**Question:** Do you think that the federal government usually acts in the best interests of people like yourself or does it usually act in the best interests of some other group of people?

- People like you: 67%
- Some other group: 25%
- Don’t know/no answer: 8%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** Which of the following three statements comes closest to expressing your overall view of the system of government and politics in the United States: (1) On the whole, the political system works pretty well and only minor changes are necessary to make it better, or (2) There are some good things in our political system, but fundamental changes are needed, or (3) Our political system has so much wrong with it that we need to completely rebuild it?

- Minor changes only: 18%
- Fundamental changes: 61%
- Completely rebuild it: 20%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** When you read or hear about the laws or bills that government passes, do you usually feel that your own views on things are represented, or do you usually feel your own views are not represented?

- Own views represented: 38%
- Not represented: 51%
- Don’t know/no answer: 11%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** When you read or hear about the laws or bills that your state government passes, do you think that your own views on things are represented, or do you usually feel your own views are not represented?

- Own views represented: 51%
- Not represented: 40%
- Don’t know/no answer: 9%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** When you listen to or read what politicians or political candidates have to say, do you usually feel that your own views are represented in what they have to say, or do you usually feel your own views are not represented?

- Own views represented: 30%
- Not represented: 48%
- Don’t know/no answer: 4%
- Some do (vol.): 18%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** When you think about the Republican and Democratic Parties in this country, do you usually feel that your own views on things are represented in what one or both of them stand for, or do you usually feel your own views are not represented?

- Own views represented: 53%
- Not represented: 39%
- Don’t know/no answer: 8%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.
**Role of Government in Good Times**

**Question:** Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: it is the responsibility of the government to take care of people who can’t take care of themselves?

- **Agree:** 69%
- **Disagree:** 26%
- **Don’t know/no answer:** 5%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** If you had to choose, would you rather have a smaller government providing fewer services, or a bigger government providing more services?

- **Bigger/more services:** 43%
- **Smaller/fewer services:** 46%
- **Don’t know/no answer:** 5%
- **Depends (vol.):** 6%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** Which comes closer to your view: (1) Government should provide tools to help families better their lives, such as education and job training programs, or (2) The best thing that government can do for families is to cut taxes and allow individual families to decide for themselves how to allocate their money?

- **Government should help:** 55%
- **Government should cut taxes:** 42%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** Should the federal government see to it that every person has a job and a good standard of living, or should the government stay out of it and let every person get ahead on their own?

- **Let people get ahead:** 48%
- **See every person has a job:** 45%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** Which comes closer to your view: government should do more to promote traditional values; or government should not favor one set of values over another?

- **Promote traditional values:** 48%
- **Should not favor one set of values over another:** 47%
- **Don’t know/no answer:** 5%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, September 14-18, 1999.

**Question:** Some people think the government should promote traditional values in our society. Others think the government should not favor any particular set of values. Which comes closer to your own view?

- **Promote traditional values:** 56%
- **Should not favor any particular set of values:** 39%
- **No opinion:** 5%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, September 10-14, 1999.