

GWU Battleground 2006 (30)

FINAL

STUDY #10862

THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS

N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters

Field Dates: September 24-27, 2006

SPLIT SAMPLE A/B

Hello, I'm _____ of The Tarrance Group, a national survey research firm. We're talking to people long distance today about public leaders and issues facing us all. May I please speak with a (male/female) in the household who is registered to vote?

A. Are you registered to vote in your state?

IF "NO," ASK: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote?
(IF "YES," THEN ASK: MAY I SPEAK WITH HIM/HER?)

Yes (CONTINUE)
No (THANK AND TERMINATE)

Now thinking ahead to the 2006 elections for Congress --

B. What is the likelihood of your voting in the 2006 elections for U.S. Congress -- are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to vote?

(CONTINUE)	Extremely Likely	62%
	Very Likely	30%
	Somewhat Likely	7%
(THANK AND TERMINATE)	Not Very Likely	
	UNSURE (DNR)	

C. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed with an advertising agency, newspaper, television or radio station, or political campaign?

Yes (THANK AND TERMINATE)
No (CONTINUE)

1. Please tell me, using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 means "not at all interested" and 10 means "extremely interested," how interested you are, personally, in the upcoming Congressional elections --

(PLEASE RECORD "UNSURE" AS VALUE 11)

<u>Not at all</u>											<u>Extremely</u>
<u>Interested</u>											<u>Interested</u>
1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	12%	6%	9%	16%	7%	43%	

* = Less than .5%

Now turning to the election for Congress that will be held in November 2006 –

2. If the election for Congress were being held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for -
- **(ROTATE)** --
• the Republican candidate or
• the Democratic candidate -- in your district?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK: And
which party's candidate do
you lean toward at this
time?

Republican **(TO Q2-1)**..... 39%
Lean Republican **(TO Q2-1)**..... 2%
UNDECIDED **(DNR)** 10%
Lean Democrat **(TO Q2-2 A/B)** 3%
Democrat **(TO Q2-2 A/B)** 46%

IF ANY REPUBLICAN CHOSEN (Q2=1-2) IN Q2, ASK:

- 2-1. Would you say that this choice of the Republican Party candidate for Congress is more a --
(ROTATE) -- • vote in favor of the Republican candidate, or • vote against the Democratic
candidate?

In favor of the Republican candidate 73%
Against the Democratic candidate 18%
NEITHER **(DNR)** 3%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 6%

SPLIT SAMPLE A: IF ANY DEMOCRATIC CHOSEN (Q2=4-5) IN Q2, ASK:

- 2-2A. Would you say that this choice of the Democratic Party candidate for Congress is more a --
(ROTATE) -- • vote in favor of the Democratic candidate, or • vote against the Republican
candidate?

In favor of the Democratic candidate..... 58%
Against the Republican candidate..... 33%
NEITHER **(DNR)** 2%
UNSURE/REFUSED**(DNR)** 8%

SPLIT SAMPLE B: IF ANY DEMOCRATIC CHOSEN (Q2=4-5) IN Q2, ASK:

- 2-2B. Would you say that this choice of the Democratic Party candidate for Congress is more a --
(ROTATE) -- • vote in favor of the Democratic candidate, or • vote against President Bush?

In favor of the Democratic candidate..... 52%
Against Bush 40%
NEITHER **(DNR)** 3%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 5%

*****ASK OF EVERYONE*****

Still thinking about the upcoming Congressional elections... –

Now I'd like to read you two viewpoints. Please tell me which one comes closest to your own.
(READ & ROTATE ALTERNATIVES)

3. Some people say/
Other people say that your vote for Congress is a vote on whether or not to continue
the policies of President Bush.

Other people say/
Some people say that your vote for Congress is a vote on whether or not you
think your Member of Congress deserves re-election.

*"Which viewpoint comes
closest to your own?"*

National referendum on Bush policies..... 35%
Vote on whether your MOC deserves re-election .. 53%
BOTH EQUALLY (DNR) 2%
NEITHER (DNR) 5%
UNSURE (DNR) 5%

Now, thinking for a moment about things in the country --

4. Do you feel things in this country are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off on the wrong
track?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And
do you feel *strongly* or
somewhat about that?

Right direction/strongly..... 19%
Right direction/somewhat 12%
UNSURE (DNR) 7%
Wrong track/somewhat 11%
Wrong track/strongly..... 51%

5. And what word would you use to describe your feelings about the direction of the country?
(ROTATE CHOICES, RECORD FIRST CHOICE ONLY):

- Optimistic,
- Satisfied,
- Concerned,
- Sad,
- Frustrated, OR
- Angry?

Optimistic 17%
Satisfied 7%
Concerned..... 36%
Sad 9%
Frustrated 19%
Angry 11%
NONE (DNR)..... 1%
UNSURE/DK (DNR) 1%

Now, still thinking about the upcoming Congressional elections...

6. Being as specific as you can, what would you say is the most important issue when determining your vote for Congress?

(ROTATE Qs 7-8)

Thinking about the issue you just mentioned...

7. Who do you think would do a better job at solving this problem – **(ROTATE CHOICES)** – President Bush or the Democrats in Congress?

President Bush36%
Democrats in Congress51%
BOTH EQUALLY **(DNR)** 1%
NEITHER **(DNR)** 6%
UNSURE **(DNR)**..... 6%

Thinking about the issue in a different way...

8. Who do you think would do a better job at solving this problem – **(ROTATE CHOICES)** – the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress?

Republicans in Congress.....38%
Democrats in Congress46%
BOTH EQUALLY **(DNR)** 2%
NEITHER **(DNR)** 6%
UNSURE **(DNR)**..... 8%

Still thinking about the work of Congress on important problems...

9. If Congress does not deal this year with the most pressing problems facing the nation, which of these statements best describes what you think your friends and neighbors will do:

(ROTATE CHOICES, TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

- They will still vote for their current Member of Congress
- They will not vote at all
- They will not vote for their current Member of Congress

Will still vote for34%
Not vote at all20%
Will not vote for31%
NONE **(DNR)**..... 1%
UNSURE **(DNR)** 15%

Now I would like to read you the names of several individuals and organizations who have been mentioned in the news recently. For each one, please tell me whether you have heard of that person or organization and if so, whether you have a favorable or an unfavorable impression of them. If you do not recognize the name, just say so.

WAIT FOR RESPONSE, THEN ASK: Would that be a strongly (favorable/unfavorable) impression or just a somewhat (favorable/unfavorable) impression?

(ROTATE NAMES)		FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		NO	NEVER
		<u>Strng</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Smwht</u>	<u>Strng</u>	<u>OPIN.</u>	<u>HEARD</u>
10.	George W. Bush	25%	20%	10%	43%	2%	*
11.	The Republicans in Congress	15%	28%	19%	32%	6%	1%
12.	The Democrats in Congress	19%	33%	17%	25%	7%	1%
13.	John McCain	19%	33%	17%	12%	12%	7%
14.	Hillary Clinton	24%	24%	11%	37%	4%	*
15.	Dick Cheney	18%	23%	11%	42%	6%	1%
16.	Bill Clinton	34%	20%	13%	29%	4%	*

(END ROTATION)

17. How would you rate the job George W. Bush has been doing as President? Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly 27%
 Approve 18%
 UNSURE (DNR) 2%
 Disapprove..... 7%
 Disapprove/strongly 45%

And,

18. Whether you approve of disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as President, what is your impression of George W. Bush as a person? Do you approve or disapprove of him?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you *strongly* (approve/disapprove) or *somewhat* (approve/disapprove)?

Approve/strongly 41%
 Approve/somewhat 20%
 UNSURE (DNR)..... 7%
 Disapprove/somewhat 7%
 Disapprove/strongly 25%

Now, thinking about Congress overall...

19. How would you rate the job that Congress is doing? Do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly 9%
Approve 23%
UNSURE (DNR) 6%
Disapprove..... 19%
Disapprove/strongly 43%

And, thinking now specifically about your Member of Congress...

20. How would you rate the job that your Member of Congress is doing? Do you approve or disapprove of the job that your Member of Congress is doing?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel *strongly* about that?

Approve/strongly 33%
Approve 28%
UNSURE (DNR) 9%
Disapprove..... 10%
Disapprove/strongly 19%

Now, thinking back a few years –

As you probably already know, since November 2002 the Republican Party has held control of both the White House and Congress. This means that their leaders have been in charge of running both Congress and the Executive branches of our federal government.

Thinking about this time from 2002 to the present...

(SPLIT SAMPLE A)

21A. Are you and your family better off, worse off, or about the same as you were in November 2002?

Better off.....27%
Worse off.....32%
About the same41%
NONE (DNR).....
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

SPLIT SAMPLE B

21B. Do you think the country is better off, worse off, or about the same as it was four years ago?

Better off.....24%
Worse off.....52%
About the same24%
NONE (DNR).....
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

Thinking again about issues facing the country --

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for the United States Congress to deal with. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who would do a better job of handling this issue-- **(ROTATE) • the Republicans in Congress or the Democrats in Congress.**
Here is the first one:

(READ LIST & ROTATE)	<u>GOP</u>	<u>DEMS</u>	<u>NONE</u> (DNR)	<u>UNSURE</u> (DNR)
22. Dealing with Iraq (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WOULD DO A BETTER JOB HANDLING THIS ISSUE -- (ROTATE) THE REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS OR THE DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS?)	44%	46%	4%	6%
23. Creating jobs	41%	49%	4%	6%
24. Energy independence	33%	53%	5%	9%
25. Making prescription drugs affordable	26%	61%	6%	7%
26. Holding the line on taxes	49%	41%	5%	5%
27. Strengthening Social Security	31%	57%	6%	6%
28. Improving the economy	42%	51%	3%	5%
29. Safeguarding America from a terrorist threat	51%	35%	6%	8%
30. Protecting moral values	48%	36%	8%	8%
31. Dealing with illegal immigration	44%	37%	10%	9%
32. Dealing with healthcare	29%	59%	5%	6%
33. Cracking down on corruption in Washington	30%	41%	20%	9%

(END ROTATION)

Thinking about issues facing the country in a different way --

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for the President and Congress to deal with. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who would do a better job of handling this issue-- (ROTATE) • **President George W. Bush or the Democrats in Congress.** Here is the first one:

(READ LIST & ROTATE)	GEORGE W. <u>BUSH</u>	DEMS IN <u>CONGRESS</u>	<u>NONE</u> (DNR)	<u>UNSURE</u> (DNR)
34. Dealing with Iraq (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WOULD DO A BETTER JOB HANDLING THIS ISSUE -- (ROTATE) PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH OR THE DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS?)	45%	47%	4%	4%
35. Creating jobs	39%	54%	3%	4%
36. Improving the economy	41%	53%	3%	3%
37. Safeguarding America from a terrorist threat	52%	40%	3%	5%
38. Protecting moral values	50%	39%	6%	5%
39. Dealing with illegal immigration	40%	43%	10%	7%
40. Dealing with healthcare	29%	61%	5%	5%
41. Cracking down on corruption in Washington	33%	45%	15%	8%
42. Energy independence	33%	56%	4%	6%
43. Providing strong leadership	48%	44%	4%	4%

(END ROTATION)

Now, thinking now about the war in Iraq –

44. All in all, do you think the war in Iraq is worth fighting, or not?

	Worth fighting/strongly..... 33%
	Worth fighting/somewhat..... 12%
	UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 5%
	Not worth fighting/somewhat 9%
	Not worth fighting/strongly..... 42%

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And do you feel strongly or somewhat strongly about that?

Still thinking about the war in Iraq –

45. Do you think the War in Iraq is a part of the global war on terrorism?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly 49%
Yes 9%
UNSURE (DNR) 4%
No..... 5%
No/strongly 34%

IF “YES” IN Q45, THEN ASK:

46. And, do you think of the War in Iraq as a:
(ROTATE CHOICES)

- Major part of the global war on terrorism, OR
- Minor part of the global war on terrorism?

Major part 72%
Minor part 25%
NEITHER (DNR) *
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 3%

One last question on the War in Iraq...

47. As you have probably heard, there has been a lot of debate over the past few months about what the United States should do about its troops that are currently stationed in Iraq. I am going to read you three proposals on this issue. Please tell me which one comes closest to your own.

(ROTATE CHOICES -- TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

- The US should begin immediately withdrawing all troops from Iraq. This is now a job for Iraqi forces to handle.
- The US should set a date certain, no more than two years from now, when all troops will be withdrawn from Iraq. This process should begin with some troops coming home immediately.
- The US should keep its forces in Iraq until our military leaders there confirm that the situation in Iraq is stable enough that extremist forces will not be able to seize control once US troops leave.

Immediate withdrawal..... 21%
Set date certain for withdrawal 28%
Forces stay until situation is confirmed to be stable..... 49%
OTHER (Specify ____) (DNR)..... *
NONE (DNR)..... 1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

IF CODE=1,2 IN Q47, THEN ASK:

48. And, would you still favor withdrawing US troops if you knew that this meant the insurgent forces in Iraq would seize control of the country?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly 49%
Yes 12%
UNSURE (DNR) 10%
No..... 7%
No/strongly 21%

IF CODE=3 IN Q47, THEN ASK:

49. And, would you still favor keeping US forces in Iraq until the situation is confirmed stable if you knew that this meant the US would have fewer troops and resources available to deal with threats, including terrorists, in other parts of the world?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

Yes/strongly 60%
Yes 15%
UNSURE (DNR) 10%
No..... 4%
No/strongly 12%

Now, just a few final questions for statistical purposes only --

D1. What is your age, please?

18-24 3%
25-29 4%
30-34 5%
35-39 8%
40-44 8%
45-54 23%
55-64 19%
65-69 9%
70-74 8%
75-79 7%
80-84 4%
85-89 3%
90 or over..... *
REFUSED 1%

D2. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

Some grade school (1-8) 1%
Some high school (9-11) 3%
Graduated high school (12)..... 21%
Technical/vocational (12)..... 2%
Some college (13-15) 27%
Graduated college (16) 30%
Graduate/professional school (16 or more) 16%
Unsure/Refused 1%

D3. When thinking about politics and government, do you consider yourself to be...
(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

Very conservative.....	19%
Somewhat conservative.....	42%
MODERATE (DNR)	3%
Somewhat liberal.....	26%
Very liberal	8%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	2%

D4. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT,
ASK: Would you call yourself a
strong or a not very strong
(Republican/Democrat)?

Republican/strong.....	25%
Republican/not strong	10%
Lean Republican.....	7%

Independent 14%

Lean Democrat	7%
Democrat/not strong.....	9%
Democrat/strong	26%

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING
ELSE, ASK: Do you think
of yourself as closer to the
Republican or Democrat Party?

NO PREFERENCE (DNR)	1%
OTHER (DNR)	*
UNSURE/DK (DNR)	1%

Now, thinking about your past voting history --

D5. Which of the following would you say most closely reflects your past voting history -- **(ROTATE, TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP) --**

- I vote in every single election held,
- I vote in almost every election held,
- I vote in the elections held every two years,
- I vote in every Presidential election,
- I vote in the elections I am interested in,
- I vote in only a few elections,
- I never vote in the elections?

Every single election	45%
Almost every election.....	37%
Elections every two years.....	5%
Presidential elections.....	7%
Elections I am interested in	4%
Only a few elections	1%
Never vote.....	*
UNSURE/DK (DNR)	1%

D6. Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections?

(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

Straight Republican7%
Mostly Republican29%
A few more Republicans than Democrats.....11%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON (DNR)3%
A few more Democrats than Republicans.....11%
Mostly Democrat23%
Straight Democrat.....14%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)3%

Now, thinking about something a little different--

D7. Do you have a friend or family member who is currently serving in the US military and is stationed in Iraq?

Yes28%
No71%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)1%

D8. Are you a member of a labor union, including trade unions, service employee unions, public employee unions, and teachers unions?

IF NO, THEN ASK: Is anyone in your household a member of one of these types of labor unions?

Labor Union Member13%
Labor Union Household.....4%
Non-Union Household82%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)1%

And...

D9. What is your current marital status -- are you -- • single and never married, • married, • separated, • divorced, or •widowed?

Single12%
Married65%
Separated1%
Divorced9%
Widowed12%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)1%

D10. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

Yes31%
No69%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)*

D11. What is the church you or your family attends most often?

IF BAPTIST, ASK: Is that Southern Baptist or some other Baptist church?
(DO NOT READ RESPONSES, JUST RECORD)

AME (Africa Methd. Episcopal).....	1%	Lutheran	6%
Assemblies of God	1%	Mennonite
Baptist/American	3%	Methodist/United Methodist	8%
Baptist/Missionary or Indep. or Primitive or other	5%	Mormon/Latter Day Saints.....	2%
Baptist/Southern	9%	Nazarene	1%
Bible Church.....	*	Non-denominational	4%
Christian Church.....	4%	Other Protestant.....	2%
Christian Reformed Church	*	Pentecostal/Charismatic	2%
Church of Christ	2%	Presbyterian/United Presb	3%
Church of God	1%	Quaker/Amish	*
Disciples of Christ	1%	Reformed Church in America
Episcopalian	2%	Roman Catholic.....	22%
Evangelical	1%	Seventh Day Adventist.....	*
Friends	United Church of Christ	*
Fundamentalist	*	OTHER (SPECIFY _____).....	4%
Eastern/Greek Orthodox.....	*	None (TO D14).....	12%
Jewish	1%	DK/REFUSED (TO D14).....	4%

IF ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN D11, ASK:

D12. And how often do you attend church (or synagogue)?

(READ LIST, IF NECESSARY)

More than once a week.....	19%
Once a week	37%
Several times a month.....	15%
Once a month.....	4%
Several times a year.....	14%
Only on holidays.....	7%
NEVER/DON'T ATTEND	4%
UNSURE/REFUSED	1%

IF ANY RELIGION NAMED IN D11 EXCEPT CODE 17, THEN ASK:

D13. Do you consider yourself to be a born again or evangelical Christian?

Born again/evangelical.....	48%
Not born again	46%
REFUSED (DNR).....	6%

And,

D14. What do you consider to be your race? Are you white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or some other race?

White.....	79%
Black/African-American	11%
Hispanic/Latino (TO D15).....	4%
Asian/Pacific American.....	1%
Native American.....	1%
Other (Specify _____).....	2%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	2%

FOR ALL RESPONSES EXCEPT "HISPANIC/LATINO," ASK:

D14-1. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Yes	4%
No.....	95%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

D15. Sex/Emp (**BY OBSERVATION**)

ASK OF EVERYONE: Are you employed outside the house, are you a homemaker, or are you retired?

Male/employed	28%
Male/homemaker.....	1%
Male/retired	16%
Male/not in labor force	1%
Female/employed	25%
Female/homemaker	8%
Female/retired.....	19%
Female/not in labor force	2%
MALE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR)	1%
