

CBS NEWS POLL
IRAQ, THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION AND THE PRISONER ABUSE REPORTS
May 11, 2004

q1 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr04d
	%	%	%	%	%
Approve	44	82	16	42	46
Disapprove	49	16	80	46	47
DK/NA	7	2	4	12	7

q2 How about the economy? Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Approve	34	71	7	30	39
Disapprove	60	21	89	62	54
DK/NA	6	8	4	8	7

q3 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the situation with Iraq?

Approve	39	74	13	37	41
Disapprove	58	24	84	60	52
DK/NA	3	2	4	3	7

q4 Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the campaign against terrorism?

Approve	51	82	22	56	60
Disapprove	39	13	65	34	32
DK/NA	10	5	13	10	8

q5 Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Rumsfeld is handling his job as Secretary of Defense?

Approve	43	69	24	40
Disapprove	45	22	67	42
DK/NA	12	9	9	18

q6 How do you think the war with Iraq is affecting the United States' image in the Arab world? Is the war making the U.S. image in the Arab world better, making it worse, or is the war having no effect on the U.S. image in the Arab world?

Better	6	15	1	4	10
Worse	73	53	87	74	71
No effect	14	19	9	15	10
DK/NA	7	13	3	7	9

q7 Do you think the result of the war with Iraq was worth the loss of American life and other costs of attacking Iraq, or not worth it?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				
	*** Party ID ***				
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind	Apr04d
	%	%	%	%	%
Worth it	29	57	12	23	33
Not worth it	64	34	82	69	58
DK/NA	7	9	5	8	9

q8 Looking back, do you think the United States did the right thing in taking military action against Iraq, or should the U.S. have stayed out?

Right thing	49	76	25	53	47
Stay out	45	19	70	41	46
DK/NA	6	5	5	6	7

q9 From what you have seen or heard, is the United States in control of events taking place in Iraq, or are the events in Iraq out of U.S. control?

					Oct03a
In control	31	54	18	25	39
Out of control	57	35	72	59	50
DK/NA	12	11	10	16	11

q10 Should the United States troops stay in Iraq as long as it takes to make sure Iraq is a stable democracy, even if that takes a long time, or should U.S. troops turn over control to Iraqis as soon as possible, even if Iraq is not completely stable?

					Apr04d
Stay as long as it takes	38	49	27	41	46
Turn over control	55	45	66	50	46
DK/NA	7	6	7	9	8

q11 Who do you think is currently winning the war in Iraq -- the United States, or the Iraqi resistance and insurgents, or neither side?

The U.S.	31	58	16	23
Iraqi resistance	10	8	12	9
Neither side	54	31	64	62
DK/NA	5	3	8	6

q12 How closely have you been following news about the abuse of Iraqi prisoners by U.S. soldiers at a prison in Iraq? Have you been following it very closely, somewhat closely, not too closely, or not at all?

Very closely	42	33	55	35
Somewhat closely	37	45	25	44
Not too closely	16	17	16	17
Not at all	4	5	3	4
DK/NA	1	0	1	0

q13 How serious a problem do you think the abuse of Iraqi prisoners is for U.S. progress in Iraq right now -- very serious, somewhat serious, not too serious, or not at all serious?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Very serious	60	46	73	58
Somewhat serious	23	30	18	22
Not too serious	10	12	7	12
Not at all serious	4	9	0	5
DK/NA	3	3	2	3

q14 Do you think the news media should or should not have released the photographs of Iraqi prisoners being abused by U.S. soldiers?

Should	51	34	70	47
Should not	43	56	27	47
DK/NA	6	10	3	6

q15 Do you think the news media should or should not release all of the remaining photos?

Should	37	21	52	34
Should not	57	73	41	61
DK/NA	6	6	7	5

q16 Do you think the media have spent too much time, too little time, or the right amount of time on the stories about Iraqi prisoners being abused by U.S. soldiers?

Too much time	49	63	39	46
Too little	6	3	8	7
Right amount	41	33	48	41
DK/NA	4	1	5	6

q17 Do you think Donald Rumsfeld should resign or be removed from his job as Secretary of Defense as a result of these reports of abuse, or should he remain as Secretary of Defense?

Should resign	37	13	57	36
Should not resign	53	79	36	49
DK/NA	10	8	7	15

q18 Do you think that President George W. Bush and his administration have taken the reports about Iraqi prisoners being abused as seriously as they should have or have they not taken the reports seriously enough?

Have taken seriously	51	76	33	49
Not taken seriously enough	36	16	55	34
First didn't/now do (Vol.)	2	2	3	2
DK/NA	11	6	9	15

q19 Which comes closer to your opinion: 1. What happened to the Iraqi prisoners was justified because the U.S. is at war with Iraq and that is what can happen to prisoners of war, or 2. What happened to the Iraqi prisoners was NOT justified because U.S. soldiers should be different from other armies?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Justified	13	13	11	16
Not justified	77	73	83	73
DK/NA	10	14	6	11

q20 Do you agree or disagree that the behavior of the U.S. soldiers toward the Iraqi prisoners is no worse than what the Iraqis have done to Americans in this war?

Agree	67	72	66	64
Disagree	21	19	22	23
DK/NA	12	9	12	13

q21 Based on what you've heard or read, do you think this behavior is probably more widespread among the U.S. troops who guard Iraqi prisons, or is this behavior probably limited to the few soldiers involved in these incidents?

Behavior is widespread	27	18	31	29
Limited to a few soldiers	65	75	62	60
DK/NA	8	7	7	11

q22 Do you think the U.S. soldiers involved in the abuse of Iraqi prisoners were acting on their own or were they following orders from the people they reported to?

Acting on own	37	42	36	34
Following orders	46	39	50	47
DK/NA	17	19	14	19

q23 Do you think senior military officers authorized the soldiers' actions, or not?

Yes	28	23	35	25
No	11	11	11	11
DK/NA	7	5	4	11
Acting on own/DK/NA	54	61	50	53

q24 Do you think officials at the Pentagon tried to cover up reports of the abuse of Iraqi prisoners, or did they try to investigate what happened as quickly as possible?

Cover up	43	29	54	42
Investigate what happened	39	49	34	36
Both (vol.)	3	3	2	4
DK/NA	15	19	10	18

q25 Should people higher up in the military chain of command be held responsible for the acts of the soldiers involved in the abuse even if they didn't know about it, or should only the soldiers involved be held responsible?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **			
	*** Party ID ***			
	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
People higher up held resp.	40	27	55	35
Only soldiers involved resp.	46	56	33	50
Both (Vol.)	9	8	8	10
DK/NA	6	9	4	5

q26 Do you think officials at the Pentagon are more upset because the abuse happened, or are they more upset because the public found out about it?

Upset it happened	29	50	16	24
Upset the public found out	61	39	76	64
DK/NA	10	11	8	12

	<u>Unweighted</u>	<u>Weighted</u>
Total Respondents	448	
Total Republicans	145	132
Total Democrats	147	162
Total Independents	156	155