

MASSACHUSETTS STATEWIDE SURVEY
SAMPLE SIZE 600

Phone _____

Sex

Women 53%
Men 47%

County

Barnstable 4%
Berkshire 2%
Bristol 8%
Dukes <1%
Essex 11%
Franklin 1%
Hampden 7%
Hampshire 2%
Middlesex 22%
Nantucket <1%
Norfolk 11%
Plymouth 8%
Suffolk 10%
Worcester 12%

Area Codes

(413) - Western Mass 13%
(508) - South and Cape 34%
(617) - Metro Boston 19%
(781) - Inner Suburbs 16%
(978) - Central/Northeast 19%

Interviewer Name _____

HELLO. MY NAME IS _____. I'M CALLING FROM DECISION RESEARCH, A NATIONAL POLLING FIRM. WE ARE CALLING PEOPLE TO ASK THEIR OPINIONS ABOUT SOME ISSUES FACING MASSACHUSETTS. THIS IS A PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY, NOT A SALES CALL OF ANY KIND -- AND MOST PEOPLE FIND IT INTERESTING. TO ASSURE A RANDOM SURVEY, I NEED TO SPEAK TO A REGISTERED VOTER AT HOME NOW WHO HAD THE MOST RECENT BIRTHDAY (When the correct person is reached, repeat introduction if necessary). I'LL BEGIN BY ASKING YOU...

A. WHICH IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE? (Rotate)

- [] 4% TO HAVE CHILDREN
[] 6% TO RAISE CHILDREN
[] 53% TO SHARE IN THE COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A LOVING PARTNERSHIP
[] 15% TO BE UNITED BEFORE GOD
[] 10% TO LEGALLY ESTABLISH THE FORMATION OF A NEW FAMILY
11% (More than one-Do not read)
1% (None of the above-Do not read)
1% (Don't know-Do not read)

B. SHOULD GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES HAVE THE RIGHT TO ENTER INTO CIVIL MARRIAGE?

- 59% (Yes)
35% (No)
5% (Don't know)

C. GENERALLY SPEAKING, IF CIVIL MARRIAGE BETWEEN GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES WERE LEGAL, WHICH WOULD YOU SAY BEST DESCRIBES YOUR OPINION?

- 53% IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU
24% YOU WOULD NOT LIKE IT, BUT IT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE

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22% YOU WOULD NOT LIKE IT, AND IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE
1% (Don't know)

D. THERE IS A COURT CASE BEFORE THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS ON THE ISSUE OF ALLOWING GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES THE RIGHT TO CIVIL MARRIAGE. IF THE COURT RULES THAT COUPLES OF THE SAME SEX HAVE A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO MARRY, WOULD YOU **STRONGLY AGREE, SOMEWHAT AGREE, SOMEWHAT DISAGREE** OR **STRONGLY DISAGREE** WITH THE COURT'S DECISION?

42%	}	64%	(Strongly agree)
22%			(Somewhat agree)
1%			(Don't know)
8%	}	34%	(Somewhat disagree)
26%			(Strongly disagree)

E. * DO YOU **STRONGLY FAVOR, SOMEWHAT FAVOR, SOMEWHAT OPPOSE** OR **STRONGLY OPPOSE** PASSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD RECOGNIZE ONLY THE UNION OF ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN AS A MARRIAGE?

34%	}	44%	(Strongly favor)
10%			(Somewhat favor)
2%			(Undecided)
17%	}	54%	(Somewhat oppose)
37%			(Strongly oppose)

F.* DO YOU **STRONGLY FAVOR, SOMEWHAT FAVOR, SOMEWHAT OPPOSE** OR **STRONGLY OPPOSE** PASSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTION THAT WOULD PROHIBIT CIVIL MARRIAGE FOR GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES?

16%	}	24%	(Strongly favor)
8%			(Somewhat favor)
3%			(Undecided)
17%	}	73%	(Somewhat oppose)
56%			(Strongly oppose)

* DENOTES SPLIT SAMPLE QUESTION ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE, N=300.

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PLEASE TELL ME WHETHER YOU **STRONGLY AGREE, SOMEWHAT AGREE, SOMEWHAT DISAGREE, OR STRONGLY DISAGREE** WITH EACH STATEMENT. I'LL BEGIN WITH... (Rotate)

	STRONGLY AGREE (TOTAL AGREE)	SOMEWHAT AGREE	DON'T KNOW	SOMEWHAT DISAGREE (TOTAL DISAGREE)	STRONGLY DISAGREE
<input type="checkbox"/> G. THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT PRIORITIES FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO FOCUS ON RIGHT NOW THAN PASSING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO BAN GAY MARRIAGE	62% (79%)	17%	1%	10% (20%)	10%
<input type="checkbox"/> H*. PROHIBITING GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES FROM MARRYING IS DISCRIMINATION, PLAIN AND SIMPLE	47% (64%)	17%	0%	9% (35%)	26%
<input type="checkbox"/> I*. IT WAS ONCE ILLEGAL IN MANY STATES FOR PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT RACES TO MARRY. JUST AS WE ENDED LEGAL DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, WE SHOULD END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAYS AND LESBIANS	60% (73%)	13%	3%	7% (25%)	18%
<input type="checkbox"/> J*. EVEN IF PEOPLE FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT GAY PEOPLE, THAT IS NO REASON FOR THE STATE TO EXCLUDE THEM FROM LEGAL PROTECTIONS THAT FOSTER STABLE FAMILIES	62% (79%)	17%	3%	6% (18%)	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> K*. CIVIL RIGHTS SUCH AS THE RIGHT TO MARRY SHOULD NOT DEPEND ON THE APPROVAL OF VOTERS	35% (58%)	23%	4%	15% (38%)	23%
<input type="checkbox"/> L*. GOVERNMENT HAS NO BUSINESS INTRUDING INTO THE COMMITTED LIVES OF TWO PEOPLE BY SAYING GAYS AND LESBIANS DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO MARRY THE PERSON THEY CHOOSE	56% (74%)	18%	1%	9% (25%)	16%
<input type="checkbox"/> M. LEGAL CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR MARRIAGE FOR HETEROSEXUAL PEOPLE, AND THEY ARE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR GAY PEOPLE EITHER	41% (67%)	26%	9%	12% (24%)	11%
<input type="checkbox"/> N*. THE POSITION OF MY CHURCH IS IMPORTANT TO MY POSITION ON GAY MARRIAGE	21% (36%)	15%	3%	20% (61%)	41%
<input type="checkbox"/> O*. ALLOWING GAY OR LESBIAN COUPLES TO MARRY JUST OPENS UP MARRIAGE TO MORE PEOPLE, IT DOES NOT REDEFINE MARRIAGE IN OUR SOCIETY	39% (62%)	23%	3%	9% (35%)	26%

* DENOTES SPLIT SAMPLE QUESTION ASKED OF HALF THE SAMPLE, N=300.

- P. REGARDLESS OF HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT GAY MARRIAGE, WHICH STATEMENT IS CLOSEST TO YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE RIGHT TO A CIVIL MARRIAGE BETWEEN TWO GAY OR LESBIAN PEOPLE?
- 28% IT WILL BECOME LEGAL IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS
 - 55% IT WILL BECOME LEGAL SOMETIME IN YOUR LIFETIME
 - 14% IT WILL NEVER BECOME LEGAL
 - 0% (It is already legal in some states—**Do Not Read**)
 - 3% (Don't know)

AND FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY...

- Q. WHAT IS YOUR AGE?
- 12% 18-29
 - 16% 30-39
 - 24% 40-49
 - 26% 50-64
 - 19% 65+
 - 4% (Refused--**Do Not Read**)
- R. DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 18 LIVING WITH YOU AT HOME?
- 33% (Yes)
 - 64% (No)
 - 3% (Refused)
- S. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MARITAL STATUS? ARE YOU...
- 52% MARRIED
 - 11% SINGLE AND LIVING WITH ANOTHER PERSON AS A COUPLE
 - 10% WIDOWED
 - 11% DIVORCED
 - 13% NEVER MARRIED
 - 3% (Refused)
- T. WHAT IS YOUR RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION? (If Protestant, probe for denomination) (Do not read options)
- 3% (Jewish)
 - 0% (Islam, Muslim)
 - 39% (Catholic)
 - 0% (AME, AMEZ)
 - 4% (Baptist, Zion Baptist)
 - 2% (Congregational)
 - 4% (Episcopalian)
 - 2% (Evangelical/Pentecostal)
 - 2% (Lutheran)
 - 3% (Methodist)
 - 1% (Presbyterian)
 - 0% (United Church of Christ)
 - 2% (Unitarian Universalist)
 - 13% (Other Protestant/Christian)
 - 3% (Other Non-Christian)
 - 16% (None)
 - 7% (Refused)

- U. HOW OFTEN DO YOU ATTEND RELIGIOUS SERVICES?
 8% MORE THAN ONCE A WEEK
 25% ONCE A WEEK
 12% A FEW TIMES A MONTH
 22% A FEW TIMES A YEAR
 4% ONCE A YEAR
 16% HARDLY EVER
 9% NEVER
 4% (Refused)
- V. WHAT WAS THE LAST YEAR OF EDUCATION YOU COMPLETED?
 3% (Less than high school graduate--**Do Not Read**)
 17% (High school graduate--**Do Not Read**)
 24% (Associates degree/some college/technical school--**Do Not Read**)
 32% (College graduate--**Do Not Read**)
 22% (Post-graduate education--**Do Not Read**)
 3% (Refused--**Do Not Read**)
- W. HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF RACIALLY OR ETHNICALLY?
 3% (Black, African-American--**Do Not Read**)
 1% (Asian, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, etc.--**Do Not Read**)
 81% (Caucasian, White, Anglo--**Do Not Read**)
 3% (Latino, Hispanic, Mexican-American, etc.--**Do Not Read**)
 5% (Other--**Do Not Read**)
 8% (Refused--**Do Not Read**)
- X. IN POLITICS TODAY, WOULD YOU SAY THAT YOU...
 24% ALMOST ALWAYS VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRAT
 19% USUALLY VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRAT
 30% VOTE ABOUT 50-50 DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN
 9% USUALLY VOTE FOR THE REPUBLICAN OR
 12% ALMOST ALWAYS VOTE FOR THE REPUBLICAN
 7% (Refused)
- Y. DO YOU PERSONALLY KNOW ANY GAY OR LESBIAN PEOPLE WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS OR CLOSE RELATIVES?
 83% (Yes)
 15% (No)
 3% (Refused)