

2020 Survey Questionnaire

We would now like to ask about your views on some of the types of issues that the U.S. Supreme Court is often asked to decide. For each of the following situations, please tell us what **you personally** believe and also how you think **the Supreme Court** would decide if it were asked to rule on the case.

Some people believe that it should be illegal for employees to be fired based on their sexual orientation because it is discrimination on the basis of sex. Other people think that it should be legal because it is not discrimination on the basis of sex.

Q1. What do you think?

1. It should be ILLEGAL for employees to be fired based on their sexual orientation
2. It should be LEGAL for employers to fire people based on their sexual orientation

Q2. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. It should be ILLEGAL for employees to be fired based on their sexual orientation
2. It should be LEGAL for employers to fire people based on their sexual orientation

Some people believe that it should be illegal for employees to be fired for being transgender because it is discrimination on the basis of sex. Other people think that it should be legal because it is not discrimination on the basis of sex.

Q3. What do you think?

1. It should be ILLEGAL for employees to be fired for being transgender.
2. It should be LEGAL for employees to be fired for being transgender.

Q4. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. It should be ILLEGAL for employees to be fired for being transgender.
2. It should be LEGAL for employees to be fired for being transgender.

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) was created by President Obama to protect undocumented immigrants who have lived in the U.S. since childhood from deportation. President Trump wants the Department of Homeland Security to end DACA.

Q5. What do you think?

1. DACA should remain
2. DACA should be ended

Q6. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. DACA should remain
2. DACA should be ended

The City of New York banned the transportation of a licensed, locked, and unloaded handgun outside of the city limits. Some people think this rule is an acceptable restriction. Other people think this rule violates people's constitutional rights.

Q7. What do you think?

1. Cities SHOULD be allowed to ban transport of handguns outside of their city limits.
2. Cities SHOULD NOT be allowed to ban transport of handguns outside of their city limits.

Q8. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Cities SHOULD be allowed to ban transport of handguns outside of their city limits.
2. Cities SHOULD NOT be allowed to ban transport of handguns outside of their city limits.

The state of Montana has banned students from using taxpayer-subsidized scholarships to attend religious schools. Some people think this rule is an acceptable restriction. Other people think this rule violates people's constitutional rights.

Q9. What do you think?

1. States SHOULD be allowed to ban students from using taxpayer-subsidized scholarships to attend religious schools
2. States SHOULD NOT be allowed to ban students from using taxpayer-subsidized scholarships to attend religious schools

Q10. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. States SHOULD be allowed to ban students from using taxpayer-subsidized scholarships to attend religious schools
2. States SHOULD NOT be allowed to ban students from using taxpayer-subsidized scholarships to attend religious schools

Louisiana passed a law requiring abortion providers to be able to send patients to nearby hospitals, a practice known as "admitting privileges." This law would mean that all abortion providers in the state except for one would be forced to close. Some people believe that Louisiana's law violates women's constitutional rights. Other people believe that the law does not violate women's constitutional rights.

Q11. What do you think?

1. States requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges DOES violate women's constitutional rights
2. States requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges DOES NOT violate women's constitutional rights

Q12. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. States requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges DOES violate women's constitutional rights
2. States requiring abortion providers to have admitting privileges DOES NOT violate women's constitutional rights

A Congressional committee has requested records related to President Trump's taxes and finances from his activities prior to becoming president from his accounting firm and other companies. Some people believe that a president should be able to block such companies from turning over his financial records to Congressional committees. Other people believe that the companies must comply with the Congressional committee's request.

Q13. What do you think?

1. A president SHOULD be able to block turning over his financial records to Congress
2. A president SHOULD NOT be able to block turning over his financial records to Congress

Q14. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. A president SHOULD be able to block turning over his financial records to Congress
2. A president SHOULD NOT be able to block turning over his financial records to Congress

New York state prosecutors are conducting a criminal investigation of President Trump. They have requested financial records related to President Trump's taxes and finances from his activities prior to becoming president from his accounting firm and other companies. Some people believe that New York state prosecutors have the right to obtain a president's tax records. Others believe that a president does not have to turn over his tax records to state prosecutors.

Q15. What do you think?

1. New York state prosecutors have the right to obtain a president's tax records
2. A president does not have to turn over his tax records to state prosecutors

Q16. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. New York state prosecutors have the right to obtain a president's tax records
2. A president does not have to turn over his tax records to state prosecutors

In 2010, Congress established the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) as an independent consumer protection agency. In doing so Congress severely limited the President's ability to remove the agency's director. Some people think the structure of the CFPB is appropriate. Others disagree and believe that this gave the CFPB too much independent power, since it is very difficult for the President to remove the agency's director.

Q17. What do you think?

1. The structure of the CFPB is appropriate
2. The CFPB has too much independent power

Q18. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. The structure of the CFPB is appropriate

2. The CFPB has too much independent power

In the U.S., the President is chosen by the Electoral College, comprised of "electors" from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Some people think that states should be able to require their electors to vote for the person who won the majority of votes in the state and not some other person. However, some people think that electors should be able to vote for whomever they want.

Q19. What do you think?

1. States SHOULD be able to require their "electors" to vote for the candidate who won their state
2. States SHOULD NOT be able to require their "electors" to vote for the candidate who won their state

Q20. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. States SHOULD be able to require their "electors" to vote for the candidate who won their state
2. States SHOULD NOT be able to require their "electors" to vote for the candidate who won their state

The Affordable Care Act requires that health insurance plans for women include coverage for contraceptives (birth control), but the Trump administration recently passed regulations that greatly expanded exceptions to this mandate to include exemptions on the basis of religious or "moral" objections. Some people think that employers should not be forced to cover contraceptives if they express either a religious or a "moral" objection. Other people think that these employers should be forced to cover contraceptives.

Q21. What do you think?

1. Employers SHOULD NOT be forced to cover contraceptives
2. Employers SHOULD be forced to cover contraceptives

Q22. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Employers SHOULD NOT be forced to cover contraceptives
2. Employers SHOULD be forced to cover contraceptives

The Affordable Care Act (also known as Obamacare) requires most Americans to obtain health insurance, provides subsidies for those who cannot afford insurance, and prevents insurance companies from discriminating based on preexisting medical conditions, among other things. Some people think that the Affordable Care Act should be struck down. Other people think that the Affordable Care Act should remain law.

Q23. What do you think?

1. The Affordable Care Act SHOULD be struck down
2. The Affordable Care Act SHOULD NOT be struck down

Q24. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. The Affordable Care Act SHOULD be struck down
2. The Affordable Care Act SHOULD NOT be struck down

Q25. Some judges in the U.S. are elected; others are appointed to the bench. Do you happen to know if the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court are elected or appointed to the bench?

1. Elected to the bench
2. Appointed to the bench
3. Neither

Q26. Some judges in the U.S. serve for a set number of years; others serve a life term. Do you happen to know whether the Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court serve for a set number of years or whether they serve a life term?

1. Set number of years
2. Life term
3. Neither

Q27. Do you happen to know who has the last say when there is a conflict over the meaning of the U.S. Constitution---the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Congress, or the President?

1. U.S. Congress
2. U.S. Supreme Court
3. The President

Q28. Please select the name of the current Chief Justice of the United States from the choices below:

1. Neil Gorsuch
2. Stephen Breyer
3. Samuel Alito
4. John Roberts
5. Elena Kagan

Q29. Please select the name of the Justice who most recently joined the U.S. Supreme Court from the choices below:

1. Brett Kavanaugh
2. Elena Kagan
3. Sonia Sotomayor
4. Neil Gorsuch
5. John Roberts

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Q30. Judges on the U.S. Supreme Court who consistently make decisions at odds with what a majority of the people want should be removed from their position as judge.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree nor Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Q31. The U.S. Supreme Court has become too independent and should be reined in.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree nor Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Q32. If the U.S. Supreme Court started making a lot of decisions that most people disagree with, it might be better to do away with the Supreme Court altogether.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree nor Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Q33. The U.S. Supreme Court gets too mixed up in politics.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree nor Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Q34. The U.S. Supreme Court can usually be trusted to make decisions that are right for the country as a whole.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Neither Agree nor Disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Q35. Where would you place YOURSELF on the following scale?

[EXTREMELY LIBERAL

EXTREMELY CONSERVATIVE]

Q36. Where would you place THE CURRENT SUPREME COURT on the following scale?

[EXTREMELY LIBERAL

EXTREMELY CONSERVATIVE]

Q37. How much do you approve of the performance of the Supreme Court?

1. Strongly Approve
2. Somewhat Approve
3. Neither Approve nor Disapprove
4. Somewhat Disapprove
5. Strongly Disapprove

Q38. The Supreme Court has nine members. For the issues that we asked you about earlier, what do you think the breakdown in the votes on the Court would typically be?

1. 5-4
2. 6-3
3. 7-2
4. 8-1
5. 9-0

Q39. Supreme Court justices are appointed by the President of the United States. How many of the current nine justices do you think were appointed by Republican presidents?

1. 1 out of 9
2. 2 out of 9
3. 3 out of 9
4. 4 out of 9
5. 5 out of 9
6. 6 out of 9
7. 7 out of 9
8. 8 out of 9
9. 9 out of 9
10. 0 out of 9

Q40. How much do you think the political party of the appointing president affects how Supreme Court justices decide cases?

1. A great deal
2. A lot
3. A moderate amount
4. A little
5. Not at all