One Nation Under God

**Question:** At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life or losing its influence?

![Graph showing increasing and losing influence of religion from 1995 to 2000.]

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, latest that of March 17-19, 2000.

**Spirit’s on the Decline**

**Question:** Do you think America is a more or less spiritual nation today than it was 25 years ago?

![Pie charts comparing spirituality in 1997 and 1999.]

**Note:** Asked of registered voters.

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, October 29-30, 1997.

**Question:** Do you think America is a more or less spiritual nation today than it was 25 years ago?

![Pie charts comparing spirituality in 1999.]

**Note:** Asked of registered voters.

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, March 24-25, 1999.

**Question:** We’re interested in finding out why you think America has been successful during this past century. [Do you think]...Judeo-Christian beliefs... is a major reason, a minor reason, or not a reason for America’s success?

![Pie charts comparing success reasons in 1999.]

**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Pew Research Center, April 6-May 6, 1999.

**Question:** If life is going to be better in this country in the future, how big a role do you think each of the following will play? Will...organized religion play a major role, a minor role, or no role at all in making things better?

![Pie charts comparing roles in 1999.]

**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the Pew Research Center, April 6-May 6, 1999.
Going Public

**Question:** Do you think candidates for president should publicly discuss their religious beliefs or keep their religious beliefs to themselves?

- Discuss: 45%
- Keep to themselves: 47%
- 7%
- No opinion

**Source:** Survey by ABC News, January 19-23, 2000.

**Question:** As you may know, some candidates for president this year have talked about their personal relationship with Jesus Christ during debates and news interviews. When a candidate for office does this, does it generally make you more likely or less likely to support that person for president?

- More likely: 51%
- Less likely: 26%
- Depends on the candidate/statement (vol.): 16%
- No opinion: 7%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, December 20-21, 1999.

**Question:** In the context of your making a decision to vote for one candidate or another [during the 2000 presidential campaign], please tell me how important it is to you to know each of the following things. Use a five-point scale in which a 1 means that it is not at all important and a 5 means that it is extremely important. The importance of religion in their life.

- Extremely important: 5
  - 27%
- 4
  - 14%
- 3
  - 23%
- 2
  - 14%

- Not at all important: 1
  - 22%

**Source:** Survey by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, December 9-12, 1999.

**Question:** Would you rather see religious and spiritual values have greater influence in politics and public life than they do now, less influence, or about the same influence as they do now?

- Greater: 38%
- Less: 22%
- Same: 38%
- 2%
- No opinion

**Source:** Survey by The Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation/Harvard University, July 29-August 18, 1998.

**Question:** Which of the following is more important to you in deciding how to vote for president—a candidate's personal commitment to his religious beliefs, or a candidate who shares your religious beliefs?

- A candidate’s personal commitment to his religious beliefs: 49%
- A candidate who shares your religious beliefs: 17%
- Neither (vol.): 28%
- Not sure: 6%

**Source:** Survey by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, March 2-5, 2000.

**Question:** Which is closer to your point of view? Some people say our elected officials should be guided by their religious values when making policy decisions. Other people say it would be bad if our elected officials were guided by their religious values when making policy decisions because religion and politics shouldn’t mix.

- Should be guided by religious principle: 42%
- Religion and politics shouldn’t mix: 46%
- Unsure: 6%
- Both equally/None (vol.): 6%

**Source:** Survey by the Tarrance Group & Lake, Snell, Perry, & Associates, January 3-5, 2000.

**Note:** Asked of registered likely voters.