

**POS MAY NATIONAL: NPR**

*Interview Schedule*

*Project # 03189  
Public Opinion Strategies  
Alexandria, Virginia*

*May 27-29, 2003  
N=723 Registered Likely Voters  
Margin of Error = ±3.64%*

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B. What are the chances of your voting in the election for President next year: are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or don't you think you will vote?

- 92% ALMOST CERTAIN
  - 8% PROBABLY
  - 50-50 (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
  - WILL NOT VOTE (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
  - DON'T KNOW (**DO NOT READ**) (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
  - REFUSED (**DO NOT READ**) (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
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C. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed by a newspaper, television or radio station, a political party, or by a candidate for political office?

- YES (**THANK AND TERMINATE**)
  - 100% NO (**CONTINUE**)
  - NOT SURE/REFUSED (**DO NOT READ - THANK AND TERMINATE**)
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1. Now, generally speaking, would you say that things in the COUNTRY are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?

<u>3/02</u>	<u>10/02</u>	<u>5/03</u>	
58%	39%	53%	RIGHT DIRECTION
35%	51%	39%	WRONG TRACK
5%	8%	7%	DON'T KNOW ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )
2%	2%	1%	REFUSED ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )

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2. What would you say is the single **MOST** important problem facing the United States today, that is, the one that you, yourself, are most concerned about?

<b>GENERAL ECONOMY (31%)</b>		<b>GENERAL SOCIAL (5%)</b>	
Big Business	—	Abortion (PRO-CHOICE)	*
Economy/Recession	15%	Abortion (PRO-LIFE)	*
Farm Problems	1%	Partial Birth Abortion	—
Industry	1%	Child/Day Care	—
Inflation	*	Teenage Pregnancy	—
Labor Unions	*	Decline in Moral Values	3%
Unemployment/lack of jobs	14%	Future/Youth	1%
Interest Rates	*	Housing Costs	—
<b>ECONOMY — GOVERNMENT (11%)</b>		Illegal Aliens/Immigration	1%
Deficits/Federal Debt	6%	Poverty/Hunger/Homeless	1%
Government Spending	2%	Racial Problems/Discrimination	—
Taxes/Unfair Taxes	3%	Welfare (too little)	—
Property Taxes	*	Welfare (too much)	*
<b>FOREIGN POLICY (5%)</b>		<b>CRIME (2%)</b>	
General Foreign Policy	3%	Alcohol abuse	—
International Trade/Imports	*	Child Abuse/Kidnapping	—
Middle East (General)	1%	Crime	1%
Israel/Palestine Conflict	*	Drugs	*
Too Much Foreign Aid	1%	Gang/juvenile delinquency	1%
United Nations/US forces — UN control	—	Gun control	—
World Respect	*	Poor Courts/Judicial System	—
Situation with North Korea	—	Poor Police/Law Enforcement	—
<b>SITUATION WITH IRAQ (3%)</b>		Hate Crimes	—
The need to go to war with Iraq	2%	Other Crime	*
Staying out of Iraq	*	<b>HEALTH ISSUES (8%)</b>	
UN Action in Iraq	1%	Health care costs	3%
<b>TERRORISM/NATIONAL SECURITY (18%)</b>		AIDS	—
General National Defense	1%	Availability of Care	*
Terrorism/National Security	14%	Medicare	*
War/World Peace	3%	Poor Coverage/Benefits	1%
September 11	*	National Health Care/ Gov't Not Doing Enough	1%
Osama bin Laden	*	Social Security/Aid to Elderly	1%
<b>GOVERNMENT (5%)</b>		The Uninsured	1%
Congress	*	HMO Reform	*
Government Corruption/Control	—	Prescription Drug Costs	1%
Bureaucracy/Leadership	3%	Hospital Care	—
President George W. Bush	2%	Nursing Home Care	—
The Internal Revenue Service (IRS)	—	Other Health	1%
<b>EDUCATION (3%)</b>		<b>OTHER (2%)</b>	
Quality of education	1%	Gas Prices	*
Violence in schools	—	Electricity Prices	—
Education funding	2%	Personal Rights	1%
Overcrowded classrooms	*	Other (SPECIFY): _____	1%
Other education	*	No Problems	1%
<b>ENVIRONMENT (2%)</b>		Don't Know (DO NOT READ)	4%
Recycling	—	REFUSED (DO NOT READ)	1%
Pollution	1%		
Garbage/Landfills	—		
Other Environment	1%		

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the job George W. Bush is doing as President?

**(IF APPROVE/DISAPPROVE, ASK:)** And would you say you **STRONGLY** (approve/disapprove) or just **SOMEWHAT** (approve/disapprove)?

<u>3/02</u>	<u>10/02</u>	<u>5/03</u>	
50%	41%	44%	STRONGLY APPROVE
29%	25%	22%	SOMEWHAT APPROVE
9%	11%	10%	SOMEWHAT DISAPPROVE
9%	19%	21%	STRONGLY DISAPPROVE
3%	4%	3%	DON'T KNOW ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )
*	*	*	REFUSED ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )
<b>79%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>TOTAL APPROVE</b>
<b>18%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>TOTAL DISAPPROVE</b>

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4. 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.... **(RANDOMIZE)**

**(IF SELECT FIRST CHOICE, THEN ASK:)** And which of the following would be the NEXT issue most personally important to you?

**FIRST CHOICE**

<u>3/02</u>	<u>10/02</u>	<u>5/03*</u>	
16%	10%	10%	Education
10%	10%	13%	Social Security and Medicare
9%	4%	3%	Taxes
12%	11%	13%	Moral values
20%	26%	29%	The economy and jobs
11%	8%	9%	Affordable health care
8%	8%	11%	Terrorism and National Security
6%	4%	5%	Federal spending
3%	3%	2%	The environment
2%	3%	1%	Crime and Illegal Drugs
1%	1%	1%	NONE OF THESE <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>
2%	1%	3%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>

**COMBINED CHOICE**

<u>3/02</u>	<u>10/02</u>	<u>5/03*</u>	
29%	25%	21%	Education
20%	19%	22%	Social Security and Medicare
16%	12%	10%	Taxes
16%	15%	17%	Moral values
34%	43%	46%	The economy and jobs
25%	16%	21%	Affordable health care
15%	19%	26%	Terrorism and National Security
10%	6%	10%	Federal spending
6%	4%	6%	The environment
6%	5%	4%	Crime and Illegal Drugs
1%	1%	1%	NONE OF THESE <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>
2%	1%	3%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED <b>(DO NOT READ)</b>

\* NOTE: Before the present survey, the question was asked for Congressional vote. Also, "Terrorism and National Security" was "Anti-terrorism Efforts."

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5. I know it is a long way off, but thinking about the elections in 2004, if the election for president were held today and the candidates were **(ROTATE)** — Republican George W. Bush and the Democratic nominee for President — for whom would you vote — **(ROTATE)** — Republican George W. Bush or the Democratic nominee for President?

**(IF UNDECIDED, ASK:)** Which way do you lean as of today? Do you lean toward **(ROTATE)** — Republican George W. Bush or the Democratic nominee?

- 46% GEORGE W. BUSH  
4% LEAN GEORGE W. BUSH  
13% UNDECIDED **(DO NOT READ)**  
8% LEAN THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE  
27% THE DEMOCRATIC NOMINEE
- 1% Other candidate **(SPECIFY)** \_\_\_\_\_ **(DO NOT READ)**  
\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**
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**(IF Q5:1-2, 4-5 ASK:)**

6. Could you please tell me one or two reasons you would vote for (George W. Bush / the Democratic nominee) rather than (the Democratic nominee / George W. Bush) for president? **(PROBE AND CLARIFY)** Is there anything else?

**SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES**

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**(IF Q5:4-5, ASK:)**

7. Although you said that you would vote for the Democratic nominee, is there anything about George W. Bush personally or his performance as president that demonstrates why he should be re-elected as president?**(PROBE AND CLARIFY)** Anything else?

**SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES**

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**(ASK SAMPLE A)**

8. Now, however you plan to vote, what hesitations or concerns might you have about re-electing President Bush? **(PROBE AND CLARIFY)** Is there anything else?

**SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES**

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**(ASK SAMPLE B)**

9. Although it's not possible to know who will win the Democratic nomination, given what you know about the likely issue positions of the eventual Democratic nominee for president what hesitations or concerns might you have about voting for this person.**(PROBE AND CLARIFY)** Is there anything else?

**SEE VERBATIM RESPONSES**

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10. Now, generally speaking, which are you the MOST concerned about right now...(RANDOMIZE)

32% The threat of more terrorism on U.S. soil  
...OR...

59% The slowdown of the U.S. economy

1% NONE OF THE ABOVE (DO NOT READ)

7% BOTH OF THE ABOVE (DO NOT READ)(IF THEN ASK:)

Speaking to people tonight, we are finding that many people are, of course, concerned about BOTH of these, BUT if you could choose the one you are MOST concerned about right now, which one might that be? (CODE INTO CATEGORY, UNLESS THEY STILL DO NOT CHOOSE)

1% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

<u>12/01</u>	<u>2/02</u>	<u>4/03</u>	
43%	41%	28%	The threat of more terrorism on US soil
53%	53%	68%	The slowdown of the US economy
2%	2%	1%	NONE OF THE ABOVE (DO NOT READ)
1%	4%	3%	BOTH OF THE ABOVE (DO NOT READ)(IF THEN ASK:)
1%	*	*	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (DO NOT READ)

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Now changing topics...

11. I would like to read you a few statements about the war in Iraq. Please tell me which comes closest to your opinion. (ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

48% The war in Iraq was a success and WAS worth the cost in U.S. lives and dollars

33% The war in Iraq was a success but was NOT worth the cost in U.S. lives and dollars

15% The war in Iraq was NOT a success

2% NONE (DO NOT READ)

2% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED (NO NOT READ)

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12. Now, thinking about the situation today, I want you to rate on a scale of 0 to 100 whether the world is becoming MORE SAFE for America and its people or MORE DANGEROUS for America and its people, or whether it staying about the same -- 0 means the world is becoming MUCH MORE SAFE for America and its people, 100 means the world is becoming MUCH MORE DANGEROUS for America and its people, and 50 is the midpoint and means it is neither becoming more safe or more dangerous for America and its people. You can choose any number from 0 to 100.

<u>3/3-8*</u>	<u>4/03**</u>	<u>5/03</u>	
42%	20%	24%	76 - 100
29%	31%	34%	51 - 75
17%	27%	24%	50
5%	10%	10%	26 - 49
6%	11%	7%	0 - 25
1%	1%	1%	DK/REFUSED
71	59	64	Mean
<b>71%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>TOTAL DANGEROUS (51-100)</b>
<b>11%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>TOTAL SAFE (0-49)</b>

\* Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research / Public Opinion Strategies Survey, March 3-8, 2003, 1005 Registered Voters

\*\* Public Opinion Strategies survey, April 15-17, 2003, 800 Registered Voters

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13. Now, I would like to read you a short statement. Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the statement.

Democrats and Republicans both support the President on the war on terrorism, so that is not a political issue for the elections for Congress in November 2004.

**(IF CHOICE, ASK:)** And would that be **STRONGLY** or only **SOMEWHAT** (agree/disagree)?

<u>4/02</u>	<u>5/03</u>	
36%	24%	STRONGLY AGREE
29%	28%	SOMEWHAT AGREE
15%	20%	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
16%	24%	STRONGLY DISAGREE
4%	4%	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED ( <b>DO NOT READ</b> )
<b>65%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>TOTAL AGREE</b>
<b>31%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>TOTAL DISAGREE</b>

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And for statistical purposes only...

D1. In what year were you born?

4% 18-24  
13% 25-34  
18% 35-44  
24% 45-54  
20% 55-64  
20% 65 and above  
1% REFUSED

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D2. And what was the last grade you completed in school? **(DO NOT READ CATEGORIES)**

2% SOME GRADE SCHOOL (1-8)  
4% SOME HIGH SCHOOL (9-11)  
25% GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)  
3% TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL (12)  
24% SOME COLLEGE (13-15)  
27% GRADUATED COLLEGE (16)  
15% GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL (16+)

\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D3. And for statistical purposes only...is your total annual household income greater or less than \$60,000 dollars?

**(IF LESS THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it...**  
**(ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

12% UNDER \$20,000  
24% BETWEEN \$20,000 - \$40,000  
16% OVER \$40,000

**(IF GREATER THAN \$60,000, ASK:) Is it...**  
**(ROTATE FROM TOP TO BOTTOM/BOTTOM TO TOP)**

15% UNDER \$80,000  
12% BETWEEN \$80,000 - \$100,000  
14% OVER \$100,000

7% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D4. Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of a labor union?

**(IF YES, ASK:)** And is that YOU or someone else in your family?

8% YES, SELF  
7% YES, OTHER HOUSEHOLD  
**16%** 1% YES, BOTH  
83% NO

\* DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**  
1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D4x. And do you consider yourself to be...**(ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

\_\_\_ conservative,  
moderate  
...or...  
\_\_\_ liberal

**(IF CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL, ASK:)** And would you consider yourself to be VERY (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL), or just SOMEWHAT (CONSERVATIVE/LIBERAL)?

19% VERY CONSERVATIVE  
**43%** 24% SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE

36% MODERATE

**16%** 10% SOMEWHAT LIBERAL  
6% VERY LIBERAL

4% UNDECIDED/NOT SURE **(DO NOT READ)**  
1% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D5. And in politics today, do you consider yourself... **(ROTATE)**

\_\_\_\_\_ a Republican,  
\_\_\_\_\_ a Democrat,  
\_\_\_\_\_ or something else?

**(IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT, ASK:)** Would you call yourself a STRONG (REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT) or a NOT-SO-STRONG (REPUBLICAN/DEMOCRAT)?

**(IF SOMETHING ELSE, ASK:)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or to the Democratic party?

25% STRONG REPUBLICAN  
11% NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN  
**41%** 5% LEAN TO REPUBLICANS  
  
21% SOMETHING ELSE/INDEPENDENT  
  
**37%** 10% LEAN TO DEMOCRATS  
9% NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT  
18% STRONG DEMOCRAT  
  
1% DON'T KNOW **(DO NOT READ)**  
\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D6. Many people were not able to vote in the 2000 election for president between George W. Bush, Al Gore, and Ralph Nader. How about you? Were you able to vote, or for some reason were you unable to vote?

97% VOTED  
1% INELIGIBLE/TOO YOUNG TO VOTE  
2% DID NOT VOTE  
\* CAN'T REMEMBER/DON'T KNOW/REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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**(IF D6:1, ASK:)(ASKED OF 701 RESPONDENTS)**

D7. Regardless of how you feel now, for whom did you vote in the November 2000 Presidential election ... **(RANDOMIZE)**

George W. Bush, Republican  
Al Gore, Democrat  
Pat Buchanan, Reform  
Ralph Nader, Green Party

51% George W. Bush  
38% Al Gore  
1% Pat Buchanan  
3% Ralph Nader

1% SOMEONE ELSE **(DO NOT READ)**  
\* DID NOT VOTE **(DO NOT READ)**  
1% DON'T KNOW/DON'T RECALL **(DO NOT READ)**  
5% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D7x. And, did you vote in the election for U.S. Congress in your district in 2002?

77% Yes  
14% No  
\* REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**  
9% DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE **(DO NOT READ)**

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D8. Other than being an American, what is your main ethnic or racial heritage? **(READ CHOICES)**

10% AFRICAN AMERICAN OR BLACK  
80% WHITE  
7% HISPANIC AMERICAN OR LATINO  
\* ASIAN AMERICAN  
1% NATIVE AMERICAN  
\* OTHER **(DO NOT READ) (IF PUNCH , THEN ASK:)** Now I realize you just said your main ethnic or racial heritage doesn't fall into any of the categories I just mentioned...but if you had to choose JUST ONE of these categories, which is ONE would you choose?  
  
2% REFUSED **(DO NOT READ)**

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D9. **GENDER (BY OBSERVATION, BUT ASK EVERYONE)** Are you employed outside of the home, are you a homemaker, or are you retired?

33% MALE/EMPLOYED  
1% MALE/HOMEMAKER  
11% MALE/RETIRED  
2% MALE/NOT IN LABOR FORCE  
**48%** 1% MALE/REFUSED

**52%** 30% FEMALE/EMPLOYED  
8% FEMALE/HOMEMAKER  
11% FEMALE/RETIRED  
3% FEMALE/NOT IN LABOR FORCE  
\* FEMALE/REFUSED

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D10. And finally, it is possible that a reporter for National Public Radio may do a news story based on some of these topics and may want to ask a few follow-up questions of some of the people we spoke to tonight. Would you be willing to have an NPR reporter have your responses on the questions about the next presidential election and the war in Iraq and then possibly call you for a brief interview?

53% YES  
46% NO  
1% DON'T KNOW/REFUSED

**IF YES, COLLECT NAME AND PHONE NUMBER**

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