

2024 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.

A proposed South Carolina election map changes district boundaries to re-assign thousands of Black voters to different districts.

[A] Some people claim these changes were made because of the voters' race, and so the map is unconstitutional. Other people claim the changes were not made because of the voters' race but because they were mostly Democrats, and so the map is constitutional.

[B] Some people claim the voters were not moved because of their race but because they were mostly Democrats, and so the map is constitutional. Other people claim the voters were moved because of their race, and so the map is unconstitutional.

Q1A/B. What do you think?

1. These changes to the districts are unconstitutional
2. These changes to the districts are constitutional

Q2A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. These changes to the districts are unconstitutional
2. These changes to the districts are constitutional

Funding for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is not appropriated by Congress but is instead taken from the Federal Reserve, which collects fees from banks. Some other federal agencies have similar funding structures that also bypass Congress.

[A] Some people think this funding structure is unconstitutional, since the Constitution specifically gives Congress the power to appropriate federal funds. Other people think this structure is constitutional.

[B] Some people think this structure is constitutional. Other people think this funding structure is unconstitutional, since the Constitution specifically gives Congress the power to appropriate federal funds.

Q3A/B. What do you think?

1. This funding structure is unconstitutional
2. This funding structure is constitutional

Q4A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. This funding structure is unconstitutional
2. This funding structure is constitutional

[A] Some people think that the Food and Drug Administration's approval of the abortion drug mifepristone (also known as RU-486), which is prescribed by a physician and taken by mouth, should be revoked. Other people think that it should not be revoked.

[B] Some people think that the Food and Drug Administration's approval of the abortion drug mifepristone (also known as RU-486), which is prescribed by a physician and taken by mouth, should not be revoked. Other people think that it should be revoked.

Q5A/B. What do you think?

1. The Food and Drug Administration's approval of mifepristone should be revoked
2. The Food and Drug Administration's approval of mifepristone should NOT be revoked

Q6A/B. 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 Food and Drug Administration's approval of mifepristone should be revoked
2. The Food and Drug Administration's approval of mifepristone should NOT be revoked

The Sackler family, the owners of Purdue Pharma, profited for many years from the sale of prescription opioids. They recently agreed to give billions of dollars to victims of the opioid epidemic in return for immunity from future lawsuits, but not all victims agreed to this deal.

[A] Some people think that the Sackler family receiving immunity from future lawsuits should not be allowed. Other people think this agreement should remain in place and the Sackler family should keep their immunity.

[B] Some people think this agreement should remain in place and the Sackler family should keep their immunity. Other people think that the Sackler family receiving immunity from future lawsuits should not be allowed.

Q7A/B. What do you think?

1. The Sackler family should NOT keep their immunity from future lawsuits
2. The Sackler family should keep their immunity from future lawsuits

Q8A/B. 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 Sackler family should NOT keep their immunity from future lawsuits
2. The Sackler family should keep their immunity from future lawsuits

There are public officials who sometimes use private social media accounts to conduct or announce government business.

[A] Some people think that public officials are allowed to block people from such accounts. Other people think that the First Amendment prohibits public officials from blocking people from such accounts.

[B] Some people think that the First Amendment prohibits public officials from blocking people from such accounts. Other people think that public officials are allowed to block people from such accounts.

Q9A/B. What do you think?

1. Public officials are allowed to block people from private social media accounts used to conduct government business
2. Public officials are NOT allowed to block people from private social media accounts used to conduct government business

Q10A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Public officials are allowed to block people from private social media accounts used to conduct government business

2. Public officials are NOT allowed to block people from private social media accounts used to conduct government business

Courts usually defer to how administrative agencies interpret laws in situations where the law is unclear.

[A] Some people think that courts should not defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear because that gives these agencies too much power. Others think that administrative agencies employ experts, and so courts should defer to them in these situations.

[B] Some think that administrative agencies employ experts, and so courts should defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear. Other people think that courts should not defer to administrative agencies in these cases because that gives these agencies too much power.

Q11A/B. What do you think?

1. Courts should NOT defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear
2. Courts should defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear

Q12A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Courts should NOT defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear
2. Courts should defer to administrative agencies when laws are unclear

Idaho law criminalizes most abortions. However, federal law requires that hospitals receiving federal funds must provide abortions in medical emergencies.

[A] Some people think that Idaho law trumps federal law, and so Idaho hospitals are not allowed to provide abortions to women in medical emergencies. Other people think that federal law trumps Idaho law, and so Idaho hospitals that receive federal funds must provide abortions.

[B] Some people think that federal law trumps Idaho law, and so Idaho hospitals that receive federal funds must provide abortions to women in medical emergencies. Other people think that Idaho law trumps federal law, and so Idaho hospitals are not allowed to provide abortions.

Q13A/B. What do you think?

1. Idaho hospitals are not allowed to provide abortions in medical emergencies
2. Idaho hospitals must provide abortions in medical emergencies

Q14A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Idaho hospitals are not allowed to provide abortions in medical emergencies
2. Idaho hospitals must provide abortions in medical emergencies

Recently federal officials urged private social media companies such as Facebook and Twitter to block, delete, or remove users expressing disinformation or disfavored views on controversial topics, including COVID-19 and election fraud.

[A] Some people think that this violates users' First Amendment right to free speech. Other people think that it does not.

[B] Some people think that this does not violate users' First Amendment right to free speech. Other people think it does.

Q15A/B. What do you think?

1. Federal officials urging private social media companies to block, delete, or remove users violates users' First Amendment rights
2. Federal officials urging private social media companies to block, delete, or remove users does NOT violate users' First Amendment rights

Q16A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Federal officials urging private social media companies to block, delete, or remove users violates users' First Amendment rights
2. Federal officials urging private social media companies to block, delete, or remove users does NOT violate users' First Amendment rights

Following a school shooting, a state regulator told financial services companies that they should consider refusing to provide services to the National Rifle Association (NRA).

[A] Some people think that the state regulator's behavior violates the NRA's First Amendment rights. Other people say it does not.

[B] Some people think that the state regulator's behavior does not violate the NRA's First Amendment rights. Other people say it does.

Q17A/B. What do you think?

1. The state regulator's behavior violates the NRA's First Amendment Rights
2. The state regulator's behavior DOES NOT violate the NRA's First Amendment Rights

Q18A/B. 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 state regulator's behavior violates the NRA's First Amendment Rights
2. The state regulator's behavior DOES NOT violate the NRA's First Amendment Rights

Social media companies often remove content from their websites for various reasons.

[A] Some people think that states should be allowed to prevent social media companies from censoring speech based on the viewpoint of the user. Other people think that states cannot do that because it violates social media companies' First Amendment rights.

[B] Some people think that states cannot prevent social media companies from censoring speech based on the viewpoint of the user because it violates social media companies' First Amendment rights. Other people think that states should be allowed to do that.

Q19. What do you think?

1. States should be allowed to prevent social media companies from censoring speech
2. States cannot prevent social media companies from censoring speech

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 allowed to prevent social media companies from censoring speech
 2. States cannot prevent social media companies from censoring speech
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Some federal agencies bring actions in administrative proceedings with their own judges rather than in regular federal courts.

[A] Some people think this is unconstitutional because these proceedings do not have jury trials the way federal courts do. Other people think that such proceedings are constitutional.

[B] Some people think that such proceedings are constitutional. Other people think this is unconstitutional because these proceedings do not have jury trials the way federal courts do.

Q21A/B. What do you think?

1. Federal agencies bringing actions in administrative proceedings rather than in federal courts is NOT constitutional
2. Federal agencies bringing actions in administrative proceedings rather than in federal courts is constitutional

Q22A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Federal agencies bringing actions in administrative proceedings rather than in federal courts is NOT constitutional
2. Federal agencies bringing actions in administrative proceedings rather than in federal courts is constitutional

[A] Some people think that Donald Trump is not eligible to run for president in 2024 because the 14th Amendment's ban on insurrectionists holding public office includes his conduct on January 6, 2021. Others disagree and think he is eligible to run.

[B] Some people think that President Donald Trump is eligible to run for president in 2024. Others think that he is not eligible to run because the 14th Amendment's ban on insurrectionists holding public office includes his conduct on January 6, 2021.

Q23A/B. What do you think?

1. President Donald Trump is NOT eligible to run for president in 2024
2. President Donald Trump is eligible to run for president in 2024

Q24A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. President Donald Trump is NOT eligible to run for president in 2024

2. President Donald Trump is eligible to run for president in 2024

[A] Some people think that former presidents are immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president. Other people think that former presidents are not immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president and so can be criminally prosecuted for such actions.

[B] Some people think that former presidents are not immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president and so can be criminally prosecuted for such actions. Other people think that former presidents are immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president.

Q25A/B. What do you think?

1. Former presidents are immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president
2. Former presidents are NOT immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president

Q26A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Former presidents are immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president
2. Former presidents are NOT immune from criminal prosecution for actions they took while president

[A] Some people think that barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms violates their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. Other people think that this does not violate their Second Amendment rights.

[B] Some people think that barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms does not violate their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms. Other people think that this does violate their Second Amendment rights.

Q27A/B. What do you think?

1. Barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms violates their Second Amendment rights
2. Barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms DOES NOT violate their Second Amendment rights

Q28A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms violates their Second Amendment rights
2. Barring domestic abusers from possessing firearms DOES NOT violate their Second Amendment rights

Federal law forbids trademarks that include individual names, including politicians' names.

[A] Some people think that this violates people's First Amendment right to free speech. Other people think this does not violate people's First Amendment rights.

[B] Some people think this does not violate people's First Amendment right to free speech. Other people think that this violates people's First Amendment rights.

Q29A/B. What do you think?

1. Forbidding trademarks that include individual names, including politicians' names, does violate the First Amendment
2. Forbidding trademarks that include individual names, including politicians' names, does NOT violate the First Amendment

Q30A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Forbidding trademarks that include individual names, including politicians' names, does violate the First Amendment
2. Forbidding trademarks that include individual names, including politicians' names, does NOT violate the First Amendment

A local law bans homeless people from camping outside even when local shelters are full.

[A] Some people believe that the law violates the Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment because these people have nowhere else to go. Other people think this does not violate the Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

[B] Some people think that the law does not violate the Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment. Other people believe that this does violate the Constitution's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment because these people have nowhere else to go.

Q31A/B. What do you think?

1. Banning homeless people from camping outside even when local shelters are full violates the Constitution
2. Banning homeless people from camping outside even when local shelters are full DOES NOT violate the Constitution

Q32A/B. The Supreme Court will be deciding this issue soon. Regardless of your personal views, how do you think the Supreme Court will decide?

1. Banning homeless people from camping outside even when local shelters are full violates the Constitution
2. Banning homeless people from camping outside even when local shelters are full DOES NOT violate the Constitution

Federal law makes it a crime to obstruct, influence, or impede an official proceeding.

[A] Some people think this does not includes the activities that took place at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021. Other people think that it does.

[B] Some people think this includes the activities that took place at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021. Other people think that it does not.

Q33A/B. What do you think?

1. The events at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were NOT criminal
2. The events at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were criminal

Q34A/B. 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 events at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were NOT criminal
2. The events at the U.S. Capitol Building on January 6, 2021 were criminal

Q35. How important is the president's ability to nominate people to fill Supreme Court vacancies in deciding how you will vote for president in November 2024?

1. Extremely important
2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

Q36. How important is the president's ability to nominate people to fill Supreme Court vacancies in deciding how you will vote for Congress in November 2024?

1. Extremely important
2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

How important are the following in how you feel about a Supreme Court justice?

Q37_1. Having good professional and educational qualifications

1. Extremely important
2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

Q37_2. Being likely to decide cases in a way that you agree with

1. Extremely important
2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

Q37_3. Being likely to interpret the law appropriately

1. Extremely important
2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

Q37_4. Sharing my political ideology

1. Extremely important

2. Very important
3. Moderately important
4. Slightly important
5. Not important

Q38. How much do you agree with the following statement: “It is important for leaders of the [pipe in respondent's party] Party to criticize the Supreme Court”

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree

Q39. 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

Q40. 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

Q41. 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

Q42. 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

Q43. Please select the name of the current Chief Justice of the United States from the choices below:

1. Sonia Sotomayor
2. Samuel Alito
3. Elena Kagan
4. John Roberts
5. Neil Gorsuch

Q44. Please select the name of the Justice who most recently joined the U.S. Supreme Court from the choices below:

1. Sonia Sotomayor
2. Ketanji Brown Jackson
3. John Roberts
4. Brett Kavanaugh
5. Amy Coney Barrett

Q45. 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

Q46. 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

Q47. 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

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Q48_1. 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

Q48_2. 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

Q48_3. 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

Q48_4. 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

Q48_5. The U.S. Supreme Court can 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

Q49. Where would you place YOURSELF on the following scale?

[EXTREMELY LIBERAL

EXTREMELY CONSERVATIVE]

Q50. Where would you place THE CURRENT SUPREME COURT on the following scale?

[EXTREMELY LIBERAL

EXTREMELY CONSERVATIVE]

Q51. The U.S. Supreme Court has nine members. Some people believe that Congress should expand the size of the Supreme Court, allowing the current president to appoint one or more new Justices. Do you agree or disagree that the size of the Supreme Court should be increased?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree

Q52. U.S. Supreme Court Justices currently serve life terms. Some people think that, instead, Supreme Court Justices should be limited to 18-year terms. Do you agree or disagree that there should be such term limits for Supreme Court Justices?

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Somewhat disagree
5. Strongly disagree