

2010 CALIFORNIA SAME-SEX MARRIAGE SURVEY
JUNE 14 — JUNE 30, 2010
STATE SAMPLE (N=2,801)
African American Oversample (N=350)
Latino Protestant Oversample (N=200)

ASK ALL:

Q.1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

[IF DK ENTER AS DK. IF DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: OVERALL, do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?]

54	Approve
35	Disapprove
<u>11</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.2 Generally speaking, do you think that things in California are going in the right direction, or do you think things have gotten off on the wrong track?

18	Right Direction
76	Wrong Track
<u>6</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.3 What do you think is the biggest problem facing California today? **[READ & RANDOMIZE]**

36	The budget deficit
36	Not enough jobs
16	Illegal immigration
5	Decline of traditional values
6	Other (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.4 Currently, do you think the state government in California is **[READ IN ORDER]**

[IF DK OR DEPENDS PROBE ONCE WITH: Just your general impression, do you think the current state government is...]

3	Generally working
24	Working but with some major problems
39	Broken but working in some areas OR
32	Completely Broken
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Now I'm going to read you a few pairs of statements. For each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS, ROTATE OPTIONS]**

a.

43	1—It is not really that big a problem if some people have more of a chance in life than others
51	2—One of the big problems in this country is that we don't give everyone an equal chance in life
1	Both (VOL.)
4	Neither (VOL.)
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b.

50	1—Government has become bigger over the years because it has gotten involved in things that people should do for themselves
46	2—Government has become bigger over the years because the problems we face have become bigger
1	Both (VOL.)
1	Neither (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.6 Now, I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in the country today. All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose [INSERT FIRST TIME; RANDOMIZE]? What about [NEXT ITEM]?

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose?

a. Allowing gay and lesbian people to serve openly in the military

27	Strongly favor
42	Favor
16	Oppose
11	Strongly oppose
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Allowing undocumented immigrants who have been in the U.S. for several years to earn legal working status and an opportunity for citizenship in the future

26	Strongly favor
38	Favor
17	Oppose
17	Strongly oppose
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to adopt children

23	Strongly favor
33	Favor
21	Oppose
19	Strongly oppose
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Laws that would protect gay and lesbian people against job discrimination

35	Strongly favor
40	Favor
15	Oppose
7	Strongly oppose
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.7 Which of the following statements comes closest to your view **[READ IN ORDER]**

42	Gay couples should be allowed to marry
31	Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions, but not marry OR
24	There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY

IF R DOES NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE (Q7=2,3,9), ASK:

Q.8F1 Please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree with the following statement. If the law guaranteed that no church or congregation would be required to perform marriages for gay couples, I would support allowing them to legally marry.

7	Completely agree
14	Mostly agree
27	Mostly disagree
47	Completely disagree
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY

IF R DOES NOT SUPPORT SAME-SEX MARRIAGE (Q7=2,3,9), ASK:

Q.9F2 Please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree with the following statement. If the law only provided for civil marriages like you get at city hall for gay couples, I would support allowing them to have a civil marriage.

12	Completely agree
21	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
43	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.10 Do you believe that gay and lesbian couples who want to get married are trying to change the institution of marriage or join it?

39	Change it
57	Join it
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

On a different topic...

REGIST These days, many people are so busy they can't find time to register to vote, or move around so often they don't get a chance to re-register. Are you NOW registered to vote in your precinct or election district or haven't you been able to register so far?

IF RESPONDENT IS REGISTERED (REGIST=1), ASK:

REGICERT Are you absolutely certain that you are registered to vote, or is there a chance that your registration has lapsed because you moved or for some other reason?

72	Yes, registered
68	<i>Absolutely certain</i>
3	<i>Chance registration has lapsed</i>
1	<i>Not sure</i>
27	No, not registered
1	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.11 In the 2008 presidential election between Barack Obama and John McCain. Did you vote for **[READ AND ROTATE]**

30	McCain, the Republican [OR]
56	Obama, the Democrat
3	Other candidate (VOL.)
5	Did not vote (VOL.)
6	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL REGISTERED VOTERS (REGICERT=1):

Q.12 In 2008, Californians voted on Proposition 8, the state constitutional amendment to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry in California. Did you vote "YES" to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry, or did you vote "NO" on Proposition 8?

39	Yes
49	No
8	Did not vote on Proposition 8 (VOL.)
4	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF Q12=1 "VOTED YES", ASK:

Q.13 What was the most important reason that you voted YES on Proposition 8? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

48	Because we need to preserve traditional marriage and values in society
33	Because same-sex marriage goes against my religious beliefs
12	Because we need to protect children from being taught that homosexuality is acceptable
5	Something else (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF Q12=2 "VOTED NO", ASK:

Q.14 What was the most important reason that you voted NO on Proposition 8? **[READ; RANDOMIZE]**

22	Because government should not be involved in personal relationships
56	Because it discriminates against gays and lesbians and the law should treat everyone the same
17	Because same-sex marriage doesn't affect me one way or the other
3	Something else (VOL.)
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

IF NOT REGISTERED (REGIST=2,9 OR REGICERT=2,9), INSERT FOLLOWING

STATEMENT: "In 2008, California passed Proposition 8, the state constitutional amendment to eliminate the right of same sex couples to marry."

Q.15 Do you think the passage of Proposition 8 was a good thing for California, a bad thing or do you think it hasn't really made any difference?

22	A good thing
29	A bad thing
45	Hasn't made any difference
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.16 If you had to vote on a similar ballot proposition tomorrow, would you vote to keep same-sex marriage ILLEGAL or would you vote to allow gay and lesbian couples the opportunity to get married?

45	Vote to keep same-sex marriage ILLEGAL
51	Vote to allow gay and lesbian couples to get married
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

ATTEND Aside from weddings and funerals, how often do you attend religious services... more than once a week, once a week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, seldom, or never?

13 More than once a week
21 Once a week
16 Once or twice a month
19 A few times a year
17 Seldom
13 Never
1 Don't know (VOL.)
100 Total

Q.17 How important is religion in your life – the most important thing, very important, somewhat important, not too important, or not at all important?

16 The most important thing
39 Very important
23 Somewhat important
10 Not too important
11 Not at all important
1 Don't know (VOL.)
100 Total

Q.18 Which comes closest to your view? **[READ, IN ORDER]: [Holy book] is word of God OR [Holy book] is written by men and is not the word of God. [Holy book: If Christian or no religion (RELIG=1-4, 9, 10, 12, 13 OR CHR=1 OR S3=1) insert "the Bible"; If Jewish (RELIG=5), insert "the Torah" ; If Muslim (RELIG=6), insert, "the Koran" ; If other non-Christian affiliations (RELIG=7,8,14 OR (RELIG=11 AND CHR=2,9)), insert "the Holy Scripture" ; IF DK/REF IN RELIGION (RELIG=99) AND CHR=2,9, insert "the Bible"]**

IF BELIEVE HOLY BOOK IS WORD OF GOD (Q.18=1), ASK:

Q.19 And would you say that **[READ, IN ORDER]?** [Holy book] is to be taken literally, word for word OR not everything in [Holy book] should be taken literally, word for word.

60 **[Holy book] is the word of God**
30 *[Holy book] is to be taken literally, word for word*
27 *Not everything in [Holy book] should be taken literally, word for word.*
3 *Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)*
33 **[Holy book] is a book written by men and is not the word of God.**
2 **Other/Don't know/Refused (VOL.)**
5 Don't know (VOL.)
100 Total

IF R HAS RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION (RELIG=1-8,11,13,14 OR CHR=1 OR S3=1), ASK:

Q.20 Now I'm going to read you a few pairs of statements. For each pair, tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views — even if neither is exactly right. The first pair is... **[READ AND RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS; ROTATE OPTIONS]**

- a. 1—Religious people should focus on trying to improve and heal the world in order to bring about the reign of God on earth
OR
2—Religious people should focus on living faithful lives that serve as examples to others since ultimately it is up to God to bring about a just and peaceful world

25 FIRST STATEMENT
20 -Strongly
5 -Not Strongly
68 SECOND STATEMENT
9 -Not Strongly
59 -Strongly
3 Both (VOL.)
2 Neither (VOL.)
2 Don't know (VOL.)
100 Total

- b. 1—When religious people get involved in politics, they should focus primarily on issues of equality and economic justice
OR
2—When religious people get involved in politics, they should focus primarily on issues of personal morality and responsibility

55 FIRST STATEMENT
45 -Strongly
10 -Not Strongly
35 SECOND STATEMENT
7 -Not Strongly
28 -Strongly
3 Both (VOL.)
5 Neither (VOL.)
2 Don't know (VOL.)
100 Total

- c. 1—In the end, being a religious person is primarily about living a good life and doing the right thing
OR
2—In the end, being a religious person is primarily about having faith and the right beliefs

60	FIRST STATEMENT
54	-Strongly
6	-Not Strongly
34	SECOND STATEMENT
3	-Not Strongly
31	-Strongly
4	Both (VOL.)
2	Neither (VOL.)
*	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.21 Do you believe in God or a universal spirit?

IF BELIEVE IN GOD/UNIVERSAL SPIRIT (Q.21=1), ASK:

Q.22 Which comes closest to your view of God? God is a person with whom people can have a relationship OR God is an impersonal force?

89	Yes, believe in God
53	<i>God is a person</i>
31	<i>God is an impersonal force</i>
2	<i>Both/Neither/Other (VOL.)</i>
3	<i>Don't know (VOL.)</i>
8	No, do not believe in God
<u>3</u>	Other/Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF BELIEVE IN GOD/UNIVERSAL SPIRIT (Q.21=1), ASK:

Q.23 People have different views about what God is like. When you think about God, how likely are each of the following images to come to your mind. How about... **[INSERT; FIRST, RANDOMIZE]**. Would you say that is extremely likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not likely at all to come to your mind? How about... **[INSERT; NEXT]**
REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Is that extremely likely, somewhat likely, not too likely or not at all likely?

a. God as Father

58	Extremely likely
24	Somewhat likely
7	Not too likely
9	Not at all likely
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. God as Judge

44	Extremely likely
26	Somewhat likely
12	Not too likely
16	Not at all likely
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

c. God as Mother

18	Extremely likely
21	Somewhat likely
19	Not too likely
39	Not at all likely
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

d. God as Liberator

36	Extremely likely
29	Somewhat likely
14	Not too likely
16	Not at all likely
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.24 Now I'm going to read a few statements. Please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree with each statement. First...
[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]. Next...

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree?

ASK ALL:

a. Our culture and way of life are changing too rapidly

35	Completely agree
36	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
7	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. The government is really run for the benefit of all the people

17	Completely agree
30	Mostly agree
30	Mostly disagree
21	Completely disagree
<u>2</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF BELIEVE IN GOD/UNIVERSAL SPIRIT (Q.21=1), ASK:

c. God rewards individuals who have faith with good health and success at home and work

23	Completely agree
36	Mostly agree
22	Mostly disagree
16	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Turning to another subject...

Q.25 Compared to your views five years ago, are your current views about rights for gay and lesbian people generally more supportive, more opposed, or have they not changed?

25	More Supportive
8	More Opposed
66	No Change
<u>1</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.26 Now please tell me whether you Completely agree, Mostly agree, Mostly disagree or Completely disagree with the following statements **[READ AND ROTATE a-c THEN READ AND ROTATE d-g]**

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with this statement?

a. If same-sex marriage were legal, then children would be more likely to experiment with homosexuality

19	Completely agree
18	Mostly agree
22	Mostly disagree
38	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. More environmental protection is needed even if it raises prices or costs jobs

31	Completely agree
32	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
14	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

c. Gay and lesbian people should be eligible for ordination as clergy with no special requirements

21	Completely agree
26	Mostly agree
17	Mostly disagree
29	Completely disagree
<u>7</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Sexual orientation is determined at birth

26	Completely agree
25	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
21	Completely disagree
<u>8</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

e. Homosexual orientation can be changed

15	Completely agree
19	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
37	Completely disagree
<u>8</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

f. Gay and lesbian relationships should be accepted by society

38	Completely agree
29	Mostly agree
13	Mostly disagree
17	Completely disagree
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

g. Sexual relations between two adults of the same gender is always wrong

24	Completely agree
12	Mostly agree
21	Mostly disagree
39	Completely disagree
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

IF ATTEND AT LEAST ONCE OR TWICE A MONTH (ATTEND<4), ASK:

Thinking about your place of worship...

Q.27 Does the clergy at your place of worship ever speak out about the issue of homosexuality?

IF 'YES' SPEAKS ABOUT ISSUE (Q27=1), ASK:

Q.28 When your clergy has spoken about homosexuality, do they say it is something that should be accepted, something that should be discouraged, or don't they take a position on the issue?

48	Yes, does speak out
6	<i>Should be accepted</i>
28	<i>Should be discouraged</i>
12	<i>Does not take a position</i>
2	<i>Don't know (VOL.)</i>
49	No, does not speak out
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.28a Generally speaking do you think the issue of homosexuality is something that clergy should be speaking out on?

42	Yes, should
51	No, should not
2	Depends (VOL.)
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.29 A variety of groups and individuals have been involved in public discussion about the issue of homosexuality. Please tell me how much you trust the opinions and information provided by each of the following groups or individuals. **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]** Would you say a lot, a little or not at all?

REPEAT AS NECESSARY: Is that a lot, a little or not at all?

ASK FORM 1:

af1. Your own clergy leader

30	A lot
34	A little
28	Not at all
<u>8</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

bf1. Gay or lesbian couples

33	A lot
35	A little
27	Not at all
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

cf1. Teachers

21	A lot
46	A little
29	Not at all
<u>4</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2:

df2. Clergy leaders from a denomination different than your own

11	A lot
46	A little
37	Not at all
<u>6</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ef2. Parents of gay or lesbian children

32	A lot
42	A little
21	Not at all
<u>5</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ff2. Doctors and therapists

33	A lot
47	A little
17	Not at all
<u>3</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 1 ONLY:

Q.30F1 Do you think the fact that gay and lesbian couples who are in long-term committed relationships cannot get married is fair, is unfair, or is it not a question of fairness?

9	Fair
44	Unfair
45	Not an issue of fairness
2	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK FORM 2 ONLY:

Q.31F2 Please tell me if you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree with the following statement. The Golden Rule tells us to treat everyone as we would like to be treated. We should apply the Golden Rule to gay and lesbian couples who are in long-term committed relationships and allow them the same opportunity to get married as everyone else.

41	Completely agree
17	Mostly agree
15	Mostly disagree
24	Completely disagree
3	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

ASK ALL:

Q.32 Do you have a close friend or family member who is gay or lesbian?

57	Yes
42	No
1	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

END OF INTERVIEW.

THANK RESPONDENT: Thank you again for your time. Have a nice day/evening.

I HEREBY ATTEST THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND HONEST INTERVIEW.

INTERVIEWER: ENTER INITIALS

METHODOLOGY

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute and funded by the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, with additional support from the Ford Foundation. Results of the survey were based on bilingual (Spanish and English) telephone interviews conducted between June 14, 2010 and June 30, 2010 by professional interviewers under the direction of Directions in Research. Interviews were conducted by telephone among a random sample of 2,801 adults age 18 years of age or older in California, with additional oversamples of 350 African Americans and 200 Latino Protestants. The final sample was weighted to ensure proper representativeness.

The weighting was accomplished in two stages. The first stage corrected for the oversampling of the African Americans and Latino Protestants. In the second stage, sample demographics were balanced by form to match target population parameters for gender, age, education, race and Hispanic ethnicity, region, and population density. The population density parameter was derived from Census 2000 data. The region parameter was derived from the Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program data. All other weighting parameters were derived from an analysis of the Census Bureau's 2009 Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) data.

The sample weighting was accomplished using Sample Balancing, a special iterative sample weighting program that simultaneously balances the distributions of all variables. Weights were trimmed to prevent individual interviews from having too much influence on the final results. The use of these weights in statistical analysis ensures that the demographic characteristics of the sample closely approximate the demographic characteristics of the target populations.

The margin of error is +/- 2.0% for the general state sample at the 95% confidence interval. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context, and order effects.