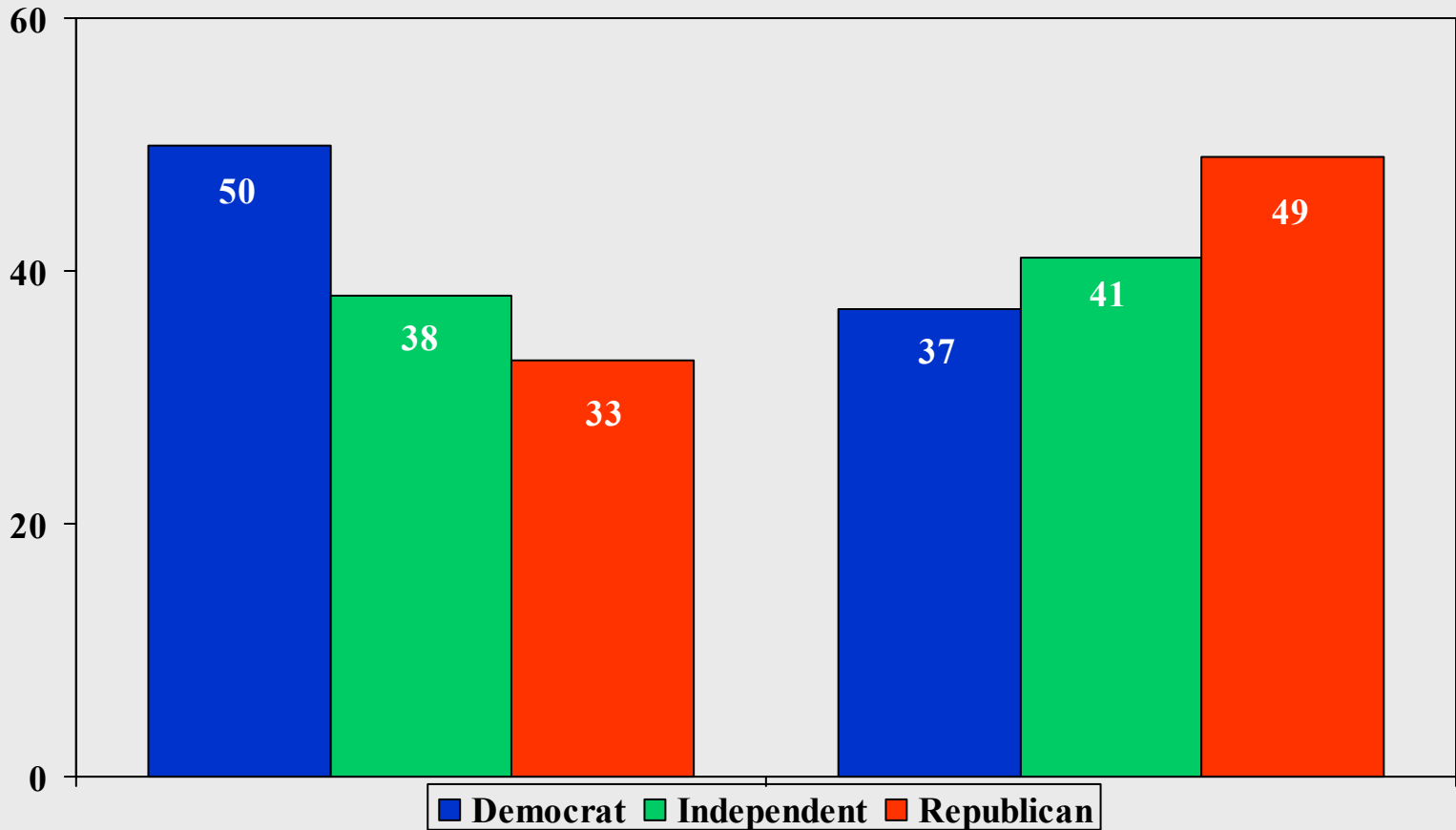
Figure # 34

*Now I'm going to read you some statements. As I read each pair, please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right..."*



# Government Invading Privacy OR Advancing Too Quickly

(By Party)



*By barring civil unions, Republicans are using government to dictate the personal and private choices people make about their families and denying people their equal rights. We should respect people's fundamental right to privacy and afford all families the same rights.*

*By championing civil unions, Democrats are moving too far, too fast to change thousands of years of how we think about and define marriage. Our country SHOULD be tolerant and you can respect people's right to privacy without demanding and promoting a new right for gay marriage.*