In this country the practice of tipping for various kinds of services is widespread—for waiters in restaurants, for hairdressers and barbers, for taxis and so on. How do you feel about the practice of tipping—that it's a fair way to compensate people who perform various services, or that it’s unfair to customers to expect them to pay extra for services they’ve already paid for?

Many people in restaurants, hotels, barber shops, etc., depend upon tips for a part of their pay. Do you think it would be better to have them paid larger regular wages out of an additional amount added to the bills the customers pay?

In general, what size tip— in other words what percentage of the meal’s cost— do you leave in a restaurant for satisfactory service?

What factors most influence the amount (percentage) you tip a waiter or waitress?

A Tip

Here’s A Tip

Looking Back

Do you think people should always leave a tip in restaurants, regardless of the quality of service provided, or does a tip need to be earned?

Would you favor laws against tipping?

The Big Stiff

Have you ever left a restaurant without leaving a tip because of poor service?

Source: Survey by the Roper Organization/Fortune, May 1938.

Source: Survey by the Associated Press, June 14-18, 2002.

Source: Survey by the Associated Press, June 9-14, 1937.

Source: Survey by the Associated Press, June 14-18, 2002.

Source: Survey by Maritz Marketing Research, April 1995.