Study 46 Public Reaction to the Election

First we want to get an idea of what people think the new Congress ought to do.

1. For instance, do you think rent control should be kept on or should it be dropped?

2. Some people think the Government ought to do something to control prices and others say that government controls just make matters worse. How do you feel about that?

3. Have you heard anything about the Taft-Hartley Act?
   3a. (If Yes) What do you think ought to be done about it?

4. Now turning to the election itself, did the presidential election come out the way you thought it would or were you surprised?
   4a. Why is that?
5. Why do you think people voted for Truman?

5a. Are there any other kinds of reasons why you think people voted for Truman?

6. Do you think there was anything special about Truman that made some people vote against him?

7. Why do you think people voted for Dewey?

7a. Are there any other kinds of reasons why you think people voted for Dewey?
8. Do you think there was anything special about Dewey that made some people vote against him?

9. In this election about half the people voted and half of them didn’t. Did you vote?

10. Whom did you vote for?

11. How long before the election did you decide that you were going to vote the way you did?

12. Had you ever thought during the campaign that you might vote for somebody else?

   If Yes:
   12a. Who was that?
   12b. Why did you decide not to vote for him?
13. What made you decide to vote the way you did?

14. You say you voted for __________. Did you vote a straight ticket or did you vote for some candidates from other parties?

IF R DID NOT VOTE

15. Whom would you have voted for if you had voted?

16. What was the main reason you didn't vote?

17. Were you registered to vote?
ASK OF EVERYONE

18. Have you voted in any presidential elections before this one? ________

If Yes:

18a. Have you usually voted Democratic or Republican? ________

18b. Do you remember whether you voted in 1944 when Roosevelt ran against Dewey? ________

If Yes:

18c. Whom did you vote for then? ________

Now that finishes my questions. I just want to check two or three items before I go.

19. What is your (head of household’s) occupation? I mean, what kind of work do you (head) do? ________

20. Do you (head) belong to a labor union? ________