APPENDIX B
HOW THE STUDY WAS CONDUCTED

CSPA used a combination of a national poll, focus groups, interviews, and a review of previous poverty polls conducted by other organizations to prepare this report.

THE POLL

The poll was conducted on October 13-16, 1994, with a sample of 900 American adults. Respondents were interviewed by telephone by Communications Center Inc. (CCI) on a CATI system using a survey designed by CSPA. Each interview lasted an average of twenty-four minutes. Respondents were chosen from all households in the continental United States by a random digit dialing sample using the Genesys System, provided by Marketing Systems Group. Interviewers observed gender quotas.

Questions that were asked to the entire sample have a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5%. However, many questions were asked to a smaller number than the entire sample and, in most cases have a margin of error of 4%. The poll also included questions that were only asked when respondents answered a particular way to a previous question; consequently, the number of respondents varied on these questions.

The results were weighted for race and income level to better reflect national demographics.

The order and placement of some questions were varied to reduce biases that might derive from question order or respondents falling into patterns of responses.

All statistics used in the poll questions were checked with reliable sources, including the U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities.

FOCUS GROUPS

CSPA used focus groups to help craft questions for the poll so that they reflected how people talk and think about poverty as well as to generate qualitative data. Focus groups -- or group discussions -- provide participants with the opportunity to think about various issues and topics, to talk about their views and feelings in their own words, and to describe the underlying assumptions behind their views.

CSPA conducted two focus groups -- one in Baltimore, Maryland and the other in Richmond, Virginia. The groups were held on the evenings of October 3 and 4, 1994. Each discussion lasted about two hours and a total of twenty-five citizens participated. Citizens were recruited by CSPA from a sample of random households in the Baltimore and Richmond areas provided by Metromail in Lincoln, Nebraska.

A strong effort was made by CSPA to recruit a mix of citizens to ensure a range of perspectives and views were heard. The demographic makeup of each group was designed to roughly mirror society in general. Thus, there was a mix of men and women, white, black or other minorities; income levels; ages; education levels; and employment status.

INTERVIEWS

Telephone interviews were conducted by CSPA staff members both before and after the poll was conducted. The before interviewees were administered a draft of the questionnaire and then asked to elaborate on their answers in greater depth. This supplied qualitative data as well as helped to shape individual questions and to test early drafts of the poll. Those citizens interviewed were selected randomly from households across the country pulled from the sample provided by Metromail. The after interviews were held with individuals who actually participated in the CSPA poll to probe deeper into their responses to specific questions. Respondents were chosen based on how they answered specific poll questions that were of interest to CSPA. A total of 23 interviews were conducted between October 1 and November 8, 1994. Interviews lasted between 15 and 50 minutes and were audiotaped.
REVIEW OF POLLS BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

A comprehensive review of publicly released polls on poverty-related issues was conducted, going back to the 1960s. The primary source was the Public Opinion Location Library (POLL) database of the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at the University of Connecticut.
APPENDIX C
QUESTIONNAIRE AND RESULTS

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling for the Center for the Study of Policy Attitudes. We are conducting a survey of Americans' opinions on a number of current issues. May I please speak with a member of your household who is 18 years of age or older and at home right now?

1. What is your feeling about how things are going with the economy in the US? Overall, would you say the economy:

   Is getting better 22%
   Is getting worse 34%
   Is staying about the same 42%
   (Don't know) 2%

2. Just based on your impression, would you say that the number of people living in poverty in the US is:

   Increasing 64%
   Decreasing 7%
   Staying about the same 26%
   (Don't know) 3%

3. How concerned are you about poverty in the United States today? Would you say that you are:

   Very concerned 49%
   Somewhat concerned 37%
   Just a little concerned 11%
   Not at all concerned 3%
   (Don't know) 1%

Statement:
As you know, there are different points of view on whether the government or society as a whole should be involved in alleviating poverty. Here are some arguments that have been presented on this question. For each one please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following arguments.

(Questions 4-13 were randomly presented with half the sample hearing each question)

4. In a country as wealthy as the US, society has a moral obligation to try to alleviate the poverty in our midst.

   Strongly agree 48%
   Somewhat agree 36%
   Somewhat disagree 8%
   Strongly disagree 6%
   (Don't know/refused) 3%

5. Trying to reduce poverty is a good economic investment. In the long run it saves money by reducing the costs of social services and, by putting more people to work, it results in a more productive economy.

   Strongly agree 59%
   Somewhat agree 33%
   Somewhat disagree 5%
   Strongly disagree 2%
   (Don't know/refused) 1%

6. Reducing poverty will help reduce racial tension and crime.

   Strongly agree 44%
   Somewhat agree 29%
   Somewhat disagree 12%
   Strongly disagree 14%
   (Don't know/refused) 2%

7. Efforts to reduce poverty help create more equal opportunities for people and offset some of the unfairness in the American economy.

   Strongly agree 23%
   Somewhat agree 45%
   Somewhat disagree 15%
   Strongly disagree 13%
   (Don't know/refused) 6%


   Strongly agree 48%
   Somewhat agree 27%
   Somewhat disagree 16%
   Strongly disagree 7%
   (Don't know/refused) 2%

9. Poverty is a result of the culture that poor people are stuck in, and there is nothing that the government can do to change that.

   Strongly agree 8%
   Somewhat agree 11%
   Somewhat disagree 30%
   Strongly disagree 49%
   (Don't know/refused) 3%
10. Antipoverty programs are very expensive and given the economic pressures most people are under we cannot really afford them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>5%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

11. Programs to reduce poverty, while well-intentioned, make people dependent. They take away people's initiative, degrade them and ultimately end up making the problem of poverty worse.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12. So, now stepping back from these various arguments, let me ask you: Do you think SOCIETY has a responsibility to try to do away with poverty in this country?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't Know/Refused)</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. So, now stepping back from these various arguments, let me ask you: Does the GOVERNMENT have a responsibility to try to do away with poverty in this country?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't Know/Refused)</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement:
Now I would like to know what institutions or groups you have the most confidence can be effective in dealing with poverty.

(Questions 14-20 were randomly presented with two-thirds of the sample hearing each question)

14. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of the FEDERAL GOVERNMENT to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some confidence</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of the STATE GOVERNMENT to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some confidence</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little confidence</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No confidence</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

16. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some confidence</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little confidence</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No confidence</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of CHURCHES to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Some confidence</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little confidence</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No confidence</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of CHARITIES to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some confidence</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A little confidence</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No confidence</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

19. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS to deal effectively with poverty?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence Level</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A lot of confidence</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20. Do you have a lot of confidence, some confidence, a little confidence, or no confidence in the ability of ORGANIZATIONS OF POOR PEOPLE WORKING IN THEIR COMMUNITY to deal effectively with poverty?

- A lot of confidence: 32%
- Some confidence: 42%
- A little confidence: 17%
- No confidence: 4%
- (Don't know/refused): 5%

(Questions 21 and 22 asked of 1/2 sample)

21. Some people have suggested that rather than have the government run anti-poverty programs, whenever possible, the government should pay private companies to run them. Do you favor or oppose this idea?

- Favor: 48%
- Oppose: 43%
- (Don't know/refused): 9%

22. There is some controversy about whether business has a responsibility to try to help with the problem of poverty. Please tell me which argument is closer to what you believe.

(Order reversed for half sample)

A. Businesses benefit from communities that provide them workers as well as customers. Therefore businesses have a moral responsibility to give something back to the community by making efforts to try to help the poor.

- Statement A: 64%
- Statement B: 30%
- (Don't know/refused): 6%

23. I am now going to ask you about the government initiative called "The War on Poverty". Are you aware that in the 1960s the US government, under President Lyndon Johnson, started a series of programs called the "War on Poverty"?

- Yes, aware of WOP: 57%
- No, not aware of WOP: 42%
- (Don't Know/refused): 1%

(Questions 24-27 asked only of the 57% who said they were aware of WOP in Q 23)

24. Just based on what you know, what is your impression of the effect that the War on Poverty had on the levels of poverty in this country? Would you say that the War on Poverty cut poverty, increased poverty, or had no effect on poverty in this country?

- WOP cut poverty a lot: 4%
- WOP cut poverty somewhat: 12%
- WOP cut poverty a little: 10%
- WOP increased poverty a lot: 13%
- WOP increased poverty somewhat: 9%
- WOP increased poverty a little: 3%
- WOP had no effect on poverty: 44%
- (Don't know/Refused): 6%

25. Overall, would you say your feelings about the War on Poverty are positive or negative? (Would that be very or somewhat?)

- Very positive: 10%
- Somewhat positive: 29%
- Somewhat negative: 32%
- Very negative: 23%
- (Don't know/Refused): 7%

(Asked of those who answered "negative" in Q25)

26. What is the main reason you have this negative feeling about the War on Poverty?

- It did not succeed in reducing poverty: 45%
- Put lots of people on welfare, made them dependent: 22%
- Created a big government bureaucracy: 14%
- Other reason: 7%
- (Don't know/Refused): 5%
- War on Poverty never went far enough: 4%
People don't want to work -- 1%
they should help themselves

It wasn't the government's 1%
responsibility

(Asked of those who answered "positive" in Q 25)
27. What is the main reason you have this positive feeling about the War on Poverty?

Helped reduce poverty in general 29%
Helped some specific groups of 22%
person

One or more specific program was 13%
good e.g., Head Start, Medicaid

It was a positive expression of 16%
concern for poverty

What reduces poverty is also 1%
good for the economy

Other reason 8%

(Don't know/Refused) 11%

(Questions 28-32 asked of 2/3 sample)
28. When you think about the funds that go into government programs for the poor, just based on your impression, what percentage of these funds are spent to run the bureaucracies and never reach those seeking benefits?

Don't know 83
Average 53%

29. Now of this (amount stated in Q28, how much do you think is probably unnecessary and wasted?

Don't know 55
Average 44%

30. Now, of the amount that is NOT spent to run the bureaucracies and DOES go to services for the poor, what percent do you imagine goes to people who lie about their needs and cheat the system?

Don't know 50
Average 35%

31. Some people argue that the government should have more administrative oversight to make sure that there is less cheating and that this would save money in the long run. Others argue that the government already has too much of this kind of bureaucracy, that it would cost too much money, and would probably not help very much. Would you most like to see:

More administrative oversight 33%
Less administrative oversight 41%
About the same amount of 22%
administrative oversight as we have now

(Don't Know/Refused) 4%

32. Now, coming back to the question of bureaucracy and poverty programs. If Congress passed a law, that says that administrative costs must be limited to 20 percent of the funds for such programs, would you support spending more, spending less or spending about the same as now on poverty programs?

Woud that be much (more/less) or somewhat (more/less)?

Much more 11%
Somewhat more 24%
Somewhat less 10%
Much less 8%
About the same 42%
(Don't know/Refused) 5%

Statement:
Okay, now I am going to ask you to think about a hypothetical person. Let's call this person Margaret. Margaret is a (black/white) 29-year-old woman with two young children. Her husband left her about six months ago and cannot be found. She works full-time in a small store where she makes (the minimum wage of $4.25/$6.00) per hour. Her children get medical coverage through Medicaid, but she does not. Together with the Earned Income Tax Credit she has an average monthly income of ($865/$1,119) per month. She gets ($289/$197) in food stamps and she pays ($336/$382) per month rent. This means that with the value of her food stamps she has ($872/$933) left to pay for food, full-time child care, herself health insurance and the rest of the expenses for her and her children.
(For Questions 33 and 34, Margaret was variously described as white and receiving $4.25 an hour, black and receiving $4.25 an hour, black and receiving $6.00 an hour, and white receiving $6.00 an hour for different quarters of the sample)

33. Do you regard someone like Margaret as poor? Would that be definitely or maybe?

**MARGARET\$4.25\White**
- Definitely yes: 57%
- Maybe yes: 24%
- Maybe no: 14%
- Definitely no: 5%
- (Don't know/Refused): 0%

**MARGARET\$4.25\Black**
- Definitely yes: 50%
- Maybe yes: 24%
- Maybe no: 14%
- Definitely no: 10%
- (Don't know/Refused): 2%

**MARGARET\$4.25\Combined**
- Definitely yes: 54%
- Maybe yes: 25%
- Maybe no: 14%
- Definitely no: 8%
- (Don't know/Refused): 1%

**MARGARET\$6.00\White**
- Definitely yes: 36%
- Maybe yes: 25%
- Maybe no: 23%
- Definitely no: 13%
- (Don't know/Refused): 3%

**MARGARET\$6.00\Black**
- Definitely yes: 44%
- Maybe yes: 21%
- Maybe no: 19%
- Definitely no: 15%
- (Don't know/Refused): 1%

**MARGARET\$6.00/Combined**
- Definitely yes: 41%
- Maybe yes: 24%
- Maybe no: 20%
- Definitely no: 14%
- (Don't know/Refused): 2%

34. Do you feel that the government benefits that someone like Margaret is getting are too much, too little or about right? Would that be definitely (too much/too little) or maybe (too much/too little)?

**MARGARET\$4.25\White**
- Definitely too much: 5%
- Maybe too much: 3%
- Maybe too little: 24%
- Definitely too little: 25%
- About right: 39%
- (Don't know/Refused): 4%

**MARGARET\$4.25\Black**
- Definitely too much: 5%
- Maybe too much: 5%
- Maybe too little: 23%
- Definitely too little: 26%
- About right: 37%
- (Don't know/Refused): 4%

**MARGARET\$4.25\Combined**
- Definitely too much: 5%
- Maybe too much: 4%
- Maybe too little: 24%
- Definitely too little: 25%
- About right: 38%
- (Don't know/Refused): 4%

**MARGARET\$6.00\White**
- Definitely too much: 4%
- Maybe too much: 3%
- Maybe too little: 25%
- Definitely too little: 23%
- About right: 42%
- (Don't know/Refused): 3%

**MARGARET\$6.00\Black**
- Definitely too much: 3%
- Maybe too much: 6%
- Maybe too little: 20%
- Definitely too little: 21%
- About right: 46%
- (Don't know/Refused): 4%

**MARGARET\$6.00/Combined**
- Definitely too much: 4%
- Maybe too much: 5%
- Maybe too little: 22%
- Definitely too little: 22%
- About right: 44%
- (Don't know/Refused): 3%
Statement:
I am going to ask about certain populations that receive aid from government poverty programs. Let's start with (population). I would like to know if you think the federal government should be spending more, spending less, or spending about the same as now for (population). (Would that be much (more/less) or somewhat (more/less)?) What about (next population)?

(Questions 35-39 were randomly presented)

35. Poor children.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the same</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/Refused)</td>
<td>4%</td>
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36. Poor working adults.

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<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the same</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/Refused)</td>
<td>5%</td>
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37. Poor adults who are disabled.

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<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the same</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/Refused)</td>
<td>6%</td>
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38. Poor mothers who are on welfare.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the same</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/Refused)</td>
<td>6%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About the same</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/Refused)</td>
<td>6%</td>
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</table>

Statement:
Now I would like to ask you about federal spending on poverty programs designed to help the poor. For each program I am going to also tell you how much of the average American's taxes go to support these programs. Depending on your income the amount YOU pay toward these programs may be higher or lower. (Description of program and spending level) Assuming that any change in spending would also affect your taxes, I would like to know if you would favor increasing spending, cutting spending or keeping spending about the same as now. Would you favor (cutting/increasing) a lot or somewhat?

(Questions 40-47 were randomly presented with approximately three-quarters of the sample hearing the questions. Question 48 was presented to the full sample with half hearing it first in this series and half hearing it last.)

40. Food Stamps, which supplements the money that the poor can spend on food. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $40 a year.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase a lot</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase somewhat</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut a lot</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut somewhat</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the same</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41. Medicaid, which provides health care for poor people. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $138 a year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase a lot</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase somewhat</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut a lot</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut somewhat</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the same</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Don't know/refused)</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

42. Subsidized housing, which provides affordable housing for some of the poor. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $36 a year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase a lot</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase somewhat</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut a lot</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cut somewhat</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the same</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
43. Aid to Families with Dependent Children, or AFDC, the federal welfare program which provides financial support primarily to unemployed poor single mothers with children. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $26 a year.

| Increase a lot | 9% |
| Increase somewhat | 20% |
| Cut a lot | 11% |
| Cut somewhat | 10% |
| Keep the same | 47% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 3% |

44. Earned Income Tax Credit, which supplements the earnings of those who work but are still below the poverty line. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $16 a year.

| Increase a lot | 11% |
| Increase somewhat | 32% |
| Cut a lot | 4% |
| Cut somewhat | 8% |
| Keep the same | 44% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 2% |

45. Head Start, which provides preschool education for about 40% of poor children. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $5 a year.

| Increase a lot | 36% |
| Increase somewhat | 27% |
| Cut a lot | 4% |
| Cut somewhat | 4% |
| Keep the same | 27% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 3% |

46. Job Corps which gives job training to some poor adolescents. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about $2 a year.

| Increase a lot | 37% |
| Increase somewhat | 31% |
| Cut a lot | 3% |
| Cut somewhat | 2% |
| Keep the same | 26% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 1% |

47. Vista, a program for volunteers to help in community-based projects that aid the poor. For this program the average taxpayer spends in federal taxes about six cents per year.

| Increase a lot | 31% |
| Increase somewhat | 24% |
| Cut a lot | 3% |
| Cut somewhat | 2% |
| Keep the same | 38% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 3% |

48. For federal spending on ALL PROGRAMS COMBINED for the poor the average taxpayer spends about $355. This includes Medicaid, Food Stamps, public housing, aid to the disabled poor, welfare, job training and other programs.

| Increase a lot | 9% |
| Increase somewhat | 23% |
| Cut a lot | 9% |
| Cut somewhat | 12% |
| Keep the same | 46% |
| (Don't know/refused) | 2% |

(Questions 49-50 asked of those who said "cut" or "keep the same" in Q 48)

49. Some people are opposed to spending money on poverty programs because they think poverty programs are a bad idea, others think poverty programs are a good idea but oppose spending because they think the government does a bad job of carrying them out. Do you feel that:

1. Poverty programs are a bad idea | 9% |
2. Poverty programs are a good idea but the government does a bad job of carrying them out | 84% |
3. (Neither) | 4% |
4. (Don't know) | 2% |

50. If you were more confident that the government was doing a good job carrying out poverty programs, would you favor:

| Spending more | 41% |
| Spending less | 14% |
| Spending about the same | 43% |
| (Don't know/Refused) | 2% |

(Questions 51-52 asked of 2/3 sample)

51. Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following: I am willing to spend more in taxes on programs to reduce poverty, provided that the focus is on job training and moving people into
productive work. (Would that be strongly or somewhat?)

Agree strongly 57%
Agree somewhat 26%
Disagree somewhat 6%
Disagree strongly 9%
(Don't Know/Refused) 2%

52. Each year the government sets what is called the federal poverty line. People below a certain income level are regarded as poor while those above that line are regarded as not poor. Right now for a family of four the poverty line is $14,763 a year. Thinking about how much it costs for a family of four to live in your area, do you think that this line should be:

Set higher 58%
Set lower 7%
Or kept about the same 32%
(Don't know) 3%

(Asked of those who said "higher" or "lower" in Q 52)

53. At what income level do you think the poverty line should be set for a family of four?

Mean= $19,400
Including those who said poverty level should be "kept the same" in Q 52 as $14,763:
Mean= $17,856

(Questions 54-58 asked of 2/3 sample)

54. Which statement comes closest to your point of view:

1. Wealthy Americans are clearly benefiting from the American economy and should pay more in taxes to help fund programs for the poor.

Pay more taxes 58%
Already paying more 34%
(Don't know) 9%

55. Some people have proposed that the federal government guarantee a job to every American who wants to work even if it means creating a lot of public jobs like during the Depression. Would you favor or oppose such a job guarantee plan? (Would that be strongly or somewhat?)

Strongly favor 41%
Somewhat favor 25%
Somewhat oppose 14%
Strongly oppose 19%
(Don't Know/Refused) 3%

56. At present, the minimum wage set by the federal government is $4.25 per hour which comes out to $8,500 a year for a full time worker. Do you think that the minimum wage is:

Too low 73%
Too high 2%
About right 25%

(Asked of those who said "too high" or "too low" in Q 56)

57. Keeping in mind that any increase would likely result in a slight increase in the costs of goods and services, what do you think the hourly minimum wage should be?

Mean $5.80
Don't know/Refused 6%

Including those who said poverty level should be "kept the same" in Q 56 as $4.25:
Mean $5.41

58. At present, the minimum wage is not indexed to inflation. Do you think that the minimum wage should be indexed so that it goes up the same rate as inflation?

Yes 76%
No 21%
(Don't know/Refused) 4%

59. As you may know, there is presently a debate about whether welfare recipients should have a limit of two years for the period they are on welfare. Do you favor:

1. Maintaining the present system which does not have a two year time limit 18%
2. Imposing a two year time limit 67%
3. Eliminating welfare entirely 10%
4. (Don't know/Refused) 5%

60. If the government sets a two year time limit, there is also presently a debate about whether
the government should be responsible for making a job available to those who reach the end of the two years and are still unable to find a job. These jobs might be public service jobs such as in parks, cleaning up the environment, or community service, or they might be private jobs where the government subsidizes a company to hire and train people. Do you think the government should or should not be responsible for making such jobs available to former welfare recipients?

Yes, government should 70%
No, government should not 27%
(Don't Know/Refused) 3%

(Asked of those who answered "maintain present system" in Q 59)

61. If the government were to guarantee jobs to welfare recipients who cannot find one after their two years on welfare, would you then favor the idea of time limits on welfare?

Yes, favor 60%
No, do not favor 33%
(Don't Know/Refused) 7%

(Asked of 1/2 sample)

62. Some people argue that to reduce the number of people on welfare and to make sure children are adequately cared for, the government should make sure jobs are available to all poor fathers and mothers with dependent children when the parents want a job but cannot find one. Others argue that such an idea would cost too much money. Do you favor or oppose this idea?

Yes, favor 60%
No, oppose 35%
(Don't Know/Refused) 5%

(Asked of those who answered "no" in Q 62)

63. What if such a jobs program was set up as a way to replace public assistance programs for able-bodied adults, such as welfare and food stamps. Would you then favor or oppose such a jobs program?

Yes, favor 63%
No, oppose 31%
(Don't Know/Refused) 7%

(Asked of 1/2 sample that was not asked Q62-63)

64. Some people argue that if the government offers jobs to former welfare recipients that the government should make sure jobs are available to anyone who needs a job, because this would be better than having people be unemployed or on welfare. Others argue that this would cost too much money. Do you favor or oppose the idea of having the government make sure jobs are available to anyone who needs a job but cannot find one?

Yes, favor 57%
No, oppose 39%
(Don't Know/Refused) 4%

(Asked of those who answered "no" in Q 64)

65. What if such a jobs program was set up as a way to replace public assistance programs for able-bodied adults, such as welfare and food stamps. Would you then favor or oppose such a jobs program?

Yes, favor 64%
No, oppose 29%
(Don't Know/Refused) 8%

(Questions 66-67 asked of separate 1/2 samples)

66. A new study from the US Census Bureau shows that in the US the gap between rich and poor is growing. Today the top earning 20% of the population now earns 13 times more the bottom 20%. How high a priority should it be for the government to try to narrow that gap?

A low priority 30%
A secondary priority 31%
A high priority 34%
(Don't know/Refused) 6%

67. A new study from the US Census bureau says that, despite the growing economy, the number of Americans living under the poverty line is increasing and now stands at 15.1%. How high a priority should it be for the government to try to reduce the number of people living in poverty?

A low priority 13%
A secondary priority 31%
A high priority 51%
(Don't know/refused) 5%

(Questions 68-75 asked of two thirds of sample, except Questions 69-71 which were each asked of separate thirds of this sample.)

68. Now I am going to ask you a series of factual questions. You may not know the answer to the
question, but I would like to know your impression or your best guess. So just based on your impressions what percentage of poor adults in America do not work?

Mean estimate 32%
Don't know 13%

69. What percentage of the poor people in America are black?

Mean estimate 43%
Don't know 9%

70. What percentage of the poor people in America are white?

Mean estimate 37%
Don't know 13%

71. What percentage of the poor people in America are Hispanic?

Mean estimate 26%
Don't know 22%

72. What percentage of the US government's budget is devoted to programs aimed at assisting poor people?

Mean estimate 17%
Don't know 24%

73. Do most poor people live in cities or outside of cities?

In cities 81%
Outside of cities 13%
(Don't know/refused) 6%

74. Approximately how much do you imagine an average family with a single mother and two children on AFDC receives each month?

Mean estimate $684.80
Median estimate $624.50
Don't know 20%

75. As compared to other industrialized countries such as the Western European countries or Japan, is it your impression that:

1. Poverty is worse in the US 40%
2. Poverty is worse in most other industrialized countries 34%
3. Poverty in the US is about the same as in other industrialized countries 5%
4. (Don't Know/refused) 5%

76. Just based on your impressions, is your hunch that the average American is more supportive or less supportive of spending money on poverty-related programs than you are?

More supportive 20%
Less supportive 51%
About the same 24%
(Don't Know/Refused) 6%

(Asked of 2/3 sample)

77. Have you had a conversation with a poor person, other than a panhandler in the last week?

Yes 49%
No 50%
(Don't Know/Refused) 1%

(Asked of those who said “no” or “don’t know” in Q77)

78. What about in the last three months?

Yes 42%
No 54%
(Don't Know/Refused) 4%

Statement:
In closing, I would like to ask a few questions about you. This is for statistical analysis only.

79. What is your age?

18 To 25 12%
26 To 35 22%
36 To 45 26%
46 To 55 16%
56 To 65 9%
Over 65 14%
(Refused) 1%

80. Are you a registered voter?

Yes 84%
No 16%
(Don't Know/Refused) 1%
81. In politics today, do you think of yourself as:

- Strongly Republican: 17%
- Leaning Towards Republican: 13%
- Strongly Democrat: 18%
- Leaning Towards Democrat: 13%
- Independent: 29%
- Other: 5%
- (Don't Know/Refused): 4%

82. Do you think of yourself as:

- Leaning Toward Liberal: 14%
- Strongly Liberal: 6%
- Leaning Toward Conservative: 18%
- Strongly Conservative: 17%
- Neither or Middle of the Road: 42%
- (Don't Know/Refused): 3%

83. What is the highest level of education that you have had:

- Some High School: 11%
- High School Graduate: 24%
- Some College: 31%
- 4 Year College Degree: 20%
- Advanced Degree (Master's Plus): 14%
- (Refused): 1%

84. What is your ethnic affiliation?

- White/Caucasian: 80%
- Black/African American: 12%
- Asian American: 1%
- Hispanic/Mexican American: 4%
- Native American: 1%
- Other: 1%
- (Refused): 2%

85. How many members are there in your household?

- 1: 20%
- 2: 27%
- 3: 18%
- 4: 20%
- 5: 10%
- More than 5: 5%
- (Refused): 1%

86. Here is a range of household incomes. Just stop me when I read the correct category for your household.

- Under $10,000: 13%
- $10,000 - $15,000: 9%
- $15,000 - $20,000: 9%
- $20,000 - $30,000: 17%
- $30,000 - $40,000: 15%
- $40,000 - $50,000: 11%
- $50,000 - $75,000: 12%
- $75,000 - $100,000: 5%
- More Than $100,000: 3%
- (Refused): 7%

87. Last question, if we were to contact you as a follow-up to this survey, for the purpose of elaborating on some of your answers, would you be willing to participate?

- Yes: 82%
- No: 17%
- (Refused): 1%

88. (Note sex of respondent)

- Male: 46%
- Female: 55%