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World Public Opinion on Abortion

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Q29-A1: Do you think the government should be involved in trying to discourage abortions or do you think the government should leave these matters to the individual?

	Try to discourage abortions	Leave these matters to the individual	DK / NS
Mexico	26	70	4
US	29	69	2
France	4	95	1
Great Britain	17	81	2
Poland	25	66	9
Russia	29	62	9
Ukraine	21	70	9
Azerbaijan	46	48	6
Egypt	53	47	
Iran	55	28	17
Palestinian ter.	57	39	4
Turkey	46	48	7
Nigeria	84	15	1
China	26	67	7
India	53	37	10
Indonesia	89	10	1
S Korea	37	62	1
Thailand	66	22	12
Average	42	52	6

[Ask if “Try to discourage abortions (01)” in Q29-A1]:

Q29a-A1a: To try to discourage abortions, do you think the government should:

	A. Use methods of criminal enforcement, such as fines and imprisonment for people who give or receive abortions	B. Use such methods as education, counseling, and adoption services, but not criminal enforcement	Leave these matters to the individual (Q29)	DK / NS (Q29+ Q29a)
Mexico	9	15	70	5
US	8	21	69	2
France	1	3	95	1
Great Britain	1	15	81	2
Poland	6	16	66	12
Russia	5	22	62	11
Ukraine	3	17	69	10
Azerbaijan	14	31	48	8
Egypt	45	8	47	0
Iran	11	38	28	23
Palestinian ter.*	25	31	39	4
Turkey	24	20	48	8
Nigeria	42	42	15	1
China	8	18	67	7
India	26	24	37	13
Indonesia	60	28	10	2
S Korea	6	31	62	1
Thailand	27	35	22	16
Average	18	23	52	7

* * In the Palestinian Territories, not all respondents received the follow-up question and were coded as DKs.

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METHODOLOGY

Country	Sample Size (unweighted)	MoE (%)	Field dates	Survey methodology	Type of sample
Azerbaijan	602	4.1	Jan 13 – Feb 5, 2008	Face-to-face	National
China	1000	3.2	Jan 10-25, 2008	Telephone	Urban ¹
Egypt	600	4.1	Jan 17-27, 2008	Face-to-face	Urban ²
France	600	4.1	Feb 5-11, 2008	Telephone	National
Great Britain	800	3.5	Jan 29 – Feb 19, 2008	Telephone	National
India	1023	3.2	February 25-29, 2008	Face-to-face	National ³
Indonesia	811	3.5	Jan 19-29, 2008	Face-to-face	National ⁴
Iran	710	3.8	Jan 13 – Feb 9, 2008	Face-to-face	National
Mexico	850	3.4	Jan 25-27, 2008	Telephone	National ⁵
Nigeria	1000	3.2	February 7-18, 2008	Face-to-face	National ⁶
Palestinian territories	626	4.0	February 10-23, 2008	Face-to-face	National ⁷
Poland	870	3.4	Nov 29 – Dec 4, 2007	Face-to-face	National
Russia	1600	3.5	Jan 18-22, 2008	Face-to-Face	National ⁸
South Korea	600	4.1	Feb 11-12, 2008	Telephone	National
Thailand	2699	1.9	Apr 21 – May 6, 2008	Face-to-face	National ⁹
Turkey	719	3.7	Jan 12-24, 2008	Face-to-face	National
Ukraine	2046	3.1	Feb 8-18, 2008	Face-to-face	National ¹⁰
United States	1309	3.3	Jan 18-27, 2008	Internet	National ¹¹

¹ In China, the survey was a national probability sample of urban telephone households across China. A stratified PPS sample design was developed to sample 20 cities; urban households represent approximately 45 percent of the Chinese population.

² In Egypt, the survey was executed in the urban areas of Cairo, Alexandria, Giza, and Subra. These four urbanized areas represent 75 percent of Egypt's urban population, which is 42 percent of the national population.

³ In India, a face-to-face survey was conducted in urban and rural areas in 14 of the largest Indian states; these states comprise 77 percent of India's population. The sample is 60 percent urban, India's population is approximately 30 percent urban.

⁴ In Indonesia, a national probability sample was conducted in both urban and rural areas and covering approximately 87 percent of Indonesia's population.

⁵ In Mexico, a random telephone sample of adults who had landline telephones was conducted in all 31 states and the Federal District. Telephone penetration in Mexico is 55 percent.

⁶ In Nigeria, the sample was developed by selecting six states, one per geographic region, based upon their size and representativeness. Within each state, sampling points were selected by means of a multi-stage random sample which disproportionately sampled urban areas. The final sample is 75 percent urban; Nigeria is approximately 50 percent urban.

⁷ In the Palestinian Territories, a face-to-face national probability survey was conducted among the population of the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

⁸ In Russia, all items were half sampled; each item was answered by 800 respondents.

⁹ In Thailand, the survey was conducted in 10 provinces of the country including Bangkok, Samutprakarn, Chantaburi, Ratchaburi, Chiang Mai, Kampanget, Kornkean, Sakonnakorn, Chumporn, and Songkla.

¹⁰ In the Ukraine, all items were half-sampled; each item was answered by at least 1,020 respondents.

¹¹ In the United States, the poll was an online survey drawn from a nationally representative sample of the Knowledge Networks online panel. This panel is probabilistically-based, selected from the population of US telephone households and subsequently provided with an Internet connection if needed. Items in the US survey were split sampled so that each item was answered by at least 940 respondents.