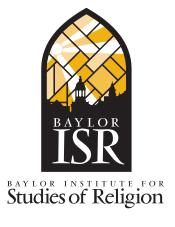


New Insights to the Depth and Complexity of Religion in the US

Selected Findings from The Baylor Religion Survey

September 2006







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American Piety in the 21st Century:

New Insights to the Depth and Complexity of Religion in the US



Selected Findings from The Baylor Religion Survey

September 2006

A Research Project funded by the John M. Templeton Foundation

Conducted by

The Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion and

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American Piety in the 21st Century: New Insights to the Depth and Complexity of Religion in the US

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INTRODUCTION

Some European observers dismiss American religiosity as "a mile wide and an inch deep." For example, the late Oxford sociologist Bryan Wilson claimed that "everyone" recognizes the "superficiality of much religious commitment in American society," contrasting this with the complexity of worship in British churches, albeit among a much smaller clientele. To support such views, Wilson and others point to survey findings that appear to suggest a monolithic, uncritical American religion. For example, 85-90% of Americans routinely respond "yes" when asked "Do you, personally, believe in God?" Eighty-two percent of Americans are Christians (Catholics or Protestants). Nearly three fourths of Americans (71.5%) pray at least once a week and almost half (49.2%) attend church at least once a month. To the uncritical eye such findings might suggest that not only are Americans religious, but they are all religious in the same way.

American religion merely *appears* to be uniform due to the nature of surveys on the topic. Most survey studies that include questions about religion only have space to ask about basic religious indicators such as church attendance and belief in God. This is understandable, as most surveys are focused on other topics such as crime or politics and space is at a premium. However, since Americans agree on basic religion indicators, American religion seems monolithic. In fact, under the surface American religion is startlingly complex and diverse. Americans may agree that God exists. They do not agree about what God is like, what God wants for the world, or how God feels about politics. Most Americans pray. They differ widely on to whom they pray, what they pray about, and whether or not they say grace. A vast majority of Americans are Christians, but attitudes amongst those Christians regarding the salvation of

-

¹ 88.4% of respondents to the 1998 GSS reported belief in God; 2000 GSS=84.7%; 2004 GSS=88.8%.

² Findings from the Baylor Religion Survey.

others, the role of religion in government, the reality of the paranormal, and their consumption of media are surprisingly diverse.

The Survey

The Baylor Religion Survey is a new project focused upon improving our understanding of American religion. It is the most extensive and sensitive study of religion ever conducted, linking up with the pioneering surveys conducted by Rodney Stark and Charles Y. Glock in the 1960s. With the Baylor Religion Survey we can dig deeper into American religious attitudes, behaviors and beliefs than previously possible.

After several years devoted to development and pretesting by faculty at Baylor, the Baylor Religion Survey was fielded during the winter of 2005 and the data were made available for analysis in the spring of 2006. The field work was accomplished by the Gallup Organization. It plumbs all facets of American religion and spirituality in depth – nearly 400 items cover such matters as religious beliefs and practices, including religious consumerism, as well as nonstandard beliefs (astrology, "Bigfoot," alien visitors, etc.) and practices (meditation, New Age therapies, etc).

The Baylor Religion Survey is a nationally representative survey of 1,721 respondents. The survey utilized a mixed-mode sampling design (telephone and self-administered mailed surveys) and demographic measures as well as key religion indicators yields results that look very similar to those produced by other national surveys (e.g., the General Social Survey). The Baylor Religion Survey is merely the first wave of a rich and rewarding new era of religious survey research. Additional waves of the Baylor Religion Survey, with rotating topical modules, will take place every other year.

The hundreds of in-depth religion questions included on the Baylor Religion Survey will produce many findings over the next several years. Indeed, over two dozen different articles and

studies are already in progress. The remainder of this volume provides some key initial findings related to the measurement of religion, the nature of religious belief, the relationship between religion and moral and political attitudes, and religious spending habits.

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Rethinking the American Religious Landscape

Are Americans losing their religion? Prior national studies with questions on religion, such as the General Social Survey and National Election Study, show an increase in the percent of the population with no religion over the past quarter century. For example, the 1988 General Social Survey reports that eight percent of the population have no religion. By 2004, the percentage had risen to 14.3%. This growth in "religious nones" is often used by academics and the press to indicate growing secularization in the United States. But are Americans really that detached from organized religion?

Most surveys determine the religious affiliation of respondents by asking them to select their religious family or denomination from a list. This has become increasingly problematic over the years as more and more Americans are losing a strong denominational identity. The rising number of non-denominational congregations as well as congregations that minimize their denominational ties compound the problem. The declining importance of denomination, however, does not mean that religion itself is on the wane. Rather, Americans may simply be more likely to connect with religion at the local level. Consider the case of popular Southern California megachurch, Saddleback Church. Do the people who attend Saddleback realize that they are denominationally Southern Baptist? They know that they attend Saddleback with Pastor Rick Warren, but they may not know of the ties to the Southern Baptist denomination.

To detect religious affiliation today, it is time to look beyond denomination. In addition to presenting respondents with a standard list of denominations, the Baylor Religion Survey asks respondents to give the name and address of their place of worship. Combining these three measures of religious belonging enables us to more thoroughly and accurately sort persons into broader religious traditions. As Figure 1 demonstrates, this more accurate method of

determining religious preference reveals that the unaffiliated are currently at 10.8% of the population, as opposed to the 14% percent claimed by other surveys. This three to four percent difference is significant. Based on the current population, it means that researchers have previously over-counted the religiously unaffiliated by 10 million Americans, and may have overlooked as many or more Americans who are actually affiliated with Evangelical congregations and denominations.

- Barely one in ten Americans (10.8%) is NOT affiliated with a congregation, denomination, or other religious group (see Figure 1).
- Fewer than five percent of the U.S. population claim a faith outside of the Judeo-Christian mainstream (see Figure 1).
- Fully a third of Americans (33.6%), roughly 100 million people, are Evangelical Protestant by affiliation (see Figure 1).

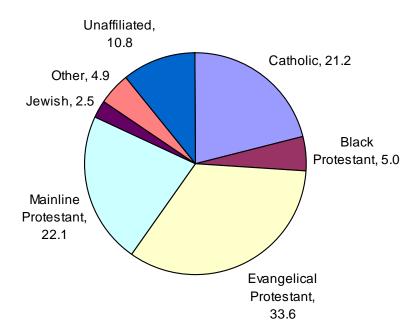


Figure 1: U.S. Religious Affiliation

Note: N=1687; 34 individuals did not provide sufficient information to be classified into a religious tradition.

Religious traditions represent historic theological groupings. It is the beliefs and culture of the religious group that determines how individuals are categorized. The descriptions to follow represent some of these religious traditions.

<u>Black Protestant:</u> A strand of American Protestantism borne out of and specifically linked to the African American experience in the United States. Prominent denominations are African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, Christian Methodist Episcopal, Church of God in Christ, and National Baptist Convention of USA.

<u>Evangelical Protestant:</u> Protestant groups that emphasize the authority of the Bible, salvation through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, personal piety, and the need to share the "Good News" of Jesus Christ with others (i.e., to evangelize). A long list of theologically conservative denominations define this tradition, such as Anabaptist, Assemblies of God, Bible Church, Brethren, Christian Church, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Christian Reformed, Church of Christ, Church of God, Church of the Nazarene, Free Methodist, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Mennonite, Pentecostal, Presbyterian Church in America, Seventh-day Adventist, and Southern Baptist.

<u>Mainline Protestant:</u> Historic Protestant denominations that are more accommodating of mainstream culture, including American Baptist, Congregational, Disciples of Christ, Episcopal/Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Presbyterian Church USA, Quaker, Reformed Church of America, United Methodist, and United Church of Christ.

<u>Catholic:</u> The form of Western Christianity promoted by Roman Catholic and National Catholic churches stressing papal authority and apostolic succession.

<u>Jewish:</u> Religious organizations tied to one of the three major branches of Judaism (Conservative, Orthodox, or Reform).

Other: A collection of non-Christian and smaller Christian groups that do not fit in any other category. Representative groups include Buddhist, Christian Science, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon), Hindu, Jehovah's Witnesses, Muslim, Orthodox (Eastern, Russian, Greek), and Unitarian Universalist.

<u>Unaffiliated:</u> Persons without a religious preference, denomination, or place of worship.

Demographic Patterns

Table 1 provides a breakdown of religious traditions by standard demographic indicators.

• Persons aged 18-30 are three times more likely to have no religious affiliation (18.6%) than are persons aged 65 or older (5.4%) (see Table 1).

- The Eastern United States is the only region of the country where Protestants account for less than half (44.1%) of the population. Catholics are the best represented religious tradition in this region; claiming 35.1% of the population (see Table 1).
- The West has the highest percentages of religiously unaffiliated people (17.6%) and people in other religious traditions (10.3%) of any U.S. region (see Table 1).

Table 1: Religious Affiliation by Demographic Characteristics

Religious Affiliation	Black Protestant	Evangelical Protestant	Mainline Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Other	Unaffiliated
Total Sample *	5.0%	33.6%	22.1%	21.2%	2.5%	4.9%	10.8%
<u>Gender</u>							
Male	2.8%	30.0%	22.1%	23.8%	2.5%	6.0%	12.8%
Female	6.9%	36.7%	22.1%	18.9%	2.4%	3.9%	9.0%
Race							
White	0.0%	35.4%	24.1%	22.8%	2.6%	4.3%	10.8%
African American	62.5%	9.5%	7.7%	5.0%	3.7%	6.0%	5.7%
Age							
18-30	3.8%	39.0%	20.1%	10.1%	2.7%	5.7%	18.6%
31-44	5.4%	34.9%	17.6%	23.0%	1.9%	5.8%	11.4%
45-64	3.9%	31.3%	22.5%	23.7%	2.7%	4.8%	11.1%
65+	7.3%	33.1%	28.1%	19.9%	2.9%	3.5%	5.4%
Education							
High School or less	5.0%	45.4%	18.0%	22.0%	2.3%	2.1%	5.2%
College or more	3.0%	23.5%	29.0%	21.4%	3.6%	6.7%	12.8%
Household Income							
\$35,000 or less	9.9%	39.3%	20.3%	15.2%	2.2%	3.1%	9.9%
More than \$100,000	0.0%	26.9%	22.0%	27.7%	5.1%	7.7%	10.7%
Region							
East	5.0%	13.1%	26.0%	35.1%	4.7%	4.6%	11.6%
South	7.2%	50.3%	19.3%	11.5%	1.9%	2.7%	7.1%
Midwest	5.6%	33.7%	26.0%	22.1%	1.4%	3.0%	8.3%
West	1.3%	31.7%	17.7%	19.2%	2.2%	10.3%	17.6%

^{*} Numbers are rounded to one decimal place in all tables in this document. For example, 41.18 would be rounded up to 41.2 and 31.02 would be rounded down to 31.0. The cumulative effect of such rounding occasionally results in column or row totals slightly smaller (e.g. 99.9) or larger (e.g. 100.1) than 100%.

Note: Differences in percentages across religious groups are significant for all demographic characteristics. Sample interpretation: Five percent of people in the Eastern United States are affiliated with Black Protestantism.

Unaffiliated But Not Unbelieving

What makes someone religious? Is it a set of beliefs? Is it participation in specific rituals? Is it membership in a religious group? The Baylor Religion Survey contains questions on all these aspects of faith. Examining religious beliefs and practices reveals that for the 10.8% of Americans unaffiliated with organized religion (see Rethinking the American Religious *Landscape*) some traditional forms of faith persist.

- The majority of Americans not affiliated with a religious tradition (62.9%) believe in God or some higher power (see Figure 2).
- Almost a third of those unaffiliated with organized religion (31.6%) pray at least occasionally (see Figure 3).
- Religiously unaffiliated people are unlikely to attend church. Nine out of ten report never attending religious services (see Figure 4).
- At least one in 10 religiously unaffiliated Americans has no doubt in the existence of God (11.6%), believes Jesus is the son of God (11.0%), and prays daily or more (10.1%) (seeTable 2).
- The highest and most consistent levels of belief and practice are found within Black Protestant and Evangelical Protestant religious groups (see Table 2).

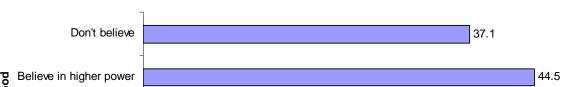


Figure 2: Beliefs about God Among Those Unaffiliated with a Religious Tradition

3eliefs about God Sometimes believe 2.1 Believe with doubts 4.8 Believe, no doubts 11.6

15

20

25

Percent of Unaffiliated Americans

30

35

40

45

50

0

5

10

Figure 3: Frequency of Prayer Among Those Unaffiliated with a Religious Tradition

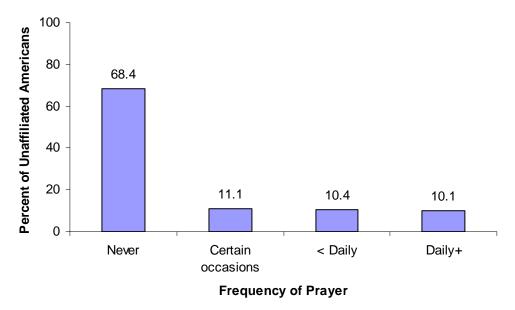


Figure 4: Frequency of Religious Service Attendance Among Those Unaffiliated with a Religious Tradition

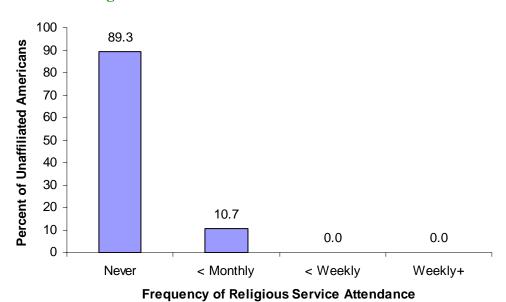


Table 2: Religious Beliefs and Practices by Religious Tradition

Religious Affiliation	Black Protestant	Evangelical Protestant	Mainline Protestant	Catholic	Jewish	Unaffiliated
Belief about God						
No doubts that God exists	100.0%	86.5%	63.6%	74.8%	42.9%	11.6%
Don't believe in anything beyond the physical world	0.0%	0.4%	0.7%	1.1%	7.2%	37.1%
Belief about Jesus						
Jesus is the son of God	95.1%	94.4%	72.2%	84.9%	9.6%	11.0%
Jesus is a fictional character	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.2%	2.3%	13.7%
Belief about Bible						
Literally true	40.6%	47.8%	11.2%	11.8%	8.9%	1.0%
Ancient book of history and legends	1.5%	6.5%	22.0%	19.8%	52.6%	82.3%
Pray						
Once a day or more	74.1%	67.1%	44.1%	46.1%	32.8%	10.1%
Never	3.7%	3.6%	11.6%	6.9%	16.6%	68.4%
Read Scripture						
Weekly or more	54.4%	42.1%	16.0%	7.1%	1.4%	1.5%
Never	3.7%	9.3%	21.9%	33.1%	27.0%	67.3%
Attend Religious Services						
Weekly or more	43.1%	45.2%	24.3%	32.8%	7.3%	0.0%
Never	10.6%	11.8%	13.5%	9.3%	28.9%	89.3%
		L				L

Note: Differences in percentages for all beliefs and practices are significant across religious traditions. Sample interpretation: Three-fourths of Catholics (74.8%) have no doubt that God exists.

By Any Other Name: Religious Labels in America

Sorting people by where they attend worship is one way to create religious groups. Another way is to ask people to sort themselves. We give respondents this option. From a list of 14 religious terms, we ask respondents to select the terms which describe their religious identity and which label is the best description. It turns out that there is a clear disconnect between how the media and academics identify American believers and how they identity themselves.

- Nearly half of Americans (47.2%) identify themselves as "Bible-believing" (see Table 3).
- Only 15 percent of the population use the term "Evangelical" to describe their religious identity and barely two in 100 Americans say it is the best description (see Table 3).
- Just a third of persons in Evangelical Protestant congregations and denominations (32.6%) refer to themselves as "Evangelical" (see Table 4).
- Persons with household incomes of more than \$100,000 a year are twice as likely to describe themselves as "Theologically Liberal" than are persons with household incomes of \$35,000 or less a year (Table 4).
- "Born Again" is the favored religious label for those with ties to Black Protestant and Evangelical Protestant religious groups, while "Mainline Christian" is the term of preference for Mainline Protestants and Catholics (see Figures 5B and 5D).
- More people in Mainline Protestant denominations describe themselves best as "Evangelical" than do persons affiliated with Evangelical Protestant denominations (see Figure 5C).

Table 3: Percent of Population Identifying with Selected Religious Labels

	Percent Identifying with Label ^a	Percent Indicating Label as <u>Best Description</u> of Their Religious Identity
Religious Identity Labels		
Bible-Believing	47.2%	20.5%
Born Again	28.5%	18.6%
Mainline Christian	26.1%	12.9%
Theologically Conservative	17.6%	5.3%
Evangelical	14.9%	2.2%
Theologically Liberal	13.8%	9.1%
Moral Majority	10.3%	1.7%
Seeker	8.5%	3.9%
Religious Right	8.3%	1.2%
Fundamentalist	7.7%	1.0%
Charismatic	7.3%	0.3%
Pentecostal	5.8%	1.7%
None of these		21.8%

^a Respondents answered Yes/No to each label. Categories were not mutually exclusive, therefore, reported percentages do not add to 100.

Table 4: Religious Identity Labels by Religious and Demographic Characteristics

Do the following terms describe your religious identity?	Bible Believing	Born Again	Theologically Conservative	Evangelical	Mainline Christian	Theologically Liberal
Total Sample	47.2%	28.5%	17.6%	14.9%	26.1%	13.8%
Religious Tradition						
Black Protestant	69.5%	57.3%	7.3%	16.0%	14.8%	7.3%
Evangelical Protestant	68.6%	62.4%	27.3%	32.6%	23.1%	5.6%
Mainline Protestant	48.1%	16.8%	14.5%	12.3%	44.3%	20.5%
Catholic	38.4%	4.7%	21.0%	2.8%	34.9%	13.9%
Gender						
Male	41.7%	23.6%	21.1%	12.1%	28.1%	14.7%
Female	52.0%	32.8%	14.6%	17.3%	24.4%	13.0%+
Race						
White	45.7%	27.2%	18.5%+	15.3%+	27.5%	13.8%
African American	63.0%	43.9%	11.0%+	13.7%+	17.4%	12.6%+
Education						
High School or less	54.9%	33.7%	13.4%	11.8%	19.5%	6.1%
College or more	41.5%	22.9%	20.6%	15.2%+	31.0%	22.2%
Household Income						
\$35,000 or less	49.9%	34.4%	12.4%	12.9%	20.6%	9.4%
More than \$100,000	37.8%	20.5%	22.9%	14.1%	32.6%	21.7%
Region						
East	36.4%	14.5%	13.1%	8.5%	27.3%	16.3%
South	52.8%	43.9%	20.7%	19.2%	24.8%	11.5%
Midwest	54.2%	28.3%	19.2%	17.3%	30.0%+	13.5%+
West	42.9%	22.0%	16.5%	12.8%	22.6%+	14.9%

Note: Differences in percentages are significant for all demographic characteristics, except where noted by plussign (+). Sample interpretation: Half of persons with a household income of \$35,000 or less (49.9%) report "Biblebelieving" as a term that describes their religious identity.

Figures 5A-D: Label Best Describing Religious Identity Among Those Affiliated with Major Christian Traditions

Figure 5A

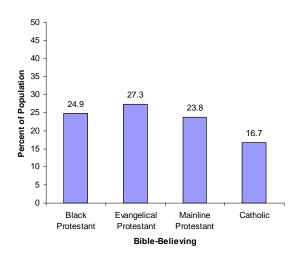


Figure 5B

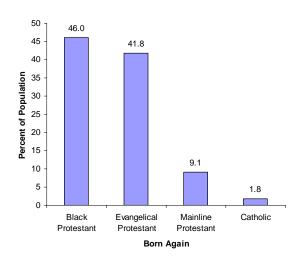


Figure 5C

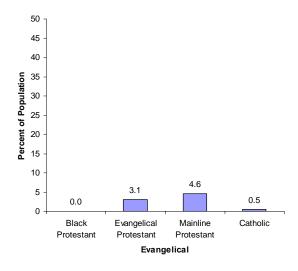
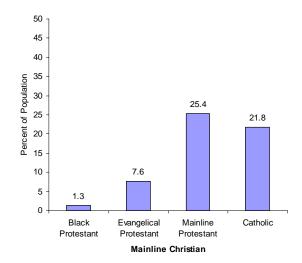


Figure 5D



The Religious Marketplace

The Baylor Religion Survey includes a topical module on the consumption of religious goods. Respondents were asked how much they spend on religious goods, the type of religious goods they purchase, which religiously themed television shows and movies they have seen, and which popular, religiously based books they have read.

- Approximately one-fifth of the U.S. population have read a book in the *Left-Behind* series (19.0%) and/or the *Purpose-Driven Life* by Rick Warren (19.0%). More than a quarter (28.5%) have read *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown (see Figure 6).
- The most widely seen television show or movie related to religion was *Touched By an Angel*, seen by more than half (56.9%) of respondents. Slightly less than half of Americans (44.3%) have seen *Passion of the Christ* (see Figure 7)
- Of those who spend more than \$50 a month on religious products, more than half (54.0%) are Evangelical Christians (See Figure 8).
- African Americans are more likely to have seen the *Passion of the Christ* (52.6%) than whites (42.9%) (see Table 5).

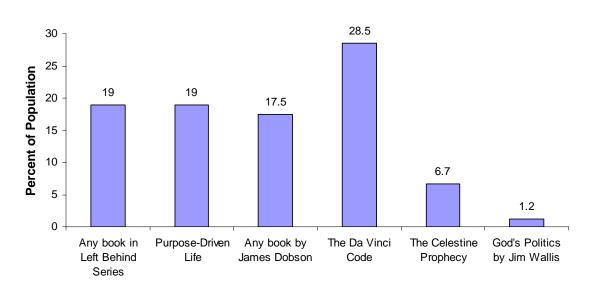
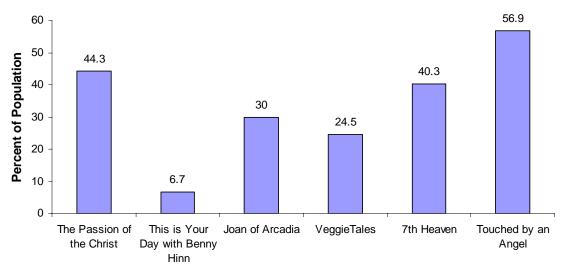


Figure 6: Consumption of Books Related to Religion in the United States

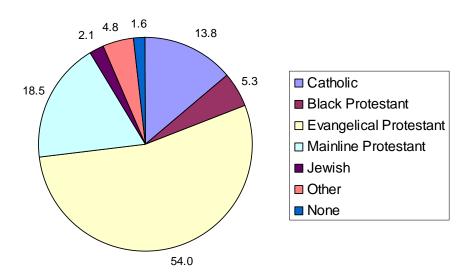
Books Related to Religion

Figure 7: Consumption of Movies and Television Shows Related to Religion



Movies and Television Shows

Figure 8: Religious Tradition of Those Spending More than \$50 a Month on Religious Products



Sample interpretation: Of those who spend more than \$50 a month on religious products, 18.5% are mainline Protestants.

Table 5: Percent of Population that Have Read or Seen Selected Religiously Themed Movies and Books by Selected Demographics

	The Passion of the Christ	Left Behind Series	Purpose- Driven Life	The Da Vinci Code	Dianetics
Total Sample	44.3%	19.0%	19.0%	28.5%	4.6%
Gender Male	41.6%	13.6%	11.5%	27.3%+	4.9%+
Female	46.7%	23.7%	25.6%	29.7%	4.3%
Race White	42.9%	19.3%	18.8%	29.4%	4.0%
African American	52.6%	15.6%	24.4%	14.1%	5.2%
Marital Status Never Married	41.6%	16.0%	13.3%	30.2%	3.4%+
Currently Married	45.8%	21.6%	22.1%	29.3%	3.9%
Education High School or less	51.2%	16.9%+	11.8%	13.5%	4.7%+
College or more	42.1%	19.9%	21.4%	34.1%	4.4%
Household Income < \$35,000	47.1%+	18.6%	16.8%	20.3%	4.4%+
> \$100,000	44.5%	24.6%	23.6%	45.9%	5.7%
Age 18-30	54.9%	25.8%	20.8%	32.4%+	0.0%
31-44	47.5%	21.9%	20.9%	28.2%	4.8%
45-64	43.1%	18.8%	18.8%	30.3%	6.9%
65+	36.9%	11.7%	16.1%	23.9%	3.3%

Note: Percentage differences are significant unless noted by a + symbol. For example, males and females significantly differ in their likelihood of viewing the Passion of the Christ, but not in their likelihood of having read The Da Vinci Code. Sample interpretation: Approximately 42 percent (41.6) of male respondents have seen The Passion of the Christ.

The Da Vinci Code and Religion

The potential impact on traditional religion was a popular topic of conversation and media coverage as *The Da Vinci Code* increased in popularity. Would the book, with its conspiratorial view of Christian history have a detrimental effect on churches? The Baylor Religion Survey finds little evidence for such an effect.

- As church attendance increases, the likelihood of having read *The Da Vinci Code* significantly decreases (see Figure 9).
- Those in non-Judeo-Christian religious groups were the most likely to have read *The Da Vinci Code* (53.0%). Black Protestants (7.1%) and Evangelical Protestants (16.0%) were the least likely to have read the book (see Figure 10).
- People who read *The Da Vinci Code* show a tendency to believe in paranormal. Using the paranormal beliefs scale (See *Paranormal America*), we find that *Da Vinci Code* readers express significantly greater belief in paranormal phenomena than non-readers (see Figure 11).

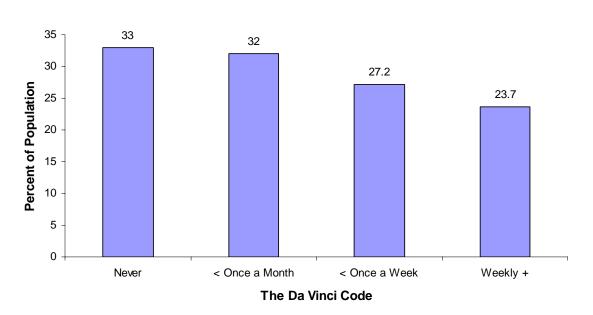


Figure 9: Reading of *The Da Vinci* Code by Church Attendance

Figure 10: Reading of The Da Vinci Code by Religious Tradition

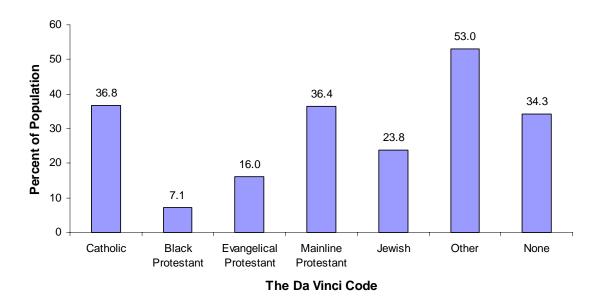
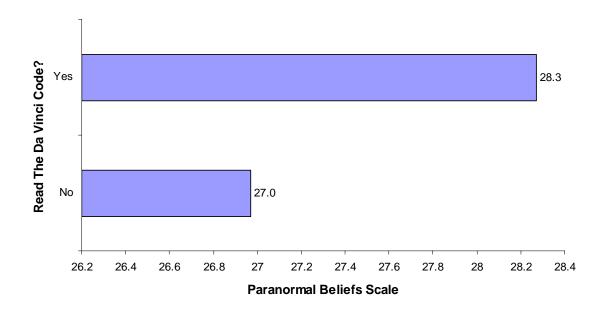


Figure 11: Scores on Paranormal Beliefs Scale by Reading of The Da Vinci Code



Religion and Politics

What is it about religion that most influences political opinions? We find that broad religious categories alone tend to mask the political import of religion.

- Only Evangelical Protestants show a consistency in political opinions. They agree with conservative agenda items and disagree with liberal items. Being Mainline Protestant tells us nothing about someone's political views on these ten items (see Table 6).
- Biblical literalism and religious service attendance are better predictors of political opinions than are Mainline Protestant or Catholic religious traditions (see Table 6).

Table 6: Correlations of Religious Indicators and Political Opinions

	Biblical Literalism	Religious Attendance	Evangelical Protestant	Mainline Protestant	Catholic
Should the Government?					
Conservative Agenda Items					
Spend more on the military	.317*	.176*	.187*	005	.027
Advocate Christian values	.508*	.450*	.349*	046	040
Punish criminals more harshly	.293*	.115*	.228*	041	.044
Fund faith-based organizations	.461*	.304*	.239*	048	037
Allow prayer in schools	.590*	.404*	.307*	035	.046
Liberal Agenda Items					
Abolish the death penalty	137*	.010	187*	-0.15	007
Distribute wealth more evenly	086*	130*	110*	037	032
Regulate business more closely	103*	056*	079*	020	005
Protect the environment more	200*	174*	139*	.012	053*
Promote affirmative action	003	008	093*	.014	089*

Note: All political attitude items are scored on a 5-point scale, where 1=strongly disagree and 5=strongly agree. Biblical literalism is a 4-point scale measuring respondents personal belief about the Bible, from 1=The Bible is an ancient book of history and legends and 4=The Bible means exactly what it says; it should be taken literally, wordfor-word, on all subjects. Attendance is a 9-point scale, ranging from 1=never to 9=several times a week or more. Religious tradition variables are all dichotomous indicators of whether a person is affiliated with the tradition (coded 1) or not (coded 0). Correlation values indicate the strength and direction of a relationship between variables; zero signifies no relationship and values closer to ± 1.0 suggest a stronger relationship. Statistically significant correlations are marked with an asterisk. Sample interpretation: More literal views of the Bible are strongly associated with a belief that government should allow prayer in schools (r=.590), while persons with literal views of the Bible are less likely to want the government to abolish the death penalty (r=-.137).

Combined Effects of Religious Affiliation and Belief

Religious affiliation does not exist in isolation from belief and behavior. Religious belief and belonging work in tandem to shape political opinion. Given the attention paid to religion and conservative politics, we create a "political conservatism scale" to explore combined religious effects. We construct the scale by adding the five conservative agenda items from Table 6. The scale has a range from 5 to 25, with higher scores corresponding to more conservative political views. Figure 12 displays political conservatism scores by religion tradition and for the subset of believers in these traditions that hold literal views of the Bible.

- Evangelical Protestants are the most politically conservative Christian tradition (mean=18.69) (see Figure 12).
- Within each tradition, those with literal views of the Bible are more politically conservative than is their tradition overall. For example, Catholics that are Biblical literalists hold more conservative political views than does the Catholic population in general. An identical pattern appears in all three traditions (see Figure 12).
- Comparing biblical literalists across traditions uncovers that political differences by tradition disappear. The Biblical literalist Catholic is as politically conservative as the Biblical literalist who is Evangelical or Mainline Protestant (see Figure 12).

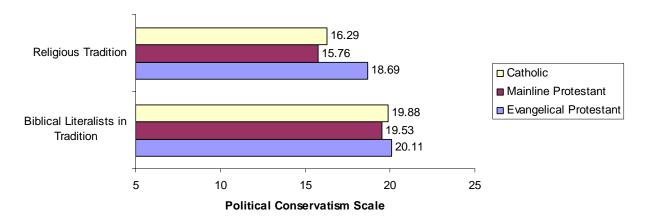


Figure 12: Political Conservatism by Religious Characteristics

Note: Political Conservatism Scale (alpha=.78). Differences in means are significant for religious groups Means are not significantly different for religious traditions when limiting comparisons to biblical literalists in each tradition.

RELIGIOUS BELIEF

America's Four Gods

The Baylor Religion Survey contains 29 questions about God's character and behavior. On these items, we performed a factor analysis (a statistical test of conceptual unity) to reveal two clear and distinct dimensions of belief in God. These dimensions are:

- 1. **God's level of engagement** the extent to which individuals believe that God is directly involved in worldly and personal affairs.
- 2. **God's level of anger** the extent to which individuals believe that God is angered by human sins and tends towards punishing, severe, and wrathful characteristics.

From these dimensions, we split the population into four types of believers (see Figure 13).

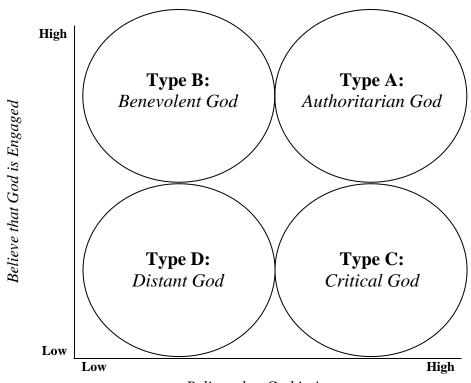


Figure 13: Categories of America's Four Gods

Believe that God is Angry

Note: Belief in God's engagement is an additive scale compiled from eight items (alpha = .91). Belief in God's anger is an additive scale compiled from six items (alpha = .85). The mean scores of angry and active scales were used to divided the population into four groups – above the mean on both (type A); below the mean on both (type D); above the mean on engagement but below the mean on anger (type B); and above the mean on anger but below the mean on engagement (type C).

Individuals in each of the groups of believers express very different views of who God is and what God does in the world (see Figure 14 for percentage breakdown).

Type A: Authoritarian God: Individuals who believe in the Authoritarian God tend to think that God is highly involved in their daily lives and world affairs. They tend to believe that God helps them in their decision-making and is also responsible for global events such as economic upturns or tsunamis. They also tend to feel that God is quite angry and is capable of meting out punishment to those who are unfaithful or ungodly.

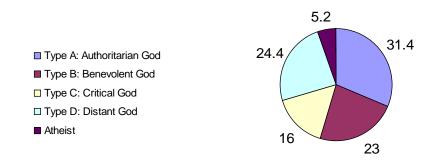
Type B: Benevolent God: Like believers in the Authoritarian God, believers in a Benevolent God tend to think that God is very active in our daily lives. But these individuals are less likely to believe that God is angry and acts in wrathful ways. Instead, the Benevolent God is mainly a force of positive influence in the world and is less willing to condemn or punish individuals.

<u>Type C: Critical God</u>: Believers in a Critical God feel that God really does not interact with the world. Nevertheless, God still observes the world and views the current state of the world unfavorably. These individuals feel that God's displeasure will be felt in another life and that divine justice may not be of this world.

<u>Type D: Distant God</u>: Believers in a Distant God think that God is not active in the world and not especially angry either. These individuals tend towards thinking about God as a cosmic force which set the laws of nature in motion. As such, God does not "do" things in the world and does not hold clear opinions about our activities or world events.

<u>Atheists</u>: Atheists are certain that God does not exist. Nevertheless, atheists may still hold very strong perspectives concerning the morality of human behavior and ideals of social order but have no place for the supernatural in their larger worldview.

Figure 14: Percent of American Population which believes in each Type of God



These four types of God are related to demographic and religious differences in the population.

Demographic Relationships (see Table 7):

- There is a strong gender effect in belief in God. Women tend towards very engaged images of God (Types A an B) while men tend towards less engaged images (Type D) and are more likely to be atheists.
- African-Americans believe overwhelmingly (52.8%) in an Authoritarian God. And no African-Americans in our sample purported to be atheists.
- Individuals with lower educations and lower incomes tend towards more engaged images of God (Types A and B). Those with college degrees and who earn more than \$100,000 disproportionately believe in a Distant God or are atheists.
- Region of the country is significantly related to the four types of God. Easterners disproportionately tend towards belief in a Critical God. Southerners tend towards an Authoritarian God. Midwesterners tend towards a Benevolent God and West Coasters tend towards belief in a Distant God.

Religious Effects (see Table 8):

- Individuals with more engaged images of God (Types A and B) are more likely to attend church weekly and pray several times a day.
- God's anger alone (Type C) does little to inspire religious participation such as prayer and church attendance
- Catholics and Mainline Protestants tend towards more belief in a more Distant God.
- Evangelical Protestants and Black Protestants tend towards belief in a more Authoritarian God.
- Jews tend towards belief in a Distant God and over 8% of Jews in our sample report being atheists.
- Over 40% of Americans who are not affiliated with a church, synagogue or mosque are atheists.
- Individuals who feel strongly that God is a "he" tend towards belief in an Authoritarian God.

Table 7: America's Four Gods and Demographics

	Type A Authoritarian God	Type B Benevolent God	Type C Critical God	Type D Distant God	Atheist
Total Sample	31.4%	23.0%	16.0%	24.4	5.2
Gender					
Male	28.9%	15.4%	19.9%	28.0%	7.8%
Female	33.6%	30.4%	12.3%	21.0%	2.7%
Race					
White	29.6%	24.5%	15.3%	25.1%	5.4%
African American	52.8%	13.5%	30.3%	3.4%	0.0%
Age					
18-30	40.2%	13.4%	14.9%	25.3%	6.2%
31-44	33.3%	20.9%	13.9%	26.4%	5.5%
45-64	27.4%	27.2%	16.0%	24.3%	5.1%
65+	28.8%	25.6%	20.0%	21.4%	4.2%
Education					
High School or less	40.4%	24.0%	18.6%	14.7%	2.2%
College or more	23.9%	22.2%	14.7%	32.5%	6.7%
Household Income					
< \$35,000	41.4%	20.8%	16.7%	16.4%	4.7%
> \$100,000	23.6%	19.8%	13.6%	36.8%	6.2%
Region					
East	25.5%	19.9%	21.2%	25.8%	7.5%
South	43.5%	16.6%	15.9%	21.5%	2.6%
Midwest	32.5%	28.8%	13.8%	21.2%	3.7%
West	20.8%	27.4%	13.6%	30.3%	7.9%

Note: Differences in percent agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 29 percent of male respondents (28.9%) believe in an Authoritarian God.

Table 8: America's Four Gods and Religiosity

			I		
	Type A Authoritarian God	Type B Benevolent God	Type C Critical God	Type D Distant God	Atheist
Total Sample	31.4%	23.0%	16.0%	24.4%	5.2%
Church Attendance					
Attends Weekly	50.9%	31.5%	9.8%	7.8%	0.0%
Never Attends	13.5%	8.2%	16.7%	41.5%	20.2%
<u>Prayer</u>					
Prays several times a day	54.8%	31.7%	6.5%	7.0%	0.0%
Never Prays	1.8%	2.5%	18.4%	38.7%	38.7%
Religious Tradition					
Catholic	22.6%	28.2%	18.6%	29.2%	1.3%
Black Protestant	68.0%	12.0%	20.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Evangelical Protestant	52.3%	23.6%	12.8%	10.8%	0.5%
Mainline Protestant	23.7%	26.6%	19.7%	29.3%	0.7%
Jewish	19.4%	13.9%	16.7%	41.7%	8.3%
Unaffiliated	2.9%	5.0%	15.7%	35.7%	40.7%
The Bible					
Biblical Literalist	60.8%	26.5%	10.2%	2.5%	0.0%
Believes that "Jesus is the son of God"	41.3%	27.8%	14.4%	16.0%	0.0%
Strongly believes that God is a "He"	56.1%	29.7%	9.6%	4.5%	0.0%
	Type A Authoritarian God	Type B Benevolent God	Type C Critical God	Type D Distant God	Atheist

Note: Differences in percent agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 51 percent of respondents who attend church weekly (50.9%) believe in an Authoritarian God.

The Morality of God

If a person believes God to be judgmental is he or she more likely, in turn, to condemn others? Will a believer in a distant God allow others more latitude in their behaviors? We find that the type of God Americans believe in has a dramatic impact upon their moral attitudes.³

- The Four Gods have a significant effect upon abortion attitudes. Approximately 12 percent (12.2%) of the American public believe that abortion is wrong in all circumstances. Those who believe in an Authoritarian God (Type A) are nearly twice as likely (23.4%) to believe that abortion is always wrong. Those who believe in a Distant God (Type D) are much less likely to condemn abortion (1.5%) (see Figure 15).
- The Four Gods are significantly related to other issues related to marriage, such as gay marriage, premarital sex, divorce (see Table 9).

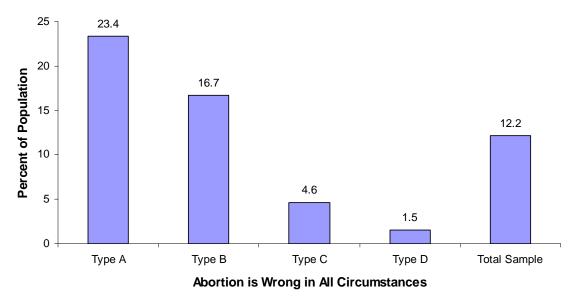


Figure 15: The Four Gods and Abortion Attitudes

Note: N = 1402; 319 individuals did not respond to one or more of the questions used in this analysis.

³ This section refers to the concept of America's Four Gods (see page 26).

⁴ The Baylor Religion Survey asks respondents their opinion about abortion under several circumstances, including when the child has a serious defect, when the woman's health is in danger, in the case of rape, when the family cannot afford the child and if the woman does not want the child. Respondents indicate if they think abortion is "always wrong," "almost always wrong," "only wrong sometimes," or "not wrong at all" in each circumstance. For the analysis above we compare respondents who believe abortion is always wrong in all of the above situations to other respondents.

Table 9: The Four Gods and Sexual Morality

The following behaviors are always wrong?	Type A: Authoritarian	Type B: Benevolent	Type C: Critical	Type D: Distant	Total Sample
Abortion when baby may have a serious defect	48.1%	34.6%	13.8%	7.4%	27.1%
woman's health is in danger	24.7%	19.5%	6.9%	3.1%	14.1%
pregnancy is result of rape	41.5%	31.7%	12.6%	4.6%	23.5%
family cannot afford child	80.8%	69.2%	41.7%	22.9%	54.1%
woman does not want the child	81.3%	67.5%	44.2%	26.2%	55.2%
Marital Issues Gay marriage	80.6%	65.8%	54.8%	30.7%	57.0%
Pre-marital sex	58.7%	35.9%	18.8%	7.5%	31.5%
Extra-marital sex	93.2%	82.6%	62.4%	50.8%	72.6%
Divorce	7.7%	6.5%	6.4%	2.7%	5.6%
Cohabitation	50.3%	26.8%	10.1%	4.5%	24.7%
Other Issues The viewing of pornography	66.5%	54.5%	28.9%	13.3%	41.4%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 48 percent (48.1%) of respondents who hold an Authoritarian (Type A) image of God believe that abortion is always wrong when the baby may have a serious defect.

A series of questions on the Baylor Religion Survey ask respondents about the role of government in society (see Table 10).

- Believers in a Critical God are the most likely to favor the equal distribution of wealth (58.7%), the closer regulation of businesses (70.6%), affirmative action programs (54.4) and protection of the environment (89%)
- Differences between believers in the Authoritarian God and Distant God are pronounced. For example, Type D respondents are more than twice as likely (27.3%) to want the government to abolish the death penalty as Type A respondents (12.1%). Type A respondents are more than three times as likely (47.2%) to desire government funding for faith-based organizations than Type D respondents (12.7%).

Table 10: The Four Gods and the Role of Government

Percent Agree/Strongly Agree that the federal government should	Type A: Authoritarian	Type B: Benevolent	Type C: Critical	Type D: Distant	Total Sample
abolish the death penalty	12.1%	17.3%	14.2%	27.3%	18.4%
distribute wealth more evenly	56.8%	53.2%	58.7%	62.5%	57.8%
regulate businesses more closely	60.3%	63.5%	70.6%	68.7%	65.1%
protect the environment better	75.9%	81.2%	89.0%	87.2%	82.9%
promote affirmative action	46.1%	39.5%	54.4%	43.9%	45.3%
spend more on the military	62.7%	55.3%	45.8%	33.8%	48.7%
expand authority to fight terror	76.2%	62.7%	64.0%	40.4%	59.5%
fund faith-based organizations	47.2%	24.6%	32.3%	12.7%	28.9%
allow prayer in schools	90.9%	79.0%	69.4%	46.5%	69.9%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: Approximately 12 percent (12.1%) of respondents who hold an Authoritarian image of God agree or strongly agree that the government should abolish the death penalty.

A final set of questions asks respondents what it means to be a good person. Must one take care of the sick and needy to be a good person? Should one serve in the military or consume fewer goods? People with different conceptions of God significantly differ in their ideas of what it means to be a good person (see Table 11).

- The most commonly held value was taking care of the sick and needy with a majority of respondents of all God types saying it is very important.
- Believers in a Distant God (0.3%) are 72 times less likely to believe converting others is a very important part of being a good person than those who believe in an Authoritarian God (21.5%).

Table 11: The Four Gods and Social Values

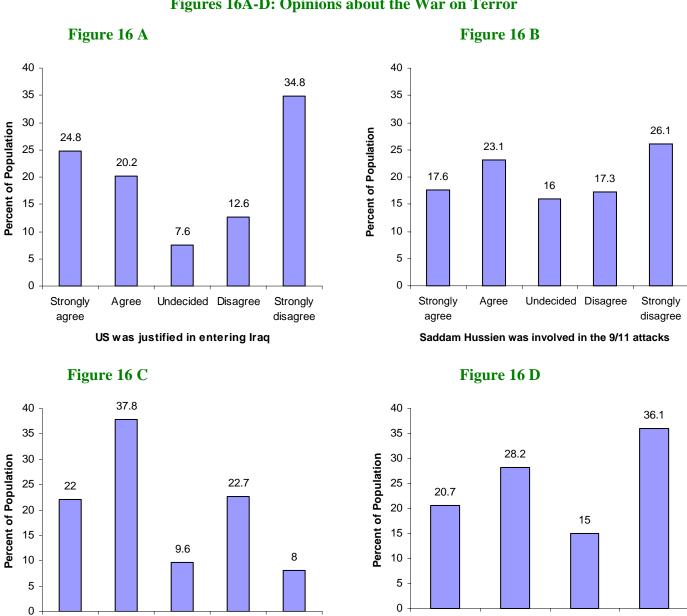
To be a good person it is very important to	Type A: Authoritarian	Type B: Benevolent	Type C: Critical	Type D: Distant	Total Sample
actively seek social and economic justice	34.6%	38.0%	31.3%	39.7%	36.8%
take care of the sick and needy	65.9%	68.1%	57.1%	56.7%	62.9%
teach others your morals	37.1%	20.8%	24.7%	10.9%	23.5%
convert others to your religious faith	21.5%	11.7%	3.7%	0.3%	10.1%
serve in the military	16.7%	13.0%	18.3%	10.3%	13.9%
consume or use fewer goods	15.8%	14.3%	13.5%	19.1%	16.6%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: Approximately 35 percent (34.6%) of respondents who hold an Authoritarian believe that it is very important to actively seek social and economic justice if one wishes to be a good person.

Religion and the War on Terror

In the fall of 2005, we find that opinions about issues concerning the war on terror differed dramatically in the United States (see Figures 16A-D).

Figures 16A-D: Opinions about the War on Terror



Strongly

disagree

Strongly

agree

Agree

Undecided Disagree

Government should expand its authority to fight terrorism

A lot

Some

How much do you trust George W. Bush

Only a little

Not at all

The relationships between distinct issues concerning the war on terror are strongly correlated (see Table 12).

- Trust in Bush is the strongest predictor of whether someone felt that the Iraq War was justified.
- A strong relationship exists between the belief that Saddam Hussein was involved in the 9/11 attacks.

Table 12: Correlations between Opinions on War on Terror

	Iraq War Justified	Hussein involved in 9/11	Patriot Act support
Hussein involved in 9/11	.580**		
Patriot Act support	.478**	.456**	
Trust in Bush	.785**	.507**	.460**

Note: All correlations are significant at the .001 level.

The relationship between religion and opinions about the war on terror are powerful and universal.

- Those who attend church more are much more likely to support the Patriot Act, and believe that Hussein was behind the 9/11 attacks.
- Evangelical Protestants (60.3%) are the religious group most likely to approve of the Iraq War, followed by Catholics (46.7%) (see Table 13).
- Beliefs about God are strongly related to views on the war on terror and trust of Bush's leadership (see Table 13).
- The belief that God favors the United States is the single strongest predictor of whether an individual trusts Bush, approves of the Patriot Act, thinks Hussein was involved in 9/11, and approves of the Iraq War (see Table 13)
- Race is a powerful predictor of support for the Iraq war. Whites (48%) are nearly four times more likely to believe the war is justified than African Americans (see Table 14).

Table 13: Religion and the War on Terror

	Agree that Iraq War is Justified	Believe that Hussein involved in 9/11	Supports Expansion of Government authority to fight terror	Trust Bush "a lot"
Total Sample	45.0%	40.7%	59.8%	20.7%
Church Attendance				
Attends Weekly	54.8%	48.5%	68.6%	32.2%
Never Attends	30.5%	24.4%	44.8%	8.4%
Religious Tradition				
Catholic	46.7%	46.2%	63.0%	23.7%
Evangelical Protestant	60.3%	51.9%	71.9%	31.7%
Mainline Protestant	44.6%	38.4%	59.8%	17.9%
Unaffiliated	25.8%	18.0%	31.8%	6.8
Four God Types				
Type A: Authoritarian	63.1%	53.7%	76.4%	32.0%
Type B: Benevolent	46.9%	43.5%	58.6%	22.7%
Type C: Critical	37.5%	32.4%	57.5%	12.0%
Type D: Distant	29.1%	23.5%	37.8%	9.3
God Favors U.S?				
Those who agree	79.2%	64.5%	82.3%	48.7%
Those who disagree	37.3%	32.8%	52.8%	13.7%

Note: Percentage differences are significant across all groups. Sample interpretation: Approximately 55 percent (54.8%) of those who attend church weekly agree that the war in Iraq was justified.

Table 14: Demographics and the War on Terror

	Agree that Iraq	Believe that Hussein involved	Supports Expansion of Government authority to fight	Trust Bush
	War is Justified	in 9/11	terror	"a lot"
Total Sample	45.0%	40.7%	59.8%	20.7%
Gender				
Male	49.0%	34.1%	58.3%	21.2%
Female	41.4%	46.6%	61.1%	20.3%
Race				
White	48.0%	42.0%	59.4%	22.3%
African American	12.6%	28.8%	67.2%	2.3%
Marital Status				
Never Married	41.5%	39.2%+	48.4%	16.6%
Currently Married	51.7%	43.3%	62.5%	23.8%
Education				
High School or less	44.0%	49.3%	68.6%	21.2%
College or more	41.8%	33.0%	52.1%	20.8%
Household Income				
< \$35,000	40.7%	44.3%	66.1%	17.6%
> \$100,000	46.2%	35.4%	57.6%	25.8%
Region				
East	36.7%	40.6%	60.5%	16.6%
South	53.5%	47.9%	68.7%	23.1%
Midwest	45.6%	43.7%	58.5%	22.1%
West	41.4%	28.1%	48.8%	20.1%

Note: Percentage differences are significant unless noted by a + symbol. For example, males and females significantly differ in their views on the Iraq War but do not differ significantly in their trust of George W. Bush. Sample interpretation: 49 percent of male respondents believe the war in Iraq was justified.

Does God Play Favorites?

To what extent do Americans think that God favors the United States in international politics or God favors a political party in the United States? We asked all respondents to consider these questions.

- Nearly one fifth of Americans thought that God does favor the United States in worldly affairs (see Figure 17).
- Believers in an Authoritarian God are most likely to believe God favors the United States while believers in a Distant God are least likely (see Table 15).
- Evangelical Protestants (26.0%) are most likely to believe that God favors the United States, followed by Catholics (20.1%) (see Table 15).
- Gender, race, education, household income and region are all significantly related to believe in God's favoritism towards the United States (see Table 16).

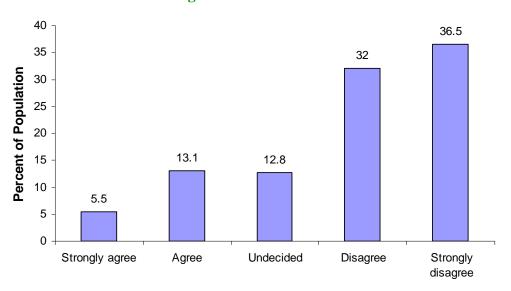


Figure 17: Does God Favor the U.S.A?

God Favors the United States in Worldly Affairs

Note: N = 1677; 44 individuals did not respond to this question.

Table 15: God Favors the United States (by Religion and Political Identity)

God favors the United States?	Strongly Agree and Agree	Undecided	Strongly Disagree and Disagree
Total Sample	18.6%	12.8%	68.5%
Religious Tradition			
Catholic	20.1%	9.1%	70.8%
Evangelical Protestant	26.0%	13.9%	60.1%
Mainline Protestant	16.9%	15.0%	68.1%
Unaffiliated	4.2%	8.5%	87.3%
Four God Types			
Type A: Authoritarian	32.1%	13.5%	54.3%
Type B: Benevolent	22.0%	9.7%	68.3%
Type C: Critical	12.4%	17.5%	70.1%
Type D: Distant	6.9%	6.9%	86.1%
D 100 171 00			
Political Identity			
Republican	30.2%	12.9%	56.9%
Independent	13.3%	17.0%	69.6%
Democrat	8.3%	10.6%	81.1%
Supported in 2004			
George W. Bush	30.1%	12.6%	57.3%
John Kerry	7.1%	10.6%	82.3%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 20 percent (20.1%) of Catholic respondents strong agree or agree that God favors the United States in worldly affairs.

Table 16: God Favors the United States (by Demographic Characteristics)

God favors the United States?	Strongly Agree and Agree	Undecided	Strongly Disagree and Disagree
Total Sample	18.6%	12.8%	68.5%
Gender			
Male	20.3%	10.2%	69.5%
Female	17.1%	15.2%	67.8%
Race			
White	19.2%	11.7%	69.2%
African American	14.7%	21.7%	63.6%
Marital Status ⁺			
Never Married	21.9%	12.9%	65.3%
Currently Married	18.7%	12.3%	69.0%
Education			
High School or less	28.4%	16.0%	61.5%
College or more	16.2%	10.0%	73.9%
Household Income			
< \$35,000	22.5%	16.7%	60.8%
>\$100,000	20.8%	6.4%	72.9%
Region			
East	15.7%	13.8%	70.6%
South	22.7%	15.4%	61.8%
Midwest	18.2%	11.3%	70.5%
West	16.2%	10.1%	73.8%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are statistically significant for all groups, with the exception of marital status. Sample interpretation: 20 percent (20.3%) of male respondents agree or strongly agree that God favors the United States in worldly affairs.

A small minority of Americans believed that God favors a political party within the United States.

- Only 4% of Americans think that God picks sides in the partisan politics (see Figure 18).
- Over four fifths of Americans believe that God does not favor a political party (see Figure 18).
- The strongest predictor of whether one thinks God favors a political party is party identification (see Table 17).
- Overwhelming majorities of Catholics (89.6%), Evangelical Protestants (85.5%), Mainline Protestants (88.3%) and the unaffiliated (93.1%) reject the idea that God favors a political party, although Evangelicals are more likely than other groups to agree (8.1%) (see Table 17).
- Conceptions of God are strongly related to beliefs about God's support for a political party (see Table 17).
- Religious and political characteristics are better predictors of the belief that God favors a political party than demographic characteristics. Of the demographic characteristics only race and region were significant predictors of this belief (see Table 18).

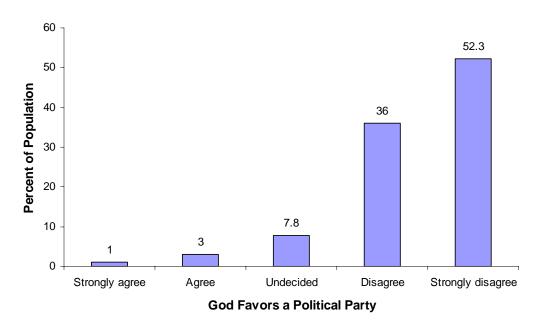


Figure 18: Does God Favor a Political Party?

Note: N = 1671; 50 individuals did not respond to this question.

Table 17: God Favors a Political Party (by Religion and Political Identity)

God favors the United States?	Strongly Agree and Agree	Undecided	Strongly Disagree and Disagree
Total Sample	4.0%	7.8%	88.8%
Religious Tradition			
Catholic (n=344)	3.2%	7.3%	89.6%
Evangelical Protestant (n=532)	8.1%	6.4%	85.5%
Mainline Protestant (n=359)	1.6%	10.0%	88.3%
Unaffiliated (n=188)	0.5%	6.4%	93.1%
Four God Types			
Type A: Authoritarian (n=428)	7.2%	8.4%	84.4%
Type B: Benevolent (n=310)	5.1%	5.8%	89.0%
Type C: Critical (n=217)	2.3%	12.9%	84.8%
Type D: Distant (n=330)	0.9%	3.6%	95.5%
Political Identity			
Republican (n=649)	8.6%	8.0%	83.4%
Independent (n=330)	0.9%	9.4%	89.7%
Democrat (n=580)	0.4%	6.2%	93.4%
Supported in 2004			
George W. Bush (n=803)	7.2%	8.1%	84.7%
John Kerry (n=655)	0.4%	5.8%	94.0%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 3 percent (3.2%) of Catholic respondents agree/strongly agree that God favors a political party in the United States.

Table 18: God Favors a Political Party (by Demographic Characteristics)

God favors a Political Party?	Strongly Agree and Agree	Undecided	Strongly Disagree and Disagree
Total Sample	4.0%	7.8%	88.8%
Gender ⁺			
Male	3.9%	6.7%	89.4%
Female	4.0%	8.7%	87.4%
Race			
White	4.4%	7.4%	88.3%
African American	0.0%	12.1%	87.9%
Marital Status ⁺			
Never Married	7.0%	6.6%	86.4%
Currently Married	4.1%	8.3%	87.7%
Education ⁺			
High School or less	3.7%	9.9%	86.3%
College or more	2.7%	7.2%	90.0%
Household Income ⁺			
< \$35,000	5.2%	10.0%	84.8%
> \$100,000	5.0%	5.4%	89.6%
Region			
East	2.2%	9.8%	88.0%
South	5.2%	9.2%	78.0%
Midwest	5.3%	6.0%	88.6%
West	3.9%	5.5%	92.1%

Note: Percentage differences are significant unless noted by a + symbol. For example, whites and African Americans significantly differ in their belief that God favors a political party in the United States but differences between males and females are not statistically significant. Sample interpretation: 4 percent (3.9%) of male respondents agree or strongly agree that God favors a political party in the United States.

Paranormal America

The Baylor Religion Survey includes the most comprehensive battery of questions on paranormal beliefs and experiences ever administered to a random, national sample. The survey finds a surprising level of paranormal belief and experience in the United States, although those beliefs and experiences tend to be confined to people outside traditional religion.

Paranormal beliefs are most prevalent in eastern states, with the highest percentages of agreement on eight of the 10 belief questions. Southerners are the least receptive to the paranormal, with the lowest percentages on six of the 10 items (see Table 19).

Table 19: Paranormal Beliefs in the United States

Percent that agree/strongly agree with the following statements	East	Midwest	South	West	Total
Ancient advanced civilizations, such as Atlantis, once existed (Atlantis)	44.2%	42.0%	40.2%	47.9%	41.2%
Some alternative treatments are at least as effective as traditional medicine (Alt. Medicine)	80.7%	83.3%	69.6%	81.6%	74.5%
It is possible to influence the world through the mind alone (Telekinesis)	34.0%	27.4%	26.1%	32.5%	28.2%
Astrologers, palm readers, tarot card readers, fortune tellers and psychics can foresee the future (Psychics)	15.8%	11.5%	13.3%	12.8%	12.8%
Astrology impacts one's life and personality (Astrology)	19.7%	14.3%	13.7%	13.8%	12.3%
It is possible to communicate with the dead (Talk to the Dead)	29.2%	17.9%	17.8%	19.7%	19.9%
Places can be haunted (Haunted houses)	45.3%	39.0%	34.6%	39.6%	37.2%
Dreams can sometimes foretell the future or reveal hidden truths (Dreams)	60.9%	52.5%	53.8%	51.7%	52.0%
Some UFOs are probably spaceships from other worlds (UFOs)	28.2%	25.1%	25.1%	26.0%	24.6%
Creatures such as Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster will one day be discovered by science (Monsters)	20.4%	20.3%	18.5%	15.7%	17.9%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 44 percent (44.2%) of respondents in eastern states agree or strongly agree that ancient, advanced civilizations such as Atlantis, once existed.

The most powerful demographic effect is with gender. Females are approximately twice as likely as males to believe that psychics can foresee the future, astrology impacts one's life and that it is possible to communicate with the dead. Females have shown the highest percentages of belief on eight of the 10 items (see Table 20).

Table 20: Paranormal Beliefs by Gender

	Male	Female	Total
Atlantis	41.8%	44.9%	41.2%
Alternative Medicine	78.5%	77.8%	74.5%
Telekinesis	28.3%	31.0%	28.2%
Psychics	8.0%	18.2%	12.8%
Astrology	10.1%	19.7%	12.3%
Talk to the Dead	14.0%	27.2%	19.9%
Haunted Houses	32.2%	45.5%	37.2%
Dreams	49.9%	58.9%	52.0%
UFOs	29.1%	23.2%	24.6%
Monsters	17.6%	19.8%	17.9%

Note: Differences in percent in agreement are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 42 percent (41.8%) of male respondents agree or strongly agree that ancient, advanced civilizations such as Atlantis, once existed.

Paranormal Experiences

The Baylor Religion Survey also asks respondents if they have had any of seven "paranormal" experiences, including use of a Ouija board, UFO sightings, having a dream that later came true, and several others.

- Paranormal experiences are also most common in eastern states, with easterners being significantly more likely to consult a horoscope (34.6%), call or consult a psychic (19%), use a Ouija board (11%) or have a prophetic dream (44.9%) than respondents in other regions of the country (see Table 21).
- The most common paranormal experience in the United States is having a dream that later came true. More than 40 percent (43%) of Americans claim to have had this experience.

Table 21: Paranormal Experiences in the United States

Percent that report the following experiences	East	Midwest	South	West	Total
Used acupuncture of other forms of alternative medicine	26.9%	26.8%	22.6%	36.4%	27.7%
Consulted a horoscope to get an idea about the course of your life	34.6%	28.6%	23.8%	26.2%	28.0%
Called or consulted a medium, fortune teller or psychic	19.0%	10.5%	8.4%	13.3%	12.5%
Visited or lived in a house or place believed to be haunted	22.8%	18.3%	23.0%	21.3%	21.5%
Consulted a Ouija board to contact a deceased person or spirit	11.0%	5.9%	7.3%	5.6%	7.5%
Had a dream that later came true	44.9%	42.9%	42.7%	41.5%	43.0%
Witnessed an object in the sky that you could not identify (UFO)	15.9%	13.8%	18.0%	21.0%	17.2%

Note: Percentage differences are significant for all groups. Sample interpretation: 27 percent (26.9%) of respondents in eastern states have used acupuncture of some other form of alternative medicine.

Paranormal experiences differ by many demographic categories (see Table 22).

- Females are significantly more likely to report all paranormal experiences with the exception of UFO sightings.
- With the exception of the use of alternative medicines and therapies, the likelihood of reporting paranormal experiences declines with age. Older respondents are less likely to consult horoscopes, visit psychics, use a Ouija board, live or visit a place believed to be haunted, have a prophetic dream and witness a UFO.
- Education explains little of the variation in paranormal experiences. Respondents with a high school degree or less are *less* likely than respondents with at least some college to have witnessed a UFO or used alternative medicines or therapies, but differences for the other paranormal experiences are not statistically significant.

Table 22: Percent Reporting Paranormal Experiences in the United States by Selected Demographics

	Alt. Medicine	Horoscope	Psychic	Haunted Houses	Ouija Board	Prophetic Dream	UFO
Total Sample	27.7%	28.0%	12.5%	21.5%	7.5%	43.0%	17.2%
<u>Gender</u> Male	24.8%	19.3%	5.4%	17.3%	4.0%	38.7%	17.9%
Female	30.3%	35.7%	18.7%	25.1%	10.6%	46.8%	16.5%
Race White	27.5%	27.6%+	12.5%	21.9%	7.5%	40.5%	16.8%
African American	22.2%	33.3%	11.1%	18.5%	3.7%	58.5%	16.3%
Marital Status Never Married	30.0%+	43.9%	18.3%	34.2%	11.8%	52.1%	23.2%
Currently Married	26.9%	23.7%	10.2%	18.9%	6.3%	38.8%	14.2%
Education High School or less	23.1%	27.7%+	11.5%	20.8%	8.0%+	45.1%+	14.2%
College or more	29.4%	28.3%	13.1%	22.1%	7.4%	42.1%	18.4%
Household Income < \$35,000	26.7%+	31.4%+	14.7%	27.9%	10.9%	52.7%	22.2%
> \$100,000	32.0%	24.9%	11.0%	15.7%	7.6%	41.3%	12.5%
Age 18-30	29.7%+	49.1%	19.2%	39.2%	13.6%	52.6%	20.7%
31-44	26.7%	30.3%	12.5%	25.6%	10.0%	45.1%	15.7%
45-64	29.5%	26.3%	13.3%	18.4%	6.9%	43.4%	20.9%
65+	25.0%	16.7%	7.5%	11.4%	2.5%	34.4%	10.8%

Note: Percentage differences are significant unless noted by a + symbol. For example, whites and African Americans significantly differ in their level of experience with alternative medicine, but not in their likelihood of consulting a horoscope. Sample interpretation: 25 percent (24.8%) of male respondents have used acupuncture of some other form of alternative medicine.

Paranormal Beliefs and Religion

It is possible to create a "paranormal beliefs scale" by adding together responses to the ten paranormal belief items. Scores range from 10 to 50. A respondent who scores a 10 on the paranormal scale exhibits strong disbelief in Atlantis, alternative medicine, telekinesis, psychics, astrology, communication with the dead, haunted houses, prophetic dreams, UFOs and monsters. A respondent who scores a 50 believes strongly in the existence of each. Creating such a scale allows us to easily compare how traditional religion relates to acceptance of the paranormal.

- Evangelicals are the least attracted to paranormal beliefs of all religious groupings (mean=25.43). People who are in "other" religions (non-Christian, non-Jewish) are the most attracted to the paranormal (mean=30.81) (see Figure 19).
- Belief in the paranormal declines with increasing church attendance. People who attend infrequently (less than once a month) demonstrate greater belief in the paranormal (mean=28.88) than those who attend on a semi-weekly basis (mean=27.95). People who attend at least once a week are the least likely to believe in paranormal topics (mean=24.68) (see Figure 20).

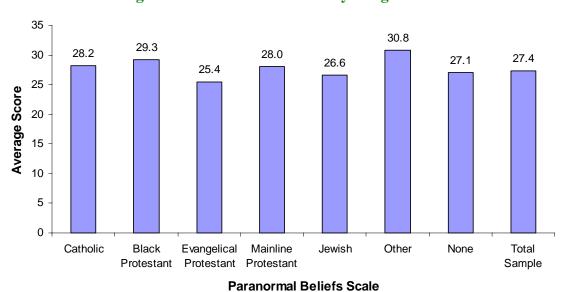
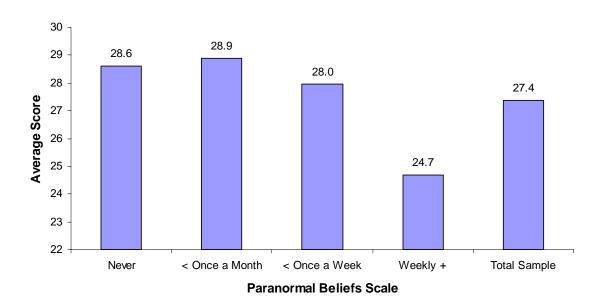


Figure 19: Paranormal Beliefs by Religious Tradition

Note: Paranormal Beliefs Scale (alpha=.86). Difference in mean scores significant across categories.

Figure 20: Paranormal Beliefs by Church Attendance



Note: Difference in mean scores significant across categories.

METHODOLOGY AND SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

The study was conducted by the Gallup Organization from October 8, 2005 to December

12, 2005. The following provides a description of the survey methodology.

- The survey has 1,721 respondents, and a margin of error of plus or minus four percentage points.
- For this study, Gallup used a mixed-mode sampling design (telephone and self-administered mailed surveys).
- Gallup recruited potential respondents through a nationwide random digit dialing telephone survey.
- 3,702 potential respondents were contacted by the Gallup Organization.
- Of the 3,702 potential respondents contacted, 1,721 returned completed surveys, for an overall participation rate of 46.5%.
- The self-administered mail survey consisted of a 16-page booklet including a cover page entitled, "The Values and Beliefs of the American Public A National Study." Gallup did not reveal that Baylor University was the sponsor of the study (see Appendix B).

Appendix A

Biographical Sketches of Research Group

Christopher Bader is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and a research fellow in the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University. His specialties are the sociology of religion and criminology. Recent publications have appeared in journals such as Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Sociology of Religion, Sociological Perspectives, Growth and Change, Western Criminology Review and Teaching Sociology. Since 1988 he has been affiliated with the *Association of Religion Data Archives* (www.thearda.com) where he is responsible for adding surveys to its collection.

Kevin Dougherty is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and a research fellow in the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University. His research stands at the intersection of the sociology of religion and organizational sociology. Of particular interest to Dougherty are issues of performance and change in religious congregations. His published work appears in journals such as the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Sociology of Religion, and the Review of Religious Research.

Paul Froese is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and a research fellow in the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University. Froese has published widely in the sociology of religion with articles appearing in journals such as Social Forces, Review of Religious Research and the Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion. He has recently completed a book about religion in the Soviet Union entitled The Plot to Kill God: Findings from the Soviet Experiment in Secularization. His research interests range from comparative historical studies of religious change to analyses of the connection between religious and political ideologies. Currently, he is working on a book with Christopher Bader on America's four Gods and how they impact American culture and politics.

Byron Johnson is Professor Sociology and Co-Director of the Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR) as well as director of the Program on Prosocial Behavior, both at Baylor University. He is a Senior Fellow at the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton, New Jersey. Johnson's research focuses on quantifying the effectiveness of faith-based organizations to confront various social problems. Recent publications have examined the efficacy of the "faith factor" in reducing crime and delinquency among at-risk youth in urban communities, and several studies examining the impact of faith-based programs on recidivism reduction and prisoner reentry. Johnson has written extensively on strategic efforts to reduce family violence.

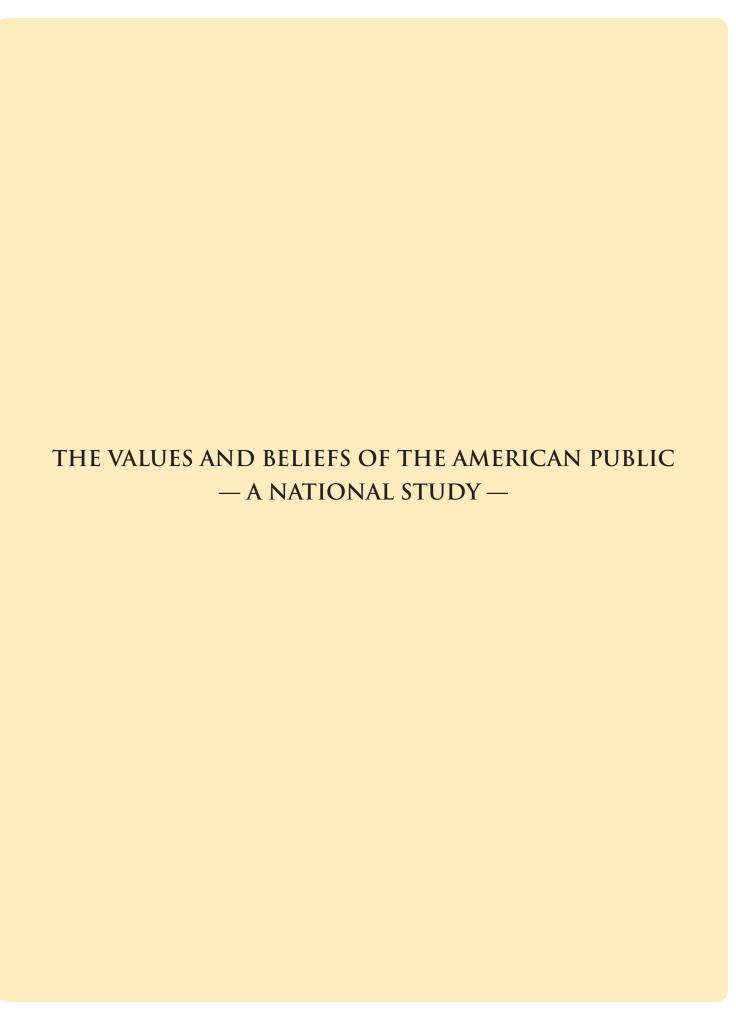
F. Carson Mencken is professor of sociology and a research fellow in the Institute for Studies of Religion, both at Baylor University. He is also Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Sociology at Baylor. His areas of research expertise include research methods and statistics, economic development, and non-traditional religious movements. He has received competitive grant funding for his research from such sources as the Tennessee Valley Authority, the United States Department of the Interior, and the United States Department of Justice. He is the Project Director for the *Empirical Study of Religions in China*, a three-year, \$1.7 million research initiative funded by the John Templeton Foundation in March 2006.

Jerry Park is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and a research fellow in the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University. His specialties are the sociology of religion and race/ethnicity. His current research deals with comparing ethnic and religious identities, consuming popular religious goods, and the role of religion in civic participation. Recent publications have appeared in journals such as *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Social Forces*, *The Sociological Quarterly*, and *The Journal of Asian American Studies*.

Rodney Stark was for many years Professor of Sociology and of Comparative Religion at the University of Washington. Since 2004 he has been University Professor of the Social Sciences at Baylor University, where he also is Co-Director of the Institute for Studies of Religion. Stark is the author of many books, including *The Rise of Christianity, For the Glory of God: How Monotheism Led to Reformations, Science, Witch-Hunts, and the End of Slavery,* and *The Victory of Reason: How Christianity, Freedom, and Capitalism Led to Western Success.* He was coprincipal investigator of the first national survey studies ever done of American religion, which resulted in *America Piety: The Nature of Religious Commitment* (Stark and Glock, 1968). Stark currently serves as the immediate past president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, is the founding editor of the *Interdisciplinary Journal of Research on Religion*.

Appendix B

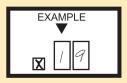
The actual survey instrument used in this study begins on the next page.



INSTRUCTIONS

Please carefully follow the steps below when completing this survey.

- Use a blue or black ink pen that does not soak through the paper.
- Make solid marks that fit in the response boxes (make no stray marks on the survey).



RELIGIOUS BEHAVIORS AND ATTITUDES With what religious family do you most closely		If possible, please provide the specific no of your denomination. For example, if y	ou a	
identify? (Please mark only one box.)		Baptist, are you Southern Baptist Conve American Baptist Churches in the USA,		
Adventist		other Baptist denomination? If you are		
African Methodist		are you Lutheran Church-Missouri Sync		,
Anabaptist		Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	a, or	some
Assemblies of God		other Lutheran denomination?		
Baha'i		Name of denomination:		
Baptist				\neg
☐ Bible Church				
Brethren		☐ Don't know		
☐ Buddhist	3	3 Do the following terms describe your		
Catholic/Roman Catholic	Ī	religious identity?	Yes	No
Chinese Folk Religion			_	_
Christian & Missionary Alliance		a. Born-Again	Ш	
Christian Reformed		b. Bible-Believing		
☐ Christian Science		c. Charismatic	\sqcup	
☐ Church of Christ		d. Theologically Conservative		
☐ Church of God		e. Evangelical	님	
☐ Church of the Nazarene		f. Fundamentalist	님	
Congregational		g. Theologically Liberal	님	
Disciples of Christ		h. Mainline Christian	님	H
Episcopal/Anglican		i. Pentecostal	H	H
Hindu		j. Seeker		H
Holiness		k. Religious Right		
☐ Jehovah's Witnesses		l. Moral Majority	ш	Ш
☐ Jewish	4	4 Please indicate the one term that best de	scrib	<u>oes</u>
Latter-day Saints		your religious identity. (Please mark onl	y one	e
Lutheran		box.)		
Mennonite		Born-Again		
Methodist		Bible-Believing		
Muslim		Charismatic		
☐ Orthodox (Eastern, Russian, Greek) ☐ Pentecostal		Theologically Conservative		
Presbyterian Presbyterian		Evangelical		
Quaker/Friends		Fundamentalist		
Reformed Church of America/Dutch Reformed		☐ Theologically Liberal		
Salvation Army		Mainline Christian		
Seventh-day Adventist		Pentecostal		
Unitarian Universalist		Seeker		
☐ United Church of Christ		Religious Right		
☐ Non-denominational Christian		☐ Moral Majority		
No religion → Skip to Question 3		☐ None of these		
Other (please specify)				
7 733.				
☐ Don't know				

5	How often do you attend religious services? \square Never \rightarrow Skip to Question 13	٥	at your current place of worship? Just your best
Г	Less than once a year		estimate will do. Less than 100
	Once or twice a year		☐ 100-299
	Several times a year Once a month		300-799
L	2-3 times a month		□ 800 or more
L	About weekly	1	10 About what percent of the people at your current
-	→ □ Weekly		place of worship are of the same race/ethnicity as
J	Several times a week		you?
6	,		%
	worship? (Please write your answer in the space	1	During the last year, approximately how much
	below. If you attend more than one place of worship, please refer to the one you attend most		money did you and other family members in your
	often.)		household contribute to your current place of
			worship?
			☐ Under \$500
7			\$500 - \$999
	write in whatever information you know. If exact address is not known, please give a description		\$1,000 - \$1,999
	of the location, such as the building name or the		\$2,000 - \$2,999
	nearest street or intersection.)		\$3,000 - \$3,999
	Street:		\$4,000 - \$4,999 \$5,000 - \$5,999
	C'Ave		\$5,000 - \$5,999 \$6,000 - \$6,999
	City:		\$7,000 - \$7,999
	State:		\$8,000 - \$8,999
	ZIP Code:		\$9,000 - \$9,999
8	How long have you attended your current place of		☐ \$10,000 or more
Τ	worship?	,	
	One year or less	C	Continue with Question 12 below
	2-4 years		~
	5-9 years		
	10-19 years		
	20 or more years		
J			
Č	ontinue with Question 9 at the top of the next column		
12	By your best guess, how would your place of worsh	nin	feel
	about the following behaviors? (Please mark only of		
	for each item a-d.)		W W W W
	a. Speaking in tongues		
	b. Raising hands during the service		
	c. Laying on of hands/healing		
	d. Members claiming new revelations from God		

13	How many of your friends		About Don't All Most half A few None know
	a. go to your church?b. go to a different church?c. are not religious at all?		
14	a. Religious education programs, such as Bible study of b. Choir practice or other musical programs	or S	Not at all 1-2 times 3-4 times times Sunday school
16	often do you read the Bible, Koran, Torah, or other sacred book? Never Less than once a year Once or twice a year Several times a year Once a month 2-3 times a month About weekly Weekly Several times a week or more often About how often do you pray or meditate outside of religious services? Never → Skip to Question 20 on next page Only on certain occasions Once a week or less A few times a week Once a day Several times a day	1	How often, if at all, do you participate in table prayers or grace before or after meals? Never Only on certain occasions At least once a week At least once a day At all meals The last time you prayed, did you pray about the following? Yes V a. Praise or adoration

20	Which <u>one</u> statement comes closest to your personal beliefs about th	e Bibl	e? (Pleas	e mark o	nly one	box.)
	 The Bible means exactly what it says. It should be taken literally, word meaning. The Bible is perfectly true, but it should not be taken literally, word meaning. The Bible contains some human error. The Bible is an ancient book of history and legends. 				,	ts
	☐ I don't know					
2	1 Which one statement comes closest to your personal beliefs about G	od? (P	lease mai	rk only o	ne box.)
	☐ I have <u>no doubts</u> that God exists ☐ I believe in God, but with <u>some doubts</u> ☐ I <u>sometimes believe</u> in God ☐ I believe in a <u>higher power or cosmic force</u> ☐ I <u>don't believe</u> in anything beyond the physical world ☐ I have no opinion			·		
22		Strongly			Strongly	
T	understanding, what do you think God is like?	agree	Agree	Disagree	disagree	Undecided
	a. A cosmic force in the universe					
23	How well do you feel that each of the following words describe God?	Very well	Somewhat well	Not very well	Not at all	Undecided
	a. Absolute b. Critical c. Distant d. Ever-present e. Fatherly f. Forgiving g. Friendly h. Just i. Kind j. Kingly k. Loving l. Motherly m. Punishing n. Severe o. Wrathful p. Yielding					

Jesus is a fictional character Jesus probably existed, but he was not special Jesus was one charactinary person, but he was not a messenger of God Jesus was one of many messengers or prophets of God Jesus is the son of God Jesus is the Go	2	4	Which <u>one</u> statement comes closest to your personal beliefs about Jesus? (<i>Please mark only one box.</i>)
Jesus was one of many messengers or prophets of God Jesus was not arorardinary person, but he was not a messenger of God Jesus was one of many messengers or prophets of God Jesus is the son of God Thave no opinion Jesus is the son of God Thave no opinion My religion is the one, true faith that leads to salvation Many religions lead to salvation Idon't know In your opinion, does each of the following exist? Absolutely Probably Probably The best of the following exist In your opinion, does each opinion, does each of the following exist In your opinion, d			☐ Jesus is a fictional character
Jesus was an extraordinary person, but he was not a messenger of God Jesus was no of many messengers or prophets of God Jesus is the son of God I have no opinion Jesus was not a messenger or prophets of God Jesus is the son of God I have no opinion Many religions is the one, true faith that leads to salvation Many religions lead to salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I don't know In your opinion, does each of the following exist? Absolutely Probably			
Jesus was one of many messengers or prophets of God Jahave no opinion My religion is the one, true faith that leads to salvation My religions lead to salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I do not believe in Reaven I do not believe I do not believe in Reaven I do not believe			
Jesus is the son of God Thave no opinion Which one statement comes closest to your personal view of religious salvation? (Please mark only one box. My religion is the one, true faith that leads to salvation Many religions lead to salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I do not have very probably abbulutely probably			
Thave no opinion Thave no opinion Thave no opinion The Armageddon			<u> </u>
Which one statement comes closest to your personal view of religious salvation? (Please mark only one box. My religion is the one, true faith that leads to salvation Many religions lead to salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I don't know I don't know			
My religions is the one, true faith that leads to salvation Many religions lead to salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I do not believe in religious salvation I do not know Absolutely Probably		L	•
Many religions lead to salvation 1 do not believe in religious salvation 1 don't know 1 don't know 23 In your opinion, does each of the following exist? Absolutely Probably Probably Not	2	5	Which <u>one</u> statement comes closest to your personal view of religious salvation? (<i>Please mark only one box.</i>)
Ido not believe in religious salvation Idon't know I			My religion is the one, true faith that leads to salvation
In your opinion, does each of the following exist? a. God b. Satan c. Heaven d. Hell e. Purgatory f. Angels g. Demons h. Armageddon i. The Rapture j. Ghosts IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans b. Your personal friends c. Your neighbors d. Family members e. Christians J. Non-Christians Please indicate whether or not you have ever had any of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing b. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake e. I felt called by God to do something f. Theard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience b. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience			☐ Many religions lead to salvation
In your opinion, does each of the following exist? a. God b. Satan c. Heaven d. Hell e. Purgatory f. Angels g. Demons h. Armageddon i. The Rapture j. Ghosts IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans b. Your personal friends c. Your neighbors d. Family members e. Christians J. Non-Christians Please indicate whether or not you have ever had any of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing b. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake e. I felt called by God to do something f. Theard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience a. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience b. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience			☐ I do not believe in religious salvation
Absolutely Probably not and Absolutely Probably not and another probably not and another probably not anot a second probable probably not anot another probably not another proba			
a. God	2	6	In your opinion, does each of the following exist? Absolutely Probably not not not
b. Satan c. Heaven d. Hell e. Purgatory f. Angels g. Demons h. Armageddon i. The Rapture j. Ghosts IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans b. Your personal friends c. Your neighbors d. Family members e. Christians f. Non-Christians l. Non-Christians b. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake e. I felt called by God to do something f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience			The your opinion, uses each of the following show
b. Satan c. Heaven d. Hell e. Purgatory f. Angels g. Demons h. Armageddon i. The Rapture j. Ghosts IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans b. Your personal friends c. Your neighbors d. Family members e. Christians f. Non-Christians l. Non-Christians b. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake e. I felt called by God to do something f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience			a. God
c. Heaven			
d. Hell			
e. Purgatory			d Hell
f. Angels g. Demons. h. Armageddon. i. The Rapture j. Ghosts. IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans. b. Your personal friends g. C. Your neighbors g. C. Your neighbors g. C. Christians g. C. Non-Christians g. C. Non-Christians g. C. Vour neighbors g. C. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing g. D. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship g. I. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship g. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship g. I f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance g. I had a dream of religious significance g. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience.			
g. Demons			
i. The Rapture			σ Demons
i. The Rapture			h Armageddon
j. Ghosts			
IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO QUESTION 28. IF YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans			
If YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans. b. Your personal friends. c. Your neighbors. d. Family members. e. Christians. f. Non-Christians. f. Non-Christians. Delta Please indicate whether or not you have ever had any of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing. b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship. c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship. d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake. e. I felt called by God to do something. f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me. g. I had a dream of religious significance. h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience.			j. Gilosis
If YOU DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27. If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans. b. Your personal friends. c. Your neighbors. d. Family members. e. Christians. f. Non-Christians. f. Non-Christians. Delta Please indicate whether or not you have ever had any of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing. b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship. c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship. d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake. e. I felt called by God to do something. f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me. g. I had a dream of religious significance. h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience.		IF	YOU DO NOT BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE SKIP TO OUESTION 28.
If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do you think will get into Heaven? All Most half A few None opinion No Not No			
you think will get into Heaven? a. Average Americans		IF	100 DO BELIEVE IN HEAVEN, PLEASE CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 27.
a. Average Americans	2	27	If you believe in Heaven, how many of the following people do About No
a. Average Americans	Ī	Γ	you think will get into neaven?
b. Your personal friends			
c. Your neighbors			
d. Family members			
e. Christians f. Non-Christians State of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake e. I felt called by God to do something f. I heard the voice of God speaking to me g. I had a dream of religious significance h. I changed profoundly as the result of a religious experience			
f. Non-Christians			
Please indicate whether or not you have ever had any of the following experiences: a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing			
a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing		L	
a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing	2		
b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship			following experiences:
c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship			a. I witnessed or experienced a miraculous, physical healing
d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake			b. I witnessed people speaking in tongues at a place of worship
in remarged protoundry as the result of a rengious experience			c. I spoke in tongues at a place of worship
in remarged protoundry as the result of a rengious experience			d. I personally had a vision of a religious figure while awake
in remarged protoundry as the result of a rengious experience			e. I felt called by God to do something
in remarged protoundry as the result of a rengious experience			f. I heard the voice of Cod enceling to me
in remarged protoundry as the result of a rengious experience			1. Theard the voice of God speaking to the
		:	g. I had a dream of religious significance
		:	g. I had a dream of religious significance

29	Have you ever had an experience where you felt that	Yes	No		
		_			
	a. you were filled with the spirit?		H		
	b. you were one with the universe?		H		
	c. you left your body for a period of time?		H		
	d. you were in a state of religious ecstasy?	🗀			
3(How comfortable would you feel talking about religion with	Very comfortable	Somewhat comfortable	Somewhat uncomfortable	Not at all
		V	V	T	V
	a. your neighbors?	🗆			
	b. your coworkers (if applicable)?				
	c. your friends?		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{}$
	d. your family?	_	一	Ē	$\overline{\Box}$
	e. strangers?		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
		🗀			
31	Please indicate the religious affiliation of your father, mother,	a. Father	b. Mother S	c. Spouse	
	and spouse (if married). (Please mark one box for each column a-c.)	_	<u>▼</u>	<u></u>	
	Protestant (Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, etc.)		H		
	Roman Catholic				
	Jewish				
	Orthodox	_	H		
	Muslim		H		
	Other	_	H		
	Not religious	_	님		
	I don't know	Ш			
32	How personally religious were you at age 12?				
	☐ Not religious at all				
	☐ Not very religious				
	☐ Somewhat religious				
	☐ Very religious				
33	By your best estimate, how often did you attend religious services a	t age 12?			
	Never	10 120			
	Less than once a year				
	Once or twice a year				
	☐ Several times a year ☐ Once a month				
	2-3 times a month				
	About weekly				
	☐ Weekly ☐ Several times a week				
	Several times a week				

I	Ι.	MORAL ATTITUDES					
3	4	How do you feel about abortion in the following circumstances?	Always wrong	Almost always wrong	Only wrong sometimes	Not wrong at all	
		 a. The baby may have a serious defect b. The woman's health is in danger c. The pregnancy is the result of rape d. The family cannot afford the child e. The woman does not want the child 	. 🗆				
3	5	How do you feel about sexual relations in the following circumstances? a. Before marriage	. 🖳	Almost always wrong	Only wrong sometimes	Not wrong at all	
3	6	How do you feel about the following marriage and family related issues?	Always wrong	Almost always wrong	Only wrong sometimes	Not wrong at all	
		 a. Divorce					
3	7	How do you feel about the following?	Always wrong	Almost always wrong	Only wrong sometimes	Not wrong at all	
		a. The consumption of alcohol b. The viewing of pornography c. The use of marijuana d. Physician-assisted suicide e. Embryonic stem cell research f. War					
Ι	II.	POLITICAL ATTITUDES					
3	8	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the war in Iraq and the Middle East: a. The United States was justified in entering Iraq		Agree V	Disagree V	Strongly disagree	Undecided Undecided

39	To what extent do you agree or disagree that the <u>federal</u> <u>government</u> should:	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Undecided
	a. Abolish the death penalty b. Spend more on the military c. Distribute wealth more evenly d. Advocate Christian values e. Defend Christian values f. Regulate business practices more closely g. Do more to protect the environment h. Expand its authority to fight terrorism i. Punish criminals more harshly j. Promote affirmative action programs k. Fund faith-based organizations l. Allow the display of religious symbols in public spaces m. Allow prayer in public schools		•	•	•	•
40	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the educational system and the media: a. A racist should be allowed to teach at a high school	🗆	Agree V IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	Disagree V	Strongly disagree	Undecided Undecided
41	To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements: a. God favors the United States in worldly affairs		Agree V Somewhat important	Disagree W Not very important	Strongly disagree	
	 a. Actively seek social and economic justice				▼	

IV. CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND TRUST 43 In the year leading up to the 2004 presidential election, did you... a. read newspaper or magazine stories about the election? b. visit Internet sites related to the election? c. give money to a political campaign, party, or candidate?..... d. write, call, or visit a public official?..... e. attend a political rally or meeting?..... f. attend a class or lecture about social or political issues?..... g. participate in a public protest or demonstration?..... h. work for a political campaign or voter registration drive?..... i. watch or listen to a political debate?..... 44 Of the final candidates, who did you want to win the 2004 presidential election? George W. Bush ☐ John Kerry ☐ Ralph Nader ☐ Somebody else ☐ No preference 45 Did you vote in the 2004 presidential election? Yes ☐ No 46 How would you describe yourself politically? ☐ Strong Republican ☐ Moderate Republican Leaning Republican ■ Independent Leaning Democrat ■ Moderate Democrat ☐ Strong Democrat U Other (please specify) 47 In the past year, has anyone asked you to volunteer your time? ☐ Yes ☐ No 11 or more 5-10 hours 1-2 hours 3-4 hours None hours 48 On average, about how many hours per month do you volunteer... a. for the community, through your church? b. for the community, not through your church? c. for your church?

49	Please indicate your current level of involvement with the following organizations: (Mark all that apply for each item a-o)	I belong	I contribute	I volunteer	I hold a leadership position
	a. Arts or cultural organization				
	b. An elementary, middle, or high school	_	$\overline{}$	Ħ	Ä
	c. Charitable organization or group		Ē	Ē	Ē
	d. Church or other religious organization		一	一	一
	e. Civic or service group	_	$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
	f. Ethnic or racial organization		$\overline{\Box}$	Ē	Ē
	g. Internet-based club, group, or chat-room		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
	h. Neighborhood group or association	_	$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
	i. Political party, club, or association		$\overline{\Box}$	Ē	Ē
	j. School fraternities, sororities, or alumni association		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
	k. Sports, hobby, or leisure club/group		Ē		Ē
	l. Therapeutic or counseling group		$\overline{\Box}$	$\overline{\Box}$	Ē
	m. Trade union or professional association		$\overline{}$	Ħ	F
	n. Youth groups or organizations		Ħ	Ħ	Ä
	o. Other group/organization		Ħ	H	Ħ
		. Ш			
50	How much would you say that you <u>trust</u> the following people or groups?	A lot	Some	Only a little	Not at all
	a. People in general				
	b. Your neighbors				
	c. Your coworkers				
	d. Strangers				
	e. The United Nations				
	f. The U.S. government				
	g. George W. Bush	_			
	h. John Kerry	_			
	i. The media				
	j. The police				
	k. Immigrants				
	l. People of other races				
	m. People who don't believe in God				
	n. Protestants				
	o. Catholics				
	p. Mormons				
	q. Muslims				
V.	DEMOGRAPHICS				
51	What is your gender?				
	☐ Male				
	Female				
F.O.					
52	What is your date of birth?				
	M M D D Y Y Y Y				

53	Are you a citizen of the United States of America?	60 By your best estimate, what was your total
	Yes	household income last year, before taxes?
	No	\$10,000 or less
54	Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino?	\$10,001 - \$20,000
	Yes	\$20,001 - \$35,000
	□ No	\$35,001 - \$50,000
55	How many children do you have?	\$50,001 - \$100,000
33	How many children do you have:	\$100,001 - \$150,000
		\$150,001 or more
56	How many children under the age of 18 currently	61 Last week did you do any work for pay or profit?
	live in your household?	Yes
		□ No
		62 How many hours did you work last week?
57	What is your race? (You can mark "yes"	T
	to more than one.)	
	a. White	63 If you are employed, which of the following best
	b. Black or African-American	describes your employment?
	c. American Indian or Alaska Native	Employed by a <u>for-profit private</u> company, business or individual
	d. Asian	Employed by a non-profit, tax-exempt or
	e. Native Hawaiian or other Pacific	charitable organization
	Islander	Employed by the <u>local</u> , state or federal
	f. Some other race (please specify)	government
	1 73	Self-employed
		Working without pay in a family business or farm
58	What is your current marital status?	Not currently employed → Skip to Question 66
	☐ Never married	<u> </u>
	☐ Married	64 If you are currently employed, what is your job title?
	Living as married	
	☐ Separated	65 Is your current employer a locally-owned
	Divorced	business?
	□ Widowed	Yes
5 9	What is the highest level of education you have	□ No
	completed? (Please mark only one box.)	☐ I'm not sure
	□ 8 th grade or less	IF YOU <u>DID</u> WORK FOR PAY OR PROFIT LAST
	9 th -12 th grade (no high school diploma)	WEEK, SKIP TO QUESTION 67 ON NEXT PAGE.
	High school graduate (12)	IF YOU DID NOT WORK FOR PAY OR PROFIT
	Some college	LAST WEEK, CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 66.
	☐ Trade/Technical/Vocational training	_
	College graduate	If you did not do any work last week for pay or profit, what is the reason?
	_	
	☐ Postgraduate work/Degree	☐ I am a homemaker
		I am a student
		I am retired
		I have a disability or injury
		I am looking for work

V]	I.	C	CONSUMPTION OF RELIGIOUS GOODS					
67	7	W	hen you read <u>books about religion</u> , from which source are you most lik	ely to	get the	em? (Ple	ase mark	only
	_		ne box.)	3				J
	-		I don't read books about religion					
			The public library					
	ı		A church library					
	Ì		A Christian bookstore					
	j		A New Age/metaphysical bookstore					
			A general bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble® or Waldenbooks®					
			An online retailer, such as Amazon.com®					
			I borrow from a friend/family member					
	į	_	Other (please specify)					
60								12 or more
68	1	Н	ow many times in the past year did you Nev	er 1-	3 times	4-6 times	7-11 times	times
		a.	visit a general bookstore?]				
			visit a Christian bookstore?]				
			visit a New Age/metaphysical bookstore?	1		\Box		\Box
			purchase something from a general bookstore?	1				$\overline{}$
				1		П		
			purchase something from a Christian bookstore?	_		H	H	
		t.	purchase something from a New Age/metaphysical bookstore?	J	ш	ш	ш	
69			ave you ever chosen to use a service or business (other than a religious ecause the owner is a member of your religion?	store),			
			l Yes					
			No					
			I don't know	• •				
70			<u>eligiously-themed items</u> come in many forms, from jewelry, such as cr ystals, to books, such as the <i>Left-Behind</i> series or the <i>Celestine Prophec</i>		es or			
			•	·9•				
			you purchased any of the following <u>religiously-themed items</u> I purchased the item.	hased t			ark all tha	
				nerchant	store			
				T	_		, ,	1
		a.	Religious jewelry, such as crucifixes or WWJD bracelets		님	F		J 7
		b.	Religious fiction books, such as the <i>Left Behind</i> series	_		F] <u> </u>	J 1
		C.	Religious non-fiction books, such as the <i>Purpose-Driven Life</i>		H	F	i -]]
			Devotional books, such as books of prayers			F	i]]
		e. c	The Bible, Koran, or other sacred books		H	F]
		1. α	Music by Christian/religious artists or bands					J
		ğ.	religious figuresreligious figures] []
		h.	Movies with a religious theme or perspective, such as		_	_	, ,	1
			The Passion of the Christ	_	닏	L	_	J
		i.	Religious education products for children		닏	L		J
		j.	Bible-study or small group materials					J
		k.		_	님	L		J 1
		1.	Bumper stickers/car decals with religious messages or symbols	_]]
		m	. Greeting cards with religious messages or symbols	Ш				J

7	In the past month, about how much money do you think you spent on religions (such as items in Question 70), including items purchased from your place of	_			
	None	71 W 0151	up.		
	Less than \$25				
	\$25-\$49				
	\$50-\$99				
	\$100-\$999				
	\$1,000 or more				
7:	2 Have you seen any of the following movies/television shows? Yes	No			
	a. The Passion of the Christ				
	b. <i>This Is Your Day</i> with Benny Hinn				
	c. Joan of Arcadia				
	d. Any VeggieTales movies or videos				
	e. 7 th Heaven				
	f. Touched by an Angel				
7	Have you read any of the following books? Yes	No 🔻			
	a. Any book in the <i>Left Behind s</i> eries				
	b. The Celestine Prophecy by James Redfield	H			
	c. Any book about <i>Dianetics</i>	Ξ			
	d. God's Politics by Jim Wallis				
	e. The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown				
	f. The Purpose-Driven Life by Rick Warren				
	g. Any book by James Dobson (Focus on the Family)				
V	VII. THE NEW AGE				
7	4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following Strongly			Strongly	
_	statements:	Agree	Disagree	disagree	Undecided
	a. We are approaching an entirely new age that will radically	_	_	_	_
	change our view of science, spiritual knowledge, or humanity				
	b. Ancient advanced civilizations, such as Atlantis, once existed	Ш	ш	ш	
	c. Some alternative treatments are at least as effective as traditional medicine.	П		П	
	d. It is possible to influence the physical world through the mind alone				
	e. Astrologers, palm-readers, tarot card readers, fortune tellers, and				
	f. Astrology impacts one's life and personality.	H	H	H	H
	g. It is possible to communicate with the dead				
	h. Places can be haunted				
	i. Dreams sometimes foretell the future or reveal hidden truths				
	j. Some UFOs are probably spaceships from other worlds				
	k. Creatures such as Bigfoot and the Loch Ness Monster will one				
	day be discovered by science.		Ш		Ш
		Cont	tinue on	back 🕇	•

75	As an adult, have you ever done any of the following?	Yes 🔻	No ▼				
	a. Used acupuncture or other forms of non-traditional medicine						
	b. Consulted a horoscope to get an idea about the course of your life						
	c. Called or consulted a medium, fortune teller, or psychic						
	d. Visited or lived in a house or place believed to be haunted						
	e. Consulted a Ouija board to contact a deceased person or spirit						
	f. Had a dream that later came true	_					
	g. Witnessed an object in the sky that you could not identify (UFO)						
76	Have you ever read a book, consulted a Web site, or researched						
Ι	the following topics?	Yes	No 🔻				
	a. Alternative medicine						
	b. Specific techniques for spiritual development, such as yoga						
	c. Mediums, fortune-tellers, or psychics						
	d. UFO sightings, abductions, or conspiracies	_					
	e. Ghosts, apparitions, haunted houses, or electronic voice phenomena	_					
	f. Mysterious animals, such as Bigfoot or the Loch Ness Monster	_					
	g. Astrology	_					
	h. The prophecies of Nostradamus	_					
	i. The new age movement in general	_					
77	Which of the statements below best summarizes your opinion of profe palm readers, and other people who claim to foresee the future? (Please						
	☐ At least some really have the power to foresee the future ☐ They may believe they can tell the future, but they are either mentally ill or deluded ☐ They know they cannot tell the future and are simply lying to get their client's money ☐ I have no opinion						

This completes the survey. Please make sure you have answered all of the questions relevant to you and then send the survey back in the envelope provided. Thank you for your participation!



