

ANES 2006 Pilot Study Cognitive Interview Transcripts

March 17, 2022

This document contains transcripts of 18 cognitive interviews that were conducted during development of the questionnaire for the ANES 2006 Pilot Study. Twenty interviews were conducted in 2006 and audio recordings were made. In 2022, 18 usable audio tapes in DAT format were converted to mp4 audio files and were commercially transcribed. Interviews are numbered 1 through 20, with interviews 2 and 19 missing. Information that could potentially compromise the participants' confidentiality has been redacted. Redacted text is designated by a description in brackets with all capital letters, such as “[NAME 1]”.

Each interview began with a training exercise; the first interview transcript (Interview 1, below) includes the transcribed recording of this training activity, and the remaining transcripts do not include this portion of the interview because it was only recorded during the first interview.

For a description of the cognitive interviewing procedure, including the training script, see the *Methodology Report for the 2006 ANES Pilot Study*, available on the ANES website.¹

Note on Accuracy and Errors

The transcripts were prepared by a commercial transcription service using audio recordings that were of high quality. ANES staff reviewed the transcripts for the purpose of redacting sensitive information and made occasional corrections. For example, if homonyms or near homonyms, such as “are” and “our,” appeared to have been transcribed incorrectly, staff checked the audio recording and corrected the transcript where appropriate. However, staff only corrected errors that were readily noticeable in the course of reviewing the text to redact confidential information. The transcripts appear to have good accuracy, but they most likely still contain some errors.

Acknowledgments

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¹ Matthew DeBell, Jon A. Krosnick, Arthur Lupia, and Pat Luevano. 2009. *Methodology Report for the 2006 ANES Pilot Study*. Palo Alto, CA, and Ann Arbor, MI: Stanford University and the University of Michigan.

Interview 1

Interviewer:

Okay. I've started the tape. And just to confirm again, it's okay for me to tape record this.

Respondent 1:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you listen to each question, I'd like to ask you to do something in addition to just giving me your answer. It would be most helpful, if you would think out loud in two ways. After you hear each question first, please restate the question in your own words. We want to learn about how you interpret the questions I will ask you. And one good way to do that is for us to see how you restate the ideas in the question, but using different words that express the same meaning to you. Second, we'd like to learn about how you come up with your answer to each question, to learn about how you are thinking after you restate the meaning of each question, please say out loud, as many of your thoughts as you can, while you are thinking about how to answer each question, that way I can get a sense of how you are interpreting each question and how you decide on your answers. If you forget to restate the question or to think out loud, I'll remind you. Okay?

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Because of this, kind of, thinking aloud is probably not something you're used to doing. It might be helpful for you to get a little practice doing it. So let me give you an example. Imagine that I ask you How many windows are there in your home. If I asked you this, you would first have to decide what I'm asking you to do. So let me repeat the question and ask you to restate it in your own words.

Respondent 1:

Okay?

Interviewer:

How many windows are there in your home?

Respondent 1:

I'm gonna have to count my windows in my home. See my room, I've got one in the other room up to stairs, there's one, there'd be two, three for the one in the hallway to the stairwell. Downstairs there's three in the living room and one in my mom's room that's four plus the three upstairs would be seven windows in my home.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's great practice and thinking out loud and that's exactly what we want you to do for all of these questions. And also let's do, could you restate the question in your own words? If I say, how many windows are there in your home? Could you restate that in different words?

Respondent 1:

Could you count the windows in your home, or?

Interviewer:

Okay. So I said windows and you said windows, but in order for me to understand how you interpret each question, it's best. If you can say the question back to me using as many different words as possible.

Respondent 1:

Different words like instead of window?

Interviewer:

Exactly. So you might say, um, pains of glass in the wall, for instance. Okay.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Um, so do you have any questions about how to do this?

Respondent 1:

No, I think I understand better now.

Interviewer:

Okay. And in your home, did you mention, uh, a basement or an attic?

Respondent 1:

Um, no, just an upstairs and a downstairs.

Interviewer:

Okay. So your house doesn't have a basement or attic?

Respondent 1:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's just one example of, of the way we like to try to explore, um, the ways people are thinking about how to answer questions. One last thing that I want to tell you is that it's very important that you think carefully about each question and give me accurate and complete information that way... Well, there may be some cases when you don't know the exact answer to a question and when this happens,

it would be most helpful. If you could tell me you're unsure and then tell me what you're unsure of about. Then it would be best for you to generate your best guess of the answer.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And tell me how you came up with that answer. Feel free to take as much time as you need to think about each question. And if it would be helpful to you, I can reread any question to you again, if you like.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Great. Okay. Now that you've got the hang of this, I'd like you to think about the questions I will ask you in the same way after I read each question, please restate the question in your own words and then tell me everything you're thinking as you're deciding what your answer will be. Okay?

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

I'd like to begin with some general questions about you and your opinions about other people.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are, completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 1:

Um, how much control does, um... do individuals have over themselves? Um-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

I Would think that an average person should have a decent, um, moderate amount of control over changing their, their moods.

Interviewer:

Okay. What kinds of things lead you to say that?

Respondent 1:

Um, self-control, um, self conditioning as far as like quitting bad habits. That's, um, that's a control over yourself to, to change yourself.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

To better yourself. Um, some people with maybe medical conditions probably couldn't control certain things as well. So they would have a smaller percentage of being able to control obesity or if it was a mental health issue.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

I guess.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successful, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all.

Respondent 1:

Okay. If I wanted to... I have to think of another word to replace that with. If I wanted to stick up or for anything that I've said to justify what I've said, I feel that I could probably do it pretty well extremely successfully or extremely well.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

Because I just... if I, if it was something that I believed in, It probably would be something that I'd be able to defend. And... This is hard.

Interviewer:

Just take your time.

Respondent 1:

Yeah. But if it was something I didn't know too much about, I might not be able to-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 1:

... defend what I said or if I didn't know very much about the topic. Um...

Interviewer:

So would you be inclined to say that you could do it extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 1:

Probably slightly successfully.

Interviewer:

Okay. What were you thinking about when you said slightly successfully?

Respondent 1:

Um, trying to change my words (laughing) or change the words that are given to me to a different word, 'cause I'd already popped that word in my mind and my mind sometimes draws a blank on replacing that word with something else. If I don't have, like, a source in front of me.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized or not disorganized at all.

Respondent 1:

Okay. How cluttered up are the rooms that I mainly inhabit... inhabit in?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

In habitat. Um, would be probably my... like, my bedroom and the living room and the kitchen or the rooms that I'm in the most. And they are extremely organized everything's in its place. Everything has a spot. And I, I notice that things are moved. I'm very, um, compulsive in my organizational skills. The rest of the house is another story 'cause other people are in those rooms. So those are their domains for them to do as they wish. And I let them have their space and I have my space.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say the rooms are extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 1:

Not disorganized at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when you say that you're focusing on your space rather than shared space?

Respondent 1:

Yes, my space.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them or neither like nor dislike?

Respondent 1:

Oh, unpredictable situations like spontaneous situations. I neither like nor dislike. I don't favor them, but sometimes it makes life enjoyable.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 1:

Read me the question again.

Interviewer:

Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 1:

How do you feel... How much do you, like... You said spontaneous? Um... no you said unpredictable.

Interviewer:

I said, do you like unpredictable situations dislike them or neither like nor dislike them.

Respondent 1:

Do, do you like spontaneous situations or unspontaneous situations... or predictable situations?

Interviewer:

Okay. And is there another word you, you might use instead of, like. I said, "Do you like unpredictable situations?"

Respondent 1:

Do you care for.

Interviewer:

Okay. And I'm sorry, what was your answer to that question? Did you like them dislike them?

Respondent 1:

Neither like them or neither dislike.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you lean toward liking unpredictable situations?

Respondent 1:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Lean toward disliking unpredictable situations or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 1:

I lean more towards liking.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how might you rephrase that question? Do you lean toward liking unpredictable situations, lean toward disliking on situations or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 1:

Do you favor liking more of a predictable situation or a non predictable situation or neither.

Interviewer:

Okay. How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few or none.

Respondent 1:

Most. I make most my decision quickly. Um, I'd reword it. I would reword it. Do you... Read me the question again.

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently all, most, about half, a few or none

Respondent 1:

Approximately... Of the decisions you make, approximately How many do you make rapidly?

Interviewer:

Okay. And when we say decisions in that question, how many of your important decisions, what does the word decisions make you think of?

Respondent 1:

My ideas? My, um, my thoughts.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 1:

Um, Decisions, um, decisions? No.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable. Very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable or not uncomfortable at all.

Respondent 1:

Slightly uncomfortable. And I would reword that. Read me the question again and I'll reword it

Interviewer:

When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel?

Respondent 1:

When you're not... When you don't grasp the concept of some of the causes Of things that happen in your life, how does that make you feel? Um, I'm trying to think of another word to replace reasons besides going with causes from cause and effect You don't grasp... Well, when you don't... Ooh, this one's hard. When you don't understand, Um... you don't understand the reasons. How does that make you feel? When you don't Grasp the concept of why, How does that make you feel?

Interviewer:

Okay. And for the part where it says, how uncomfortable does that make you feel?

Respondent 1:

Oh, how uncomfortable? Um, how uncomfortable does that make you feel. Uncomfortable. Comfortable? Um,

Interviewer:

If I ask you about feeling uncomfortable, what does that mean to you?

Respondent 1:

Feeling uncomfortable? It makes me think of butterflies in my stomach. Um, feeling uneasy.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

How uneasy does that make you feel?

Interviewer:

Okay. In the situations, when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be Right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in while or never

Respondent 1:

About half the time. And I'd reword it, When I see two people having an argument. Um, How often can I view that both side would be right. Would be about half the time.

Interviewer:

When I say how often

Respondent 1:

How often.

Interviewer:

What is that? What do you think of about that?

Respondent 1:

How often? Um, Percentage... um, percent wise. Um, approximately. How many, Um...

Interviewer:

You said percent.

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Percent of, of what?

Respondent 1:

The Percentage of how many arguments I've seen.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when I say, see how both sides could be, right. What does that mean to you?

Respondent 1:

Viewing Both persons view on the argument and trying to justify their side of it.

Interviewer:

Okay. And you said about half the time. What were you thinking when you gave that answer?

Respondent 1:

Um, about half of the time I can kind of see how they've got a really good point and then you've got a really good point. So you both are kind of right, but you're both kind of wrong too, But the other half of the time you usually can tell Who's more leaning on the, the right side.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you are with other people, How often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them? Always, most of the time, about how half, The time, once in a while or never?

Respondent 1:

Once in a while. Um, When you're around, um, Other individuals, How Often do you put up a front for them? And then it'd be every once in a while, if maybe I'm in a bad mood, I might pretend not to be in a bad mood 'cause there's other people around or a group Of people or maybe I'm not in public.

Interviewer:

Okay. Why would you do that?

Respondent 1:

Um, So that if I'm in a bad mood, I don't make everybody else in a bad mood by me bringing them down.

Interviewer:

Okay. So you reworded... The end of the question was how often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them?

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And you reworded that as put up a front for them?

Respondent 1:

Uh-huh(affirmative).

Interviewer:

Could you say a little about what you mean by that?

Respondent 1:

Um, putting up a front is like putting on a show, putting on a pretend face for the people around you.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

To kind of hide me being upset or hide me being mad or stressed out from my day. I put on a happy face for everybody so everybody think I'm in a great mood.

Interviewer:

Okay. How good or bad of an actor would you be? Excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.

Respondent 1:

Fair. Um, how... Let's see, I'll reword it. Um, how successful would I be at being an actress.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think of as actor or actress?

Respondent 1:

Um, I think of somebody in the movies or maybe on a TV set.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

As an actor, maybe in a play.

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you think out loud a little bit about your answer?

Respondent 1:

Um, fair, because I think I might be able to pull off the different moods or whatnot for whatever the character would need to be portrayed correctly. Um, as far as remembering the lines that would, that would take a little work. I don't think that comes quite as natural as being able to get out there and pretend to cry and make real tears come. I think that takes a little studying and a little practice to have those lines memorized, to be able to go out there and just read them off, Like they're natural.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention? Always, most of the time, about half the time. once in a while or never?

Respondent 1:

Most of the time. Um, I'm in a, when I'm in a group of my peers, I'm... Yeah I've usually got the spotlight on me. Um, how off... Okay. Approximately how much... Let's see if you we're in a group... Yeah actually when, when I'm in a group of my peers, I'm usually in the, in the spotlight.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you say a group of your peers

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

What, what kinds of people are you thinking of there?

Respondent 1:

Um, I'm thinking of my friends, people around my age, 'cause usually when you're, you're out, maybe at a bar or, or a club, you usually are around people approximately your same age range. And that would be a group of my peers.

Interviewer:

Okay. Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while or never?

Respondent 1:

Most of the time you can trust people, um, I'd say. Trust. Dude that's a harder word. Um, Approximately how many... approximately How trustworthy are people generally? They Usually pretty... You gotta get away from that word. Um...

Interviewer:

What kinds of things do you think about when getting to an answer about that question?

Respondent 1:

Trust? I think of relationships mainly 'cause trust is big... I guess, issue in relationships. Um, friendship.

Interviewer:

What kind of, what kind of relationships?

Respondent 1:

Um, romantic relationships, friendship relationship, parent, child relationships. Um, And for the most part, people are generally pretty trustworthy. You've just...you usually got a small handful that aren't.

Interviewer:

So when I ask generally speaking, how often can you other people, what people are you thinking of when you say most of the time?

Respondent 1:

Um, my boyfriend, my coworkers at work. Um, my friends, my mom, my grandmother, my, my close family.

Interviewer:

Okay. So people you, people, you know?

Respondent 1:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Next I will describe some people. Please tell me how much each person is or is not like you, very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you or not like you at all. First, She thinks it is important that every person in the world be treated equally. She believes everyone should

have equal opportunities in life. Is this person very much like you somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you or not like you at all

Respondent 1:

Very much like me. Um, I'm very, very much into equal rights for everybody.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

That. Everybody should be treated equally and fairly. You want me to keep going?

Interviewer:

Um, so equal rights and fair treatment are the things you're-

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

...you're thinking about with that question?

Respondent 1:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. I'm actually gonna skip to another section. I said before I was gonna describe some people, but I'm actually only gonna describe that one person.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Um, so the next question is How important is it to you that you help other people? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all.

Respondent 1:

It's very important for me to help other people, um, in all walks and aspects of life. People who are down on their luck, maybe need few extra dollars for gas money, or, um, maybe had a fire and lost everything in their possession. I'll go through my... everything, get rid of a bunch of stuff and help out and donate towards 'em, give 'em rides. So I'm very much into helping out other people, less fortunate than myself.

Interviewer:

So when I say other people, are you mostly thinking when you answer that question, are you mostly thinking of people who you don't know yet?

Respondent 1:

No. I'm thinking about people I know. Or maybe I don't know them directly. Maybe I know them through one other person.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

You know.

Interviewer:

And how would you reword that question? How important is it to you that you help other people?

Respondent 1:

Oh, um. How... that I help other people... important is it to me that I help other people. How, um... You know, how important to me is it that I help other people, um... Important. I would reword important... How imp- Important is it to me? Ooh. Um, it's very important and I can't think of another word that important. Um...

Interviewer:

How about the second part of the question, helping other people, what is helping other people mean to you?

Respondent 1:

Helping such a... just a wide range of things that could be from helping 'em out with something so small as to helping them get into rehab, you know, something more major, taking that first step, um, being there for people, being a supporter.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when you-

Respondent 1:

For somebody

Interviewer:

...and when you say doing that kind of thing is very important to you, what do you mean by very important?

Respondent 1:

It's very important to me 'cause I've had, um, loved ones close to me, um, suffer and struggle with the few either addictions or whatnot. And um, just seeing how a lot of people will turn their back and they

were their friends, but when they really needed 'em... one there. So it just makes me wanna go that extra step to kind of pick up some slack for the people that weren't truly good friends.

Interviewer:

So when you say it's very important to you, you mean that you, you want to do it?

Respondent 1:

Yes. I want to and I enjoy doing it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 1:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you follow traditions?

Respondent 1:

Traditions?

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 1:

Not very important.

Interviewer:

Okay. What went on in your mind is you're saying it's not very important.

Respondent 1:

Uh, when traditions pop in my mind, the first thing that comes to my mind is like weddings, traditions for weddings. As far as like the father walking the bride down the aisle and the brides family paying for it, just normal, old traditions that are just passed through families. And it's not really written in a book anywhere that this has to be done, but it's kind of was, was done a long time ago and people, kind of, keep doing them if they wanna keep an old tradition going. But I was raised... cause my father died when I was a baby, so traditions aren't that important to me 'cause there's a lot of 'em I can't complete because I'm missing a hole in my family.

Interviewer:

Okay. I understand. How important is it to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 1:

Somewhat important rules are there as guidelines and to keep people in line and to keep things from getting out of hand. But in the same sense, some rules are, are okay to be bent a little bit depending on what they are.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

But they're good guidelines to go by.

Interviewer:

And would you say it's extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all?

Respondent 1:

Moderately important.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what does it mean to you for people always to follow rules?

Respondent 1:

That's good for them. Um, people that always follow rules.

Interviewer:

Well I should be, I should be reading you this question exactly, so. It's, how important is it to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 1:

Moderately.

Interviewer:

So I'm, so I'm just getting at how you might restate that question-

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... that people always follow rules.

Respondent 1:

People. People always... let's see individual consistently follow the right path 'cause that's kind of what the rules lead you on. Is, is the proper path, the right path of what is just and what is right. That's why the rules are set and the right individual follows on the, the proper path With the guidelines, um.

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else on that?

Respondent 1:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you feel safe from harm?

Respondent 1:

Extremely important. And how important to me is it that I feel safe from harm? How important to, to me that I feel comfort from anything dangerous. Would be I guess, a good way to reword that.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

Um... Yeah.

Interviewer:

And what are you thinking about when you say that that's extremely important?

Respondent 1:

Um, I have a restraining order on an ex-boyfriend and he made me feel very unsafe and very uncomfortable and very scared. And that is a horrible feeling to be scared in your own home. And you're in your home with your windows and your doors, you shouldn't have to feel scared to even go near the door or when the phone rings, you shouldn't be jumpy. You know, you, you should feel safe and comfort someplace.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). I understand. Okay. How important is it to you that you be charge of other people who do what you tell them to do?

Respondent 1:

Not very important. Um, important to me that I be in charge... but I be, um, the boss of other people and they do what I, guess order them to do. They comply with, with what I demand.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

Not very important. 'Cause um, good teamwork is.. I should people... if I tell 'em to do things or I suggest that they do things or I ask them to do things that, as long as that I'm a good boss, they will do it without

me really having to demand it. So there's no really feel of power or authority there. It's more of I do for them and they want to do for me. They want to work for me 'cause I'm a good boss.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you, that you are very successful?

Respondent 1:

Somewhat important, moderately important? Um, for me to be... let's see successful, I would reword that, um, successful. Ooh, um, successful, I think of having a job, having a home, having a car, you know, food, roof over your head, clothes on your back. Um, kinda, like, middle, upper class would be a decent amount of success.

Interviewer:

Okay. Is there anything else about being very successful?

Respondent 1:

No.

Interviewer:

And why is that moderately important to you?

Respondent 1:

Um, Um, success just being that top notch business executive woman or whatnot, isn't on the top of my priority list, I guess. So it's only moderately as long as I'm fed and I've got a roof over my head and everything that I really need in life. I'm okay with that. I don't really look for success. I look for happiness.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you have fun whenever you can?

Respondent 1:

Um, extremely important. Um, you have a good time with life 'cause you only live life once and you don't know how long you're gonna live it. So to go about life unhappy and not enjoying it to the full that you can, would be cheating yourself as part of your life. So it's good to just have fun and a blast, whatever you did, you make the best of the situations that you're given.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you restate that in your own words that you have fun whenever you can.

Respondent 1:

I have a good time with everything I do.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you take risks in life,

Respondent 1:

Slightly important... Somewhat important, um, risk. Um, you need to take risk sometimes to hopefully make things better. Like taking a risk on a stock market, you know, account, if you wanna trade your shares or whatnot, that's taking a risk and that could be a good one. Like gambling is risk taking and that could end up good, but you're not gonna know unless you take the risk. Um, and I guess that would be like taking a gamble on things and that's not that important to me 'cause I'm not a big risk taker.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

Or gambler.

Interviewer:

So how would you restate that question, that you take risks in life?

Respondent 1:

I don't take a, a lot of gambles With My situations.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do?

Respondent 1:

Extremely important that I make my own decisions. Um, making my own decisions. Let's see, is extremely important that to speak for myself and I don't have somebody else speaking for me.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

'Cause I do have my own ideas and my own wants and desires.

Interviewer:

If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 1:

Yes, both. Um, I'm dependable enough and nice enough. And I'm always there for them that if I ever need to borrow money from a friend or a family, a member either or both would let me borrow money, um.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question if you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 1:

If I was running short on finances, um, financially my, my... financially I could find someone to help me through a rough time, if I needed to borrow or if I needed to... if I needed loan.

Interviewer:

Okay. What is the largest amount you could borrow from any family member or close friend?

Respondent 1:

Ooh. Um, it probably depends on what it would be for, um, if it was something like for rent and for bills that had to be paid, I could easily get a few thousand out of one individual to pay those off. If maybe it was, like, debt collector or something was calling me and I had to take care of it ASAP. I could easily get a few thousand in a phone call, um.

Interviewer:

What would be your best guess for a specific amount?

Respondent 1:

4000, 5000. Just from one, one, one uncle.

Interviewer:

Okay. Could you tell me a little bit more about what goes through your mind as you think about that question?

Respondent 1:

Um, I think of, like, if something happened, I got thrown in jail or something and I needed to, like, get bailed out or something. Then... that court that, you know, that would be quite a bit of money. And then I guess, fees and stuff, court fees or whatever, you know, that would to add up real fast. You know, if you, like, driving and you got an accident or something and couldn't find my... I don't know some reason I got thrown in jail for whatever bizarre reason. Maybe I would need money right then. And I could do it in a phone call. Um, or if I got my truck broke down and maybe I didn't have the money to fix it and it's gonna cost me, you know, a couple of \$1000 or whatever for new transmission, I could probably get that money borrowed To get it fixed. And then pay them back or make payments towards them.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me reread the question to you-

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

...and ask you to tell me please how you would restate the question in your own words.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

What is the largest amount you could borrow from any family member or close friend?

Respondent 1:

What is the most that someone would let me... You said borrow. What is the most that someone would loan to me to pay off a debt.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Texas these days?

Respondent 1:

Um, today the average price of, um, regular unleaded gasoline in Texas and the Dallas area would be about \$2.19. Is average.

Interviewer:

Would you say that's about the average in Texas these days?

Respondent 1:

Um, No. I guess in Texas it might, it might be, like, maybe 2.10... 2.09 I think or 2.12, 2.09.

Interviewer:

Would you say 2, 2.12 or 2.09?

Respondent 1:

Um, let's do 2.09.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 1:

Okay. Read me the question again.

Interviewer:

Sure. What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Texas these days?

Respondent 1:

What would your guess be on the going rate of a gallon of regular unleaded gas in Texas now.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. And what went through your mind as you came up with your answer to that question?

Respondent 1:

Um, all the gas stations that I passed to and from work or running my errands and are around town, um, about how much they are. 'Cause in a certain places are cheaper than others, but kind of like an average in the middle of all that. And from what... I've and other parts of Texas [inaudible 00:53:00] remembering what they told me that they're... they've been paying for gas.

Interviewer:

During a typical week. How many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 1:

Every day?

Interviewer:

What would the number be?

Respondent 1:

Um, at least... like, round trip a place? I drive it seven days a week.

Interviewer:

Seven days. Okay.

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And how would you reword that question during a typical week? How many days do you and automobile?

Respondent 1:

Okay. On an average Sunday through Saturday, how many of those days do you drive an automobile... Drive a vehicle?

Interviewer:

Okay. And what went through your mind as you came up with the answer of seven days?

Respondent 1:

Um, I go to work five of those days, Monday through Friday, I go to work and then on the weekends I'm usually... always go someplace or I have an errand to run and that's the last two days of the week. So I do drive my vehicle every day, even if it's just the street to the store and then bag.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 1:

Every day? Every day, I'm always looking at the price. 'Cause gas is so expensive. I, I look at it every gas station, 'cause if I see it really cheap and see that it dropped, then I'm gonna stop and go ahead and fill up before it goes back up to a higher price again.

Interviewer:

Okay. Can you restate that question in your own words. During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 1:

During an average week how often, how often, um, how often do you notice The changing in gas prices? How often do you notice... How many times do you notice the, the prices of gasoline in your area?

Interviewer:

Okay. And when I ask how many times in the question, what does that make you think of?

Respondent 1:

Um, How many times... how often do I notice it, while I'm driving?

Interviewer:

Okay. During August, about what percent of all the adults living in Texas, do you think were not employed at any job and were looking for work?

Respondent 1:

Ooh. In August the number of adults in Texas, maybe 30%.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

We're looking for jobs.

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you tell me about what you're thinking as you answer that question?

Respondent 1:

Um, I think... Well, I know unemployment rate is pretty high. So I know there's a lot of people that are unemployed. And I guess I going off, most of my friends that we're looking for jobs in August and a lot of 'em were unemployed and looking for jobs and we're a hard time finding jobs. So that led me to believe that they weren't the only ones out there that there were other people too. And if it was a good chunk of my friends, it had to be a, a, a good number and 30 seemed like a good number.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

Logically I don't have any reason behind it. So that would be my estimated guess.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you restate that question in your own words. During August about what percent of all the adults living in Texas, do you think we're not employed at any job and we're looking for work?

Respondent 1:

Okay. Okay. In the month of August, Approximately how many adults had... Well, I guess if they were unemployed, that didn't mean they filed, um, how many adults were, were seeking employment that were unemployed?

Interviewer:

Okay. About your religious beliefs. Do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic-

Respondent 1:

Catholic.

Interviewer:

Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or something else? Or-

Respondent 1:

Catholic.

Interviewer:

... are you not religious?

Respondent 1:

Yeah catholic.

Interviewer:

You said Catholic. And when you... Can you tell me what you think as, as you answer that question?

Respondent 1:

Um, well that's how I was raised. That's my dad's family. So my mom converted to marry him and I grew up in the Catholic church. So I've done, you know, my confirmation and my communion and all that and I work in a church and I, I go to church and it's always been in a Catholic church. I've been to a couple others, but I really don't know a lot about the other religions.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me reread the question and ask you to tell me how you would restate it in your own words.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

About your religious beliefs. Do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or something else? Or are you not religious?

Respondent 1:

If you had to classify yourself in a religious category, what religious category would that be? Protestant, Catholicism, Judaism, um, or some other religious belief.

Interviewer:

Okay. The next few questions are about religion. Do you believe that Jesus Christ was the son of God? Or do you believe that Jesus Christ was not the son of God?

Respondent 1:

I believe that he was the son of God

Interviewer:

In your own words, what is that question asking you?

Respondent 1:

Um. well, if I believe that Jesus was the son of God and that he died for our sins, or if I believe that he wasn't the son of God. I didn't know anybody believed that (laughs). So that was new to me. But he died for our sins and that's what it made me think of.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is this belief to you personally extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all?

Respondent 1:

Moderately important.

Interviewer:

And what are you thinking as you say it's moderately important?

Respondent 1:

I probably should go to church a little more than I do and I... but as I've gotten older, you know, I, I get busy and I know that's not an excuse, but I get busy. So it is important to me. It's not extremely important to me 'cause I'm not hardcore and you know, and I guess into it, but I do believe that. And I do go on my religious days of obligation and on quite a few days that I'm not supposed... that I don't have to be there, I do go to. But I'm there at least when I have to be. More... Yeah, I guess more to appease grandparents.

Interviewer:

Okay. When the question says, how important is this belief? What does that mean to you?

Respondent 1:

Um, I was thinking about the belief about Jesus Christ dying for our sins. That's the question we talked about right before it?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 1:

Um, It makes me think how important is it that he did that for us and yeah, it's moderately important. It happened a long time ago, so I wasn't here, but I am thankful to be here now for it. So I'm not not thankful. So I'm not like super duper thankful.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

I feel bad now. Okay.

Interviewer:

Do you believe that during holy communion, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants? Or do you believe that that does not happen?

Respondent 1:

I know they say, but when you take this bread, it, it... you're taking the body of Christ, but no, I know it's a cracker. And when they say, will you drink this wine and, and it's the blood of Christ. I know it's grape juice. And occasionally they give us real wine, but I hate grape flavored stuff. So I, I can't ev- I can't even taste it. I, I, well, I have to skip it most of the time unless I'm required to take it. And then I, I can only take a little sip 'cause it is grape juice.

Interviewer:

So that's, that's what you're thinking about-

Respondent 1:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... when I ask the question?

Respondent 1:

So I'm just thinking, oh my God, I'm gonna have to go up there and I hope I can keep it down. Cause it's awful.

Interviewer:

And how, how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 1:

Um, repeat it to me again.

Interviewer:

Do you believe that during holy communion, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants? Or do you believe that that does not happen?

Respondent 1:

Okay. During holy communion, um, Do you believe that the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ For the patrons? Or do you believe that it's just cracker and grape juice?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

I guess. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Have there been times in your life when you tried to be a good Christian or is that not something that you have tried to do?

Respondent 1:

It is something I have tried. I have tried to be a good Christian at one point in my life or more.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about... what, what goes on in your mind as you're answering that question?

Respondent 1:

Uh, it's a lot of money you have to pay every time you go church, they want more money. So, you know, if, if you're kind of short on money anyways, as far as, like, you don't make enough, you know, for your bills and gas and food and stuff, and you don't have a lot of extracurricular activities, sometimes that 10% that you're supposed to pay towards them, you may not have. And It's a lot of going to, you have to take a lot of... it's a lot of commitment from one person to go on Sundays and on Wednesdays and on, you know, know whatever other day.

Respondent 1:

And then they... a lot of the people there wanna join groups for this or a study group for that, or a Bible group for this. And so you're there, you know, four or five days out of the week, like it's a second job, but you're not getting paid for it. So it does take a lot of commitment and it was something I tried when I was younger and I had that spare time, but it's hard to have that spare time now that I'm older and I'm actually working full time.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you restate that question in your own words? Have there been times in your life when you tried to be a good Christian or is that not something you have tried to do

Respondent 1:

At any point in my life, have I attempted being a better Christian or not?

Interviewer:

Okay. And what, what does it mean to be a good Christian or a better Christian? What does that make you think of?

Respondent 1:

The golden rule and the 10 commandments, and, um... There's a... Just, just everyday life, you know, just in just little things that, you know, I think, you know, that's not something you really can have control over if you feel that way or if that thought pops in your head, but that's a sin. So now I have to go to church and I have to go into confession and I have to, you know, be forgiven and I have to go and do my hail Mary's and my... our father and, you know, and that takes a lot of time. And for all those little bitty things that pop through my mind, that's, that's a lot to tell that... tell the father, you know, and then I'm gonna have to [inaudible 01:07:37] all those hail Mary's. Yeah. So I couldn't imagine being a straight error by the book person. I'd have to have a special pad of paper to write everything down. It's awful.

Interviewer:

I understand when you have tried to be a good Christian, which did you try to do more avoid doing sinful things yourself or help other people?

Respondent 1:

Avoid the central things myself.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 1:

Um. Say the question to me again.

Interviewer:

When you have tried to be a good Christian, which did you try to do more avoid doing sinful things yourself or help other people?

Respondent 1:

Okay. Um, when I tried to better myself to be a, um, more holy Christian, um, more faithful or truthful Christian, did I or did you try to be less sinful or to assist others in the path to righteousness?

Interviewer:

Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 1:

To, kind of, both.

Interviewer:

Which is closer to your view.

Respondent 1:

Um, um, I guess to get people not to be as sinful and to be more loving and open to their faith and to their fellow followers.

Interviewer:

Okay. In your own words, what is that question asking you?

Respondent 1:

Um, Read me the question again.

Interviewer:

Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 1:

Um, I feel that it's most important, Yeah, to stop doing simple things so you can help others follow the same path, Um, to follow the same path then what's, or what's written in the Bible. Um, Uh...

Interviewer:

Just think out loud about whatever the question brings to your mind.

Respondent 1:

Well, what's written in the Bible, there's a... It's hard for people to, 'cause whoever reads it, everybody's gonna have their own interpretation of it. Even if you're of the same face, your same congregation, the person next to you may, may read a passage and have a different interpretation of that than you, but overall you, you know what the sins are and you, you know, right from wrong. And as long as you can follow the right path and help others follow the right path too, that would, um... Have to reword it. Read it to me I'm sorry again.

Interviewer:

Sure. Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 1:

What do you... what do I think is the most important in Christianity. Is to follow the, follow the, the Bible to the best of your ability and to help others follow the Bible as well on the right path Of good and evil and bad.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 1:

But yet still having open heart to everybody, even people that don't have the same beliefs as you. That one's hard.

Interviewer:

Let me ask you about just one part of that question.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

To encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible, what does that part mean to you?

Respondent 1:

The 10 commandments, God's laws, as, like, his principles. His... Things that he created and that he made to make things fair and just in the world and to make us have a good loving life so that we can get into heaven would be following his 10 commandments and accepting that he gave us his only son who died on the cross for us so that we could get into heaven and be for our sins.

Interviewer:

Now, let me ask you about another part of the question. To encourage people, to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others. What does that part mean to you?

Respondent 1:

To encourage people not to, like, commit adultery or, um, commit crimes so that they're here and of a clean soul so that they can help others follow the right path as well.

Interviewer:

Okay. So where the question refers to following God's laws as described in the Bible, and then it refers to doing sinful things. How much difference is there those two statements or those two parts of the question?

Respondent 1:

Kind, Kind of, to me, they're, kinda of, like, like, opposites, 'cause one of 'em is following his path would be, like, following the 10 commandments and following his path so that you can get to heaven. And then

to avoid committing simple things is to avoid from doing the things on the list. So you're still following them by not doing them. But this is to tell you not to commit any of them.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you believe that God gave people the responsibility to protect the natural environment or that God gave people the right to use the environment however they choose even if doing so does not protect the environment.

Respondent 1:

Well, now... I believe that God gave us the environment of our... of earth... of what we live on to, to use it. Yes. 'Cause we need it to survive. We need it's water and we need its shade, it's trees and we need the woods so that we had someplace to live in. And... but he gave us the minds and the, the free will and the capability of learning, how to invent things to help us live. But he did not give it to us to destroy it so that our children's children can't live on it. So in part we do have to try to protect it and to save it, but there is the, the food chain and we are in part of that to, kind of, keep it going. But he, he gave it to us so that we could use it. He just didn't want us to abuse it.

Interviewer:

Okay. So let me read the question to you again and see if one of the answers is closer to your view. Do you believe that God gave people the responsibility to protect the natural environment or that God gave people the right to use the natural environment however they choose even if doing so does not protect the natural... the environment?

Respondent 1:

It... he wanted us to protect it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. I think we have used our, our hour.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

This has been very helpful. I appreciate it very much.

Respondent 1:

Okay. I feel like I did horrible.

Interviewer:

No, this was, this was great. This is very helpful for us to understand how people, um, think about these questions and these issues and it's going to help us make the, the questionnaire work better.

Respondent 1:

Okay.

Interviewer:

So I thank, I thank you very much for this. Um, let me stop the tape and then I will get your contact information.

Respondent 1:

Okay

Interview 2.

Due to a technical equipment failure, no record of interview 2 is available. The digital audio tape broke in the cassette.

Interview 3.

Interviewer:

Okay, got the tape started.

Respondent 3:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Can we just confirm that's okay?

Respondent 3:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 3:

Is organized spirituality of some sort something that is central to the way I live? Um, now my answer?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

Um, I would say not organized religion, but a sense of culture, um, is important and certainly the history of the religion into which I was born, uh, plays a very important role in my personal history and that of my family.

Interviewer:

Would you say that religion is an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 3:

Is organized [inaudible 00:01:25] spirituality central to the way I live? Um, not on a day to day basis, no. I don't believe in God. Mm-mm.

Interviewer:

Would you say your religion provides some guidance in your day to day living, quite a bit of guidance or a great deal of guidance in your day to day living?

Respondent 3:

Does the ... [inaudible 00:02:07] organized spiritual, spirituality into which I was born play, again, um, an important part in the way I live and more specifically does it factor in, you know, a bit, quite a bit or very much? Um, I notice that there weren't options on the other side of the spectrum like not at all, um, you know, or a very little bit. It started with some, um, which of course could mean quite a, a little bit, but there wasn't an option for, you know, not at all. Um, so I don't know how, you know, atheists or other people who are, uh, um, you know, not associated with an organized religion are supposed to answer the question.

Respondent 3:

Um, but, uh, as for me, I would say, um, I'd probably have to say that on some really, uh, maybe deep subconscious level, I'd have to answer the question as some because, uh, because I was born into a family that, where organized religion was pretty important, it's just very much a part of the way I was raised, and I can't divorce it from who I am. So I would have to say some.

Interviewer:

Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms or funerals?

Respondent 3:

Do I go to synagogue, um, for, you know, just on a regular basis, you know, outside of events that we get invited to or, you know, like when people get married or babies are born or people die or so forth? Um, and, um, I go really very rar- very rarely, really just prompted by, um, either major holidays or if there's something specific that I want to expose my children to, um, I will take them, but for myself, uh, it would be rare.

Interviewer:

Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year or never?

Respondent 3:

Do I attend synagogue, um, every Shabbat? Uh, on occasional? Uh, s- Friday nights or Saturdays? Um, just a couple times a month. Uh, you know, f- maybe a few times a year or not at all? Um, I would say I go just a few times a year typically around specific holiday, um, or outside of, you know, life cycle events.

Interviewer:

When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 3:

When I think about the rest of my life, do I usually feel, uh, pretty hopeful about it or, you know, not so hopeful or, uh, have a lot of concerns and fears about what might happen to me? Um, and I would say I feel pretty hopeful.

Interviewer:

Are you extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 3:

Uh, do I feel, uh, very hopeful, slightly hopeful or, you know, just a tiny bit hopeful, and I would say I feel sort of moderately hopeful. Slightly, yeah.

Interviewer:

And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 3:

When I feel about, uh, my f- my country, um, in the, in the time to come, uh, do I feel, uh, you know, very hopeful? Um, you know, just moderately hopeful or not very hopeful at all? Um, I ... the f- the way I think about my country in response to this question is politically, it's the, the first thing that comes got mind.

Respondent 3:

Um, and, uh, I feel really concerned about it and feel because I am raising two, uh, two boys, I have for a number of years, since we have been fighting these wars, have been feeling, um, really concerned that we are being led by our government into such quagmires of violence in parts of the world that this could affect us in a, in a really personal way because my boys could be, you know, called upon to, uh, you know, to go risk their lives somewhere, uh, in the world.

Respondent 3:

Um, even though we don't have a draft currently, I feel like it could happen and so I feel that, that's sort of a personal concern, but it also is a concern about just, you know, if not my kids, there's certainly other peoples kids, uh, in danger right now, and I don't feel good at all about the direction that, um, our government is taking the country or the impact it's having on the world.

Respondent 3:

Um, and that's the, the most striking thing that comes to mind. Then I sort of start to think about our country in other ways. Like, you know, just the geography of it and, and how beautiful the, you know, the wilderness is, and I think that, that will, you know, hopefully that will ... I feel more hopeful that our, our pristine national parks will preserve some of the most, the cleanest, you know, natural areas that may exist, you know, and, uh, and I think that sort of the fabric of the, of the people of this country will, uh, um, will continue to, uh, provide some, you know, lively, you know, debate because we're, we're pretty heterogenous as a population-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

... uh, as opposed to places like, you know, Scandinavia where it's much more homogenous or Pakistan which is much more homogeneous, you know. So I feel good about that and I feel like that'll strengthen, uh, the future of our country.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

But politically is the first thing that comes to mind.

Interviewer:

So would you answer that question by saying you are optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 3:

Uh, I guess I would say neither-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

... is how it would wash out.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward being optimistic, lean toward being pessimistic or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 3:

I would say I don't really lean either way.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when I say do you lean, what does that make you think of?

Respondent 3:

Um, do I have a ... uh, do I have, do I sort of really favor in some slight way maybe, uh, something that's particularly hopeful or, or not hopeful and, and I feel that, you know, I really just think about the question in, in, in these different ways like politically and historically and so forth, so it kind of washes out.

Interviewer:

These next questions ask about people you talk with.

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

People sometimes talk about government and elections with other people. Thinking back over the last six months-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... did you talk about government and elections with someone, or did you not do this with anyone during that time?

Respondent 3:

People often th- think about it and discuss, uh, the leadership and, um, and, you know, voting that has happened, uh, here, and, um, have I in the past half a year, have I, have I talked about it with, with anybody, uh, but those two things with anybody, um, in the past half a year and I forget if there were choices, but my answer's definitely yes.

Interviewer:

It was-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... did you talk about these things with someone or did you not do this with anyone during that time, and you said yes?

Respondent 3:

Yes, I did, in the past half a year, yes I have.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in answering yes?

Respondent 3:

Um, that I think I ... in, in, in responding yes, I, uh, just remember, um, you know, discussing both with my husband and with friends and just people I see in my day to day life, sometimes offhanded, uh, comments, um, about, uh, various elected officials or the direction, you know, a major direction, uh, you know, the president or Congress has, has taken, um, and, and just, you know, making comments or having more discussion about that. Certainly there are issues in the press, uh, with respect to a particular meas- member of Con- Congress, uh, happening currently, and that's, uh, that comes to mind immediately.

Respondent 3:

But outside of, uh, this particular member of Congress, you know, I think we're frequently talking about, uh, what's going on with the elected leadership of our country.

Interviewer:

Okay. What is the first name, initials or first name and last initial of up to five people who you talked with about government and elections during the past six months?

Respondent 3:

So what's the name, uh, or an abbreviation of the name, um, of, uh, five people or up to five people, as many as five people that I may have, um, spoken with about ... I, I'm forgetting, I'm sorry. Uh, uh-

Interviewer:

I can repeat the question.

Respondent 3:

Okay, go ahead.

Interviewer:

What is the first name initials, or first name and last initial of up to five people who you've talked with about government and elections during the past six months?

Respondent 3:

Okay. Uh, of, so the second part of it about, um, you know, uh, our elected leadership in the past half a year? Um, okay, so for my answer, uh, [REDACTED PERSON 1], [REDACTED PERSON 2], um, uh, I don't know the first name, I know the last name is [REDACTED PERSON 3]. Uh, I just know is a parent of somebody on my son's baseball team, and we just got into a conversation (laughs) as we were watching the game. Um-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Uh, so that's, uh, three. Um, uh, [REDACTED PERSON 4] and, um, let's see. In the past half a year, [REDACTED PERSON 5]

Interviewer:

What do you think about in coming up with those names?

Respondent 3:

Um, what comes to mind, um, when I think about those people? Um, well I, I remember the conversations we've had and some of the contexts in which we've had them, and they also tend to be, um, not exclusively, but um, three of those people are, uh, are close family members. Um, and, and one person is somebody that I hardly know, and as you've heard me say, I, I don't even know this person's

first name, but you know, we were just sitting on the bleachers next to each other, uh, watching our sons play Little League, and both had newspapers.

Respondent 3:

Or, no, I had a newspaper in my hand, and so it sparked this conversation. So it was really, r- in thinking about it, and the other person is a, is a friend and somebody that I'm getting to know better and better. So I really think it kind of ... those, that group of people mainly are people who are really close to me, but it, but it really runs the range, and certainly the other thing that comes immediately to mind is that we're all, or the ... or from ... based on the nature of the conversation, all really politically, uh, like-minded.

Interviewer:

Hmm. Okay.

Respondent 3:

Uh, with the exception of one who's my 10 year old son, who, who just asks questions and we discuss things. Um, um-

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [REDACTED PERSON 1]?

Respondent 3:

Uh, closer than anybody?

Interviewer:

Extremely close...

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Very close? Moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 3:

Do you want me to rephrase those or not?

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 3:

Um, um, incredibly intimate, um, somewhat intimate, not very ... I can't remember them all, there were five. I know they go down [inaudible 00:19:55].

Interviewer:

Extremely close-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close.

Respondent 3:

Okay, so uh, um, I'm gonna say, what, inc- incredibly intimate. Uh, somewhat intimate, kind of middle of the road, intimate, not very intimate, and not at all intimate. Okay, so with [REDACTED PERSON 1], um, the first one, incredibly so.

Interviewer:

Okay. How close do you feel [REDACTED PERSON 2]?

Respondent 3:

Uh, incredibly so.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about him saying that?

Respondent 3:

Um, well that's my ... uh, with this particular person?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

That's my son, my 10 and a half year old, and so I think, you know, that it's one of the closest because I, I feel like we have a really close relationship. It's one of the closest relationships. It's, it's mother/child. It's one of the closest I think that there can be.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to the parent who you talked to?

Respondent 3:

Not at all.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [REDACTED PERSON 4]?

Respondent 3:

Um, uh-

Interviewer:

Extremely close, very close?

Respondent 3:

Very, very close. Yeah, very.

Interviewer:

Okay. How close do you feel to [REDACTED PERSON 5]?

Respondent 3:

Uh, pretty close, yeah.

Interviewer:

Extremely close?

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Very close? Moderately close?

Respondent 3:

Moderately.

Interviewer:

Slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 3:

Moderately.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in saying moderately?

Respondent 3:

This is a, a ... I think [REDACTED PERSON 5] is a, a friend who I've been getting to know better and better over the course of the past year, and you know, really feel good about the growing friendship, but we're just not at, you know, a level of a super intimate friendship or even a real intimate friendship, but it's a

developing one, and, and it's, and it's, you know, we certainly share some, some personal information, and that, when I feel friendship, I feel, uh, you know, safe and pretty connected.

Interviewer:

Okay. During the last six months, about how many days did you talk to [REDACTED PERSON 1]?

Respondent 3:

In the past half a year, how many, uh, 24 hour periods did I talk to [REDACTED PERSON 1]? Um, all of them.

Interviewer:

Okay. During the last six months, about how many days did you talk to [REDACTED PERSON 2]?

Respondent 3:

All of them.

Interviewer:

And during the last six months, how many days did you talk to the parent?

Respondent 3:

Uh, once.

Interviewer:

During the last six months, about how many days did you talk to [REDACTED PERSON 4]?

Respondent 3:

Um, probably around I would say maybe, uh-

Interviewer:

You can think out loud [inaudible 00:23:42].

Respondent 3:

Yeah. Okay, yeah, I'm sort of counting days, thank you. Thank you for reminding me to do that. I'm thinking. Let's see, I talked to her twice on the phone. This is my aunt who lives in New York City and we were at a family funeral together last month, and we were both there probably for about three days or four days together total. Um, and we talked all the time, and I'm twice on the phone recently and in the past number of months before that, I talked to her kind of every now and then on the phone and it's really kind of sporadic. So I would guess about 10 days, 10 to 12 in the past half year.

Interviewer:

Okay. Please think about the relations between these people.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:
Some of them-

Respondent 3:
Not, not with me? Okay, sorry.

Interviewer:
Between these people.

Respondent 3:
(Laughs) Uh-huh.

Interviewer:
Some of them may be total strangers-

Respondent 3:
Okay.

Interviewer:
... in the sense that they wouldn't recognize each other if they bumped into each other on the street.

Respondent 3:
Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:
First, think about [REDACTED PERSON 1] and [REDACTED PERSON 2] Are [REDACTED PERSON 1] and [REDACTED PERSON 2] total strangers or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 3:
So, I should reflect on these fi- the five people that I've named and how they, uh, relate to one another, um, and do some of them ... what was the next part? Do some of them-

Interviewer:
Some of them may be total strangers-

Respondent 3:
Uh-huh, yeah.

Interviewer:
... in the sense that they wouldn't recognize each other-

Respondent 3:
Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... if they bumped into each other on the street.

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

First, think about [REDACTED PERSON 1] and [REDACTED PERSON 2]

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

Are [REDACTED PERSON 1] And [REDACTED PERSON 2] total strangers?

Respondent 3:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 3:

So some of these people may not know each other at all. So first think about [REDACTED PERSON 1] and [REDACTED PERSON 2], um, and they are, uh, they, they are not at all strangers. They know each other very well.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 3:

So how, uh, intimate are they? Are they, uh, you know, incredibly intimate, very intimate, somewhat intimate, not very intimate or not at all? Um, and I would say that [REDACTED PERSON 1] and [REDACTED PERSON 2] are extremely intimate.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while or never?

Respondent 3:

Do they communicate frequently? Uh, do they communicate, uh, very, uh, um, incredibly frequently, somewhat frequently,, uh, rather frequently, not very frequently or not at all, something? Um, and I would say they, they, they communicate extremely frequently.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are [REDACTED PERSON 1]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views? Extremely different, very different, moderately different, slightly different or not different at all?

Respondent 3:

Usually, how ... uh, usually do, do [REDACTED PERSON 1] and I, um, agree on, uh, you know, how to vote and our, the way we feel about, you know, our elective leaders.

Interviewer:

[inaudible 00:28:16]. Sorry.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Speaker 3:

[inaudible 00:28:21].

Interviewer:

Hi, are you here for the 1:00?

Speaker 3:

I am.

Interviewer:

I just need to wrap up here.

Speaker 3:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And, um, there's a comfortable chair to sit right around the corner.

Speaker 3:

Okay, sounds good.

Interviewer:

Thank you very much.

Speaker 3:

Approximately how much time [inaudible 00:28:32]?

Interviewer:

Um, if you want to take time to go get a beverage or something-

Speaker 3:
[inaudible 00:28:36].

Interviewer:
... I can, I can wait.

Speaker 3:
Well, no, how much time?

Interviewer:
Um, 20 minutes.

Speaker 3:
Oh, okay.

Respondent 3:
[crosstalk 00:28:46].

Interviewer:
Sorry.

Respondent 3:
No, my apologies-

Interviewer:
Um, s-

Respondent 3:
... for the parking problems I was having.

Interviewer:
So-

Respondent 3:
Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:
... you were saying, uh, you were rephrasing the question.

Respondent 3:
Yeah.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are [REDACTED PERSON 1]'s opinions about government and elections-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... from your own views?

Respondent 3:

Um, okay, right, and I think I rephrased the first part, and then there was five responses, right?

Interviewer:

Extremely different.

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

Very different, moderately different, slightly different or not different at all.

Respondent 3:

Okay. So incredibly divergent, somewhat divergent, uh, you know, middle of the road divergent, a bit divergent or not at all divergent. Um, and he and I, I would say, our views are, um, are, uh, are, uh, just a bit divergent.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Very slight bit. (laughs) They're pretty similar.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that they're just a bit divergent?

Respondent 3:

Uh, he's threatening to, uh, vote again for, or for, uh, our governor. (Laughs) I'm threatening to cancel out his vote. (Laughs) That's what, exactly what I'm thinking about. (Laughs) He's ... usually, we uh,

usually, you know, the way we vote is, is, you know, I've known him for decades and we vote right down the line and, and I think, uh, you know, I ... the one thing that, uh, you know, I enjoy about our relationship is we tend to have really similar values but we come at them in different ways.

Respondent 3:

We think about things in, in different ways, but we'll come to the, often the same conclusion about things, and so we learn from one another, but in this one, just thinking, so that's often how we vote is we'll come up with the same vote but things that will be particularly ... things he'll emphasize or things he'll think that aren't really important are not exactly the same things that I think are really important.

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 3:

Um, but, uh, he has been saying now he's not quite sure how he's gonna vote in the next gubernatorial, uh, election, and so I think, you know, coming up with different issues, uh, that have arisen politically, uh, that the governor has been involved with, and he'll go, "All right." (Laughs) "Yeah, I gotta consider that. I didn't like that," you know? But, so-

Interviewer:

Okay. This next question is about the percent of peoples income that they should pay in taxes-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of taxes of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 3:

Well the question seems to be about a progressive tax rate versus maybe regressive, um, and should people pay what I think is cons- what I think of, I don't ... you know, as maybe a progressive tax base that they pay, um, you know, be- uh, uh, an amount that's proportional, they pay an a- a por- proportional amount of tax to, uh, what they bring in, um, or should they pay ... you know, if they make a lot of money, should they pay not very much tax at all, or should it ... should there be no relationship between income and tax rate?

Respondent 3:

Um, and I think, uh, that, um, you know, there's most equity in the, the first option, that everyone pays, you can pay the, you know, the same proportion of your, of your income.

Interviewer:

So are you saying income should not determine the tax rate?

Respondent 3:

No, you should say that there is a connection.

Interviewer:

Oh okay.

Respondent 3:

That you say [inaudible 00:33:39] everyone pays the same percentage or, or proportion. So if you, you know, if you're ... if you make \$1 million, you pay 10% of \$1 million. If you make \$10,000, you're paying 10% of \$10,000. The absolute numbers are very different, but the percentage is the same.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Which I think is the first option.

Interviewer:

So let me, let me-

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... repeat the question and you can choose your answer.

Respondent 3:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income-

Respondent 3:

Oh, I see, uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... in taxes to the government?

Respondent 3:

I see, uh-huh.

Interviewer:

Or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government?

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

Or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 3:

Ah, so now I see, upon c- listening more closely that what, what I was thinking of isn't an option at all, um, because the first one is really that you pay, um, more proportionally to what you bring in, um, if you bring in a lot relative to somebody, um, who doesn't bring in much at all. Um, or the second one is kind of the flip of that, flip side of that is if you bring in a lot of money, you get to pay, uh, a smaller a proportion, um, than somebody who brings in not very much and pays, you know, a greater proportion of their small income.

Respondent 3:

And then the third is, um, is, uh, that there's no relationship between income and the proportion you pay, um, so the, the way I answered I guess, I, I can see now initially was, was not one of those options. Um, and so, you know, it's a ... the ... it's a little difficult to think about because of course taxes are so complicated really and there's so many things, um, that, um, that factor in in terms of, you know, your income and, you know, uh, uh, um, you know, dependents and stocks and property and all kinds of other things. So, but if I had to simplify it, uh, to pick one of these three options, um, I would say if you make more, you can pay more.

Respondent 3:

Um, so that would be the first option, A.

Interviewer:

Okay. And that's what you referred to earlier as the progressive approach?

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Yeah, although, I, I also confess that I, you know, use that term really I- loosely. I think somebody who really, you know, knows a lot about taxes might have a, you know, a truer definition of what a

progressive tax is, and I kinda just think about this as, as a progressive tax is something that's more kind of proportional to what, what you actually have-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

... as opposed to, you know, everybody pays the same absolute dollar amount regardless of what you have and what you make.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

I think about that as re- regressive.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... do you think that big companies should pay a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small business or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 3:

Okay. When I reflect on the amount of money to the government that, uh, large corporations, large businesses pay relative to smaller ones, do I think that large businesses should pay more, um, than the smaller ones, should they pay what, the same, or the last is should they ... the large corp- the large corporations pay less than the smaller businesses? Those are, right? And my answer is right off the bat, I think well big companies have s- have, uh, many more opportunities to really, um, you know, save money and cut costs, you know.

Respondent 3:

If they have to buy stuff, they get quantity pricing on things and they have other options that it, just a small company, a small business doesn't have, uh, access to, and so I think that large companies should

pay more taxes because they're ... I think they have, uh, usually greater opportunities to, um, take advantage of opportunities that will allow them to, um, maximize their profits that just a small company wouldn't have.

Interviewer:

Okay. When a person dies and leaves money to someone else, do you think the federal government should require that some of this money be paid in taxes or that the federal government should not do this?

Respondent 3:

Okay. So when somebody inherits money, uh, should there be a ... you know, like an, e- uh, estate tax or inheritance tax, I guess, is the question? Uh, should, you know, should, should that be, um, a part of our tax code or not, uh, an, an inher- an inheritance tax? Not that that ... I sort of feel like I don't ... um, I d- I don't know all the nuances of this, um, of this law, I kind of like that, um, for, um, you know, that parents can pass things down to their children, that, that there can be things through the family.

Respondent 3:

Um, and so I believe that, um, there are some ... because, I, I sort of feel like that, that's what, you know, a lot of parents do as a parent, I feel like. You know, many parents, many of us, um, you know, are kind of saving for our futures and the futures of our, of our children, and if I were to suddenly die, um, I wouldn't want my children to be penalized in any way, that I think that, that, that seems okay to me.

Respondent 3:

Um, and, uh, there might be some conditions for kind of the uber wealthy, but I don't know, you know, where maybe ... I, I, I can't really think of what, what they might be, you know, um, 'cause I think with taxes-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

... it's kinda complicated. Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

So would you say that the federal government should require that some of the money be paid in taxes or they should not do that?

Respondent 3:

Uh, I guess it seems like what I know ... okay, so the ... restating the question first. Um, uh-

Interviewer:

Y- I, I got-

Respondent 3:

You got it?

Interviewer:

I got your restatement, yeah.

Respondent 3:

Okay. Uh, I guess, uh, probably maybe the way it, it seems to exist now as I understand the law is that, um, there, there can be a certain amount that you can, one can pass, uh, down within your family, um, that you can inherit tax-free, but that above that amount, um, would be taxable.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

So, um, that's kind of in between (laughs)-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 3:

... I guess.

Interviewer:

So, so it's hard to say-

Respondent 3:

Yes or no, it doesn't seem so ... yeah, it doesn't seem so-

Interviewer:

... whether it should or should not.

Respondent 3:

Yeah, it doesn't seem so black and white, uh, to me.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do, do you lean one way or the other?

Respondent 3:

Um, I guess if I had to choose, uh, I would say, uh, you sh- ought to be able to pass things down to your children tax-free, um, but, you know, that's, that's with you really pressing my back to the wall.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

How similar-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... would you say that U.S. citizens who think of themselves as democrats-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... are to each other?

Respondent 3:

Oh.

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar- similar, slightly similar or not similar at all?

Respondent 3:

Um, I registered democrats pretty, um, uh, unified in their, you know, outlook on things. Um, are they, um, uh, you know, incredibly, uh, the same, uh, very much the same, just somewhat the same, not very much the same or not at all the same? Um, and I would answer, um, just somewhat similar.

Interviewer:

Okay, and what do you think about in saying that they're somewhat similar?

Respondent 3:

Um, so I ... what comes to mind when I think about how much the same they are, are, um, they're ... I think that they're ... what may be the same is some sense of government, uh, taking action to, uh, either, you know, to, to either provide for segments of the population or the country be it infrastructure, education, healthcare, um, you know, or, uh, um, you know, and, and sort of see a government that's more ... that's sort of a little more active.

Respondent 3:

And that's what I think kind of maybe, um, would, would ... that would, would, would be a common thread that would run through people who are registered democrats.

Interviewer:

Okay. Among U.S. citizens-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... who think of themselves as democrats-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 3:

Okay, among-

Interviewer:

A, a great deal-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... a lot, a moderate amount, a little or none?

Respondent 3:

Um, okay, so, so between ... a- among registered democrats, um, you know, how, uh, are, are ... how unified are the views about, uh, how to organize our, our country. Um, very much so, somewhat unified, only moderately unified, not very unified or not at all? And I would say, oh, somewhat.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in concluding that they're somewhat unified?

Respondent 3:

Um, so what comes to mind when I choose the somewhat unified answer, I think about how, um, divergent y- uh, anybody in a- in, in this case, we're talking about registered democrats, but it can be the same among, uh, registered republicans or other political parties mostly, um, as well, um, uh, with respect to social issues like abortion, um, uh, or another one is, uh, um, I think about is b- you know, the war, um, and military spending, um, or you know, really sort of the major issues, uh, that I think of, um, or even with, um, edu-

Respondent 3:

Uh, um, education, I think that, um, you know, certainly when it comes to, um, you know, abortion is one where I feel like, you know, within each party, there are segments that are, you know, quite, you know, you, you'd see thing ... wouldn't, you know ... you may see trends that would, uh, correlate with how a person is registered to vote, but, um, but you would certainly see, it wouldn't be extremely uncommon to find segments-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

... in the group, um, with different opinions.

Interviewer:

Do you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals, do you oppose a ban or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 3:

Okay, so do I think that, uh, gays and lesbians ought to be allowed to marry legally? Um, uh, should be, uh, prohibited from being able to marry legally or I don't have an opinion one way or another? Um, and I think that, uh, gays and lesbians ought to be allowed to marry legally.

Interviewer:

Okay. So you would say that you-

Respondent 3:

I proh- um, I ... oh, go ahead, sorry.

Interviewer:

You would say that you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals...

Respondent 3:

No.

Interviewer:

You oppose a ban-

Respondent 3:

I oppose a ban.

Interviewer:

Or you-

Respondent 3:

Uh, oppose a ban ... I'm sorry, a ban, yeah.

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 3:

Oppose a ban, it's like a double negative kind of, right? Yeah, I oppose a ban, uh-huh.

Interviewer:

Do you oppose a ban strongly or only somewhat?

Respondent 3:

Um, I oppose a ban strongly.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying that?

Respondent 3:

Um, I feel really clear about, you know, the right for, you know, people who wanna love each other and wanna be together to do that. I don't think ... I think that's really all that a, a marriage is about really.

Interviewer:

Now think about what adult U.S. citizens feel on the issue of marriage between homosexuals. We'd like to know what percent of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, oppose it or neither favor nor oppose it. First, what percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 3:

All right, so I think have to think about how many, uh, uh, citizens of this country, um, are, uh, in support of gay marriage, uh, are against gay marriage or against gay marriage really, right? Uh, so first I wanna think about, tell me again.

Interviewer:

First, what percent of adult U.S. citizens-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 3:

Okay. So first, what, what percentage of, um, you know, people of, of age, legal age, adults, um, in this country favor opposing it?

Interviewer:

Favor banning marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 3:

Oh, favor, favor, favor ... okay, are in support of making it illegal, um, for gays to get married. Um, and I would say that percentage would probably be probably somewhere in the majority, thought maybe not, and, and that's a simple majority I would think, like just over probably somewhat ... when I think about the whole entire country, um, I, I would probably say, you know, just somewhere between maybe, I don't know, 50% and 70% I would guess of grownups in this country would probably ... 50% to 60%, something like that, would not, uh, want to legalize gay marriage, like find some reason or another to make a change. Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

What would be your best guess of a percent?

Respondent 3:

Uh, I'd say 60%. (Laughs) This is really shooting in the dark when I think about the whole country, but uh-huh.

Interviewer:

What percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 3:

So how many of us adults in this country would, um, would not be in favor of, um, making it illegal and for gays to get married, and so I'd say, you know, uh, if I had to pick one number, I can't do a range, huh? Uh-

Interviewer:

Your best guess is fine.

Respondent 3:

All right. My, uh, my best guess, I'd have to say 40% to flip, flip the 60% that I, uh, to compliment the 60% [crosstalk 00:52:45].

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Since you think about 60% of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... and then about 40% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 3:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... that means you think that about 0% of adult U.S. citizens neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals? Is that about right?

Respondent 3:

Um, n- no. That's not exactly right. I guess I ... and I feel, I say this because, you know, I feel like, you know, I, I'm really kind of pulling numbers, you know, out of a hat, um, here, and so it's really so that the 60% and the 40% are pretty ... are really, you know, quite soft, but I think that the number, you know, percentages and I, that I would think there is probably some percent of people in this country that are neither here nor there that's, you know, smaller than 40% or 60%, but-

Interviewer:

Would you wanna change one of those?

Respondent 3:

Sure. (Laughs) Sure, I would say maybe change my first number to let's say, um ... I, I'll, I'll say that the people who maybe are neither here nor there, um, on the issue might be 15% and then I'd say, you know, let's see, maybe, uh, what, what ... what do I have to do now? Uh, maybe uh, 35% and, uh, or 37% would be in favor of legalizing, uh, gay marriage. What did I say? 30%, maybe 35%, and then, eh, you know, I'm really fudging. I'd say 37% maybe would be in favor and 50%, uh, whatever's the rest 53%. Does that work out?

Respondent 3:

No.

Interviewer:

If you think about 53%-

Respondent 3:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 3:

60-

Interviewer:

... and that about 37%-

Respondent 3:

Oh. Oh.

Interviewer:

... oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 10% of adults, of adult U.S. citizens-

Respondent 3:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals? Is that about right?

Respondent 3:

Uh, yeah, I'll say that, but I really feel like I'm pulling numbers out a, out a hat [crosstalk 00:55:34].

Interviewer:

You're not really ... don't feel confident about that answer?

Respondent 3:

No, not when I think about the whole country. Uh-uh.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 3:

Yeah, I, I would just say, you know, probably I don't think we could get a political change. S-

Interviewer:

Okay. I think that's all the time that we have-

Respondent 3:

Okay (laughs).

Interviewer:

... we have time for right now. I thank you very much for your help.

Respondent 3:

Sure.

Interviewer:

It's very helpful to get these kinds of answers to help us understand how people interpret the questions and think about how to reword them.

Respondent 3:

Great.

Interviewer:

So I'll stop the tape now.

Respondent 3:

Okay.

Interview 4

Interviewer:

First, how much, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 4:

Um, how much can a person change? Um, m- m- I don't think very much. Um, u- u- um, in order to really change, you really have to put, um, a tremendous amount of effort in it and ver- be very conscious about it. And, uh, I don't think there's that many people, unless they're in a crisis situation, that are going to do that. Basically the reason they're not gonna do that is because they're so, so busy doing so many other things.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you say change, or when I read the question that says, change the kind of person they are-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... what does that make you think of? Or what does that mean to you?

Respondent 4:

Eh, um, it, it means to me, in, uh, f- a reason that anybody would wanna change would be because they don't like something about their personality.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 4:

If I were going to, um, debate a question, how successful would I be in changing people's minds? Uh, probably not that much, not very successful for the reason that, um, I don't think people could change their mind very easily. So, no matter if I were a good debater or a not so good debater, I don't think that m- myself or anybody could really change their minds. So I think my answer to that would be, I, I don't think anybody could be that good at, uh, changing somebody's mind.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you answer extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... slightly successfully-

Respondent 4:

Slightly.

Interviewer:

... or not successfully at all?

Respondent 4:

Slightly.

Interviewer:

Okay. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most? Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 4:

How disorganized i- are the rooms in my home? I would say the very first one, not at all. Uh, they're very much in, um, in order.

Interviewer:

Not disorganized at all?

Respondent 4:

That is correct.

Interviewer:

And when I say, how disorganized are the rooms, what does that mean to you?

Respondent 4:

Uh, that doesn't mean very much. Um, how disorganized, uh, uh, to me it means, um, is it messy or is it in order? That's what it means to me. But it's a little bit vague.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them, or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 4:

Um, I can't s- restate that question in any other (laughs) way except the way you stated it. Um-

Interviewer:

But what do unpredictable situations mean to you?

Respondent 4:

... um, a perfect example would be coming over here trying to find this place and then getting over here and having have to wait 35 (laughs) minutes. (laughs)

Interviewer:

(laughs) And-

Respondent 4:

That's a perfect example of unpredictable. Um, do I like un- unpredictability? Um, God. I really would have to think that really a lot because I would wanna give, eh, this question to like, just like my other questions, very accurately. Um, do I dislike [inaudible 00:04:57]? Um, no I don't think I like it very much.

Interviewer:

And what do, what do you think about in saying that you don't like it?

Respondent 4:

I, I don't, quite understand the question.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that you don't like it?

Respondent 4:

Uh, because it's, it's out of your norm and out of your norm, you have to, um, readjust somewhat. And I think, um, a person as they get older, eh, it's harder for them to, um, to adjust to things.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you dislike unpredictable situations a great deal, a moderate amount, or a little?

Respondent 4:

Do I dislike unpredictability? Um, uh, I would say a lot, between moderate to a lot.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you had to choose-

Respondent 4:

And it's the same reason, uh, I, I think it's because you're, y- you're not in, in comfort anymore. Um, but m- but it could be fun, um, if you're, for example, traveling. Traveling i- is an adventure, un- unpredictability which I, I really get a big kick out of. So in that way, I would like it. But I think in, in coming home and finding a house that's completely messy would drive me crazy.

Interviewer:

... So would you say you dislike unpredictable situations a great deal, a moderate amount, or-

Respondent 4:

Yeah, a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

... Okay. How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently?

Respondent 4:

(laughs) Um, do I make decisions at the spur of the moment? Definitely.

Interviewer:

Would you say all, most-

Respondent 4:

No, I wouldn't say all. But I would say most.

Interviewer:

... Okay. Let me read you this list of choices and-

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... and think about them.

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

All, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 4:

(laughs) Most.

Interviewer:

Most? What kinds of things do you think about saying that?

Respondent 4:

Eh-

Interviewer:

Saying, most?

Respondent 4:

... well the reason is, I either like something or I dislike something. I don't have to think about it that much.

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

It's either, I like broccoli, or I don't like broccoli.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 4:

How do I like it when, um, there's a situatio- W- oh, what's the word again? W- I, I'm sorry.

Interviewer:

When you don't understand the reason-

Respondent 4:

Understand the reason.

Interviewer:

... why something happens in your life-

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... how uncomfortable-

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... does that make you feel?

Respondent 4:

Um, when I don't understand the reason for something happening in my life, how uncomfortable or comfortable with does that make me feel? I would say, um, mm. I would say extremely uncomfortable. Uh, but, but there's very, very few of those situation that comes up.

Interviewer:

When I say, when you don't understand the reason, what does that make you think of? Or what do those words mean to you?

Respondent 4:

When there's no logic, when there's no reason.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when I ask how uncomfortable that makes you feel, and you said extremely uncomfortable-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... can you say a little about what you mean by uncomfortable?

Respondent 4:

Uncomfortable meaning (laughs) getting a [inaudible 00:09:37] uh, your, your blood pressure somewhat higher. (laughs) Um, in my case, getting hot. My body gets hot, physically hot. Um, I'm not able to, to find a reason or, or logical reason for something.

Interviewer:

Okay. In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right?

Respondent 4:

When I s-

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 4:

... um, when I see two people in conflict, um, do I see that they've c- both could be right? Um, having a teenage son I know exactly where this comes from. I mean to un- understand the question completely, um, but I, uh, but, uh, but I'm, but that's only with my son and I can't think of any other situation that I would, that I would be in or in or have been in that, um, that I could answer this question to. Um, we have a problem child and so, therefore, no. I can't see two people's being right. I see one kid be extremely wrong (laughs). Uh, and I, and automatically I think of this because we have been going through this for, for many years at home. But, um, um, other, probably in other, uh, conflict with other two people, I probably would see things quite differently.

Interviewer:

Okay. When I refer to two people in a conflict with one another, how would you restate that part of the question? In your own words.

Respondent 4:

Two people fighting.

Interviewer:

Two people fighting? And when I say, see how both sides could be right?

Respondent 4:

Um, trying to, um, see the side of each person's argument.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 4:

That's it. But-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

... but I'm really bias on this question because of my son. So, you know, I have t- I automatically think of that because we've been going through it.

Interviewer:

Mm. When you're with other people, how often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them?

Respondent 4:

Oh. Um, how, how often do I not act like my real true self when I'm around other people? That, uh, that is a question that I had just thought about and never, never, ever thought about before. I'm 59 years old and never thought of that, about that question until just recently.

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

And, um, I think I do act somewhat different and I never, ever thought about that.

Interviewer:

Mm. Would you say that you do that always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 4:

Well, and really in under- in, in order to answer that question, you have to say, um, whether this is the first time you're meeting somebody or whether you've known 'em, you know, three or four time, and

this is your first, second, third time you've met 'em. The first time is very different than the second time you're meeting them. Not only that, are you meeting them one-to-one or are you meeting 'em as a group?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

Uh, and probably a- u- n- without thinking, you're probably act different with a group than you would just one-to-one.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

So to answer my, your question, um, I would say if I am one-to-one with somebody, I would not, I would be absolutely 100% myself. If I were in a group, I probably would not be as, I mean, I get myself in trouble all the time about this because I am so honest, it's shocks other people. But pro- but I just realized just recently that I'm n- I'm a little bit different in a group than I am in a one-to-one situation.

Interviewer:

Okay. How good or bad of an actor would you be? Excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

Respondent 4:

Am I able to act? The answer is, very poor.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying very poor?

Respondent 4:

Uh, because I'm extremely honest and I do, and I, I know personally I get myself in trouble an awful lot for that reason. And if you're in the business world or if you're in a world with other people, you cannot be honest. You're gonna be fucked over if you're gonna be honest.

Interviewer:

When I say, a- actor-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... what does that make you think of?

Respondent 4:

Somebody who is not honest.

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 4:

Mm, somebody who's putting on a show, somebody who's trying to impress and there's a fair, there's a fair amount of those people I mean, like, a, tremendous (laughs).

Interviewer:

When you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention?

Respondent 4:

Ooh (laughs).

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 4:

When I'm in a group of people, do I wanna be the center of a- of atte- of, uh, attention, and that's the same thing as, uh, the two questions ago. It really depends what we're talking when we're saying, group.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

Are we talking two people or are we talking 50? Um, 50 people, I feel, I feel very confident talking to people. Um, I, I could fe- I feel very confident talking to 5,000 people, uh, just as well as talking... More so than talking to maybe two people. Um, why that is so, I don't know. Um, so, uh, what's the question again (laughs)? What's the question again?

Interviewer:

When you are in a group of people-

Respondent 4:

Oh, do I wanna show off, yeah.

Interviewer:

... how often are you the center of attention?

Respondent 4:

Center of attention. A group of people. Sometimes.

Interviewer:

H- how would you restate that, that question in your own words?

Respondent 4:

Um, in a group of people, do I wanna show off?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

Uh, I would say, sometimes. Well, but it's not, it's not really showing off. But if you're really going to get any conversation going, um, eh, I guess you have to put yourself forward. And that's, that's maybe what I mean by, uh, showing off. It's not really showing off. It's just getting the conversation going really.

Interviewer:

Mm. And when I say a group of people-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... what does that make you think of?

Respondent 4:

I, uh, think three.

Interviewer:

Okay. You mentioned the ambiguity about the size of the group-

Respondent 4:

Yeah, yeah, because I do, I, I do belong to a group that I, that I get together, um, a foreign group. And, um, so we're, sometimes I keep on thinking about that in a group because that's, and someti- and usually it's maybe three or four people at a time that we talk to-

Interviewer:

... Mm.

Respondent 4:

... so that's what I think of.

Interviewer:

Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 4:

How often can I trust people? My answer to that, rarely.

Interviewer:

What do think about it saying rarely?

Respondent 4:

Um, because, uh, because if you, if, if you n- because people are not honest. Today I went and got myself a sandwich. (laughs) And, uh, I wanted the special that was yesterday. So, um, I said, "C- could I have that?" And he says, "Well, we don't have the ingredients for today." And I said, "Well, what ingredients don't you have?" And he was obviously lying to me. Why is, why does that person need to lie to me?

Interviewer:

Hm.

Respondent 4:

Mm. And I'm in now over and over again. Uh, coming over here, um, I asked somebody, um, where this hall was and the person m- you know, just didn't even think, just automatically says, "I don't know." I mean, uh, he, you know, uh, it was like an, eh, uh, you know, I'm thinking well he was kind of walking fast and I don't know. I mean, he was, did he know, really know where it was or he just wanted to go on his way 'cause he had something, an appointment or something and, you know? But I think, I think to, to live in society now, or, you know, the Rumfeld anyways, what is he saying? Is that the truth? Probably not, you know? And I mean, Woodward's book just came out about everybody lying in the White House and I think there's very few people that you can trust.

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you say a little bit about what trust means to you?

Respondent 4:

Uh, trust, I, I'd say to me, trust is honesty.

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 4:

Uh, trust, what trust is? Um, well, I, I, I don't think personally I would trust too many people with my life. Uh, you know, medical f- medical ways or anything like that. I'm the last one to say, yeah or no, on, on that, on things like that. Um, a lotta people are, don't think about that. But I don't think you could trust too many people really. Certainly can't trust anybody with your money (laughs).

Interviewer:

(laughs) Okay. These next few questions are about how important things are to you. First, how important is to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities in life? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 4:

Should everybody in this world have the same opportunity? It's a ridiculous question. Um, uh, because we live in a society that is so much more advanced than, than, you know, Kenya. I mean, how could you judge our society with Kenya's society? You can't. Um, so I think the question is silly.

Interviewer:

Okay. When, when the question asks about the same opportunities in life-

Respondent 4:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... how would you state that in different words?

Respondent 4:

The ability for people to live a life free of fear, um, I ju- free of hunger, have proper medical, um, medical needs taken care of and for people to have happiness in their lives.

Interviewer:

And could you say how important is to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities?

Respondent 4:

That's a ri- like I said, it's a ridiculous question.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

Uh, uh, you can't answer that question. I think it's very important but it's not realistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. Can you say a little bit about the way it not being realistic makes it hard for you to say that you think it's important? 'Cause you did just say you think it's important.

Respondent 4:

I think it's, it's very important to, to people to, to live a comfortable life. But in countries where's there's political unrest that is, that is not the main focus of those people to have happiness in their lives. The main focus is the stability of, of that country, the stability of their lives. So it's important that everybody, um, has f- the, the ability to do and to live a happy life, but I don't think it's very realistic. I don't, I, I think a lotta people are not there.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you help other people? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 4:

Um, I would restate that, how, how is, how, eh, or should I help other people? Um, well, again, I, uh, that's u- u- unusual question. Um, are we talking about people in my block or are we talking about the world?

Interviewer:

Well let me-

Respondent 4:

What are we talking about?

Interviewer:

... let me ask you what, other people, brings to mind?

Respondent 4:

Well I'm try- I, uh, I'm, I'm ta- if we're talking about the people on my block, it's one story. If you're talking about the people in, uh, South Africa, it's, you know, what, what can I possibly do there? Not very mu- much. The people on my block, yeah, I could probably do more for them.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would you say that it, helping other people is extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 4:

Slightly important.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that it's slightly important?

Respondent 4:

Um, I don't think a lotta people wanna be helped. And, uh, the, other people if we're talking about the whole world as when we say people, um, I think, you know, there's very little that could do for the people in, in India who are dying of poverty. So if it's important or not, it's, important or not means your ability to, to help them and I think it's, it's not too easy.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you follow traditions?

Respondent 4:

Am I a person who follows tradition? Absolutely not.

Interviewer:

Why do you say that?

Respondent 4:

Well I was brought up in San Francisco in the six- '60s with very liberal parents and I've continued to live my life that way. Matter of fact, I don't like traditions at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. What kind, what-

Respondent 4:

I, I sort of buck them.

Interviewer:

What kinds of traditions do you have in mind?

Respondent 4:

Uh, family, for one. Um, tradition about, um, about doing the same thing that other people do at your age group, for example. Or being, um... Then, of course, you know, if, if you're talking about people in the West Coast, you're t- talking people in Kansas is a completely different story. Um, so.

Interviewer:

How important is to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 4:

(laughs) Um, how important is it for people to follow rules? Sorry. I can't think of any other way to say that. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Well what do you think of as rules?

Respondent 4:

Uh, rules is, um, somebody up, uh, in a suit who decides, okay, this is it, this is what we're gonna do and everybody has to abide by it. Um, how is, how, and what's the question again?

Interviewer:

How important is it to you-

Respondent 4:

Important. Okay.

Interviewer:

... that people always follow rules?

Respondent 4:

Okay. Again, are we talking about society, I mean, the whole world? Are we talking about, uh, in my little city or in, in this county? Um, I think they should follow rules when they go driving. I think in their personal life, I don't think they should follow rules at all.

Interviewer:

Would you say that it's extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 4:

Well, I have to break it down into two different things.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

Um, are, are we talking about rules of driving in, in the, on the road? Yes, I think it's extremely important. Are we talking about rules that somebody kind of set up about your personal life that you should or should not do, I don't think I, anybody should go with those rules at all. So.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

It's two different, two different answers.

Interviewer:

I understand. If you were to choose just one, which one do you think you would choose?

Respondent 4:

Uh, rules about, about myself, my life. I, I don't, um, I, I go according to my own drummer.

Interviewer:

And would you say extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 4:

Not important at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. So in choosing that answer-

Respondent 4:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... you're just thinking about in your personal life-

Respondent 4:

Correct.

Interviewer:

... and you're putting aside these other kinds of considerations like-

Respondent 4:

Correct.

Interviewer:

... driving.

Respondent 4:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

Or, or, um, or people's ability to express their thoughts. I think that, you know, there's no rules for that. People should absolutely have absolute freedom to express their thoughts, even if I disagree with them. It's absolutely crucial that they are, express their own opinions.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you feel safe from harm?

Respondent 4:

How important is it for me that I will not be i- injured or harm? Extremely important. Um, I don't think, um, I, I don't think you could have happiness if you're worrying about being harm in one way or the other. Absolu- absolutely crucial.

Interviewer:

What kind of harm comes to mind when you think about that?

Respondent 4:

Uh, harms, uh, would be if you lived in the ghetto and somebody breaking into your house. I think, uh, are extremely important.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you be in charge of other people who do what you tell them to do?

Respondent 4:

How important is it for other people to do what I want them to do when I tell them to do it? Extremely important. Um, but I really don't tell many people what to do. Um, very few people, uh, as a, a woman of my household, I ha- I'm in charge of my house. So, um, I'm not as, um, a spic-and-span freak but, um, there has to be some kind of organization, there has to be some kind of, um, of harmony. And, um, I'm in charge of, of that department (laughs)-

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

... so, um, if I see, uh, somebody's jacket in the middle of my living room, I will speak up and I will, um, want it to be taken aw- taken care of. Um, but then on, on, on the other hand, um, things are expected of me, um, that I, that are not spoken f- spoken about but, you know, I, I, things that I should, I should do. So.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you are very successful?

Respondent 4:

How important is it for me to be successful and make a lot of money? Not at all important. All right, with successful to me comes the word money. Uh, maybe that's not exactly, uh, one is not necessarily the same as the other one. Um, but I am, I am successful in my ability to have my freedom. But successful money-wise, I would say that has been taken care of a long time ago that I no longer worry about that. Well, I don't think I've ever worried about it actually. But, that's it.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you have fun whenever you can?

Respondent 4:

How important is it for me to have fun? (laughs) Extremely important. My whole life is fun. That's all I wanna (laughs) do.

Interviewer:

And what do you think of in saying that?

Respondent 4:

Well, that's what I mean about having m- uh, s- living my life the way I want to. M- I live my life according to what makes me happy and in, in that, um, is having, uh, as, as much fun as you possibly can every day.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what does the word, fun, make you think of?

Respondent 4:

Uh, doing what you wanna do, when you wanna do it. Um, having, having... But it, it, for me, in order to have fun, you have to have a certain amount of contact with people. Um, to, to have fun continuously by yourself is no longer as much fun. So there has to be a happy medium there. You don't wanna be always with people because then you no longer wanna do what you wanna do. You get to do what they wanna do and then you're second fiddle. So, um, there's a happy [inaudible 00:34:43] harmony there and all of that is put into the same word of fun.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you take risks in life?

Respondent 4:

How important is it for me to take risks in life? Um, um, somewhat important. I think if you don't take risks, then, you know, you'll, um, you won't, you won't reach a, a real peak, a real high. Um, right now I'm, uh, uh, I'm th- I'm being challenged by one of those risks right away, right now. Um, as I get older, I've, I, I got a fear that I never had before and goddammit, I'm gonna conquer (laughs) that one. I, I have become all of a sudden very f- afraid of heights. So, therefore, uh, I cannot go down the, uh, Grand Canyon, and I was gonna go down the Grand Canyon and all of a sudden I had this terrible, terrible phobia. I mean, I was like, real panic. And, um, so, um, so I have that fear and I sort of want to, to conquer this risk, this, I don't know. It's real fear now (laughs).

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

Uh, but in order to gain anything, you have to take some risks, so.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question in your own words? How important is it to you that you take risks in life?

Respondent 4:

Um, in order to live a complete fulfilling life, one has to take risks.

Interviewer:

And what do you think of those risks?

Respondent 4:

What, what they are?

Interviewer:

Yeah. What does the word make you think of?

Respondent 4:

Risk, meaning, um, something that you, a road that you've never been on before-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

... that you've never traveled. Therefore, uh, you would have to do, continuously readjusting and be, you're no longer on your couch being re- comfortable. You're, you're being adventurous and, uh, kind of like taking the bull by the horn.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do?

Respondent 4:

Um, how important is it for me to do as I wish? Extremely important. In this stage of my life it's, uh, it's mu- it's more important than it has ever been before.

Interviewer:

W-

Respondent 4:

And the, the reason for that is, I was pretty much a workaholic, um, and, eh, eh, and I fall into that pattern a lot, um, very unconsciously. But I'm the type of woman that I could handle anything. I could handle the house, the kids, the work, the husband, the car, e- the dogs, I could handle it all (laughs). And all of a sudden, [inaudible 00:37:56]. Y- you crack up, you just s- you just have so much to do and I, I go through that pattern over and over again. But not as much now, thank goodness.

Interviewer:

If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 4:

If I needed to borrow money, can I borrow money from somebody? Uh, I'm in the, uh, thank God I'm not in that situation. So. I don't know how to answer that. It wouldn't be me.

Interviewer:

Do you think you could if you did need to?

Respondent 4:

Uh, you mean like my husband?

Interviewer:

From a family member or, or a close friend?

Respondent 4:

Well, family member is my husband. Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

Close friend? I would never, ever. But I'm not in that situation and I would never ask a friend because I w- to me, if you ask somebody for money, you're showing your, a big, big weakness there-

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

... 'cause you didn't, you didn't, you're, you're, mm, you're not of sound mind to, to handle your life really.

Interviewer:

Hm.

Respondent 4:

It's the same thing to me.

Interviewer:

So would you say, yes or no to that question?

Respondent 4:

Well-

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

... I would never ask anybody because I would never need to.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in California these days?

Respondent 4:

What is the price of unleaded gasoline in California? Um, \$2.75.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 4:

Every day.

Interviewer:

Would you give a number between...

Respondent 4:

Um, well, okay. That's, that's not quite 100% accurate. If you're looking at a whole month for example, I may not drive two days out of that month.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days would you say you drive?

Respondent 4:

Seven.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 4:

On a typical week, how often do I check (laughs) the gas? (laughs) Every time I go by the pump. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Okay. Could you say a number for that?

Respondent 4:

Uh, in one week?

Interviewer:

During a typical week.

Respondent 4:

40 times.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying 40?

Respondent 4:

Well, (laughs) there's certain gas, I mean, uh, a lot of, naturally all of us take a, a route, usually a common route and I know where I get gas so I always compare one to the other.

Interviewer:

Okay. During August, about what percent of all the adults living in California do you think were not employed at any job and were looking for work?

Respondent 4:

Uh, during the month of August, how many people in the State of California were looking for work? Uh, that's, you know, the m- uh, in order really to be accurate in that, uh, answer, you have to say, are you, are you talking about the illegals or not? Uh, I imagine that you're not talking about all the people that are crossing the border, um, illegally. Um, I would say of the people that are paying taxes, I would say, uh, people unemployed are 6%.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would that answer change if you thought about all the adults living in California?

Respondent 4:

Definitely.

Interviewer:

What would it be then?

Respondent 4:

Um, I would say maybe 11%.

Interviewer:

Okay. About your religious beliefs, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or something else? Or are you not religious?

Respondent 4:

What is my religious belief? I'm a Christian.

Interviewer:

What do you think about it, saying that you're a Christian?

Respondent 4:

Well, um, I'm a Christian but very much to the left. Um, that's it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you feel closer to Protestants or Catholics or either or neither?

Respondent 4:

Um, uh, Protestants.

Interviewer:

Okay. These next few questions are about religion.

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Do you believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, or do you believe that Jesus Christ was not the Son of God?

Respondent 4:

No, I do not think he was the Son of God.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 4:

Um, uh, was... Was Jesus Christ the Son of God? And I think, I don't think so. I just don't. I don't believe that. But I, but to me, eh, I don't think that really is that important.

Interviewer:

Okay. My next question is, how important is this belief to you personally?

Respondent 4:

Not at all.

Interviewer:

Not at all important?

Respondent 4:

No.

Interviewer:

And why do you say that?

Respondent 4:

Because, uh, that's, that's what I mean by I'm really far to the left when it comes to, uh, my religion. I think what's is more important and, um, than Christ, I think it's God, um, Godly beliefs.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 4:

Um, I think, um, religion is to take part of the, uh, scriptures and to put it in everyday use. But in, continue for, for only one reason, only one reason, is to, to increase your self-esteem and in that, in doing so, eh, being kinder to mankind.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you believe that during Holy Communion the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants? Or do you believe that that does not happen?

Respondent 4:

Do I believe in Holy Communion? No, I, I don't believe in it at all.

Interviewer:

And why do you say that?

Respondent 4:

Um, well I think it was probably somebody who decided one day, okay, they're gonna read this book, I mean the, I'm sorry. They're gonna write this book and this b- book gonna be called the Bible. It's gonna be make up of different chapters and we're gonna make it easy for all of these people in, um, in the Middle Ages to believe in something and to have a righteous life. So we're gonna make it so that, um, it's very easy for these people to understand. Now, in the 21st Century, it's a probably dif- different ball of wax.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is this belief to you personally?

Respondent 4:

Not at all.

Interviewer:

Not at all important? Have there been-

Respondent 4:

Matter of fact, I don't like it at all. I, I don't see how that is going to make you a better person one way or the other.

Interviewer:

... Hm.

Respondent 4:

And I, I think that's what Christ- Christianity is, is to make yourself a better person and in making yourself a better person, to, um, eh, to accept your fellow man on the same level as you.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Have there been times in your life when you tried to be a good Christian? Or is that not something you have tried to do?

Respondent 4:

Has there, has there been some time in my life where I tried to be a Christian? Every day.

Interviewer:

Would-

Respondent 4:

Well, no. Let me, let me say this. Every day, um, for the last, um... I pray every day. I would say this would be the last, m- maybe eight, nine months.

Interviewer:

What does it mean to you to be a good Christian?

Respondent 4:

Um, uh, it, s- it's the same thing that I've said before. Is, um, i- i- is to be kind to your fellow man.

Interviewer:

When you have tried to be a good Christian, which did you try to do more? Avoid doing sinful things yourself, or help other people?

Respondent 4:

Mm. When I try to be a good Christian, do I try to help other people or do I try not to be, to do, um, sin- s- or to sin? Um, it, I think it's very hard to help other people. V- very hard. Uh, I think most people don't want, do not, first of all, do not want to be helped. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

Uh, hit my head on that one with my son. Um, you know, kid knows it all, he's a teenager, you know what I mean? H- I mean, you could, you can't make a kid drink if you don't want, he doesn't wanna drink, you know? And that's the same thing with everybody else. You know, you help 'em, you know, they're gonna be afraid of you. Um, uh, in my case, my big thing (laughs) is patience. I have l- little to no patience and that's what I try to, um, to, uh, m- I, I try my Christianity to help me with that. And I, I got that from my parents. My parents are, don't have any, any, uh, patience at all, so.

Interviewer:

So would you say that you tried more to avoid doing sinful things-

Respondent 4:

Right.

Interviewer:

... or to help other people?

Respondent 4:

No. To do sinful things.

Interviewer:

To do, to avoid doing sinful things?

Respondent 4:

Right.

Interviewer:

D-

Respondent 4:

Well, but I, I don't know, uh, my case is, mm, that's my big thing is, I don't have patience. I don't know if that's really sinful. I guess some people could say. I don't know.

Interviewer:

Well what do you think of as doing sinful things?

Respondent 4:

Uh, carrying a gun, uh, running over somebody with your car, that type of thing. Stealing.

Interviewer:

Okay. Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible, or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 4:

Mm, do I think of, um, Christianity as to help others or, or, um, or, um, or not to do sinful things? I think by far is, uh, not, t- to be, uh, a righteous person.

Interviewer:

And is being a righteous person more like following God's laws as described in the Bible?

Respondent 4:

Exactly.

Interviewer:

And less like encouraging people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 4:

That is correct. I th- I think to go according, uh, to, to, um, to do the right things.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you believe that God gave people the responsibility to protect the natural environment? Or that God gave people the right to use the environment however they choose even if doing so does not protect the environment?

Respondent 4:

Whoa. (laughs) I've never, ever read (laughs) a part in the Bible like that. Um, do I think, um, uh, the Bible says that we should use our natural resources or we should, uh, protect them? I, I've never eve- I cannot comment on that. I've never, ever read one way or the other in the Bible about that.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 4:

So, I would just be guessing.

Interviewer:

Would one be closer to your view than the other?

Respondent 4:

Definitely.

Interviewer:

Which one?

Respondent 4:

Save those trees.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what, what do you think about when you say that that one's closer to your view?

Respondent 4:

Well, um, I do love nature. Uh, we should preserve it. Uh, we should have, um, harmony in nature. Um, because more than anything else, because we need to meditate, uh, as, as the hu- as part of the human race. Um, and in order to really do that, you need to be in nature without noise, with a lotta people, um, so we definitely need to keep, um, good con- conserva- conversation, conservation here.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 4:

Do I consider religion to be important part of my life? Uh, wow. That's, mm, that's a powerful question. Um, and like I said, um, about eight m- months ago, um, I've had a great turnaround. Uh, I listened to, uh, this spiritual speaker. Um, I would not say Christian s- speaker. I would say spiritual uplifting-

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

... um, person and, uh, wow. He's just a unbelievable person. His name is Joel Osteen. And, um, I have never, ever come in contact with anybody who touches me so much as this person.

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

So, um, I have learned to become a Christian through him. Not because I haven't tried many, many, many, many (laughs) times before and I couldn't relate to Christianity or any other kind of religion. I've tried other religions who I couldn't relate to at, at all.

Interviewer:

Mm.

Respondent 4:

I couldn't. I mean, it was just, I... But he is, um, he touches my heart. And so, um, um, I think I have become m- a whole lot religious as a result of listening to him.

Interviewer:

Mm. So would you now consider religion to be an important part of your life?

Respondent 4:

Definitely.

Interviewer:

Would you say your religion provides some guidance in your day-to-day living, quite a bit of guidance, or a great deal of guidance in your day-to-day living?

Respondent 4:

Does religion provide a lot of guidance in my daily life? Whoo, uh. I can't, I don't know. I don't know. I'm still as wild as could be. At 59 years old, I'm really more, still very wild. Um, it, it does help me a lot. It does. Um, but I don't know, I don't know, I don't, I don't know if it should help me that much that I would be come non-wild 'cause I like that wildness in myself. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

But, um, yeah. It really helps.

Interviewer:

So would you say some guidance, quite a bit of guidance-

Respondent 4:

Oh I would say quite a bit.

Interviewer:

... or a great deal?

Respondent 4:

No. Quite a bit.

Interviewer:

Quite a bit?

Respondent 4:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

What does guidance mean to you in that question?

Respondent 4:

Um, guidance to me, uh, is doing the right thing, but a lot of it, a lotta, lot of it, is, um, prayer. Is-

Interviewer:

Prayer?

Respondent 4:

... yeah. Prayer, but in the way of, um, I am, I am worthy. Of increasing your self-esteem continuously, uh, continuously throughout the day. Um, I can, I can, uh, I, you know, I can have a good relationship with my son, I can have patience, I can come into Room [REDACTED NUMBER] and not yell at this man because he let me wait 25 minutes. I can, you know, find patience. So that type of prayer. I'm not saying prayer is, oh, help me, God, you know, da-da. But more in a, in, um, s- in a self-esteem way, yeah.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals?

Respondent 4:

Do I ever, um, attend, uh, a religious service? No. The answer is no. Absolutely not. Never. Uh, the reason I don't is because I haven't found anybody who that I could, um, who could inspire me.

Interviewer:

Okay. You mentioned, um, the person who, I think you said his name is Joel?

Respondent 4:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Who had-

Respondent 4:

Joel Osteen.

Interviewer:

... inspired you in, in some way.

Respondent 4:

Right. Right. Tremendous.

Interviewer:

Is, is that an, do you, do you think of that as a religious kind of service?

Respondent 4:

It is to me. It is to me. But it's not, it's not like I physically go some place else.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

I j- uh, he's on TV and he's on Sunday morning and I try my very best. I, uh, it just happens that I work late on Saturday night so he's on at 8:00 o'clock in the morning and it's, it's bad, bad time. So sometimes, um, I have my husband tape it-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

... um, and then f- man, um, I was just really happy he's got a website and just recently, like within two or three weeks ago, he, uh, put on his website where you could actually see a whole service.

Interviewer:

Hm.

Respondent 4:

So, um, so you don't have to get up (laughs) at 8:00 o'clock in the (laughs) morning when you go to bed at, you know, two (laughs) in the morning.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

Uh, so that's really good.

Interviewer:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Respondent 4:

But I don't physically go to a, to any religious place.

Interviewer:

Okay. I understand. Okay, we're coming up on a, an hour and that's the end of the section.

Respondent 4:

Okay.

Interviewer:

So I wanna thank you very much for-

Respondent 4:

Wow. You know a lot about me.

Interviewer:

... for coming in. (laughs)

Respondent 4:

(laughs)

Interviewer:

I'm gonna stop the tape now.

Respondent 4:

(laughs)

Interview 5

Interviewer:

Okay, I've got the tape started. Just to confirm that's okay that I record the conversation.

Respondent 5:

Sure. No problem.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 5:

I guess you want to know if I, if, if religion is important for me in, in, in my life. Um, I guess it would be uh, I guess the kind of things I would be thinking about is, you know, am I religious, do I go to services, do I think religion before I act on something? I guess in general I guess the answer would be no to all of those.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say religion is important or not important?

Respondent 5:

Oh, religion... Um, I guess it would also depend on the definition of religion. I guess it's a, you know, when I say, when you say religion I think of things like, at least in the Western culture, Christ, in other cultures, in, in, Mideastern cultures something else, in Asian cultures could be something else.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

Um...

Interviewer:

Well, in your life, what do you think of as religion for you?

Respondent 5:

Christianity, I guess. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 5:

And in my case, I, since I don't go to services and since I don't really do anything religious, to, have any, do any part of religious activities, um, I've got to say that it's not a part, important part of my life.

Interviewer:

Okay. Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals?

Respondent 5:

Yes, you want to know if I attend any kind of religious services or not other than the, some of these unique um, uh, events. Uh, such as weddings and, and funerals. Um, for me the answer would be no because the only, I think, uh, looking back in the last time I was at a church other than a wedding and, or a funeral, it would be many years ago.

Interviewer:

And what do you think of as religious services?

Respondent 5:

Um, other than weddings in churches it would be uh, going to uh, Sundays into, uh, you know, either the uh, Catholics or the uh, any of the Christian churches and, and, um, um, uh, sermons and what not.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 5:

I guess um, you want to know if I'm optimistic about my future or, or pessimistic or neutral. Um-

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, whether I am um, optimistic, pessimistic, or neutral about my future going forward.

Interviewer:

What about the words optimistic and pessimistic? What do those make you think of?

Respondent 5:

Pessimist means um, kind of think things are gonna be... Get, get my, my, my life situation will get worse.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

Uh, optimistic to me would mean that um, going forward my, my, my life situation would be improving.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

And neutral would be, be the same it is today.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 5:

So I guess um, I would have to say I'm probably optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in saying that you're optimistic?

Respondent 5:

What do I think about? Um, um... I'm in the midst of changing careers so I, and, you know, look, looking forward to, to doing something different.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

So, kind of optimistic about trying something out new, uh, something new.

Interviewer:

Okay. Are you extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic, or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 5:

Um, I guess you want to know how optimistic I am on a scale uh, from mod-, uh, moderately optimistic to very optimistic. Um, and I would have to say... What was the one up, uh, uh, what was the uh, three choices again?

Interviewer:

Are you extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic, or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 5:

Um, moderately optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. What makes you moderately optimistic?

Respondent 5:

What makes me moderately optimistic? Um...

Interviewer:

I'm just asking you to think out loud about-

Respondent 5:

Right, right.

Interviewer:

How you feel.

Respondent 5:

I guess um, um, I guess I'm looking into the past about where I've been and some of the uh, life events and going forward with, if it would be any different based on past experiences. And so I would have to guess, it, you know, historically things have gone pretty good so I'm guessing going forward things would go fairly well so, I'm fairly moderately optimistic.

Interviewer:

And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 5:

I guess um, you're asking me if looking at the future of the United States, what my feelings are from optimistic or, or pessimistic about the future and I guess I'm looking at where we are today and some of the s-, the social issues that we have, and where I think we're headed uh, going forward. And I guess the answer, the response would be, it would kind of depend on, on what's going to happen with the elections. I think currently, I guess it depends on how far into the future you're talking about. Um, I think right now I'm p- pretty neutral because um, I don't know what's going to happen after the elections. There might be a, I might have a different answer after the elections. But, you know, if you're looking at very long term, I'd say I'm optimistic. If you're looking at short term, probably not so optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you, when I say the future of the United States as a whole, how would you say that in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, the future of the United States as a whole, I think it'd just be the whole social environment, the, the, the people, the, the population as, as a whole, um, in terms of well-being, in terms of uh, um, uh, mainly well-being, I guess. Lifestyles.

Interviewer:

So on the whole, did you say you were optimistic-

Respondent 5:

Uh, I think I said in the, if it's the short term, from a future kind of, d- depends on the definition of future.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

If it's near term future, I'd say I'm not so optimistic, o- optimistic, but you know, long term future I'd say I'm pretty optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read the question to you again-

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And see if, see if one particular answer seems better than the others.

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 5:

Uh, right now I'd have to say neither optimistic or pessimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you lean toward being optimistic, lean toward being pessimistic, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 5:

Um, I guess you're asking which way I'd lean in terms of uh, the future of the United States, whether it's optimistic or pessimistic. I'd have to say, looking at the history of the United States and what the potential is of the United States compared to the rest of the world, I would have to lean optimistic.

Interviewer:

And what does the word lean convey to you there?

Respondent 5:

For me lean would mean, um, slightly higher uh, belief that the outcome will happen.

Interviewer:

Okay. One second. This next question is about the percent of people's income that they should pay in taxes to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that the amount of money that people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, I think you're asking um, uh, income, income taxes, whether higher income earners should pay a higher percentage or the same percentage or less percentage compared to the lower income groups. Uh, I guess that's been kind of a struggle for a lot of people, uh, what's fair and what's not fair for higher income people. Because um, the people that are, you know, making 20, 30 million dollars, should they be paying the same percentage of taxes, because then their burden of taxes is much greater than the person making, making a tenth of that. Um... I would have to say that the... Hm. They should pay the same percentage rate as everybody else.

Interviewer:

So you would say that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent-

Respondent 5:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Of their income-

Respondent 5:

Yes, yeah.

Interviewer:

That people pay in taxes. Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government, do you think that big companies should pay a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small businesses, or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 5:

Well, I guess it's a similar question but applied to businesses, whether uh, they should be paying percentage-wise, you know, big businesses should be paying more, higher percentage of income compared to the small businesses, or, or not. I think they should be paying the same percentage, regardless of the size of the uh, company, or the income stream.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little bit about how you come to that answer?

Respondent 5:

Um, I guess the question is, is, if, if, if a person, if a, you know, a corporation that makes a lot of money or, or, or a corporation or company that has small income, should they be given an advantage because they're smaller, and paying a small percentage of income? Uh, because it comes down to question of fairness, what's fair.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

Uh, and everybody starts out small so, everybody pays the same share of taxes. But if you get bigger, you don't want to be given the advantage where you pay less a percentage, because then you, you probably gonna, you know, you might keep the smaller people from, re- reduce the competition. You don't want to pay a higher percentage because then you're no longer competitive. It may be a disincentive to um, to, to grow to a certain size.

Interviewer:

Okay. There has been a lot of talk recently about doing away with tax on large inheritances, the so-called estate tax. Do you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 5:

Uh, you're asking me if I uh, if I favor or oppose get- getting rid of the estate tax. Um, I guess uh, look at, there's been con-, lot of controversy about that and some people are saying it's a double taxation, other people are saying, well, you know, what does Bill Gates ne-, Bill, Bill Gates won't miss an extra billion or two. Uh, I, I guess I don't... I don't think I would uh, I, I kind of, I'm kind of in the middle, I guess um, I think they should raise the limit, but not com-, not, not do away with it completely.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 5:

I would probably, given those two choices, I would say I would oppose doing away with the estate tax.

Interviewer:

Okay. And could you put the term estate tax into different words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, death tax um, how much you owe the government once you uh, uh, death, taxes on assets after a person dies.

Interviewer:

Okay. How similar would you say that U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 5:

Can you read the question again?

Interviewer:

How similar-

Respondent 5:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Would you say that U.S. citizens-

Respondent 5:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other?

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 5:

You're asking uh, uh, in the Republic-, U.S. Republican pop- population, how similar they are amongst themselves. And I'd have to say um, slightly similar.

Interviewer:

And when I ask how similar, what does that mean to you?

Respondent 5:

I think um, to me, how similar means uh, values, um, what, and what they think of, of various policies and, and, and laws and regulations that are being proposed.

Interviewer:

And what makes you say that they're slightly similar?

Respondent 5:

Because I see a, um, you know, Republicans, I see the ultra-conservative side which is basically uh, extremely conservative and wants to give the government the power to do pretty much everything. And then you have the moderate conser-, the moderate Republicans who, you know, there's a lot of Republicans, probably like myself who are fiscally conservative but um, but otherwise are probably more, more liberal than uh, than conservative.

Interviewer:

Among U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 5:

Uh, you want to know on the um, of the Republicans in the U.S., how, how much uh, they agree on the way the c-, the country should be run, or disagree on the way things should be run. Um, I think there's a lot of disagreement.

Interviewer:

So for how much disagreement, would you say a great deal, a lot-

Respondent 5:

A lot.

Interviewer:

A moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 5:

I think there's a lot.

Interviewer:

When I refer to how this country should be run, how would you put that in your own words?

Respondent 5:

I think it's um, how this country should be run is, is, to me would mean how each individual Republican views that um, um, the, the, uh, the rules and regulations, how they, you know, what, what um, what, what are the rules and regulations that are um, um, gonna, should apply to the, to the general population.

Interviewer:

Okay. How similar would you say that U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 5:

I think the question is, is kind of the opposite, or similar to the Republican question, is on the Democrat side, is whether the people that are Democrats, how similar they are to each other? Um, can you go over the answers again, choices?

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 5:

Uh, I think there's, I think I'd look at same, same with the Republican side, the Democrat side you have the ultra-liberals and the, and the people who are, who are not so liberal bordering on being somewhat conservative. So I would say just slightly similar.

Interviewer:

Among U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 5:

I think the question is asking uh, for, for Democrats how much uh, similarity there is in, in the uh, the way the country should be run. And I, uh, what were the choices for that?

Interviewer:

A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 5:

I'd have to say a little. Um, I think as with Republican side, I think on, on, on the Democrat side there's extremes. Um, you have to talk about the, the, the, the, the, the very liberals in San Francisco to the not so liberals in, in, you know, different parts of the South Bay to, you know, through other parts of the country.

Interviewer:

Do you favor a ban on gay marriage, do you oppose a ban, or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 5:

I think you're asking what my views are on gay marriage, whether I sh- uh, I favor uh, a, like uh, like a ban or not. Um, I kind of look at... I guess the answer would be um, you know, I look at all the issues that we have in the U.S. today and, and I know the uh, the politicians keep bringing it up, but it seems like that's like number 25 on the list and so, I think the fact that the, the, anybody's been talking about that before we solve all the other issues that we've got is really a waste of time and energy. That's... So I, I would have to say neither uh, was your other choice, was neither or a uh...

Interviewer:

Favor a ban on gay marriage, oppose a ban, or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 5:

I neither favor or oppose.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you put gay marriage into different words?

Respondent 5:

Gay marriage would be someone of the same, two, two people of the same sex that want to cohabitate and have the same rights as couples who are of, of different sexes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you lean toward favoring a ban, lean toward opposing a ban, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 5:

I guess um, you're asking me which way I lean in terms about gay marriage, and I guess I'd, what goes through my mind would be, what are the, the um, the issues involved and of, you know, for, for gay marriage people. And I, I look at, apparently a lot of the rights and a lot of the privileges come with marriage and you can't get a lot of benefits with, unless you're technically married, like health insurance and some of the other issues that come up. So I guess in the absence of any other less relation that, that gives rights to gay couples for some of the same um, benefits, I would have to say I have to lean towards uh, gay marriage, in favor of gay mar- marriage.

Interviewer:

So, with respect to this question, do you lean toward favoring a ban, lean toward opposing a ban, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 5:

Lean towards uh, opposing a ban.

Interviewer:

Okay. I asked that again because the question refers to a ban.

Respondent 5:

Right. Right.

Interviewer:

Um, which could be confusing. Now think about what adult U.S. citizens feel on the issue of marriage between homosexuals. We'd like to know what percent of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, oppose it, or neither favor nor oppose it. First, what percent of U.S., of adult U.S. citizens, do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

You want to know what percentage of Americans, or what percentage do I think uh, Americans, do I think um, uh, favor uh, banning gay marriages? Um, no idea. Um...

Interviewer:

Your best guess is fine.

Respondent 5:

I'd have to say, 35% in favor of banning gay marriages.

Interviewer:

What percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Oh, uh, banning marriage between homosexuals, I'd say about yeah, 35%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 35% of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 35% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 30% of adult U.S. citizens neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 5:

Yes, yeah.

Interviewer:

Of all those 35% of adult U.S. citizens who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

You're asking if the 35% uh, what's the breakup between uh, someone who favors it strongly versus someone who only favors it somewhat. I would say, of the 35, I'd say, probably 20% favor, favor it strongly and 15 just somewhat.

Interviewer:

Of those, of all those 35% of adult U.S. citizens who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly, and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, you're asking uh, the people that oppose it, how much of percentage oppose it strongly and, and how many, what percentage opposes it just a little bit. Um, I'd say the same. Um, I would say, well, I don't know. Let me see. Oppose it strongly... Yeah, I'd say probably the same 20% oppose it strongly, 15% probably only opposes it somewhat.

Interviewer:

Of all those 30% of adult U.S. citizens who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it, and what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 5:

I'd have to say um, of that group of people who, who are in the middle, I'd say half and half.

Interviewer:

50% lean towards favoring-

Respondent 5:

Right, 50%.

Interviewer:

And 50% lean towards opposing?

Respondent 5:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about, in saying that?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, I think there's a wide spectrum of people from, you know, from the ultra-conservative to the ultra-liberals, and I think that middle group, I would say, they're just, you know, it's... And again, it's a spectrum and half of it probably leans one way and the other half leans the other way.

Interviewer:

Now I'd like to ask these questions about U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats. First, what percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Okay, one more time?

Interviewer:

First, what percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Okay, I guess you're asking what percentage of uh, Demo-, uh Democrats think that uh, or favor uh, banning marriages uh, between uh, uh, gay couples. Um, I'd have to say it's um, you know, 'cause it's, Demo- Democrats are on the whole more liberal than, than Republicans, I would have to say probably... You, uh, the question was banning?

Interviewer:

What percent do you think favor banning-

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Favor banning... Um, I'd say probably only a third, 33%.

Interviewer:

What percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

I think the rest uh, probably the six-, uh, the 67% probably oppose banning homosexuals.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 33% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 67% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 0% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 5:

Uh, yeah. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Of all those 33% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

I'm thinking Democrats are generally more on the liberal side so I would have to say maybe only half of that 33, so uh, what's 16, 16 and a half percent, um, favor strongly, strongly favor banning.

Interviewer:

And what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

I'd say the other, the other half.

Interviewer:

Of all those 67% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

I would have to say 50% oppose it strongly and the rest would just only oppose it somewhat.

Interviewer:

So 50% oppose it strongly, and 17%-

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

Oppose it somewhat? Now I'd like to ask these questions about U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans. First, what percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

That, is that the same question that was asked previously?

Interviewer:

This is about Republicans. What percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Okay. Um... Probably um, since Republicans are, based on what I hear in the media, Republicans tend to be more conservative. I'd say, a third, 33%.

Interviewer:

33% of Republicans-

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

Favor banning marriage-

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

Between homosexuals. What percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Say that again? [inaudible 00:35:37]

Interviewer:

What percent of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans-

Respondent 5:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, that, that uh, a third, 33%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 33% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 33% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 34% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

Of all those 33% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

Um, what percentage of the people would favor strongly, uh... Read, uh, read it one more time?

Interviewer:

Of all those 33% of U.S. citizens who you, who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

I'd say 20% favor it strongly and the rest would favor it somewhat. So what, 13, 13%?

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Um, of the uh, um, the 33% um...

Interviewer:

Would you like me to read it again?

Respondent 5:

Yeah. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Of all those 33% of U.S. citizens, who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

Uh, I think you're asking um, of the 33% of the Republicans that favor um, banning uh, gay marriages, what percentage of um, are strongly against it and what percentage is only slightly uh, um, against it. Just like before.

Interviewer:

And when I say favor it strongly, could you put that into different words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, favored strongly means they are, if they came to a vote they would vote, you know, uh, how they would vote, if given the opportunity to, to put it, to put it through a vote.

Interviewer:

Okay. What about favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

I think someone that's favoring only somewhat is probably um, doesn't have strong opinions one way or the other but is leaning, leaning one way, but could, could probably change, you know, could be changed to lean the other way based on, on other circumstances that could arise.

Interviewer:

All right. Of all those 33% of U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, you're asking of the 33% that oppose, uh, how much strongly oppose and how many, what percentage only oppose it slightly, um... Um, hm. Good question. I'd, I'd say half and half I guess, probably.

Interviewer:

Okay. 50/50?

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

Of all those 34% of U.S. citizens who you think, who... I'm sorry, let me start again. Of all those U.S. citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think neither favor nor oppose banning

marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it, and what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 5:

Okay, you're asking of the, of the, it'd be 34% um, Republicans, what percentage are leaning towards favoring it and what uh, percentage are leaning towards uh, a ban, uh, banning it. Um, I guess um, probably half and half.

Interviewer:

50%-

Respondent 5:

Right.

Interviewer:

And 50%?

Respondent 5:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Suppose that an election were being held today that would determine who the president of the United States is for the next four years, and imagine that the only candidates allowed to run in that election were Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, and imagine that you voted in that election. Who would you vote for, Bill Clinton, or George W. Bush?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, you're asking me uh, if we had the option, if the election was held today, a choice between Bill Clinton or uh, or Bush for president, I'd have to go with Clinton.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in choosing Clinton?

Respondent 5:

I, I look at um, uh, what Clinton has done for the, the country um, in the past and what Bush has done to the country in the recent past and it's kind of the choice between who I think can do a better job at running the country.

Interviewer:

In talking to people about elections, we often find that a lot of people were not able to vote because they weren't registered, they were sick, or they just didn't have time. How about you? Did you vote in the election, in the last elections in November?

Respondent 5:

In November? Um... I believe I did.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that?

Respondent 5:

I, I know I missed one of the primaries, but I generally do all these, uh, the big ones.

Interviewer:

Did you vote in person on election day, or did you mail in an absentee ballot before election day?

Respondent 5:

In person.

Interviewer:

How about the election for the House of Representatives in Washington? Did you vote for a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives?

Respondent 5:

During the last election? I believe I did.

Interviewer:

Who did you vote for?

Respondent 5:

It was probably the incumbent, whoever that was. I don't believe I, I... To be honest with you, I don't remember off the top of my head who I voted for but my guess is I tend to lean towards the, uh, um... Is that true? I'm trying to think now. The last election. Oh, wait a second. Um, who was running? This was, you said the House Representative?

Interviewer:

The, the House of Representatives in Washington.

Respondent 5:

I don't remember who the incumbent was now. I remember they had Steve Poizner... Actually, he wasn't running. Was he? Um, I'm guessing I might've, my guess is probably the incumbent.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 5:

Whoever that was.

Interviewer:

When I refer to the House of Representatives in Washington, could you express that in other words?

Respondent 5:

The, uh, it's the um, uh, you know, the, the, whoever represents me in my district and to be honest with you, I don't know who that is off the top of my head. I, I, I don't know if it's Anna Eshoo or not. Um, so it's, it's, well that's, there's the two bodies, right? We have the Congress with the two, two per state, and then we have the House of Representatives based on population and based on districts.

Interviewer:

Was the candidate that you voted for a Democrat, a Republican, or something else?

Respondent 5:

Probably Democrat.

Interviewer:

How would you state that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, who I voted for, which party I voted for, um, during the last election for the House of Representatives.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what makes you say it was probably a Democrat?

Respondent 5:

For most of the um, for most of the, the state and the federal level, like I, I lean towards um, Democrats. Except for the, except for the governor and, and, and the uh, president.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Respondent 5:

Uh, you want to know if I approve of uh, George W. Bush's uh, job, or, handling of the, of uh, the job, and I, yeah, I'd have to say I disapprove. I think I look at uh, the, the war in Iraq, I think I look at the, what he's trying to do, mess up with uh, the uh, uh stuff with social security, and looked at what he did with the medical, Medicare plan and I look at what he's done to our autonomy in general, and all of it has been, in my opinion, negative.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Uh, if I approve of uh, how uh, George Bush's uh, or... Can you, can you read that question?

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Respondent 5:

I think you're asking me um, uh, if he's doing a good job as President of the United States.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 5:

And uh, the answer would be no, I disapprove.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 5:

I disapprove strongly.

Interviewer:

How would you state that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

It's um, how um, how strongly do I feel uh, his job, you know, what his job performance is. And I'd have to say it's very poor.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that it's very poor?

Respondent 5:

Uh, I think uh, the, that or, uh, the way he's handled the international situations uh, with Iraq, Afghanistan, um, various countries uh, the, his dealings with uh, with, with Europe, the European countries, um, hm, and the way he's handled our uh, handled our, our own economic situation through, you know, the social programs that we have and also through some of the uh, uh, these problems that we currently have with uh, with our economy.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Respondent 5:

I disapprove.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 5:

Um, I look at our economy and I would say, not strongly compared to the way he's handled the international situations, so in that sense, in that context, I would say I do not, I would be not strongly disapproved.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling our relations with foreign countries?

Respondent 5:

I'd have to, uh... What are the choices again?

Interviewer:

Approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove.

Respondent 5:

Uh, disapprove.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 5:

I disapprove strongly.

Interviewer:

And what kinds of things do you think about there?

Respondent 5:

I think I look at the way he's handled the whole international situation, I think he's seen as a big bully, um, around the world. I, I don't, I think it's, it's my way or the highway. Seems the, the attitude seems to be my way or the highway, that's the, kind of what the, way the, the press has portrayed it. And I don't think uh, given today's world economic environment, that, that's the right attitude to, to basically you know, go forward. I think what's interesting I guess um, during the last UN conference when um, some of our adversaries got up and started talking, basically they were all cheered, I mean it was like, there was nobody on the U.S. side except for U.S. people and they all left the room. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 5:

So that doesn't say much for our, our, the way we've handled other people's uh, our, our affairs.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling terrorism?

Respondent 5:

I disapprove the way George W. Bush is handling terrorism. Um, I think I go through, what go through my mind is um, he, he's, he's using Iraq as a, as an excuse to fight terrorism but I, I'm, you know I look at some of the comments that other people have made and, and that we're actually creating more terrorists than we are by, by doing what we're doing in Iraq, than we are by eliminating the risk.

Interviewer:

Hm. Do you disapprove extremely strongly, moderately strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 5:

Uh, choices again?

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove extremely strongly, moderately strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 5:

Uh, extremely strongly.

Interviewer:

What makes you choose extremely?

Respondent 5:

I think he's made this place, it's, it's, I think uh, George Bush has made it uh, more difficult for Americans to travel abroad. He's made it um, more unsafe for Americans abroad. Um, and I think he's breeding more terrorists to attack the U.S. through his actions.

Interviewer:

Do you think the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency was more, less, or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 5:

Based on what I've read, I might have to say George W. Bush created fewer jobs than um, you said Clinton's presidency, right? Yeah. Uh, I would say fewer.

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

Um, if, if during the first four years George Bush's presidency, if he created more jobs than, than the first four years of uh, Clinton's presidency.

Interviewer:

How confident are you that that answer is correct? Extremely confident, very confident, moderately confident, a little confident, or not confident at all?

Respondent 5:

Uh, not confident at all.

Interviewer:

And why do you say that you're not confident at all?

Respondent 5:

I think it's very based on some of the um, um sound bites that I hear on, on the news. And a lot of that is sensationalized, it depends on how you manipulate that, the data and what you count and what you don't count. So it's actually um, I... Y- yeah, uh I think unless there was a, a more accurate accounting and definition of jobs created and jobs lost, what's counted, what's not counted, uh, would it makes sense to actually to compare apples, so you can compare apples to apples.

Interviewer:

Now thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year, the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

Respondent 5:

You said over the past year?

Interviewer:

Over the past years.

Respondent 5:

So, let's see... So that's... I'd say uh, over the past year, the, the economy on the whole has gotten worse.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

I think you're asking um, if the U.S. economy as a whole over the last year if, if we're on a, we're trending down or we're trending up, in terms of uh, um, I guess I'd look at it in terms of GDP. And we're, we're trending down, I, I guess.

Interviewer:

In terms of a declining GDP?

Respondent 5:

Yeah, kind of... Yes. Right, right. And also, but in terms of, of the overall economic situation I think um, I look at the, the, the boom, the b-, the real estate boom which has been driving the economy for the last several years, and I think that's slowing down, that's taking uh, uh, a big chunk out of the uh, out of the um, the piggy bank of the, of the nation. So I think it's, it's trending downwards over the last year and continuing to trend down.

Interviewer:

On another subject now. How likely do you think it is that a majority of all people on Earth will die all at once sometime during the next 100 years because of a single event? Extremely likely, very likely, moderately likely, slightly likely, or not likely at all?

Respondent 5:

Okay. Repeat the question.

Interviewer:

How likely do you think it is that a majority of all people on Earth will die all at once sometime during the next 100 years because of a single event?

Respondent 5:

Okay. Um... extremely unlikely.

Interviewer:

Extremely likely, very likely, moderately likely, slightly likely, or not likely at all?

Respondent 5:

Not likely at all.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 5:

I think um, in the next 100 years whether I think there'll be a cat- catastrophic event that would pretty much wipe out a huge chunk of the population on Earth.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in saying that that's not likely at all?

Respondent 5:

I look at, you know, what it would have to be, even a third world war won't be that drastic, I mean, I think um, you can lose quite a few million people but I think a lot of people are still gonna survive it. I think there's nothing from terrestrial that will cause a, I think the only thing that could do it would be some kind of, some huge asteroid. It's, it's, uh, [inaudible 00:59:29] I think that's unlikely to happen in the next 100 years, we'd probably know it by now.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well, we're just at an hour.

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interviewer:

So, that's great. So thank you very much for-

Respondent 5:

All right.

Interviewer:

For your help. I'm gonna stop the tape now and get some um, information so we can send you a check.

Respondent 5:

Okay.

Interview 6

Interviewer:

Okay, I've started the tape. And can I just ask you to confirm that it's okay to record this conversation?

Respondent 6:

It's okay to record this conversation.

Interviewer:

Thank you. I'd like to begin with some general questions about you and your opinions about other people. First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 6:

Completely.

Interviewer:

And how would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Uh, well, see, I'm a Christian. And people can change. Other words, uh, people not born bad. They mi-everybody's born good, but when they get older, that's when they pick up back habits, see?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 6:

And then, uh, say I witness to them as a Christian, I can change them, or Christ can change them.

Interviewer:

Okay. So when I ask you how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are, what does the kind of person they are mean to you?

Respondent 6:

Well, you know them by their fruits, you gonna know them. Uh, other words, uh, yeah, ask me that question again.

Interviewer:

Sure. How much do you think people can change the kind of person they are?

Respondent 6:

They can change, uh, 100 percent by taking Christ as their savior.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what does the kind of person they are, what does that mean to you?

Respondent 6:

Uh, what kind of person they are would be, uh, uh, wa- want the truth, the truth. That's the, uh, that's the main thing if they tell the truth.

Interviewer:

If they want the truth or not, that's-

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... that's what that makes you think of?

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Ex-

Respondent 6:

If I wanted-

Interviewer:

Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all.

Respondent 6:

Uh, repeat that one more time.

Interviewer:

If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 6:

Uh, well, I wouldn't have no questions about my success rate, see? But then, uh, uh, just like, uh... Say, you, uh, I'm a Christian, it's up to the person. Uh, other words, uh, I'm 100 percent sold on what I'm telling you about, uh, salvation and how to live, but then this person, like I'm witnessing, it's up to them. I delivered the letter in the mailbox, but then it's up to the- their own, uh, their conscious or their faith if they accept this or not.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well if you want to defend an opinion of yours, what does that, how would you put that in different words?

Respondent 6:

Well, if I wanted to... You talking about my Christian faith?

Interviewer:

Not necessarily, any opinion of yours. It could be your Christian faith, or it could be something else.

Respondent 6:

Well, I just have to tell the truth as, as far as I know it.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when the questions asks how successfully do you think you could do that-

Respondent 6:

Well, I-

Interviewer:

... what, what would it mean to successfully defend your opinion?

Respondent 6:

Um, well, if I was, my opinion is not questionable, see?

Interviewer:

It's not what?

Respondent 6:

Not question- questionable about my faith. My faith is, uh, unquestionable. And, uh, if the people, uh, it's, it's really up to them, uh, if they wanna acc- accept that or not. I don't, it's, uh, I did my part.

Interviewer:

I see. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most?

Respondent 6:

Well, of all my rooms, well kept.

Interviewer:

Would you say that the rooms are extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all.

Respondent 6:

Not disorganized at all.

Interviewer:

And you say that because they are extremely well kept?

Respondent 6:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 6:

No, that's basically it. Uh, my wife takes care of this house, and, uh, she's a good house keeper.

Interviewer:

Okay. When I ask how disorganized are the rooms, what does that mean to you?

Respondent 6:

Well, that's, um, things out of order. Uh, everything's in order in my house.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them, or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 6:

Well, you know, uh, I'll accept, uh... I've got a broad mind, you know? I'll accept, uh, different opinions other than my own.

Interviewer:

So would you say you like unpredictable situations, dislike them, or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 6:

Uh, it's, uh, I can put it like this, I, I can accept, uh, another person's opinion.

Interviewer:

Okay. Could you restate the question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Uh, if another person, uh, didn't agree with me, would I like or dislike them? No, I wouldn't like or dislike them. Uh, I accept what they told me.

Interviewer:

Okay. So when I say do you like unpredictable situations, that makes you think of how another person responds to you and whether you like or dislike them?

Respondent 6:

Um-

Interviewer:

That is, whether you like or dislike another person? Did I hear you correctly?

Respondent 6:

Well, I accept people, you know, for what they are. Um, if I found somebody that had a different opinion, I wouldn't necessarily dislike them, but I might not agree with them.

Interviewer:

I understand. What about a situation that's unpredictable?

Respondent 6:

A situation that's unpredictable. Uh, well, you just gotta take it one day at a time, and, um, try to make for a, that one day the best you can. And, uh, if you can change it, try to change it. And if you can't, forget it, or don't try to forget it, depends on the seriousness of, uh, of the nature, you know, of what the nature of the (laughs) I might wanting to say crime, but, uh, if, um, if you can change it, change it, but if you don't, just go on.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would you say that situations that are unpredictable are something that you like or that you don't like?

Respondent 6:

Well, situations that I like or don't like. Situations I like or don't like. Uh-

Interviewer:

Would you say that, uh, an unpredictable situation is one that you like or not?

Respondent 6:

Un- unpredictable, uh, let's see. I guess I wouldn't.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you dislike unpredictable situations a great deal, a moderate amount, or a little?

Respondent 6:

Well, I guess a little bit.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying that you dislike them a little bit?

Respondent 6:

Well, unpredictable. Well I guess basically, it's depends on, uh, (laughs) how they... Are they a threat to me?

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 6:

Uh, depends, depends on the nature of what they're disagreeing with.

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few, or none.

Respondent 6:

Uh, how many decisions do I make fast. What now?

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently?

Respondent 6:

How many. Um, well let's see. Uh, there's not that many decisions that, you know, I have to make. Um, yeah, that's, I don't have that many decisions to make.

Interviewer:

When you make an important decision, would you say you do it quickly and confidently?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I say I do it, uh, confidently. I don't say quickly.

Interviewer:

Okay. So that's two different things really?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, you talking about quickly and confidently. Why, why do you have to be in a hurry?

Interviewer:

Okay. So you can make a decision confidently, but not make it quickly.

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I can make it confidently, but not quickly.

Interviewer:

Okay, I understand. When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 6:

Well, mo- moderately uncomfortable.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud a little bit about how it makes you feel moderately uncomfortable?

Respondent 6:

Well, sometimes, you know, it just, uh, moderately uncomfortable. Uh, it just, uh, something that, uh, you, I guess got to accept.

Interviewer:

Are there any particular kinds of circumstances that you think about in saying that not understanding the reason why something happens makes you feel moderately uncomfortable?

Respondent 6:

Well, if, uh, you know, uh, first of all, I don't mean to get back, you know, this religion, religious, uh, concept is I'm trying to give to you, but, you know, things happen. Other words, I believe we're just pilgrims passing through this world. Either live, go to heaven, or you die, you go to hell. And, uh, I believe we in God's hands.

Interviewer:

And how does that affect how you feel when you don't understand why something happens?

Respondent 6:

Well, with that knowledge that I've got, you know, uh, studying my Bible, uh, how does it make me feel? Uh, you talking about my relationship with the Lord, or what?

Interviewer:

Well, whatever comes to mind for you when you think about not understanding the reason why something happens in your life.

Respondent 6:

Well, there's lots of things that don't happen, you know, like you plan or you think is gonna turn out. But, uh, th- what I'm saying is, uh, things happen in this life that, uh, you don't agr- don't necessarily you can't understand it, but there's a reason behind everything that happens to you or to me or any person.

Interviewer:

Okay. And does the, does that makes you, does knowing that make you more or less uncomfortable when you don't understand why something happened?

Respondent 6:

No, it doesn't really, uh, make me feel uncomfortable, 'cause, uh, I believe, you know, (laughs) we in another man's hands, we in God's hands. And our knowledge is limited, but his is not.

Interviewer:

Okay. In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I've seen that, uh, how often? Uh, very seldom do you see, uh, two p-... That's, that's very seldom that you see two people are arguing, and both of them right.

Interviewer:

Could you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Uh, if there's two people arguing, and, uh, both of them thinks their right, one of them's gotta be wrong. It's very seldom that you see two people are arguing and, uh, uh, both of them's right.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

Is any of this make sense to you?

Interviewer:

Yes, this is helpful for us to understand how people interpret these questions. The following statements concern your personal reactions to a number of different situations. No two statements are exactly alike, so please consider each statement carefully before answering. If the statement is true or mostly true as applied to you, answer true. If the statement is false or not usually true as applied to you, answer false.

I guess I put on a show to impress or entertain people.

Respondent 6:

That's, uh, false.

Interviewer:

And how would you rephrase that statement in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Uh, how, how do I present myself to the public or to my fri- uh, friends or anybody.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in saying that that's false?

Respondent 6:

Well, because I, I don't try to im- you know, impress nobody. Uh, I don't try to dominate nobody, and, uh, you just accept me for what I am. I accept you for what you are.

Interviewer:

Okay. I would probably make a good actor.

Respondent 6:

Well, now, see, I'm uh, that'd be false.

Interviewer:

How would you s- restate that statement in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Well, there's acting. It might appeal to me when I was younger, uh, but now it doesn't. It's, uh, I'm 71, you know, and it doesn't appeal to me. It's, e- there's nothing wrong with acting. It's a, a work of art. Uh, but now, I'm glad my life turned out like it did, I'm not an actor.

Interviewer:

In groups of people, I am rarely the center of attention.

Respondent 6:

Well, that's, that's, uh, that's true.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind as you say that?

Respondent 6:

Well, I'm not trying to get people's attention. Uh, I've had it before, you know, but there's, uh, short period of time, and I don't, uh, dwell, I don't try to get my, my own attention in front of a group of people. It just, something, you know, maybe a conversation will lead to put me, uh, in the, uh, position of, uh, where perhaps I'm talking more than anybody else, but then, uh, uh, there's time to talk and there's time to shut up. I think I reached that point in my, in my life, you know, when I, I can adjust to, uh, not, talking when it's necessary (laughs) and not talking when it's not necessary.

Interviewer:

Okay. Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, most of the time, I guess most people's honest. I-

Interviewer:

Would you say always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, most of the time.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question in your own words that asks, generally speaking, how often can you trust other people?

Respondent 6:

Well, uh, you got, uh, uh, we got laws, you know, in this country, and, uh, and out, throughout the world, and most them lo- the, the thief don't have the fear that people's in charge. And, uh, most people, I guess, is basically honest on account of the laws.

Interviewer:

Okay. So trusting other people makes you think about other people being honest?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, most of the time, most people are honest.

Interviewer:

Does it makes you think of anything else?

Respondent 6:

Well, uh, no, not really. It's, uh, the people that are not honest, you know, they, they gonna pay for their dishonesty. They might get by with it for a little while, but then it's gonna catch up with them.

Interviewer:

The next few questions are about how important things are to you. First, how important is it to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities in life?

Respondent 6:

How important it is? Yeah, it's, uh, it's-

Interviewer:

Exp-

Respondent 6:

... important, but then I, I recognize, you know, our form of government is not compatible with other forms of government in the world. Uh, uh, we founded, uh, this nation here was, uh, respect, you know, for different nationalities that come to this country. We're like, uh, some of these countries, you know, that were older, uh, um, say, uh, Iran or Iraq, that form of government has been there for thousands of years. Uh, you can't har-... It's like, you know, I say, you know, Pakistan? They got two forms of government in India. One of them's Pakistan, the other one's India. One of them's Muslims, and we- one of them's, uh, uh, what do you call it, Hi- uh, uh, Muslims and, uh, Hindus. And same way about Iraq, you got three forms of government over there. Uh, their for- our form of government's not gonna work there, because, uh, the religious beliefs.

Interviewer:

So would you say... Let me read the question again and the response choices we have. How important is it to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities in life? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all.

Respondent 6:

I guess moderately important.

Interviewer:

When the question refers to the same opportunities in life, what does that bring to mind?

Respondent 6:

Well, America's the land of opportunity, uh, and a few other countries, you know, but, uh, moderately important, uh, it's, uh, there's nothing you can do, you know? (laughs) There's, uh, there's nothing you can do about the way life, the opportunities exist. Or they, it's moderately important, uh, that they've got to, um, before you get something, you've got to want it.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 6:

Well, it's like, uh, before you get something, you got to want it. It's like a habit. You got a habit, but then you say you don't want to break your habit. Before you can change that habit, you've got to want to, to change that habit, see?

Interviewer:

And how does that relate to every person in the world having the same opportunities?

Respondent 6:

How does it relate to every-... Well, there is, before they can change, they've got to want to, you know, for change, I guess.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you help other people?

Respondent 6:

Well, that's-

Interviewer:

Is it extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

Oh, very important.

Interviewer:

What does it mean to you to help other people?

Respondent 6:

Well, it's, uh, somebody is, has a need, and, uh, you in that position, just the Bible says it's better to give than receive. If you got it, you can give it. So you got it, so you better of (laughs) than a person that don't have it.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you follow traditions?

Respondent 6:

Uh, that, that's, that background, you know, your background doesn't have nothing to do with, uh, uh... My background is, uh, it's good to have a nice home and mother and dad, you know, and a well-qualified upbringing, but sometimes people don't get that, but however they, they... Once you, your conscious is realizes in pos- a position that you're in, you can, you can improve on yourself. Other words, look in the mirror and don't try to blame somebody else. Just say you can do better.

Interviewer:

What do you think of when I say traditions?

Respondent 6:

Traditions, that, I'd guess background, raised in a certain tradi- tradition, you know, and your background.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 6:

Is that what you mean?

Interviewer:

Well, I w- I'd like to know what it brings to your mind.

Respondent 6:

Well, that's basically it. The way you were raised.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 6:

Uh, important. Uh, what kind of rules?

Interviewer:

Any kind of rules that the question makes you think of.

Respondent 6:

Any kind of question that's rules make me think of. Well, there's all kinds of rules. You talking about good rules, bad rules, or what?

Interviewer:

Okay. Well, in general, would you say that it's extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all that people always follow rules?

Respondent 6:

Well, depends on the rules. I'll put it like that. It's, if it's good rules, follow them. If it's bad rules, uh, y- you can't follow them.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you feel safe from harm?

Respondent 6:

Well, that's very important I guess.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

And my survival, how would I survive, uh, fear? Uh, fear, fear, let's see. Fearful, I guess fearful. If you were fearful, uh, something happened to your body, nicely (laughs) you gonna be, uh, uh... Other words, people lives in different parts of the countries, they got a fear, you know, of dying every day, but I'm lucky. I live in a place where it's peaceful. But then, you know, I still have uh, uh, certain fears, you know, about something happening, which is really ignorance on my part, because, uh, you know, I believe. You know, I believe in a life here after.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you be in charge of other people who do what you tell them to do?

Respondent 6:

How important it is for me to be in charge of other people to do what I tell them to do? Well, you talking about on the job, or where?

Interviewer:

It doesn't have to be on a job. Just how important is it to you?

Respondent 6:

That my rules be followed? Well everybody's got rules. Um, it's, it's not so important. Uh, uh, yeah, people pretty well gonna do what they wanna do.

Interviewer:

Would you say it's extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

I say moderately important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you are very successful?

Respondent 6:

Well, successful? What do you mean, by money or what?

Interviewer:

Well how would you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Um, success in life. Success in life is, is, uh, not necessarily money, but how you wake up each day and, and, uh, uh, you doing something that makes you happy. That's a successful person if you, uh, enjoy your duties or your job. Uh, yeah, that's, that's what important is, you enjoy yourself.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you answer that question, how important is it to you that you are very successful? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, that's very important.

Interviewer:

Very important. And what do you think in saying that it's very important?

Respondent 6:

I think about, uh, just like I told you, you know, you wake up in the morning and you, your life, you know-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 6:

... you gotta day, you got that one day to, to live, then you're successful.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you have fun whenever you can?

Respondent 6:

How important it is for me to have fun when I can. Yeah, you can be about as happy as you wanna be.

Interviewer:

Is it extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, it's probably, um, moderately important.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud about how you come the answer of moderately important?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, how, uh, how do you c... Moderately important about being happy, successful, I mean, being, uh, enjoying life. Uh, yeah, that's basically it. Just how you, how you, how you take that day and a- what you make out of it.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you take risks in life?

Respondent 6:

How important is to me I take risk? Yeah, everybody's gotta take a risk. You can't just sit back and, and, uh, play it safe. Other words, people, the risk takers... I'm not a risk taker, but, uh, other words, if, uh, some people's jobs is take risk. Mine's not. Uh, so, uh, I don't know how to answer that. Is, it's, uh, my, my life just been average.

Interviewer:

Well, when I say take risks, what kinds of things do you think of?

Respondent 6:

Well, risk. What kind of risk are you talking about now?

Interviewer:

Whatever comes to your mind.

Respondent 6:

Well, risk, you talking about life or?

Interviewer:

That you take risks in life.

Respondent 6:

Well, what kind of risks are there in life? You talking about putting your life on the line?

Interviewer:

I think different people would think of different things in response to those words, and I'd like to hear what you think of.

Respondent 6:

Risk. Well, well, I don't, I don't have that many risk, really. It's, uh, I just take it, life as it comes.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do?

Respondent 6:

How is, uh... Well, I guess it's very important.

Interviewer:

Can you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, how important it is that I t- that I take risks. Uh, is that correct?

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do?

Respondent 6:

How important it is for me to make my own decisions, what I'm gonna do. Uh, I say very important. Let's see. Yeah, it's very important. Uh, yeah. It's like, uh, uh, (laughs)... You don't use it, you lose it. I'm kinda coughing here.

Interviewer:

Do you want to wait a minute so you can get a drink or something?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I'm sitting here drinking. I'm still... I got lung cancer, see?

Interviewer:

I see.

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I've had three chemos, uh, treatments. So, uh, yeah, I've, I've starting hacking and coughing.

Interviewer:

Is it okay to continue?

Respondent 6:

Oh, yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

I don't know if any of this makes sense to you or not.

Interviewer:

It's very helpful.

Respondent 6:

It's helpful on elections, right?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 6:

So you talking about politician elections.

Interviewer:

Well, not so far in these questions, but that's one of the things that we're interested in understanding.

Respondent 6:

Well, if it's not politics, what all, you know, what all is your research cover there?

Interviewer:

Well, we're in the, the primary focus is on understanding whether or not people vote, and when they do vote, understanding how they decide who they'll vote for. And so these questions that I've been asking you are obviously not directly about those kinds of things.

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

But we like to understand sort of the way people think and what their, what their general attitudes are.

Respondent 6:

Well, I-

Interviewer:

So that's what those last several questions are about.

Respondent 6:

Yeah, how you, how many... Is there many people in it to call you up and ask for this?

Interviewer:

Um, about 20 so far.

Respondent 6:

20, why would you go from, uh, California clear out here to Texas for?

Interviewer:

Because if we only talk to people in California or only in one place, then we don't get a very broad sample of the people in the country, because sometimes, people living in different parts of the country have different perspectives. So we wanted to talk to people in different parts of the country to get all different kinds of views, and people of different background.

Respondent 6:

Well, what do you get the most negative attitudes at?

Interviewer:

The most negative about-

Respondent 6:

About your questions?

Interviewer:

Oh, I don't think there's any particular place where there are the most negative attitudes.

Respondent 6:

Is that right?

Interviewer:

I wouldn't say so.

Respondent 6:

Well, you know, I don't know. Is the people on the east... Have you run a ad on the east coast yet?

Interviewer:

Not yet, no.

Respondent 6:

Yeah, so- some of them people are quite nice. It's like any other, Texas, any place else. most these people down here in Texas are friendly people. But there are parts of the country, you know, that, uh, I don't know, uh, they gonna give you some negative atti- attitudes I believe.

Interviewer:

That's certainly does come up when you're doing these kinds of, of, um, interviews. Let me ask you some slightly different questions now.

Respondent 6:

Okay.

Interviewer:

If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 6:

Well, I, I wouldn't want to.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you really need to, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 6:

No. I wouldn't even ask them.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Texas these days?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, they just went down on their price. It was \$2.03 yesterday. Now, it's \$1.99 9/10 up here in this area.

Interviewer:

That's around where you live?

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 6:

Uh, probably, uh, 40, 50 miles.

Interviewer:

How many days would you drive an automobile in a typical week?

Respondent 6:

Probably about, maybe six.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in the saying six days?

Respondent 6:

What do I think about? You mean driving a car?

Interviewer:

Well, in coming up with the answer of six days?

Respondent 6:

Well, that's normal. It's, it's the truth. I drive about six days.

Interviewer:

Oh, I'm not questioning that it's true. I'm just wondering how do you think of that answer? Do you think about one particular day of the week when you don't drive, or do you think about each day in succession in the week, in the last week, and notice one that you didn't drive, or what, what do you think about there?

Respondent 6:

Most times, Sunday. See, I go to church. That's down there about two blocks from where I live at. That's why I don't drive on Sunday, but I, I might go to small town of [REDACTED NAME], which is about 10 miles away, five, seven miles from where I live at to get something to eat, then I'm back home. So really it's basically, I say six, but it might be seven sometimes at times.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 6:

Oh, quite often, because it just come down from about \$2.89, \$2.90 a gallon here in the past month. So I know, I pretty well notice that every day or every other day.

Interviewer:

How would you phrase that question in your own words if I ask during a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 6:

Well, the price of gasoline is, uh, my observance at the gas pump, uh, driving by the gas pumps and seeing the price on the, uh, what the price is.

Interviewer:

And could you say the number of times that you notice the price of gasoline in your area in a typical week?

Respondent 6:

Maybe about three or four times.

Interviewer:

Three or four?

Respondent 6:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

During August, about what percent of all the adults living in Texas do you think were not employed at any job and were looking for work?

Respondent 6:

How many people in the state of Texas? Oh, probably about, well they claim it's about six percent unemployment in the state of Texas. So what, we got a population here of, what, 20 million.

Interviewer:

The percent is, is what I'm asking about.

Respondent 6:

The percentage.

Interviewer:

You said six percent?

Respondent 6:

I believe six, seven percent.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

Out of 20 million.

Interviewer:

And what were you thinking about to remember six percent?

Respondent 6:

Well, that's typical what I believe what I read in the paper-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

... about the unemployment.

Interviewer:

Okay. About your religious beliefs, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim or something else, or are you not religious?

Respondent 6:

I'm Christian.

Interviewer:

Okay. And I remember you said that before. I just need to read the questions as they are here. These next few questions are about religion. Do you believe that Jesus Christ was the son of God, or do you believe that Jesus Christ was not the son of God?

Respondent 6:

I believe that Jesus Christ is the son of God.

Interviewer:

How would you rephrase that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

I would say that God sent a savior, uh, to save the world. And, uh, like, one man's sin, Adam, or yeah, Adam, by listening to the devil gave that right up, uh, when Eve ate the forbidden fruit. Like one man's sin caused the ear- the whole world to be sinners. And Christ, uh, came to save the world by his sacrifice on the cross.

Interviewer:

I noticed that when I asked if you believe that Jesus Christ was the son of God, you answered by saying you believe he is the son of God.

Respondent 6:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Is that right?

Respondent 6:

That is correct.

Interviewer:

Do you th-... Is it better to say is than was?

Respondent 6:

He is.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is this belief to you personally? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

Extremely important.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that it's extremely important?

Respondent 6:

That's the only way you can make it to heaven is through Christ. It says in the Bible that no man comes to the father except through me, Jesus. It's a word.

Interviewer:

Do you believe that during holy communion, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants, or do you believe that that does not happen?

Respondent 6:

Well, I believe that, uh, it's, uh, symbolic. You know, uh, you, you say, um, I'm thinking it's the actual body that they're eating?

Interviewer:

Do you believe that during holy communion, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants, or do you believe that that does not happen?

Respondent 6:

Well, it's symbolic. Uh, when you take, um, the bread and drink the wine, it's in remembrance, uh, to him.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say yes or no to that question?

Respondent 6:

Well, I'll say that, uh, just what I said. It's symbolic. Yes, it's symbolic.

Interviewer:

Okay. When I refer to holy communion, what do you think of?

Respondent 6:

Holy communion. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Could you put that in different words?

Respondent 6:

Holy communion. Uh, holy communion. What do you mean by holy communion, now?

Interviewer:

Well, that's really what I'm asking you, if you, if, what it means to you.

Respondent 6:

Holy communion. Well, holy communion, uh, holy communion. Is it... Holy communion. I'm not quite sure about that holy communion. Uh-

Interviewer:

Okay. But when I refer, when I say during holy communion, the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus Christ for the participants, does that make sense to you?

Respondent 6:

Yeah. It, it's, uh, it's, uh, symbolic, though. You know, uh, on this holy communion, uh, it's, uh, it's, uh, it's important. It's, uh, in remembrance you know what he done.

Interviewer:

Well, that's my next question. How important is this belief to you personally? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, extremely important.

Interviewer:

And why do you say that it's extremely important?

Respondent 6:

Because you're remembering, uh, what he'd done at the cross.

Interviewer:

Okay. Have there been times in your life when you tried to be a good Christian, or is that not something you have tried to do?

Respondent 6:

Well, I, I've tried, you know, to do my best. But then it's not me, it's nothing you know I can do. I'm counting on, uh, Christ and his perfect will, which was the father's. He says, "Father, not my will, but your will be done." And, uh, when they, the night before he went to the cross, it's not my will but God's will, you know? He suffered, uh, horribly, and, uh, had to go through all kinds of, of torture for, uh, save mankind. It's, uh, it's important.

So what I'm saying is there's nothing I can do, but I'm looking for, uh, my faith. Faith is what you g- what saves you. There's nothing that you can do, you just gotta confess your sins and say, "Christ, uh, I take you as my Lord and savior, and then, uh, I'm a sinner, and I'm looking to you as a perfect example."

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

I'm gonna ask you a question.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

What denomination are you?

Interviewer:

what denomination am I?

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Well, maybe we could talk about at the end this, at the, of these questions in a few minutes.

Respondent 6:

Okay. Yeah.

Interviewer:

So would you say yes, there have been times when you tried to be a good Christian, or would is that not something you have tried to do?

Respondent 6:

Yean, I've tried to be a good Christian.

Interviewer:

When you have tried to be a good Christian, which did you try to do more, avoid doing sinful things yourself, or help other people?

Respondent 6:

Uh, when I try to be a better Christian, try to help other people, or what now?

Interviewer:

Which did you try to do more, avoid doing sinful things yourself, or help other people?

Respondent 6:

I guess, uh, both of them. I tried to avoid, you know, sin, and I try to help people.

Interviewer:

Is there one that you tried to do more?

Respondent 6:

No. It's about equal I guess.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you, what do you think of when I talk about helping other people? How would you put that in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Well, somebody's less fortunate than yourself, maybe a glass of cold water. You did to the least of these, you done it for me.

Interviewer:

What about avoiding doing sinful things? How would you put that in your own words?

Respondent 6:

That's something that you've got control over, and you got to pray about it and say, "Lord, uh, I'm facing a temptation," and, uh, just like the Lord's Prayer, lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. You've got to pray about that.

Interviewer:

Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible, or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 6:

Uh, repeat that one more time.

Interviewer:

Which do you think is more important for Christianity to do, to encourage people to follow God's laws as described in the Bible, or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 6:

Well, main think, you know, is that you obey God.

Interviewer:

Is one of those closer to your view, to follow God's laws as described in the Bible, or to encourage people to avoid doing sinful things so they are able to help others?

Respondent 6:

Well, you can't do one without the other. You got to follow God's law, and then you, you got to, uh, same token, you've got, got to encourage other people. So, uh, the main thing is follow God's law, and then you can, is, uh, and then you tell people, uh, encourage people, then.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you believe that God gave people the responsibility to protect the natural environment, or that God gave people the right to use the environment however they choose, even if doing so does not protect the environment?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I believe that he, uh, he got laws, you know? We messed up the environment, but that's 'cause we didn't follow God's laws.

Interviewer:

So is it closer to your view that God gave people the responsibility to protect the natural environment, or that God gave people the right to use the environment however they choose, even if doing so does not protect the environment?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, it's God's, uh, perfect law that we, uh, use it, you know, uh, to protect the environment.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, it's very important.

Interviewer:

Would you say your religion provides some guidance in your day-to-day living, quite a bit of guidance, or a great deal of guidance in your day-to-day living?

Respondent 6:

A great deal of, uh, providing a light through a dark world. He is the light.

Interviewer:

He is the light?

Respondent 6:

He is the light that shows man how to avoid the pitfalls of darkness.

Interviewer:

When I say guidance, is that what you're thinking of?

Respondent 6:

Guidance, uh, yeah, that's, it's, uh, that's... The guidance, you, you got to follow God's law, that's guidance. If you follow God's laws, you can't go wrong. That's, it, it's guidance.

Interviewer:

Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services, even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals?

Respondent 6:

Do I ever, uh, miss them?

Interviewer:

Do you ever attend them?

Respondent 6:

Do I attend them? Yeah, I attend them.

Interviewer:

Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, yeah I go every Sunday.

Interviewer:

Would you say you go to religious services once a week, or more than once a week?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, w- uh, maybe twice a week.

Interviewer:

So would you say more often than once a week?

Respondent 6:

Yes, uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I'm optimistic.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Well, the, you know, the Israel, we gonna fix to go through what they call a seven-year rapture, see? That's when the Christians are gonna be taken out of this world, and Israel is the center of, uh, religious history. And, uh, the antichrist, which is in, uh, let's see, not Ezekiel, but, uh, Daniel chapter 11, verse 37. He has no regard for women, so that means he's a homosexual.

And, uh, uh, then, uh, Peter talks about the homosexual women giving themselves over to unnatural, uh, one woman for another woman, and man for another man. Other words, God says that they're, uh, abomination to him, and, uh, Israel, Israel was the God's chosen people, and, uh, course, they sin just like Christian people sin. And I Samuel talks, they only had about few good kings, you know, like King David, King Solomon. Most them kings were wicked. As far, uh, the Christian people nowadays to follow the Old Testament, uh, lessons and, and the Old Testament. And, uh, Israel, he said he would scatter them, then he'd bring them back, which he has in 1948. And, uh, Israel is the key to everything. In fact, Russia after the seven-year, uh, tribulation, uh, is going to invade Israel, or Israel, and then, uh, Solomon, I mean in, uh, Iraq and, uh, let's see, Iran, a few one of them countries are going to side with Russia. She's gonna be destroyed. And then they, uh, gonna be 144,000 Jews preaching that Christ is the savior. And, uh, the first three and a half years, they gonna have it made, and then after that, the antichrist is gonna sit in the, uh, domina- gonna sit in their temple and, uh, claim he's God, blaspheme the Holy Spirit, God, uh, and talk about, uh, uh, he's the God, which he's not.

And then after the seven years of tribulation, the China and the rest the countries of the world is gonna come up against Israel, and, uh, China's gonna be destroyed by God himself, by Christ. And then that's when we get 1,000 year, uh, rule by Jesus Christ on this earth.

Interviewer:

So that makes you feel optimistic about the future?

Respondent 6:

Sure.

Interviewer:

Would you say that you're extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic, or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 6:

Extremely optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 6:

You didn't know about that Daniel. I mean, that Daniel verse 11 chapter, uh, verse 11, verse 37, did you?

Interviewer:

Um, I have heard... I didn't... No, no that specific. Um, not that specific section.

Respondent 6:

Well, read it for yourself. What'd I say?

Interviewer:

When you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 6:

Well, I'm neither optimistic or pessimistic. Uh, I'm not sure about, you know, how this country would survive. This antichrist is, they claim, you know, he's gonna rule the world, but I believe he's gonna rule that region where it was ruled, uh, uh, these, this giant that, uh, Daniel, seen. It's the Mediterranean area. I don't believe he's gonna rule the whole world.

Interviewer:

I see. So do you lean toward being optimistic, lean toward being pessimistic, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

When I say optimistic and pessimistic, what do those words make you think of?

Respondent 6:

Optimistic is like a, the guy with a glass of water.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 6:

If it's ha- if it's half full, optimistic, you claim that you, you've got a glass of water if it's half full. And the pessimistic claims it's half empty.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Okay. When you think... Oh, I'm sorry. That's not the right question. These next questions ask about people you talk with. People sometimes talk about important things with other people. Thinking back over the last six months, did you talk about things that were important to you with someone, or did you not do this with anyone during that time?

Respondent 6:

What was important to me did I talk about last six months.

Interviewer:

Did you talk with anyone about things that were important to you during the past six months?

Respondent 6:

No, I guess I didn't.

Interviewer:

Okay. And could you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, if anything was important to me the last six months, did I discuss it with anyone, which I didn't.

Interviewer:

Okay. How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 6:

Well, I'm very interested. I-

Interviewer:

Are you extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, or not interested at all?

Respondent 6:

Well, I'm, I say I was very interested in it.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you phrase that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Uh, the answers to the government, what does it pertain to me? I vote and, uh, what they do. I vote, I'm not, uh, necessarily a republican or a democrat. I'm for a God-fearing man.

Interviewer:

Okay. How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 6:

Well, I, you know, politicians, most of them's lawyers at one time. Uh, nowadays, they're lawyers and, uh, they're greedy. And they look after themselves. Uh, they're not... I don't feel like a politician really cares about the common people, not all of them, but most of them. They don't care about what I, my opinion and, uh, the only way you... You can't nail them down, they slick. They'll give you a slick answer, you know?

Interviewer:

Okay. I hear what you're saying. Let me ask you if I can read this question to you and have you restate the question in different words. How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 6:

Yeah. My, uh, what do I think is going on in with the government and, uh, how important is it to me? Uh, their decisions is, is very important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 6:

Most of the time.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind when saying that you pay attention most of the time?

Respondent 6:

Well, it's, actually, you know, if you put, put them a stock in newspapers or televisions, uh, that's where I get my information at, you know? But I realize that, uh, people in the news, they always don't, uh... I'm not saying that they, they're lying, but I don't believe they're telling us all we need to know.

Interviewer:

Okay. You might have favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government and Washington, or you might have unfavorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government and Washington, or you might have some of each. I would like to ask you first about any favorable thoughts and feelings you might have about the federal government and Washington. Then in a moment, I'll ask you some separate questions about any unfavorable thoughts and feelings you might have. First, do you have any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government and Washington, or do you not have any?

Respondent 6:

Well, I did at one time. You know, I, uh, President Bush claims that, uh, he's a man of prayer, you know? And I don't doubt that, but then since we've been to Iraq, uh, I've kinda changed my mind about him. I don't believe he really listens to anybody. In fact, I think he, as far as he concerned, the whole world's crazy and people in the United States crazy. So I had a, a positive attitude. I voted for him, but I don't believe he listens to nobody. So, uh, uh, the Supreme Court, I'm not too sure about them yet. Uh, and

Congress and Senate, uh, I believe, you know, each one of them tries to, uh, pork barrel their own states, and we got too many people up here, and of course, I'm giving a negative now, but, uh, they all got lobbyists.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 6:

And the lobbyists is the ones that rule Congress.

Interviewer:

I'd like to ask you about unfavorable thoughts or feelings in just a moment. But first, do you have any favorable, any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government and Washington?

Respondent 6:

Well, you know, this country, United States is a great country to be born in. And do, you know, you can make money here, and it's a great country as far as, you know, a person trying to better themselves, and, uh, that's, uh, I guess it's our government has provided that. You know, uh, the opportunity, you know, to succeed in this country.

Interviewer:

Okay. How favorable are your favorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government and Washington? Extremely favorable, very favorable, moderately favorable, or slightly favorable.

Respondent 6:

Yeah, slightly favorable.

Interviewer:

Slightly favorable. And how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 6:

Is, is the government doing enough for the people, and I'm, I don't believe they are.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you have any unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government and Washington, or do you not have any?

Respondent 6:

Well, I've got unfavorable feelings. Uh, this, uh, Mexican border, you know. Of course, they're putting up a fence where they can't come across now. I married a woman from Mexico, and I got her to become a citizen of the United States. So I'm not prejudice. Of course, they're building a fence, you know, the p... These, uh, Gringos, uh, they don't necessarily, they're all computer now, see? They, you can't hardly find a Gringo that's gonna work, and the Mexican people will work, and the people up here, you know,

there's about 10 million of them, and, uh, I wished that they'd have some kind of, uh, uh, some kind of where they get a pass and stay up here and work. Yeah, that's one thing.

Of course, this, is, that sounds positive. Uh, then there's so many other negative things, uh, let's see.

Interviewer:

Okay, well you've said that you, you do have some unfavorable thoughts or feelings.

Respondent 6:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

How unfavorable are your unfavorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government and Washington? Extremely unfavorable, very unfavorable, moderately unfavorable, or slightly unfavorable?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, I guess slightly, moderate or very unfavorable. I guess, uh, I don't have too much hope in them.

Interviewer:

So would you say extremely unfavorable, very unfavorable, moderately unfavorable, or slightly unfavorable?

Respondent 6:

I say extremely unfavorable.

Interviewer:

And what kinds of things make you say extremely unfavorable?

Respondent 6:

Well, uh, let's see, it's, uh, one reason the lobbyists, the lobbyists and the congress and the senate is got too much pressure, too much temptation for these, these lawyers to make their decisions for businesses, which they, you know, most lobbyists, what's what they got money for is to have these laws passed for their benefit.

Interviewer:

Okay. How conflicted do you feel about the federal government and Washington? Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted, or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 6:

Well, by conflicted, what do by- mean by that, now?

Interviewer:

I was going to ask you what the word conflicted makes you think of.

Respondent 6:

Well, it's, uh, it's a conflict. It's conflict.

Interviewer:

And what does it make you think of if I ask how conflicted do you feel?

Respondent 6:

Well, um, yeah, I guess, uh, I guess moderately. Of course, I said moderately conflicted, that's what I'll say.

Interviewer:

Okay. Could you restate that question in your own words-

Respondent 6:

Uh-

Interviewer:

... how, how conflicted do you feel about the federal government and Washington?

Respondent 6:

Yeah, the federal government and Washington. Uh, other words, they're not, I'm not sure they're for my benefit, or I can't say that, uh-

Interviewer:

Could you phrase it as a question using different words?

Respondent 6:

Well, could I phrase it as a question?

Interviewer:

Instead of saying how conflicted do you feel about the federal and Washington, could you put that question using different words, or ju-

Respondent 6:

Uh-

Interviewer:

... or just tell me what being conflicted, feeling conflicted about the federal government means to you.

Respondent 6:

Uh, what does conflicted mean to, about the federal government to me? Do I believe that they're acting my best interest? Uh, I don't believe they are.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 6:

Well, that there is basically... Conflicted, that's what I, I think is... I don't believe they're after my best interest. I didn't know, not only [inaudible 01:20:12] in DC, but state of Texas.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay, well we've done a little more than an hour now. So I want to thank you for your help. It's very useful to be able to get this kind of help in, um, putting the questionnaire together. I'm gonna stop the tape now, and I will get some information from you so that I can send you a check.

Interview 7

Interviewer:

Okay, I started the tape.

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay?

Respondent 7:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. And do you have any other questions before we get started?

Respondent 7:

I don't think so.

Interviewer:

Okay. How much would you say the work and decisions of the president of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? How... A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 7:

Okay. How do I think that, uh, Mr. Bush's decisions, uh, affect the, the country that, and the way that we're living right now? Um, let's see. Well, he obviously, you know, he, he generates a lot of discussion, um, am- among the, uh, the media, and the media takes that, and we, you know, we obviously discuss politics based on what the media reports. We don't necessarily listen to everything that he says or, you know, pay attention to CNN all the time. So basically, what he says affects the, the topics, subjects that the media picks up, in my opinion. Um, and therefore, we talk to our senators and our congressmen about that. Um, and then they decide, uh, based on our feedback, hopefully, um, whether or not they enact something or make something into law. So I think he somewhat does. I, I believe that was one of the choices. Um, could you repeat those-

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 7:

... choices again?

Interviewer:

A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 7:

I would say a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how much can members of the US Congress affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 7:

How do congressmen and their decision... How do congressmen's decisions, uh, affect our, uh... Could you repeat the question? Our-

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the US Congress affect what happens in the United States?

Respondent 7:

Affect what happens. Uh, how can, how much... Uh, let's see. Can, can Congress, can members of Congress affe- um, change or have a great, um... I don't want to use the word affect again. Um, can members of Congress really, uh, do a lot, uh, to change, uh, the way that we live? Um, I think that they, you know, as I stated when I was thinking about the last question, that they, they, um, hopefully get the feedback from, from the public, and hopefully they, uh, um, they make decisions based on that. Of course, some of them will, will not necessarily get as much opinion. They'll just take what they believe our opinion is to be.

Um, but overall, they have more power than the president, um, in that regard, because they are the ones that sign, that, that decide whether a bill's gonna be passed. Of course, the president has to sign off on it later, unless there's, I believe, is it three-quarters or two-thirds of the majority. Um, so I, I believe that, um, it's the, uh, the B answer, which is, uh-

Interviewer:

A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount-

Respondent 7:

A lot.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

[crosstalk 00:04:27]. Yep.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the president of the United States can affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 7:

Does Mr. Bush affect my daily life, my, my everyday life? Um, no. Basically, uh, you know, he, he's, he's, he's great fodder for comedy. Um, he, um, sure, he gives us things to talk about, you know, over the lunch table or at dinner or when we get together with friends, um, but him personally affecting my life, very little.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would you say a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 7:

Personal life, hm. I would actually say not at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how much can members of the US Congress affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 7:

How do congressmen and women change my own personal life daily? Uh, I would say a little. Their laws do affect us. You know, when they enact the seatbelt law and I s- you know, if I break the law, you know, it's because they passed it, so I would say a little, definitely.

Interviewer:

I'd like to read you a few statements about public life. I'll read them one at a time, and please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each of them. Public officials don't care much what people like me think. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 7:

Can you repeat the question again?

Interviewer:

Public officials don't care much what people like me think.

Respondent 7:

Okay. Um, elected officials, um, presuming in my area, in my town, city, state, um, don't c- uh, don't, don't care what, what happens to me or what I think. Um, I disagree, uh, somewhat.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you repeated the question, you said, "What I think." What kinds of things come to mind-

Respondent 7:

Sure.

Interviewer:

... about the word think?

Respondent 7:

Um, well, obviously th- they care about, about, you know, people in their community. I mean, um, if they're genuine people at all and people vote for them for being genuine, hopefully, and, um, they care about their community, and their, obviously their, their family and their friends live in their community, uh, so, or at least many of their friends and family probably live in their community, so they care about those people, and thus they care about their families, which somewhere along the line, you know, we come in in their communities. So I, I definitely think that they, they care about, about us, me if I was in that community. And, um, I think that they sometimes look at bigger picture, which doesn't necessarily include me all the time, so that's why I don't disagree completely.

Interviewer:

People like me don't have any say about what the government does. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 7:

Okay, I, I don't have a say in what the government... Wait, could you repeat the question again?

Interviewer:

People like me don't have any say about what the government does.

Respondent 7:

Okay. Um, I don't get to choose what the government will not do. Um, I, I'm just one citizen of the US. I guess I do have a vote, I do have a say, um, technically. But, um, in reality, um, it, it all depends on, on my activity within, within politics. You know, if I choose to talk to other people about what bothers me, then, then I get to, you know, hopefully move other people to, to see my point of view or agree with me, and thus, I could start a rally, um, of people or a group, so I could have more impact.

Um, me myself as I am right now, I would think that I would agree, because I really, I, I'm not one of those people that generally, um, you know, gathers other people together. So me myself, you know, I've thought about writing a congressman or congresswoman, but I have not, um, so right now, no. Uh, I think that I would agree with that statement, that I do not have very much power the way that I have been living my life right now.

Interviewer:

Would you agree strongly or agree somewhat, or neither agree nor disagree?

Respondent 7:

I would agree strongly right now.

Interviewer:

Okay. On a scale from zero to 100, what percent of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to make decisions in a fair way?

Respondent 7:

What percentage of the time do I think that, that the US government, that my, my government can, can be trusted to be fair? Um, I think... Hm. Dealing with all the sc- all the scandals that have happened lately that are being covered, with all the phone tapping in, and, uh, in all the prisons in, throughout Europe and throughout the world... Uh, be fair. Hm. It's hard to say that they're fair to all these people that they suspect of terrorism. Um, so let's see. How... If I, if I'm thinking of, you know, acting fairly to, to me, or fairly to, to what the, the entire population... Uh, I don't believe it was specific in the question. Um, I would say... Wow. Do I think the US government's fair? What's, what's fair? You know?

Fair to whom? Fair to the world? Fair to me? Um... Yeah, 50%, that's, that's not very good. Uh, that's, that's only, you know, 50/50. I, I don't know if that's my answer. Um, you know, I'd hope that they would be more than 50% fair. 75 might be giving them too much credit. I don't really know [inaudible 00:13:21] to say, but, you know, maybe 60%, 65. Um, 65. I'll give them a little bit more credit.

Interviewer:

What does it mean to you to make decisions in a fair way? What kinds of decisions would those be?

Respondent 7:

Okay. Decisions to me... What does it mean to make decisions in a fair way? Say that differently. What does it mean to make decisions in a fair way? Um...

Interviewer:

Does anything come to mind when you think of-

Respondent 7:

I'm trying to restate the question.

Interviewer:

... fair decisions?

Respondent 7:

(laughs)

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 7:

Um...

Interviewer:

Take your time.

Respondent 7:

What does it mean to make decisions in a fair way? Uh, I would say... Huh. How do we decide, you know, what's right for both parties involved? What's just? Um, wow, that's, that's tough. It all depends on the perspective most of the time. Um, some- sometimes you, uh, you have to look and see, you

know, was, was somebody wrong in an event? And, uh, if so, you know, do they require justice, and what kind of justice should there be? What kind of retaliation should there be? Um, what's fair? You know, our morals are different than other morals in the world.

Uh, you got, you know, Christianity and their morals, and you got o- other religions that, that come into play with morals and what's right and what's just, what's fair. Um, it's tough. It, you're never always gonna be right. Uh, I think you have to go with what the general census of the population feels, and if it's our country, then you have to feel what, what the general population wants. Um, of course then you've got a minority that, that you are, you know, probably unjust to, and you have to think that, you know, are you f- you have to go back to our constitution, and as long as you're not, uh, withholding constitutional rights from a certain group.

Um, and you also have to look at, at, uh, whether or not there are, um, you know, basic equality issues. You still have to keep... You have people... Just because the, let's say the m- majority of, of Americans are, are Caucasian doesn't mean you, you make everything, uh, all your decisions based on what Caucasian Americans say. You have to be equal and, uh, and I want to say justified, but, j- or have... I want to say the same, same things, j- you know. You have to find justice. You have to be, um... You have to use the same rules for all, all the people.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

You don't have to give, give some people special allowances, um, just because they're Christian or white or, um... The Spanish-speaking population's growing, so eventually they're gonna be stronger numbers than English-speaking Americans now. You, you can foresee that in the next 20, 30 years. So it's, you know, it's, it's hard to decide what's, what's right, what's just.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's helpful. What percent of the time do you think you can trust the government in California to make decisions in a fair way?

Respondent 7:

Um, what percentage... Let's see. What percentage of the time do I think that I can trust Califor- the government in California to make decisions in a fair way? How do I rephrase that? Um, what percentage of the time can I trust California's government to be fair? Percentage of the time can I trust members of our government, of our state government to be equal and just?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 7:

Um, to be honest, I haven't lived here that long. I, I've read a lot about the, uh, political difficulties of California in the newspaper, um, in the nationwide newspapers before living here. And since living here, you know, I've, I've been aware of, of some of the issues. Um, you know, what's... It comes back to the same question. What's just? Um, you know, obviously we have electr- electricity problems out here, which is, which is a major problem. We have problems with, you know, deciding if we're going to, um,

accept migrants from, from Mexico, since we're right on the border, um, and, and, um, if we're gonna send illegal aliens back, if we're going to, uh, allow them to get financial aid for schools, if we're gonna allow them to, uh, to be in our hospitals and then the government pick up the bill.

You know, is that fair to, to those of us that pay taxes? Um, is that fair to people that are sick and hurt that may not be legal residents? Um, you know, you've got, you know, how much can you trust the government as it is? You know, you have a governor that, that maybe was elected because he's popular, but not necessarily because he's competent. Um, you know, we'll see if he gets reelected. Um, hm. So I have to pick a percentage now, based on my experience and my knowledge, that I think that they're just and fair. I, I would have to just split it down the middle, 50%, 'cause I don't know.

Interviewer:

Okay. What percent of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is best for the country?

Respondent 7:

Is that a percentage question again? Sorry, [inaudible 00:21:43].

Interviewer:

What percent of the time-

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is best-

Respondent 7:

To do what is best-

Interviewer:

... for the country?

Respondent 7:

... for the country. Okay. What percent of the time do I, do I think that I can trust US government, US government in Washington, D.C. to do, to do what's in the best interest of our nation? Um, well, I have to trust them. It's, it's almost like, you know, you have faith. You have to have faith in people. Uh, otherwise you, uh... I don't know. It's a sorry, sorry state we're living in if you don't trust anyone, and you don't trust the majority of the people to elect these officials.

Um, now, there's always a bad seed here and there, and that's probably inevitable. Um, but I would say that the majority of the time, that I trust them to do what's best for us as a nation. So I would have to pick a percentage, um, high- higher than, than those that I've said for the other questions. Um, for some reason I feel strongly about, about, um... I have a lot of faith, I should say, in, in Washington. And, um, while I know that they don't affect me personally, you know, what's best for the nation, I would say 70... I would say 70%.

Interviewer:

What percent of the time do you think you can trust the government in California to do what is best for California?

Respondent 7:

What percentage of the time can I trust-

Respondent 7:

I trust... the government officials in this state to do its best, do what's- what's in the, uh... do what's in the best interest for the- the state. To do what's- what's in, um... what's gonna be the greatest options, the greatest possibilities, the greatest choices.

Um, again, I don't... I can't say that I know a lot of the- the state or- or, um... major congresspeople, um, in our- in our state, like it's... legislature, like it's [inaudible 00:24:52], (laughs). Our government, (laughs). [inaudible 00:25:01], like, I don't know.

Um, I- I don't know, but, you know, my last answer was 50% about trusting and, um, to do what's best for- for the state. I mean, they have to know. They- they've lived here longer than- than me, hopefully. And, um, the people that work for them have lived here, um, most likely longer than I have. So I have to trust the people that voted for them, most of them. Um, so I'll say- I'll say the same. I'll say 70%.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you say "trust," what does trust make you think of?

Respondent 7:

Trust, what is trust? Let's see. What do I think of when I hear the word trust? And in relation to... politics? That's kind of what I'm thinking of since we're on the same line.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 7:

I don't think it's a separate question, um, about the word trust itself. So, trust in politics, I would think you have to look at track record, you have to look at, you know, are they open to change? Are they willing to see the other side? Have they done the research? Are they not just looking at it from their perspective? Have they looked at it from the, you know, the people that don't live in their district? Are they looking at, you know, if they're national politics... you know, a Nevada congressman is looking it also from the congressman's from Maine perspective.

Their job is- is of course to represent their state, but also make decisions that are best for the nation. So trust is- is- is really a lot about- about core values, you know. And I'm not talking about, you know, Christian values, per se, or- or- or whatever. I'm talking about, you know, are they genuine- genuinely a good person? And do they- do they make decisions, um... They of course have to make decisions, hopefully, like as to whether they make decisions based on their own conscious, conscience, or they make decisions just based on their population.

I would trust someone who- who has very good reasons why they voted for or against something. Um, they need plausible answers to questions. They need to be held responsible for their decisions and back them up. And, uh, you know change their minds, unless there's new information that's causing the change in minds. You know, they can't be wishy-washy. They're either, you know, for... Well they- they can be, um... Let's see, I'm not talking about trust anymore. I'm really talking about, uh, politics. But, um...

Trust is- is all about... It's a little bit about faith. It's a little bit about, uh, history. And, uh... yeah. That's my answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you watch or read news on the internet?

Respondent 7:

During the last week, how many times have I- have I looked at the news or read the news or, uh, watched the news online? Um, I would say, let's see... I- I usually get a daily, uh, newspaper, um, link sent by email from NBC News, I believe. Um, and I usually open it up and read the stories most days of the week. So I would say, five days out of the week, um, that I actually do that. And do I do any others? Usually not. So I'd say generally about five days a week I at least do some- some news research.

Interviewer:

On a typical day, when you watched or read news on the internet, about how much time did you spend watching or reading news on the internet?

Respondent 7:

Okay, in my average- my average day, how much time do I spend online, um, for that day, doing, um... looking at news or- or watching or reading articles or, uh, or watching online news reports? Um, I would say, you know, based on my five-days-a-week estimate, um... I take that, you know... So I would say on one of those days, if I read it, I glance at the- at the, uh, titles, might open up a couple pages and read the articles. Um, I would generally- generally say my average per day, taking into account that two days a week, I might not do that... um... I would say probably two minutes.

Interviewer:

Two minutes? During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you read a newspaper?

Respondent 7:

Can you re- can you re-say it, or restate the question? Or repeat the question?

Interviewer:

During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you read a newspaper?

Respondent 7:

Okay. In the last year, um, during any normal week, um, how much time did I read the newspaper, did I spend reading the newspaper? Um... very, very little. I- I don't subscribe to newspapers. Um, typical, uh,

general newspapers, uh, online newspapers, that's... I'm considering that's something different. Um... newspapers in general I would say zero times.

Interviewer:

During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you watch news on TV?

Respondent 7:

Okay. Uh, during the past year, uh, if you took a- a normal week, uh, how much did I watch the news on the TV? Um, I would say, you know, I sometimes catch the news, but rarely. Uh, I TiVo just about everything. Uh, so I don't TiVo- TiVo the news. If I happen to turn on the TV, um, and catch the news, it's by chance. So how much time? I would say, you know, in a week at the most, five minutes.

Interviewer:

And how many days in a typical week?

Respondent 7:

How many days in a typical week would I watch the news, uh, on- on- on the TV? I would say in a typical week, zero.

Interviewer:

During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you listen to news on the radio?

Respondent 7:

Uh, in the past year, uh... typical week? Um, how many- how many days would I have listened to, uh, news on the- on the radio? I would say I do that quite a lot. I listen to NPR, uh, most times when I'm in the car, especially when I'm- I'm not with my fiancée. Uh, she doesn't like that. She likes most of the music, uh, the music, uh, channels.

So I would say, in a typical week, um, I try to catch the news like five days a week.

Interviewer:

On a typical day when you listened to the news on the radio, about how much time did you spend listening to news on the radio?

Respondent 7:

Okay. In a typical, um, during my normal day, um, when I do catch the- the news on the radio, uh, how many... how much time do I spend, uh, actually listening to it? Um, I'd say on a typical day, it's probably no more than 15 minutes. I don't commute a lot, very far, so that would be a typical day.

Interviewer:

15 minutes would be typical?

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

As of today, do you think of yourself as a republican, a democrat, an independent, or what?

Respondent 7:

As of today, do I consider myself republican, democrat, uh, inde- independent or something else? Um... I would have to say that I- that I align myself mostly with- with democrats, uh, but I've never considered myself a democrat. I've never signed up for anything as a democrat. Um, I've tended to believe in their policies in the past, uh, couple presidential elections, which is what I follow more than my local, uh, politics, since I've moved a lot in the past few years.

Um, so I would... Generally, I thought of myself as not having a political party. Just judging based on what candidates said, um, and what they believed in, and looking at their past record. Um, I'm hesitant to align myself with any- any group, because then I feel like, um... that I would, that I have to take on what they're mostly fighting for or, uh, uh, what they are trying to- to change. So I would say right now I'm probably an independent.

Interviewer:

Do you think of yourself as closer to the republican or to the democratic party?

Respondent 7:

If I had to pick a party, which part would I be closer to, republican or democrat? Democrat would be my answer based on what I just said before.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Do you think that the amount of money the federal government spends on the US military should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Respondent 7:

Let's see... Should the amount of money that- that, uh, our government spends on our military, uh, be increased, decreased, or stay the same. Uh, I feel that- that we're spending a lot of money because of Iraq and Afghanistan, and um, definitely the Afghanistan part is, uh, justified in my opinion, based on 9/11 and the research that we've uncovered, um, the things that we've uncovered about who's to blame for that.

I don't believe that the Iraqi War was, uh, necessary. Therefore, I think that the spending for that is unnecessary. But now that we're in this quagmire, you know, we can't... You know, it's... You know, the whole question is do we pull out, do we not? You know, so we're talking about the war. It's really a war question more than a spending question.

Um, you know, maybe that's a sly way of getting people's answers about what they believe in for the war. Um, I think in general the spending, uh, is too high. So I- I believe that, um... it's- it's tough, 'cause if you say that I wanna, that I think it should be decreased, then you know, are... then I don't want to hurt the soldiers that are over there. So I'm gonna just say stay the same, because, um, I don't support, um, spending more of my money to support, um, an action that I don't- I don't believe was justified, that was right, that was necessary. Um, especially unilaterally, which is why we have the most-most of the expense.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking it should be increased, lean toward thinking it should be decreased, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 7:

Okay. If I... yeah, if I- if I was close to another side, would I- would I believe that it, you know, could- could be increased... should be, you know, should maybe be increased, should maybe not be, should definitely stay the same? Um, there's so many issues that need money in American, um, and of course the military protects America. But right now, are they protecting America having war-... helping with world stability, which kind of helps America?

Um, I would definitely say, you know, would have to say the same. We definitely shouldn't spend more, but I wouldn't agree to spending less.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if staying pregnant would hurt her health, but is very unlikely to cause her to die?

Respondent 7:

Okay. If a woman is- is pregnant and... let's see. I might change the question if I restate it that way. Um, do I think it should be illegal, legal or illegal for a woman to have a pregnancy based on whether or not she's in, um, she will have medical difficulties, um, based on her having or not having this abortion?

Um... I think I got most of the question in there. Um-

Interviewer:

Would you like me to repeat it?

Respondent 7:

Sure.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if staying pregnant would hurt her health but is very unlikely to cause her to die?

Respondent 7:

Abortion. Should, um... If a- if a pregnant woman is pregnant... or "if a pregnant woman is pregnant"... If a pregnant woman is in... had medical difficulties, should an abortion be legal or illegal? Uh, should an abortion be legal if she is not, uh, going to die without the abortion?

Um, I believe that, you know, the um, the mother's life is very- is very important. And, um, if her- if she's gonna have trouble physically in some way, uh, or have medical problems based on her having this child inside of her, she should, you know, she should definitely have the abortion. Um, and so it should be legal, um, in my opinion.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy, before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 7:

Can you repeat it?

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy, before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 7:

Do I feel if a woman is in pain or has medical problems that it should still be legal, um, during the first three months, um, before the organs have started to develop, um, after six months when the baby has the organs but cannot live outside the mother, or at any time?

Um, let's see, if a woman's health is in danger, even though it's not her life, um, that can be a sticky- sticky issue. If she's just gonna not be able to have children again, is it still okay to have an abortion, you know, in the last trimester? It's a tough question, um, because you know, children that are in the last trimester, you know, if you have an early birth, they can still survive, um, based on medical science nowadays, so... Um, but that's all to the doctors and- and how far along the baby is if they can actually save the baby, and then who pays for those costs? Is it the mother? Is it the government? Somebody adopting that baby?

Um, hmm. Uh, definitely legal in the first three months, I- I believe, definitely. Um, I have to say- say the same definitely within the first six months. Um, the last trimester, that's... or at any time, that's a tough one. That's... Um... You know, who decides what's- what's serious- serious enough, um, troubling the mother's health? You know, does a doctor decide? Does she decide? That's- that's a tough question. I'm not- I'm not quite sure.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if doctors believe that continuing to be pregnant could cause her to die?

Respondent 7:

Do I believe that it should be illegal for a woman to have an abortion when being pregnant itself is detrimental to her health? Um... no. I think it- it should be legal. I don't think... I think that, you know, it's a woman's choice if she wants to get- get pregnant... Or it's not a woman's choice all the time, it sometimes happen-, uh, happenstance. Um, just, uh, be that.

Sometimes you... or oftentimes, you can't decide if you're gonna be pregnant or not, and um, you know, it's- it's her own body, so it's her... you know, I think it's her choice, um, whether or not to, uh, to be pregnant. I guess you can get your tubes tied, and most of the time that- that stops that. Um, so I- I think it should be legal. It should not be illegal.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs have fully formed, only during the first six-

Interviewer:

... has fully formed only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother at any time during the pregnancy.

Respondent 7:

Okay. Do I think that a mother who- a mother, uh, a woman that just by being pregnant endangers her- her health, um, should be able to have an abortion in the first three months? Uh, definitely. Uh, I don't see anything wrong with that and the- and the first six months, um, before the baby can sustain its own- its own, uh, I think that's fine. Uh, in the fi... You know, any time. Um, if being pregnant is detrimental to the woman's health, it's- it's very similar to the previous question a couple times ago but, um, endangering a woman's health but not, uh, causing her death, it's, um, you know, I don't know.

I mean, there are lots of questions- other questions that come up as I stated before about who's gonna take care of the baby if- if the government decides or if somebody decides that they want that baby. Uh, you know? Is... Should, um, adoption- putting the baby up for adoption be required? Should it be then taken care of by the state if the mother doesn't want it? I don't know.

Interviewer:

So you're not sure how to answer that question.

Respondent 7:

Um, I- I definitely think that the first two, um, the first six months within that are- are fine, in my opinion. Last... I'm- I'm struggling with the last trimester.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by sex she chose to have with a blood relative?

Respondent 7:

If a woman has sex with someone she's closely related to, should it still be legal to have an abortion? I think that that's definitely true. It should be true in any case, you know, uh, that, um, and my opinion stays the same. In the first six months, for sure. It's the last three months that- that I question.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me... You- you've anticipated the follow up.

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Let me just read it to you and see how'd you like-

Respondent 7:

Sure.

Interviewer:

... to react. Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason? Only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetuses major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 7:

Should a pregnant woman who, um, should a woman who got pregnant by one of her own, uh, family members, um, be able to, uh, have an abortion within the first- only within the first three months? Um, or within the first- only within the first six months or any time? I- I would have to say, um, if I- if I answer the- the six months for sure. Um, I mean, that's easy. So obviously, not the first answer but the second one. The question- the answer is only. Um, and we're assuming here since it wasn't stated that there are no complications, um, in her pregnancy.

Um, I can't say only. So I- I can't- I can't answer that one because of the word only.

Interviewer:

So would there be some circumstances where it should be legal up to six months and not legal after six months? And other circumstances for this question where it would be okay after six months?

Respondent 7:

Is this a written question that I need to re-state?

Interviewer:

No, this is just-

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... just for exploring.

Respondent 7:

Okay. Um, I think that in- in- in all honesty, I think there should be a program set up. Um, by, I- I guess it would have to be the government to, you know, be willing to accept... Uh, I mean, that's an expensive, expensive project. If- if the government was to take care of babies, um, after six months if a woman decided she wanted it out of her body then they would take care of it as a- as a premature newborn. Uh, that's- that's gotta be millions of dollars that would be used for that.

Um, so I would- I would have to say that definitely, you know, within six months. No stipulations, in my opinion. And that definitely, um, I would have to say after six months that they would

have to show that the pregnancy or giving either... Either having the baby inside them or the birth would cause the mother, um, lasting, uh, medical issues, um, I- I don't wanna just limit it to pain. You know, whatever complications, um, that might arise whether not having children again or- or, you know, pain, obviously. Or...

Um, I guess I'm not quite sure what all the complications are with- with birth. Um, but that being my opinion that there would be some stipulations for after six months.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by her being raped?

Respondent 7:

I think my answer is the same. Um, I'd have to re-state the question at first. Um, should a woman that has been raped and then become pregnant, um, because of that rape, be able to have an abortion? I think that, yes, definitely. She should be able to have an abortion. Uh, but, again, if she chooses to keep the child past six months and there are no physical, uh, complications with her or the baby then she should have the baby if she's waited that long to make that decision. But before six months, I think it's fine.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the fetus will be born with a serious birth defect?

Respondent 7:

Hmm. If a woman is going to have a child with a serious, um, physical or mental disability, um, should it be legal or illegal for her to have an abortion? I think it should be legal for her to have an abortion, um, for the same reason as any other child. Just because, you know, I guess, in my opinion, before six months, um, it's kind of like, you know, I- you- you need to make that choice and whether it's for physical or mental disability or just a general, you know, this isn't the right time in my life, um, I feel like that's okay.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you think it should be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason? Only during the first three months of pregnancy before the fetuses major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 7:

If a woman is pregnant and she knows her child has mental or physical disabilities, should it only be legal during the first three months to have an abortion? During the first six months to have an abortion? Or should it be legal at any time? Barring there are no physical, uh, I guess, we've got physical complications possibly with the child. Um, not based on whether or not she has the child, um, delivered, uh, delivers a child. Um, barring no physical problems with the mother based on the pregnancy, I would say only within the first six months.

Interviewer:

Okay. Is it easier to say only during the first six months on this question than on the earlier question about pregnancy caused by a sex- by sex she chose to have with a blood relative?

Respondent 7:

Was that one up an only question ago?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 7:

I- I- I believe the-

Interviewer:

And- and there-

Respondent 7:

The more that I'm thinking about it, the more that I'm stating it, the more I actually think about the issue.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 7:

And so I think it's the same for both.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

Um, you know, barring no physical complications, um, for the mother based on being pregnant or based on, um, giving birth to a child.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

I- I feel like it's the same. Um, whether, you know, it's a blood relative, a normal pregnancy, or a- a handicapped child.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if she learns that the child will not be the sex she wants it to be?

Respondent 7:

Oh. That's a very good question. Um, should it- should the, um, should it be legal... Let's see. If a woman knows the sex of her child and disagrees. (laughs) Disagrees. And then dislikes the outcome, should it still be legal to have an abortion? Um, I'm not quite sure what they know what, uh, sex of the child is. Um, it's probably before the six month, uh, deadline that we're kind of stating is a general deadline, uh, for some things.

Um, that's a great question, you know, because you got the whole issue in China with- with, uh, with them aborting girls, uh, all the time or, um, preferring at least, you know, they can only have one, uh, two ch-, uh, two children. I can't remember what it is. Or three children. Two must be boys, one must be a girl. They're- they're looking for mostly boys over there. Um, or they have been in the past.

Should it be legal? Um. Hmm. Therefore, you make it illegal if you... If you make it legal, do you make it illegal for them to- to have an abortion if they do base it on- on the gender? Um, thus, if they wanna have an abortion based on that rule, they have to make up another excuse. Um, it sounds like, you know, I- I- I... Honestly, I think it should be okay. I- I think that that- that is okay because, otherwise, you're- you're putting people in a position that they need to make up something or they need to bribe a doctor to say that it has a physical impairment. You know? If they really are set on having this child and- and that child based on its sex, you know, they can be tempted to do other things or, um, make other ways to, um, to get what they want. Whether it be an illegal abortion or, you know, somebody doctoring a document to make the abortion legal based on a different- a different issue.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy, before the fetuses major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 7:

Do I think that because a woman chooses to have an abortion based on what her child's sex is gonna be, um, that it should only be done in the first three months, only in the first six or at any time? I- I feel that, um, based on me thinking about this question, um, in different situations that I have to go with, you know, what I- what I still feel like, which is only within six months as long as there's no complications, um, for the mother or the baby. Um, um, and that, you know, by giving birth or by having a baby.

Interviewer:

Should it legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if having the child would be extremely difficult for her financially?

Respondent 7:

Hmm. Um, if a- if a woman financially cannot afford to have a child, should it be illegal for her to have an abortion? Um, basically, um, I think that it's a woman's decision, you know, first of all, whether she wants to keep the baby or not within the first six months. You know, if she- she wants to hold- have the baby for its full term but can't afford it, she always has a option of- of adoption. Um, so it has to do with what the woman believes is right. You know, she finds herself pregnant.

Um, I don't think it should be illegal. So I think it should be legal within the first six months, which is probably the next question. Um, so I guess that's my answer. It should be legal, um, you know, based- based on any reason. Um, although-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

... I question some of the mor- moral choi- moral, uh, options like whether it's a guy or a girl. Like, I can't- I can't make that decision for somebody else.

Interviewer:

Okay. This next question is about a man who admits he is in favor of terrorism against the United States.

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Suppose he wrote a book that is in your public library. Somebody in your community suggests the book should be removed from the library. Would you favor removing the book or oppose removing the book?

Respondent 7:

Okay. If a man who is in favor of terrorism wrote a book I found out was in my public library, would I be in favor it being removed? Um, well, a public library is just that. It's public. Um, anyone can- can check out a book or read a book from that library. Um, note, this man supports terrorism or believes in- in terrorism. You know, that's- that's his right to believe. I- I believe his right changes once he does something about it. Um, or, um, supports someone who is going to do something about that to hurt other people.

Um, the belief itself, you cannot charge someone just for their beliefs. Um, and his book may not even have anything to do about- with terrorism. Also, therefore, if the book does not have anything to do with it then, of course, it should not be removed, in my opinion. If it does have to do with terrorism, I feel that, um, that if it supports... If the book itself is teaching someone how to be, um, dangerous, um, as far as, um, you know, hurting other people, um, I believe that...

Or if it in- invokes or, um, or promotes violence, um, kill- killing, um, maiming or- or what not, um, that it really... The book itself, obviously, there's free press in the United States. But free press does not cover, um, the library system, in my opinion, that doesn't mean that all- all the libraries have to carry everything that's printed. Um, as a public library, I think you have to do what's best for the public and, therefore, carrying books of a- a nature that- that would be, uh, promoting terrorism or promoting, um, what's not- promoting, uh, hurting people would not be in the best interest of the public.

There, I would be in favor, if it's a book about terrorism, for it to be removed.

Interviewer:

So it really depends on the nature of the book.

Respondent 7:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

Not the author.

Interviewer:

Okay. What percent of the people who are s- suspected of committing a crime in America these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 7:

Okay. Of those people, um, in the United States that are, uh, suspected of- of crimes, what percentage do I feel are- are treated, uh, I don't wanna use... You were saying the word is fair. Treated, um, equally or treated, um, uh, it's just, uh... Um, treated correctly by the, uh, the police and treated, I wanna say fairly. That's a good word. Um, if you're c- if you're, um... Let's see.

If you're suspected of a crime, the police are obviously, you know, there's a chance that you're guilty, there's a chance that you're not. Um, how fair do I feel that police are being, um, to those that they suspect are guilty? Uh, 'cause if they didn't suspect they were guilty, then they wouldn't be a suspect. Um, I feel that, you know, they're... You- you talk about profiling. That, you know, not- not only police do but the general public does depending on race, class, um, where you might be in a certain city, um, plays a big part to, uh, how we perceive, um, you know, safety and- and people being- being able to be trusted.

You know? You think... But sometimes in lower income places that people shouldn't be trusted as much but that's not necessarily true. Um, just because people are outside on a hot summer night doesn't mean that they can't be trusted. It just means that they can't afford air conditioning. Um, but how the police... Uh, how fair are police?

Um, percentage wise, I feel- feel like they're more than 50 percent. I feel that, you know, that they are generally good people that wanna do the right thing and, therefore, they don't wanna be accused of things and they wanna be given the right, you know, not guilty until proven. Innocent until proven guilty. So I would have to say that 70 percent of the time, I feel that they're fair.

Interviewer:

What percent of the white people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 7:

What percentage of Caucasian Americans are treated, uh, fairly by the police? Uh, I think that they, um, generally, probably treat them more fairly than African Americans, which is probably be in a following question. Um, that I would have to say 85 percent. I think it's higher than 75. I had to go with 85.

PART 3 OF 4 ENDS [01:12:04]

Respondent 7:

[inaudible 01:12:00] I think I'd have to go with 85.

Interviewer:

What percent of the Black people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 7:

I think what, what percentage of African American population, because of course you can't say, you know, Black isn't necessarily correct. I mean, because you, you got Africans, you got African Americans, you got, somehow African American is more popular term. Um, but the Afri- African American population are treated fairly, uh, by our, our police force. Um, you know, unfortunately the racial pro- profiling, we have sta- statis- statistics of that, that state that, you know, African Americans, especially in lower income situations are more likely to commit crimes based on probably their upbringing and their surroundings but, you know, I can't, I, I got to have, I have to follow what I read and what I understand that it's probably not as high as 85% as I would say for Caucasian Americans. I would have to say, you know, can I go higher than the 70% I said for in general, I don't know. Um, I'll have to say 70. I'll have to stay with that, what I said before.

Interviewer:

What percent of the poor people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 7:

What percentage of poor people are... Let's see. What percentage of low income uh, percentage of people that uh, have low income are treated and uh, suspected of crimes, treated justly, treated equally by the police. Um, well, I mean, you look at someone who's, who's maybe what we would call, you know, trailer trash beating, beating the wife, you know, they treat someone who they suspect of, of, of marital abuse in a low income situation, well, I mean, or someone who's just, um, selling something on a street corner that they suspect are doing something, it's... I would definitely say they give more credit to those that um, have income. Somehow they trust them more, they feel like they're upright citizens because they donate money to the community or belong to a, a big church or something. Um, what percentage of poor, low income... Um, I would say... I don't know, I'm change-, I don't know, I'm kind of changing my, my, my percentages here but I, I would think... You know, I said generally 70% before, now I'm talking about low income, I'm trying to give the police more credit. I'm, I want to say 75%.

Interviewer:

Would you want to change your earlier answer or stay with it?

Respondent 7:

I would probably change both earlier answers about the uh, African Americans and generally.

Interviewer:

So overall, back to the first one.

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

What percent of the people who are suspected of committing a crime in American these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 7:

I would change that to 75%.

Interviewer:

75?

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And what percent of the white people?

Respondent 7:

I would keep that at 85.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what percent of the Black people?

Respondent 7:

I'd say 70.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 7:

Um, I'm gonna... Hm. Because I know I got the low income question next. I'm gonna keep 75, uh, my same answer for general.

Interviewer:

75?

Respondent 7:

So change, change it from 70 to 75.

Interviewer:

Okay. And the percent of poor people?

Respondent 7:

Um, I will keep that at 75.

Interviewer:

Okay. Imagine that a man and a woman are running against one another for President of the United States.

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

In 2008.

Respondent 7:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And imagine that you agree more with the woman than with the man about what the federal government should and should not do. And imagine that you think the woman's background and experience make her a better candidate for president than the man. Would the fact that she is a woman reduce your chances of voting for her at all, would it increase your chances of voting for her at all, or would it have no effect on whether you'd vote for her?

Respondent 7:

A, if a uh, woman and a man run for president, for the next presidential election, do I feel that um, in my views, um, and I supported the views that the female candidate had and find that her background is more similar to mine and that her um, her ideas and uh, her ideas are more similar to mine, would I be um, likely to, to vote for her um, more likely or less likely, or... What were the options again?

Interviewer:

Would the fact that she is a woman reduce your chances of voting for her at all, would it increase your chances of voting for her at all, or would it have no effect on whether you'd vote for her?

Respondent 7:

Um, the fact that she is a woman, would that uh, would that make me more likely to vote for her or less likely to vote for her, or would that not change uh, the way I would vote? Um, her being a woman would definitely not increase my uh, chance of voting for her. Um, for me it doesn't matter if it's a woman or a man. I think that a woman would more likely um, be interested in, in family issues than a man would, would have more trouble just putting that aside, which is okay because half of the United States is female, and our, basically half of our country is female, um, and that, those issues are very important.

Um, you know, it, there are a lot of hard nosed, and generally women in general are, are a little you know, more nurturing or caring and considered soft compared to, to guys but I think that there are definitely a lot of women out there that are just as tough nosed, or more tough nosed and, and can you know, get through some of the B.S. that guys can't. Uh, or they can definitely, you know, stand, stand

uh, stand their ground. Um, so I definitely think it wouldn't be less likely um, my, my opinion would, wouldn't change my opinion on whether or not I would vote for her. I would vote for her based, I would most likely vote for her if she did um, have in mind my opinions just because of those, those things, not her sex.

Interviewer:

In your opinion, in the best government the U.S. could have, what percent of elected officials would be men, and what percent would be women?

Respondent 7:

When I envision the um, the ideal ratio of men, men to women in the U.S. government, what would I envision it to be? Um, I know everybody wants to say 50/50, uh, everybody wants, wants to think that it's gonna be equal. Um, you know, if it's not equal, or if it is equal, does that balance out all the issues, does that make everybody represented? Um, should we have one congressman and congresswoman from each state, you know? That's, is that going to solve everything? I, I don't think it, I don't think it is. I don't think 50/50 percent is, is gonna necessarily solve every-, solve everything. You know, is that what it should be or should it be... You know, right now it's probably like, what, 80/20 maybe, or 75/25. Um, I think it's definitely easier for, for guys to be, for, for men to be in, in politics. Um, the women, you know, are better nurturers with, with children and, and it's easier for them if they want to have a family to stay home, but you know, women can make that choice whether or not they, they want to have a political career or a family, or both if they choose to want to divide themselves that way. Um, men ty- typically don't have to do that as much. Um, what do I think the ideal ratio would be? Um, I think, I think that it should be around 60/40, men to women.

Interviewer:

60% men and 40% women?

Respondent 7:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally to work in government than are most women candidates, that most women candidates are better suited emotionally to work in government than are most men candidates, or do you think men and women candidates are equally suited emotionally to work in government?

Respondent 7:

Do I feel that um, that men running for political office are um, better su-, uh, suited uh, mentally? Can you repeat that question again? I just want to make sure I got that part.

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally-

Respondent 7:

Emotionally.

Interviewer:

To work in government than are most women candidates, that most women candidates are better suited emotionally to work in government than are most men candidates, or do you think men and women candidates are equally suited emotionally to work in government?

Respondent 7:

When running for office, are men or women more suited uh, for the job emotionally, or are they, are they the same? Um, I feel that they're the same uh, emotionally uh, suited for office. I feel that, that the whole reason that they're in politics or want to be in pol-, in politics is because they feel that they're ready for the challenges um, both representing your, you know, con- const- constituency or uh, as uh, as well as being away from your family or taking, or moving your family to wherever you are. I think they're both equally suited. You know, you have to be, you know, you have to have the same characteristics whether or not your male, male or female.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you put better suited emotionally into your own words?

Respondent 7:

Um...

Interviewer:

What does that make you think of, to be better suited emotionally?

Respondent 7:

Um, better suited emotionally, m- more prepared for, for the um... I don't know. How do you replace the word emotionally with another word, uh... With the um... You know, 'cause emotional isn't just a mental, it's, it's physical reaction. Um, h- how, would they be better prepared? Right now it's stated as...

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally-

Respondent 7:

Better suited emotionally.

Interviewer:

To work in government?

Respondent 7:

Um, do they have dispositions that are um, able to, to handle the um, the stress and the rigors and the um... I really don't think I can replace emotional. Emotional is, is the word that I would use. Um, handle the emotional impact of both um, with work and family, um that is needed to have a political career, something like that.

Interviewer:

You said they're equally suited, men and women?

Respondent 7:

I did.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking most men candidates are better suited emotionally, lean toward most women candidates are better suited emotionally, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 7:

Do I lean, do I favor, do I slightly favor men or women being uh, stronger emotionally, or do I not uh, lean slightly either way? I would probably lean more towards men being slightly more emotional uh, able to handle the emotional strain, basically because they can disconnect easier than women can, uh, emotionally. They uh, we have that, that switch that we can choose to turn on or off, in my opinion, most of us do, at least.

Interviewer:

Now I have some questions about how men and women who are Democrats and Republicans are likely to handle issues in the U.S. Congress. Thinking about Democrats, who would do a better job in the U.S. Congress handling education, a Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 7:

Would a male or a female Democrat do a better job with, with education issues. I feel that it doesn't matter, um, maybe not... Sure, more women are teachers than males, but that doesn't mean that a politician is gonna, uh, you know, lean one way or the other based on the majority of the sex of that profession. Um, I think it's important to both sexes, um, so I don't think either way-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 7:

That uh, either male or female would lean more.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 7:

Do I have um, do I have a sl-, a slight feeling whether I would, whether, whether I feel a woman or male would, would make a better uh, candidate uh, to support education? I, I really don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

Okay. Who would do a better job in the U.S. Congress handling crime, a Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 7:

In relation to handling cr-, in relation to um... Let's see. Um, would a female or male Democrat uh, be able to uh... What do I think? Be able to um, discuss and uh, prevent crime more easily. Um, I feel like it, it doesn't matter either way. Um, they um, I, it's, it's same reason as, as a teacher. You know, more men are in the police force and thus end more crime, but I think you know, women definitely care a lot about, about that even though there aren't as many in the police force. Um, so a representative would, would do the same.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 7:

Do I have a, a slight preference of, of what, of, of a male or woman thinking that they would do a, a better job? I, I don't lean either way. I, I think that they, they can both care or not care the same and um, therefore you know, it doesn't matter based on their sex.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's all the questions that we have time for right now.

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Thank you very much for your help here. I'm going to stop the tape and then get some information from you so we can get you-

Respondent 7:

Okay.

Interviewer:

A check.

Interview 8

Respondent 8:

Do you want to test for level of volume and record that kind of thing or not?

Interviewer:

I have an indicator here and it's working just fine.

Respondent 8:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Thank you.

Respondent 8:

Sure.

Interviewer:

I have some questions about how men and women who are Democrats and Republicans are likely to handle issues in the US Congress. Thinking about Democrats, who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman? Or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

The question is politicians in Congress, and you want to know if Democrats or Republicans would do a better job of crime, resolving crime issues in Congress. I think you mean making laws, who would- who would do better, uh, Republicans or the Democrats? And specifically, or a subset, you clarified that who would be better, or wh- which would do better, a Democrat male or a Democrat female? Um, my thinking, my initial thought was, "Well, Republicans appear to have more of a bent on, uh, hard and fast rules." I take that back, like what they did with the, uh, air traffic controllers and their decision to fire them when they be- wanted to become members of a union. Unions are usually, uh, pro-Democratic. Republicans and unions don't get along as well. Although recently that's changed. Um, President Clinton wanted to put thousands of more policeman on the beat in- in different... in various cities. No such thing has come out with the current administration, the Republicans. So I- I would tend to think that all... we're more in war, so maybe that is less of an issue for where the focus of things are. And war is- is, uh, influenced on the decision to deal with the war.

Um... I would think to answer the specific question that a male Democrat would be more amenable to issues of crime in the Congress. Uh, they would... I think they would want more control on that. But that could be a factor of there are more men in Congress than there are women, and I really don't have a sense of how women influence the Congress.

Interviewer:

Can you say more about how the number of men and women in Congress affects your thinking? Let me repeat the question and then- and then say that. Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

Um, who would- who would be a better representative in the Congress, a man or a woman? Would they- Would there be no difference... Would sex not be a difference in issue for, uh, the Democratic, um... Again, I- I, uh, have little reference to the status, except that... But that was relative... The- the black woman in Congress that was from Los Angeles, won the big, uh, to-do [inaudible 00:05:35] about crack being, uh, pushed into the ghetto to control the people in the Los Angeles ghetto. And she was going to study that issue. It seems the only issue to come to mind where I find a- a woman representative. Um, there have been concerns about what's been going on in the military academies over the past few years, and I think Congress has dealt with that as an issue, although, it's made relative to the different, uh, services and being handled within the environments there. But I believe it was brought before Congress and they gave a push on to find out what was going on, who was doing it, why it wasn't being reported. And I don't really know if that was a male or a female push. I would think that would be an equal thing from either men or women. But that's my personal opinion.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say a Democrat who is a man, a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

Hmm. I'm gonna go with, uh, um, a man would do a better job.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 8:

(laughs) Oh, okay. Uh, let's give it a... I'll- I'll give it a somewhat better.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what's your thinking in saying somewhat better?

Respondent 8:

Um, I really... It's hard to make a definite statement about that.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 8:

And again, I go back to there are more men in Congress than there are women in Congress. And my experience, um, I don't really get a feel for the difference between men... a man or a woman in the Congress, one standing out stronger than the other.

Interviewer:

How would you put that last question in your own words when I asked much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 8:

Um, the only thing I can think of would be, uh, on a scale of, uh, one to, say, four, where one is best, two is better, three is no difference, and four is not so good, and five is worse, comparing men versus women, Democratic men versus Democratic women in Congress regarding, uh, crime and how it affects, uh, the Congress.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm. Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling education, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

In education, who would better represent... Who would be a better representative, a Democratic woman or a Democratic man in Congress regarding ed- education? Um, I would think women would do a better... A woman would do a better job in Congress than men would.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 8:

Much better.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying much better?

Respondent 8:

More women are in education. They have more of an experience over time and more of an ex- more of experience and understanding and would portray... If- if... If there was an assessment of teachers, I think the women have a better sense of what's going on in education. And they would be ed- better able to communicate that, and I would think much better.

Interviewer:

Okay. And in terms of rephrasing the question, I asked who would do a better a job in the US Congress handling education, could you put education into different words?

Respondent 8:

Academ- Academia is better understood by, uh, which group, men or... Democratic men or Democratic women in Congress?

Interviewer:

Thinking about Republicans, who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime, a Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

Regarding Republicans in Congress, would a... Is there a difference between men... A Republican man and a Republican woman in their representation of crime, understanding of crime in Congress?

Interviewer:

How would you answer that question? You can think out loud about whatever-

Respondent 8:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Comes into mind.

Respondent 8:

I'm just running through my mind here. Um, (laughs) to me, it's been an ongoing struggle and nobody seems to do a good job on this one. Now, when you see a politician, when you see the president, the current president and all through his administration, from even when he was running, there was a large representation of police force. And they had a good representation of the police force. However, it's predominantly white males. So, as portrayed, as I understand it, men would make a better representation in Congress, only because of the visibility that they have and the control that they have in Congress. And I... It's very tough for me to compare that as a group because I really don't know how the women, uh, Republican women think about crime and how they deal with crime in the Congress.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm. So in answering that question, you think about the people who are in Congress now?

Respondent 8:

Right. And- and past.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you answer a man, a woman, or an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

I would think an equally good job. In order to get that position, I think that would... You- you would almost have to understand that as an issue.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I lean toward women doing a better job, but only because they're underrepresented and not knowing how they might represent things. It's like less of an- less of enough of information to be able to answer the question as opposed to having enough information regarding women and their stance on crime. And I would want to see that and see if there is a difference. But in my- in my time from the '40s to now, it would be men to answer it, but I would like to see more women to see of what that- how that might affect interaction within Congress.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words? Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

Who would do a better job in Congress, a Republican male, a Republican female? Is there a difference in how a man- Republican male or a Republican female would represent crime in Congress, or is there no difference? And then I would- I would graduate it between something like one to five, with perhaps one being the- the uppermost, uh, where the- would be, um, a male would be better all the way down to, uh, a male would be worse.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

Thereby implying some representation for women.

Interviewer:

What about the words do a better job? What do those make you think of?

Respondent 8:

Whew, that's really vague. But not so because, um, uh... I would think that being in Congress is a tough job. Uh, and it would depend on the individual, whether it be a man or a woman. How well that person does the job may not be relative to the sex as much it is- it is to the person.

Interviewer:

Thank you. Anything else?

Respondent 8:

Um...

Interviewer:

About what it means to do a better job?

Respondent 8:

On- Only that that, uh, I- I can understand it. You know, um, but it's like, uh, I guess my thing might be who would be more effective.

Interviewer:

Okay. Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling education, a Republican who is a man, a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 8:

If a Republican woman and a Republican man were deciding on educational issues in Congress, which would... wh- which would do better? Wh- which would be a better representative, would it be a Republican male or a Republican female? Would the results be better for- from a man, Republican male or would the results be better from a Republican female?

Interviewer:

And what would you think about in answering that question?

Respondent 8:

Again, I- I would think that the, as a group, women know more about education. I think they have an understanding of more about learning. Their representation might be more emotion-based, although that not- not necessarily true. But, I think they might know more and understand more and be able to represent a greater group than a Republican male.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

But again, that's only because it's not... There are more men in Congress and don't know. Could be worse.

Interviewer:

Would you say... Well, I'll just ask the next question.

Respondent 8:

Sure.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 8:

I would say much better.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about that makes you say much better there?

Respondent 8:

My reasoning for that would be, uh, the element of education being represented by women through time and as a larger group.

Interviewer:

If you think about most Democratic party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities, a Democrat who is a man, a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Repeat the question please.

Interviewer:

If you think about most Democratic party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities, a Democrat who is a man, a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Who... Are Democrat- Democratic- Democrats more invested in developing a large government in many different areas, and would they... Would that preference be more represented from a male point of view or from a female point of view? See I- I don't think I got all of it there.

Interviewer:

Let me read it one more time.

Respondent 8:

Sure.

Interviewer:

If you think about most Democratic party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities, a Democrat who is a man, a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Are Democratic representatives more interested in developing large, complex government programs and solving more problems than other groups? Would a man- a Republic- a Democratic man be a better candidate in Congress for larger government involvement or would Democratic women in Congress be more interested in across the board government involvement in America?

Interviewer:

And how would you think about answering that question, saying a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Only the Republicans seem to think that the Democrats would create more programs. I don't believe it's relative to the Democrats. I think, uh, the Republicans might make as many programs. The Democrats do it in a straightforward manner. They'll go and develop programs and invest monies and stuff. It's like the gossip that, um, the Republicans are in power so now everybody needs to start supporting all the

programs with money and time because they cut back all the social programs. And when Democrats are in control, there's less need for people to put as much money into the programs because the government's putting money into the programs and there's more jobs available perhaps.

Interviewer:

You're talking about personal donations, charitable contributions, that kind of thing?

Respondent 8:

Right. There's always a greater push when Republicans, and there's even a statement of fact from the organizations themselves that government funding will drop off in things like endangered species, uh, climate, uh, hole in the ozone, uh, the large international treaty the Republicans won't get involved in. Whereas, the Democrats will be more involved in those kind of things and represented.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm.

Respondent 8:

And then regarding your answer, I would think there would be no difference, that men- a man or a woman would equally represent the Democrats.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

And if you think about most Republican party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities, a Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

I think the Republicans are more indirectly involved in Congress. It's not a- It's not a foregone statement for them. They say they don't involve themselves in everything and there's less government control, however, there seems to be more specific types of control exerted through the Congress when the Republicans are in control of Congress. And I don't think there is a difference between a man or a woman. And I'm more emphatic with that as opposed to the previous question regarding the Democrats.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

There's more of a... There's more of a clear line of- of statement that there is no difference, that it's a party line as opposed to an individual line. Within the Democrats, there's more of an individual representation. And in the Republicans, it's more of a statement that they go by in how they represent it.

Interviewer:

Okay. I understand what you're saying. Let me read you the next question and have you answer it too. Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

Okay. Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Um, the abortion issue is- is a major issue in Congress and has been for 30 years, for 40 years. Read it one more time please.

Interviewer:

Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

The issue of abortion in Congress is, simply put, represented by, uh... Would be represented by a woman re- Democrat or a man Democrat. Does that state your- restate your question completely? Or am I...

Interviewer:

Let me read it again and you can decide how- how you think it-

Respondent 8:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Would the legalization of abortion in Congress be better represented by a Democratic man or a Democratic woman in... in all areas regarding... Uh, no.

Interviewer:

We could do one-

Respondent 8:

The legalization... Does the legalization of... Would the legalization of abortion be better handled by a re- Democratic man or a Democratic woman? That cover it?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

Okay?

Interviewer:

And what would you think about in answering that question?

Respondent 8:

Most definitely, um, I would believe it would be better represented by a woman.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 8:

Much more likely.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that a woman would be much more likely?

Respondent 8:

It's like an issue a guy can't touch. To me, I mean, it seems that simple.

Interviewer:

Okay. Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances, a Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Do Republicans favor legalization of abortion? Would- would that come about easier with a male Republican or a female Republican? And are you looking for the answer now? I would have to say a woman again.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 8:

Somewhat more likely.

Interviewer:

And why do you say somewhat?

Respondent 8:

They're still struggling with not allowing abortion. That's still a struggle to make it an easy resolution, an acceptable standard.

Interviewer:

Which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years, Democrats who are men or Democrats who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Is it possible that there could be a change in the way government operates in the future? Would that be better resolved by a Democratic male or a woman Republican, uh, a woman Democrat? I think the answer would be a male Democrat.

Interviewer:

What makes you say male?

Respondent 8:

Uh, history. More men have been involved in Congress in the past. It's more of a struggle for a woman to get recognized and voted into Congress.

Interviewer:

So, does that mean that men are more likely to change the way government has been acting because they're more likely to be in Congress and able to do that?

Respondent 8:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Would you say men are much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 8:

Somewhat more likely.

Interviewer:

And why is that?

Respondent 8:

It's relative to the personal agenda that they have in Congress. And in order to put forward their personal agenda, uh, there are many compromises and- and- and many other supports that they have to develop. And there's al- already avenues existing to that. That make sense?

Interviewer:

Could you say a little more?

Respondent 8:

(laughs) Well, um, you know, it's like tit for tat. Um, I'll vote on your bill and I'll support your bill and I'll provide five votes if you'll support my bill and provide me with a number of votes on my bill. And I think the way that harmony exists before you kind of get there, because people have already bartered and exchanged to get to that point.

Interviewer:

And men are more likely to do that than women? Is there a difference?

Respondent 8:

Yes.

Interviewer:

And which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years, Republicans who are men, Republicans who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

In order for change to come about in the Congress regarding issues on the way government responds to current affairs and issues, would that be easier with a Republican man or with a Republican woman?

Interviewer:

And how would you think about answering that question?

Respondent 8:

Well, I don't think there would be a difference, so it wouldn't... I don't think it would matter if it was a man or a woman. There's more of a party line in the Republican party.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

Because the party line keeps them acting consistently?

Respondent 8:

I believe so.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

One more time.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Is there a difference between intell- the intelligence of a re- Democratic man or- and a Democratic woman? Is the- Is there a significant difference in the intelligence?

Interviewer:

Could you put intelligence into your own words?

Respondent 8:

Uh, the only way I'd probably put it is, um, practical application of laws and governance and who would- who would understand and be more- more capable.

Interviewer:

And what would you think about in answering that question, which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

I believe they would be equally likely.

Interviewer:

Mu- Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

Do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that you think they would be equally likely and you don't lean either way?

Respondent 8:

Uh, that's really a complex issue. I mean, intelligence is both based on knowledge, and then it's like application of all the factors one goes into making a decision. One person may use more information to make a decision. One person may make, uh, less input to make a decision. Uh, and then it's relative to whatever is going on at the time. So, that would be almost difficult to find out who would be more intelligent. In- intelligence becomes real vague for me because, um, [inaudible 00:44:39], guy could have 150 IQ, a woman could have a 105 IQ. The woman could maybe use more information to make a decision. A man might use less information because he's already established levels of understanding, perhaps. And so it would... It would be difficult, like you say, to answer what is intelligence. So I think intelligence would be assessing as much information as one would have and then making a decision based on that. Although again, I don't think there would be a sex difference in that.

Interviewer:

Okay. Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent, a Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Is there a difference in intelligence in a Republican man and- and a Repub- or a Republican woman?

Interviewer:

How would you answer that question?

Respondent 8:

Again, I'd have to say there- there would be no difference. A- a- almost too hard to assess. And I would just have to leap and say well, I don't think there would be a difference.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

Do you think about Republicans and Democrats in basically the same way for these two questions?

Respondent 8:

No. Again, I would go party line here. I think more- Democrats are more individualistic and follow a party line insofar as they make their decisions, but it comes from a personal stance. The Republicans follow a party line that's established, and like almost obvious, everybody can kind of... You can kind of figure, well, they'll say this or they'll say that. They'll- They'll say they're more hard-line. They'll say they're... Republicans will say they're, um, not gonna start, uh, make any new taxes. They'll say that the

Democrats are gonna make new taxes. They'll... Even- Even though it's not true, it comes from some old Republican that said this back in the '60s, I think it was, or the '50s, that the spend Amer- the spend Democrats and no tax increase Republicans, whereas the opposite seems to be true.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

(laughs) Come on, really? One more time (laughs).

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Does it- Does the Democratic party represent the individual where better performance regarding the understanding of the individual come from a Democratic male or a Democratic female?

Interviewer:

So far the part of the question that says most likely to care about ordinary Americans, what does that make you think of?

Respondent 8:

Well, who would understand more about the average American.

Interviewer:

And what you think about in answering that question?

Respondent 8:

No difference between a Democratic male and a Democratic female.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely or lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I would think in the greater picture it was the man, the Democratic male.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud a little bit about your answer?

Respondent 8:

I don't know about how good of a job they've done, although, I think that they are- they have a sense of the individual American and what his or her needs might- are.

Interviewer:

Men do?

Respondent 8:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

More so than women?

Respondent 8:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Why is that?

Respondent 8:

Because they're willing to take the risk to make a decision about that, historically.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans, a Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 8:

Would- Would a Republican man or a Republican woman be more understanding of the individual American?

Interviewer:

And how would you answer that?

Respondent 8:

Kind of neither.

Interviewer:

Neither?

Respondent 8:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). I think Republicans have more of a group psychology as opposed to an individual psychology.

Interviewer:

Hmm. Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

Do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

This next question is about the percent of people's income that they should pay in taxes to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 8:

One more time please.

Interviewer:

This next question is about the percent of people's income that they should pay in taxes to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 8:

Is there a need for change in the current tax structure? Should be people who make more money pay more taxes? Should the tax rates stay the same? Should the tax rate be changed to a flat tax for every individual? Or should the tax be charged more- more for people who make more money and less for people who make less money?

Interviewer:

What would you think about in answering that question?

Respondent 8:

Drop the loopholes and more- people who make more money should pay more in tax than people who make less money.

Interviewer:

Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income? Do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income? Or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay?

Respondent 8:

People that make more should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes.

Interviewer:

Okay. I thought that's what you were saying, but I just wanted to be sure.

Respondent 8:

Right.

Interviewer:

Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government, do you think that big companies should pay a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small businesses, or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 8:

One more time please.

Interviewer:

Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government, do you think that big companies should pay a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small businesses, or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 8:

Well, I think the issue here is should large corporations pay more income tax than small companies or should there be no difference in the amount that a large company pays in tax than a small company pays in tax. And now the answer?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 8:

Um, boy, that's really... I flash on large companies have- are more involved, there's more people, are more... Uh, boy, but it doesn't... Are more re- represented than small companies. They generate more capital than a small company. Doesn't seem reasonable that they should pay the same. Their income's different. It should be relative to the income that they have. So if the larger company makes more money, generates more income, they should pay more.

Interviewer:

Should they pay more as a number of dollars or more as a percent of their income?

Respondent 8:

More as a percent of their income.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

But then, you know, it's like I immediately flash on well, there's more people probably working in the large companies, so as a sense, their individuals are paying taxes which is greater than the small company. It becomes too complex. Do you know what I mean? It'd be like, you know, let's say company A over here has 100,000 employees, well, those 100,000 employees are going to be paying a lot of tax compared to company Z over here that has five people. Their people won't pay as much in taxes. So they're already paying a lot in taxes just by the very number and the amount of people in the business they generate than the other people. So that's what I flashed on after I made that decision (laughs).

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm. There has been a lot of talk recently about doing away with the tax on large inheritances, the so-called estate tax. Do you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 8:

I think the estate tax should... It... You want me to restate the question. Um, should there be a change- a significant change made to the current status of estate tax? Should it be eliminated, continued, changed? I don't think the est... I think the estate tax should be removed. People get around that now by various means. Overall, I think the estate tax ought to be removed. People have paid tax all through their life on everything they have, and then just for the transfer to a group or individuals in the family, I don't think they should be taxed again.

Interviewer:

How similar would you say that US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 8:

Restate the question again please.

Interviewer:

How similar would you say that US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 8:

Are all Republicans alike? Do they think alike, act alike?

Interviewer:

And what would... What goes through your mind-

Respondent 8:

I would-

Interviewer:

As you answer?

Respondent 8:

Uh, what- what are your choices again?

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all.

Respondent 8:

What's above moderately similar?

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar-

Respondent 8:

Very similar.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about for Republicans that makes you say they were very similar to each other?

Respondent 8:

Again, it's a party line issue for me.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run, a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 8:

Say it again please.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run, a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 8:

Hmm. I almost can't do this one. Um, one more time, just the question, not the responses.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 8:

Is there a significant difference among Republicans about how this country should be run? Is that restated for you?

Interviewer:

What about the words how this country should be run? What do those mean to you?

Respondent 8:

I mean, how can you run this country? It runs itself almost. Do Republicans control how this country is run? And if so, how much influence do they exert in that, the operation of this country? [inaudible 01:07:20] other than what- restating what you- not just stating again what you say.

Interviewer:

Well, it [crosstalk 01:07:29].

Respondent 8:

But I know what you mean by how this country runs. Sorry.

Interviewer:

Well, wh- what is... What are those words bring to mind, how this country should be run? Who does it? What do they do if they're doing it? How do they do it? Where does it happen? Anything that comes to mind.

Respondent 8:

Well, it's- it's like a balance of forces. I mean, there is politicians that make certain facets of it run. There's corporations that make certain facets of it run. There's individuals that make certain facets of it run. And then they're kind of influencing all the occurrences that go on. So there's like no- no one force controlling it. Like there's no one that built the engine, that maintains the engine, that fills- fuels the engine that keeps it going down its track. It's that simplistic. It- it's like all over the place. I mean, there's all these factors in it. So it's not like one group that's making it run. One would- one would think that the politicians make it run. But yet it- it- it's... They may just have a very powerful influence and it appears as though it's being run by the politicians.

Interviewer:

Okay. So that question is hard to think about then because how this country should be run could refer to a lot of different things?

Respondent 8:

Yeah. If- if... Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

Although, it may... I could probably take a stance, but I wouldn't feel very comfortable.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you were to answer, would you say a great deal, a lot... Let me read the question first.

Respondent 8:

Sure. Please. Thank you for...

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run, a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 8:

Repeat the question one more time please.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 8:

Okay, don't think about the question too much, just among Republicans, what's the level of disagreement, or what's the level of disagreement among Republicans about how the country should be run? Is there... I would think there would be little disagreement. I would go toward the-

Interviewer:

A little?

Respondent 8:

Low- little disagreement about how the country should be run.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 8:

They would have more... Yeah. You got it.

Interviewer:

And you mentioned the- the Republican consistency with the party line earlier. Is- is that what's on your mind now when you say little?

Respondent 8:

Right. They- they may have directional about certain issues, but overall I think the picture is pretty well framed.

Interviewer:

Okay. How similar would you say that US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats are to each other, extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 8:

Well, the Democrats seem to think, uh... Seem to be more accepting of variation and the differences. It's more of an accepted thing that there are differences. So, uh, although they have like an individual sense, there's more of a group understanding, yet there are a lot of differences in- in... May be about the ways it ought to go. So I think there would be a lot of differences.

Interviewer:

So would you say extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 8:

Moderately similar.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run, a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 8:

Question again please.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 8:

Are there a lot of differences among Democrats about which direction the country ought to go in? And then the response?

Interviewer:

Would you say a great deal, a lot, a moderate amount-

Respondent 8:

A lot.

Interviewer:

A little, or none?

Respondent 8:

A lot.

Interviewer:

A lot. And what do you think about saying a lot?

Respondent 8:

It's almost like there's more than one way to skin a cat. Um, for every- for every (laughs) Democrat, there's probably a different way to resolve it. And- and they ought to... Th- th- there's more of an

individual representation of which way things ought to go, but then it comes out of the group the way that they'll do it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or what?

Respondent 8:

An independent.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question?

Respondent 8:

Do you have a- a political mindset? Do you follow a party line? Is there one group... Is there a political group that you identify with, and which group would that be?

Interviewer:

Okay. And you said independent?

Respondent 8:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Do you lean more toward the Republicans, the Democrats, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 8:

I probably lean more toward the Democrats.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you say in saying that? What do you think in saying that?

Respondent 8:

Well, like I have a preconceived notion or- or idea in my mind, and yet I... And it's really kind of tough sometimes. If a Democrat is elected, I can go along and feel a strong identification with- with like Clinton. I may really identify with the guy. But then when Bush was elected, I identified strongly with the support he gave for the military and the concept of rules and somehow we need to get our foot into the Middle East, but that's like after the fact. I still have a- a sense of we're all in this thing together, and sometimes the party line ain't the way to go. It's somehow we've gotta... It's gotta come from us. There's something special about being American. Many people from other countries come into this country and stuff, but there's something special and there's something very different about this country relative to all the other countries that I've ever read about or understood, limited, very limited knowledge. So, somehow it's gotta come from us.

And it's like we almost have to re- restate it or- or every once in a while, throw the other guy out and bring a new guy in because things change. And there's so much you don't know. It's like Clinton

brought up a certain amount of things and Bush brought up a certain amount of things, and the other Bush brought up a certain amount of things. And then... And then there's this whole other thing that's going on. It's like whoa, wait a minute. It might be better to not have a party line. It might be better to make the decisions as it goes along, but not totally lose the party line. Does that make sense?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Well, thank you very much. This is all the time we have to go through the questions right now. We've used up-

Respondent 8:

I hope I was helpful.

Interviewer:

We've used up our spot. It was very helpful. It's been very interesting talking with you and very helpful to hear you answer these questions and sort of think them through and put them in your own words because that helps us to understand which of the questions make sense and which ones still need to work before that makes sense.

Respondent 8:

I understand.

Interviewer:

So I'm gonna stop the tape now.

Respondent 8:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And I'll get your information so we can mail you a check.

Respondent 8:

Okay.

Interview 9

Interviewer:

Okay. I've started the tape recording, if that's okay?

Respondent 9:

That's fine.

Interviewer:

Great. Just one moment and we'll start. Do you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? Do you oppose a ban? Or do you neither favor nor oppose ban?

Respondent 9:

Do you agree with same sex marriage? Do you disagree with the same sex marriage? Or would you wanna see or would you not care what happens?

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you think about answering that question?

Respondent 9:

Um, the way I wanna answer that question is that I seriously don't think there are any homosexuals in the world. (laughs) It's a choice and, um, I believe that, um, marriage is a word to be used between opposite sexes and I don't find it appropriate to be used for either two men or two women.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say that you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Yes, I would definitely favor a ban on.

Interviewer:

Do you favor a ban strongly or only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Strongly.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about it saying that you favor it strongly?

Respondent 9:

Excuse me, say that again?

Interviewer:

What do you think about in just ... I'm just asking you to think out loud about why you say you favor the ban strongly.

Respondent 9:

Uh, I favor the ban strongly, because like I said, I believe that the word marriage, which is, um, um, being united with another person should be, in my opinion, of a different sex.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you put that question in your own words, do you favor a ban strongly or only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Would I agree with this very firmly or would I not agree with it? And I do agree with it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, think about what adult US citizens feel on the issue of marriage between homosexuals. We'd like to know what percent of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, oppose it or neither favor nor oppose it. First, what percent of adult US citizens do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Did you want me to repeat it from the beginning?

Interviewer:

Sure. And I can repeat ... We can do one part at a time because it's kind of long.

Respondent 9:

Yes, please if you would.

Interviewer:

Okay. First, what percent of adult US citizens do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Uh, how, how much of the population of the United States do I think agree with, um, same sex marriage? Um, did you want me to answer?

Interviewer:

And, and how would you think about answering that question?

Respondent 9:

Um, I think the way I would like to answer that question is that I'm not sure.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

I really have not had enough education, um, in that, um, subject to know percentage wise.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's fine. Your best guess would be fine.

Respondent 9:

My best guess would be about 25%.

Interviewer:

That about 25% of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Oh no, about 25% would be in favor of same sex marriage.

Interviewer:

Okay. What-

Respondent 9:

In other words, 75% would be against it.

Interviewer:

Okay. And then my next question was what percent of adult US citizens do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Oppose banning means they disagree.

Interviewer:

Oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. So some people favor banning marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 9:

Okay. So I would say 75% favor. They, they would like to see that ban.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

And 25% would not.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in saying those percentages? You explained that you weren't really sure, but-

Respondent 9:

I ... Yeah, uh- I- uh- I really am not sure, but, um, I am thinking that, um, the people that I have been in contact with and had conversations relating to the subject-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

... have been like three out of four-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

... would be in favor of and one out of four ... I- I'm sorry, three out of four would not be in favor of and one out of four would be. So based upon that, the little knowledge that I have accumulated regarding the subject, that's what I'd say.

Interviewer:

Okay. Since you think about 75% of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals and that about 25% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about zero percent of adult US citizens neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 9:

If- if I- if- if you think that 75% of the population in this country, um, favor banning, um, same sex marriages and 25%, um, disagree with banning same sex marriages, would you then ... Are you then saying that there is no one that would be neutral to the, um, situation? Um, I think that if somebody, uh, either there are some parts of the country I'm sure that there are people that don't even think about the issue maybe because they think something like that doesn't happen, maybe some, maybe some people think, um, that this is not an issue that, um, um, educational organizations and/or the government doesn't address-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

... uh, due to lack of, um, communication with the outside world, or reading enough, or whatever that may be.

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 9:

And then there are people that, yeah, I think, I think that's the only possible way that somebody would not have an opinion. This is a, in my opinion, sensitive subject and people usually are either for or against it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. Of all those 75% of adult US citizens who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly? And what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Of the, um, 75% that you think disagree with same sex marriage, how many of them would you say, uh, um, are very firm with their opinion? And how many would you say are less firm with their opinion? I think that out of the 75% that are not in favor of same sex marriage, about I'd say 50% of them are very strongly, uh, in favor of the ban.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

And 50% are a little bit, um, less firm about what they think about this.

Interviewer:

Okay. What makes you say 50/50?

Respondent 9:

Hmm, I think that if there are people that deal with the issue say for example, if I have a child who happens to be a homosexual, I would feel a little bit different than someone who has never had to deal with it in their immediate, or near, or friends.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

Um, I think the more you know ... The more people know about the subject, I think that if, if for example I had a kid who was a homosexual, that kid could change my opinion by sharing her or his thoughts and trying to convince me, um, to become a little bit more moderate in the way that I think. And, um, if, if, um, the ... In my opinion, a lot of things are involved. Your culture or background, um, how many homosexuals you've been, um, in contact with, uh, what your relationship is with those homosexuals and so on. And based on that, I'm gonna say half and half.

Interviewer:

Of all those ... Excuse me, of all those 25% of adult US citizens who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly? And what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Okay. Of all the, of all the one-fourth, a quarter of the people that you think oppose, um, or disagree with banning, um, same sex marriage, uh, how many of them would you think is, um, strongly, um, is, um, very, um, firm on wanting that ban and how many would you think that is, um, indifferent whether it's banned or not? And the way I would think of that answer is that, um, I think that 90% of them would strongly, um, disagree with, um, banning marriage between same sex and only 10% would be indifferent towards it.

Interviewer:

What's your thinking on choosing 90 and 10?

Respondent 9:

I think that the people who would like to see, um, same sex marriage happen are people that are either homosexuals themselves or they have someone very close to them who is homosexual. Um, and I also think that there are people that are very ... They, they have very liberated thinking and, um, they believe that it will not, um, affect society whether, you know, that happens, if- if that happens whereas the people that don't want to see this happen in my opinion, um, totally think that if it does happen, there are other consequences that come with this happening.

Whereas people that disagree with, with the ban, um, they, they think that all human beings should have the same rights whether ... I mean, eh- eh- eh- in my opinion, because I am not in favor of it, I think that if something like this happens, uh, in 10 years or 20 years, we'll hear about, uh, dogs marriages and cats marriages, and you know? Who knows? Yeah, you can ... A man can get married to a dog. You know, we wanna have the same rights for our dogs as we do for human beings.

Um, and I think that, um, again, this is an opinion I don't have as much, um, education about this, but, but I think that there's got to ... You gotta be able to draw the line somewhere and, um, you know, if- if- if something like this happens in society, like I said, you never know. Then tomorrow somebody will say, "I wanna marry my daughter." Why can't ... Why is there a ban on a father marrying his daughter.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, I'd like to ask these questions about US citizens who think of themselves as democrats. First, what percent of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Okay. Um, the question is how, how much of the, um, democrat, de- dem- the democratic party do you think, um, are in agreement with, um, homosexual, homosexual marriages? Um, and how, how much are against homosexual marriages. And the way that I think I can answer your question is that I really don't know. I am not sure at all.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

Um, I'm ... For some reason, um, I know it is very political and I know, I- uh- that's what I was telling you in my answer in your previous question, but what the percentage is, I don't know.

Interviewer:

You couldn't take a guess?

Respondent 9:

I think that more democrats are in favor of same sex marriage than republicans simply because of the word democrat, meaning more open-minded.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

Maybe between 20 and 40%.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you had to say one number?

Respondent 9:

30.

Interviewer:

30? What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

What per- how ... Okay, how many, how much of the, um, democrats in America would like to see the ban placed on, um, same sex marriage? Um, I would say that my answer there would be, um, about 70%.

Interviewer:

That about 70% of democrats?

Respondent 9:

Would like to see that same sex marriage does not happen.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read this question to you one more time.

Respondent 9:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And ask, and just make sure that-

Respondent 9:

That I understood, yes. (laughs)

Interviewer:

That I- that- that- that ... What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Okay. Um, I apologize. I-

Interviewer:

It's a-

Respondent 9:

... got it. Yes. It- it's- it's vice versa my answers that I gave you.

Interviewer:

Okay. So it sounds to me like you want to say that 70%-

Respondent 9:

70.

Interviewer:

... favor banning-

Respondent 9:

Yes.

Interviewer:

... marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Yes. Yes. And 30%-

Interviewer:

And 30% of democrats are opposed to banning marriage?

Respondent 9:

To banning, yes.

Interviewer:
Between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:
Yes.

Interviewer:
So that would imply that 70% of democrats-

Respondent 9:
Are not in favor.

Interviewer:
... are opposed to gay marriage?

Respondent 9:
Right.

Interviewer:
And 30% of democrats support gay marriage?

Respondent 9:
Yes.

Interviewer:
Okay. Just wanna make sure I-

Respondent 9:
Yes.

Interviewer:
... work and I- I understand that.

Respondent 9:
Yes. I- I sometimes get confused between the ... You are, you're doing absolutely the right think 'cause-

Interviewer:
Well, the question could be a little confusing, because we're talking about opposing banning and that can be a little complicated.

Respondent 9:

E-Exactly. Exactly.

Interviewer:

Since you think that about 70% of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and at about 30% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about zero percent of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 9:

Because I have sa- because you've said that 70% of US citizens that think of themselves as democrats are against same sex marriage and you've said only 30% of the US, the American citizens that think of themselves as, as democrats, are in favor of the same sex marriage, would you say that there's, um, zero percent of the American citizens that consider themselves, um, democrats are neither for or against this? Um, and the- the way that I think is yes.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

Being of, um, that caliber of, um, education and being involved in politics I think it is very politically correct to have a saying and not be indifferent about the issue.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 70% of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor strongly? And what percent favor only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

What, what is the number of the people that are American citizens and are considered, um, democrats do you think would really like to see this happen and how many do you think are indifferent about this, um, same sex marriage happening? Is that the question? (laughs) I- I wanna say that I think, um, it- it all depends on, um, how much they would profit, (laughs).

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 9:

Or how much they, um, the- the- the people that, that campaign for them, um, if they know that they're going to get a big, big contribution-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

... they're gonna be very strong about it and, um, I think all of them will, will be very, um, strong about this.

Interviewer:

Okay. So what percent would you say favor it strongly? And what percent favor it-

Respondent 9:

A hundred percent of it.

Interviewer:

A hundred percent? Let me read the question again and then ask you a specific question about some of the words.

Respondent 9:

Hmm.

Interviewer:

Of all those 70% of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly and what percent favor it only somewhat? So part of the question refers to US citizens who think of themselves as democrats.

Respondent 9:

Hmm.

Interviewer:

Who do you think of? Who does that make you think of? Who are you as citizens who make, who think of themselves as democrats?

Respondent 9:

Hmm. Who are the American people that consider themselves democrats? Um, they could be anyone. They could be you, me, uh, or the politicians. Um, they could be, um, just- just- just be ordinary people.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

I think I didn't answer that question right, because in my mind, I had ... I was just-

Interviewer:

Were you thinking of leaders?

Respondent 9:

Yes, I was just thinking of leaders and not ordinary people. So then to, um, rephrase, uh, maybe, um, I should say that, um, out of the, um, people that do, um, that are against same sex marriage and

consider themselves democrats, um, I think probably 40% that are leaders would, um, feel very strongly about it and maybe the 60%, um, would be somewhat.

Interviewer:

Thinking about US citizens in general-

Respondent 9:

In general.

Interviewer:

... who think of themselves as democrats. Okay. Of all those 30% of US citizens who think of themselves as democrats, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly? And what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Okay. So the question is out of, um, the, out of the 30%, um, American citizens that consider, um, themselves democrats and are against banning or, um, yeah, are against banning the same sex marriage, um, how many of them do I think will be very strongly, will feel very strongly towards this and how many of them won't. I'm really not sure. I don't know much enough about the subject to ... Again, if we were to split up the leaders and just ordinary citizens, probably 30/70.

Interviewer:

30%?

Respondent 9:

Being the leaders, being people that are decision makers.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

And 70.

Interviewer:

What percent would you say oppose it strongly?

Respondent 9:

30%.

Interviewer:

30%? And 70% somewhat?

Respondent 9:

Somewhat.

Interviewer:

Now, I'd like to ask you these questions about US citizens who think of themselves as republicans. First, what percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Repub- How many- how much of the repub- the US, um, the American citizens do you think favor banning homosexual marriages? I would think that it's more than the republicans, but percentage wise, it's hard for me. Okay, they favor banning, meaning, they want, they want this not to happen, right?

Interviewer:

Would you like me to read it again?

Respondent 9:

Please.

Interviewer:

What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Um, we're talking about again, ordinary, not, not necessarily leaders, right?

Interviewer:

US citizens-

Respondent 9:

US citizen.

Interviewer:

... who think of themselves as republicans.

Respondent 9:

Republicans. 80%.

Interviewer:

What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

So how much of the American citizens that consider themselves republicans do you think disagree with banning same sex marriages? 20%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 80% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans favor banning marriage between homosexuals and that about 20% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about zero percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 9:

Since you think that 80% of the American republican, the American citizens that consider themselves republicans are in favor of gay marriages and that 20% disagree with same sex marriages, does that mean that there is no percentage of the US citizens that consider themselves republicans or neither in agreement or disagreement of same sex marriages? Um, again, I'm gonna say, um, yes because the adult, eh- as an adult, um, I think you ... I wanna say you either agree or disagree but I don't think that is right to be honest.

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 9:

Um, um, no, I don't think that there are zero percent. Maybe, um, five or 10% of the people are indifferent.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, let, let me go back and ask you first what percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

Uh, I would say about 75%.

Interviewer:

What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 9:

In here, I think I would say 15%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 75% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 15% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 9:

Would you like me to repeat the question too?

Interviewer:

You can just answer it now, because you've repeated it before.

Respondent 9:

I think that yes, that would be about right.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 75% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly? And what percent favor it only somewhat? And you can just answer now, because we've done this-

Respondent 9:

I think, yes.

Interviewer:

... you've repeated this before.

Respondent 9:

I think that I would go with 50% feeling very strongly about it and 25% somewhat.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 15% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 9:

I think that they all feel very strong about, um, opposing the ban.

Interviewer:

So what percent would you say?

Respondent 9:

15.

Interviewer:

All 15?

Respondent 9:

All 15.

Interviewer:

And somewhat is zero?

Respondent 9:

Zero.

Interviewer:

Of all those US citizens who think of themselves as republicans who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it? And what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 9:

Can you please read that again?

Interviewer:

Of all those US citizens who think of themselves as republicans who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it? And what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 9:

Did you want me to repeat the question again?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 9:

Um, of all the people that consider themselves republicans, how much of them would you say ... Okay, of all the US citizens that consider themselves republicans and, um, are in favor of gay marriage, and the ones that are not in favor of gay marriage, w- how many of the ones that favor same sex marriage would you say are leaning towards, um, opposing the ban and how many of the people that are in favor of opposing the ban would you say are leaning towards, um, favoring the ban. Is that ... Is that right?

Interviewer:

I'm not sure if the way we, we wrote the question and the way you restated the question are quite the same or not but-

Respondent 9:

This- Is- Is the question at ... I- I think what the question is asking is how many of either opinion is leaning towards the other opinion.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 9:

That's what I've understood.

Interviewer:

What about the 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as republicans, who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriages-

Respondent 9:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Interviewer:

... between homosexuals.

Respondent 9:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Interviewer:

How many of them do you think lean toward favoring a ban? And how many of them do you think lean toward opposing a ban?

Respondent 9:

Maybe-

Interviewer:

Is that ... Is that the same as, as-

Respondent 9:

No. No, it's not.

Interviewer:

It's not the same. Okay.

Respondent 9:

No. Maybe, maybe half 50/50.

Interviewer:

And what makes you say 50/50?

Respondent 9:

Um, really I'm not basing it on much that I know. Just the guess.

Interviewer:

Okay. Suppose that an election were being held today, that would determine who the president of the United States is for the next four years, and imagine that the only candidates allowed to run in that election were Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. And imagine that you voted in that election, who would you vote for?

Respondent 9:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Bill Clinton or George W. Bush?

Respondent 9:

Okay. Um, think of, uh, think of, um, the situation as being that there's an election that we are going to the polls to vote and that the only two people that are running are Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. Which one would you vote for? And my answer is I would definitely vote for Bill Clinton, (laughs) definitely. Not ... I don't have to think about that one at all.

Interviewer:

And why is that?

Respondent 9:

Because in my opinion, George W. Bush is a moron and he should be in an institution along with everybody else in his family. And I think that, um, no one has hurt the American people as much as George Senior and George Junior, (laughs).

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Respondent 9:

Okay. The question is do you agree with, um, everything that George W. Bush is doing or do you disagree, or do you ... are you indifferent about what he's doing? No, I strongly disagree with everything that George Bush is doing and I think that again, he's the worst president that we ever had, (laughs).

Interviewer:

Okay. The next question is do you disapprove strongly or not strongly?

Respondent 9:

Do I despise him strongly? Yes, I despise him strongly.

Interviewer:

And what kinds of things do you think about in saying that you've disapprove with him strongly?

Respondent 9:

Um, and what kind of things do you ...

Interviewer:

I'm just asking you to. You don't have to rephrase that.

Respondent 9:

Okay.

Interviewer:

I'm just asking you to sort of think out loud about that.

Respondent 9:

I- I think about, I think about his foreign policy. I think about how he's made Americans look like aliens to the rest of the world. I think about the man not being able ... I- I think I speak better English than George Bush- Bush does. Um, I think that his mannerism, um, the way he stands up, the way he dresses, the way he looks, the way he acts is like a peasant. And I just, um, I've never felt so, um, I don't think that George Bush has done American population justice.

I think Americans, you know, I'm, I'm sure I don't need to, um, um, remind you that I'm not a born, uh, American and I came from elsewhere, um, but I truly believe before George Bush, I thought of Americans as being, although I'm an American myself now, but I always thought that Americans were of a very higher class. I think George Bush has lowered the class of America and Americans, um, by a hundred percent.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Respondent 9:

I totally disapprove of the way he's handling the economy.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly or not strongly?

Respondent 9:

S- very strongly.

Interviewer:

Strongly, okay. And can you say a bit about how you feel about his, how he, what you think about in saying that you strongly disapprove of his handling of the economy?

Respondent 9:

Yes. Um, I- I think that, um, there is no check in balance between what he's doing. I think that, um, the cost of living is going up at a ridiculous rate and that wages are remaining, um, as low as they were when he took office. And, um, I think that, um, in his ... uh, with his leadership, the rich are getting richer, the poor are getting poorer and the middleman are paying the taxes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling our relations with foreign countries?

Respondent 9:

I strongly disapprove and I think that he has made us look very bad in front of the world. And I think that, um, his foreign policy is very, very poor. My meter is gonna run out, Matt.

Interviewer:

Okay. Yeah. We're coming up, we're coming up on an hour.

Respondent 9:

Okay.

Interviewer:

We- we can stop at ... How much time do you have left on your meter?

Respondent 9:

About five minutes.

Interviewer:

Okay. We better stop now and I'll get your co- your information so we can send you a check.

Respondent 9:

Okay. Well, um, if you wanna do the five minutes, I'll have a few more minutes. I'm just parked right there, so if you wanna-

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you wanna go on a couple more [crosstalk 00:53:16]?

Respondent 9:

Go ahead. Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. We're just about almost at the end actually. Do you think that the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency was more, less, or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 9:

No way. Not at all. A lot less.

Interviewer:

Less? How confident are you that that answer is correct?

Respondent 9:

I'm very confident.

Interviewer:

Extremenely confident, very confident-

Respondent 9:

Extremely confident.

Interviewer:

Extremely confident? What do you think about in saying that it's less and that you're extremely confident?

Respondent 9:

I'm sorry, why? Why do I think that? Because of the way, uh, the economy way.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 9:

Um, the way people were spending money and when you talk to people, everyone seemed happy and employed and, um, then when he took office, a lot of people, um, took jobs, uh, that were paying less.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you put that first question in your own words? Do you think the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency was more, less or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 9:

Do you think that George W. Bush, um, created more jobs or less jobs, um, in his first four years as president of the United States or, uh, Bill Clinton in his first four years of being, um, the leader of the United States?

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year, the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

Respondent 9:

Gotten worse.

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 9:

Do you think that the, um, economic situation of the United States has improved within the last year or has gone down? And I think that it has gone down.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what kinds of things do you think about in saying that it has gone down?

Respondent 9:

I think about people that have, that have all had to, um, get cheaper cars, um, more, eh, uh, economy way of living, because they can't afford to, uh, drive their luxury cars. They ... A lot of people have had to, uh, move from their homes to going to smaller homes or have given up their homes as a result of foreclosure and things like that.

Interviewer:

Okay. On another subject now, how likely do you think it is that a majority of all people on earth will die all at once sometime during the next 100 years because of a single event? Extremely likely, very likely, moderately likely, slightly likely or not likely at all?

Respondent 9:

Not likely at all, (laughs).

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 9:

Do you think that as a result of, um, a single happening, um, the earth will be destroyed and that everyone on the planet will die?

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in saying that that's not likely at all?

Respondent 9:

Because I just don't think that that would be the end of creation. I- I think in my mind, life goes on whether it's somewhere, somewhere in the world, a group of people will exist and will ... civilization will continue.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well and I know you're out of time and that's the last questionnaire, last question in this section. So-

Respondent 9:

Did you want me ... Can I borrow your pen?

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 9:

I'll write it here for you.

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 9:

Is that good enough?

Interviewer:

Yeah. And I'll stop the tape now.

Interview 10

Interviewer:

Okay. I've started the tape, and that's okay?

Respondent 10:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 10:

How much do I believe my fellow humans can, or able to transform their personalities?

Interviewer:

Okay. That's just the kind of rewording that's helpful.

Respondent 10:

(laughs). Okay.

Interviewer:

That's good.

Respondent 10:

It seems kinda silly. Um, and I answer one of these answers though, right?

Interviewer:

Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 10:

And I need to think aloud. Um-

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 10:

... 'cause I'm not even sure how I feel about that.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

I, I think, perhaps, a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

But, I don't know how to think aloud beyond-

Interviewer:

Well, what kinds, what kinds of things do you think about in deciding that it's a moderate amount?

Respondent 10:

Well, I'm trying to think of things like through religion. Do people really change that much? I mean, they're still basically the same, they're and they might have different beliefs-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... but they still probably act, you know, they're still pro- much the same. And then I think about, also, people in prisons who are supposed to be, you know, reformed and are they really ... you know, does that really happen so much? I think maybe to a degree it does, but I don't ... I think, basically, we're much the same people that we were when we were born.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 10:

Defend an opinion, correct?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Hmm.

Interviewer:

If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 10:

In order to, to explain, but also to ... What word am I looking for? I'm lost for words for define. In order to explain, and hope, and also hope, and with hopes to-

Interviewer:

Take your time

Respondent 10:

... um, kind of, I'm in a lost ... total loss for words. Um-

Interviewer:

Well, if you defend-

Respondent 10:

... bring one to, you know, ho- and hopes to explain, and my opinion to another person, explain and perhaps encourage that other person to come to my side of the opinion also. Now, I forgot what the question was (laughs). It comes that to how-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... successful. Um-

Interviewer:

How successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 10:

How with how much s- [inaudible 00:05:01] accuracy ... Not accuracy. How, how well, how well can I do it?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

I'm sorry (laughs). I'm sorry. I know this is hard. But, um-

Interviewer:

It's harder [inaudible] for me.

Respondent 10:

(laughs). And with that question, I have to say (laughs) not very well. Um, moderately.

Interviewer:

Moderately?

Respondent 10:

Moderately.

Interviewer:

Okay. And, and what makes you think-

Respondent 10:

Moderately?

Interviewer:

... moderately?

Respondent 10:

Because I'm a bit of a shy person. I, I like to speak my mind, but yet I'm a little shy to speak out. So, it would have to be an opinion that I was very passionate about in order to successfully get my point across.

Interviewer:

Okay. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most? Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 10:

In the walls (laughs), within which you reside or labor (laughs) ... Are the walls with- with, within which you reside or labor, and how well organized. Organized, right?

Interviewer:

How disorganized.

Respondent 10:

Disorganized, disorganized. How clark, know or not ordered? Let's see, just organized. How, um, um, how, how order in what are they ... To what degree of order do you keep your space?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

I wouldn't say extremely, I'd said the next one down, I can't remember what it was.

Interviewer:

Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all.

Respondent 10:
Very disorganized,

Interviewer:
Very disorganized.

Respondent 10:
I, I do not have a system at all. And, uh, I have children, so anything moves around on me.

Interviewer:
Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 10:
Do I enjoy like ... So, do I enjoy? Do I enjoy spontaneous situations? Yes, I like them very much. I, I, I like ... And I'm supposed to continue explaining why I like them, is that correct?

Interviewer:
Please.

Respondent 10:
I like varieties despite I like. I, I don't ... I get bored if everything is the same every day.

Interviewer:
Do you like unpredictable situations a great deal, a moderate amount, or a little?

Respondent 10:
A great deal.

Interviewer:
Okay. What do you think about in saying a great deal, or what makes you like them a great deal?

Respondent 10:
I think there's something to ... new to learn and change. So, if I don't always know what to expect, it keeps me on my feet-

Interviewer:
Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:
... and I, I, I like that feeling.

Interviewer:

Okay. How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 10:

Can I ask a quick question?

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 10:

Do I have to change the words, how many around?

Interviewer:

Well-

Respondent 10:

You'd like me to.

Interviewer:

... if, if you can.

Respondent 10:

Okay (laughs).

Interviewer:

I know it can be-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:10:23].

Interviewer:

... I know it can be difficult, and-

Respondent 10:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... and feels unnatural, but it helps us to see-

Respondent 10:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... what the words make you think of.

Respondent 10:

Can you read the sentence for me again, please?

Interviewer:

Sure. How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently?

Respondent 10:

Are there few or many, or somewhere in between? (laughs). I don't want to say this. Uh, [inaudible 00:11:19]. When you must make up your mind about something, uh, serious, a ma- a serious matter, what percentage of the time do I ... No, something like that. Of the time do I make ... do you make a decision about an important ... Not important. Well, I think I had a less an amount (laughs) a serious matter.

Interviewer:

You said a serious matter?

Respondent 10:

Okay. Can I answer now?

Interviewer:

What about the part that says quickly and confidently?

Respondent 10:

Oh, okay. With speed ... Do you do so with speed? And do you feel good about your decision?

Interviewer:

Okay. And would you say all, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 10:

I would say about half. Sometimes if it's a matter I feel strongly about, and it, it might come ... the decision comes quickly, and-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... confidently. But if it's uncharted territory, I might take my time to think about it.

Interviewer:

Okay. What about the confidence part?

Respondent 10:

Co- I'm only confident, maybe half the time with the more, the more strongly I feel about the situation, the more confident I am. But if it's a new situation for me, I'm not as confident or as quick.

Interviewer:

When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 10:

Can you read the first part, again, when you don't understand.

Interviewer:

When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel?

Respondent 10:

If a situation occurs that you don't have a grasp of, how at ease do you feel? Um, can you read the categories too, again, please?

Interviewer:

Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 10:

The situation, the situation occurs, right?

Interviewer:

When you don't understand-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:15:27].

Interviewer:

... the reason why something happens in your life-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:15:29] happens in my life.

Interviewer:

... how uncomfortable does that make you feel?

Respondent 10:

Slightly uncomfortable. I don't, I don't believe that everything happens for a reason, and I, I don't feel a lot of self pity, I don't think. If something happened bad to me-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... I don't feel like I sit around and all over it, like for me, or me. Yet, if something does happen, I don't know, just slightly uncomfortable, I would say.

Interviewer:

Okay. You ... It sounded like you were starting to talk about how often you feel uncomfortable. Is that part of the thinking of how often something makes you feel uncomfortable?

Respondent 10:

How often something makes me feel uncomfortable?

Interviewer:

Is that-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:16:38].

Interviewer:

... is that part of the thinking or, or did I misunderstand you?

Respondent 10:

Maybe you misunders- maybe you misunderstood maybe, 'cause-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

... I'm not sure what I said, or what, what (laughs), what you mean.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:16:51] great question.

Interviewer:

So, when you say that not understanding the reason why something happens in your life-

Respondent 10:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... makes you slightly uncomfortable?

Respondent 10:

Maybe slightly, if, if ... Yeah, slightly.

Interviewer:

Okay. In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

When I perceive two people, two humans, (laughs) two of my fellow humans are not getting along, or having a disagreement, with what frequency can you understand each person's perspective? Hmm. Perhaps ... Well, I'm not too quick to judge people, I don't think.

I do ... And I do tend to believe people often, you know. And, and I ... So, I would say fairly good. I don't remember the categories, but I, I'm fairly good at seeing both people's sides. But in certain situations, I must say, I'm probably more biased than others, so maybe not.

Interviewer:

The categories were always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never.

Respondent 10:

And the question is, I just, I can ... I think, I don't understand the question. The question is, can I see both people's sides, right?

Interviewer:

In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

It's probably, I'd say about half the time. I believe that maybe, you know, people see things, understand things differently. So-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... whatever each person is saying, they truly believe is true for them, you know.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you are with other people, how often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

Um, when I hang out with other humans with what frequency (laughs) do you, um, attempt to ... What was the original, entertain and put on a show, right?

Interviewer:

How often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them?

Respondent 10:

What frequency do you act, act outside of your normal? Have (laughs) a great personality (laughs) to, in order to, and, um, make, to ... in order to gain the other people's confidence or friendship, or in order to make them feel comfortable, or happy? I don't know (laughs). Um, do that a lot, quite frequently.

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

Well, I'd say about half the time. I'm not so interested in impressing people. I don't ... I'm not a bragger, but yet I'm somewhat of a co-dependent personality. So, I'm constantly trying to make people feel comfortable, and at home, and happy, you know. So, I would say that's, kind of, a different question to answer, because I think trying to impress someone, and entertain them aren't necessarily the same thing-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... you know.

Interviewer:

How good or bad of an actor would you be? Excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

Respondent 10:

If you would like to ... Actor. Um, to what degree do you believe you can, um, imitate ... No. Um, I can't think of another way for actor. (laughs). Let's think of this a second. Um-

Interviewer:

You could think about what actors do, or-

Respondent 10:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... who they are, or what they're like that might help.

Respondent 10:

Okay. An actor puts him ... puts him or herself into another person's, I wanna say their personal situation, and having to try to ... That's a tough one. If, if you wanted to play the part of another person in a film, stage or whatnot-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... would you excel or suck? There you go.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

(laughs). I think ... Aiya aiya, I think I would do a pretty poor job. I, I'm too shy to act.

Interviewer:

When you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

When you are together with several individuals, with what frequency are you the person captivating all of the other individuals? I would say about half the time. It depends on who I'm with. If it's people I'm very comfortable with, then I'm a bit of a [game 00:28:34]. I like to joke and be silly, and I can hog the attention. If I'm uncomfortable, then I, I'm a wild flower, and I'm never the center of attention.

Interviewer:

Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 10:

Gosh, that's a tough question even without having to rephrase it. Um, Usually, uh, with ... Not usually. Um, with ... On an average basis, do you believe what others tell you, or I'll just tell you, but also ... Okay. Is that good enough?

Interviewer:

If that's what it means to you.

Respondent 10:

(laughs). Well, that's weird because it's not necessarily, it doesn't mean that thing, because it's not necessarily a spoken thing-

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 10:

... you know.

Interviewer:

What does trust-

Respondent 10:

A trust-

Interviewer:

... make you think of, if you can trust someone?

Respondent 10:

If I can trust someone, it means what it make me think of. Um, can I let down my guard with someone and feel that they will harm me in any way, or try to deceive me in any way? Maybe.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

And how often? Hmm. That's weird, because some ways I'm a very trusting individual, but then in other situations, I don't trust anybody. For instance, with my daughters, I don't wanna ... They're young, they're, they're small. I don't ever want them out of my sight for a second, you know. Because one, (laughs) I don't trust them that much.

You know, I do trust them, but you know what? The younger one, I don't, 'cause she's a flight risk. But I can't trust anybody, you know, because I don't know people. But yet on the other hand, I would say I'm fairly trusting of people. What situations am I trusting?

Interviewer:

So, generally speaking.

Respondent 10:

Generally speaking, a half and half and half, I'd have to say.

Interviewer:

Okay. Next, I will describe some people. Please, tell me how much each person is, or is not like you. Very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all.

First, she thinks it is important that every person in the world be treated equally. She believes everyone should have equal opportunities in life. Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

Am I supposed to paraphrase this one also, or just answer that one [crosstalk 00:33:25]-

Interviewer:

You can do just-

Respondent 10:

... as one question?

Interviewer:

... one part at a time, if, if that's easier since it's long.

Respondent 10:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

First, she thinks it is important that every person in the world be treated equally.

Respondent 10:

She believes that each person on our planet should be treated ... Should not be ... should have the same ... should be offered the same rights as the next person.

Interviewer:

She believes everyone should have equal opportunities in life.

Respondent 10:

She thinks that each individual should have the same ... be given the same chance as, as, as the next individual.

Interviewer:

Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

Very much like me.

Interviewer:

What comes to mind in thinking that this person is very much like you?

Respondent 10:

Well, I think of myself as a person with a very open mind. I, I respect others' beliefs and believe that we're all basically just, you know, we're all the same, you know, sort of. We're all just here (laughs), and basically, we're all in- individuals and-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... um, that we all deserve to enjoy, enjoy life, and what it has to offer us.

Interviewer:

Next. It's very important to her to help the people around her. She wants to care for their wellbeing.

Respondent 10:

It is, you said important, right?

Interviewer:

It's very important to her-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:36:35].

Interviewer:

... to help the people around her. She wants to care for their wellbeing.

Respondent 10:

It is very ... it is a matter that she takes very seriously to attend to those in need around her.

Interviewer:

She wants to care for their wellbeing.

Respondent 10:

She-

Interviewer:

How would you put that in your own words?

Respondent 10:

... she wants to ... Let me think. She wants to ... Hmm. She wants to attend to their needs, their needs both their wellbeing. And, um, like, it's all kinds of needs. It could be your physical needs, if they're sick or their mental needs, or their, maybe, just their material needs.

Interviewer:

Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

She wants to take care of all those around her, right?

Interviewer:

It's very important to her to help the people around her. She wants to care for their wellbeing. Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

No, I'm sorry. Can you tell me the category, again? After very, what, kinda, comes after that, somewhat?

Interviewer:

Very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, not like you at all.

Respondent 10:

Somewhat like me. She ... I, I tend to care for the wellbeing of those that I'm close to. And I do also care for, you know, strangers around, too, but yet, I feel not everybody (laughs). No, I'm not there to save the world. To save [inaudible 00:40:05].

Interviewer:

Are the categories for the responses to this question, um, unintuitive, or hard to choose from?

Respondent 10:

No. They're, they're are on [crosstalk 00:40:25].

Interviewer:

Tradition is important to her. She tries to follow the customs handed down by her religion, or her family.

Respondent 10:

Don't you throw customs. I was going (laughs) to the customs. No, I'm gonna do. Let's see. Um, having ...
Hmm.

Interviewer:

Does tradition make you think of anything besides custom?

Respondent 10:

Um, to me, I don't know the dictionary definition of, of either word, but to me customs are more something you share with your fellow people, either your fellow countrymen or people from what area you come from, whereas tradition is more personal. But, I don't know the dict- that's just what-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

... it means to me, you know.

Interviewer:

That's, that's fine. I don't care what the dictionary says.

Respondent 10:

(Laughs).

Interviewer:

I care what, what pa- what people think of.

Respondent 10:

Um, So in situations that are passed down by one, your relatives or your belief system. Now, I've forgotten what I'm trying to do, where I'm going with it.

Interviewer:

Tradition is important to her. She tries to follow the customs handed down by her religion or her family.

Respondent 10:

She tries to go along with the, the, uh, beliefs or actions of her, I don't know, (laughs) of her member, uh, of her relatives or her. But if, um-

Interviewer:

Okay, Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

I'm sorry. Sometimes when I try to change the meaning ... try to rephrase it-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... I kind of lose the original question. So, can you repeat it to me, please?

Interviewer:

Certainly. Tradition is important to her. She tries to follow the customs handed down by her religion, or her family. Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

Somewhat like me. For example, I, I, I really enjoy doing the same things on holidays that, that I experienced when I was a child. I like to do the same things. However, I really wasn't brought up with religion, so it's kind of hard to say in that aspect. But, I also enjoy, you know, creating, doing new things in my own way, you know. I don't-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... believe that everything that my predecessors did was necessarily the one and only way to do it.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). She believes that people should do what they're told. She thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching.

Respondent 10:

(Laughs). Okay. She, she thinks that ... Can we take it in steps?

Interviewer:

Sure. She believes-

Respondent 10:

I'm not supposed to be looking outside, or anything.

Interviewer:

... She believes that people should do what they're told.

Respondent 10:

She believes that ... She thinks that others should act upon ... Should others, should ... Others should follow the example set forth by ... Not necessarily example. Should act out on the rules ... Should just follow ... Should not question what others tell her. No. (laughs). She, she believes that she should always do what she is told. She believes she should act out every instruction given.

Interviewer:

The next part is, she thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching.

Respondent 10:

She believes that others should ... In every situation, she believes that others ... She believes that people should always do the ... do as they are told. Follow the guidelines set forth by others each and every time without fail, even if nobody else is around. And where, if, if nobody else is, is even aware of what she's doing.

Interviewer:

Is this person very much like you ... Or, actually, maybe I should read the original question before I ask the response options. She believes that people should do what they're told. She thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching. Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

She believe ... Can you read it one more time?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Because it seems a little ambiguous to me.

Interviewer:

She believes that people should do what they're told. She thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching.

Respondent 10:

Okay. Here's, here's what I'm a little bit confused about with that question.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

That's two different things. If she, she believes what she is told might not be, necessarily be what the rule is. Maybe the rule is, don't, don't jump in the fountain, and her buddy next to her saying, "Hey, come jump to the fountain."

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

So, I don't really know how to answer that question, because it s- really seems like it's two different parts.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's fair. It is important to her to live in secure surroundings. She avoids anything that might endanger her safety.

Respondent 10:

It is a series ... It is her desire to reside in a safe environment. What was the second part?

Interviewer:

She avoids anything that might endanger her safety.

Respondent 10:

She does her best not to ... She avoids anything that might endanger her safety. She does her best to not engage in any activity that might put her at risk.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind as you think about how to answer this question? It's important to her to live in secure surroundings. She avoids anything that might endanger her safety.

Respondent 10:

That's very much like me. Because I'm a big old chicken, chicken. Um, and I at home, I, I will, you know, check the doors four times to make sure they're locked or, um, I would love the freedom of walking out on the street by myself at 3:00 AM. However, I only do it when necessary. I will avoid that situation when possible.

Interviewer:

It is important to her to be in charge and tell others what to do. She wants people to do what she says.

Respondent 10:

It is important for her to be the boss woman. She feels strongly that others ... Can you read the second part, again, please?

Interviewer:

She wants people to do what she says.

Respondent 10:

She would like others to act on her instructions.

Interviewer:

Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

Depends on who the people are. Um, (laughs) for instance, I very much want my children to listen to me, yet I can care less if ... I know, I, I always want to be heard, but I don't necessarily care if people act out and do ... I don't, I don't really want to tell others what to do.

Interviewer:

So, if you had to choose, would you say-

Respondent 10:

[crosstalk 00:52:59].

Interviewer:

... this person is very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you-

Respondent 10:

A little like me.

Interviewer:

... not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

No, maybe I, I actually, I would like to believe that I'm not like her, but I think I am a little more like her, to be honest with you. You know, people call me, my sisters and whatnot can call me boss lady, or ... So, guess I can be a little bossy. And Honestly, then I'd have to say somewhat, maybe, like me.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

I don't want to believe it, but it's true. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Being very successful is important to her. She hopes people will recognize her achievements.

Respondent 10:

Boy, that's such a, a successful, really success, you know, it's so different to each of the people. So, I don't know if the question is intended to have a specific meaning or not, but I don't know if it means more of a career thing or just, "Okay. I'm successful because I, you know, I enjoyed my life, and I'm happy where I'm at," sort of, a deal, you know?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

So, but I think that usually success means to some certain material achievement, you know, as opposed to whatnot.

Interviewer:

So how would-

Respondent 10:

So-

Interviewer:

... you put that part in your own words? Being successful is important to her.

Respondent 10:

Proving her ability is successful? I or not good. Maybe just, uh, being successful is important to her. It is the ability to feel good, and do good about herself, is something that she holds dear. I don't know, (laughs) I'm not ... I'm doing very well [crosstalk 00:56:08]. (laughs).

Interviewer:

Okay. But, I, I'm, I'm hearing that the word successful can mean-

Respondent 10:

It makes me a little nervous, that word.

Interviewer:

... different things to you. Yeah.

Respondent 10:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

'Cause on the-

Respondent 10:

Because-

Interviewer:

... one hand-

Respondent 10:

... on the one hand, why it makes ... that word kind of makes me a little bit nervous is, I, I don't work, I don't have a job, I don't have a career. So, I think a lot of people measure their tur- their success by their career, and I don't have a career to measure my success by. But yet, I'm a good person, I'm a, you know, I think I'm happy in my life. So, in that aspect, it's a success, at least, for myself, you know. The next I might say, "Hey, you know, look at her."

Interviewer:

Okay. What about the second part of the question? She hopes people will recognize her achievements.

Respondent 10:

She wishes for others to acknowledge her accomplishments.

Interviewer:

Okay. Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all.

Respondent 10:

She's a, she's somewhat like. I'm like, and like, I feel good when people recognize, you know, that I'm, you know, a caring person, an honest person, a good mother, a good parent, you know. But I don't, like, go out of my way to strive to, you know, get people to do that. But, if they do recognize it on their own, then I'm happy. I feel good.

Interviewer:

She seeks every chance she can have to have ... I'm sorry. Let me start again. She seeks every chance she can to have fun. It is important to her to do things that give her pleasure.

Respondent 10:

She looks for every opportunity to enjoy herself. It is ... She feels strongly that one should always seek out activities that bring joyfulness.

Interviewer:

Is this person very much like you, like you, somewhat like you, a little like you, not like you, or not like you at all?

Respondent 10:

Very much like me. I think why is he like me? Somewhat, maybe, maybe just one level down. I don't remember the degree, but maybe just one level down from very much.

Interviewer:

Very much like you, like you, somewhat like you.

Respondent 10:

Like me.

Interviewer:

Why like you?

Respondent 10:

Why like me? Because I like to enjoy life. I like to do activities that bring pleasure, but yet I'm not a thrill seeker. I don't feel like I have to go out and do it at all times in order to enjoy myself, yet, yet, probably maybe more than others, I enjoy, you know, some sort of stimulation, not just sitting at home or whatever.

Interviewer:

She looks for adventures and likes to take risks. She wants to have an exciting life.

Respondent 10:

She looks for situations outside of, I don't know, spirit of activity. She wants to have a life. She desires a life with little boredom, a life filled with a meaning. A life ... She wants to have fun. Girls just want to have fun.

Interviewer:

And can you think out loud about how you would answer?

Respondent 10:

She's very much like me. I like, I like doing things that can be risky sometimes. Well, okay, she's not very much, maybe she's like me, I would say. I mean, I, I, you know, I don't ... I'm not into X sports or anything, so, you know, I can't say that, but I do like to do many things that many people wouldn't consider, you know. And I like to have fun.

Interviewer:

It is important to her to make her own decisions about what she does. She likes to be free and not depend on others.

Respondent 10:

It is, uh, it is ... She believes that the important, important things that she might ... Wait, she belie- she wants to be in control of her actions and feelings. She, not in control of ... She, um ... Can you reread that for me, please?

Interviewer:

It is important to her to make her own decisions about what she does. She likes to be free, and not depend on others.

Respondent 10:

She likes to be independent, and to have the ability to do as she pleases without the ... And she does not look for the ... She does not wait for the go ahead from others.

Interviewer:

Can you think aloud about your answer?

Respondent 10:

She's like me. She ... I mean, I very much like to ... I don't really spend too much time worrying about what others will think, you know, or do, or, you know. For example, in my, in my marriage with my husband, I ... it's important for me that I can have some time that's just only my own time.

And, of course, I will always ca- talk to him about what ... But in the end, you know, what I want to do or what, you know, to make sure that it's nothing that he just violently opposes. But in the end, pretty much, I always I'm gonna do what I'm gonna do or, you know. And it's important to me, very important to me to have the, that ability, you know.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 10:

If you, if one ... if you really ... It's a, (laughs) it's a tough one to rephrase, let's say. If you really needed some extra cash to survive or for something very important, could you ... w- would you ask your ... the people who you're close to? Yes.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about saying yes?

Respondent 10:

Well, I just borrowed money (laughs) in order to get here and pay for the parking. And I borrowed some quarters from one of my family members. So-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... it's ... I, I don't ... Generally, I, I don't know if there's a category like all the time, sometimes, never, sort of, a question? You know, what's ... what are the ... What's the-

Interviewer:

Well, it just says if you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money?

Respondent 10:

It's just, kind of, a yes or no?

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 10:

Yes, I could do it. I don't particularly like to do it-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... so, I'll avoid it whenever possible, but I'll do it if I need to.

Interviewer:

What is the largest amount you could borrow from any family member or close friend?

Respondent 10:

And I will paraphrase this one, too?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 10:

How much money could you ask for from those people whom you're close to, feel comfortable with?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Um, I, I, I struggle with money myself, so I would say not more than \$200. If I, you know, it j- it just depends. I don't want to borrow more than would give me a difficult time to pay back, you know?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

So, for some that might be just a little bit of money. And if I had a job where I made a lot of money, then I might borrow more.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

But for me, that's what I could feel comfortable with paying back.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in California these days?

Respondent 10:

Average pri- paraphrase? (laughs) I know about gasoline, I'm gonna have a difficult time with that one. Okay. (laughs). Can I just answer that one? No.

Interviewer:

Well, can you think of another way to put it?

Respondent 10:

When picturing ... when including, including all of the gas stations, the fuel ... the s- the establishment selling fuels for car, or other motorized machine, whatever, I'm (laughs) taking all of the gas stations in the state of California, and determining the middle price between the highest and the lowest.

If you're going to calculate that middle price, what would it be for the fuel? (laughs) I would say I don't, I don't know all of California. So, I know here in the Bay Area, it's probably about 2.20, 2.60, but I know down other areas is probably cheaper. So, my guess would be maybe \$2 and 40 cents.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 10:

Seven. Oh, out of the seven days, Monday through Sunday. How many days Monday through Sunday do you operate a vehicle? Seven days. Every day I go somewhere in my car.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Five days I take my kids to school, the other two days, I go out of town for fun.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 10:

During, uh, the span of Sunday through Monday, with what frequency do you pay attention to the cost of the fuel? The cost of fuel at the gas station? Um, once a week, maybe. I don't really look at the cost of gas if I'm not filling my gas tank.

Interviewer:

So, your answer would be-

Respondent 10:

About once a week.

Interviewer:

One?

Respondent 10:

Yeah. Is ... Yeah, once a week. 'Cause the question was only about during a week, right?

Interviewer:

During a typical week.

Respondent 10:

Okay. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Yeah. During August, about what percent of all the adults living in California do you think are not employed at any job, and were looking for work?

Respondent 10:

During the eighth month of the year, when looking at all of those people over the age of ... What's an adult, 21? 21. (laughs). How many ... What percentage on a scale of one to 100 percentage. Okay. (laughs). I forgot what you were saying. Okay, let's see. Um, out of those ... out of 100 people, how many Californians are active ... are seeking employment? Or not seeking necessarily, just don't have employment, or are seeking?

Interviewer:

During August, about what percent of all the adults living in California do you think were not employed at any job, and were looking for work?

Respondent 10:

Okay. What then were not working any, quite any job. Working at any ... Working, and they were looking ... they were seeking employment. Wow. I don't know the unemployment rate, but I think it's quite high, because I know so many people looking for work right now.

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 10:

So, I would guess maybe those looking for work, I don't know, I don't have no clue. I would say 10%.

Interviewer:

10%?

Respondent 10:

Maybe, I have no clue what it is. But, I think that's probably high, but I think, you know, I think ... I don't know. One out of every 10 people. No, maybe not quite. But, I think it's higher than what we might know, you know?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Because I think a lot of people, maybe they, they had a job, they lost the job, they got unemployment. Then they got cut off of the unemployment while they're still looking for work. So, maybe they fall out of the system of, you know what I mean?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

They ... So, there's really, they're not figured into the unemployment rate or whatever.

Interviewer:

So, would you say ... What percent would you say, then?

Respondent 10:

So, if going one out of a 100, I'd have to say maybe one out of every 10 people I would say is unemployed, so 10%. Maybe I, I'll stick with 10%.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

Well, maybe let's, let's make a 15 just for the hell of it even though I feel it's probably a little high, I don't know.

Interviewer:

Okay. About your religious beliefs, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, or something else? Or are you not religious?

Respondent 10:

I'm not religious. I have no way how to ... No way ... No ... I do not know how to paraphrase the different religions there. I wouldn't know how to change those up, but, yeah.

Interviewer:

Do you find the question clear in its meaning?

Respondent 10:

Yes I do.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important of your life or not?

Respondent 10:

Not an important part of my life. No. Paraphrase it? Do you, you believe that some type of, uh, belief system, or belief in a higher power or some type of belief is of great value for your own ... for yourself? No.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Not for me.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying no.

Respondent 10:

What do I think about in saying no? I, I don't practice any religion. And so, if I don't practice it, I can't really hold it important-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... to myself. And I ... to me, I believe that it's not necessary for me.

Interviewer:

Okay. Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms or funerals?

Respondent 10:

Many people are due to unforeseen circumstances are unable to go to church and mosque, whatever, a location to practice their religion. Now, I forgot the rest of the question.

Interviewer:

Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms or funerals?

Respondent 10:

In my own personal experience, do I ever attend, go to a place for worship? No. Was that the question?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

Yes. No. No, I do not.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 10:

Um, although I must admit, I've thought about it for the social aspect, you know, for ... to have a bigger sense of community-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 10:

... I considered that.

Interviewer:

But you haven't attended any-

Respondent 10:

But I haven't actually-

Interviewer:

... anything that you think of as a-

Respondent 10:

... done it, no.

Interviewer:

... a service?

Respondent 10:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. That's all the questions-

Respondent 10:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... that I have for you. I'm gonna stop the tape, and-

Respondent 10:

I'm sorry. I kinda crippled this up a bit.

Interviewer:

No, problem. I'll stop the tape and get your, um, address so we can send you a cheque.

Respondent 10:

Okay.

Interview 11

Interviewer:

And let me just confirm that it's okay to record this, this conversation.

Respondent 11:

Yeah, it's fine.

Interviewer:

Okay. Great. First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 11:

Okay. So the question is, how much control does the person have over changing fundamentally who they are? And in order to answer it, first I'd have to think about what it means, like who a person is and what you'd be trying to change, whether it's personality or in state or socialization. And, and I would think about how deeply ingrained habits are and things like that and how they got to be that way. So whether they were learned from example, like watching their parents or their society or media. Um, and I would say my answer to the question is that they have some control, I think. Can you repeat the answer choices for me?

Interviewer:

Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 11:

I would say a moderate amount, because I think that part of who you are is learned, and part of it is just so deeply ingrained by where you come from.

Interviewer:

Okay, great.

Respondent 11:

Did I do it right?

Interviewer:

Those are just exactly the kinds of responses that are especially helpful, restating the question in your own words, and then thinking out loud as you answer, so that's perfect. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 11:

What was the verb you used? If I wanted to what an opinion?

Interviewer:

Defend. If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 11:

You're asking me how well I can back up my beliefs?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

Um, and in order to answer the question, I would have to first think about what an opinion or a belief that I have is. I would probably think of a specific example. I would think about how knowledgeable I am in that area. So if it was, you know, a political belief, I would think about, you know, is my opinion based on kind of a gut feeling, an emotional response, or more factual evidence?

Respondent 11:

Um, I would have to consider who I'm talking to. Um, I think that if I was talking to somebody who was really well educated, I might be more intimidated or less capable of defending my opinion, um, if the person was argumentative. And I think that in general, I'm, I'm capable of defending my opinion.

Interviewer:

Would you say extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 11:

I would say very successfully.

Interviewer:

How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most? Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 11:

So you're asking me how well I organize my space, home and work?

Interviewer:

Could you put organized or disorganized into different words?

Respondent 11:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Um, so the question is asking me, do I have a functioning system or where things go, does everything have a place and a purpose? Is there a method, a structure in, in terms of how I keep my things, my personal belongings and my workspace? And in order to answer it, I have to think... I'd probably picture in my head the different spaces. I would say I would picture, you know, my office, my car, my room, and my kitchen would probably be the first ones that would come to my mind, because that's where I spend most of my time.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 11:

I would think about what they look like when they're not organized, like when things have gotten messy and what they look like on a daily basis. And I would probably say... well, can you repeat the answer choices to me?

Interviewer:

Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all.

Respondent 11:

Um, my answer would be not disorganized at all. And I think that one more step in my process of deciding that would be to think about other people's spaces that I've witnessed and how they look to sort of make a comparison to rate my own on a continuum.

Interviewer:

And relative to others, yours is much less disorganized?

Respondent 11:

Right. I'm a very organized person.

Interviewer:

Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them, or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 11:

Um, they're asking my feelings about spontaneity and chaos and how I react to the unexpected or the unknown. And I would say that I neither like nor dislike them. And I came to that conclusion because sometimes I like them and sometimes I don't, it goes either way. Um, and I thought of about how thrilling a good surprise can be and how disconcerting the unknown can be. It can be scary sometimes. So I can both enjoy and not enjoy situations like that.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward liking unpredictable situations, lean toward disliking unpredictable situations, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 11:

So the question is asking me If I have a tendency toward enjoying spontaneity, or a tendency towards fearing unpredictability, disorganization, the unknown. And I would say... I would think about, well, first place I went with that is kind of a self-judgment sort of like, "Well, I should be fine with the unknown or the unexpected. I should be able to just go with the flow and be flexible."

Respondent 11:

And then I would think about how much I value flexibility and people who are easygoing. And then I thought about a certain like a, a gut sense of uneasiness that comes along with not being able to, to plan and being caught off guard. And I would say that I lean toward disliking those types of situations.

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me, am I more likely to be cautious with big life choices or impulsive? And do I trust myself in making those kinds of decisions? And I would... first, I would think about what kind of life decisions they're talking about, because there are things like, you know, should I spend \$20 on this meal? Or should I save my money? You know, there are financial decisions, and then I think about like interpersonal kinds of things, like in terms of like love relationships or families.

Respondent 11:

And I think about how I would decide which kind of important decisions you're talking about. And I would go with what I think are important, what I value, which is probably more, um, some of, some of each kind of big decisions as in like to switch jobs or something like that. But also like, you know, do I break up with my partner? Do I stay with my partner? Kind of thing. And I would say that I make my decisions more slowly. What was, what was the exact answer choice words, again?

Interviewer:

All... well, let me read the question and the answer choice all at once.

Respondent 11:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 11:

I would say about half.

Interviewer:

Is there anything in particular that makes you prefer that answer?

Respondent 11:

Um, I think... well, there were two words in the question, quickly and confidently. And quickly makes me think impulsively, and confidently makes me think I know what I'm talking about, so I know where I stand on things. So I would say that some of my decisions are quick, but not confident. And some of them are confident but not quick. So that's why I chose the middle answer, because I think that there's some of each.

Interviewer:

So you're sort of splitting the difference between what feels like a question that's asking you about two different things?

Respondent 11:

Yeah, because the decisions that I make most confidently, I don't necessarily make them the quickest, but there are definitely some decisions that I make very quickly. You know, someone serves me meat at a meal and I say, "I don't need eat that, I'm a vegetarian." And it's just like bam, quick and confident. And that's an important decision to me, it's like part of who I am. But then other decisions I make them confidently, but it takes me a, a while to get there. Like I'm not sure I have to mull it over and process it.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 11:

Um, when I don't... when I'm not privy to why something happened or the cause, how... you're asking me, how does that sit with me? How does that feel? Is it disconcerting? And does it throw me off or am I okay with it? And I would say... you asked me how much it throws me off. And I would say it makes me moderately uncomfortable because I think about kind of, um, blind obedience to authority and things like that. And I like to know why, I like to understand something so that I can decide for myself, do I agree? Do I not agree? More analytical. So when I don't know the reason behind something, it makes me suspect. So therefore I, I get moderately uncomfortable with it.

Interviewer:

In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

The question is, when I see people fighting, um, can I understand both different perspectives? And first, I would try and imagine a situation, and I would consider... I would probably take a difficult situation, like an argument between two friends or like a political, um, disagreement with my parents or something like that, you know, a situation that, that pulls on the heart string. And I would think about how easy it is for me to get locked into one perspective, it's been known to happen.

Respondent 11:

And then I would think about how I try to take both perspectives. And if I'm... and then the question asked me about if I see other people in conflict. And if I see other people in conflict, usually I can [inaudible 00:18:27], I can be outside it enough that I can understand both perspective things. But I definitely can't always because sometimes I, I look at, um... I just get really locked in my own point of view if I feel personally involved or very passionate about something. So I would say... can you read the answer question statement or choices again?

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

I would say most of the time. Most of the time and part of the... like a big part of the reason I answered that is because you asked me about conflict between other people. If it was between me and another person, it's harder for me to see their point of view because I'm in my own.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 11:

But when I'm looking from the outside, I can see better.

Interviewer:

Okay. The following statements concern your personal reactions to a number of different situations, no two statements are exactly alike. So please consider each statement carefully before answering. If a statement is true or mostly true as applied to you, answer true. If a statement is false or not usually true as applied to you, answer false. I guess I put on a show to impress or entertain people.

Respondent 11:

So the statement is, I show off or try to please the crowd. You're asking if I enjoy being the center of attention to, to, to command attention really. And the answer is, well, my thought practice around it is, what does it look like to command someone's attention to entertain? And do I feel comfortable when people are paying attention to me and I'm on the spot and go... again, I would, I guess I tend toward more like the middle of the road, but I would say it's true for me, because more often than not, I do enjoy having people's attention on me.

Interviewer:

I would probably make a good actor.

Respondent 11:

Um, the statement is, I can handle being in front of an audience and putting on a show, um, pretending, pretending, and just being in the limelight a lot. And my answer to that would be false. And I say that because I think... when I think of an actor, I think of a big crowd and it's impersonal so you're getting attention, but not like just from like a mass of people and you have to take yourself really seriously in order to be able to act, I think, and that makes me uncomfortable, so I would say false.

Interviewer:

In groups of people, I am rarely the center of attention.

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me if I'm comfortable commanding the spotlight amongst a lot of people. And my answer is false. I, um, I pictured in my head a situation that I might be in that would fall into... that would describe which would be, you know, at a big party or something, having everyone's attention on

me. And I imagine a lot of my peers looking at me and paying attention to me and it makes me uncomfortable, the big group aspect. So it's false.

Interviewer:

So if I say, in groups of people, I am rarely the center of attention. Is that true or false for you?

Respondent 11:

So the statement is, do I avoid being the focus of a focal point, the entertainer in the gathering of people? And I would say that's true.

Interviewer:

Okay. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

Respondent 11:

Um, so the question is generally speaking, am I suspicious of people? Or do I assume good intentions? And I would, I would say that I'm not suspicious. Like I like to trust people. Um, in order to answer the question, I would think about being out amongst the general public. So, you know, on [inaudible 00:26:25] or, um, walking down the street or something like that. And I don't know, like dropping so and so out of my pocket, like if the person who is walking behind me going to give it to me or keep it? And I'm more likely to think that they would give it to me. So I would say I'm more likely to trust people. What were the exact answer choices?

Interviewer:

Would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

Respondent 11:

Most people can be trusted, I would lean towards that.

Interviewer:

The next few questions are about how important things are to you. First, how important is it to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities in life? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 11:

You're asking how much, how much I care about an even playing field for all people, equal access? Um, I think the word you used was opportunity, and so in thinking about answering your question, I would think about what that meant and our... whether you were talking about like opportunity for a job or education or healthcare or food or shelter. And, um, I think that saying that that's not important to me would be pretty heartless.

Respondent 11:

Um, but then I would think that answering definitely yes, kind of thing. Just like, "Well, if I really thought that then I would be doing more to change it." But since I am involved in social justice work, I would

say... I would answer with, um, I think the choice was moderate, I think. I, I, I have a hard time remembering what the wording and the answer choices is by the time I've gone through the process.

Interviewer:

Sure. Would you say extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 11:

I would say very important, it was very important.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you help other people?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me how committed I am to making the world a good place for everyone, helping people. Um, that, when I hear that, I think like how much of my time and energy and money do I give towards causes that maybe only benefit me indirectly? Like helping save the environment, or helping kids get education or something like that. And I would say that, I think about how, I would think about how I live my life and my food choices are socially responsible. I drive a biodiesel car. I work in social justice work. I educate myself around different political issues. I spend my money in a conscious way, so I would say that... I haven't heard the answer choices to that.

Interviewer:

Uh, the same answer choices as last one. So extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all. And which did you say?

Respondent 11:

Extremely important. When I picked that, I picked extremely on this one, because I know a lot of my answers have been kind of more middle of the road. I picked extremely because when I went through and cataloged my life, like everything lined up, I definitely am all about helping people.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you follow traditions? Extremely important, very moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 11:

Um, so the question is how much do I value tradition? What's another word of tradition? Um, I would say like cultural practices, um, but not just cultural, like... oh, I guess cultural, yeah. Um, family and social practices that have been... that have a history. How much more value I think [inaudible 00:32:42] family history.

Respondent 11:

Um, I would think about how that's shown up in my life, um, in my family, what kind of things we do that we... because we've always done it that way, you know, in terms of like the holidays. Um, and then I

would think about in a broader context, how much I appreciate things like, you know, going to a cultural event and seeing someone else's family traditions or someone else's cultures, and how I appreciate that.

Respondent 11:

But then on the flip side, I think about kind of, um, I associate like traditional with conservatives in terms of like political points of view. So, and I don't think that things should be done a certain way just because they've always been done that way. I think that like you have to examine.

Respondent 11:

But I think the question is asking you less about kind of why the allegiance to the way it's always been and more about kind of what I was first talking about in terms of, you know, your history and where you come from and how like rituals. And so I would say, um, moderately important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 11:

Um, um, well, the, the question is what is... how much does it matter to me if people go by the book? [inaudible 00:34:51]. And I would think about the consistency, because you used the word always. So I would say instincts, we think about like expectations and knowing what to expect. And then it makes me think about, um, following the letter of the law rather than the spirit, which is a long [inaudible 00:35:19]. And I think about kind of the, the police state of the world, of our, our society right now. And I'm-

Interviewer:

Could you say that again? I couldn't quite hear you.

Respondent 11:

Yeah. I think about the, the police state that we live in, um, how much military and police rule there is in our society right now and, um, like contemporary politics, the Patriot Act, all this stuff and the prison systems. And I think that all of that gets kind of conjured up in my mind when we talk about rules. And I think that it's more important to follow the spirit of the law than the letter of the law.

Respondent 11:

Um, so I would say, I do think it's important to follow rules. I think that like we entered into social contract for a reason back in, in the day, but I think there are too many rules that don't make sense, so I would answer that it's only moderately important.

Interviewer:

So on the scale of extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 11:

I would say moderately important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you feel safe from harm?

Respondent 11:

How much do I value my sense of security? Um, well, the first thing I think about is being able to walk around the streets at night. I can't do that where I live, but I chose... and I really like being able to do that, but I chose to live here. And, um, I think that my first impulse is like, "Oh, yeah, it's important for me to feel safe." And then my second one was, well, I really think of it in terms of where I'm living and like safety from crime, things like that, um, on a very like micro level.

Respondent 11:

But then I think the neighborhood that I used to live in that was freaking crime was also really affluent. And I didn't, I didn't like that kind of privilege. And I didn't like being surrounded by that sort of like the, the politics and the thought and the entitlement that comes with it.

Respondent 11:

So I think I would say moderately because I don't want to, you know, I don't want to be a drive by shooting casualty while I'm riding my bike to the grocery store, but I, I want to live in a real world and I don't want to kind pull myself off as in, in a bubble of like-

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you be in charge of other people who do what you tell them to do?

Respondent 11:

That's a good question. Um, do I care about being an authority figure and having charge over other people, managing other people being in control? Um, wow! I think first things first, I would think of... the image in my mind would be like a supervisor or a manager of a company. And then I would think of, "Well, if you're not the manager, you're being managed, so there's a [inaudible 00:39:45] that you rather have a boss than be the boss."

Respondent 11:

And I would tend to say I'd rather be neither that I would be my own boss. So I don't think it's very important to me to have control over other people. Um, and I don't really like have someone having control over me, but that's not the question. The question was about whether I like having kind of say over other people and what they do, and I would say, slightly important.

Interviewer:

Slightly important?

Respondent 11:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you are very successful?

Respondent 11:

Um, okay. The question is, how much does it matter to me to accomplish what I set out to accomplish? Um, I would first think of what success is. If you were talking about money or happiness or kind of accomplishing your goals. Um, I, my own personal interpretation of success is kind of completing what I said I was going to complete. So getting where I want to be and kind of job that I want, the kind of house that I want, the kind of, you know, so sort of my creating for myself, my ideal life situation. And I would say that, that that's very important to me.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you have fun whenever you can?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me if I prioritize personal time and, um, kind of lighthearted enjoyment, and I would first think about when you said fun, I smiled. I was like, "Who doesn't like fun?" But then I think about when I come home from work at the end of the day, like what do I choose to do? Do I go and do something fun? Or do I do what I need to do in terms of, you know, like life stuff? And so I would say how important it is for me to have fun? I would say it's what keeps me going. I would say very important. Yeah, very important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you take risks in life?

Respondent 11:

Okay. You're asking me how much it matters to me to put myself out there, go out on a limb or take on a challenge or something that's uncertain? And when I think of not taking risks, I think of staying safe. And I think that it's like playing ball. You know, if you play small, you're going to get small results, if you play big, you're going to get big results. Um, it's also something that kind of scares me. Like when you say risk it sounds sort of frightening. So, but I also know that that's, that's the way to grow. I think about kind of the, the pluses and minuses and weight it way back and forth in my head. And I would say it's moderately important to me to take risk.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me how much I value my own agency, um, self-determination control things like that? That's what I hear. Um, I think making decisions, making my own decision implies like that I have control over my life and then I'm directing it, I'm kind of molding it to suit my best interest.

Respondent 11:

And the flip side of that would be someone else having control of it, which I really don't like, or maybe just me not having control of it. So it just kind of being out there to the, you know, ebb and flow of the world of the universe. And I think that it's important to relinquish some control, but I also like to have agency. So I would say moderately important.

Interviewer:

If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me if I got really down and out financially, if my family and friends would support me? Um, I would lend them money and I would say definitely.

Interviewer:

What is the largest amount you could borrow from any family member or close friend?

Respondent 11:

You're asking how much am I comfortable asking for? And how much would people in my life be willing to trust me enough to give me? Um, and I think my answer is going to be really, it really depends on... well, first, I started thinking about, you know, where I could get money from if I needed it. And then I started thinking about what would I need money for? And then I started thinking about if I really needed a lot of money all at once, probably because I made a really bad decision at some point, which I wouldn't really want to tell my family or friends about, because I would be kind of ashamed of it. That's what I was thinking. Um, you want me to give you a number?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 11:

Okay. Um, my friends have no money, so it would have to be my family. I think the biggest amount I would feel comfortable asking for would be like \$5,000.

Interviewer:

What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in California these days?

Respondent 11:

Oh, man, I drive biodiesel. I don't even buy gas (laughs). Um, okay, so the question is, in general, what's the normal price for fuel, a standard vehicle fuel? Um, and first thing I thought of was I don't, I don't use gas in my car, so I don't know. And the next thing I thought of was, what's the gas station down the street say? I drive by it a lot. I go by all the time.

Respondent 11:

And then I started thinking, "Well, I live in the Bay Area and like more rural areas it can be cheaper." So, and then I noticed the other day that it was like 245 near me. And I was like, "Wow! Biodiesel is a lot more expensive than that." And like 245 here, it's probably cheaper other places. There's probably more as I said pay average gallon of gas it would be like 240.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 11:

Oh, God. Um, okay, so you're asking me how dependent I am on a car. Like how, how frequently I use a car. And the first thing I think of is, I wish I didn't use my car as much as I do. I wish I had a job that I could ride my bike to. I wish I had a job I could take public transportation to.

Respondent 11:

And then I think, "Well, at least I drive biodiesel. At least I'm not polluting as much as everybody else is, supporting the war economy." So I like make myself a feel better about the fact that I drive. But, um, the answer to the question is I probably used my car every day.

Interviewer:

Seven days a week?

Respondent 11:

Yeah, probably.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 11:

Oh, man. Um, so you said during the week, which makes me think Monday through Friday. I think the work week. Okay, so the question was, do I pay attention to how much fuel costs on a regular basis? And I would think about the last time I looked at the price of gas on the board as I drove by. And I looked the other day, but honestly I hadn't looked before that in so long, because it's not really relevant to me.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 11:

So I would say how often during the week? Less than once, not, maybe not zero, because I look on occasion, but once or less a week.

Interviewer:

Okay. During September, about what month... what percent... Let me start again, during September, about what percent of all the adults living in California do you think were not employed at any job and we're looking for work?

Respondent 11:

Okay. You're asking me last month in the state, what portion the of the adult population was unemployed the entire month, but actively seeking employment? And so I think first of all, well, there were probably unemployed people that weren't seeking employment. Maybe, you know, people who

were on disability or people who maybe were homeless and weren't looking for a job. And then I think of people who might have been employed part of the month, but not the whole month.

Respondent 11:

And then I think about the people in my life that were unemployed, but none of them were unemployed the entire month. And I'm looking for a percentage, so I would say... let's see, my best, if I would take my best shot at what the unemployment rate is, and then I would think about people who were unemployed the entire month, I'm going to say maybe like 20%.

Interviewer:

20%?

Respondent 11:

Yeah. Do you have any idea what the actual number is?

Interviewer:

I'm not sure.

Respondent 11:

Okay. I'm curious.

Interviewer:

About your religious beliefs, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim or something else, or are you not religious?

Respondent 11:

Okay, so you're asking... you want me to rephrase the question?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 11:

Okay. You said about my religious beliefs. Um, in terms of spirituality and faith, so I don't think that religion and spirituality are the same thing. I don't really know if there's another word that I can use for religion, but I would say spirituality and faith. Um, do I consider myself to belong to... and then you named off a bunch of different organized religions, Christian, Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, or do I consider myself not religious?

Respondent 11:

And the first thing I thought of was, you can be religious about belonging to organized religion. And then I thought about the difference between spirituality and religion. And I don't identify with any of those categories, so I guess I would put myself in the, I'm not a religious person, but none of the boxes seem to fit right.

Interviewer:

Does the not religious box not quite fit right either?

Respondent 11:

It doesn't quite fit right, because my interpretation of checking the box that says not religious is like, I'm not interested in God, creation, the universe, spirituality, faith, blah, blah, blah. And so it's just kind of like, it, it feels to me like if I'm not one of those religions, then it doesn't ma-, it doesn't count, sort of.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

But that would be my closest answer because I'm not religious.

Interviewer:

Okay. One of the other choices besides Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, and Muslim was something else. What, what do you think about in saying not religious rather than something else?

Respondent 11:

Hmm. Well, something else to me means that like part of another category, but I don't really consider myself a fit into a category and I guess something else might be closer to the truth than not religious, But, hmm, this is complicated. Something else, something else. I think of that as being more of like a different organized religion that's maybe not as, as represented, you know, like the numbers aren't quite as big.

Interviewer:

Okay. So another organized religion that's just not part of the list of the first five that I read?

Respondent 11:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

Like maybe Greek Orthodox or I don't know, Unitarian or something like that. Still an organized religion, but more.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 11:

Um, you're asking me if church and a relationship with God plays a big role in my life. And the word religion throws me, because I would say no, no it doesn't. Um, I would think about my life, what I do

during the week, during the weekend and what part of it relates to religion, and I would say not a big part. And I would compare it to people I know for whom I think religion does play a big part in their lives, like other family members of mine. And so I would say no, religion doesn't play a big role.

Interviewer:

Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services, even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals?

Respondent 11:

Um, here. Okay, we said that people get busy and they don't make time for organized religious events for church or religious meetings. And you asked me if those sorts of events are at all a part of my life with the exception of, um, some culturally considered mandatory events that might take like in a religious setting, like weddings, you know?

Respondent 11:

Um, and I would say, no, I don't attend events outside of those with the exception of, um, I probably go to church with my family like twice a year on Christmas. I would say Christmas is another one of those like somewhat mandatory religious events in our society, like weddings, funerals, and baptisms. So I would probably put Christmas in with that category. So I'd say, no, I don't, I don't ever participate.

Interviewer:

Okay, so if I say thinking about your, your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms, or funerals, you would answer?

Respondent 11:

No.

Interviewer:

No. If I asked you, do you go to religious services every week, almost once, uh... let me start again. Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never, how would you answer that?

Respondent 11:

Um-

Interviewer:

You don't have to rephrase that one, I'm just curious how, how you would respond to that.

Respondent 11:

Um, my answer would be maybe a few times a year because I would think about... I wouldn't say, I wouldn't be comfortable saying never, so I would say the one just above that, because I know that there might be a time in a year, you know, like I said, Christmas-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 11:

... It's important I go to Christmas mass with my family or if someone got married, or if there was a funeral, like you said, so I was, I would not be comfortable saying never, but I would definitely say the smallest choice that you offered which would be very rarely, a couple times a year.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 11:

Um, so the question is, when I think about what the path of my life looks like, what, where it's leading what's, what's coming next. Um, and I feel like so positive or negative about it, negative about it, like, do I have hope? And I would say that I feel optimistic. Um, and I came to that conclusion because I, um, I considered how much drive I had, I have towards making my life what I want it to be, how much enthusiasm or like spark I have. And I think about, um, things I have to look forward to, and I like to believe that I have a lot of self-determination, a lot of agency in my life. So I'm, I'm optimistic.

Interviewer:

Are you extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic, or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 11:

I'm going to say extremely, I'm a positive person like this stuff coming.

Interviewer:

And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 11:

So the question is asking me when I think about what's to come for the country I live in, the US, um, do I think positively or, or negatively, like do I have hope? That is a complicated question. Um, first I think, oh, very pessimistic, things are very messed up. And then I think, I, I think, well we're, I definitely think there's going to be a revolution of at some point, but it might not be for a while.

Respondent 11:

And then I'm like, "Well, maybe that's optimistic though, because a revolution could be a really good thing." Like, I don't know, maybe the system is so messed up it needs to be overthrown and reinstated, you know? So, but I'm going to say that that's like a really, really long term sight. And I'm going to say like, I'll probably answer what I think in my lifetime, and I would say pessimistic.

Interviewer:

Are you extremely pessimistic, moderately pessimistic, or slightly pessimistic?

Respondent 11:

I would say moderately pessimistic because I am one of the people who's out there working to try and change the system, so I know that people are doing it. You know, I can't be, it can't be extremely pessimistic or I just wouldn't bother.

Interviewer:

These next questions ask about people who you talk with. People sometimes talk about important matters with other people. Thinking back over the last six months, did you talk about things that were important to you with someone? Or did you not do this with anyone during that time?

Respondent 11:

You're asking me in the last six months if I communicated with people in my life about stuff that mattered to me? And or if I didn't, and I would say that in the last six months I have definitely communicated to people in my life about such a matter to me.

Interviewer:

What is the first name, initials, or first name and last initial of up to five people who you talked with about things that were important to you during the past six months?

Respondent 11:

Do you want me to rephrase that one?

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 11:

Um, okay. You're asking me for some kind of identifying information about people that I was in communication with recently about what matters to me. And I would say, um, CS, CC, KD, um, CM, and NH.

Interviewer:

The first one was PS?

Respondent 11:

CS.

Interviewer:

CS?

Respondent 11:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And the second one?

Respondent 11:

KD.

Interviewer:

Okay. I got CS, KD, CM, NH.

Respondent 11:

Oh, and CC.

Interviewer:

CC. Okay. Is CS male or female?

Respondent 11:

They're all female.

Interviewer:

Okay. What did you think about in deciding which people to name?

Respondent 11:

Um, I thought about who I spend my time with and who I feel I have the most trusted intimacy in my relationship, and I basically named my best friends and my sister. And, uh, I thought about the last time that I had a conversation about what mattered to me, and it was last night and those are the people I was with.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to CS? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

Do you need me to rephrase that?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 11:

Um, you asked like what the level of relationship is and the level of intimacy and trust that I have with CS, and my answer is I feel extremely close to her. Okay. Um, and in order to answer you, I thought about that person and how we relate to each other. And, um, she, she's my best friend.

Interviewer:

During the last six months. About how many days did you talk to CS?

Respondent 11:

Um, okay, so you're asking me about the frequency of contact. Um, you didn't ask me how often you guys talked to her about important things, you just said how often did I talk to her? And I probably talk to her several times a week, maybe two or three times a week. Um, is that the kind of answer, which can I answer by week? Or do you want to know a number for something?

Interviewer:

Could you give a number during the last six months?

Respondent 11:

Okay. So if I was giving a number for the last six month, I would consider that, let's see it's 10 months, that would be since the fourth month. Um, we've both been out of town for, for chunks during there, so I would take that into consideration. If I talked to her twice a week, probably 40 times, no, more than that. It's got to be more than that. Let's see. I'd say about 60 times, probably like 10 times a month.

Interviewer:

60 times?

Respondent 11:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Please think about the relations between these people. Some of them may be total strangers in the sense that they wouldn't recognize each other if they bumped into each other on the street. First, think about CS and CC. Are CS and CC total strangers, or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 11:

So you're asking me to think about the relationship between people that I talk to about important things and whether or not they know of each other? And, um, if they saw each other in public without me present, would they know that they were both... would they know their connection to each other? Um, and I would say yes, they know each other.

Interviewer:

So they're not strangers?

Respondent 11:

They're not strangers. Yeah, sure.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

Um, you asked how close they are, so you're asking about like the level of relationship between them. And I would say those two in particular, they're not close.

Interviewer:

Would you say extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

Not at all close.

Interviewer:

What do you think about it saying that they're not at all close?

Respondent 11:

Um, I was thinking about the fact that CC is my sister, and CS is my best friend, but they haven't really spent much time together. So while they're both really close to me, those two in particular aren't close to each other. They're probably the least connected out of all of the five that I named. So if they saw each other on the street, they would probably be like, "Oh, hi, how are you doing? You know, blah, blah, blah. This is what you know [REDACTED WOMAN'S FIRST NAME] is doing." But they... and they know some about each other's lives, but there's not an established relationship between the two of them. They would never like go out for coffee together or something like that. That would be funny.

Interviewer:

Okay. How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

Um, you asked about frequency and communication between the two of them. And I would say... well, I hesitate to say never, because I think that they, you know, probably run into each other like through me at certain events or, you know, like a birthday party for me or something like that. So that, that wouldn't quite qualify them as never. So maybe the next one up from that, um, what that phrase was, almost never.

Interviewer:

Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

Once in a while. I'd say once in a while.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

Never kind of sounds so extreme.

Interviewer:

Now think about CS and KD. Are CS and KD total strangers? Or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 11:

They are not total strangers.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

I would say very close.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying very close?

Respondent 11:

Um, I was thinking about how often the two of them would get together when I wasn't around, and how often when they were together, whether or not I was there, they would talk about personal things. And I was thinking about the longevity of their relationship to one another, like how long they've known each other. And then what kinds of situations.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

Um, moderately often. And I say that because, um, my, they're both in my group of friends and we get together probably once a week and, and hang out and they, they are both present whenever that happens. So they probably talk to each other once a week.

Interviewer:

Now think about CS and CM. Are CS and CM, total strangers? Or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 11:

They are not total strangers.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

I would say slightly close. And I say that because they also run into each other or like end up spending time together when my group of friends get together. But if the group of friends did not get together, they would not see each other. They don't really make contact outside of that group setting, so they are more friends because their friends know each other.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

Moderately often, because like I said, they're both around when the group gets together.

Interviewer:

Now think about CS and NH. Are CS and NH total strangers, or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 11:

They're not total strangers.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

I would say moderately close. Um, I'd say that because I thought about how often they see each other and kind of the depth of conversations that they have, how much they know about what's going on in each other's lives.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

I would say moderately often because, um, they were both... we're all the same group of friends, so, but, um, NH isn't... they aren't always both at the group functions, but I wouldn't say, I wouldn't say less and moderately because they do talk to each other on a pretty consistent basis.

Interviewer:

Now think about CC and KD. Are CC and KD total strangers or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 11:

Not total strangers.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close, or not at all close?

Respondent 11:

I would say slightly because, um, they definitely know each other. And when they see each other through me, they, you know, chit chat and ask about each other when I'm on the phone with either one of them and stuff like that. But, um, but they wouldn't really hang out without me. They wouldn't want to spend time together if I wasn't around.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 11:

I'm going to say once in a while, because they'll see each other when one of them... when CC comes over to my house, I live with KD, so she'll see her, or if there's an event for me or sometimes KD will come to family events and see CC.

Interviewer:

As far as you know, is CS a Democrat, Republican, independent, or what?

Respondent 11:

Um, do I need to rephrase that one?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 11:

Okay, so you're asking to the best of my knowledge, what political parties CS affiliates with, and the choices are Democrat, Republican, independent or other. And I would say, um... I would think about what I know of CS's political beliefs and, um, her involvement in politics. And I would think about whether or not she would kind of pick one of the more mainstream categories of Democrat, Republican, or whether she would, you know, have identified herself as like Green Party or independent or something like that. And I'm going to say Democrat.

Interviewer:

Would she call herself a strong Democrat, or a not very strong Democrat?

Respondent 11:

Um, I don't think I know what you mean by strong Democrat. Do you mean like firmly rooted in the Democratic party?

Interviewer:

Is that what it makes you think of?

Respondent 11:

That's what I think of.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

That's what I think you mean is how strongly rooted is she-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

... In the Democratic party? Um, like how much does that kind of match what her beliefs are? And I would say not strong because I don't think the Democratic party is quite progressive enough for her.

Interviewer:

Okay. As far as you know, is CC a Democrat, Republican, independent, or what?

Respondent 11:

Um, as far as I know, I would say she's a Democrat and I would say that because she tends to kind of... um, I would think about what my, what our parents political affiliation is and about her kind of, um, I would say like, I would think about how willing she is to challenge her own assumption. And so I think it would just be easier for her to just kind of, "Oh yeah, this is what I've been taught is the right way to do it." Rather than like really stopping and questioning and she's not very radical. So I would say she's Democrat.

Interviewer:

How interested is CS in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, or not interested at all?

Respondent 11:

Hmm. Well, first I think about, well, I guess you asked me, um, how much does CS want to know about politics? And I would think about the word interested and whether CS had a curiosity about it or whether she actually went and found out about it, because I think that good intentions don't necessarily translate into action. And I think that she's probably more curious than proactive. So I would think about like, yes, she's interested, but I don't think she like reads a newspaper on a daily basis and stuff like that. So I would say slightly interested.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you put that question into your own words? How interested is CS in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 11:

Um, how curious and how much does she want to know about, um, who runs things and what they're doing in, in politic?

Interviewer:

Okay. Does CS consider herself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish, or something else?

Respondent 11:

Um, do you want me to rephrase this one again?

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 11:

So does CS identify with a religious organization, the choices being Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish or something else. And in order to answer it, I would think about how she was raised. Um, she was raised Catholic and I would think about how she practices and she doesn't, she doesn't really go to church or do anything like that. Um, I don't really know if she would identify herself as Catholic. I think she might, I think she might say Roman Catholic.

Interviewer:

Okay. But you can't be sure?

Respondent 11:

Mm-hmm (negative).

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 11:

I don't know if that's where she came from or how she identifies. I don't know if she claims it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well, those are all the questions that I have for you. Thank you very much for being so helpful.

Respondent 11:

Good.

Interviewer:

Let me stop the tape and then I will get your information so that we can mail you a check.

Respondent 11:

Awesome.

Interview 12

Interviewer:

Okay, I've started the tape going. And can I just ask you to confirm that it's okay to record this interview?

Respondent 12:

Yes, it's okay to record this interview. You have my permission to record this interview.

Interviewer:

Thank you. When you think about your own personal future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 12:

To restate the question, when I contemplate what's coming down the road for me in the next several years, usually, uh, the question ... am I usually positive in my view or negative in my view or somewhere in between, kind of neutral.

Interviewer:

Great. And how would you think about answering that question?

Respondent 12:

Well my immediate, my immediate response would be optimistic. I, I always characterize myself, usually characterize myself as being an optimistic, positive, cheerful person, and to someone who just casually asked why, that's what I'd say, but since you want a little bit more of an answer, I would, um ... if I, if I knew you, knew you better, sh- uh, I guess I would put it this way, if I knew you better and knew that you were asking after my, my wellbeing, I would put a more, uh ... I, I would answer the question in a little more complexity, little more detail, little more depth instead of just flat out saying that I, I view my future optimistically.

I, um, I, I do generally, but I have my, um, I have my worries and concerns, and ... but at the same time, um, not being a kid, why I can reflect on my past performance, shall we say, and I know that, uh, I can conclude, I, uh, can make a good case for my ability to cope even if, uh, the future isn't as, as optim- uh, is, isn't as positive as I, as I would hope that it would be, that, that I do have good coping skills.

So as a result, I guess I would, I would, um, first of all, attempt to figure out how much depth, uh, of an answer, uh, how deep an answer you would want, and then once I, uh, determine that, then, then I would go ahead and answer. If I thought you were just being casual about it, I'd say, yeah, I'm an optimistic person. Uh, if I think that you really want to probe, uh, more deeply and have, you know, some greater level of concern for me, I'd specify, yeah, I'm optimistic, but I'm, but I've, I've got this concerned about and that to be concerned about.

So it d- it would depend on how I, um, how I view your, um, your, your underlying motive in asking the question.

Interviewer:

Are you very optimistic or somewhat optimistic?

Respondent 12:

Am I, am I, um, exceedingly positive or just generally positive? And then shall I go ahead and answer that question?

Interviewer:

Yes, please.

Respondent 12:

Okay. Um, well again ... well the fact that y- you know, the fact that you ans- asked me, uh, more, uh, in, in greater, uh ... ha- had the follow-up question here, I guess I can conclude that you really, really wanna know, uh, how I, uh, how I feel about the situation. You're ... no, I, I don't know you at all, so I'm not going to ... not inclined to regale you with, you know, personal aspects of my life or things that I ... in, in great detail why I might be less than exceedingly optimistic or positive.

But I will tell you that, um, although I'm, although I, uh, have a pretty good, uh, uh ... I'm in a pretty good situation, uh, as it exists right now why there are aspects of the future that are worrisome for me, I have concerns about, uh, members of my family and I have concerns about, uh, you know, financial solvency, uh, down the road and I have concerns about the world in general and, um, and the, the preservation and, um, preservation of, of values and things that I hold dear.

So I, I think that's probably as much as you want or, or need to know. It, the rea- the bottom line is that I'm generally quite positive and optimistic but not to the point of, of, um, uh, uh, of not recognizing the realities of the world around me.

Interviewer:

Okay. Would you say that you are very optimistic or somewhat optimistic, just to pick, if you were just going to pick one?

Respondent 12:

And to restate the question, you're asking [crosstalk 00:07:08]-

Interviewer:

So I'm just, I'm just sort of following up on the, the same question as before.

Respondent 12:

Oh okay, same question, no need to restate. All right. Uh, and, and the question is am I very optimistic or somewhat optimistic, that's the question?

Interviewer:

Exactly.

Respondent 12:

Okay, and I have ... and the point is I have to pick between the two. Um, I'd, I'd have to say I'm somewhat optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 12:

Ooh, when I, when I contemplate what my country will be like in the future, am I, uh, generally ... a- am, am I positive in my thoughts, am I negative in my thoughts or, uh, somewhere in between?

Interviewer:

And how would you answer that question?

Respondent 12:

Uh, well I, I, um, I touched upon that, uh, generally when I, when I hedged on how optimistic I was when I spoke of, of the world around me.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 12:

And, uh, and the, the values that I hold dear, why, um, I was making reference to, uh, I was including in that, uh, the future of my country. And, um, I, I, I have s- I have serious concerns about it, um, concerns that, um, that I think not a lot of people share, which, uh, or at least not a lot of people that I associate with, uh, on, on a regular basis, and that, that makes me even more concerned. But I'm aware of the fact that I live in an area where, um, I, I am, um, I, I am, I am in the distinct minority in terms of views, uh, about my country.

And so I, um, I, I assure myself, I, I, uh, console myself with the thought that, uh, were I to be in another part of the country and have a, a different, uh, social milieu than I do. Uh, I, I would, uh, find greater sympathy and support, uh, for my concerns, and, uh, and maybe they wouldn't ... maybe my concerns wouldn't, uh, wouldn't be as intense, uh, a- as they've, as they are.

But the fact of the matter is I live where I do, and associate with the people that I associate with, and uh, as a consequence, uh, I ... and that, that's, that's part of me that gives me pause for thought, and then of course mass media, um, is a- is another source, uh, of concern, assuming that that's any kind of a accurate reflection of, of, um, life and culture in the United States today.

So the bottom line here would be that, um, I, I'm, I'm g- I, I am generally optimistic about the future of my country for a similar reason that I'm optimistic about my own future in that, uh, there's a track record there of, of over 200 years of, of being able to, um, survive ups and downs and, uh, and, um, chal- serious challenges, and so I would hope that, um, that this country can, can continue to, to cope with the, um, the pitfalls and, and problems that, uh, that time, um, inevitably imposes on it.

Interviewer:

Are you very optimistic or somewhat optimistic?

Respondent 12:

Am I extremely positive or am I only marginally, uh, positive? Uh, it's hard to be, uh, it's hard to be extremely positive about anything really. Um, so I would tend to shy away from, from the extremes of the words never and always for instance. I try never to use those words (laughs) and always to abstain. Uh, it's just, uh, there is so ... there's so many things that are unknowable. Um, you know, we don't know what we don't know, and I certainly fall into that category.

All I know is what I read really in terms of what's going on in the world, although I do have contact with a lot of other people, by way of the internet and all, but still basically most of what we know, we have to take, uh, uh, on, on faith, uh, of, of somebody else's digging and, and of course what information you get that way filters through their, um, their outlook and, and way of, of viewing and evaluating information.

So by the time it gets to the individual, it's pretty hard to say, you know, I know for a fact, I know absolutely and can act on, uh, this information or that. Knowing that, uh, and, and believing that, you know, a- a- a- as a basis of, um, of opinion why ... of my opinions anyway, why I d- I really can't say that I'm, uh, positive or optimistic without qualification. I think that would be, that would be foolish, so I guess I would have to say since you want an answer one way or the other, uh, that I'm somewhat optimistic.

Interviewer:

Okay. These next questions ask about people who you talk with. People sometimes talk about government and elections with other people. Thinking back over the last six months, did you talk about government and elections with someone, or did you not do this with anyone during that time?

Respondent 12:

So in the last half of, half of the, of the year, uh, have I exchanged ideas with the people that I, uh, associate with about politics or did I not? Uh, and the quick answer is yes, most assuredly, but to be more, um, to, to enlarge upon that is to say that politics and current events and the state of the world is, is a great interest of mine, and so yes, most definitely I have talked to people in the last six months, and as a matter of fact, engaged in a bit of polemics with, uh, with one person by, by way of email, and um, so the answer is uncategorically yes.

Um, uh-

Interviewer:

Okay. What is the first name initials or first name and last initial of up to five people who you talked with about government and elections during the past six months?

Respondent 12:

Uh, uh, you, you're asking, y- you want me to give you, uh, uh, just a, a brief, um, general indication of the five, uh, five persons that I have, um, engaged in conversation with about, um, the workings of, uh, the workings of the, of the public, uh, sector of this country.

And, uh, the first one that comes to mind is, uh, a man by the name of [NAME 1] and he was the person that I referred to as far as engaging in a back and forth rather extensive, um, detailed back and forth about politics, um, uh, by email. Another would be, uh, [NAME 2]. Uh, he, uh, he and I also ... well, we engaged, and most of our conversation was by email, we see each other a couple times a month in a group, but our, uh, our real exchange of ideas, uh, is, uh, by email, af- after that, uh, as a consequence of that group.

Uh, the others in that, others in that group, uh, a man named [NAME 3] in particular that, uh, I engaged in a good deal of conversation with. I talk to my [NAME 4], uh, about politics generally, but it's more, uh, more preaching to the choir. It's not really, uh, any real back and forth, um, exchange of ideas so much as it is just a, um, kind of a acknowledgement of, of how we both feel about one issue or another.

And let's see, that's four. And, um, ah, uh, a girl by the name of [NAME 5] asked me, a younger person asked me my opinion about, uh, such things and I, uh, gladly responded.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [NAME 1]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

I think there were five degrees there. You want to know, uh, the degree, uh, the ... the degree of, um, of um, re- the degree of the relationship I have with the first person that I mentioned whose name is [NAME 1], expressed, uh, in five, five degrees. Um, oh dear, that's a difficult thing to quantify. Um, uh, uh, let's ... I'd have to put ... I, I have to put it I guess at, at the middle point. Um, and I can't remember quite how you expressed it, but um-

Interviewer:

The choices were extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close.

Respondent 12:

Well I, I think I would say moderately close.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [NAME 2]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

Uh, I f- you, you want to know how, uh, how, how much, um, how much of an association I have with the second person that I mentioned, [NAME 2]. Uh, I don't really know [NAME 2] well, only, um, as a part of this group. Um, so I really only see, uh, one slice of his life and, and he of mine. So, and I'm, I'm not even sure that, uh ... I d- I, I wouldn't even, uh, necessarily call him a friend. We don't have any social relationship. So I would say slightly close.

Interviewer:

How would-

Respondent 12:

[crosstalk 00:22:26].

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 12:

No, that would be my response, slightly close.

Interviewer:

Okay. How close do you feel to [NAME 3]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

So you want to know, uh, my relationship, uh, character ... you want me to characterize my relationship with the third person I mentioned whose name is [NAME 3]. Um, I, I don't know [NAME 3] really at all, and uh, I have, I would ... he's in, in this group. I've had fewer exchanges with him than I have had even with [NAME 2], so, um, I would ... you know, I could barely even say slightly close. Um, uh, I would have ... although there wa- there was a ... well I'll say slightly because there was possibly the potential for a, a little bit more of a, of a meeting of the minds, uh, were we to have more contact with the other, with each other. So I would say, uh, slightly close.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [NAME 4]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

You want to know the, um, extent to which, uh, the extent of my relationship with my [REDACTED RELATIVE], the fourth person I mentioned, my [REDACTED RELATIVE]. Uh, I'm extremely close to my [REDACTED RELATIVE], uh, because, um, of the, uh, of the original nuclear family of four of us, why he and I are the only two left, and, uh, he leans on me, depends on me and looks to me greatly, and I to him in, in many respects as well.

We have very similar views, um, and we have a lot ... well we have a lot of interests in common, so we, we have a lot of things we can do together and enjoy together. And we have similar views about the world and the country, but not completely. There are, there are, uh, significant points of divergence, um, so in terms of how close I feel to him, why, yes, I feel extremely close to him.

In terms of how, um, how closely our views coincide, and I'm not sure that's exactly what you want, why I would have to then say, you know, drop it down a notch and say very close.

Interviewer:

Okay. So in answering the, the question when it's just put as how close do you feel to [NAME 4], you would say which answer?

Respondent 12:

Oh, well extremely close. I mean, uh-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

... without, without any further qualification than that, then I would say extremely close.

Interviewer:

Okay. How close do you feel to [NAME 5]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

Uh, [NAME 5] is [REDACTED RELATIONSHIP], and she is, uh, [REDACTED AGE DESCRIPTION], and um, and, and a g- and much, m- much different in her outlook on life than I and has a significantly different beliefs than I. Uh, but, uh, but she is family and, um, she ... and we are members of a small family, and so, uh, I think both of us bend over backwards to make sure that we are, you know, that our, our relationship is, is, um, on an even keel.

There have been a couple of times when it hasn't been, and, but we've managed to take care of that and right the situation. Because we are so different, uh, I certainly couldn't say that, uh, that we're extremely close. I don't think I could even say that we are very close, although she looks to me for a great deal and admires me and asks my opinion, um, and I in turn respect her for that and respect a lot of the things that she has done.

So there's, you know, there's some significant connection, but because we view the world, uh, and, and ha- so differently and have such different beliefs, why that, that constitutes a real barrier, uh, between us, uh, and would prevent us from being, uh, certainly extremely close. May even present a ... I, I don't know if whether, whether I can say that we're very close.

I, I ... yes, I g- yes, I can. Uh, I would say that, uh, that we are very close.

Interviewer:

During the last six months, about how many days did you talk to [NAME 1]?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you want to know in the last half year or so, uh, how many occasions, um, I, I had, uh, verbal communication with [NAME 1]. Uh, I can probably count them on the fingers of one hand, um, as I go through since, since we are [REDACTED RELATIONSHIP], why, um, most of our communication has been by email. Uh, but in a ... there have been about, uh, a- about half a dozen times that we've actually conversed face to face.

Interviewer:

So would you say six times?

Respondent 12:

Well actually, I think it'd be less. Uh, let's see. Oh, no, uh ... well, let's say, are you asking for a face to face communication or telephone?

Interviewer:

What does the question make you think about?

Respondent 12:

Pardon? What-

Interviewer:

What does the question make you think about, if I ask during the last six months about how many days did you talk to [NAME 1]?

Respondent 12:

Well talk to, uh, telephone includes that. Uh, so, um, that's the way I would generally interpret that. I would think that you'd specific face to face if that's what you meant. So, um, I would say half a dozen times, yeah.

Interviewer:

So you'd say six times?

Respondent 12:

Yeah, six times.

Interviewer:

Okay, and when you think about your communications with [NAME 1], would there be, um, m- other times that you've communicated by email that ... beyond the six times that you've talked?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking if in addition to conversations, uh, did I, um, also, um, exchange email with [NAME 1]? Uh, the answer is yes. Yes, we have exchanged email, um, in the, in the last six months, oh, maybe a dozen times.

Interviewer:

Okay. During the last six months, about how many days did you talk to [NAME 3]?

Respondent 12:

Uh, in the last ... so you want to know in the last half year or so, how many, uh, times I, uh, had conversation with [NAME 3]. Um, let's see. He was in ... he's in the group that used to meet. Unfortunately it's, uh, has, um, been ... has come to an end, but, um, used to meet twice a month, and it's been mostly six months, I would say, um, I guess we have met say 10 times, maybe not quite a, 12, but say 10 times.

Interviewer:

Please think about the relations between these people. Some of them may be total strangers in the sense that they wouldn't recognize each other if they bumped into each other on the street. First, think about [NAME 1] and [NAME 2]. Are [NAME 1] and [NAME 2] total strangers or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me if the first person that I mentioned, [NAME 1], knows, uh, the second person that I mentioned, [NAME 2]. Uh, the quick and easy answer is that they are total strangers, that they have never met. Um, I don't know how to enlarge upon that at all because ... except to say that they're totally different. They are each in, in totally different spheres of my life, so-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

... no particular reason for them to know each other.

Interviewer:

Now think about [NAME 1] and [NAME 3]. Are [NAME 1] and [NAME 3] total strangers-

Respondent 12:

(Laughs)

Interviewer:

... or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me if there's any, uh, relationship between, uh, the first person I mentioned [NAME 1] and the third person I mentioned, [NAME 1]. It's rather ironic that you should ask that, uh, it seems so to me anyway because, uh, the fact of the matter is that they look strikingly alike, alarmingly alike.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 12:

And in a recent conversation with [NAME 1], uh, I told him how he has, uh, has a twin that he doesn't know about, and um, told him how, how remarkable it was that they, they look so much alike to the point where, um, when I first saw [NAME 3], I gasped because my first look at him, um, made me think it was actually [NAME 1]. So, uh, the fact of the matter is they are perfect strangers for the same reason that [NAME 1] and [NAME 2] are perfect strangers, but (laughs) maybe there's some cosmic connection, I don't know, because they, they are ... th- they look more alike than fraternal twins.

Interviewer:

(Laughs) Okay. Now think about [NAME 1] and [NAME 4]. Are [NAME 1] and [NAME 4] total strangers or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 12:

Uh, my ... uh, okay, your question is, uh, are, um, the first person I mentioned, uh, [NAME 1], um, y- you're asking if there is relationship between the first person I mentioned, [NAME 1], and the fourth person I mentioned, my [REDACTED RELATIVE]. Uh, I'm, I'm regretting now that I, that I mentioned

[NAME 1] because, um, I didn't realize that there would be ... so much would, um, would key on this, but I'm beginning to get the drift of, um, of the questions you're asking.

And, uh, I'm, um, recalling your pledge to me that this is in no way gonna in no way be connected to my name and in, and is going to be preserved as, as private.

Interviewer:

Yes, it's, it's confidential. If there's something that if you don't wanna say anything about, um, [NAME 1]'s relationship to [NAME 4], that's fine.

Respondent 12:

Well it's not that ... uh, uh, I, I just, you asked what is going through my mind when I hear that question and that's what's going through my mind. It's not that there's anything that either ... that anybody doesn't know, it's just that, you know, it's kind of, um, a sensitive territory. However, I will soldier on here, and um, tell you that, um, they are not strangers. They met, have met on two or three occasions, and, um, well that, that, that, that's the answer to your question.

They, they, uh, h- they met on, on two or three occasions. Three or four occasions.

Interviewer:

Okay. How close are they?

Respondent 12:

(Laughs) Oh god.

Interviewer:

Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

Well another one of those no-brainers, uh, that you want a more, uh, definitive ... uh, uh, wanted a more, um, elaborate answer than not at all close. Um, they, um, they, they took an instant, uh, dislike to each other, and so, uh (laughs)-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

... it's a, it's a ... there's no equivocation on the answer to this question.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other?

Respondent 12:

Uh-

Interviewer:

Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while or never?

Respondent 12:

Your question is how, um, uh, how many occasions, uh, do, uh ... on, on how many occasions do, uh, [NAME 1], uh, and my [REDACTED RELATIVE] talk, and the answer, again, is a very, um, unequivocal not at all.

Interviewer:

Now think about [NAME 2] and [NAME 3]. Are [NAME 2] and [NAME 3] total strangers or are they not total strangers?

Respondent 12:

So you're asking me about my perception anyway of, uh, the relationship between the second person, [NAME 2] and the third person I mentioned, [NAME 3]. Uh, the answer to that question generally, at least as I see, uh, what I can observe, is that they are, um, they are only moderately close. Uh, I believe they met fairly recently, but they share, um, they share some s- some important values and opinions, and uh, once alluded to sitting down and discussing them over coffee or what have you. So-

But I, I don't believe there's any, um, significant relationship.

Interviewer:

Okay. You've anticipated the next couple of questions in your thinking, but I'll, I'll ask them anyway and you can-

Respondent 12:

(Laughs)

Interviewer:

... just give me your answer.

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interviewer:

How close are they? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me, uh, how close, uh, how much of a relationship, uh, th- these two people have, and, um, uh, uh, and I told you they are not, uh, they are not strangers. They are known to each other, and uh, they are ... I would say they are moderately close.

Interviewer:

How often would you guess they talk with each other? Extremely often, very often, moderately often, once in a while or never?

Respondent 12:

You want to know ... you're asking me, um, when I think, um, [NAME 2] and [NAME 3] have, um, conversation, and I would say, uh, I would guess once in a while based on what I know of where they are and what they're doing now, which is not a lot, but my guess would be once in a while.

Interviewer:

As far as you know, is [NAME 1] a democrat, republican, independent or what?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me what I believe, uh, could be the political registration of the first person I mentioned, [NAME 1]. Uh, to the best of my knowledge, um, he is a, a registered democrat. Um, although, um ... well that, that's essentially the answer to the question, but what's going through my mind as I answer that is, uh, he's, um, he's, um ... the ... there's a great deal more to his, um, political position, political positions than simply his registration would indicate.

Interviewer:

Would he call himself a strong democrat or a not very strong democrat?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me how intensely I think [NAME 1] is wedded to his registered party, and I would say, um, moderately so because, um, because he's not, um, he's not essentially a party person, if you will. Doesn't really view, uh, politics in terms of parties, doesn't operate on a party basis, but, uh, is simply in the democrat party because, uh, it most closely, um, represents his, his point of view or it's most practical choice. So to your question is, uh, so I would say m- moderately so. Was, is that what you're asking? How-

Interviewer:

Would he call himself a strong democrat-

Respondent 12:

Oh.

Interviewer:

... or a not very strong democrat?

Respondent 12:

Well with only two choices, um, I w- I was hoping for a third choice and I would take the middle there, but, uh, you give me only two choices. So I, I would say he's a strong democrat because ... oh, boy. It's really hard. Uh, there's so many, so many, um ... the subject matter is so complex.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 12:

Um, I, I-

Interviewer:

What are the considerations there?

Respondent 12:

Well, the ... because when I think in terms of, of party politics, I think in terms of structure and participation and, um, uh, being involved in Get Out the Vote and, and a, a strong party person would be involved in the party structure and he is certainly not that. If I were to say that he were not a, a strong democrat, it might be interpreted as, uh, that he leans, leans more to the center and that certainly isn't the case.

So, uh, the only way, it, the only way I can answer that question with any clarity is to say he's a strong democrat in the sense that he is definitely not a republican. (Laughs)

Interviewer:

Okay. How interested is [NAME 1] in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me what I ... the degree to which I think, uh, [NAME 1] is, is, uh, interested in, um, in the political scene, current events today. Uh, the answer is that he reads a great deal, um, exposes himself to a great deal, uh, of information, but it's information o- of a, um, of a narrow, with, with a narrow, with very narrow characteristics. So he's, he's, uh, well informed and, and very interested in, in, in, in things that, um, are comfortable and support his, his, uh, his notions, but he's, um, not, not, not very well informed, I don't think, about the, um ... doesn't, doesn't have a lot of breadth of knowledge about, um, the, the events of the day.

Interviewer:

How interested in [NAME 5] in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me how, uh, how, uh, important, um, and how much, um, attention [NAME 5] pays to, uh, the events of the day, uh, uh, in government and politics. Um, I would say she was, she is moderately interested. She is, is much more interested in other things and, uh, does not have, uh, a great deal of background and does not spend a lot of time pursuing information in order t- that would reflect, uh, anything more than a moderate interest in, in the events of the day.

Interviewer:

Does [NAME 1] consider himself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish or something else?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking what, um, sectarian beliefs, uh, [NAME 1] has, what I think he has anyway. Um, there's the quick and easy answer, the obvious answer, the accurate answer is something else. Um, he was, uh, reared a Catholic but eschewed that a long time ago, and uh, has, um, has a, a general disdain for organized religion, so, um, the answer is, uh, something other.

Interviewer:

What church or denomination does [NAME 1] belong to?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking, uh, asking me what, um, religious observance, belief system, uh, [NAME 1] has, and the, um, the answer to that would be, uh, none at all that's recognized by, um ... no, no formal religion. If, if he has any religion at, at all, it's kind of the church of nature. He's, um, somewhat rather spiritual but not at all religious.

Interviewer:

Does [NAME 2] consider himself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish or something else?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me about my impression or beliefs of, uh, of [NAME 2]'s, um, um, religious affiliation. Uh, he was reared a Catholic, uh, but aga- again, also a student a long time ago. Uh, to the best of my knowledge, I don't know him well, but to the best of my knowledge, I, I would be very surprised if he practiced any religion at all. Uh, i- is, uh, his religion in the general sense would be, um, intellectualism if we, if you will, if we can ... that means anything at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. Does [NAME 3] consider himself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish or something else?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me about the religious affiliation of [NAME 3]. Uh, I do not know him well either, but I do know enough about his background, uh, to be pretty certain that he was reared a Catholic. I'm almost certain, uh, but again, uh, left that behind him a long time ago, and, uh, I have no reason to think that he has any, any, um, or belongs to any organized religion.

Interviewer:

So would you say that he considers himself Protestant, Roman-

Respondent 12:

[crosstalk 00:52:46].

Interviewer:

... Catholic, Jewish, some or something else?

Respondent 12:

Something else.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

[inaudible 00:52:50].

Interviewer:

Does [NAME 4] consider himself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish or something else?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me about the religious affiliation of my [REDACTED RELATIVE]. Uh, he was reared a Protestant, but in a very, um, oh, i- i- i- I won't say casual, that's not the right word, but just, uh, in a, in a not very intensive way, and, uh, he h- what the degree t- uh, what degree of religiosity he might have had, why he left behind a long time ago, and so he would be considered, uh, put in the category of, of something else.

Interviewer:

Does [NAME 5] consider herself Protestant, Roman Catholic, Jewish or something else?

Respondent 12:

Uh, [NAME 5] was, uh ... I don't know what, I don't know that she was ... as a baby was even baptized. Uh, I'm not sure. Uh, should know, but I don't. But what's important about her is that she is a fundamentalist, uh, Christian fundamentalist and, um, a, um, uh, what's the word? Um, not Messianic but ... can't think of the word. So to ... the closest label would be Protestant, but, um, I don't think that's totally accurate, uh, so I would say something else in that, uh, that she's, uh, um, a Christian fundamen-
fundamentalist.

Interviewer:

Something else? Okay.

Respondent 12:

So something, something else, 'cause Protestant really, you know, she's not, um, Protestant really does not tell the story.

Interviewer:

What church or denomination does [NAME 5] belong to?

Respondent 12:

Uh, she ... it ... I, I'm not even sure that you could call it ... uh, you're asking me what, um, what, what religion, specifically what religion [NAME 5] is. Uh ... oh, the, the term I was thinking of was evangelistic, evangelists, evangelistic.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

Uh, so that's why I say Protestant really does ... and I don't know the name of the church, but, um, but it's, whatever it is, it's evangelistic.

Interviewer:

Is it the Evangelical United Brethren or another Evangelical group?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me specifically what, uh, church [NAME 5] is involved in, whether one, one or the other. Um, I, I really don't know. I, I, I can't ... I don't know-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

... whether it's that one or another one.

Interviewer:

Okay. Is that group Christian?

Respondent 12:

Oh yes. You're asking me if [NAME 5] is a C- is a, a follower of Christ, and the answer is yes.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

Yes, she is to, to an extreme, if I may interject.

Interviewer:

How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me my level of of, um-

Interviewer:

It-

Respondent 12:

Oh excuse me, I'm sorry.

Interviewer:

Well I was just gonna read you the response options. Extremely close ... I'm sorry, extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all.

Respondent 12:

You're asking me the degree to which I involve myself, uh, in, um, in the events of, the events of this country and the world, I think? Well this would have to, would have to include the world. Um, my first thought is extremely. My first reaction would be to say, uh, extremely interested, although, um, if I were to be extremely interested, I'd probably be more, uh, active. Um, so I would have to ... I would probably back it off and say very interested because I'm not as active, um, as I once was and, uh, devote my time, time to other, other things, so it's not the most important activity in my life.

Interviewer:

How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely closely, very closely, moderately closely, slightly closely or not closely at all?

Respondent 12:

So you're asking me, uh, the degree to which I, um, spend time and energy finding out about the, the, the public sector in, in this country. Um, again, I would ... uh, my first reaction would be to say, um, to, to ... that I follow it very closely. Uh, extremely closely. Most people ... well, but I, I would, I would have to, uh, reevaluate and say, uh, very close rather than extremely closely because, um, there are other things that I spend more time on and, uh, I don't delve as deeply into it as I would like to if I didn't have other things that I'm also very, very interested in.

Interviewer:

How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while or never?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me, uh, the frequently with which I, uh, direct my attention to, um, public policy, public, uh, um, governmental events and developments. Um, [inaudible 01:01:20] I've forgotten, uh ... now I would aga- again put, put myself at that second, at that second level, I've forgotten exactly now how you-

Interviewer:

Let me read it again. How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time-

Respondent 12:

Uh-huh.

Interviewer:

... about half the time, once in a while or never?

Respondent 12:

Oh, the answer is most of the time.

Interviewer:

Okay. How conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington? Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me how distressed I am about the way the national government is being run, and the answer is, um, uh, is, is very conflicted. Um, probably not, uh, uh, probably not in the same way and for the same reasons that a lot of people might conclude, but, um, without going into, into great, great detail why, um, the, they're ... I have serious reservations about, um, the, the way thi- the way, um, the, the policies and, and, um, and positions that are ... that prevail in Washington.

Interviewer:

What kinds of things come to mind as you think about feeling conflicted about the federal government in Washington? Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 12:

Okay. Oh yeah. (Laughs) I don't know how much you want, but yes. Uh, I, I, I'm very distressed at the size of, of the federal government. I'm very distressed at the degree, a- at ... well just to ... in so many ways, but the degree to which the federal government imposes itself on the life of, of citizens. Uh, I am, I'm very distressed at the degree to which we have departed, um, from, from the, the fundamentalist basis of, of our country as it was instituted, and see that as, uh, a diminution, a significant diminution of personal and civil liberties.

I'm, I'm dis- terribly distressed at the prospect of spending at the, at the disregard for basic economic, um, um, truism, and the degree to which, uh, the federal government flirts with, with disaster from, from a fiscal standpoint. Uh, the amount of, of, of, of corruption and malfeasance on the part of individuals is, is a source of, of, of great distress and sadness. Uh, at the same time, uh, it, I recognize that it's only human beings that occupy those places and they have, they have their personal failings and, and their personal agendas at the same time.

But I still would desperately hope for, for, for better performance. I also recognize the fact that whoever comes into office has to deal with what has gone before. I'm, I'm enough of a political realist to know that you can't do ... you can't change anything or direct, uh, or affect the direction of anything if you aren't in power, and you aren't in power if you don't make concessions and, and, uh, and compromises, some of which can be extraordinarily odious.

Still in all, I yearn for, uh, uh, for an expression of, of an ... not just an expression, but, uh, actual, um, uh, action based on, on the, on the fundamental truth, uh, expressed in, in our fou- in, in, in our founding documents, and have, have considerable concern. The degree to which I am not optimistic about the future of the country is the degree to which we have departed from the things that are unique to this country as expressed by our founding fathers and in, in, in those fundamental documents, and, and, and those, uh, those, um, conclusions and truth that have, have, uh, brought us to the, to the point of being the greatest nation on the face of the earth and all of history.

I, I, I wonder how much more, um, uh, corruption and, uh, departure from those, that bedrock of, of recognition of the, of the, uh, the truth about power and how government should be, should be put together. We can sustain because we he departed so, so much from it. The, uh, the, um, the statement of Lord Acton that power corrupts and absolute corrupts absolutely is, is true today as it was when he made the statement, and in so many ways, uh, that, the, the, the, the recent history in this country has, has borne that out.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Is there anything in particular that you like about the federal government and Washington?

Respondent 12:

I ... yes, so, yes of course. Uh, in spite of some serious mistakes and, um, legislation that is, uh, deleterious to, to our national wellbeing, still in all, somehow, someday, we have been able to sustain, uh, uh, uh, a magnificent, um, a magnificent society, such, such as, such that, that people risk their lives to come here.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 12:

Uh, and I, uh, in spite of, of, of, uh, of, um, aberrations why, uh, I, I still, still believe that, that we are the noblest of societies, and uh, and I, and it saddens me greatly when, when, uh, there are significant departments, when there, when there are those who, who, um, who don't, who don't meet that, um, meet that expectation.

Interviewer:

Okay. How much would you say the work and decisions of the president of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me how effective I think, uh, our, um, our head of state is in, um, in creating, um, in creating the, the circumstances in which we find ourselves. Uh, the president of the United States is the most powerful man in the world, the most powerful person in the world, but, uh, even if, um ... so there is the potential for that person to, uh, um, have a considerable effect, but, um, um, fortunately, uh, you're asking me how effective, uh, c- can, can the president of the United States be.

I would say very effective but not extremely effective because there is the, the, uh, built in, there are built in checks and balances. There are those who would say that those checks and balances haven't, have not, uh, have not, not been very effective.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read you the, the question with the answer choices again and tell me-

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... tell me which one best fits your views.

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the work and decisions of the president of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

Well the, uh ... I guess I would have to choose a lot.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

Um, [inaudible 01:13:39] so extraordinarily complex, you know, to ... it, it's difficult to, to choose, but, uh, I guess I would have to say a lot.

Interviewer:

And how can members of the U.S. Congress, how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me how effective, uh, c- the Congress is of the United States, uh, in affecting what happens in this country. Uh, I guess by Congress, you mean, uh, the entire body rather than you said members of Congress. I'm not sure whether you mean the entire body, that branch of government or individual members. Can I ask for a little clarification there?

Interviewer:

Well let me read it again and tell me what, what it makes you think of.

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect what happens in the United States?

Respondent 12:

Okay, well you're ... the, uh, the fact that you're saying members rather than just Congress makes me, uh, conclude that you're, you're putting an individual member of Congress on the, on, on the same ... asking the same que- question about an individual member of Congress as you asked about the president of the United States.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

And the answer to that ... pardon?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

The answer to that is, uh, considerably less. Um, uh, of course depending on the member and what committee they're in and, you know, so complex (laughs). Very difficult to, to quantify all this. Uh, so I would say, um, in terms of individual members, uh, just a little.

Interviewer:

A little? Okay.

Respondent 12:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And how much would you say the president of the United States can affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

You're asking me how ... what impact, uh, the president of the United States has on my life, uh, does have or can have?

Interviewer:

How much would you say the president of the United States can affect how much ... how you personally live your life?

Respondent 12:

Can. Okay. Um, a l- l, l, I would ... oh, dear, dear, dear. And the choices are very much, a lot-

Interviewer:

A great deal-

Respondent 12:

Moderately or a great deal?

Interviewer:

A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount-

Respondent 12:

Moderate amount, okay.

Interviewer:

... a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

I would say a moderate amount, largely due to the fact that there are significant checks and balances on the, on the actions of the president. And, um, f- president has precious little, uh, um, to do, to do with, uh, with the economy really. Um-

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question-

Respondent 12:

[crosstalk 01:17:37].

Interviewer:

... in your own words?

Respondent 12:

Oh, I'm sorry. How much ... you're asking me how much of an effect, um, the president of the United States has on, on my m- can have on my individual life. Um, and so I would, I would say, uh, to the middle position was a lot?

Interviewer:

The middle position was a moderate amount.

Respondent 12:

A moderate amount.

Interviewer:

I think that's what you-

Respondent 12:

Okay, a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 12:

Yeah. Becau- because of [inaudible 01:18:19] he, uh, he can affect my life, he or she can affect my life in, uh, in obvious ways, but there ... but, but there are s- there's so many, um, there's so many buffers. There are so many, as we say checks and balances. The, uh, there are so many things that, uh, even the most powerful person in the world cannot, um, cannot seriously significantly affect that when it all gets sifted down, why ... whether the president of the United States is the worst person in the world or the best person in the world, uh, there will be an effect, but it will be so modified, moderated that I would choose that middle position of, um, a moderate effect.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 12:

Uh, you're asking me what sort of, uh, impact, um, a member of Congre- Congre- Congress can have on my personal life, my individual life, and I would say a little because, uh, you know, they are, you know, the, the member is, is one of many and, um, the, the position has its power and has its effect, but it's even more buffered and modified and moderated, uh, to the point where by the time it has its effect on me, it's, it, it, it's a ripple in the pond. Uh, one that's felt, but, you know, but, but still, uh, I would say a little effect.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well that's all the questions I have. Tha-

Respondent 12:

Oh my goodness.

Interviewer:

Thank, thank you very much for going through all of that. It's very helpful to hear you, you answer the questions that way, thinking out loud and, and restating them. It'll help us to make the questions work as well as we can.

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interviewer:

I'm gonna stop the tape and then I can get your, um, address and so that we can send you a check.

Respondent 12:

Okay.

Interview 13

Interviewer:

Okay. I started the tape. And just to confirm it's okay for me to record this conversation?

Respondent 13:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Great. How much would you say the work and decisions of the president of the United States can affect the nation? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 13:

Uh, what you're asking me is the a amount of, a relative amount of the effect of the, um, mental processes and conclusions and legislations and enactments of the person who is a leader of our nation. Uh, how much in, uh, a qualitative, quantitative amount is it affecting well, a qualitative amount is it affecting, uh, h- making a difference to the, uh, thought processes and actions of the people in the country? Um, and the relatives amount are, uh, a great deal, a lesser amount and lesser than that. Uh, in my thought process of answering this question, I would, uh, have to, I, um, consider, uh, the effects the are, uh, wide ranging and, uh, uh, you know, and local and national and global effects of the actions of the president upon the people of this country, I would think of how much people are really aware of issues and, and how they are affected by them and their responses to them. And also look at, uh, the, um, the actual numbers as far as support for decisions or non-support and reactions, negative reactions and I would, my answer would be hopefully a great deal. (laughs). Is that what you're looking for?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 13:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Great. And how much can members of the US Congress affect the nation? A great, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 13:

Uh, this question is probably similar to the previous one, in that you're asking me for a relative amount of what I considered the, um, the results of, uh, congressional decisions on the actions and thoughts of the American public as a whole relative amount being lesser to greater. And, um, again, I, my formulation of my answer would hopefully be that it would be a, a great amount because it's a, you know, because of my own personal opinions that people should be aware of the, uh, ac, acts of Congress and the effects to them personally, and to the nation and the world.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the president of the United States can affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 13:

In this question, you're asking me for a relative qualitative amount of, um, personal being my own way, I think, and live my life, my actions that I take and, and, uh, responses to the, uh, statements and enactments, uh, of the leader of the country. And, um, in this question, I believe that the choices are greater being, ranging from not at all to a greater, you know, the utmost effect, um, in my, uh, the president's decisions on my personal life. Ad I would respond, um, I would, uh, probably choose, uh, moderate to greatly moderate or whatever the next choice up is, um, depending I would say depending on issues, because it's a wide range of issues and some I, you know, feel like I can't do much about or don't care about, and others, uh, I, I have personal involvement as far as emotional, you know, passion for a cause type of thing that I would take action.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read you those response options and see which one you would-

Respondent 13:

Thank you.

Interviewer:

... prefer to choose. A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 13:

I would choose a lot.

Interviewer:

A lot. And how much can members of the US Congress affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all.

Respondent 13:

Okay. Again, this question is so to the first one and asking for, uh, a choice of the, the, uh, relative degree that, uh, acts of Congress, uh, mitigate my thoughts and actions. Uh, and in this instant, I'm also given more choices for rating the relatives amounts. And, uh, my response would be, uh, uh, moderate in that, uh, and the reason I would state that is probably, uh, because I'm not as aware, um, of, uh, of everything that goes on in Congress that doesn't make the, you know, headlines. There's a lot that goes on that I'm not aware of, and only hear about after the fact sort of thing. So, uh, things that aren't so, uh, readily visible or the popular, I'm not, I would think that my unawareness of these issues would rate it a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

I'd like to read you a few statements about public life. I'll read them one at a time and please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each of them. Public officials don't care much what people like

me think. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly.

Respondent 13:

You'd like me to restate this question again. You're going to read, uh, uh, out loud, uh, uh, statement, uh, sentence, uh, asking a question, which is, um... Can you restate the question? (laughs).

Interviewer:

Yes. Public officials don't care much what people like me think.

Respondent 13:

Okay. The, the, the question asking whether elected, um, people who have, uh, control in governmental affairs, uh, whether they regard my, uh, uh, the opinion and lifestyle, and, uh, day to day, uh, existence of, uh, people who are in my say gender or socioeconomic position. And, uh, the, uh, ratings would be whether I agree or disagree with that. And the qualitative measurements of those ratings. My response to that question would be that, uh, given my choices, I would... Can you repeat the choices?

Interviewer:

Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly.

Respondent 13:

I'd say I neither agree nor disagree, because it's a very individualized, uh, you know, there's people in these positions that, uh, you know, have, uh, my interest at heart, I think, and others who don't care.

Interviewer:

So some do and some don't?

Respondent 13:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

So you just sort of have to split the difference there.

Respondent 13:

I would say it split the difference there.

Interviewer:

Yeah. People like me don't have any say about what the government does. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat or disagree strongly.

Respondent 13:

Well, the question is asking me whether I think, uh, people, uh, like myself in my status and, uh, again, the same issue, gender and socioeconomic position, uh, whether we can have, I could have a, my

personal actions and responses can have effect, um, on political issues. And I would say that I, uh, would disagree with the statement that people like me cannot have an effect in, uh, political outcomes.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to make decisions in a fair way? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while or never.

Respondent 13:

The, the statement is regarding my opinion in a relative term of the amount of, uh, times that the, uh, credibility and integrity and honesty of the, um, political, uh, powers in Washington can, uh, be, um, be relieved. And my response would be never. (laughs). My response would be never, my response would be never because I think there's so much, uh, uh, wrong, (laughs), with the media spin and, uh, and, uh, um, greed and corruption and ego that, uh, no. And historically, I think we've learned that, you know, we really can't. It's a nice surprise when something fair, uh, actually is, uh, you know, freedom of, of emancipation, (laughs), or something, but currently I'd say in this climate, no.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in California to make decisions in a fair way? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while or never.

Respondent 13:

Okay. Again, the question is asking for a relative, uh, qualitative, uh, um, choice for, uh, how much I personally, the amount I personally can, um, give credibility and, uh, um, you know, the honor to the local state, uh, the, uh, leaders of California from the I'm assuming government and the mayors and all the, the, all the government, governor. And, uh, my response again, uh, you know, with sadness would be never, (laughs), that, um, there's a fair treatment for the members, the cons- the constituency. Not just the constituency, but everybody in the, I mean, there's a lot of people here who aren't citizens, uh, so taking in all accounts of everybody and the, the, um, assuming that the question is regarding present politics and my answer would be never can be trusted to be fair.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is best for the country? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never.

Respondent 13:

The question is asking me to, for a relative, uh, statement in, in terms of time that the federal government can be relied upon to, to do what, what was, what is fair.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government-

Respondent 13:

Trust, okay.

Interviewer:

... in Washington-

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... to do what is best for the country?

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). So how much can we rely upon the federal government, uh, in D.C. to act in ways which is in the best interests of the people in the nation? And I would have to say, well, hmm, probably never. (laughs). I would say never because I, I, I think we're going in the opposite direction for what's for this country. So that would color my opinion.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little bit more about going in the opposite direction of what's best?

Respondent 13:

Hmm, going in the opposite direction of what's best on, on a, on a worldwide basis, I would say. You know the, uh, the war that we're involved in and, uh, the, uh, environmental issues such as global warming and the, uh, uh, you know, obvious, uh, ignorance and greed, in my opinion, (laughs), of people who are in power to make decisions about such things is, uh, not in the best interest of the country.

Interviewer:

When the question refers to the federal government in Washington, what does that make you think of?

Respondent 13:

The question, is, uh, question about questions of, uh, my, um, thought process, uh, in response to the word federal government in Washington, and, uh, what I would say it, what, what I automatically think of is the White House and the Capitol, the Pentagon, and, uh, all the, the different people who run these different departments, the Justice Department. Uh, I think of all the different departments in the agriculture and interior and health, uh, everything that makes up the huge, (laughs), uh, you know, the umbrella term of federal government.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in California to do what is best for California?

Respondent 13:

The question is asking me for a relevant, relative amount that you didn't give me any choices in that.

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never.

Respondent 13:

Uh, about, uh, how much, uh, relative amount qualified from never to, uh, all the time of, uh, uh, um, that I think the California government, uh, I was just, uh, asking, uh, I'm sorry, is this asking the, what is the question?

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the-

Respondent 13:

Trust.

Interviewer:

... government in California to do what is best for California?

Respondent 13:

So, if I can rely upon my instincts that, uh, the government officials in California will do the right thing by its citizens. And, um, I would, uh, again, my response would be never. Uh, there's just been, uh, uh, you know, my personal opinion as that, uh, is formed by, um, having, uh, uh, worked in with the, uh, the school districts and, uh, I know the plight of teachers and nurses and, and, uh, the, uh, general, um, consensus regarding issues of, uh, uh, being, uh, uh, having faith that they're being treated fairly is, uh, just about gone.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you watch or read news on the internet?

Respondent 13:

The questions asking me, uh, during the, for the time period of one week, seven days, uh, the relative amount, uh, although I haven't been given choices, (laughs), right, um, uh, that I, uh, receive, uh, news of, uh, global, uh, national, local information via the internet and computer. And, uh, Hmm, my choices are...

Interviewer:

You can just give me a number.

Respondent 13:

I'll just give you a number.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you watch or read-

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... news on the internet?

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Uh, how many days do I take note of news on the internet? I would say my answer is five.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying five?

Respondent 13:

Um, I would say five because I go onto the computer daily, several times a day. And, um, so I'm just exposed to headlines, uh, that come up and that I, uh, see while I'm looking, uh, at something else or waiting for something else. And then if something catches my eye, I'll follow up the story.

Interviewer:

On a typical day, when you watch or read news on the internet, about how much time do you spend watching or reading news on the internet?

Respondent 13:

The questions asking me, uh, on a day that I may follow up on a news item that I see on the internet, the relative amount of time I spend. I would, uh, say in, uh, doing this activity, um, my answer would depend on, uh, uh, considering when I go onto the computer and why, and generally I don't, I'm, I don't have a lot of time to spend doing whatever task I'm doing. So if I had to give a, an answer in, uh, hmm, I would go in minutes and say, 15 minutes a day.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you read a newspaper?

Respondent 13:

The question is during a regular day to day week in my life, the, uh, amount, the in days that I read a newspaper, uh, would be, my answer is, uh, uh, two. And, uh, I've come to that conclusion because I don't receive the paper, I always get a Sunday paper and read that. So that's one day. And usually during the week, I'll pick up a newspaper somewhere and read it.

Interviewer:

On a typical day when you read a newspaper, about how much time do you spend reading a newspaper?

Respondent 13:

My typical day for reading a newspaper, uh, looking through an entire newspaper, uh, well, actually, I don't usually look through an entire newspaper. I don't regard the sports or business or classified sections too regularly. So I'm reading the national and local and entertainment sections. And depending on the news, uh, in, uh, uh, a general answer for time, uh, would be, hmm, 15 minutes. (laughs). I've never timed myself reading, (laughs), a newspaper, but.

Interviewer:

But that seems about right?

Respondent 13:

That seems right.

Interviewer:

What do you think about it by saying 15 minutes, anything in particular?

Respondent 13:

Uh, you know, you know, it's just sort of a, uh, you know, a guess, (laughs). I, it, it, uh, kind of depends on what's in the news. If there's nothing to read about, I'm not gonna read things that don't really interest me or in any way.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you watch news on TV?

Respondent 13:

The question is considering my everyday life during a seven day period, the amount of time I turn on the television and watch a news show. Uh, and by, by this, I'm going to assume that the question is, uh, talking about a, a regular, uh, nightly, uh, you know, uh, uh, known station broadcast with a national anchor team. Um, and the amount of time I would partake in viewing such information on the television would be, hmm, 90 minutes.

Interviewer:

How many days do you watch news on TV during a typical week?

Respondent 13:

Um, the question is asking for a number from one to seven within the week of, uh, when I watch television news. And I would say three.

Interviewer:

What do you think about saying three days?

Respondent 13:

Uh, saying three days, I would say that I, uh, uh, will, uh, usually listen to a news broadcast, have it on while I'm doing something else in the evening, uh, going through the mail or getting a meal together. Um, and, and, uh, you know, just sort of, uh, adding up those times that I can picture my life during the week, that would be my response.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you listen to news on the radio?

Respondent 13:

Um, the question is asking during a typical, regular week in my life, the number of days I hear news broadcasts on the radio and pay any attention to them, (laughs), is, uh, um, probably every day, because I drive a lot and have the radio on in the car a lot of the time, and I'll hear the headlines at least. Um, but I don't listen to, um, you know, news radio talk shows or news radio of any sort. I just hear bits and pieces, but I'd say every day.

Interviewer:

Seven days a week?

Respondent 13:

Seven days a week.

Interviewer:

On a typical day, when you listen to radio news, about how much time do you spend listening to news on the radio?

Respondent 13:

Uh, the question is on a regular day in my life, when I'm listening to the radio and hearing news, how much of the time in a number do I do that? Hmm, on a typical day, on a regular day to listen to news radio, I'd say, uh, probably 15 minutes in total, just during driving. My answer was maybe because I drive around a lot news comes on and usually it's not a great deal of news that comes on just, um, headlines or election results or something, um, or news, about news that you'll hear later. (laughs).

Interviewer:

Hmm.

Respondent 13:

So I would say, and I don't listen to just endless news on the radio. So probably about 15 minutes a day.

Interviewer:

As of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or what?

Respondent 13:

The question is, uh, is asking me right now at this moment in time, what do I consider labeling my political, uh, affiliation? And my choices are, uh, Republican, Democrat independent, or fill in the blank. Um, my response, I will go with Democrat. Uh, I believe I'm currently registered as a Democrat and I did that so I could vote in the primary, uh, because there's a rule that if you are actually, I was registered Green Party and no, not able to vote in a primary, I don't know if they changed the rule, but then I had re-registered as Democrat. So that's my response.

Interviewer:

Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

Respondent 13:

And the question is asking me to rate my, uh, self view of, uh, labeling, uh, an affiliation with a Democrat, Democratic party. And, uh, I, I, (laughs), I suppose I would say I, my answer is not a strong Democrat, although I, I think that, um, this is a, um, not at the... I, (laughs), this question, I have problems with the question. Um-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 13:

... but I, in, in thinking of what response, you know, I can only have one or of two responses, so I've called myself a Democrat because I'm registered with that party. Uh, how much do I personally affiliate with being a Democrat? Do I a campaign or, you know, whatever for the party? No. So my answer would be not so much of a Democrat.

Interviewer:

You mentioned you have problems with the question.

Respondent 13:

Yes. The problems I would have with the question are that, uh, I dunno what that means, really? What, what is the question really asking? Like, what is a Democrat? I think that, um, there could be like, endless debate about these things. I mean, uh, there's some Democrats who are Democrats only because they're pro-choice and that's the party that takes a pro-choice stand, uh, you know, upholds, uh, uh, laws regarding that. And, and, uh, then there's, uh, you know, Democrats who are just very pro business and, uh, and do things that negatively alter the environment. So, you know, I don't, it's too broad of a question and I don't really know the definition of when someone says they're a Democrat. I don't know what that means.

Interviewer:

Okay. What kinds of things does it make you think of?

Respondent 13:

It makes me think of the, uh, dividing lines liberal and conservative, and being that Democrats are liberal, um, you know, all the Ted Kennedy types, (laughs), who are always counted on to be, uh, you know, uh, advocates of, uh, social issues for, uh, you know, different, uh, groups. But, uh, and then there's the conservative, you know, uh, people think of, uh, being pro-war, pro-business the Republican party type people. So along those lines, yes, I consider myself a Democrat, but, um, really I'm just more of an issue by issue person. So that would be my problem with that.

Interviewer:

Do you think that the amount of money the federal government spends on the US military should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Respondent 13:

Okay. And the question is asking my opinion for the, uh, what, what I, I consider the expense that, uh, the federal government is paying for, uh, military forces. Um, and whether I think that the amount

should be increased, decreased, or stay the same. Uh, hmm, what I'm thinking about this question is, uh, um, really relative to, uh, the current circumstances and, uh, regarding, um, our military activities and, uh, um, because it is a time of war in a, a war that I am not in supportive, uh, I believe that the amount should be decreased.

Interviewer:

Should it be decreased a lot or a moderate amount?

Respondent 13:

The question's asking me for a relative, uh, um, uh, size for, uh, my, uh, supposition, my opinion that the government spending should be decreased for military use and, uh, uh, relatively by a lot, or by not, not as much. Um, and my answer would be by a great deal as far as, um, what the, the, uh, direction that the money has been, uh, currently, uh, uh, given to, um, that isn't to say though, that I don't think military spending in, uh, different, uh, direction, wouldn't be, uh, a positive thing.

Interviewer:

There has been some discussion about abortion during recent years. Which one of the following opinions best agrees with your view? You can just tell me the number of the opinion you choose. One, by law abortion should never be permitted. Two, the law should permit abortion only in cases of rape, incest or when the woman's life is in danger. Three, the law should permit abortion for reasons other than rape, incest or danger to the woman's life, but only after the need for the abortion has been clearly established. Four, by law, a woman should always be able to obtain an abortion as a matter of personal choice.

Respondent 13:

All right. The, the question is recognizing that, uh, the topic of abortion is a controversial issue and is asking me, uh, my opinion as to the, uh, uh, way the law should be, um, for, um, women regarding abortion. And my answer would be number four. And, um, my reasons are numerous, (laughs), for supporting that opinion, uh, of that a woman, uh, has the right to decide whether to have a child or not. Um, basically because I think that there are a lot of unwanted children and children that are not wanted are neglected and abused, and that's far worse than terminating a pregnancy. Uh, I don't think that abortion should be used as birth control, but, and that, uh, it should just, uh, uh, um, be, uh, an act without, done without thought and conscience, but I believe that women should have the right to choose without government interference. And in that, um, that it would be, uh, a safe procedure. I just wanna tell you that I have meters for 20 more minutes.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 13:

(laughs). So-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 13:

... I don't have any more quarters, but if I could get some, if this is gonna take longer, I just don't wanna-

Interviewer:

Okay. It will be, we'll be right about on time.

Respondent 13:

Okay.

Interviewer:

This next question is about a man who admits he is in favor of terror against the United States by Muslims. Suppose he wrote a book that is in your public library, somebody in your community suggests the book should be removed from the library. Would you favor removing the book or oppose removing the book?

Respondent 13:

Okay. The question is setting up a scenario of, uh, regarding, uh, uh, an author who is written a book, uh, available for anybody to see at the public library, uh, in support of, um, terrorism, warfare, violence against, uh, the United States of America. And in my opinion, uh, would I be supportive of local, uh, movement to, uh, remove the, and make unavailable the book for, uh, public viewing. Um, and I'm going to assume in my answer that this is, uh, because, um, because people have, uh, there is a, an atmosphere of fear, uh, and, uh, um, people feel they need to in some way, take action in, in, in order to, um, be self-protective. And, um, my response would be no, that I would not be in support of removing the book.

And my formulation for that response is, uh, because I don't think that, uh, that, uh, I think, I do think there's a big difference between, um, having information and acting upon it. Uh, and I don't believe that, uh, one necessarily, (laughs), or really, uh, in any way leads to the other, uh, women, um, uh, concerns, uh, fanaticism and religious, uh, um, uh, religious driven actions. Uh, so no, I'm not in support of it.

Interviewer:

What percent of the people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by of the police?

Respondent 13:

Hmm. The question is asking me for a percentage. So a number, um, out of all the, uh, citizens who are, have dealings with the, um, police, uh, and if the percentage of those people who were, what was it? Treated fairly by the police, uh, treated in a respectful way with the, um, innocent until proven guilty, (laughs), um, precepts that we hold dear in this country, of, uh, rights to privacy and, uh, um, All sorts of ni- nonviolent, uh, 'crime' that are committed to the percentage of the people, hmm, treated, uh, in a stable way by the, equitable way, by the police. Uh, I don't know. So I, I would say 60%. I really that's a, that's just a out there guess I have no idea. I think it depends, (laughs), who you ask.

Interviewer:

Okay. What percent of the White people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

Uh, the question is asking me as far as, uh, in, in, uh, racial terms, the percentage of fairness in this, in this case, it's for Caucasians, uh, and their, uh, doings, uh, regarding, uh, interaction with the police force. And, uh, I, I think inherently in this question, there's, there's going to be, uh, we're talking about along racial lines. So, um, the question really is asking is one racial group treated more fairly than another? So in my formulation of my answer, I would, I think, uh, I would have to say, I would be thinking that Whites are generally treated more fairly than Blacks, um, or, and, uh, Mexicans, but I rather races I don't really even know. And, and, and these prejudices come and go. So I would say, um, uh, 40% of Whites are treated fairly by the police.

Interviewer:

40? Okay. A moment ago, you said 60% overall.

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And I thought, I heard you say you thought Whites would be more likely to be treated fairly by the police than Blacks-

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

... or Mexicans.

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Is that right?

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. What percent of the Black people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

Well, the question's asking me for, again, a number in percentage for, uh, uh, equitable treatment for Black, African Americans in this country, by the police force. And geez, I think it's, it's probably like, I don't know, 50 p- maybe, maybe the percentage of people overall, uh, they're a large percentage of the people overall. So I think they get arrested more. And I think that's probably, I mean, this is this, this is such a wide ranging topic that I would think in the formulation of my answer that, um, probably of all racial subgroups, (laughs), are in groups that African Americans are the largest numbers in r- in being arrested. So their numbers gonna be larger for mistreatment. I think it also depends on area of the country that we're talking about.

So, um, I'm gonna say maybe, maybe, I don't know, I'm guessing again, maybe 70% of all Blacks arrested are mistreated by the police. I wouldn't be surprised. Let's say that.

Interviewer:

Okay. So your answer would be 70? Okay. And is that the number treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

No. The number treated unfairly.

Interviewer:

Unfairly?

Respondent 13:

Right.

Interviewer:

What would be the number treated fairly, the percent-

Respondent 13:

Oh.

Interviewer:

... treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

Well, and I would say 30% are treated fairly.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 13:

If I'm gonna say 70, (laughs), I'm gonna, there you go.

Interviewer:

What percent of the poor people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

The question is asking me to, uh, pick a number of percent based on s- social economic status of the people, uh, regardless of, uh, uh, racial, um, grouping, uh, their equitable fairness, uh, treatment by police force. And I would say in formulating my answer, I would, uh, definitely say that people with money are treated better than people without. And, uh, and there's a lot of less, uh, prejudice and supposition and, uh, expectation like behavior. Um, so my answer would be in percentage of poor people being treated, are you asking me fairly or unfairly?

Interviewer:

Fairly.

Respondent 13:

Fairly. Probably, uh, probably, geez, I'm gonna, I'm gonna hope, I'm gonna have a positive spin on my answer, (laughs), and say, uh, 60% are treated fairly.

Interviewer:

Okay. Lemme just back up and make sure I got one of these correct, um, and then we'll be done.

Respondent 13:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Um, I asked what percent of the White people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 13:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Is 40 right there.

Respondent 13:

Oh, uh, of white people, uh, treated fairly, well, no, I'm gonna go higher, I'm gonna go up. Um, I'd also say 60%.

Interviewer:

60.

Respondent 13:

I will say 60%.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 13:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Thank you. I'll stop the tape now and get your address. So I can mail you-

Respondent 13:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... a check.

Respondent 13:

Okay. I hope I did a good j-

Interview 14

Interviewer:

Okay. We're all set. And can I just confirm with you that it's okay to tape record the call?

Respondent 14:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Great. Thank you. How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all.

Respondent 14:

So you want me to, uh, change the words around in that question?

Interviewer:

Yes, please.

Respondent 14:

Uh, can you repeat the question then?

Interviewer:

How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 14:

Um, in the United States today in the, in the politic from government, how interested am I in the, in what's going on...

Interviewer:

And what goes through -

Respondent 14:

I think, I think there's four different answers.

Interviewer:

Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at, at all.

Respondent 14:

You want my answer?

Interviewer:

I'd like you to think out loud as you decide what your answer will be.

Respondent 14:

The First answer, because I'm very interested in what's going on in government politics today. Uh, especially with, uh, with the, how the, um, how the rest of the world thinks of the United States today.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 14:

And what's going on in the middle east, you know, in the, in North Korea and all over the world.

Interviewer:

How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely closely, very closely, moderately closely, slightly closely, or not closely at all.

Respondent 14:

And, uh, what's going on in politics and government in the United States. Uh, how in, how closely do I follow what's going on? My answer would be the second answer.

Interviewer:

Extremely closely, very closely,

Respondent 14:

Very closely would be my answer.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in saying very closely?

Respondent 14:

Um, again, it's very, it's important to, uh, know what's going on in the United States. Especially in this month of October, with the election coming up in one month from now.

Interviewer:

Imagine that two people are running against one another, for president of the United States in 2008. And imagine that you agree more with one person, about what the federal government should and should not do. And you also think that person's background and experience better prepare someone to be president. If it turned out that that person was a woman, would that make you less likely at all to vote for her, make you more, more likely at all to vote for her, or not change how likely you would be to vote for her at all?

Respondent 14:

Um, With the upcoming, uh, presidential, uh, election in, uh, two years from now in 2008. Uh, there is a possibility that a woman might be running for, uh, president from one party or maybe two parties. And, uh, would it make any difference to me if it is a woman and my answer would be no, it, it wouldn't make any difference to me at all.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying no?

Respondent 14:

Um, I, I think about who our, our two senators are, Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein. And I had no problem in voting for them for Senator. So I certainly wouldn't have any problem voting for a woman for president.

Interviewer:

In your opinion, in the best government the US could have, what percent of elected officials would be men, and what percent would be women.

Respondent 14:

Um, in the United States right now, uh, If it was up to, uh, people to vote, Uh, would it make any difference, uh, at what percentage men in, uh, what percentage of women or what percentage of men would hold political office? And my answer would be, it wouldn't make any difference if it was 50, 50 or 90 10 or 80 20. It wouldn't make any difference to me.

Interviewer:

Is there a percent that you think Would, would exist in the best government the US could have? What percent men and what percent women?

Respondent 14:

Again, is that another question already?

Interviewer:

That's the, I'm just following up on the same question to see

Respondent 14:

you said another question you want me to turn around?

Interviewer:

No, no, I'm just following up on the first.

Respondent 14:

Okay go ahead to, uh, wa, Was that question again?

Interviewer:

Well, you said it doesn't really make any difference to you.

Respondent 14:

Yeah. So just ask that question again.

Interviewer:

In your opinion, in the best government the US could have, what percent of elected officials, would be men and what percent would be women.

Respondent 14:

It doesn't make any difference. Again, if it's 50, 50, or 70, 30, or not, 10, 90, it doesn't make any difference.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think about in saying that it makes no difference?

Respondent 14:

That everyone has a fair chance, uh, uh, men or women? It doesn't, uh, certainly not want to think it needs to be a hundred percent men or 95% men, like, like, a lot of men feel it is. Um, I know that's true. A lot of men will never vote for woman for any political office. But I'm not, I don't feel that way at all.

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally to work in government, than are most women candidates? That most women candidates are better suited emotionally, to work in government than are most men candidates? Or do you think men and women candidates are equally suited emotionally to work in government?

Respondent 14:

Uh, when it comes to, uh, being emotionally prepared To, uh, work in political offices, doesn't make any difference. Uh, if it's a man or a woman, and my answer would be, no. It doesn't make any difference. A woman is just, can be just as prepared emotionally as a man.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking most men candidates are better suited emotionally, lean toward thinking most women candidates are better suited emotionally, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 14:

Uh, repeat the question.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking most men candidates are better suited emotionally, lean toward thinking most women candidates are better suited emotionally, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Um, when it comes to being, um, um, uh, prepared emotionally, does, uh, does it make any difference if a woman, if the, the candidate is a woman or a candidate is a man.

Interviewer:

And you said it doesn't make any difference to you?

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

You don't lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Right? I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

Now I have some questions about how men and women, who are Democrats and Republicans are likely to handle issues in the US Congress. Thinking about Democrats Who would do a better job in the US Congress, handling crime. A Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 14:

When it comes to, uh, uh, political candidates handling crime, would it make any difference if it's a, a Democratic woman or a Democratic man? And, uh, wasn't that, wasn't that what, what you said Democratic woman or a Democratic man?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative) .

Respondent 14:

Yeah, uh, and to me it would make no difference.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

And what goes into your thinking that it would make no difference for handling crime, whether a Democrat was a man or a woman?

Respondent 14:

Again, that question is so similar. The, the previous question.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

That, that's what I keep thinking. When, when you ask that second question.

Interviewer:

Okay. Who would do a better job in the us Congress handling education, a Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 14:

Um, between a Democratic woman and a Democratic man, when it comes to, uh, handling issues involving, uh, education in the United States who would do a better job. And, uh, my answer would be, it, it doesn't matter either way.

Interviewer:

Do you lean to word thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And again, that question is so similar. And to the, uh, previous, uh, answer previous question.

Interviewer:

Thinking about Republicans Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime. A Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a de- a Republican woman and a Republican, uh, man in a political office who would handle issues of crime better. And my answer would be, uh, uh, doesn't make, make any difference.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Again, that question is very similar to the previous question and I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling education. A Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a Republican woman candidate, and a Republican man candidate handling Concerns about education in the US. Um, I believe neither would do a good job. It would make no difference. Neither a Republican man or Republican women would do a good job.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

In education.

Interviewer:

Would you say they would do an equally good job?

Respondent 14:

No. They would do an equally poor job.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job, lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Again, that's question is very similar to the previous question and, uh, both of them, both a man and a women Republican would do a poor job of handling education.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say you do not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way, no.

Interviewer:

Okay. If you think about most Democratic Party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities? A Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who as a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, when it comes to the, uh, issue of a large, Um, activities, um, involving a lot of government spending, uh, who would be better at handling this. A Democratic woman or a Democratic man? And my answer would be neither. I mean, uh, it doesn't make, doesn't make any difference between the two.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

That question is very similar of the previous question then I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

And if you think about most Republican Party candidates who run for US Congress, Who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities? A Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a Republican woman candidate and a Republican man candidate when it comes to, uh, spending a lot of money on government activities, it wouldn't make any difference.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And also that question is very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

Which congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion, being legal in all circumstances? A Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a Democratic woman candidate and a Democratic man candidate when it comes to, uh, supporting abortion issues and voting for abortion issues? I don't think it makes any difference.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And because that question is not because, but that question is very similar to previous question.

Interviewer:

Which congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion, being legal in all circumstances. A Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between Republican woman candidate and Republican man candidate, putting on issues regarding a abortion, uh, uh, they would be equal in the way they think about that, uh, um, topic.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And that question is, is very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

Which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years. Democrats who are men or Democrats who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between Democratic men candidates and, uh, Democratic women candidates regarding trying to change the, the, the direction this country is going right now, it wouldn't make any difference if it was a man or a woman.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward think a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I'd lean either way. And again, that question is very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

And which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years? Republicans who are men or Republicans who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between Republican man candidate and Republican woman candidate and, uh, in trying to change the direction of what's going on in the country today, uh, neither of them would be any good at it.

Interviewer:

Would you say they would be equally likely to change the way government has been acting in recently years?

Respondent 14:

They, the, uh, what was the question again?

Interviewer:

Well, on the same question.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way a government has been acting in recent years. Republicans who are men or Republicans who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, uh, neither of them would be likely to change anything. And that's very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

Okay. So when the question asks, would they be equally likely. If you feel that neither one is likely, does it feel wrong to say that they would be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Regarding changing the way things are going now?

Interviewer:

Yes. I'm just trying to understand your, your response to the question. Because you said neither one of them would be.

Respondent 14:

yeah, neither, neither a Republican man candidate or Republican woman candidate, would be any good at trying to change the way things are going in the United States today.

Interviewer:

Okay. So, because you feel that way, does that make this question wording seem strange when it says, are Republican, Republicans who are men or who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

They are equally likely to fail, um, at trying to change things. Um, I mean, they're this, it's, they're the same Republican women and Republican and men. There's no difference. They're absolutely the same.

Interviewer:

Okay. Which type of congressional representative is more likely, is most likely to be intelligent. A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a, uh, Democratic man candidate, Democratic women candidate when it comes to, uh, subject of, of who's more intelligent, uh, doesn't make any difference.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And that question is just about the same as the question you asked before.

Interviewer:

Which type of congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent. A Republican who is a man or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Um, between a Republican man candidate, Republican woman candidate, Uh, who's likely to be more intelligent. I would say the, uh, Republican man candidate is, might be a little more intelligent.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, somewhat more likely.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that a man candidate would be somewhat more likely to be intelligent?

Respondent 14:

Because I-

Interviewer:

A Republican man.

Respondent 14:

Yeah. I don't understand how a Republican woman, how a woman can vote, uh, against a, uh, abortion rights. And it's usually Republican women that are voting for against abortion rights.

Interviewer:

Which type of congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans. A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

What, what was the question again?

Interviewer:

Which type of congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans. A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Between a Republican, I mean, between a Democratic man candidate and Democratic woman candidate, when it comes to, uh, having issues regarding ordinary citizens, it doesn't make any difference who the candidate is.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And that question is very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

Which type of congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans. A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 14:

Uh, between a Republican woman candidate and Republican man candidate when it comes to, uh, handling issues regarding ordinary citizens, Um, doesn't make any difference. And to me it doesn't make any difference. It's a, it's a man or woman.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

I don't lean either way. And that question is very similar to the previous question.

Interviewer:

This next question is about the percent of people's income, that they should pay in taxes to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that people who make more money, should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government? Or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 14:

Uh, when it comes to the subject of paying, uh, taxes, Uh, does it make any difference between, uh, a wealthy individual or a, uh, or someone who's not wealthy, Uh, in regards to the percentage of tax as the, of their income they pay. And my answer is that everyone should pay the same percentage. Um, depending on their, uh, um, on their income, everyone should pay the same percentage.

Interviewer:

What comes to mind when you think about the amount of money people make, not determining what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 14:

Um, I just think it, When it comes to the subject of, uh, citizens in the US paying taxes, what, uh, what is it that determines your answer for that. And, uh, I just feel it's that's, the, the most fair way is that, uh, everyone pays the same percentage.

Interviewer:

Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government. Do you think that big companies should pay a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small businesses or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 14:

Uh, when it comes to subject of, uh, companies and corporations paying taxes, uh, does it make any difference to the size of the company? Uh, should a, uh, big company pay more taxes on a smaller one? Should the, uh, big company pay the same or the big company should smaller than the, uh, smaller business? Uh, my answer every business regarding in size should pay the same percentage of taxes.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in saying that?

Respondent 14:

Um, it's the most fair way of doing it. Uh, My answer, I, how, how can you determine who, who should pay more, who should pay less. If everyone paid the same percentage there shouldn't be any, uh, um, disagreements with that.

Interviewer:

There has been a lot of talk recently about doing away with tax on large inheritances. The so-called estate tax. Do you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 14:

Um, on the subject of, uh, estate tax, uh, do you favor, uh, keeping the, the system way it is now, or do you, would you consider changing the way it is now? And, uh, Um, my answer is to keep it the way it is now.

Interviewer:

So would you say that you favor doing away with the estate tax, or that you oppose doing away with this estate tax?

Respondent 14:

Uh, keeping the estate tax, keeping the inherent tax the way it is now.

Interviewer:

Okay. I want to avoid, um, trying to draw a conclusion from what you're saying, so I, I'm wondering if you could say if you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 14:

Oh, okay. I opposed doing away with the estate, the inheritance tax.

Interviewer:

Okay. I thought that's what you meant, but I just wanted to be sure.

Respondent 14:

Sure. I'm sorry.

Interviewer:

How similar would you say that US citizens, who think of themselves as Democrats are to each other. Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar or not similar at all?

Respondent 14:

Oh, we talking about all the different types of Democrats in this, uh, country. Uh, how similar are they? Um, My answer would be, uh, moderately similar.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative) And what do you think about in saying moderately similar?

Respondent 14:

I think about all the different type there's, there's wealthy Democrats, there's mil, uh, income Democrats, there's lower income Democrats, there's Democrats of all, uh, races and, um, religions and, Um, Democrats are different. Um, that's why there maybe, uh, that's why I say they're moderately different or similar, similar.

Interviewer:

Among us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run. A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or none?

Respondent 14:

Um, When you talk about all the different, all the Democrats in this country, uh, how do they feel about the way things are run in this country? How do they feel? I would say that there's some moderate, uh, differences in the way that things are, are going.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in thinking that there's a moderate amount?

Respondent 14:

Uh, because it depends, uh, a lot of it can depend on what part of the country you live in. If you're talking about the entire 50 states, um, California Democrats might have different, uh, Uh, problems and, uh, issues in, uh, on the east coast or in the south or in Alaska, wherever.

Interviewer:

How similar would you say that US citizens, who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other. Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar or not similar at all?

Respondent 14:

Um, when we talk about all the different Republicans in the United States. Um, how similar are they? Um, my, uh, answer is the second answer.

Interviewer:

Extremely similar, very similar-

Respondent 14:

Very Similar.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what goes through your mind saying that?

Respondent 14:

Um, because, um, Republicans are, uh, not as diverse as Democrats are, they are more alike in the way, especially the way they think. Uh, it, um, it doesn't matter what part of the country they're pretty similar in the way they think about what's going on in, in the US and, and throughout the world.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 14:

Are there multiple answers?

Interviewer:

A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or none.

Respondent 14:

And can you repeat the question?

Interviewer:

Sure. Among US citizens who think of themselves as Democrat, as, excuse me, among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 14:

Uh, the, all the people who in this country, uh, Who, uh, think of themselves as Republicans? How, how, uh, how do they think about how things are run and how, uh, how much disagreement is amongst them? My answer would be, uh, very little.

Interviewer:

And can you think a little bit out loud about how you get to that answer?

Respondent 14:

Uh, again, they, they pretty much, Republicans pretty much think the same. They pretty much think the same about what's going on in the, in the country, in the US. Uh, I mean, and, uh, and, uh, what's going on in the middle east. They, there's the, uh, that's why I feel they, they there's very little disagreement amongst them.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? Do you oppose a ban or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 14:

Um, can you repeat it?

Interviewer:

Do you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? Do you oppose is a ban or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. When I think of homosexuals getting married, I, uh, I'm pretty much against the idea of, uh, homosexuals being married.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Um, one thing it's like, one thing you don't hear about in the media, or when it, this, uh, this issue is brought up in the news. It's not so much that I'm, again- not that much against homosexuals being married, but what it could possibly lead to is what's dangerous. And that is the, uh, subject of homosexual couples raising children. And that's, what's most dangerous is, um, like I said, I'm not so much opposing that homosexual couples being together just, they shouldn't be allowed to, uh, raise children.

Interviewer:

So would you say that you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? You oppose a ban?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. I-

Interviewer:

Or you neither-

Respondent 14:

I think I, I... Because the danger, it could, it leads to, or it could possibly lead to. And of course not all homosexual couples have and raised children, but I guess I would say I'm opposed to marriage of homosexual couples. Because, just because of what, what it could lead to.

Interviewer:

Okay. What about a ban on marriage? Do you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? Do you oppose a ban?

Respondent 14:

That's, that's what you just asked me.

Interviewer:

Yeah. Well, the reason I'm asking the question again is, in case there's a difference between, what you think about marriage between homosexuals, and what you think about a ban on marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 14:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Um, in case there's any difference there.

Respondent 14:

Alright.

Interviewer:

So would you say that you favor a ban on marriage between homosexuals? Do you oppose a ban? Or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. I'm, I'm in favor of a ban on-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

...marriage of homosexuals. And that question is just about the same as the previous question.

Interviewer:

Okay. The reason I went into that, is that, some people say that they're opposed to marriage between homosexuals, but that, but they don't necessarily favor a ban. Um, so-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Just trying to get into some of the details there.

Respondent 14:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Do you favor a ban strongly or only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Only somewhat.

Interviewer:

And why is that?

Respondent 14:

Uh, uh, again, it's 'cause I, when I think about that subject, I think not all homosexual couples have and raised children. And, that, that's the, that's the real problem is the ones that raise children.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now think about what adult US citizens feel, on the issue of marriage between homosexuals. We'd like to know what percent of adult US citizens, favor banning marriage between homosexuals, oppose it, or neither favor nor oppose it. First, what percent of adult US citizens do you think favor, banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Uh, when it comes to, uh, Comparing all the, uh, US citizens on their, uh, on their views on homosexual marriage. What percentage would want to ban homosexual marriages? And that's, to me that's pretty tough. I haven't really thought about that much, about what the entire population thinks about it. But, uh, I'd say maybe 50, 50,

Interviewer:

50%.

Respondent 14:

Yeah. I'd 50% would, would want to ban it.

Interviewer:

What percent of adult US citizens, do you think oppose, banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Uh, about 50%. That question is very similar to previous question.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 50% of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 14:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And that about 50% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. That means you, you think about 0% of adult US citizens-

Respondent 14:

Yap.

Interviewer:

... neither favor nor oppose banning marriage?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Right. Exactly. Repeat that question [inaudible 00:42:02].

Interviewer:

Since you think about 50% of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 14:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And that about 50% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. That means you think about 0% of adult US citizens, neither favor, nor oppose, banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

No. I feel that 50% are in favor of banning homosexual marriages.

Interviewer:

Okay. And 50% are opposed to banning marriage-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Opposed to ban... Yes. Yes.

Interviewer:

And that 0% of adult citizens, neither favor nor oppose-

Respondent 14:

Yeah, yeah, I-

Interviewer:

... banning marriage. Is that about right?

Respondent 14:

I don't know. Um, I just, it's just nothing I, I think about much. I really don't think about that subject much. And, um, yeah, I'll just stay with 50, 50. Um-

Interviewer:

So do you wanna say that it's about right to say 50, 50 and 0% neither favoring nor opposing? Or-

Respondent 14:

All right. Okay. I-

Interviewer:

... that you don't know.

Respondent 14:

Let me think it over. Uh-

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 14:

50% would be, would be in favor of banning homosexual marriage. 40% would be opposed to banning, and 10% is that, that other category where they're not opposed or-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 14:

Or don't, don't think about it either way.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

So I think what I'm getting at is there's probably more individuals in the US, by a larger margin that would be in favor of, of, banning homosexual marriage.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read these back to you and, and see if we have it about right.

Respondent 14:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 50% of adult US citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 40% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 10% of adult US citizens, neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Yeah, that's correct.

Interviewer:

That's about right?

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 50% of adult US, citizens who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals. What percent would you say favor it strongly? And what percent favor only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

I'd say a hundred percent favor Strongly. And yeah, a hundred percent.

Interviewer:

Okay. What's your thinking there?

Respondent 14:

My thinking there is your, you've got your entire Republican Party, uh, or all the people in the US that vote for Republican candidates, are gonna be opposed to homosexual marriage. And, and all the others in the US that are, are very, very rightly Christian, um, Christian extremist, Christian, uh, uh, the, oh, the born again type, born again, Christians that. And there are, there might be some that are Democrats, but when it comes to homosexual marriage, they're gonna be definitely for banning homosexual marriages.

Interviewer:

Of all those 40% of adult US citizens who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, What percent would you say oppose it strongly? And what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Oh, maybe 50% oppose it strongly and 50%, uh, not as strongly.

Interviewer:

And can you think out loud a little bit about that answer?

Respondent 14:

Yeah, it's again, it's something I don't think about much. But, Um, I, there's probably a, like I said, about half of those that are more like me, they're just not, uh, it's just not that serious of, uh, of, uh, something they, they think about much.

Interviewer:

Of all those 10% of adult US citizens who you think neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. What percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it? And what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 14:

Yeah, I'd say, um, uh, all of them are leaning towards banning on the homosexual marriage.

Interviewer:

So 100% lean towards-

Respondent 14:

Yeah. A percent of those undecided can be, would be easily persuaded to, to banning it.

Interviewer:

Okay. So 100% lean towards favoring, banning marriage-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... between homosexuals and 0%-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... lean towards opposing.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now I'd like to ask these questions about US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats. First, what percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Uh, of all the, um, the US population of all the Democrats in the us, What percentage would favor, uh, banning homosexual marriage? Um, I would say maybe 10% of all the Democrats favor banning on the homosexual marriage.

Interviewer:

Can you think a loud, a little bit about that answer?

Respondent 14:

Yeah, because again, it's like what I, something I talked about previously that even though a lot of Democratic, uh, a lot of citizens who for Democrats, a lot of them might still be, um, the born again, Christian types. And they're certainly gonna be opposed to, uh, to homosexual marriage.

Interviewer:

What percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think oppose, banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

I don't see the any difference between that question and what you, you asked previously?

Interviewer:

Well, the, the one I just asked was first, what percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 14:

All right.

Interviewer:

And you said 10%.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Next, what percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Oh, 90%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 90% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. That means you think about 0% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 14:

Oh yeah. No, I didn't. I didn't even think of those, you know, there's, there's a large percent of, uh, or there is a percentage of Democrats that would, that go, uh, would oppose or be in favor of it. And then, so that does change the numbers then.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me go back and ask you those questions again. Then first, what percent of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

70%.

Interviewer:

So-

Respondent 14:

No. Wait, wait, that favor banning?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 14:

Oh, banning. Um, oh, um, Yeah. It's 10%.

Interviewer:

Okay. It, it would be easier to think about this just in terms of favoring or opposing-

Respondent 14:

yeah.

Interviewer:

... gay marriage rather than favoring or opposing a ban on gay marriage.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Wouldn't it?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. It's okay. So-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

...it's 10% of Democrats would, uh, be in favor of banning.

Interviewer:

banning marriage between homosexual.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. What percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

20%.

Interviewer:

20?

Respondent 14:

Um, oh no, no. That, 20 would be my percentage of the ones who, uh, don't think about it much, uh, are in that group that, uh, don't oppose or don't, you know, don't favor they're in the, uh, undecided group, I'd call it.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

[inaudible 00:52:47]... All these cleared up 70% are, are, are 70% of Democrats are not against a ban on homosexual. 10% are a, a for a ban on homosexual and 20 cent are in that category of they don't, they don't care either way. That makes it more simple.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me just run through that and see if I've got it about, right. Since you think about 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats favor, banning marriage between homosexuals-

Respondent 14:

Right.

Interviewer:

And that about 70% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. That means you think about 20% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals.

Respondent 14:

That's correct. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, What percent would you say favor it strongly ?And what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

I'd say a hundred. Oh boy. A hundred percent favor it strongly.

Interviewer:

Okay. Can you share your thinking in saying-

Respondent 14:

Yeah-

Interviewer:

...a hundred percent?

Respondent 14:

They're ,they're the real church going types. They're the ones that are, even though they're Democrats, they're the ones that are, um, gonna be opposed to, uh, uh, uh, to, uh, well, let's there, they're gonna be the ones in favor of, of banning gay marriage.

Interviewer:

So a hundred strongly and zero somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Yes. (laughs) Yes.

Interviewer:

Of all those 70% of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly? And what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Um, about 50, 50.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud a little about that?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Um, for those Democrats, it's, it's not that important an issue. And, and that's why I would say half of them care, half care about it more than the other half.

Interviewer:

Of all those 10% of US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning toward favoring it?

Respondent 14:

Wait. 10, 10%. You saying 10% that?

Interviewer:

I'm sorry. I misspoke.

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Yeah I-

Interviewer:

Thank you.

Respondent 14:

...I thought I said 20%.

Interviewer:

You did. Yes. Of all those 20% of us citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, who you think neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent of them would you say are leaning towards favoring it? And what percent of them would you say are leaning towards opposing it?

Respondent 14:

Yeah, I'd say 50, 50 on those. Uh, that's a real, that's a, probably the, the most difficult category to try to think how, how they think about it.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative)

Respondent 14:

So that's why I'd have to say, uh, more 50, 50 on them.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now I'd like to ask these questions about US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans. First, what percent of us citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

Of all the citizens in the United States that consider themselves Republican, what percentage would they, would, uh, be in favor of, of banning, uh, homosexual marriage? I'd say, I'd say 95% of all Republican citizens would be in favor of banning homosexual marriage.

Interviewer:

What percent of US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 14:

5%.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 95% of US citizens of themselves as Republicans favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 5% opposed banning marriage between homosexuals. That means you think about 0% of US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 14:

That's about right.

Interviewer:

Of all those 95% of US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly? And what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Uh, I'd say 90% favor it strongly and 10%. Uh, this is the other answer.

Interviewer:

Only somewhat.

Respondent 14:

Yes.

Interviewer:

What's your thinking there?

Respondent 14:

That there, there might be a, a small group that, this, that's why I say about 10%, that aren't as super strong about it as the other 90%.

Interviewer:

Okay. Of all those 5% of US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly? And what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 14:

I'd say all of them oppose it somewhat.

Interviewer:

A hundred percent Somewhat?

Respondent 14:

Yes.

Interviewer:

And 0% strongly?

Respondent 14:

Yes.

Interviewer:

And what's your thinking there?

Respondent 14:

Because the, they're, they could be easily persuaded in the, uh, in the, going to the, uh, with the other 95%.

Interviewer:

Okay. Suppose that an election were being held today, that would determine who the president of the United States is for the next four years. And imagine that the only candidates allowed to run in that election, were George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. And imagine that you voted in that election. Who would you vote for George W. Bush or Bill Clinton?

Respondent 14:

Bill Clinton.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 14:

Uh, if there was a, if there was a, a election right now for president of the United States and, uh, and we didn't have this law about, uh, uh, either a, uh, past president or a current president, can go, go past two terms, who would you vote for between Clinton and Bush? And, and, and, and, uh, Bush junior. That's, uh, how I'd restate it.

Interviewer:

Okay. And What do you think about in saying that you would vote for Bill Clinton?

Respondent 14:

Well, it's very simple. Um, Bush junior is probably, is the worst president in the history of the United States. And certainly don't wanna repeat of that.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove, of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Respondent 14:

Uh, how do you, uh, how do you feel about the way our current president, uh, Bush junior, is handling his job as president? Uh, I would, I disapprove.

Interviewer:

Okay. And I understand why from the last question that I asked you.

Respondent 14:

All right.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly or not strongly?

Respondent 14:

Disapprove strongly.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove, of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Respondent 14:

Um, so, uh, uh, the top subject of the economy in United States, how do you feel about Bush junior? Um, his handling of the economy. And, uh, my answer is I, the third answer I disapprove nor approve.

Interviewer:

Neither approved nor disapprove?

Respondent 14:

Right. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward approving? Lean toward disapproving? Or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Not lean either way.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that you don't lean either way?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. On, on subject economy was just very, very important. I, I've never felt that who the president is really affects the economy of the country. Uh, whether it be a Democrat or Republican president, I don't think that's, that affects how the economy is going.

Interviewer:

Okay. So since it doesn't make much difference, you don't really have an opinion one way or the other about Approving or disapproving?

Respondent 14:

Right. Yeah. I, I, if, uh, the way things are going in the economy, I, uh, I don't give any credit to Bush junior, or any approval to Bush junior on the, as far as the economy going.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling our relations with foreign countries?

Respondent 14:

Uh, subject of Bush junior handling, uh, uh, foreign relations with, uh, foreign countries. How do you feel about it? And, I, I, uh, definitely disapprove the way how he, how he's doing it.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove strongly or not strongly?

Respondent 14:

Strongly.

Interviewer:

What's your thinking on that?

Respondent 14:

Well, when I think about that, I just know how the whole world, it just, uh, since Bush juniors become president, the whole world looks down in the United States, just, not that um, has it lost respect through the United States, uh, tremendously, Uh, in the last six years, it probably is an all time low. Um, certainly in the last a hundred years, the way the whole world respects the United States now know Bush has just done a terrible job of that.

Interviewer:

Do you think the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency, was more, less, or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 14:

When it comes to new jobs, does it make any difference of who is president? And I'd say it doesn't make any difference who president is. Uh, because when I, when you say new jobs and I, I, I think of all the job layoffs there's been in recent years also, and all the corporations that have... all the companies have closed down are corporations that have moved their operations to foreign countries like Mexico and China.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative) .Okay.

Respondent 14:

So, um, again, I don't put any blame or credit with Clinton or Bush on that subject. It just, It's just unfortunate the way things are going.

Interviewer:

Okay. I understand what you're saying.

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Let me read the question to you again and see, and have you say your answer.

Respondent 14:

All right.

Interviewer:

Do you think the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency, was more, less or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 14:

Yeah. Absolutely. Simple question. Answer is it's about the same.

Interviewer:

Okay. How confident are you that that answer is correct?

Respondent 14:

I'm not.

Interviewer:

Extremely confident?-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Very confident? Moderately confident? A little confident [inaudible 01:09:21]or not confident at all?

Respondent 14:

I, I, I don't know that. How many new jobs have been created in either term either president's term. Because it's just, when, when I think about jobs, I just think about all the jobs that have, have been lost. Um, and all the , uh, people have been put out of work in the last 20 years.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

All the unemployment that's been created over it last 20 years.

Interviewer:

Now thinking about the economy and the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year, the nation's economy has gotten better? Stayed about the same? Or gotten worse?

Respondent 14:

Uh, stayed about the same.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question-

Respondent 14:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

...in your own words?

Respondent 14:

Uh, one thing about the, uh, nation's economy, um, um, have things, uh, gotten better or worse or stayed about the same? It's uh, it's a pretty basic question.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 14:

I mean, uh, when I think about that subject, I think about all the bad things that happened, and I think about some of the good things have happened too. Um, So that's why I say it kind of stays about the same.

Interviewer:

On another subject now. How likely do you think it is, that a majority of all people on earth will die all at once, sometime during the next 100 years, because of a single event. Extremely likely? Very likely? Moderately likely? Slightly likely or not likely at all?

Respondent 14:

Um, in the next a hundred years, is there any, is there a chance that, uh, that all the people on this planet could die at the same exact moment? Um, I'd say there's a slight chance and that would be, uh, if, uh, like a huge meteor were, were to hit the, uh, the earth. Uh, it'd have to be so huge that it would... that, that would be my only, the only thing I can think of that would kill everyone at one time would be something coming from outer space. Like a huge meter that would just, uh, kill or because something like uh, a huge disease wouldn't kill everyone at the same time. Um, 'cause you're, you're, you're asking what would kill everyone at the same exact moment. So.

Interviewer:

Okay. Okay. Great. Those are all my questions. Thanks a lot for your help. Um, let me stop the tape recorder and I will get your address so that we can mail you a check.

Respondent 14:

Okay.

Interview 15

Interviewer:

All right. I've started recording. And can I just ask you to confirm that it's okay to record this conversation?

Respondent 15:

It's okay-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

... to record this conversation.

Interviewer:

Great. Before we get started, did you have any questions?

Respondent 15:

I don't have any questions beyond, uh, information I'll obviously have to give to you at the end of the interview. Uh, address and so forth.

Interviewer:

Yeah, when we're done, I'll turn off the tape, and I will get some information so that we can mail you your check.

Respondent 15:

Sure. Thank you.

Interviewer:

Okay. First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 15:

Uh, can people change, or readjust themselves attitudinally, characteristically... to different levels, going from one to six? I believe... I do believe that people can change, uh, to any degree, more or less different or not... (laughs) or remain the same, actually. Um, depending on the simple will to shift, uh, their attention and focus, and perhaps even readjust, uh, belief patterns and, uh, their understanding of themselves and the world.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me redo the question again, and with the answer choices. And you can tell me which one you would choose.

Respondent 15:

That's it. That's what I missed. (laughs)

Interviewer:

First, how much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 15:

How much do I believe people can change or readjust themselves, character-wise or, uh, behavior-wise? And to which degree do I believe they can do it? Um, do I believe it's... somewhat, a moderate amount, um, a great deal, or completely, or not at all.

And I think that, uh, people can change completely. Um, just based on their will to do so, and, uh, their understanding of themselves and the world, and their beliefs, and their will to readjust or expand, uh, their belief patterns.

Interviewer:

If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 15:

How much do you believe that you can change your belief patterns, was it? Please repeat that question?

Interviewer:

If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 15:

Hm. If I wanted defend, argue my perspective, my point of view, how successful could I do that... how successfully could I do that? So, I think the choices were somewhat successfully, moderately successfully, um, more successfully than that, uh, completely successfully, or not at all. And myself, I would say, uh, I could defend my perspective and my point of views and my opinions completely successfully. As long as I can remember the (laughs) what the topic was. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you need me to read it again?

Respondent 15:

Oh, no.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

No, that's my answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most? Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 15:

Could you repeat the question once more? How disorganized are the rooms?

Interviewer:

How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most?

Respondent 15:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 15:

Okay. How, um, how cluttered or organized or not, uh, are the rooms which I live and work in most? Uh, I would have to say, um, mostly slightly disorganized. (laughs) At best. Otherwise the rooms are completely organized, and not... or which would be, I guess, not disorganized at all.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

I believe my choices were extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 15:

Yeah. Okay.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them, or neither like nor dislike them?

Respondent 15:

Do I like disorganized situations? Do I like them, do I like order, or... Excuse me. Do I like the lack thereof, order, or do I have simply... uh, am I indifferent to that state?

Um, I overall would be indifferent to that. Sometimes I... And I would be just to di... indifferent to a state of disorder or not, uh, just because of the fact that I like to stay as freshly experiencing the world as possible. So I would say that, uh, I'm indifferent to that... to that state of, um, experience.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward liking unpredictable situations, lean toward disliking unpredictable situation, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 15:

Do I lean... Do I typically prefer unpredictable, uh, circumstances, in which I experience my world and life, or do I not lean toward preferring, uh, uh, unique or, um... or, um, unfamiliar experiences? Or do I not prefer one or the other circumstance, situation?

I myself typically prefer probably to, um, at least, I'd say, a portion of- of, um, 75% to 25 that circumstances and situations that I experience in life, um, even daily, uh, have at least some difference, some unfamiliar territory in which to explore and, uh, experience life in that day or in that moment.

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently? All, most, about half, a few, or none?

Respondent 15:

How many of my important decisions do I make in an instant, or can I make an instant... or do I typically make in the moment? Um, a great deal, some, um, somewhat less than some, (laughs) um, do I rarely make decisions that way? Which would be, I guess, well, less than somewhat less. Somehow... or, uh, do I not make decisions, uh, in the moment, big decisions, or do I like to... Oh, excuse me, how many, I think it was, the question. That was it. How many. How many? Not many, or not at all? Okay, I would say, I personally make some decisions... some decisions, some big decisions, important decisions, um, in the moment. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 15:

When something occurs in my life that doesn't appear to have a reason to occur, how uncomfortable, how uneasy does that make me? Um, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all? I think it was six choices. (laughs) Um, when things happen in my life that I can't deduce a reason for... I am... slightly uncomfortable. That's my answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. In situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

Okay. When I see... experience two persons in a conflict, how often do I see how both... each person could be right? I can always see how each person can be right. And that's not to see that I agree with either of them. I can... But I can always see how they, each one could be right, either one.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words, in the situations when you two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right?

Respondent 15:

How often... How often is it that if I see, uh, when I'm experiencing persons in conflict, that I can... that I have an understanding, or I somehow, myself, um, can locate a- an awareness of each of their truths, personal truths, or personal... uh, personal platforms being, uh, viable in the situation, at least to themselves. Uh, I can always see how each person could be right in those situations. Yeah. That's my answer.

Interviewer:

When you are with other people, how often do you put on a show to impress or entertain them? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

How often, when I'm... when I'm in a group... am I... superficially, um... presenting myself to be greater, lesser, or other than who I really am? Always, most of the time, um... some of the time, once- once in a while, or never?

Um, um, I would say, um, I'll say once in a while to sometimes. (laughs) I, uh, I participate... I- I- I actually, uh, purport myself to be somewhat more or less or other than- than who I... than who I am, alone. Yep.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 15:

In which way?

Interviewer:

Well, you said "sometimes more or less or other"?

Respondent 15:

I said... I said some... Well, from the categories, is what I meant. I'm sorry.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

I mean from somewhere between, um, once in a while... and I guess that would be sometimes. Yeah, I would say sometimes. Once in a while to sometimes, I, yeah. Yeah, 'cause it's based per situation, I guess.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

[crosstalk 00:20:01] just like this normal frequency. Um, I would say once in a while more so than sometimes, I purport myself to be more or other than who I am, alone. Does that...

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 15:

... draw a picture?

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 15:

Great.

Interviewer:

How good or bad of an actor would you be? Excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

Respondent 15:

How effective a performer would I be, if I were to undertake such a... such a, um, mission to... (laughs) I, um... Excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor? I think that I would make a fair actor. A fair actor at- at best. A fair performer.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in saying that?

Respondent 15:

What goes through my mind in saying... I mean, in deducing or evaluating the possibility of me being a great performer, a good performer, any kind of performer, is the, uh, the experiences that I have with people. And, uh, the experience actually with this, uh, with this interview, being that actors have to remember their lines very... (laughs) very well. And, uh, and very quickly. And they have, uh, I assume that- that- that would take, um, a lot of clear-mindedness.

And I seem to have some... I seem to complicate, um, what I hear and what I... what I read sometimes, because I believe I have a hyper-creative mind, actually. (laughs) Or, uh, perhaps, even just a short attention-span, uh, combined with what whatever creativity there that- that I actually do possess. And I think actors have, uh, simply disciplined themselves or not, or are simply naturals at really absorbing, uh, information and content immediately. Or as immediately as possible.

Interviewer:

When you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

Hm. I'm with a group of people, or in a group of people, uh, how often am I the focus or the center, the social center of attention? And the choices were always, sometimes... I'm not clear on all of the choices, but always, sometimes, um, once in a while, uh, never. And there were, I believe, two more choices in there somewhere.

Interviewer:

It was always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

Always, most of the time, about half the time, sometimes, or never? (laughs) Um, I'd say that, uh, when I'm in a group... for instance, my group of friends or people I socialize with, business associates, I would say... I'd say much of the time, actually. Was that... That was a choice, wasn't it? Much of the time?

Interviewer:

Always, most of the time-

Respondent 15:

Most of the time.

Interviewer:

... about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

I would say about half the time. About half the time I'm, um, involved socially or in business with person whom I associate with, I am the center of focus. Mostly because the groups that I... that I socialize with, um, and do business with, are so small. Um, and a lot of times because I particularly am the one who, uh, brought this particular group together. Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 15:

Okay. On the average, how, uh... do I believe that I can trust people? On the average, do I believe that I can trust people? Or how much do I believe that I can trust people on the average? Yeah. Um... I'd say most of the time, really, for me.

For most... I- I'm... The way I... The way I live my life, and the way I express myself in my life, and my paritc... my particular experiences of life, and in my particular experience- experiences of life, I trust people most of the time.

Interviewer:

What does it mean to you to be able to trust people?

Respondent 15:

What does it mean to me, to be able to trust people? What it means to me to be able to trust people is, A, um, generally presenting myself as trustworthy, and being trustworthy, and trusting myself in life actually has brought me to where I experience, uh, people wanting to be trustworthy around me. And when that happens, even when the trust is broken...

For instance, uh, just yesterday, a friend of mine stood me up, um, and that of course always damages the trust to some- some extent. Um, nonetheless, my friend, uh, (laughs) did, uh, did feel badly enough to want to, you know, make it up to me in a big way.

So I believe that even though I did not bash my friend about it, I naturally didn't bash my friend about it, and didn't use a tone that- that, uh, based either... I, uh, just listened and felt what my friend was- was saying, in the... in the apology, and I could tell that my friend would like... really like me to feel like I can trust my friend all the time. All the time.

So generally speaking, that's what it means to be able to trust someone. It means being able to be open, and- and be... um, in a... in a position of strength but surrender at the same time.

Interviewer:

Okay. The next few questions are about how important things are to you. First, how important is it to you that every person in the world have the same opportunities in life? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 15:

How important is it to me that everybody, each and every person in this life have... the same access to whatever one needs, or the same access to opportunity in this life? Excuse me. I think that, um, if it were me, honestly, it's extremely important that everyone have the same access to opportunity. And certainly access and... fair chances to live well, and live as one prefer to live. It's very important. Extremely important, I'm sorry. Extremely important.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you help other people? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 15:

How important is it in my life that I help people? I would say, in my particular... In my life, it's- it's exponentially... I think if we can... (laughs) It's extremely important in my life, uh, because I personally, um, work and live in conditions where people have to depend on each other, simply do. And as- as

matter of fact, we all do, in my... in my opinion. We all have to live and- and work with each other in a way that, um, we depend on each other, for just about everything.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you follow traditions?

Respondent 15:

And do I have the same set of...

Interviewer:

Yes. Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all?

Respondent 15:

How important is it to me that I follow traditions? It's not important to me at all that I follow tradition. Uh, not at all.

Interviewer:

How would you put the question into your own words? How important is it to you that you follow traditions?

Respondent 15:

How strongly do I feel about upholding traditions, or creeds, or... or... historic perspectives of life and the world and people? It's not important to me at all to- to uphold traditions and... or, uh, past perspectives of life or the world. Although I do appreciate, um, nearly all the- the traditional rituals and- and, um... and- and- and- and... um, sacred customs.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about what goes through your mind in saying that it's not important at all?

Respondent 15:

Yes, I can. I believe that when tradition, uh, actually managed to support and represent new and fresh thinking, and fresh ways, and- and strong ways, and successful ways to support communal living and- and coexisting, then traditions gain more points with me.

Unfortunately, most of the traditions that I can think of in the moment, do exactly the opposite. They separate, isolate persons and groups, um, in ways that don't allow, uh, the members of those groups to communicate successfully and thoroughly and appreciate members of the other groups, uh, successfully or completely. Um, outside of the mere, um... cosmetics of what one group might [inaudible 00:36:33] might use to define the type of per... of member, or the type of religion, or the type of tradition, or the type of government that is, uh, that is really represented by another group.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that people always follow rules?

Respondent 15:

How important is it to me... that we uphold and appreciate law and order? It's very important to me. Um, and that... and the basis... and the... and the sort of... and the most simple essence of many of the rules, of most of the rules that I know of, that I... there's a respect and... or there is a... there is an objective to respect and appreciate the group, or organization, or society who uses these rules, and the individuals members therein. So it's very important to me.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you feel safe from harm?

Respondent 15:

How important is it to me... How much do I need to feel... How often or how insistently do I need to feel at peace with typical circumstances, and life experience, and protecting or able... Excuse me. It's- it's very to me that I feel, um, strong and... and able to respond effectively in my life to every situation.

Although I don't really... In my deepest mind and in my deepest heart, I don't really feel like I need to never be afraid. I do feel like there is something in a certain level of... certain type of fear that is merely not fear, control fear, it's awareness fear. And I'm okay with that.

So I would say, as far as answering the question of how important is it... is it that I feel safe, I'd have to say that, uh, yeah, it's very important, although not extremely important that I feel safe.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you be in charge of other people who do what you tell them to do?

Respondent 15:

How important is it me, to be in command of... groups, or be the leader of groups? How important is it to me? Hm. I think I'm gonna switch answers with you for a second here, and say, once in a while it is important to me. Once in a while. Instead of saying it's not important, or not... sl- slightly important. Actually, I can do slightly important. Well, no-

Interviewer:

Okay. [crosstalk 00:42:11]

Respondent 15:

... not really.

Interviewer:

Why would you rather answer, "Once in a while"?

Respondent 15:

Because slightly important says to me that it's always somewhat important that I'm... that I'm... that I occupy that position. But the fact of the matter is, there's plenty of times where I don't have any interest in being the- the leader of the group, at all. (laughs) There... Honestly, there really is. So- [crosstalk 00:42:39]

Interviewer:

So, sometimes it's important, and other times it's not important?

Respondent 15:

Yes, exactly.

Interviewer:

Okay. And if I were to ask you to choose between extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important, or not important at all, which would you be inclined to pick?

Respondent 15:

There was extremely important, very important, moderately important, was it?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Extremely, very, moderately, slightly-

Respondent 15:

Slightly, or not at all.

Interviewer:

... or not important at all.

Respondent 15:

See, once again, it's, uh... It's each... It's each opportunity, if you will. (laughs) Okay, I'll go that far. If each opportunity could be looked at as a... as separate from the typical experience, meaning, uh, you know, sometimes it would be important, and sometimes it wouldn't be important. And, um, I think I'd be able to answer more accurately. But, uh, for the closest... the most accurate answer of those five choices is going to be... not. Not important. Not important.

Interviewer:

Okay. And why not important?

Respondent 15:

It's not important because I don't feel like... I don't feel as though, uh, here's the call. Can you hold on just a second?

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 15:

... very grateful.

Matthew?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 15:

Thank you for waiting.

Interviewer:

No problem. So I was asking you about your saying-

Respondent 15:

Oh.

Interviewer:

... not important at all, about being in charge of other people. And you were saying that, uh, there are some circumstances... sometimes it matters and other circumstances it doesn't matter.

Respondent 15:

Right.

Interviewer:

Um, so when you say not important at all, is that because, sort of in most circumstances it doesn't matter?

Respondent 15:

Uh, I think, uh... Yeah, basically. That... I mean, that's got the most to do with it.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

In most cases, uh, it's not... Oh, actually, you know what, I have to take that back, because business-wise, it is... (laughs) Business-wise, it's pretty frequent that I... that I am in the position where I am directing the group. And perhaps the reason it's not important to me, is because I've got the privilege of being in that position so much that, you know, it's- it's- it's much less pressure not to be. You know? And, um, and pressure can, you know, depending on the way one wears pressure, uh, that can either be, um, a positive experience or... (laughs) or not as positive. (laughs) In some cases not... it's not positive at all.

But, um, but more... I'm leaning more towards the, uh, feeling as if... Excuse me, equally toward feeling as if the reason it's not important is because I am such the leader in my own life, in my own personal life, in my own personal world, that, uh, I don't feel like I need to extend beyond that to direct anyone else. Um, I don't feel that I need to... I need to build any more value in my life in that way, for me personally.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you are very successful?

Respondent 15:

How important is- is it to me that I ultimately am a great success? It is extremely important to me in my life that I become a great success.

Interviewer:

And what does the word success make you think of?

Respondent 15:

The word success, what does it make me think of? The word... success makes me think of accomplishment. And in my life personally, uh, success is directly indicative, and extensively indicative of the exact place that I absolutely am convicted to reaching with myself. Uh, business-wise and social also.

Interviewer:

So, achieving goals?

Respondent 15:

Achieving goals and reaching the ultimate and thorough personal expression. Thorough. Thorough expression, uh, of- of- of mind, understanding, philosophy, everything. Completely being oneself, totally, 24 hours a day, 100% of the time. And somehow implementing that person successfully or, uh, how should I say... I'll say, somehow... the greatest ea... of ease, and totally seamlessly backing that person to the world that I live in- in some way or another. Completely. That- that to me, is- is the... That, to me, is- is what success is, for me personally.

Interviewer:

How important is it to you that you have fun whenever you can?

Respondent 15:

How important is it to me... (laughs) What does it mean to me... What does fun mean to me, and how important is fun? And how... great the pedestal that I put fun on, in my life? (laughs)

It is... It is imperative to me that I have fun as much as possible, and that I find a way to adjust my understanding of the world and who I am in the world to a- an understanding and a philosophy, or a discipline, if you will, which includes fun and can... and can develop fun, implement fun in just about any and every activity that I can... that I... that I can possibly, uh, get involved in.

Now, that means, of course, sometimes I'm gonna have to do some metaphysical shape-shifting (laughs) of some sort, I guess, to, uh, to find a way to enjoy things that are typically, um, un-fun. (laughs) Not less fun, they're un-fun.

And, uh, so... But I'm willing. I- I- I really am willing, I really feel that it's very very important to be able to successfully undertake that transformation, if you will, to where fun can- can be as much a part of everything as work, uh, hard work that would... that would send the mind to sleep, perhaps, because of repetition?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 15:

Or... Or conflict, you know, frequency of conflict or possibility of conflict. There has to be a fun way to approach those experiences in life. And so it's... to me, fun is- is vitally important.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 15:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well, that's all the questions that I have time for right now. And I appreciate very much your time. I'm gonna stop the tape, and then I'll be able to get your, um, information to send you a check.

Respondent 15:

Excellent.

Interviewer:

So just-

Respondent 15:

I hope that was helpful.

Interviewer:

It was very helpful.

Interview 16

Interviewer:

Okay, I've started recording and let me just confirm with you that it's okay with you to record the call.

Respondent 16:

Yes, it is.

Interviewer:

Okay, thank you. How important is it to you that you take risks in life? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all?

Respondent 16:

It is very important to me. Uh, the reason now while I was thinking is exactly what kind of risk is she thinking about. Is it taking financial risk, emotional risk, physical risk? Exactly what kind of risk? I was trying to ascertain all that was going through her mind at the same time. Also calculated risk, a risk that is surely gone on faith, a risk that I have actually thought out the consequences of.

Interviewer:

And how would you put the question in your own words? How important is it to you that you take risks in life?

Respondent 16:

Do you find it, um, difficult sometimes to make a decision and about risk and uh, even if you do find this difficult does that still mean a lot to you to take this risk.

Interviewer:

Okay. And would you answer, extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all?

Respondent 16:

Very important.

Interviewer:

Okay. How important is it to you that you make your own decisions about what you do? Extremely important, very important, moderately important, slightly important or not important at all?

Respondent 16:

Moderately important. And I am thinking that if I make the decisions that I I inte-, I intend to, as you were asking that, I was thinking about the people that I respect their opinions at many different levels intellectually, spiritually, ethically. And I usually seek out feedback before I make a very important decision in my life. That's all I have to say.

Interviewer:

Okay, if you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 16:

I am hearing you say, and long hearing you say what you just said. I am running through my mind. The people that, the resources that I have, the people resources. Uh, yes, I could for my friend. No, I could not from a family member.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 16:

My thoughts about that is that it hurts me so I cannot do that to my family member because I have supported them so much. Also that I'm very grateful that I came to a juncture in my life where I chose a family that is supportive of me as long as I am ethical with them.

Interviewer:

And how would you put the question into your own words? If you really needed to borrow money, could you borrow money from a family member or a close friend?

Respondent 16:

If you're really in a jam, can you call up a family member or a close friend and say, Listen, I don't have time to explain why, but I need this right this money right now.

Interviewer:

What is the largest amount you could borrow from any family member or close friend?

Respondent 16:

The largest amount that I could borrow from a close friend would probably be up to about 10 to probably up to \$20,000. I could not bear any money from family member. The thoughts that I'm thinking is how lucky I am that I could do that and how lucky that I am, that I am in the socio economic stratum that I have met so that I wouldn't make more than that, but that would probably solve any monetary problem I have. The savings again [inaudible 00:05:35] that I have contributed so much to my family's financial success, and it hurts me that there's there's no reciprocity there.

Interviewer:

What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline?

Respondent 16:

Three dollars and twelve cents? While I was thinking of that answer, I was visualizing, uh, a gas station on Martin Luther King Boulevard that I was at the other night. I do not own a car and I was trying to ascertain what would be a fair amount of money for me to give my friend for toting me around all day. And also, uh, that I felt good about my decision.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me ask you a little more of that in that question.

Respondent 16:

Okay.

Interviewer:

What do you think might be about the average price of a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline in Texas these days?

Respondent 16:

About three dollars and, three dollars and six cents.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 16:

I drive an automobile about four times a week. The same that I was thinking about is that I have to also take public transportation, which adds so much to my day and really makes me angry and frustrated and that how grateful I am when I do have access to a car. And how much more comfortable I am, and how much more presentable I am because I have not had to take public transportation and be hot or cold or dirty or deal with, uh, the public, which can be very agitated, sometimes on public transportation.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words? During a typical week, how many days do you drive an automobile?

Respondent 16:

How many times a week do you get access to a car?

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, how many times do you notice the price of gasoline in your area?

Respondent 16:

About three times a week. I'm sorry, about two times a week.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

[REDACTED NAME], are you looking around to see how much gas costs?

Interviewer:

And what went through your mind in deciding on your answer?

Respondent 16:

That I am angry about the cost of gas, uh, that I do not understand why the inflated prices and the games that are played and the war that's happening now and the fact that, uh, hurricane victims in New Orleans suffered greatly while Exxon Mobil made the biggest profits they've ever had. And it makes me very, very angry.

Interviewer:

And when you think about your answer of two times per week, I think I heard you first say three and then say two, what was going, going through your mind in deciding on the number?

Respondent 16:

I don't look sometimes because it does cause a negative reaction from me.

Interviewer:

Okay, so sometimes you go past a gas station and you don't even look at the price because you don't want to see it?

Respondent 16:

No, I don't want to see it.

Interviewer:

Okay. During September, about what percent of all the adults living in Texas do you think were not employed at any job and were looking for work?

Respondent 16:

About 18%. What's going through my mind is, this is one of the richest states in the United States, and I don't understand why that is going on. And also, I don't understand why people that are unemployed are bitching about outsourcing because there are people that come here and do the work and do it very well. These people that are unemployed will not accept the jobs. The people that come from outside work very hard, lives sometimes four or five people to a room and spend all their money to help support their family. And I have incredible respect for those people. And don't understand why the unemployed people that are angry about that situation cannot remember that they are not American Native Indians and that their forefathers or themselves, or even their father or her grandfather did the very same thing, as the people that are coming into the United States illegally and legally are doing now.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words? During September about what percent of all the adults living in Texas do you think were not employed at any job and were looking for work?

Respondent 16:

How many people do you know that are able to work but are not working?

Interviewer:

And you said 18%?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Can you tell me why you said 18%?

Respondent 16:

Because I think it is far more as I look around and what I see and my particular genre in life, what I see, I think, is much more than what the world or even the United States is seeing are being told by the fourth establishment.

Interviewer:

Okay. It's more?

Respondent 16:

Yes, it is more.

Interviewer:

And how much more in what in what sense?

Respondent 16:

The percentage of people not working?

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 16:

It is much more, I would say that it has reached, uh, seven to eight percent more than what they are, that the news is reporting and I am even talking about public, uh, television and radio.

Interviewer:

Okay, so if the government or the news media reports an unemployment rate, you think that the true unemployment rate is higher than that?

Respondent 16:

Yes, I do.

Interviewer:

And that the number that they would report is less than 18%?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. About your religious beliefs, do you consider yourself Protestant, Catholic, Christian, Jewish, Muslim or something else? Or are you not religious?

Respondent 16:

I am not religious.

Interviewer:

How would you put that [crosstalk 00:14:37]. How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

Do you worship a particular God? And do you have a name for that God?

Interviewer:

And what went through your mind in saying that you are not religious?

Respondent 16:

Uh, that I do not understand, um, people that are worshiping a particular man or person or entity when the tenets of most of the religions are about the same and why they can't just understand that there is a source far greater that we are not meant to understand or name.

Interviewer:

Do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not?

Respondent 16:

Yes, I do.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 16:

Why do you consider that to be an important part of your life?

Interviewer:

And what do you think in saying that it's important in your life?

Respondent 16:

It is important in my life because I feel like there is so much backlash from so many religions and so many hidden agendas behind the name of the different religious leaders. I do not think this is just the current situation. I think it's been happening since man was created. Uh, I think because of the rapidity of the media that it is much more apparent now to people that are open minded, and not

fundamentalist. To the fundamentalist, I think they use these reports to their own advantage and their own agenda.

Interviewer:

Would you say your religion provides some guidance in your day to day living quite a bit of guidance or a great deal of guidance in your day to day living?

Respondent 16:

I wouldn't say any of those. I do not have a religion.

Interviewer:

Okay. Can you say a little bit more about how you answered the last question, which was do you consider religion to be an important part of your life or not? I heard you say that it was important.

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

But I also heard you say that you're not religious.

Respondent 16:

Yes. It is important for me to be aware of the religious factions...

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 16:

... and entities in the world.

Interviewer:

So you're not religious yourself, but you, you see that religion, the religion of other people or the role of religion in society is important in your life?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay, I understand. Lots of things come up that keep people from attending religious services, even if they want to. Thinking about your life these days, do you ever attend religious services apart from occasional weddings, baptisms or funerals?

Respondent 16:

Yes, I do.

Interviewer:

Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year or never?

Respondent 16:

A few times a year.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words? Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month a few times a year or never?

Respondent 16:

About how many times a year do you go to uh, uh, a house of worship? And why?

Interviewer:

Okay. And you said you go, how often did you say you go?

Respondent 16:

A few times.

Interviewer:

A few times a year?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 16:

I am optimistic.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

When you think of your future do you.. When you think of what is going to go on with you or the rest of your life? And yes, I'm still I'm still in the interview. Yes. Yes. Invite her in please. Um, please repeat that. I'm sorry for the interruption.

Interviewer:

I was asking you if you could put this question into your own words.

Respondent 16:

And what was the question?

Interviewer:

When you think about your future, are you generally optimistic or pessimistic, or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 16:

When you're thinking about the rest of your life, how do you weigh out the, uh, the reasons to continue on and make a difference?

Interviewer:

Okay. And you said you're optimistic?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

What are you thinking about in saying that you are optimistic?

Respondent 16:

I am thinking that there are things I can possibly do. I'm not sure. But I think that there are things that I can possibly do, sometimes very, very small things that can make a difference in the quality of life while we are, and I am on this earth and just hopefully share.

Interviewer:

Are you extremely optimistic, moderately optimistic or slightly optimistic?

Respondent 16:

Moderately optimistic.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about and seeing your moderately optimistic?

Respondent 16:

I feel very good about [inaudible 00:22:12].

Interviewer:

What kinds of things come to mind when you say you're moderately optimistic?

Respondent 16:

That, uh, I do weigh things out. I'm not a Pollyanna. I have a grasp of reality. And I know that there are a lot of things that are very bad that probably will never, ever change. But there are some things that can

change and has to constantly be in a change to maintain the status quo. And that the status quo is worth living for.

Interviewer:

Okay. And when you think about the future of the United States as a whole, are you generally optimistic, pessimistic or neither optimistic nor pessimistic?

Respondent 16:

I am pessimistic.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 16:

When you look at the world as a whole, how do you think that the United States is going to hold up seeing that this is a global economy and global culture merging together so quickly?

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind, as you say, that you are pessimistic?

Respondent 16:

Very sad. Also challenged.

Interviewer:

Are you extremely pessimistic, moderately pessimistic or slightly pessimistic?

Respondent 16:

Moderately pessimistic.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud a little bit about choosing that answer?

Respondent 16:

Yes, the answer is that I have I really think that I have a grasp on reality, uh, somewhat. And I know that my pessimism, which is a word that I really don't even like to use. I just think that I am knowing that there are certain things that will never, that I consider bad, wrong, unethical that will never change, and I must accept that.

Interviewer:

These next questions are about people who you talk with. People sometimes talk about government and elections with other people. Thinking back over the last six months, did you talk about government and elections with someone?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Or did you not do this with anyone during that time?

Respondent 16:

No, I did.

Interviewer:

What is the first name, initials or first name and last initial of up to five people who you talked with about government and elections during the past six months?

Respondent 16:

Uh, [PERSON 1], In [PERSON 2], uh, [PERSON 3], [PERSON 4], [PERSON 5] and [PERSON 5].

Interviewer:

Okay, I have [PERSON 1], is that correct, [PERSON 1]?

Respondent 16:

Correct.

Interviewer:

[PERSON 2], [PERSON 3], [PERSON 4] and [PERSON 5]

Respondent 16:

Yes. [PERSON 5]

Interviewer:

[PERSON 5]

Respondent 16:

And all of the S's are Fs.

Interviewer:

Okay. Thank you. And is [PERSON 1] male or female?

Respondent 16:

Female.

Interviewer:

Is [PERSON 2], male or female?

Respondent 16:

Male.

Interviewer:

Is [PERSON 3] male or female?

Respondent 16:

Female.

Interviewer:

Is [PERSON 4] male or female?

Respondent 16:

Female.

Interviewer:

Is [PERSON 5] male or female?

Respondent 16:

Female. You didn't ask me about the [PERSON 5].

Interviewer:

I have [PERSON 1] is female, [PERSON 2] is male, [PERSON 3] is female, [PERSON 5], is female and [PERSON 5] Is a female.

Respondent 16:

The second [PERSON 5] is male.

Interviewer:

Okay. I think you gave me six.

Respondent 16:

I did.

Interviewer:

And I can only record up to five.

Respondent 16:

Okay.

Interviewer:

So I took the first of five, is that okay?

Respondent 16:

That's fine.

Interviewer:

Okay, how close do you feel to [PERSON 1]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 16:

Moderately close. And thinking about that answer, it's a new friendship and I hope that it goes further. But I am also cautious.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [PERSON 2]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 16:

Not very close. Uh, so I was thinking about that, uh, as I was making that answer, uh, that I am astounded by this particular person's grasp of things, of worldly matters and the words of this particular person, this gentleman has changed his life and, uh of [REDACTED NAME] of what is going on in the world these days.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [PERSON 3]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 16:

Slightly close.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in choosing to say slightly close?

Respondent 16:

I'm hoping that this will be a good friendship. I'm already seeing signs that it may not be, and then I'm gonna have to put up a lot more boundaries with this relationship. And that kind of makes me sad. And it kind of makes me happy. So I have the ability to see that.

Interviewer:

How close do you feel to [PERSON 5]? Extremely close, very close, moderately close, slightly close or not at all close?

Respondent 16:

Extremely close. What's going through my mind as I answer that is how sad I am about our relationship and the situation that is going on in our relationship right now, and that I cannot seem to communicate with somebody That I have been able to communicate with since I was one year old, it's [REDACTED NUMBER OVER 50] years.

Interviewer:

During the last six months about how many days did you talk to [PERSON 1]?

Respondent 16:

Plus months, oh, uh, every day.

Interviewer:

During the past six months, how many days would you say?

Respondent 16:

Uh, let's see. Very little. One or two days, before that, just last month.

Interviewer:

Okay, so if I ask during the last six months about how many days did you talk to [PERSON 1], could you give a number?

Respondent 16:

Uh, yes. Uh, 33.

Interviewer:

Okay. And that's because you've talked to [PERSON 1] every day in the last month and just a little bit before that?

Respondent 16:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Okay. During the last six months about how many days did you talk to [PERSON 2]?

Respondent 16:

Just saying, about 30 to 31 days every day [inaudible 00:31:49].

Interviewer:

During the last six months about how many days did you talk to [PERSON 3]?

Respondent 16:

35 days.

Interviewer:

35 days? And what goes through your mind in selecting 35 days as your answer?

Respondent 16:

[inaudible 00:32:09] these people came into my life. Uh, it was almost like serendipity. And it took me a couple of times to realize this, and there was an immediate uh, bond and ability to communicate between us and even to agree and disagree about things without threatening the relationship.

Interviewer:

Okay. In general, how different are [PERSON 1]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views? Extremely different, very different, moderately different, slightly different or not different at all?

Respondent 16:

Slightly different.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

What exactly uh, are the things that you all really differ on and is it really that important that your difference makes?

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in choosing your answer for [PERSON 1]?

Respondent 16:

What goes through my mind is that I'm very happy, uh, about our relationship and the way that we communicate. But I also know that there are certain areas that we completely different, differ on, and, uh, very few areas. And that's okay but it's still kind of scares me a little bit because I kind, uh, um, of get afraid that I might be abandoned if the issue is a real strong one that we're just learning about.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are [PERSON 2]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views?

Respondent 16:

Uh, very little difference. And my feelings about that are that we both have had a lot of the same life experiences and um, we communicate much more succinctly and I am fairly certain, no I'm very certain that the answer to my question is pretty on target.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are our [PERSON 3]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views?

Respondent 16:

Um, um, moderately different. My feelings is that there are certain areas that we sadly enough can't talk about, uh, without it coming to a stalemate. I wish that didn't have to happen. And hopefully we'll get to know each other better and that won't have to happen without threatening each other.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are [PERSON 4]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views?

Respondent 16:

Very different. Um, even though we would both support the same people, I think the reasons that, um, she would support them are completely different from a lot of the reasons I would. And it just kind of makes me sad because I feel like she's copping out, so to speak, just for her own self-interest, even though she's choosing the person or the way of government or the way elections that I would choose also.

Interviewer:

In general, how different are [PERSON 5]'s opinions about government and elections from your own views?

Respondent 16:

Very different.

Interviewer:

And what's your thinking in saying that?

Respondent 16:

My, my opinions is that, my thinking on that is that she is an alarmist. She changes her mind a lot. One day she seems to be very empathetic and sympathetic to the world, and the next day she seems to have very bad answers that she hasn't really doesn't have the knowledge to [inaudible 00:38:08] that are very negative. Uh, and it disturbs me.

Interviewer:

Okay. As far as you know, is [PERSON 1] a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what?

Respondent 16:

Democrat.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in saying Democrat for [PERSON 1]?

Respondent 16:

Right now is the best way in our form of government to, um, I say that it's the best position to take considering that we are a democracy and we are made up of different parties. The party system that [inaudible 00:38:55] in life, but it is a reality. So in order to deal with the things we have to deal with, I

think that that is the best platform albeit there should be more platforms. I think it is the best available one.

Interviewer:

That's, and that's what's goes through your mind in saying that [PERSON 1] is a Democrat?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Would [PERSON 1] call herself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

Respondent 16:

A very strong Democrat.

Interviewer:

As far as you know, is [PERSON 2], a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what?

Respondent 16:

Independent.

Interviewer:

Does he think of himself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Respondent 16:

The Democratic Party.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in saying that?

Respondent 16:

A joke he made about Republicans, how Democrats call Republicans, that's just immediately what went through my mind.

Interviewer:

As far as you know, is [PERSON 3] a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what?

Respondent 16:

Independent.

Interviewer:

Does [PERSON 3] think of herself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Respondent 16:
The Democratic Party.

Interviewer:
And what goes through your mind in choosing that answer about [PERSON 3]?

Respondent 16:
Uh, that uh, again, uh, just kind of the same thing. She says she feels that the negative effects of the current administration, which happens to be Republican are so great. And she says that her only way to have any impact whatsoever is to go to the Democratic Party, even though there are a lot of things that she doesn't like there. What goes through my mind is I wish she would educate herself more. And I get very exasperat- exasperated with her.

Interviewer:
As far as you know, is [PERSON 4] a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what?

Respondent 16:
Democrat.

Interviewer:
Would she call herself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

Respondent 16:
Strong Democrat.

Interviewer:
And what do you think about in saying that [PERSON 4] is a strong Democrat?

Respondent 16:
Uh, very good and actually feel very good to say that and to think about it because I have seen her over the years do as much as she can under that particular platform and uh, really walk the walk and talk the talk and put a lot of action into what is going on in that party and what she can do to that party to make things better.

Interviewer:
As far as you know, is [PERSON 5] a Democrat, Republican, Independent or what?

Respondent 16:
Independent.

Interviewer:
Does she think of herself as closer to the Democratic Party or the Republican Party?

Respondent 16:

The Republican Party.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in saying that [PERSON 5] is closer to the Republican Party?

Respondent 16:

Uh, that's she tends to side more with people that are bigoted, and um, that makes me very angry. And I think that that's one of the reasons that she goes right to the Republican Party. She sees no, um, I feel that she sees no sense in going to some of the more extreme parties because she was probably afraid to, she probably would, but it wouldn't look right.

Interviewer:

How interested is [PERSON 1] in information about what's going on in government and politics?
Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all?

Respondent 16:

Extremely interested.

Interviewer:

How would you state that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

Exactly how much does a, um, do to stay informed about uh, why she is a Democrat and also how that she is not afraid to challenge the Democrats for sheer supporting?

Interviewer:

How interested is [PERSON 2] in information about what's going on in government and politics?
Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all?

Respondent 16:

Extremely interested.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind in seeing that [PERSON 2] is extremely interested?

Respondent 16:

What goes through my mind is seeing this man having an incredible change in his life from going to probably the world's number three [REDACTED OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALITY] in the world to changing his career and becoming the number one, um, um, [REDACTED SECOND OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALITY] in the world and making no money doing it. But he also has the backup that he has made millions of dollars and... I cannot be interrupted right now, okay. [REDACTED NAME], I'm sorry, I have to finish this interview. Okay. Okay, go ahead. I was saying, What was I saying?

Interviewer:

You were explaining how [PERSON 2], about [PERSON 2]'s interest in what's going on in government and politics and mentioning his change of direction in his career.

Respondent 16:

Yes. And how much I respect him for doing that and how in order to um, to um, make sure that he is doing the right thing, he stays very, very interested and follows everything that he can, even to the point of going to Washington and talking to people and to talking to, as he says, [REDACED EXPRESSION] and then going into their ring and seeing what they're doing.

Interviewer:

How interested is [PERSON 3] in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all? Well, I guess it got cut off.

Respondent 16:

I have to hold on just a second because I have to reach for something real quick.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 16:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Okay. Um, so I was going to ask you how interested is [PERSON 5] in information about what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 16:

Not very interested. He turns the television off, won't read the newspaper, uh, won't listen to the radio, doesn't want to hear other people's political conversation.

Interviewer:

Would you say that [PERSON 5] is extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested or not interested at all? Um, so, I had asked you about B.F.'s interest in information about what's going on in government and politics. And I was going to just ask you if she is extremely interested, very interested, moderately interest, slightly... [DIAL TONE] Alright, well I guess that's it for this guy.

[RECORDING STOPS]

Interviewer:

Okay, I've started the tape recording again.

Respondent 16:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Okay, so I had asked you about five people with whom you have discussed government and elections when we talked yesterday.

Respondent 16:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Does [PERSON 1] consider herself-

Respondent 16:

We've already done that.

Interviewer:

Did we do that one, I'm sorry. Let me, let me just, let me just find the right place here.

Respondent 16:

Okay. We were, we went through that whole series.

Interviewer:

Did I ask you her religion?

Respondent 16:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Oh yes. All right. You might have favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington, or you might have unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington. Or you might have some of each. I would like to ask you first about any favorable thoughts and feelings you might have about the federal government in Washington. Then in a moment, I'll ask you some separate questions about any unfavorable thoughts and feelings you might have. First, do you have any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington?

Respondent 16:

Yes, I do.

Interviewer:

Or do you not have any?

Respondent 16:

No, I do.

Interviewer:

How would, you how would you restate that question in your own words? Do you have any-

Respondent 16:

Okay. When you think of Washington, uh, do you think of that in a positive way of the government in a positive way at all?

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about and thinking how to answer that question?

Respondent 16:

Uh, I think that, uh, there are people that are doing good things. I think there are laws, basic constitutional laws that are very good. I think some people are sticking to those. I think some people are advocating for to keeping our constitution. And I am happy about that.

Interviewer:

How favorable are your favorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government in Washington? Extremely favorable, very favorable, moderately favorable or slightly favorable?

Respondent 16:

Slightly favorable.

Interviewer:

What comes to mind as you think about answering that?

Respondent 16:

That I, I am ashamed that that is the way, the situation, and the way I feel, but also that I have a duty to, um, do something, not just feel that, but do something to possibly, uh facilitate some change so that I don't feel that way.

Interviewer:

Do you have any unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington? Or do you not have any?

Respondent 16:

I do.

Interviewer:

How unfavorable or unfavorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government in Washington? Extremely unfavorable, very unfavorable, moderately unfavorable or slightly unfavorable?

Respondent 16:

Extremely unfavorable.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying extremely unfavorable?

Respondent 16:

What I think about, uh, how I feel when I say that?

Interviewer:

Yeah.

Respondent 16:

I feel, um, anger. Um, just being manipulated, insulted.

Interviewer:

Anything specific?

Respondent 16:

Uh, yes. Uh, the constant miscommunication from the government, uh, the propaganda that the government is putting out and I'm talking about from all different forms of the government, or, uh, arms of the government. The um, ridiculous amount of time, energy and money that it takes to facilitate the things that I've just previously stated, uh, and the waste and how it [inaudible 00:54:27] to be cut out, it should be going to areas that are much more favorable for the overall living conditions for everyone in this country and the world.

Interviewer:

How conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington? Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 16:

Very conflicted.

Interviewer:

What comes to mind as you think about that?

Respondent 16:

At times, I feel like I have an absolute responsibility to uh, to uh, better the conditions in any way that I possibly can. There are times I feel like I would like to totally deserve it. And at times, the most horrible feeling I have is my own, keeping a check on my own self-centered motives on why I want to do either one of those.

Interviewer:

And could you put that question into your own words? How conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington?

Respondent 16:

What kind of stress is it causing you when you think about the federal government in Washington? What dilemmas are you experiencing? Because the dilemma has two sides, whether it's right or wrong, these are decisions you make, these are thoughts you have, it's going to have some pain to it.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the work and decisions of the president of the United States can affect the nation? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 16:

A great deal.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

How do you feel that, uh, how much control do you think that this president has right now over the thoughts and actions of the American people and the world?

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind as you decide how to answer?

Respondent 16:

Again, anger, uh, betrayal, um, and the fact that I also think this president is just the, uh the face on many faces behind, you know, that are actually controlling him. But he is complicit, um, behind these other people by being their front man, their chauffeurs, their show pony, and he should be held accountable for that.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the US Congress affect the nation? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 16:

A moderate amount.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind as you think about your answer?

Respondent 16:

That it is not what the Congress was set up for. And unfortunately, it has come to a period in time where, um, they don't have the powers that they should have, and, um, the ability to help govern.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the president of the United States can affect how you personally live your life?

Respondent 16:

Very much so.

Interviewer:

A great deal...

Respondent 16:

A great deal.

Interviewer:

... a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 16:

A great deal.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

What's the presid- How do you think what the president does and says and prints and writes affects you?

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in making your answer?

Respondent 16:

Uh, manipulated, uh, angry, distrustful. That's all.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little or not at all?

Respondent 16:

A moderate amount.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 16:

Do you think your congressman can really be effective on your day to day lives?

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in deciding to say a moderate amount?

Respondent 16:

That it is a, a shame that things have come uh, to uh, to this uh, this particular epoch of calamity.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about the abil- the current ability of Congress, other member of the US Congress, to affect how you personally live your life?

Respondent 16:

I think that, um, their ability is greatly constrained and, uh, greatly, greatly constrained.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's all the questions I have. Thank you very much, and I appreciate you calling back now. Um, I'll stop the tape and get some information from you so that we can send you a check.

Respondent 16:

Okay.

Interview 17

Interviewer:

Okay. I've started the tape. And can I just confirm that it's okay to record our conversation?

Respondent 17:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Thank you. How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, or not interested at all?

Respondent 17:

How much do I wanna know about the government? Um, I don't know. Do you want me to repeat the slightly interested... that stuff?

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 17:

Okay. I don't remember all of them.

Interviewer:

Well, you can rephrase them, and, um... I'll read them to you again and you can rephrase them however seems appropriate to you.

Respondent 17:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, or not interested at all.

Respondent 17:

Okay. I'm just picturing, is it a one, a one to five? How much do I wanna know the... about the government, one to five?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

One being extremely interested?

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you think out loud while you decide on your answer to that question?

Respondent 17:

How much... I'm thinking about how much do I know about the government? Not a lot, and I don't really even care. So five.

Interviewer:

Okay. How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely closely, very closely, moderately closely, slightly closely, or not closely at all?

Respondent 17:

Okay. How much do I pay attention to politics? And then doing the one to five, and I'm thinking one again, because I don't pay attention at all.

Interviewer:

Okay. How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 17:

Okay. Let's see. How much do I pay attention to politics? Um, never. So the one.

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you put that question into your own words? How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Let's see. How... let's see. How much time do I spend getting to know about the government?

Interviewer:

Okay. And what goes through your mind as you answer that question?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, never. That's the first thing that pops into my mind.

Interviewer:

Okay. Because there's nothing that you do that involves-

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

... paying attention or trying to get information about government or politics?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. You might have favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington, or you might have unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington.

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Or you might have some of each. I would like to ask you, first, about any favorable thoughts and feelings you might have about the federal government in Washington. Then, in a moment, I'll ask you some separate questions about any unfavorable thoughts and feelings you might have. First, do you have any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington, or do you not have any?

Respondent 17:

Okay. Do you like the government? Do you not like the government? Let's see. I res- I'm thinking that I respect the people that are in the government because they're in our country. I just don't know anything about it and I don't really care to know anything about it, because I really don't have anything to do with it.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you say that you do have any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington-

Respondent 17:

Yes.

Interviewer:

... or you do not have any?

Respondent 17:

I do.

Interviewer:

How favorable are your favorable thoughts and feelings about the federal government in Washington? Extremely favorable, very favorable, moderately favorable, or slightly favorable?

Respondent 17:

Okay. How m- Let's see. How much do I like the government, one to five? I would say, you know, one being extremely favorable, I would say two.

Interviewer:

So extremely favorable, very favorable, moderately favorable, or slightly favorable.

Respondent 17:

Very favorable.

Interviewer:

Okay. Does anything specific come to mind about thinking favorably about the federal government in Washington?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

No? Okay. Do you have... um, I'm sorry, let me ask a different question. Um, do you have any unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington, or do you not have any?

Respondent 17:

Do you have any negative thoughts about the government? Um, or do I not? Let's see. No, I don't have any negative thoughts about the government really.

Interviewer:

Okay. How conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington? Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted, or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 17:

Hmm. Hmm. Let's see. What, what do you mean by conflicted?

Interviewer:

What does it make you think of?

Respondent 17:

Conflicted? Like I can't decide which like... let's see. How much do I like them and not like them at the same time, is that what you mean?

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

Yeah. I think what you mean is like I like them but then again I don't like them. There are some things I do, but some things I don't.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington?

Respondent 17:

Um-

Interviewer:

Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted, or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 17:

Moderately conflicted.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what do you think about in choosing that answer?

Respondent 17:

Just that I don't don't really have any negative thoughts and I don't have any real strong, positive thoughts about the government. So just moderate.

Interviewer:

Okay. So if I understand what you're saying correctly, you're saying that you don't have, you don't have anything bad to say about the government, and in terms of the positive side, you're a little bit positive but not very positive.

Respondent 17:

Right.

Interviewer:

And when you put those two things together, that seems like moderately conflicted?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. How much, would you say, the work and decision of the President of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 17:

How much will the President's decisions affect me? Um, probably a moderate amount, because I know there are other people helping them make decisions.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 17:

Um, uh, what's (laughs)... uh, I don't really know a lot about how the government works, but I do know there's like other people that help them make decisions. And I know he isn't... he doesn't like... he isn't like a king (laughs).

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Anything else?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how much can members of the US Congress affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 17:

Okay. How much power does the Congress have? Um, probably a lot.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about when saying that?

Respondent 17:

Um, I know there are more, there are more people that make up the Congress. So, yeah, probably a lot. 'Cause I know they have to vote on stuff.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the President of the United States can affect how you, personally, live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 17:

How much does... how much control does the president have over my everyday life? I would say a moderate amount, because, hmm... because, let's see, because citizens are allowed to vote.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little bit more about that?

Respondent 17:

Hmm...

Interviewer:

How does citizens being allowed to vote make you say that the president has... can affect the way you personally live your life a moderate amount?

Respondent 17:

Because by voting, citizens decide how everything is run, and the president is just like the head of the country and he doesn't really make decisions like that.

Interviewer:

Okay. Anything else?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the US Congress affect how you, personally, live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 17:

How much power does Congress have over my everyday life? I would have to say a great deal, because I just feel like Congress is more powerful than the president. I feel like he's just a figurehead, basically.

Interviewer:

Is there anything in particular that you think about, in terms of the way that members of the US Congress could affect how you personally live your life?

Respondent 17:

Um, nope.

Interviewer:

I'd like to read you a few statements about public life.

Respondent 17:

Okay.

Interviewer:

I'll read them one at a time, and please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each of them.

Respondent 17:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Public officials don't care much what people like me think. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 17:

That does the government care what I think? Like the government doesn't care about me? Let's see. Uh, I disagree. Like, uh-

Interviewer:

Do you disagree somewhat or disagree strongly?

Respondent 17:

Disagree somewhat.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

Because that's like why they do what they do, is for the citizens. They're like... that's why they're called public servants, because they do stuff for the public.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). The next statement is, "People like me don't have any say about what the government does." Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 17:

I have no power over the government, and I somewhat disagree. And I say that because like I could... I can vote and everything and... but they make the ultimate decisions.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to make decisions in a fair way? Always, most of the time, about half the time, one in a while, or never?

Respondent 17:

How much can you trust the government to do the right thing? And I'll say... what's the middle answer?

Interviewer:

The answers were always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never.

Respondent 17:

I'll say about half the time.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

Because I really don't, I really don't know.

Interviewer:

Okay. So you're not sure, so you're-

Respondent 17:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... inclined to pick sort of the middle?

Respondent 17:

Right.

Interviewer:

Okay. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Texas to make decisions in a fair way? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 17:

How much do I think the Texas, the Texas government is fair? And I would just pick the middle answer, because I really don't know.

Interviewer:

What does the word fair in that question make you think of?

Respondent 17:

Hmm.

Interviewer:

When it refers to the government making decisions in a fair way?

Respondent 17:

What's good for the people and what's good for the government.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the federal government in Washington to do what is best for the country? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 17:

How often do I think the government will do the right thing? Uh, probably most of the time, because it just, hmm, because, I mean, our lives aren't real bad (laughs). So they must be doing something right.

Interviewer:

Would you say always, most of the time -

Respondent 17:

Most of the time.

Interviewer:

Okay. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Texas to do what is best for Texas?

Respondent 17:

How often will the Texas government do what's best for Texans? And I would s- I really don't know, so I'd say the middle answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week, in the past year, how many days did you watch or read news on the internet?

Respondent 17:

Let's see. How many days... let's see. How many, in the past year, did I watch the news? And I would say probably about two times a week, two, probably about... I would say about 100 times in the whole, in the whole past year.

Interviewer:

Okay. What about during a typical week in the past year?

Respondent 17:

Probably about twice a week.

Interviewer:

Okay. And is that watching or reading news on the internet?

Respondent 17:

No, it's on TV.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

It's when I happen to catch it.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me ask you, specifically, about the internet. During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you watch or read news on the internet?

Respondent 17:

Zero.

Interviewer:

Okay. And what goes through your mind in saying zero?

Respondent 17:

Because I never watch or read the news on the internet.

Interviewer:

Okay. During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you read a newspaper?

Respondent 17:

Okay. How many times did I read the newspaper last year? I would say 40, because I would r- I'd just read Sunday, and I didn't even read every Sunday, but most Sundays. So I'd say 40.

Interviewer:

And during a typical a week in the past year, how many days did you read a newspaper?

Respondent 17:

One.

Interviewer:

Once a week?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

On a typical day, when you read a newspaper during the last year, about how much time did you spend reading a newspaper?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, how long did I read the newspaper every time I read it? Uh, about 20 minutes.

Interviewer:

What's going through your mind as you decide to say 20 minutes?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, I just pretty much glance over everything, so it doesn't really take that long.

Interviewer:

During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you watch news on TV?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, how many times a week, last year, did I watch the news? Hmm, about two times a week. Can you hang on for one second?

Interviewer:

Sure. (silence).

Respondent 17:

Hello?

Interviewer:

Yes.

Respondent 17:

Okay. Um-

Interviewer:

Okay. So I asked you, "During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you watch news on TV?" And you said two. Um, now, I'm gonna ask, on a typical day when you watched TV news during the last year, about how much time did you spend watching news on TV?

Respondent 17:

Okay. How... let's see, how long did I watch the news everyday last year? Hmm, not that... I probably just watched one little part of it, so like 30 minutes.

Interviewer:

30 minutes?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

During a typical week in the past year, how many days did you listen to news on the radio?

Respondent 17:

How many days, last year, did I listen to news On the radio? Never, 'cause I never listen to news on the radio.

Interviewer:

So it was zero?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

As of today, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

Respondent 17:

Right now, do I think I'm a Republican, Democrat, Independent, I don't consider myself anything... any of those.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think about when saying that you don't consider yourself any of those?

Respondent 17:

I don't really know what the difference between a Republican and Democrat or an Independent is. Yeah, 'cause I don't really know anything about it.

Interviewer:

Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or to the Democratic Party?

Respondent 17:

Probably the Republican Party, because my whole family is Republican. I don't know what that means, but they d- are (laughs).

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you think that the amount of money the federal government spends on the US military should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Respondent 17:

Do I think the government should give the military more money, or how much money do I think the government should give the military? Um, I don't really know. I guess I would say stay the same since I don't know. Because I don't know how much they give them now and I don't know how much they need or anything.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking it should be increased, lean toward thinking it should be decreased, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, I don't lean either, either way, because I don't know anything about how the government treats the military.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have of an abortion, if staying pregnant would hurt her health but is very unlikely to cause her to die?

Respondent 17:

Okay. If a pregnant lady was gonna have a baby and it was going to hurt her but not kill her and she had an abortion, should it be against the law? Um, I think, no, it shouldn't be against the law, because I just believe it's her choice to do what she wants.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetus' major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 17:

I would say the first three months.

Interviewer:

Only during the first three months?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind in thinking about that?

Respondent 17:

It just seems wrong to do it after it's already started turning into a real baby.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if doctors believe that continuing to be pregnant could cause her to die?

Respondent 17:

Should it be against the law for a pregnant lady to get an abortion if it's going to kill her to have the baby? No. She should... No. If it's going, if it's going to kill her, I believe she should be allowed to decide if she wants to get an abortion or not, and it should not be against the law.

Interviewer:

So it should be legal for her to have an abortion?

Respondent 17:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetus' major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 17:

Probably before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, because I think if there's a chance that they can pro- survive outside the mother, they should like deliver it and... instead of abort it.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

And let it at least get a chance.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by sex she chose to have with a blood relative?

Respondent 17:

Should it be against the law for a lady to have an abortion if she has had consensual sex with a relative? Hmm, no, it should not be against the law.

Interviewer:

So it should be legal to have an abortion for that reason?

Respondent 17:

Uh, yes.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three month of the pregnancy before the fetus' major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 17:

Um, the first three months, because it probably is not going to do any harm to the pregnant ladies.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by her being raped?

Respondent 17:

If somebody got raped, should it be illegal for her to have an abortion? No, it should be legal.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetus' major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 17:

Probably before the major organs start forming, because sh- the pregnant lady had no choice at all, and I think she would know if she wanted to keep it or not before the organs started developing.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the fetus will be born with a serious birth defect?

Respondent 17:

Okay. Should it be legal for a pregnant lady to get an abortion if her baby is going to be, um, messed up? Uh, yes, it should be legal.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetus' major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 17:

I would say at any time... because they might not find out until later on in the pregnancy. And if it's not... if it doesn't have a chance of being normal, then it should be okay.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if she learns that the child will not be the sex she wants it to be?

Respondent 17:

(laughs) Um, that's a hard one, because on one hand it should be legal because it's her choice, but then that's really messed up. Like, I don't know. I don't know about that one. I would have to say legal because I, I don't know. Hmm... I don't know about that one.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if having the child would be extremely difficult for her financially?

Respondent 17:

Hmm... hmm, it should be legal. (laughs) I don't know. I'm leaning towards legal because if it's like a teenager, she's not gonna have everything the baby needs. Hmm, maybe just there should be like, I

don't know, I think there should be like a law to where teenagers like that, or somebody that can't financially take care of the baby, should have to put it up for adoption.

Interviewer:

So would you say it should be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if having the child would be extremely difficult for her financially?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, illegal.

Interviewer:

This next question is about a man who admits he is in favor of terrorism against the United States. Suppose he wrote a book that is in your public library, somebody in your community suggests the book should be removed from the library. Would you favor removing the book or oppose removing the book?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, these are tough questions. (laughs). Let's see. I wanna lean towards I don't think they should remove the book because the whole Freedom of the Speech thing, but then again, he is for terrorism against America when we are in America. But what's removing the book gonna do? Um, I would say the book should stay, because removing it won't do anything about changing his views or anything like that.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

And it's his right to think what he wants.

Interviewer:

What percent of the people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think, are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, let's see. Probably about 50%.

Interviewer:

How would you restate that question-

Respondent 17:

Uh-

Interviewer:

... in your own words?

Respondent 17:

What percent of the... (laughs) I think that's just how you said it.

Interviewer:

I can repeat it for you.

Respondent 17:

Um, no, wait. Uh, what percent of people that get arrested are treated fairly by the cops?

Interviewer:

And what does the word fairly in that question make you think of?

Respondent 17:

Innocent until proven guilty.

Interviewer:

Okay. And you said 50%?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And what do you think about when saying 50%?

Respondent 17:

Hmm. I've, I've been to jail before. And usually, the, the prisoners that don't give them any trouble, they usually treat fairly. And the ones that do, they are mean to.

Interviewer:

And that's about 50%?

Respondent 17:

Yes.

Interviewer:

What percent of the white people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 17:

What percent of white people do I think the police treat fairly? Um, probably about... the police treat fairly about 50, about... like everybody else.

Interviewer:

What percent of the Black people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 17:

Hmm (laughs). About, um, I'd say 50.

Interviewer:

What percent of the poor people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days, do you think, are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 17:

About 50.

Interviewer:

What do you think about when saying 50 there?

Respondent 17:

Just that in jail, it doesn't really matter if you're poor or not. So they're just like everybody else. So it's just the same as everybody else. If you're nice to them, they'll be nice to you. And probably about half the people are nice to them.

Interviewer:

What about in saying 50 for whites and Blacks?

Respondent 17:

It's the same thing.

Interviewer:

Okay. Imagine that two people are running against one another for President of the United States in 2008. And imagine that you agree more with one person about what the federal government should and should not do, and you also think that person's background and experience better prepares someone to be president. If it turned out that that person was a woman, would that make you less likely at all to vote for her, make you more likely at all to vote her, or not change how likely you would be to vote for her at all?

Respondent 17:

Okay. If I agreed and liked everything about a candidate and she was a woman, would that make me vote for her more... make me wanna vote for her more or make me wanna not vote for her at all? Um, I would s- I would say it really doesn't even matter.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about when saying that?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). I, personally, feel like women can do anything that men can do.

Interviewer:

Anything else?

Respondent 17:

Nope.

Interviewer:

In your opinion, in the best government the US could have, what percent of elected officials would be men, and what percent would be women?

Respondent 17:

Okay. In the perfect government, what percent would be men and women? And I would say it would be ha- 50-50.

Interviewer:

What do you think about when saying that?

Respondent 17:

Just because you can't really tell Who's gonna be better just because... just by if they're a man or a woman. So I w- there's no re- way to really tell, so I would just say 50-50.

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally to work in government than our most women candidates, that most women candidates are better suited emotionally to work in government than our most men candidates, or do you think that men and women candidates are equally suited emotionally to work in government?

Respondent 17:

Okay. Emotionally speaking, do I think men or women can handle government better? And, hmm, probably I would say I don't know, because it just really depends on the person.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking most men candidates are better suited emotionally, lean toward thinking most women candidates-

Respondent 17:

I-

Interviewer:

... are better suited emotionally?

Respondent 17:

I'll lean towards men, because they just have always run the government and it just seems like, I don't know, it just seems like they would do it better. It j- hmm, to me, it just seems like they would be better because... men would be better because more men are in the government than women, and that must be for some reason. I don't really know a lot about the government.

Interviewer:

Now, I have some questions about how men and women who are Democrats and Republicans are less... are likely to handle issues in the US Congress. Thinking about Democrats, who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime? A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 17:

Handling crime? I don't really know what the difference between a Democrat and a Republican is, but if I'm thinking a man or woman would handle crime better, hmm, probably... I don't know. Hmm, probably a man, because they seem stricter than women usually. Not as forgiving.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 17:

Much better.

Interviewer:

Can you think out loud a little bit about that choice?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, I'm thinking about women judges that I've seen and men judges that I've seen. And, usually, women are more forgiving and just men aren't as forgiving. And that's what I think criminals need, is less forgiving.

Interviewer:

Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling education? A Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 17:

Um, I think a woman, because it just seems like women are... have been in, in control of education more than men. They know more about it, it seems.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 17:

Much better.

Interviewer:

What do you think about when saying much better?

Respondent 17:

Because it doesn't seem like men can handle education very well.

Interviewer:

Anything specific about that?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, nope.

Interviewer:

Thinking about Republicans, who would do a better job in the US Congress handling crime? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 17:

Um, again, I would think the men for the same reasons, because I don't really know the difference between Republican and Democrat.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 17:

Much better.

Interviewer:

Who would do a better job in the US Congress handling education? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 17:

I would say a woman, for the same reasons.

Interviewer:

Much better or somewhat better?

Respondent 17:

Much better.

Interviewer:

If you think about most Democratic Party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities? A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, equally.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question, in your own words?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or woman handle many different things at once better?

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

And if you think about most Republican Party candidates who run for US Congress, who do you think is usually more likely to favor a large federal government that is involved in many different activities? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Equally, just for the same reason.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or woman handle many different things at once better?

Interviewer:

And you said they would be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, I don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or woman handle many different activities better?

Interviewer:

Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances? A Democrat who is a man or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Could you repeat the question one more time?

Interviewer:

Sure. Which Congressional representative do you think would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances? A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Okay. Would a man or a woman support legalized abortions? Which one would support it more? Uh, I would say equal.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

I do not lean either way.

Interviewer:

What do you think about when saying that?

Respondent 17:

Because some men think it's okay and some men don't. Some women think it's okay and some don't. There's just... and it just depends on the person.

Interviewer:

Which Congressional representative, do you think, would be more likely to support abortion being legal in all circumstances? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or a woman support legalized abortion more? And I just think it's equal.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely-

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

... lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Don't lean either way.

Interviewer:

And is that for the same reason you mentioned-

Respondent 17:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... before? Which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years? Democrats who are men, or Democrats who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or a woman be more likely to change the government? I would say probably a woman, because men have been runni- running the government and if... I mean, a woman would be a big change.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 17:

Much more likely.

Interviewer:

What do you think about saying that?

Respondent 17:

Just because there aren't many women in the government, and just that a woman in itself being in the government would be a change.

Interviewer:

And which type of politicians do you think are most likely to change the way government has been acting in recent years? Republicans who are men, or Republicans who are women, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

I would say women, again, for the same reason.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 17:

Much more likely.

Interviewer:

Any different reason there?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent? A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or a woman be smarter? I would say they'd be equal, because it really just depends on the person.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely, lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Hmm, not lean either way.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to be intelligent? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Equally.

Interviewer:

Any different thinking there than-

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

... on the earlier question?

Respondent 17:

No, I don't really... no.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 17:

I don't really know the difference between the two.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would be more likely-

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

... lean toward thinking a woman would be more likely, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 17:

Not lean either way.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans? A Democrat who is a man, or a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Would a man or a woman be more caring? I would s- lean towards a woman being more caring, because, naturally, women are, are more caring than men.

Interviewer:

So would you say a Democrat who is a man, a Democrat who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

Who is a woman.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 17:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Much more likely.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about when saying much more likely?

Respondent 17:

Just because, uh, women are more caring than men, it seems.

Interviewer:

Which type of Congressional representative is most likely to care about ordinary Americans? A Republican who is a man, or a Republican who is a woman, or would they be equally likely?

Respondent 17:

I would say a woman, again, for the same reasons.

Interviewer:

Much more likely or somewhat more likely?

Respondent 17:

Much more likely.

Interviewer:

This next question is about the percent of people's income that they should pay in taxes to the federal government. Do you think that people who make more money should pay a larger percent of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that people who make more money should pay a smaller percent of their income in taxes to the government, or do you think that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 17:

Do I think people that make more money should pay more or less taxes, or do think they should pay the same as everybody else? I think they should pay the same as everybody else, because everybody works hard for their money, and everybody should have to pay the same amount.

Interviewer:

So you would say that the amount of money people make should not determine what percent of their income-

Respondent 17:

Right.

Interviewer:

... that they pay in taxes?

Respondent 17:

No.

Interviewer:

Thinking of taxes paid to the federal government, do you think that big companies should a larger percent of their income than small businesses, that big companies should pay a smaller percent of their income than small businesses, or that they should pay the same percent of their income?

Respondent 17:

Should big companies have to pay more taxes than small companies? I would say they have to pay the same, because, hmm, because big companies work hard for their money too, just like small companies do.

Interviewer:

There has been a lot of talk, recently, about doing away with the tax on large inheritances, the so-called estate tax. Do you favor or oppose doing away with the estate tax?

Respondent 17:

Do I think they should get rid of estate tax? Yes.

Interviewer:

What's your thinking in saying yes?

Respondent 17:

Because I just think if somebody inherits something, they should get it all and just pay taxes like everybody else, when they have to pay taxes.

Interviewer:

Okay. How similar, would you say, that US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 17:

How much are Republicans like each other? Like how, like, are Republicans? I would say I have no idea. I don't know at all. So I would say the middle answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. Among US citizens who think of themselves as Republicans, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or none?

Respondent 17:

How often do Republicans disagree? I would say moderate, because I'm sure they get in disagreements too.

Interviewer:

How similar would you say that US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats are to each other? Extremely similar, very similar, moderately similar, slightly similar, or not similar at all?

Respondent 17:

How will I... do Democrats think they are to each other? Probably moderate, because I don't know.

Interviewer:

Okay. So you would just feel most comfortable being in the middle?

Respondent 17:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Since you're not sure?

Respondent 17:

Right.

Interviewer:

Among US citizens who think of themselves as Democrats, how much disagreement do you think there is about how this country should be run?

Respondent 17:

How often do Democrats disagree? And I would say a moderate amount, just for the same reason.

Interviewer:

Okay. You... and you're not really sure about that?

Respondent 17:

Right. I don't know.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's all the questions that I have for you.

Respondent 17:

Oh.

Interviewer:

Thank you, uh, very much for your help. It's very helpful to do this kind of thing, so thanks a lot. I'm gonna turn off the tape now, and I will get your information down so that we can send you a check.

Respondent 17:

Okay.

Interview 18

Interviewer:

And can I just confirm that it's okay for me to tape record this conversation?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Thank you. Did you have any other questions before we get started?

Respondent 18:

No.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you favor a ban on gay marriage, do you oppose a ban, or do you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 18:

What do I think about gay marriage? I think it's totally up to the couple. And government politics should all mind their business. That's what I think on gay marriages.

Interviewer:

Okay. So, would you say that you favor a ban, you oppose a ban, or you neither favor nor oppose a ban?

Respondent 18:

I would say that I neither oppose or favor, because no concern of mine.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward favoring a ban, lean toward opposing a ban, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 18:

Can you repeat the question?

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward favoring a ban, lean toward opposing a ban, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 18:

My feelings on favoring and opposing a ban is no interests of mine at all, because it has nothing to do with me. So, I'm really not concerned about it.

Interviewer:

Okay. So, you saying you don't lean either way then, or that you lean toward favoring a ban, or you lean toward opposing a ban?

Respondent 18:

I would say that I don't favor or oppose it.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you put that in your own words when the question asks, Do you lean toward favoring a ban, lean toward opposing a ban, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 18:

If I had to choose on the topic of gay marriages, I would completely not say anything on it.

Interviewer:

Now, think about what adult U.S. citizens feel on the issue of marriage between homosexuals. We'd like to know, what percent of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, oppose it, or neither favor nor oppose it. First, what percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

The percent of adult marriages that is totally against gay marriages would probably be about 75%.

Interviewer:

And what goes through your mind as you think about what number to say?

Respondent 18:

I'm thinking about a 100 people.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Anything else?

Respondent 18:

I'm thinking about a 100 people that are married with children, and are totally against gays. And when I say totally against gays, I don't mean, you know, they hate them or they don't like them. I mean, they just don't like the things, I guess the sexual things that they do. That's what I mean.

Interviewer:

What percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

75% of adults marriages should oppose banning gay marriages because of their family status.

Interviewer:

What percentage did you say?

Respondent 18:

75%

Interviewer:

75%

Respondent 18:

Uh-huh (affirmative).

Interviewer:

Okay. A moment ago when I asked you, what percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, There you said 75%, right?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now I want to ask you, what percent of adult U.S. citizens do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

25% of, um, would oppose banning gay marriages.

Interviewer:

Okay. Since you think about 75% of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 25% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 0% of adult U.S. citizens neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 18:

Yes. There is a lot of people who, in America, that are homosexual, and there's not really a numbers that you can count on them.

Interviewer:

Okay. And could you put that question in your own words?

Respondent 18:

Can you repeat the question?

Interviewer:

Since you think about 75% of adult U.S. citizens favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 25% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 0% of adult U.S. citizens neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 18:

Yes.

Interviewer:

And how would you put that in your own words?

Respondent 18:

Opposing and abandoning, a banning is most likely the same word. And so, it will come out to be zero as into who favors it. So, in order for it to be correct, I would have to change the numbers around. Because 25 and 75 is 100, and I'm thinking of 100 people. But in order for me to keep what I'm saying about banning it and opposing it, that is just how I feel.

Interviewer:

Okay. So, you're comfortable with saying 75% favor banning, 25% opposed banning?

Respondent 18:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Interviewer:

And zero neither favor nor oppose?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Of all those 75% of adult U.S. citizens, who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

Out of all the U.S. citizens that ban gay marriages, the 75%, I would have to say, maybe 30% of them totally, totally hates gay marriages, and the other 45% are just going along with the flow. Because maybe that's the way they were brought up.

Interviewer:

Of all those 25% of adult U.S. citizens, who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly, and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

25% of U.S. citizens oppose banning marriages, out of that 25%, I would say 20% of them oppose it, because America is a, supposed to be a place where you can voice your opinion. And the other 5% of that 25% would be friends and family of people that wanna get married that are gay.

Interviewer:

Which percent would you say oppose it strongly?

Respondent 18:

I would say the 20%.

Interviewer:

20% strongly, and 5% somewhat?

Respondent 18:

Somewhat, yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, I'd like to ask these questions about Democrats. First, what percent of Democrats do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

Out of 100% of Democrats, I would say 99% of them favor, um, banning ma-, um, gay marriages. And 1% opposes it.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in choosing those numbers?

Respondent 18:

I think of, um, percent when I think of... I don't know. I think of 100% when I am, um, thinking about any percent. And I just divide it, or try to equal it out when I think a percentage.

Interviewer:

And what about Democrats. When you think about Democrats favoring a, a gay marriage ban, or opposing a gay marriage ban, what comes to mind?

Respondent 18:

The first thing comes to mind is the government. And that's what I think when I think about Democrats. I think of the government. I think of the president. I think of the White House.

Interviewer:

Okay. And just to confirm, you said that 99% of Democrats think favoring banning marriage between homosexuals, favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and 1% of Democrats oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that right?

Respondent 18:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 99% of Democrats favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 1% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 0% of Democrats neither favor, nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 18:

Yes. And the reason why I think that, it's because 99% wants to keep their job, and 1% want to keep their job, but they probably have family members that, you know, gay or whatever. And that's what I think about why I choose those numbers.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 18:

Well, if you have a job as a, um, Democrat, and you're in the government, and you work for the government or whatever, most likely the government or the president is gonna go by what the Bible law teaches. And everybody knows the Bible law teaches totally against gays, or sleeping with the same sex. So, I mean, they're gonna go...

Interviewer:

They're gonna go what?

Respondent 18:

Excuse me. Repeat that.

Interviewer:

Uh, you, you, you, you cut off for just a second, and I didn't hear what you said. You said, They're gonna go, and then something after that.

Respondent 18:

Well, I was just saying that the, um, the 99% is gonna go whatever, you know, the president wants, or whatever the government wants. It's like, what everybody wants. It's just like, in a case, if you're serving pizza to kids, you know, and, um, you get five kids, and you ask the kids what kind of pizza they want, four of them say pepperoni, and one says cheese. Whoever buying the pizza is gonna buy the pepperoni, not the cheese. Because you got more of the, um, kids who are eating the pepperoni than the cheese. The same with the Democrats, you know?

Interviewer:

Okay. I think I understand what you're saying. Of all those 99% of Democrats who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

I would say 79% of those 99% favor it strongly. And I would say the other 20% just favor it just so they have a say in something. And that is how I feel about the number that I chose.

Interviewer:

Of all those 1% of Democrats who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly, and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

I would say the whole 1% oppose it strongly, because it's something that they believe in. And something they wanna stick by. And also I believe that in that situation, there has to be somebody involved personally, in order for them to, you know, stick with what they're saying. So, I would say they definitely stick to it strongly, because it's something that's personal to them. Even if it means losing their job, or being embarrassed in public, or something like that, you know?

Interviewer:

Okay. Now, I'd like to ask these questions about Republicans. First, what percent of Republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

Can you repeat the question?

Interviewer:

First, what percent of Republicans do you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

I would say, 10% of Republicans favor banning marriages of homosexual. And that's because I think that Republicans are more of a free choice, or voice your opinion, and they stick to it.

Interviewer:

What percent of Republicans do you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals?

Respondent 18:

90% of Republicans oppose daily marriages of homosexuals.

Interviewer:

Since you think about 10% of Republicans favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and that about 90% oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, that means you think about 0% of Republicans neither favor nor oppose banning marriage between homosexuals. Is that about right?

Respondent 18:

Correct.

Interviewer:

Of all those 10% of Republicans who you think favor banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say favor it strongly, and what percent favor it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

I would say 1% of Republicans favor it strongly. And the other 9% favor it somewhat. Because they don't really care about who's gay, and who's not gay, and who's getting married. And that's just how I see Republicans.

Interviewer:

Of all those 90% of Republicans who you think oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, what percent would you say oppose it strongly, and what percent oppose it only somewhat?

Respondent 18:

Out of the 90% with Republicans, I would say 80% oppose it strongly, and 10%, it's like somewhat.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me ask you a couple of follow-up questions about that sequence that we just went through. When you think about Democrats, who do you think of?

Respondent 18:

The president.

Interviewer:

And when you think about Republicans, who do you think of?

Respondent 18:

The people that vote for president.

Interviewer:

The people that vote for the president?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. And the other follow-up question I wanted to ask about this was, I referred to favor banning marriage between homosexuals, and oppose banning marriage between homosexuals, is that wording clear? Is it confusing to talk about favoring banning marriage?

Respondent 18:

A little bit. It is a little bit. Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. But just a little bit?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Suppose that an election were being held today, that would determine who the president of the United States is for the next four years. And imagine that the only candidates allowed to run in that

election were Bill Clinton and George W. Bush. And imagine that you voted in that election. Who would you vote for? Bill Clinton, or George W. Bush?

Respondent 18:

Bill Clinton.

Interviewer:

Could you restate that question in your own words?

Respondent 18:

Today is voting day, and who will I vote for? Bill Clinton or George Bush? I would have to vote for Bill Clinton. The reason why, is because when Bill Clinton wasn't in the House, I seen a lot of the work that he did, and I seen a lot of things that he helped a lot of communities with. As far as with George Bush being in office, the one thing that I've seen that he's done, is keep a lot of our family members over in Iraq. And so, I would have to say Bill Clinton.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

Respondent 18:

DO I approve, or do I disapprove? Of the way that George Bush is handling his job in the White House? I would have to say that I approve, because he's a president. And in my eyes, if you're the president, you're supposed to do what's right. And so, I would approve with him.

Interviewer:

Do you approve strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 18:

Not strongly.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that?

Respondent 18:

When I say not strongly, I would mean that, um, there are some choices that he's made that just, you know, I can't figure out why he did that, you know? But again, like I said, he's the president. So, I don't go against authority in the USA.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve, nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Respondent 18:

I don't approve, and I don't disapprove of the way that George Bush is handling the economy.

Interviewer:

Could you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 18:

I don't like the things, and I do like some of the things that George Bush is doing for the economy.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward approving, lean toward disapproving, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 18:

I do not lean toward either way.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that?

Respondent 18:

Um, I feel that if I approve that I make, I might make other people mad. I feel that if I disapprove, that I might make somebody in the government mad. So, I choose not to approve either way.

Interviewer:

And how would you put that question into your own words? Do you lean toward approving, lean toward disapproving, or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 18:

Do I like the things that George Bush, um, has done? I don't like the thing that George Bush has done. I'd rather just keep my mouth shut, and not say anything about what George Bush has done.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me ask you a slightly different question. Not thinking about saying anything about what George Bush has done, but just thinking about what you think, or how you feel. Would you say you approve, disapprove, or neither approve, nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the economy?

Respondent 18:

How do I feel about the way George Bush is handling economy? Am I for it, am I against it, or I'm not sure? I would have to say that I'm not sure that, um, I would like to say how I feel about how George Bush is handling the economy.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve, nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling our relations with foreign countries?

Respondent 18:

Whether George Bush is handling our relationship with foreign countries? As I see it, I would have to disapprove, because there's been war going off for years now that should have ended, and that is how I feel. And [inaudible 00:34:00] the situation is there.

Interviewer:

Do you disapprove extremely strongly, moderately strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 18:

I disapprove not strongly.

Interviewer:

Can you say a little more about that?

Respondent 18:

I disapprove not strongly, because I've, I'm the type of person that I have my own opinion but don't really wanna be heard from anyone else.

Interviewer:

Do you approve, disapprove, or neither approve, nor disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling terrorism?

Respondent 18:

The way that George W. Bush is handling terrorism, and the way that I see it, I would approve.

Interviewer:

Do you approve extremely strongly, moderately strongly, or not strongly?

Respondent 18:

The way that I see the way that George Bush is handling terrorism, I will have to say, I approve strongly.

Interviewer:

Extremely strongly, or moderately strongly?

Respondent 18:

Extremely strongly.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying that you approve extremely strongly?

Respondent 18:

I, when I think about that, I think about that, what happened in 9/11, that what he's doing is trying to get back revenge. And so, I strongly approve with that.

Interviewer:

Do you think the number of new jobs created in America during the first four years of George W. Bush's presidency was more, less, or about the same as were created during the first four years of Bill Clinton's presidency?

Respondent 18:

I think the number of jobs has remain the same in the first four years of George Bush, as also with Bill Clinton.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 18:

How many jobs has, um, George Bush put in his first four years, and Bill Clinton put in his first four years, for the U.S. citizens? About the same.

Interviewer:

How confident are you that that answer is correct? Extremely confident, very confident, moderately confident, a little confident, or not confident at all?

Respondent 18:

Not confident at all.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind as you say that?

Respondent 18:

I would have to look it up. (laughs) And I wanted to get the answer to be the correct number.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 18:

I mean, that's something that I would have to do research on.

Interviewer:

Now thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year, the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?

Respondent 18:

What do you think of the economy over the last year? I would say that the economy has gotten better.

Interviewer:

what do you think about in saying that?

Respondent 18:

There has been more jobs for more people. And they have become really strict on immigration, which is really good. Because that's where a lot of our, the new jobs came from. Is taking over their jobs. Is, you know... One day I have to leave the country.

Interviewer:

On another subject now. How likely do you think it is that a majority of all people on earth will die all at once sometime during the next 100 years because of a single event? Extremely likely, very likely, moderately likely, slightly likely, or not likely at all?

Respondent 18:

I think it is extremely likely that a large number of people on earth will die because of one event. And I think that, because anything is possible, you never know what tomorrow brings. And with all the different countries, and having their nuclear war, wars, and nuclear bombs, you never know when one of those bomb might just be the one.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words? How likely do you think it is that a majority of all people on earth will die all at once sometime during the next 100 years because of a single event?

Respondent 18:

Do I think there's a chance that number of people would die on this earth because of one event within the next 100-

Interviewer:

And what about those response choices that I read to you? Extremely likely, very likely, moderately likely, slightly likely, or not likely at all?

Respondent 18:

Extremely likely.

Interviewer:

What, what do those mean to you?

Respondent 18:

When you say extremely likely, it means that I totally agree with it, and not likely at all, means I totally don't agree with it.

Interviewer:

Okay. How much do you think people can change the kind of person they are? Completely, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 18:

What do I think about people changing? It would have to be a lot.

Interviewer:

A lot?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your words?

Respondent 18:

A lot of people can change, or can a lot of people change?

Interviewer:

Then what do you think about when you answer, a lot?

Respondent 18:

I would say, over half America.

Interviewer:

Over half of Americans could change the kind of person they are?

Respondent 18:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that? Extremely successfully, very successfully, moderately successfully, slightly successfully, or not successfully at all?

Respondent 18:

Opinion of mines that I could defend would probably be moderate successfully.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words? If you wanted to defend an opinion of yours, how successfully do you think you could do that?

Respondent 18:

How would I defend an opinion of mines?

Interviewer:

Okay. And let me ask you to put this next question into your own words as well. How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most?

Respondent 18:

Can you repeat that question?

Interviewer:

How disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most?

Respondent 18:

Are the rooms that I live in disorganized?

Interviewer:

And as you begin to think about answering that question, what goes through your mind?

Respondent 18:

When I think about answering that question, I think about, um, the rooms in my apartment. And I think about books, and I think about shoes. I automatically think about my rooms (laughs).

Interviewer:

Okay. And how disorganized are the rooms that you personally live and work in most? Extremely disorganized, very disorganized, moderately disorganized, slightly disorganized, or not disorganized at all?

Respondent 18:

The rooms that I live in are extremely disorganized.

Interviewer:

And what makes you choose that answer?

Respondent 18:

I choose that answer, because I think about how many items that I have that I do not need, and I keep saying I'm gonna throw it out, or go through it and give it away. And I've never had the time to do that. So, that's why I think of extremely. That's why I think of that answer.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me ask you to put this next question into your own words. Do you like unpredictable situations, dislike them. or neither like, nor dislike them?

Respondent 18:

Unpredictable situation is something that I somewhat dislike. I like to know what's going on before, you know, I get there.

Interviewer:

Okay. And how would you put that question into your own words?

Respondent 18:

What do you feel about unpredictable situation?

Interviewer:

And you said you dislike them?

Respondent 18:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Do you dislike unpredictable situations a great deal, a moderate amount, or a little?

Respondent 18:

An unpredictable situation, I would say that I like them a moderate amount.

Interviewer:

What goes through your mind as you think about choosing that answer?

Respondent 18:

Um, going somewhere with, um, my friend or a family member, and they told you don't bring any money. You don't have to pay for anything. And you get there, and you find that you have to do, you know, you need money, you know? I mean, that's something that I have experienced, and, and (laughs) something I totally, totally didn't like.

Interviewer:

How many of your important decisions do you make quickly and confidently?

Respondent 18:

Over half of my important decisions I make quickly and confidently.

Interviewer:

How would you put the question into your own words?

Respondent 18:

Do I make my important decisions quickly and confidently?

Interviewer:

And what do you think about when you refer to important decisions?

Respondent 18:

The first thing that comes to mind when I think about important decision is, um, whether or not I'm wearing a T-shirt or a dress to a parent-teacher conference meeting.

Interviewer:

When you don't understand the reason why something happens in your life, how uncomfortable does that make you feel? Extremely uncomfortable, very uncomfortable, moderately uncomfortable, slightly uncomfortable, or not uncomfortable at all?

Respondent 18:

When there's an important decision in my life, and I don't understand it, I feel extremely uncomfortable.

Interviewer:

What do you think about when saying that?

Respondent 18:

I think that maybe one day, that could be a life or death situation, and I might not understand what the person is saying, because they might be speaking in medical terms. That's what I'm always think about.

Interviewer:

In the situations when you see two people in a conflict with one another, how often can you see how both sides could be right? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 18:

Half of the time when I see two people in a conflict with one another, half of the time it could be right... They both could be right.

Interviewer:

What makes you say that?

Respondent 18:

For instance, a husband and wife arguing about who snores the loudest. When you think about it, they both could be right, 'cause I mean, they're both asleep, so knows who sleep the loudest.

Interviewer:

Okay. When you're were with other people, how often do you put on a show to impress or entertain? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 18:

When I'm with a group of people, I never put him show to impress anyone. I feel that if they wanna be with me, they like me for who I am, or they don't like me at all.

Interviewer:

How good or bad of an actor would you be? Excellent, good, fair, poor, or very poor?

Respondent 18:

If I was rating myself as being an actor, I would have to say I would be very poor, because I don't act like anyone else but myself. So I couldn't do the part of being someone else.

Interviewer:

when you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 18:

When I'm with a group of people, I'm never the center of attention.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into your own words? When you are in a group of people, how often are you the center of attention?

Respondent 18:

Being the center of attention, is that something that I do often? That's how I would put it in my own words.

Interviewer:

Generally speaking, how often can you trust other people? Always, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 18:

How often do I trust other people? It would have to be always.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in deciding how to answer that question?

Respondent 18:

I've just totally think about how many times I've been hurt, and I still keep doing the same thing over and over again. Why? It's just me.

Interviewer:

Okay. That's all the questions I have. Thanks very much for helping out. It's very helpful to hear you restate the questions, and think out loud while you answer. Um, I'm gonna turn off the tape recorder now. And then I'll get some information from you so that we can send you a check.

Respondent 18:

Okay.

Interview 19: No recording of interview 19 was found in the ANES archives to prepare a transcript.

Interview 20

Interviewer:

Okay. I've started the tape. And can I just ask you to confirm that it's okay to tape record our conversation?

Respondent 20:

Yes, it is.

Interviewer:

Okay, thank you. How interested are you in information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely interested, very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, or not interested at all?

Respondent 20:

Well, I would basically say I would be slightly interested in it.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

But not completely. I don't indulge in it too much.

Interviewer:

Could you restate the question in your own words?

Respondent 20:

I am sli- I mean, I am slightly interested in politics, in government. Uh, I do not indulge in it. I do not keep it in my thoughts every day, uh, I don't know what else to say.

Interviewer:

Okay. And can you restate this next question in your own words? How closely do you pay attention to information about what's going on in government and politics? Extremely closely, very closely, moderately closely, slightly closely, or not closely at all?

Respondent 20:

Well, if I was to put it in my own words, I'm slightly to not interested in the government and state and... I, I basically don't, uh, get involved in it. Uh, I pay no attention to it.

Interviewer:

Okay. How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 20:

Okay. I don't in this, uh... Very seldom. If I'm... if somebody is speaking about it, I sit and listen to it. But I don't give my opinions on it. Um, I just listen to what's going on in the world.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

And I leave that at that.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you go about choosing one of the answers to this question? How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics? All the time, most of the time, about half the time, once in a while, or never?

Respondent 20:

I would basically put the answer to that as once in a while. When somebody else speaks of it.

Interviewer:

Okay. You might have favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington. Or you might have unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington. Or you might have some of each. I would like to ask you first about any favorable thoughts and feelings you might have about the federal government in Washington. Then in a moment, I'll ask you some separate questions about any unfavorable thoughts and feelings you might have. First, do you have any favorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington or do you not have any?

Respondent 20:

My feelings are not there at all. I pay no interest to it.

Interviewer:

So you, you-

Respondent 20:

Is... As an individual it doesn't seem like I should be responsible or to listening to any of the things that go on in Washington, no. What happens, happens in my, my estimate.

Interviewer:

Okay. So are you saying that you do not have any favorable thoughts or feelings?

Respondent 20:

I do not have any favorable thoughts about the federal government.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you have-

Respondent 20:

Just rattling off. You know, you said to tell you-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

... what I'm thinking of.

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 20:

Okay. Now, whether you believe this or not, I am not a registered voter in the state of California.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Okay. The last time I voted for an official was for President John Kennedy. Um, when I listened to speeches of John Kennedy at that time, and Martin Luther King, I was in awe of what they said. I mean, their statements were so real and down to earth.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

Both of these gigantic men. And when they killed my beloved John Kennedy and Martin Luther King, I have never voted since.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Because there has not come anybody along this path that's any equal to these men, any equal. And that's the way I've... that's the way my thoughts are running right now.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you have any unfavorable thoughts or feelings about the federal government in Washington or do you not have any?

Respondent 20:

I do not have any, a- any thoughts whatsoever.

Interviewer:

Okay. How conflicted do you feel about the federal government in Washington? Extremely conflicted, very conflicted, moderately conflicted, slightly conflicted, or not conflicted at all?

Respondent 20:

I would have to go along with your last choice, I'm not conflicted at all.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

That is my opinion.

Interviewer:

And why is that?

Respondent 20:

Well, I happen to be [REDACTED NUMBER OVER 65] years of age. Um, my comprehension at this time in my life, um, you can tell me something 10 minutes ago and if you ask me the same thing I'll tend to forget what you asked me. So my comprehension of what they're speaking of in this day and age, (laughs) sometimes I can't... I don't fully understand it. I have to have somebody tell me... speak... tell me back in, in their own language or something I could basically understand what's happened.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

I guess this man named Foley right now, whatever in the world he's done. You see, I don't comprehend that at all. Do you know who this Foley is?

Interviewer:

I know who you're referring to. Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

Yes. And I don't. I don't understand that.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

So somebody has to tell me back in, in smaller words, and explain it a little bit more easier to me for me to understand.

Interviewer:

Okay. I hear what you're saying. Is there anything in particular that you like about the federal government in Washington?

Respondent 20:

I can't say that I do. I can't say that I do. Nothing good, nothing bad. I can't say. I can't say anything about it.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

I know they're there running our country, but other than that, I, I don't know what's going on in the world half the time.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the works and decisions of the President of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal-

Respondent 20:

Say that again.

Interviewer:

Sure. How much would you say the work and decisions of the President of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 20:

I think it impacts a lot of it. All of it. Not most of us, all of us, whatever decisions he makes, because it's, it's got to do with laws and taxes and people's health and what he... what he says impacts every single person in the United States.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

So he has a lot.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

... decisions and what- whatever he makes his mind up to, it has a falling on all of us. You know, whether we're infants, teenagers, adults, ol- elderly. We're all on this boat at the same time.

Interviewer:

Okay. Let me read you those answer choices again. And please tell me which one is closest to your view?

Respondent 20:

I think the first one you mentioned.

Interviewer:

Okay. So how much would you say the work and decisions of the President of the United States can affect what happens in the United States? A great deal-

Respondent 20:

A great deal-

Interviewer:

A lot-

Respondent 20:

... is my answer.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

A great deal.

Interviewer:

Okay. I understand. And how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect what happens in the United States? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 20:

Well, I don't exactly remember what the Congress and the Senate are accountable for. I don't know what choices they make, what decisions they make. After the present, before the President. See that I'm not comprehending.

Interviewer:

Okay. So would you prefer one of those answers? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 20:

I think the first, first one you said.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

A great deal. Yeah. A great deal.

Interviewer:

How much would you say the President of the United States can affect how you personally live your life?
A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 20:

Well, at this point, I, I would say maybe less than... What, what's the one after moderately?

Interviewer:

The choices were, a great deal.

Respondent 20:

No.

Interviewer:

A lot.

Respondent 20:

No.

Interviewer:

A moderate amount.

Respondent 20:

No.

Interviewer:

A little.

Respondent 20:

A little.

Interviewer:

Or, or not at all.

Respondent 20:

I would agree to a little.

Interviewer:

Okay. What do you think about in saying, a little?

Respondent 20:

Well, because I am responsible, or he makes me responsible for taxes, my health benefits. Those things affect me when he makes any decisions of any kind. Other than that, right now, at my age. It doesn't affect me at all.

Interviewer:

And how much can members of the U.S. Congress affect how you personally live your life? A great deal, a lot, a moderate amount, a little, or not at all?

Respondent 20:

Not at all. Not at all.

Interviewer:

What do you think about in saying, "Not at all."?

Respondent 20:

Because I don't think they have an impact on my life.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

There's probably others that they do impact on, but they don't impact on mine.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). I'd like to read you a few statements about public life. I'll read them one at a time. And please tell me how strongly you agree or disagree with each of them.

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Interviewer:

Public officials don't care much what people like me think. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 20:

Okay, repeat those again now.

Interviewer:

Public official-

Respondent 20:

Not, not the question.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Just give me the choices.

Interviewer:

Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 20:

I would disagree somewhat.

Interviewer:

Okay. How would you put this statement into your own words, that public officials don't care much what people like me think?

Respondent 20:

How I put this in my own words. I think public officials have a lot of authority, um, but there's probably, uh, there's probably a lot of things they, they can do to satisfy the general public or the people living around them. I think they're stopped at one point, uh, by other officials. So, somewhat they're... they do a lot for us. And other times they do nothing. But it's not because they haven't tried. It's just that, there are others that don't agree with them. Uh, they have a different way of thinking about things. And so they're stopped at what they plan to do, but they planned on doing it to help you, because that's what they're there for. But sometimes then they just can't take the whole responsibility of it all.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). People like me don't have any say about what the government does. Do you agree strongly, agree somewhat, neither agree nor disagree, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly?

Respondent 20:

I think somewhat, because you ca- if, if you... you're facing problems or if you want answers to problems, uh, you can always write to, uh, your congressman, and they'll try and help you out and try to benefit you somewhat, you know what I'm saying? Uh...

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

I do think that they try... they try their... they probably go 110% of trying to help you.

Interviewer:

Okay. I'm going to read you a question now. And could you please restate this question in your own words.

Respondent 20:

I'll try. (laughs)

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right?

Respondent 20:

To rephrase it for you. I think those authority in Congress... I don't know. How do I say this. I think those in Congress. I don't know how to restate it for you.

Interviewer:

When I refer to the government in Washington, what does that make you think of?

Respondent 20:

The people in charge. The people who have control. The people who run this world, or the United States.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Those are people of authority.

Interviewer:

And when I ask about trust, how much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? What does trust mean to you?

Respondent 20:

That you put, you put yourself in their hands, and you hope to God, if anybody else, that they help you. They're in strong support of what your needs are.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

They're there for you. They do the very best they can.

Interviewer:

And now, I'd like to ask you to think out loud as you think about how you'll answer this question. How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in Washington to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Respondent 20:

I would think most of the time. Most of the time, if not all of the time. This wor- you know, this world has been running with these people that are in charge for a long time, generations, generations, generations. I think you can... I think you can put your trust in them and really know that they'll come through for you. I think they'll do you no wrong.

Interviewer:

How much of the time do you think you can trust the government in California to do what is right? Just about always, most of the time, or only some of the time?

Respondent 20:

I would say most of the time. Most of the time they cra- probably can... Whatever the needs are the people of California, I think they're met to the best of their ability.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you watch or read news on the internet?

Respondent 20:

I do not. I do not.

Interviewer:

Zero?

Respondent 20:

Zero. I have no computer. I have no VCR. I have no, no way of... Unless I went to the library, but I'm not, uh, computer literate. So I do not. I've never u- used this internet thing. (laughs)

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you read a newspaper?

Respondent 20:

Do I read a newspaper? About twice. Twice a week.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about as you think about the number of times in a typical week that you read a newspaper?

Respondent 20:

Repeat that again.

Interviewer:

I'm just asking you to tell me a little bit about how you came up with the answer to that question.

Respondent 20:

Okay. The only two days of the week that, that I indulge in the newspaper are Wednesday and naturally, Sundays.

Interviewer:

Okay. On a typical day when you read a newspaper, about how much time do you spend reading a newspaper?

Respondent 20:

Oh, a good hour. Can you hold on a minute? I get somebody knocking at my door.

Interviewer:

Sure.

Respondent 20:

Hold on. Yeah?

Speaker 3:

[inaudible 00:22:13] [REDACTED]

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENTS TO SPEAKER 3].

Speaker 3:

[inaudible 00:22:18]. I'm gonna change up the-

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENTS TO SPEAKER 3].

Speaker 3:

Do you have someone to clean up the room? [inaudible 00:22:31] washer.

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENTS TO SPEAKER 3].

Speaker 3:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Speaker 3:

All right.

Respondent 20:

Do you need the doors open?

Speaker 3:

Well, we have like...

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENTS TO SPEAKER 3].

Speaker 3:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Okay. I'm sorry.

Interviewer:

No problem.

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENT ABOUT SPEAKER 3]. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

[REDACTED COMMENT ABOUT SPEAKER 3].

Interviewer:

Okay. So I asked, on a typical day, when you read a newspaper, about how much time do you spend reading a newspaper?

Respondent 20:

I go through for a good hour, at least.

Interviewer:

Okay. Ab- about an hour?

Respondent 20:

At least an hour, yeah. I don't read everything in there. That the newspaper put in there, the sports, the business, the travel, the vacations. I don't read any of that. I read the basic news that's happened every day. Um, uh, there's just some things in the newspaper that interests me, the food section, the front page, because it tells you basically everything. Uh, the obituary column. Uh, I don't read comics or things like that. But it takes me a while to read just those few, uh, pages in there though.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). During a typical week, how many days do you watch news on TV?

Respondent 20:

Well, because I live in this apartment with my son, my watch... son watches CNN. And I'm s- stuck watching CNN most of the time, because it's the world news. It's not just the California I live in, but it's about the world. And like I told you before, I don't indulge in it too much, but I do watch CNN.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you watch news on TV?

Respondent 20:

About five.

Interviewer:

About five days?

Respondent 20:

Yeah, five days a week, yeah.

Interviewer:

On a typical day when you watch TV news, about how much time do you spend watching news on TV?

Respondent 20:

Well, I think this program goes on for about an hour or so. I basically watch it for an hour.

Interviewer:

An hour?

Respondent 20:

An hour. And then, uh, maybe around 11 o'clock I'll turn it back on. Uh, if it's got to do with a lot of crimes and killings and shootings, um, I really don't like hearing that or rapes or molesters or... I try to put those things on the back burner and try to tell myself these things aren't happening, I guess. Sometimes it's very disturbing to me, you know, as an elderly lady, it's disturbing. Because, um, you wanted me to tell you my thoughts, right? (laughs)

Interviewer:

Please.

Respondent 20:

Okay. Um, I live here in the state of California. I live here in [REDACTED SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LOCATION]. Uh, there's a horrendous amount of drive by shootings. Um, children that die who haven't had a chance, young boys that die. Uh, it's a mixture of blacks being killed, Mexicans being killed. Um,

maybe a few whites now and then, but most is... mostly the blacks and the Mexicans. And these young boys are getting shot at and knifed, and I, you know, I try not to think of these things. I prefer not to.

And then when you... when I turn it off, I think of, my God, it's not only the boy that got shot and is killed, but he's not the only victim. You have a mother and father now. You have maybe sisters and brothers. To me, it's a very bad, bad thing going on in this world sometimes. Why people are killing one another, so.

Interviewer:

So you tend to turn off the TV?

Respondent 20:

Yeah, it's very hard for me to bear things like that. Yeah.

Interviewer:

So-

Respondent 20:

It really is.

Interviewer:

... thinking about the times that you turn off the TV and the times that you're still watching. On a typical day when you watch TV news, about how much time do you spend watching news on TV?

Respondent 20:

I would say about an hour.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Yeah. At least an hour.

Interviewer:

During a typical week, how many days do you listen to news on the radio?

Respondent 20:

On the radio? None. (laughs) Absolutely none-

Interviewer:

You don't listen-

Respondent 20:

On the radio-

Interviewer:

... to radio news? Okay.

Respondent 20:

No, not at all, because the television is here now. You can see what they're talking about. You turn on the radio, you just hear it.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

Television is showing everything.

Interviewer:

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or what?

Respondent 20:

I would say a Democrat. If I was to vote.

Interviewer:

Would you call yourself a strong Democrat, or a not very strong Democrat?

Respondent 20:

A not very strong De- No, not at all. Not anymore.

Interviewer:

Do you think that the amount of money the federal government spends on the U.S. military should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Respondent 20:

Probably kept about the same. You're talking... Well, no, that's wrong. Increase it maybe... You're talking about human lives. And money means nothing. I mean, a life is... a life is a life. And if you have to give a couple of billion dollars to somebody to keep them alive and bring them back home in the same way they left, money means nothing. Money means nothing. You cannot put a value on... It's an old saying, but you can't put a value on a human life. So whatever they spend is maybe not even good enough. Even if they add more, it's not good enough, uh... The wars go on, though. The wars go on.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question in your own words? Do you think that the amount of money the federal government spends on the U.S. military should be increased, decreased, or kept about the same?

Respondent 20:

I think if the federal government increased the amount of money to save, save lives and bring the young men back home, I think it's well worth it.

Interviewer:

Okay. So are you answering that it should be increased? That it should be...?

Respondent 20:

I... It should be. Yeah, it could be increased. Yes.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be increased a lot, or a moderate amount?

Respondent 20:

Whatever it takes. A lot. A lot.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if staying pregnant would hurt her health, but is very unlikely to cause her to die?

Respondent 20:

Put that to me again.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if staying pregnant would hurt her health, but is very unlikely to cause her to die?

Respondent 20:

Well, since I've had abortions in my life, um, it's a legal thing to do. It's the godly thing to do. It's a woman's right to do it. That's the, the answer I can give you.

Interviewer:

Okay. Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason, only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetus's major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time during the pregnancy?

Respondent 20:

I would say the first three months.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about it saying only the first three months?

Respondent 20:

Well, because like I just finished telling you that, uh, in my teenage years, I was pregnant. To save face, because I come from an Italian family, I did it in a very short amount of time, because I think I was told that if you wait any longer than a month, something like that, uh, this fetus has arms, legs, all of the body parts. And I, I don't know. In my teenage years, I just thought, you know, having an abortion in the first month was probably the proper thing to do, because it wasn't formed into a human being then, but maybe my thoughts were wrong.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if doctors believe that continuing to be pregnant could cause her to die?

Respondent 20:

I would say yes. I would say yes.

Interviewer:

Would you say legal or illegal?

Respondent 20:

Legal. I would say legal.

Interviewer:

Could you rephrase that question in different words?

Respondent 20:

Well, I think if a woman was in jeopardy of losing their life from a pregnancy, and it's going to cause her death, I think the best solution would be to have it aborted.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason, only during the first three months of the pregnancy before the fetuses major organs have fully formed, only during the first six months of the pregnancy before most fetuses can survive outside the mother, or at any time?

Respondent 20:

[crosstalk 00:34:49] first. I would go along with the first one that's saying the first three months.

Interviewer:

Okay. Only during the first three months of the pregnancy?

Respondent 20:

Yes.

Interviewer:

Anything to add about that?

Respondent 20:

Well, I think it's a woman's choice. My father used to say, "You... you made your bed, now lie in it", uh, when I told him I was pregnant. So, um, it's a woman's choice. It's a woman's decision. It's her body. If it's going to cause you death, my reason would be to have it aborted, uh, and let God take, take charge. I mean, you can always have other children. You always can get impregnated again. But a woman's body is her body. Everybody's body is, you know... Uh, people who have a... Oh, what am I thinking of now?

People who have h- had cancer or some type of illness like that, and, and make the choice of going to a different country. I think there were movie stars that did that. Went to other countries or other places to find cures for their problems and ended up dying. Uh, I can't really recall now about where I read that or why I'm remembering it now. Uh, but it was their choice. It was their choice to find a cure for what they had. They, they ended up dying from it. Uh, I don't know what the hell I'm saying right now. (laughs)

Interviewer:

That's fine. It's helpful to just tell me when you just tell me what, what the questions make you think of.

Respondent 20:

Yeah, there was an answer. Oh my goodness, I can't think of this thing right now. Um, there are two actors in mind. You know, I can't think, Steve McQueen, that's who he is. Steve McQueen, who was one. And there was another, uh, young man on [inaudible at 00:37:13] that went to other countries to find cures because they couldn't find the cure here in the United States. And they went someplace else where maybe where those drugs are illegal. And they ended up dying. Now, you know, if I'm thinking right, I did. That's what I recall.

Interviewer:

And you're talking about people making their own decisions about-

Respondent 20:

Right, yeah.

Interviewer:

... their health.

Respondent 20:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by sex she chose to have with a blood relative?

Respondent 20:

Oh yes. Absolutely.

Interviewer:

Legal?

Respondent 20:

Oh yes. There's no doubt about it.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason only during the first three months of the pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs-

Respondent 20:

... three months. Right there. The first three months.

Interviewer:

But not after the first three months?

Respondent 20:

No, I wouldn't think so. That's endangering her. It's been a long time since I had children. (laughs)

Interviewer:

So a woman shouldn't have an abortion after the first three months, because-

Respondent 20:

It's very dangerous, I think. I... you know, I don't remember the medical reasons for all this, but I think it's very unhelpful to have an abortion after three months. I think even before three months. Three... Before the three months are up, you should.

Interviewer:

Okay. So it should be illegal to have an abortion after three months?

Respondent 20:

I would think so. Yes.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the pregnancy was caused by her being raped?

Respondent 20:

Um, Lord. If I was raped by a stranger, I think it would... I wouldn't want the pregnancy to go on. Me as an individual, my own thoughts of it, no, I would have an abortion. I would not go through with a nine month pregnancy. This just wouldn't happen.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason, only during the first three months of the pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs are fully formed-

Respondent 20:

Three months again.

Interviewer:

Not after three months.

Respondent 20:

No sir.

Interviewer:

Okay. Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if the fetus will be born with a serious birth defect?

Respondent 20:

Oh boy! That's a hard one. Uh, I'm assuming now that this woman would know that this child is born with some retardation of some type. Um, that's a hard one. It's really a hard one.

Interviewer:

What kinds of things does it make you think about?

Respondent 20:

Well, me as a woman I'm thinking it's a... bringing a child into this world, uh, how retarded it is... it is going to be? Uh, what harm am I doing to this baby bringing it into... Oh wow! This is... this is not an easy thing to question me. Um, I don't think I would want to, tell you the truth. I don't think I would... If some doctor examined me and said, "You know, this child is born with half a brain." Or, "This child is missing an arm." Or, "This..." Uh... This is very hard. This is very hard to give you an honest answer to. I don't know what I would do in this situation.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal or illegal to have an abortion for that reason?

Respondent 20:

It's all of what the woman thinks. Well, I, I would go along with legal then, to abort it.

Interviewer:

Do you think it should be legal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion for that reason, only during the first three months of the pregnancy, before the fetus's major organs are fully formed?

Respondent 20:

The first three months again. [inaudible 00:42:35].

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

It's a hard question. It really is. You know, because i- i- in my day, when I had my first child, which happened to be back in [REDACTED YEAR], uh, they couldn't give you a test to see whether you had a son or a daughter.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

You just got pregnant, and whenever you gave birth, surprise, surprise. But, you know, when they started for medical reasons or whatever reasons they put in their head that they had to know what this child was ahead of time, I didn't understand that. I didn't understand that. Wh- Why? I mean, God's given you a gift. Take it. Don't let... Don't... I didn't... I never wanted to know. I have grown daughters who have been pregnant. And they've all done the same thing. They've all had this medical test taken where they know where it's male or female. And I've never... I've always told them, I don't... "Whatever the doctors tell you, just keep to yourself. Don't tell me what type of grandchild I have coming to me." When God gives it to us, then I'll know, but I, I never thought that was a good thing. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

But then that's, that's only my opinion. Like grandmothers getting pregnant, mothers getting pregnant for their daughters. Seems to me an ungodly thing. A really an ungodly thing. Uh, I don't know what else to say about that. (laughs)

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if she learns that the child will not be the sex she wants it to be?

Respondent 20:

Oh my God! No. No, no, no, no. That's out of the question.

Interviewer:

It should be be illegal?

Respondent 20:

Yes, absolutely, absolutely.

Interviewer:

What makes you say that?

Respondent 20:

What, that's a horrible thing to do. It's just a horrible thing to do. I mean, if you're making love with the man of your dreams, or somebody that you expect to live your life with, I would take anything God gave me, boy, girl. I mean, if somebody told me that I'm going to have a boy when I wanted a girl, well abort it. Give me an abort... That's ignorance. That's total ignorance. (laughs) Total ignorance.

Interviewer:

Should it be legal or illegal for a pregnant woman to have an abortion if having the child would be extremely difficult for her financially?

Respondent 20:

No, that's not good reason you neither. No, it should be illegal. No, you cannot do that. You cannot do that.

Interviewer:

How would you put that question into different words?

Respondent 20:

I think if God gave, gave you a child, you always find food for a child. You always find clothes for a child. You always find love for a child. You always give a child comfort. Those, those are my reasons. Those are my reasons.

Interviewer:

This next question is about a man who admits he's in favor of terrorism against the United States by Muslims.

Respondent 20:

Oh boy!

Interviewer:

Supposing, suppose he wrote a book that is in your public library, somebody in your community suggests the book should be removed from the library, would you favor removing the book or oppose removing the book?

Respondent 20:

Probably favor of opposing the book. Not wanting it on there.

Interviewer:

You'd favor removing the book?

Respondent 20:

Yeah, because, you know, I watched this program on television called A&E. I don't know what A&E s- Arts and Entertainment, I guess. And they've shown you, uh, stories of women who have gone to, um, the library to find books on poisoning. Um, on the ne- on, uh, news places you can go and buy these

books on how to make bombs, and, uh, how to make guns and what ha- All those things are horrible. They shouldn't even be out there. They shouldn't be out there.

Interviewer:

In your own words, what is that question asking you?

Respondent 20:

That is asking me if I want people to be more knowledgeable about making weapons that, that would hurt human life, and that is not acceptable. That is not acceptable. And that... those type of books, uh, teenagers read them, adults read them. I mean, they're just not confined to adults, everybody reads them. So things that would hurt a human life, uh, I don't think should be out there.

Interviewer:

What percent of the people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 20:

I would say 100% of them. They're all given fair justice, honest justice. The way the court system sees it, justice sees it. I think they're all given a fair shake. And if you do something wrong, like they say, you do the crime, you do the time. It's that simple.

Interviewer:

What percent of the poor people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 20:

They're all treated the same. I don't think the police mistreat anybody. Very, very seldom. We've got about a zilch of a percent that do.

Interviewer:

What percent of the white people who are suspected of committing a crime in America these days do you think are treated fairly by the police?

Respondent 20:

All of them. All of them. It goes for blacks, Mexicans, any other nationality. They're all treated the same. This American justice system we have is probably the best in the entire world.

Interviewer:

Imagine that two people are running against one another, for-

Respondent 20:

Running?

Interviewer:

Yes. Two people are running against one another-

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... for President of the United States-

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Interviewer:

... in, in 2008.

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Interviewer:

And imagine that you agree more with one person about what the federal government should and should not do?

Respondent 20:

See there, I have no comment, because I don't vote.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

I don't vote.

Interviewer:

Let me-

Respondent 20:

Unless you bring another John Kennedy up for election, then I would go to the poll and vote. I would register and I would vote.

Interviewer:

Okay. Well, let, let me... Let me finish the question and, and see what you think when I finish the question.

Respondent 20:

All right.

Interviewer:

So imagine that two people are running against one another for President of the United States in 2008.

Respondent 20:

All right.

Interviewer:

And imagine that you agree more with one person about what the federal government should and should not do. And you also think that person's background and experience better prepare someone to be president. If it turned out that that person was a woman, would that make you less likely at all to vote for her? Make you more likely at all to vote for her? Or not change how likely you would be to vote for her at all?

Respondent 20:

I wouldn't vote at all.

Interviewer:

So it wouldn't change how likely you would be?

Respondent 20:

No, it would not.

Interviewer:

In your own words, what is that question asking you?

Respondent 20:

If I would prefer one over another because of their, their background or what they can do for this nation? And I have no other comments in that, but it would not vote for either.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

See, I'm going back in time. I don't know how old you are, but you sound very young. Do you remember John Kennedy?

Interviewer:

No, I was-

Respondent 20:

Remember Robert Kennedy?

Interviewer:

Uh, I wasn't born yet.

Respondent 20:

Oh, you weren't born yet?

Interviewer:

Nope.

Respondent 20:

Okay. When John Kennedy, um, was killed. Uh, I lived in the state of [REDACTED STATE]. And I was watching the parade and hanging clothes at the same time, because in those days, they didn't have dryers. So I kept going outside the hang of clothes, take down clothes. I had two babies then. And, uh, all of us sudden, this, this horrible thing comes along that he was shot, and I ran back upstairs to watch the television. And all of it was on TV.

When I watch Robert Kennedy giving his speech, I thought, you know, this is, this is another great Kennedy coming along. And by God, if some son of a bitch didn't take away the life of a really good man, you know, I go... I can still visualize it. I can still see it in my mind.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

Which is really, really hard to accept sometimes. I watch the speech by Martin Luther King, and I thought to myself, the black people in this country have taken such abuse for such a long, long time. Uh, this is a man that's gonna put it all together for these black people and things are gonna be much, much better for them. And then some son of a bitch comes along again, and does away with a man who could have made this nation a whole lot greater. You know? It's... I remember those days. You know?

Interviewer:

And you said you, you voted for Kennedy?

Respondent 20:

I voted for John Kennedy.

Interviewer:

And after that, since then you haven't-

Respondent 20:

I have never voted-

Interviewer:

... been interested in voting?

Respondent 20:

I'll tell you the truth. The only thing I ever voted for again was the California Lottery, which, (laughs) which is stupid. (laughs) But I did go to the polls and vote for that. But I have never voted for another president.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

I have never voted for any issues on, uh, of any kind. I-

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

But that's my, my, my thoughts. I've talked to other people who've said the same thing.

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

Not that they haven't voted since John Kennedy's time, but at times they don't vote for who's ever up, because they don't think they're good people. And they're not going to do this country any good. So I've talked to a lot of women-

Interviewer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Respondent 20:

... they have not voted also, you know?

Interviewer:

Well, let me ask you just a couple more questions and see what you think.

Respondent 20:

Okay.

Interviewer:

In your opinion, in the best government, the U.S. could have, what percent of the elected officials would be men, and what percent would be women?

Respondent 20:

What percent would be men? Probably about 75. Men overrule women all the time. So 75% of men, 25% of women.

Interviewer:

And what do you think about in saying that? Can you tell me what went on in your mind as you're answering that question?

Respondent 20:

Well, because, um, I can't recall anybody right now in my mind other than Hillary Clinton would be a good candidate for presidency, maybe as the first lady coming into this United States as president. Um, but men just seem more knowledgeable, they seem to really know the answers to everything. And I just think men are much more intelligent in running this country than women can be. And I'm a woman saying this.

Interviewer:

Do you think that most men candidates who run for political office are better suited emotionally to work in government than are most women candidates?

Respondent 20:

Oh, absolutely. (laughs)

Interviewer:

That most women candidates are better suited emotionally to work in government than are most men candidates? Or do you think men and women candidates are equally suited emotionally to work in government?

Respondent 20:

No, I think the men overrule. I think the men are in charge. The men, the men are it.

Interviewer:

And the men are-

Respondent 20:

It's the man, as they say. (laughs)

Interviewer:

And the men are better suited emotionally?

Respondent 20:

I would think that in my opinion they are.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

And what does, what does it make you think of to be better suited emotionally? What does that mean to you?

Respondent 20:

They're not soft like women. They're not soft like women. Women get emotional. Women, women cry, um, uh... Women's feelings are so much different than men's, uh...

Interviewer:

And that's not good for working in government?

Respondent 20:

No, I don't think so. No, I don't think so. I mean, if somebody calls, uh, say I was a woman and some lady called and told me that, you know, "They won't allow me to have an abortion. You know? And I'm, I- I'm gonna die if I don't have an, an abortion. And no, they're telling me it's illegal." You know what? I would sit there and cry. I would sit there and cry. I don't think a man would. I think man would give you an explanation why this should be a good thing for you, and you should take charge of your life and do the best, and do the better for your body. And no, I think a man wouldn't get emotional as a woman would.

Interviewer:

Okay, and, and makes them better suited-

Respondent 20:

Yeah.

Interviewer:

... emotionally? Uh, much better suited or just somewhat better suited?

Respondent 20:

No, much better suited.

Interviewer:

Now I have some questions about how men and women who are Democrats and Republicans are likely to handle issues in the U.S. Congress.

Respondent 20:

Oh boy!

Interviewer:

Thinking about Democrats, who would do a better job in the U.S. Congress handling crime? A Democrat who is a man? Or a Democrat who is a woman? Or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 20:

Well, just both of them would have advisors and people to tell them what, what their thoughts are. And then you put all the thoughts together and you come out with the... I think maybe both of them. Man and woman, yeah.

Interviewer:

They would do an equally good job?

Respondent 20:

Yeah, I think so. Yeah.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job?

Respondent 20:

You got it.

Interviewer:

Lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job. Or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 20:

I would lean towards the man doing a better job. I would trust him more.

Interviewer:

Why is that?

Respondent 20:

Because a man has his thinking cap on. And, uh, he just knows the right thing. I think a, a woman just maybe kind of benched. I don't know. I don't know how to put it to ya. I just see a man in authority as being the best. I can see a woman hold a, a lesser job in authority. Doing well, but not doing great like a man can. I favor men more.

Interviewer:

Who would do a better job in the U.S. Congress handling education? A Democrat who is a man? Or a Democrat who is a woman? Or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 20:

I think they both would do, I think, a really good job. I think they both would see that, you know, education is the best thing for everyone. I, yeah, I would think both of them would.

Interviewer:

Do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job? Lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job? Or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 20:

I will lean towards both of them at the same time. I think the man or the woman.

Interviewer:

Okay.

Respondent 20:

But if I was to pick one, I would still say the man.

Interviewer:

So, do you lean toward thinking a man would do a better job? Lean toward thinking a woman would do a better job? Or do you not lean either way?

Respondent 20:

I would lean towards a man doing a better job.

Interviewer:

Okay. Thinking about Republicans, who would do a better job in the U.S. Congress handling crime? A Republican who is a man? Or a Republican who was a woman? Or would they do an equally good job?

Respondent 20:

On that one, um, my only comment would be maybe both of them. I don't know. Does it make a difference whether you're Republican or Democrat? You're all fighting for the same cause, same reasons. I mean, does...? What does it mean to be a Democrat? What does it mean to be a Republican? The issues are all the same. What's the difference? You know, I don't have a great understanding of that.

Interviewer:

Does it make you think of anything?

Respondent 20:

Pardon?

Interviewer:

Does it make you think of anything? I mean, do you think of any differences between?

Respondent 20:

Well, I ca- I don't even understand why they're classified. I mean, people are people. People are in charge. And you're saying, one's a Democrat, and one's a Republican, and they're all fighting for the same reason. They're all fighting for the same cause. Why are they labeled Democrat, Republican? I mean, is there a difference? I don't know that there is. They're all... they're all human beings. Men or women, fighting for the great cause of freedom and what's right, uh... I don't know why they're labeled. I don't know why they're labeled. Does that make any sense?

Interviewer:

I understand what you're saying.

Respondent 20:

Does it make any se-? I don't know. You know, I can see somebody being a king, and somebody being a queen. They're labeled because one is male and one is female. And they're both fighting for the same cause, but one's a king and one, one's a queen. Now you got a Republican and a Democrat. They're both people. They're both fighting for the same reasons. Why are they labeled? You know, I don't un- Oh well, get off their track. (laughs)

Interviewer:

I think that's all the, uh, questions that I have to ask you. We've come to the end. Thank you very much for your help. It's very helpful to, to hear you, uh, respond to the questions this way. I'm gonna stop the tape now. And I will get some information from you to send you a check.

Respondent 20:

Does that make...