



First Focus – Convention on the Rights of the Child

Findings from a survey of 1,000 registered voters



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FIRST FOCUS

MAKING CHILDREN & FAMILIES THE PRIORITY



Methodology



Survey Methodology

Lake Research Partners designed and administered this survey which was conducted by telephone by professional interviewers. The survey reached a total of 1,000 registered voters nationwide. The survey was conducted July 26-29, 2009.

Telephone numbers were drawn from a random digit dialing (RDD) sample. Data were weighted slightly by gender, region, race, age, and party identification to reflect the attributes of this universe. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.1%.

In interpreting survey results, all sample surveys are subject to possible sampling error; that is, the results of a survey may differ from those which would be obtained if the entire population were interviewed. The size of the sampling error depends upon both the total number of respondents in the survey and the percentage distribution of responses to a particular question. For example, if 50% of respondents in the total sample answered "yes" to a particular question, we can be 95% confident that the true percentage will fall within +/-3.1 percentage points of this percentage or between 46.9% and 53.1%.



Strategic Summary



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Convention on the Rights of the Child

- Voters support ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the United States, with over half saying they favor this course of action. Intensity is greater among women than men. About one in four voters say they are not sure.
- All subgroups of voters net favor ratification by the United States.
- Across party lines, Democrats are most supportive, followed by Independents. The majority of Republicans still favors ratification. Though intensity among Republicans is low (33 percent strongly favor), they are still almost twice as likely to strongly favor ratification than they are to strongly oppose the U.S. taking this action. By comparison, 60 percent of Democrats and 43 percent of Independents strongly favor ratification.
- Older African Americans, strong Democrats, voters ages 70-74, unmarried women, and college women are among the subgroups of voters most likely to say they strongly favor the United States ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child. These include some of the voters who are either past having children or do not have children, but not all - suggesting a different dimension is being tapped.



Convention on the Rights of the Child

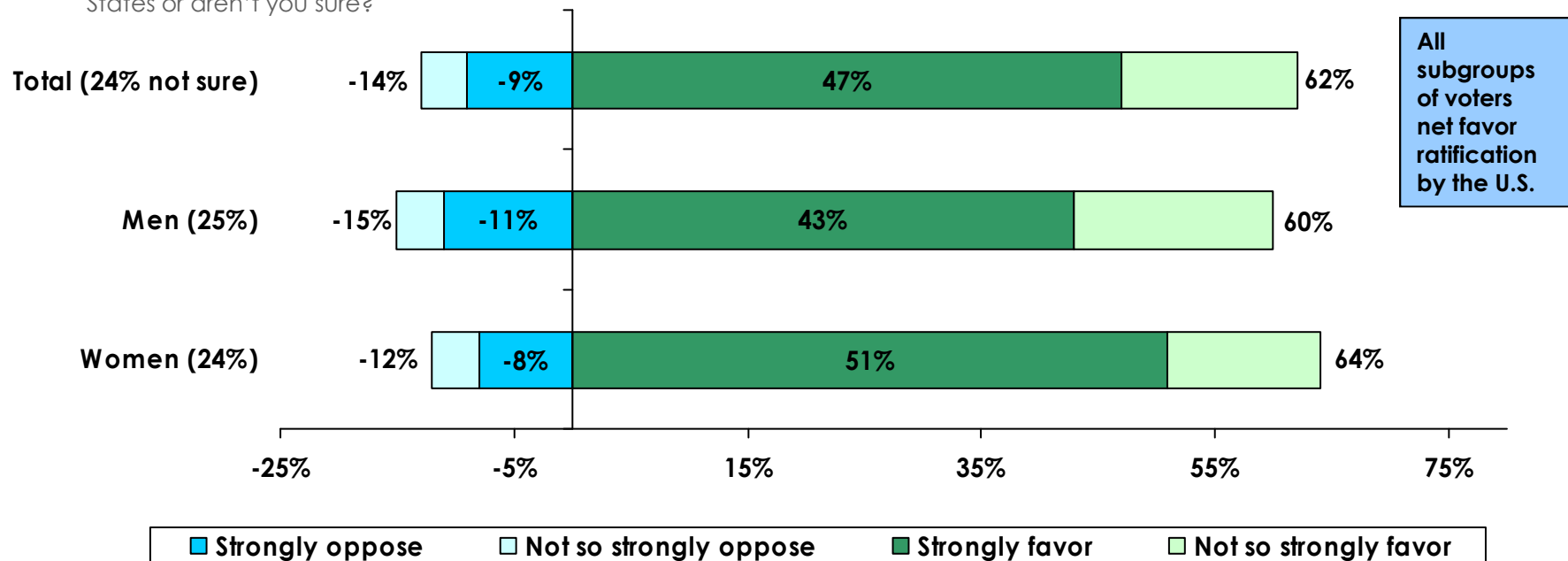
The majority of voters favor ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the United States.



Opposition to ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child is low, especially intensity of opposition. Voters are more than five times as likely to strongly favor ratification by the U.S. than they are to strongly oppose this action.

Now we're going to talk about the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Adopted by the United Nations in 1989 and instituted as international law in 1990, the Convention on the Rights of the Child establishes basic standards which nations agree to pursue on behalf of children. These rights include the right to survival, the right to develop to the fullest potential, the right to protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and the right to participate in family, cultural, and social life. To date, 193 countries have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The only two members of the United Nations that have not ratified this agreement are the United States and Somalia.

Having heard this description, do you favor or oppose ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the United States or aren't you sure?





Democrats prove the most supportive, with sixty percent saying they strongly favor ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the United States. Majorities of Independents and Republicans also favor ratification, though intensity is lower.

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