

**CBS News Poll**  
**The Supreme Court, Abortion and Stem Cells**  
**July 13-14 2005**

q6 What is your personal feeling about abortion? 1. It should be permitted in all cases. 2. It should be permitted, but subject to greater restrictions than it is now. 3. It should be permitted only in cases such as rape, incest and to save the woman's life, or 4. it should only be permitted to save the woman's life.

**\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\***

**\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\***

	Total %	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	Jan01a %
Permitted in all cases	25	13	34	27	27
Greater restrictions	14	13	17	13	18
Only in cases of rape, inc	38	39	35	40	33
Only to save woman's life	15	25	9	13	14
Not permitted at all (vol.)	3	4	2	3	3
Don't know/No answer	5	6	3	4	4

q7 Would you favor or oppose requiring that at least one parent be told before a girl under 18 years of age could have an abortion?

					Sept 1989*
Favor	80	89	71	80	83
Oppose	17	10	24	15	13
DK/NA	3	1	5	5	4

\*Asked with intro: Here are some possible restrictions on abortion that are being debated in some states.

q21 How much confidence do you yourself have in the United States Supreme Court -- a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?

					Nov04a
A great deal	14	19	14	9	20
Quite a lot	22	21	22	22	21
Some	40	36	45	39	39
Very little	20	21	15	26	17
None (Vol.)	0	0	1	0	1
DK/NA	4	3	3	4	2

q22 Would you say you mostly agree or mostly disagree with the decisions made by the Supreme Court in the last year?

Mostly agree	49	47	57	44
Mostly disagree	36	33	34	40
DK/NA	15	20	9	16

q23 How important do you think it is that George W. Bush nominate a woman to the Supreme Court? Very important, somewhat important, not very important or not important at all?

Very important	25	18	28	27
Somewhat important	33	27	40	30
Not very important	17	19	15	17
Not important at all	23	34	15	22
DK/NA	2	2	2	4

q24 When the Senate votes on a Supreme Court nominee, should it consider only that person's legal qualifications and background, or along with legal background, should the Senate also consider how that nominee might vote on major issues the Supreme Court decides?

	** TOTAL RESPONDENTS **				Sept 1991
	Total	*** Party ID ***			
	%	Rep %	Dem %	Ind %	%
Legal	45	49	38	49	39
Issues too	47	43	54	43	49
DK/NA	8	8	8	8	12

q25 More than thirty years ago, the Supreme Court's decision in Roe versus Wade established a Constitutional right for women to obtain legal abortions in this country. In general, do you think the Court's decision was a good thing or a bad thing?

					Jan98a*
Good thing	59	47	68	61	60
Bad thing	32	47	24	27	33
Both good/bad (vol.)	4	1	5	4	2
DK/NA	5	5	3	8	5

\*Varied wording: 25 years ago..

q26 PLACEHOLDER

q27 How important to you, personally, is the issue of which judges sit on the Supreme Court? Is this issue extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?

Extremely important	22	28	25	13
Very important	37	31	39	41
Somewhat important	30	30	26	33
Not at all	10	9	9	11
DK/NA	1	2	1	2

q28 Do you have confidence that George W. Bush will nominate good justices to the Supreme Court, or are you uneasy about who he might choose?

Confidence	46	80	18	44
Uneasy	52	17	80	54
DK/NA	2	3	2	2

q29 Do you think evangelical Christians will have too much influence, too little influence, or the right amount of influence on George W. Bush's decisions about who he nominates to the Supreme Court?

Too much	30	13	45	28
Too little	14	9	16	15
Right amount	37	60	19	35
No influence (Vol.)	7	9	6	7
DK/NA	12	9	14	15

q30 Is your opinion of Sandra Day O'Connor favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about Sandra Day O'Connor yet to have an opinion?

\*\* TOTAL RESPONDENTS \*\*

\*\*\* Party ID \*\*\*

	Total	Rep	Dem	Ind
	%	%	%	%
Favorable	37	31	43	35
Not favorable	3	4	1	4
Undecided	13	17	14	7
Haven't heard enough yet	45	44	39	52
Refused	2	4	3	2

q31 Is your opinion of William Rehnquist favorable, not favorable, undecided, or haven't you heard enough about William Rehnquist yet to have an opinion?

					July 1987
Favorable	24	35	16	22	18
Not favorable	10	5	11	13	8
Undecided	22	19	28	19	19
Haven't heard enough yet	41	37	43	44	55
Refused	3	4	2	2	0

q32 When the Supreme Court decides an important constitutional case, should it only consider the legal issues, or should it also consider what the majority of the public thinks about that subject?

					Sept 1987
Legal issues	48	55	46	43	32
Public opinion	46	39	47	50	60
Depends (vol.)	3	5	3	3	4
DK/NA	3	1	4	4	4

q40 Do you approve or disapprove of medical research using embryonic stem cells?

					May05b
Approve	56	46	60	60	58
Disapprove	30	42	29	21	31
DK/NA	14	12	11	19	11

q41 President Bush authorized federal funding for stem cell research using only a limited number of existing stem cell lines. Do you think that federal funding should be extended to a larger number of stem cell lines, or is the existing level sufficient?

Lines should be extended	34	26	37	39	37
Existing level sufficient	16	17	17	14	17
DK/NA	6	3	6	7	4
Disapprove in q40	30	42	29	21	31
DK/NA in q40	14	12	11	19	11

	<u>UNWEIGHTED</u>	<u>WEIGHTED</u>
Total Respondents	632	
Total Republicans	184	190
Total Democrats	226	225
Total Independents	222	217