

Gallup

64% isolated incidents
73% not us, but by circumstances
violated policy

76% suspicious

Everyone regardless of opinion of war
BOTH SIDES

	Jan	2 weeks ago	
Going well	70	55	46
Not well	25	46	51

↓ Gallup First Time
"War not worth it"

going fwd

53 53

40 42

NOT quite tipping point

44 approve 48 app

	April	MAY
Kerry	46	50
Bush	47	46

News hour

MAY NOT HAVE TIPPING POINT BUT SHAKEN SUPPORT TOTTERING

ABU Ghannib powerful impact on public opinion about IRAQ

Unlike Shia revolt + fallup atrocities ~~made~~ made majority ~~view~~ came to view IRAQ not going well

But - Bolton did not fall out

AS 2 weeks ago -

insert

keep troops there to keep country STABLE

Big Political impact too

Bush Rating back in negative terrain - down in 2 weeks ago - rally

33% satisfied with state of nation - (was 45% Jan)

Small jump in support for Kerry

- Gallup shows too

- not a lead when made vote

- consider

~~But this is ABOUT BUSH~~ most Kerry backers ~~are~~

2701 Anti Bush
versus ~~Pro~~ Pro Kern

Bush
3 TO Pro Bush

Positive words
38 37 ~~one~~
words

B K
65 23
50 31

B K
30 42

Late
in AM
B 49 44
K 37 41

Are
Horse race # about Bush
TOD

Bush Image less positive
26 to say less favor views
- more criticism of
"competence" February

still Bush positive
strong leadership image
TAKE STAY ~~in~~
SR by ~~lead~~
SMS

Kern Image down too
fewer say honest
word words

Positive words 23% now 38% Feb
~~36~~ ~~19~~

Flip flop change side
change in d

~~Positive~~
~~more~~
rest

Issues

~~Kern~~ ~~Wider~~ ~~margin~~

Wider Kern margin over Bush Jobs
Economy - Health Care

ALMOST AS many confidence
in K AS B on deal with
WAR

36 700 ml
35 right around

disappointed

shakes

In Prison Scandal ~~Wake~~: Opinion on Bush and Iraq

	Early	Early Late		
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
	%	%	%	%
<i>Bush job</i>				
Approve	58	43	48	44
Disapprove	35	47	43	48
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Iraq effort is going...</i>				
Very/Fairly well	70	57	55	46
Not too/at all well	25	39	41	51
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Military action was...</i>				
Right decision	62	57	54	51
Wrong decision	28	35	37	42
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>What to do now...</i>				
Keep troops in	63	50	53	53
Bring troops home	32	44	40	42
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100

Partisans Differ in Assessments of War

	<i>its</i> Total	--- Party ID ---		
		Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Very well	10	16	8	9
Fairly well	36	54	24	33
Not well	51	26	67	55
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100

Press Attention to Prison Abuse Story?

	Total	--- Party ID ---			--- Male ---	
		Rep	Dem	Ind	Vet-eran	Non-Vet
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Too much	36	49	26	36	52	36
Too little	17	8	26	16	11	17
Right amount	39	37	40	41	33	41
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	100

National satisfaction at eight-year low

Bush "~~willing to take a stand,~~" but "stubborn"

Kerry "~~changes his mind too much~~"

Declining number of swing voters

Most still predict Bush victory

Opinion of Bush Drives Home Race,

~~Too much copy in swing states~~

~~Backlash on Prison~~

Too much

Prison Abuse Coverage Too much

Campaign news in swing states!

Bush Leads on Terrorism, Kerry Gains Elsewhere

<i>Who can best handle...</i>	<u>Bush</u> %	<u>Kerry</u> %	<u>Neither</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Terrorism	52	33	5	10=100
Late March	53	29	4	14=100
Mid-March	57	32	4	7=100
Situation in Iraq	44	41	4	11=100
Late March	49	37	4	10=100
Mid-March	47	45	2	6=100
Foreign policy	43	42	4	11=100
Late March	44	38	4	14=100
Mid-March	44	45	3	8=100
Trade policies	40	40	6	14=100
Late March	38	39	5	18=100
Mid-March	38	48	3	11=100
Economy	38	48	5	9=100
Late March	39	44	6	11=100
Mid-March	37	53	2	8=100
Education	35	50	5	10=100
Late March	39	43	5	13=100
Mid-March	36	52	3	9=100
Job situation	35	50	5	10=100
Late March	37	45	7	11=100
Mid-March	30	57	5	8=100
Health care	29	51	7	13=100
Late March	33	46	6	15=100
Mid-March	29	57	4	10=100

Bush Strong Leader but Stubborn, Kerry Caring but Indecisive

	<i>Phrase better describes...</i>				
	<u>Bush</u> %	<u>Kerry</u> %	<u>Neither</u> %	<u>Both</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Stubborn	68	12	4	5	11=100
Willing to take a stand	65	23	3	4	5=100
A strong leader	50	31	8	4	7=100
Good judgment in crisis	47	35	4	5	9=100
Personally likable	42	39	6	8	5=100
Down to earth	43	40	8	3	6=100
Honest and truthful	34	36	17	4	9=100
Cares about people	34	45	8	5	8=100
Changes mind too much	30	42	8	5	15=100

Based on registered voters.

Kerry's Glitter Gone

	<u>May 2003</u> %	<u>Feb 2004</u> %	<u>May 2004</u> %
Bush			
Positive	52	36	33
Negative	27	36	37
Neutral	9	13	13
No answer/DK	<u>12</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>17</u>
	100	100	100
Kerry			
Positive	--	38	23
Negative	--	19	28
Neutral	--	21	18
No answer/DK	--	<u>22</u>	<u>31</u>
		100	100

Bush Drives Opinion

<u>May</u>	Mid- Late			
	<u>Feb</u> %	<u>Mar</u> %	<u>Mar</u> %	<u>Mar</u> %
Kerry Supporters				
Voting for Kerry	33	40	35	30
Voting against Bush	64	56	58	64
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	100	100	100	100
Bush Supporters				
Voting for Bush	84	79	78	74
Voting against Kerry	12	17	17	21
Don't know	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100

Bush Leads on Terrorism, Kerry Gains Elsewhere

Who can best handle...	Bush	Kerry	Neither	DK
	%	%	%	%
Terrorism	52	33	5	10=100
Late March	53	29	4	14=100
Mid-March	57	32	4	7=100
Situation in Iraq	44	41	4	11=100
Late March	49	37	4	10=100
Mid-March	47	45	2	6=100
Foreign policy	43	42	4	11=100
Late March	44	38	4	14=100
Mid-March	44	45	3	8=100
Trade policies	40	40	6	14=100
Late March	38	39	5	18=100
Mid-March	38	48	3	11=100
Economy	38	48	5	9=100
Late March	39	44	6	11=100
Mid-March	37	53	2	8=100
Education	35	50	5	10=100
Late March	39	43	5	13=100
Mid-March	36	52	3	9=100
Job situation	35	50	5	10=100
Late March	37	45	7	11=100
Mid-March	30	57	5	8=100
Health care	29	51	7	13=100
Late March	33	46	6	15=100
Mid-March	29	57	4	10=100

Bush Strong Leader but Stubborn, Kerry Caring but Indecisive

Phrase better describes...	Bush	Kerry	Neither	Both	DK
	%	%	%	%	%
Stubborn	68	12	4	5	11=100
Willing to take a stand	65	23	3	4	5=100
A strong leader	50	31	8	4	7=100
Good judgment in crisis	47	35	4	5	9=100
Personally likable	42	39	6	8	5=100
Down to earth	43	40	8	3	6=100
Honest and truthful	34	36	17	4	9=100
Cares about people	34	45	8	5	8=100
Changes mind too much	30	42	8	5	15=100

Based on registered voters.

Kerry's Glitter Gone

	May 2003	Feb 2004	May 2004
Bush	%	%	%
Positive	52	36	33
Negative	27	36	37
Neutral	9	13	13
No answer/DK	12	15	17
	100	100	100
Kerry			
Positive	--	38	23
Negative	--	19	28
Neutral	--	21	18
No answer/DK	--	22	31
		100	100

Bush Drives Opinion

	May	Mid-Feb	Late Mar	Late Mar
Kerry Supporters	%	%	%	%
Voting for Kerry	33	40	35	30
Voting against Bush	64	56	58	64
Don't know	3	4	7	6
	100	100	100	100
Bush Supporters				
Voting for Bush	84	79	78	74
Voting against Kerry	12	17	17	21
Don't know	4	4	5	5
	100	100	100	100

In Prison Scandal's Wake: Opinion on Bush and Iraq

	Early	Early Late		
	<u>Jan</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
<i>Bush job</i>	%	%	%	%
Approve	58	43	48	44
Disapprove	35	47	43	48
Don't know	<u>7</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Iraq effort is going...</i>				
Very/Fairly well	70	57	55	46
Not too/at all well	25	39	41	51
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>Military action was...</i>				
Right decision	62	57	54	51
Wrong decision	28	35	37	42
Don't know	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100
<i>What to do now...</i>				
Keep troops in	63	50	53	53
Bring troops home	32	44	40	42
Don't know	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>
	100	100	100	100

Partisans Differ in Assessments of War

	<i>its going:</i>	<u>Total</u>	--- Party ID ---		
			<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>
	%	%	%	%	
Very well	10	16	8	9	
Fairly well	36	54	24	33	
Not well	51	26	67	55	
Don't know	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	
	100	100	100	100	

Press Attention to Prison Abuse Story?

	<u>Total</u>	--- Party ID ---			-- Male --	
		<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Ind</u>	<u>Vet-eran</u>	<u>Non-Vet</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	
Too much	36	49	26	36	52	36
Too little	17	8	26	16	11	17
Right amount	39	37	40	41	33	41
Don't know	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
	100	100	100	100	100	

a little BACKLASH
~~any~~
 more POST
~~Behind~~
 Beheading



Powered by Clickability

USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup Poll results

1. How much thought have you given to the upcoming election for president -- quite a lot, or only a little?

	Quite a lot	Some	Only a little	None	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	64	4	27	4	1
2004 May 2-4	64	4	30	2	*
2004 Feb 6-8	52	6	38	4	*
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	58	5	32	4	1
2004 Jan 9-11	48	4	44	4	*
2004 Jan 2-5	45	2	48	4	1

2. If Massachusetts Senator John Kerry were the Democratic Party's candidate and George W. Bush were the Republican Party's candidate, who would you be more likely to vote for: John Kerry, the Democrat or George W. Bush, the Republican?

	Kerry	Bush	Neither	Other	No opinion
Likely Voters					
2004 May 7-9	47	48	2	1	2
2004 May 2-4	49	48	1	*	2
2004 Apr 16-18	46	51	2	*	1
2004 Feb 16-17	55	43	1	*	1
2004 Feb 6-8	48	49	1	*	2
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	53	46	*	--	1
2004 Jan 9-11	43	55	1	*	1
Registered Voters					
2004 May 7-9	50	44	3	*	3
2004 May 2-4	47	47	2	1	3
2004 Apr 16-18	46	50	2	*	2
2004 Feb 16-17	51	46	2	*	1
2004 Feb 6-8	49	48	1	*	2
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	51	46	1	--	2
2004 Jan 9-11	40	57	2	--	1
National Adults					
2004 May 7-9	51	43	3	*	3
2004 May 2-4	47	46	3	1	3
2004 Apr 16-18	46	49	2	1	2

2004 Feb 16-17	51	44	3	*	2
2004 Feb 6-8	48	48	2	*	2
2004 Jan 29-Feb 1	52	44	2	--	2
2004 Jan 9-11	40	57	2	--	1

3. Now suppose Ralph Nader runs as an independent candidate, who would you be most likely to vote for: Kerry, the Democrat, Bush, the Republican, or Nader, the independent?

	Kerry	Bush	Nader	None	Other	No opinion
Likely Voters						
2004 May 7-9	45	47	5	2	--	1
2004 May 2-4	47	47	3	1	*	2
2004 Apr 16-18	44	50	4	*	*	2
2004 Mar 5-7	50	44	2	1	1	2
Registered Voters						
2004 May 7-9	46	41	7	3	*	3
2004 May 2-4	44	45	6	1	1	3
2004 Apr 16-18	44	47	5	1	*	3
2004 Mar 5-7	47	45	5	1	*	2
National Adults						
2004 May 7-9	46	41	8	3	*	2
2004 May 2-4	44	44	7	1	1	3
2004 Apr 16-18	43	46	7	1	*	3
2004 Mar 5-7	47	44	5	1	1	2

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	46	51	3
2004 May 2-4	49	48	3
2004 Apr 16-18	52	45	3
2004 Apr 5-8	52	45	3
2004 Mar 26-28	53	44	3
2004 Jan 9-11	59	38	3
2003 Aug 4-6	60	36	4
2003 Apr 22-23	70	26	4
2003 Jan 3-5	63	32	5
2002 Sep 13-16	70	26	4
2002 May 6-9	76	19	5
2002 Jan 7-9	84	12	4

5. In general, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in the United States at this time?

	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	37	62	1
2004 May 2-4	36	62	2
2004 Apr 5-8	41	57	2
2004 Mar 8-11	39	60	1

2004 Feb 9-12	45	54	1
2004 Jan 12-15	46	53	1
2004 Jan 2-5	55	43	2
2003 Aug 4-6	46	52	2
2003 Mar 22-23	60	38	2
2003 Jan 13-16	42	56	2
2002 Aug 5-8	47	50	3
2002 May 6-9	56	40	4
2002 Jan 7-9	65	32	3

6. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling:

A. The economy

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	41	56	3
2004 May 2-4	41	56	3
2004 Apr 16-18	46	52	2
2004 Jan 2-5	54	43	3
2003 May 5-7	53	44	3
2003 Jan 3-5	49	47	4
2002 May 20-22	61	29	10
2002 Jan 25-27	64	30	6

^ Asked of a half sample

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A. For results based on this sample, the maximum margin of error is ±5 percentage points.

B. The situation in Iraq

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	41	58	1
2004 May 2-4	42	55	3
2004 Apr 16-18	48	49	3
2004 Jan 2-5	61	36	3
2003 Aug 25-26	57	41	2
2003 Apr 14-16	76	21	3

^ Asked of half sample.

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

C. Terrorism

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	54	43	3
2004 May 2-4	52	45	3
2004 Apr 16-18	60	39	1
2004 Mar 26-28	58	39	3
2003 Aug 25-26	66	31	3
2003 Jan 31-Feb 2	71	26	3

2002 May 20-22 ^ 83 13 4

^ Asked of a half sample

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

7. Next, regardless of which presidential candidate you support, please tell me if you think John Kerry or George W. Bush would better handle each of the following issues.

A. The economy

	Kerry	Bush	Same	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	54	40	1	5
2004 Mar 5-7	50	42	2	6

^ Asked of half sample.

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B. For results based on this sample, the maximum margin of error is ±5 percentage points.

B. The situation in Iraq

	Kerry	Bush	Same	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	45	48	1	6
2004 Mar 5-7	39	54	2	5

^ Asked of half sample.

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

C. Terrorism

	Kerry	Bush	Same	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	38	55	1	6
2004 Mar 5-7	33	60	2	5

^ Asked of half sample.

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

8. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Rumsfeld is handling his job as Secretary of Defense? (NOTE: Gallup Poll question)

	Approve	Disapprove	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	46	45	9
2003 Oct 10-12	58	36	6
2003 Apr 5-6	71	21	8

9. All in all, do you think it was worth going to war in Iraq, or not?

	Worth it	Not worth it	No opinion
2004 May 7-9 ^	44	54	2
2004 May 2-4	50	47	3
2004 Apr 16-18 ^	52	46	2
2004 Apr 5-8	50	47	3
2004 Mar 26-28	56	41	3
2004 Jan 9-11	59	38	3

2003 Aug 25-26 †	63	35	2
2003 Apr 14-16 †‡	73	23	4

^ Asked of a half sample.

† WORDING: All in all, do you think the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, or not?

‡ WORDING: All in all, do you think the situation in Iraq was worth going to war over, or not?

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

10. In view of the developments since we first sent our troops to Iraq, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending troops to Iraq, or not?

	Yes	No	No opinion
Iraq			
2004 May 7-9	44	54	2
2004 Apr 16-18	42	57	1
2004 Jan 12-15	42	56	2
2003 Nov 3-5	39	60	1
2003 Oct 6-8	40	59	1
2003 Jul 7-9	27	72	1
2003 Mar 24-25	23	75	2
Afghanistan			
2002 Jan 7-9	6	93	1
2001 Nov 8-11	9	89	2
Yugoslavia			
1999 Jun 4-5	43	53	4
1999 Apr 21	42	51	7
Persian Gulf War			
1991 Jul 18-21	15	82	3
1991 Feb 28-Mar 3	10	87	3
1991 Feb 7-10	21	76	3

AFGHANISTAN WORDING: Do you think the United States made a mistake in sending military forces to Afghanistan, or not?

YUGOSLAVIA WORDING: In view of the developments since we entered the fighting in Yugoslavia, do you think the United States made a mistake sending military forces to fight in Yugoslavia?

PERSIAN GULF WAR WORDING (Feb. 28-Mar 3, 1991-Jul. 18-21, 1991): In view of the developments since we first sent our troops to the Persian Gulf region, do you think the United States made a mistake in sending troops to the Persian Gulf region, or not?

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

11. Which comes closest to your view about what the U.S. should now do about the number of U.S. troops in Iraq: the U.S. should send more troops to Iraq, the U.S. should keep the number of troops as it is now, the U.S. should withdraw some troops from Iraq, or the U.S. should withdraw all of its troops from Iraq?

	Send more troops	Keep as it is now	Withdraw some troops	Withdraw all troops	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	25	24	18	29	4
2004 Apr 16-18	33	25	16	21	5
2004 Apr 5-8	20	29	18	28	5

2004 Jan 2-5	11	40	29	16	4
2003 Aug 25-26 ^	15	36	32	14	3

^ WORDING: Which comes closest to your view about what the U.S. should now do about the number of U.S. troops in Iraq: the U.S. should send more troops to Iraq, the U.S. should keep the number of troops as it is now, the U.S. should begin to withdraw some troops from Iraq, or the U.S. should withdraw all of its troops from Iraq?

12. If President Bush decides to send more troops to Iraq, would you be upset, or not?

	2004 May 7-9	2004 Apr 16-18
No, not upset	49	57
(Think U.S. should send more troops)		(25) (33)
(Do not think U.S. should send more troops)		(24) (24)
Yes, upset	45	38
No opinion	6	5

13. How closely have you been following the news about evidence of U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners, including incidents that involve photographs of the abuse — very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?

	Very closely	Somewhat closely	Not too closely	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	41	39	15	5	--

COMPARISON

Date	News event	Very closely	Somewhat closely	Not too closely	Not at all	No opinion
2001 Sep 14-15	Terrorist Attacks on New York City and Washington, DC	77	20	2	1	0
2003 Mar 22-23	War between U.S. and Iraq	63	32	4	1	0
1997 Sep 6-7	Death of Princess Diana	55	30	11	3	1
1991 Feb 24	Beginning of Ground War in Iraq	53	31	13	3	1
2002 Oct 21-22	The sniper shootings	50	41	8	1	*
2000 Nov 11-12	Situation surrounding Tuesday's presidential election	46	41	10	3	*
2003 Jan 3-5	The situation with Iraq	43	46	9	2	*
2004 May 7-9	U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners	41	39	15	5	--
1999 Jul 22-25	Death of John F. Kennedy, Jr.	39	42	16	3	*
2003 Jan 23-25	UN inspections for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq	39	49	10	2	*
2000 Oct 25-	Tax proposals of Bush and	36	38	16	9	1

28	Gore					
2000 Nov. 26- 27	Situation surrounding the presidential election	35	42	17	5	1
2000 Jan 25- 26	Elian Gonzales	34	44	17	4	1
2000 Sept 7-9	Firestone Tire Controversy	34	44	14	6	2
2000 Oct 25- 28	Social Security proposals to create private retirement accounts	34	40	16	9	1
1999 Apr 13- 14	Situation in Kosovo	34	50	13	3	*
2002 Apr 5-7	The situation in the Middle East	34	45	18	3	*
2003 Jul 25-27	The killings of Uday and Qusay Hussein	34	44	16	6	*
2000 Oct 25- 28	The issue of hate crimes	33	44	15	7	1
1998 Aug 21- 23	Clinton-Lewinsky Matter	33	50	15	2	*

14. Would you say the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by U.S. soldiers bothers you – a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all?

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	54	25	11	9	1

15. Do you think the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by U.S. soldiers are isolated incidents, or do you think they are common occurrences?

	Isolated incidents	Common occurrences	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	64	30	6

16. Which comes closer to your view: there are circumstances in which you might find this type of behavior by U.S. soldiers justified, or there are no circumstances under which this type of behavior by U.S. soldiers would be justified?

	Circumstances in which justified	No circumstances under which justified	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	23	73	4

17. Based on what you have read or heard, which of the following statements about the actions the soldiers took in the abuse cases comes closer to your view: they were actions based on accepted U.S. military policy about how to deal with prisoners of war, or they were actions that violated accepted U.S. military policy about how to deal with prisoners of war?

	Accepted policy	Violated policy	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	14	79	7

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

18. Do you think the U.S. soldiers who were involved in the photographed incidents of abuse were following orders or were they acting on their own?

	Following orders	Acting on own	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	34	56	10

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

19. Which comes closer to your view about the actions of the U.S. soldiers involved in the photographed incidents of abuse: they were mostly harmless pranks that do not deserve any major punishment, or they were mostly serious offenses that deserve criminal punishment?

	Harmless pranks	Serious offenses	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	18	71	11

20. How much do you blame each of the following for the abuse of prisoners by U.S. soldiers – a great deal, a fair amount, not much, or not at all?

A. President Bush

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	22	20	17	39	2

B. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	26	22	21	28	3

C. The officers who directly supervise the soldiers who carried out the abuse

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	60	25	7	5	3

D. The U.S. military intelligence officers who interrogated the prisoners

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	40	32	12	10	6

E. The soldiers who carried out the abuse at the prison

	A great deal	A fair amount	Not much	Not at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	65	18	8	6	3

21. Do you think Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld should – or should not – resign as a result of these incidents?

	Yes, should	No, should not	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	31	64	5

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

22. Do you think President Bush should – or should not – fire Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld as a result of these incidents?

	Yes, should	No, should not	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	29	62	9

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

23. Overall, do you feel the news media have acted responsibly or irresponsibly in this situation?

	Responsibly	Irresponsibly	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	55	41	4

COMPARISON

Date	News event	Responsibly	Irresponsibly	No opinion
2001 Sep 14-15	The Terrorist Attacks on New York City and Washington, DC	86	12	2
1999 Jul 22-25	The death of John F. Kennedy Jr.	75	22	3
1999 Apr 26-27	The shootings at the school in Littleton, Colorado on April 20, 1999	67	29	4
2001 Jul 10-11	The investigation into the disappearance of Chandra Levy	61	30	9
2003 Feb 17-19	Recent threats of terrorism in the United States	57	40	3
2002 Oct 21-22	The sniper shootings in Virginia, Maryland, DC area	57	38	5
2001 Mar 26-28	The recent school shootings	57	37	6
2004 May 7-9	U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners	55	41	4
2001 Aug 3-5	The investigation into the disappearance of Chandra Levy	53	39	8
1999 Feb 4-7	Bill Clinton's investigation and impeachment process	48	50	2
2001 Jun 8-10	Bush daughters issued citations by police with attempts to buy alcohol with false ID	42	54	4
1998 Jan 28	The alleged affair between Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky	37	55	8

24. Do you think the news about the incidents of abuse represent a major setback for the U.S. in the war against terrorism, a minor setback, or not really a setback at all?

	Major setback	Minor setback	Not really a setback at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	48	34	16	2

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

25. Do you think the news about the incidents of abuse represent a major setback for the U.S. in the war in Iraq, a minor setback, or not really a setback at all?

	Major setback	Minor setback	Not really a setback at all	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	49	36	14	1

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

26. When the U.S. decides to go to war, do you think U.S. soldiers generally do – or do not – have higher standards of behavior than soldiers from most other countries?

	Yes, do	No, do not	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	81	14	5

Based on 504 National Adults in Form A.

27. When the U.S. decides to go to war, do you think the U.S. generally does – or does not – have higher moral principles for going to war than most other countries?

	Yes, does	No, does not	No opinion
2004 May 7-9	74	22	4

Based on 499 National Adults in Form B.

Results are based on telephone interviews with 1,003 National Adults, aged 18+, conducted May 7-9, 2004. For results based on the total sample of National Adults, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of sampling error is ± 3 percentage points.

Results based on likely voters are based on the subsample of 575 survey respondents deemed most likely to vote in the November 2004 General Election, according to a series of questions measuring current voting intentions and past voting behavior. For results based on the total sample of likely voters, one can say with 95% confidence that the margin of sampling error is ± 5 percentage points. The likely voter model assumes a turnout of 50% of national adults, consistent with recent presidential elections. The likely voter sample is weighted down to match this assumption.

For results based on the sample of 896 registered voters, the maximum margin of sampling error is ± 4 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of public opinion polls.

Find this article at:

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/politicselections/nation/polls/usatodaypolls.htm>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

Kate Deluca

From: Laura Dine [ldine@newshour.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2004 12:24 PM
To: ANDYKO@aol.com
Subject: Draft of the Denver Group segment

Hi Andy,

This may change slightly, but you get the idea.

Laura

Q: Thank you all for being here. The abuses in the prison now have been known now, the pictures have been on tv for a week or so. There have been other developments. I'm interested in your reactions to this. How it's changed over the last week. Eric Duran, how do you generally feel about this?

Eric: I think sometimes we put unrealistic expectations on those who are defending our country. We're putting them in a highly stressful situation. And it would be very hard to you know, distinguish between um, right and wrong when you're put into such a difficult and stressful situation, but it's up to, I think, our civilian leadership um, Rumsfeld and other people higher up in government to make sure that they do their jobs responsibly, and I don't think that's been done. And so I hope somebody will be held accountable.

Q: Dennis Coughlin, you've been in situations like this, you were in the military police, what, how do you react?

DC: I was in the National Guard and was in the Air Police and was sent over to Korea, but I disagree with, with Eric. Any reasonable man, under any situation, understands that this uh, behavior was absolutely repugnant. You don't need training to uh, to determine that. // I don't buy the fact that you are put in a highly stressful situation and therefore that is what tipped you over to do these repugnant, immoral, disgusting acts.

Q: Mo Matthews, you've been in the military yourself. Now you're retired. I mean, how do you see it?

Mo: I could argue it either way. These young men are in a stressful situation there. We don't apparently have enough of them to guard the number of prisoners we have. // There's been obviously a failure in the chain of command. There's an animal in all of us that can come out if the situation is not right and it requires the chain of command to be very strong, very observant, and, and on its toes all the time. I think also there's been a great failure from the top, from the very start of the war.

Q: These criticisms you're making, you're not making them as a died in the wool Democrat, are you? You're a registered Independent.

Mo: I'm a registered Independent. I voted for George Bush.

Q: And now?

Mo: I can't wait to vote against him now.

Q: Bob Grabowski, you've been in the military as well. I mean, what happens? Do people change their personalities in the military? Lose their morals?

RG: No, they don't. I, I think you have as many snafus in the military as you have in civilian life. // I think human nature, we all have a, let's just say a bad side. And left unchecked and with nobody standing over their shoulder and watching, uh, the animal starts to get bigger and stronger every day.

Q: David Foster, //you've been supporting the war. Has it made any difference in, in your support?

David: Oh not, not one bit. I mean I, I, I absolutely supported the war, like the many, many Americans who did at the beginning and I'm not going to play you know Monday quarterback here. I support the war. I think this is a terrible thing that has happened. Um, but this is kind of a sad statement. I mean I wasn't entirely shocked um, by this. I,

Q: Why not?

David: Well, because I think that there are just bad people and bad people do bad things and unfortunately, in this particular circumstance, uh, it was left unchecked.

Mark: We're supposed to be the good guys. I mean the whole premise of the war at this point is that, was a moral premise as the threat premises sort of melted away, we're supposed to be there to provide freedom and democracy and it's an American way of life that we have been telling ourselves is virtuous beyond compare, and now all of a sudden, we're forced to look in the mirror at this really cold, hard vision of ourselves. And I think, I think it's abhorrent to most people and a lot of people want to make excuses for it. But I think until we accept this image of American, America as a colonizer. // I mean Arabs are thought to be simply less than human, quite frankly as animal. Which is ironic in that we're there to free them.

Q: Dee Cisneros.

Dee: I want to thank the media. I think the media has, has been our protector. // If it hadn't been for the media that brought these pictures out, I don't know if we would have ever heard about any of this. // I think it's very hypocritical of the President to apologize to the Iraqis about this incident, which is abuse, while he hasn't apologized for killing the women and children that our sons and daughters are being sent there to kill.

Q: You actually have a grand--

A: Yes, I have a granddaughter who has been there since last spring.//

Q: Linda Houston, you're a pretty strong supporter of the President.

LH: I am. I think that um, first of all, how quickly we've forgotten 9/11 and why we went to begin with. But I think that our reasons for why we're in the war, are, are sort of um, you know we can talk about them forever and ever, but I think that what's happened now with the abuse is really important for us to look at as far as the um, the justice that will be done, and whether or not it will be done to all the leaders.

David: That's what's different about America. It's because within a week's time, we are now putting our own folks uh on, on TV in front of the Senate Armed Services Committee and we're trying to get to the bottom of this. And that's what distinguishes us from Saddam Hussein's regime and every other you know dictator around the world. So I'm, you know, at this, and trust me, this is a terrible time. This is, these are horrible things that have happened. But I am somewhat heartened by the fact that we live in America and there is a process by which we are going to uncover uh, you know these kinds of uh, problems and hopefully weed out--.

Susana: I would just like to make sure that whatever comes out as a result um, really gets at the heart of it. And I don't think it is only in America. Because if you look at like what happened with the truth and reconciliation trials, that's what will make me . . .

Q: In South Africa.

Susana: In South Africa. That's what will make me feel better about the process really being um, a good process. Um, getting at um, getting at the level of who is responsible and what are you doing around the reconciliation concerns.

Eric: You've already got the President of the United States that's come out in support of Donald Rumsfeld. You know is there going to be anybody? I guess this President's been really arrogant. Is there anybody that's going to

actually lose their job? Anybody that's going to get in trouble?

LH: I think what is so distressing for me is // how they have jeopardized every man and woman in uniform, in, in Iraq, I just think it's so sad. Um, I have a son in the Air Force, and it makes me sad to think that if he were captured, he would likely serve a more difficult torture due to this.

Q: All of these developments// has it changed the way you look at any of this politically or militarily or from a psychological point of view? What's changed in your own thinking or the way you look at America?

Dennis: Well, I don't look at America any different than I did before. I absolutely agree with what you say. The American people are appalled by this kind of action. Absolutely appalled. That's laudable. The acts are deplorable. But certainly the American reaction and all of us here, all of us here, no matter which, which way you're looking at it, are depl--, think these acts are deplorable.//

Q: Dr. Clark?

Clark: Well, I agree with you, Dennis, that . . . (*chuckle*) . . the fact of the matter is as Americans, I don't think there's one person here that's not outraged, etc. I think where we separate somewhat, is what do you do about it? Do we go through some kind of you know, pat on the wrist, or do you really hold people accountable, like a Rumsfeld, like a George Bush, who didn't even want to talk about an investigation of 9/11. When someone talks about 9/11 and we talk about Iraq, I can't connect those two dots, because we didn't have a strategy. We, we supposedly had a great strategy going in, but there was no exit strategy for Iraq.

Q: Mo Matthews?

Mo: I would hope this makes everybody realize there's no such thing as a neat tidy war. That was envisioned by the administration. There was very little talk about what would happen afterwards. It was going to be a snap, as a simple, and war is dirty and it always will be. And we should avoid it whenever possible.

Q: Linda?

Stahnke: I think we have to figure out what we need to do differently. We have to um, find out what went wrong, and make sure that we put some things in place that this doesn't keep happening. It's happened in other wars. It happened in Bosnia. And I think we have to fix it. There is something broken for this to be able to keep happening.

Q: Does any of this impact the coming election? Does it change votes? Does it impact the country?

A: Hopefully.

Stahnke: I think it's too far out.

Q: What do you mean too far out?

Stahnke: Americans forget. There are quite a few months between now and November. Memories are short.

Clark: Well I think it speaks to our own honesty and our own soul searching. Maybe we will forget, but I think that's a reflection on what it means to us. If this really has the impact that we just said, that we're outraged, I think we shouldn't forget in November and I think people will go to the polls with the right attitude that this is wrong and we don't want to be represented this way anymore.

Coughlin: To blame it on, on Rumsfeld or Bush, the truth of the matter is, they are too far removed from the corporal or the private or, or whomever committed these acts. It would be the same as if we looked at every governor and said, if you had someone in the state prison system it's your fault or every mayor that said, if we had a cop that did something that was repugnant, it's your fault.

Q: Alright. The answers have been very interesting. I really appreciate your honesty and I want to thank you all very much for being here.

A: Thank you.

END OF TRANSCRIPT