1997's Big Stories...

**JULY 1**

**Hong Kong Reverts to Chinese Sovereignty**

**Question:** Do you think Hong Kong should remain part of the British Empire or should it be turned over to China?

- Remain part of British Empire: 38%
- Turned over to China: 43%
- Don't know/Refused: 19%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, June 26-29, 1997.

**Question:** Overall, do you think the future of Hong Kong will be better or worse under Chinese rule?

- Better: 9%
- Worse: 64%
- Same (vol.): 22%
- Not sure: 5%

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, June 1997.

**Question:** Do you think civil liberties, such as a free press, will continue in Hong Kong under Chinese authority?

- Yes: 17%
- No: 67%
- Not sure: 16%

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, May 14-16, 1997.

**JULY 4**

**Pathfinder Space Probe Lands on Mars**

**Question:** Still thinking about the next century, which if any, of the following things will happen... humans will walk on Mars?

- Will happen: 64%
- Will not happen: 31%
- DK: 5%

**Source:** Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates for Newsweek, January 16-17, 1997.

**Question:** Have you seen any of the pictures that the Mars Rover took of the surface of Mars, or not?

- Yes: 86%
- No: 14%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, July 13-14, 1997.

**Question:** Do you think the Mars Pathfinder Mission is worth it, or not?

- Worth it: 60%
- Not worth it: 31%
- DK/NA: 9%

**Source:** Survey by CBS News, July 13-14, 1997.

**Question:** Do you think that at some time in the past there has been life of some sort on the planet Mars, or not?

- Yes: 46%
- No: 44%
- No opinion: 10%

**Source:** Survey by ABC News, July 8-9, 1997.
**Question:** ... Which of the following two statements comes closest to your view? The Pathfinder spacecraft landed on Mars and is sending back real photographs of the planet's surface. The Pathfinder never really landed on Mars and the photos are fakes.

10% DK
81% Landed on Mars and sending real photographs
9% Never really landed on Mars and photos are fakes

**Source:** Survey by the Washington Post, July 18-22, 1997.

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**Question:** Do you think there will ever be a McDonald's on Mars?

32% Yes
60% No
8% Not sure

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, July 9-10, 1997.

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**JULY 8•Fiftieth Anniversary of Roswell Alien**

**Question:** How much have you heard about an incident which occurred in Roswell, New Mexico in 1947 which some people believe was caused by a spacecraft from another planet which crashed there...?

29% Great deal
28% Moderate amount
22% Only a little
20% Nothing at all

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, June 26-29, 1997.

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**Question:** Do you believe that a spacecraft from another planet crashed in Roswell, New Mexico in 1947 or not?

53% No
31% Yes
17% Don't know/Refused

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, June 26-29, 1997.

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**Question:** In the past week, the US Air Force issued a report saying that people in New Mexico, who reported seeing UFOs and the bodies of aliens (in 1947), actually saw the remains of weather balloons and crash-test dummies that were part of top-secret US military experiments. Do you believe this military report or not?

64% No
25% Yes
12% Don’t know/Refused

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, June 26-29, 1997.

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**Question:** Have you ever seen anything that you thought was a UFO or not? [If yes] Do you believe what you saw was a spacecraft from another planet, or do you think it was something man-made or some natural phenomenon that you could not identify?

87% Haven't seen UFO
7% Saw UFO/aliens
2% Saw UFO/unsure if aliens
4% Saw UFO/aliens

**Source:** Survey by ABC News, June 13-17, 1997.
Question: United Parcel Service, UPS, workers are now on strike. Which side are you more inclined to sympathize with in this strike—the Teamsters Union or UPS?

Question: United Parcel Service, UPS, workers are now on strike. Which side are you more inclined to sympathize with in this strike—the union or the company?


Question: Do you think—the Clinton Administration should intervene to settle the strike or do you think the UPS (United Parcel Service) company and its workers' union should settle the strike by themselves?

Question: So far, has the UPS (United Parcel Service) strike had an impact on you or any deliveries you were expecting or wanted to make?


Princess Diana Dies in Paris Car Crash

**Question:** How would you describe the reaction you had to Diana’s (Princess of Wales) death when you first heard about it? Were you as upset as if someone you knew personally had died, or were you sad, but not as upset as if it were someone you personally knew?

- Not sad (vol.) 6%
- Upset 27%
- Sad, but not upset 67%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, September 4, 1997.

**Question:** Do you plan to watch any of Princess Diana’s funeral?

- No 37%
- Yes 56%
- Not sure 7%

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, September 3-4, 1997.

**Question:** From everything you’ve heard or read about the accident, how responsible do you feel each of the following factors was for Diana’s (Princess of Wales) car accident—extremely responsible, very responsible, not too responsible, or not responsible at all?

- The man who was driving Diana’s car 45%
- The photographers who were following Diana’s car 32%
- The tabloid press 25%
- The public for buying the tabloid papers 19%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, September 4, 1997.

The Death of Mother Theresa

**Question:** Thinking of all women who have lived any time in this century, what woman do you admire the most?

- Mother Theresa 24%
- Princess Diana 21%
- Other 13%
- Eleanor Roosevelt 11%
- Jacqueline Kennedy 5%
- Hillary Clinton 3%
- Don't know 19%

**Question:** Thinking now about Mother Theresa who recently died, do you consider Mother Theresa a saint, or not?

- Yes, a saint 66%
- No, not a saint 24%
- DK/Refused 11%

**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/USA Today, September 6-7, 1997.
**1997's Big Stories...**

**OCTOBER 4: The Promise Keepers Gather on the Mall in Washington, in the Largest Religious Assembly in US History**

**Question:** Have you heard of the all-male Christian movement called “Promise Keepers”?

- Yes: 48%
- No: 52%

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, October 1-2, 1997.

**Question:** Some people say that the mission of the Promise Keepers is to promote Christian values, while others say Promise Keepers gather to promote dominance. Which view do you think comes closer to the truth?

- Promote Christian values: 59%
- Promote male dominance: 17%
- Not sure: 24%

**Asked of those who have heard of the Promise Keepers**

**Source:** Survey by Opinion Dynamics for Fox News, October 1-2, 1997.

**Who Are the Promise Keepers?**

**By Race/Ethnicity**
- White: 80%
- Black: 14%
- Asian: 2%
- Hispanic: 5%
- Other/refused: 5%

**By Denomination**
- Protestant/Baptist: 71%
- Other Christian: 22%
- Catholic: 4%
- Something else: 1%

**By Yearly Income**
- Less than $15,000: 4%
- $15,000-$30,000: 14%
- $30,000-$50,000: 27%
- $50,000-$75,000: 27%
- $75,000-$100,000: 13%
- More than $100,000: 9%

**By Political Preference**
- Republican: 46%
- Independent: 28%
- Democrat: 15%
- Other: 3%

**By Religious Practices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Frequently</th>
<th>Sometimes</th>
<th>Hardly Ever</th>
<th>Never</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Watch or listen to religious TV or radio</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer in community activities</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute money to a religious organization other than church</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contribute money to political candidates</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** Survey by the Washington Post of 882 randomly selected participants in the October 4 Promise Keepers gathering on the mall.
Social Views of Participants in the Promise Keepers' Washington Assembly

Question: Do you favor or oppose...

- Making it harder for married couples with children to obtain divorce
  - Favor: 69%
  - Oppose: 16%
  - DK/Refused: 14%

- Allowing homosexuals to marry and have the same legal rights as other married couples
  - Favor: 3%
  - Oppose: 94%
  - DK/Refused: 3%

- School vouchers to attend private or religious school
  - Favor: 74%
  - Oppose: 15%
  - DK/Refused: 11%

Question: In a marriage, do you think that the husband should have primary responsibility for, or the wife should, or do you think this should be shared equally between them...

- Making big decisions
  - Husband: 1%
  - Wife: 95%
  - Shared equally: 4%

- Doing the housework
  - Husband: 2%
  - Wife: 89%
  - Shared equally: 7%

- Disciplining the children
  - Husband: 10%
  - Wife: 87%
  - Shared equally: 2%

- Paying the bills
  - Husband: 27%
  - Wife: 67%
  - Shared equally: 0%

- Providing financially for the family
  - Husband: 52%
  - Wife: 45%
  - Shared equally: 0%

Question: Does...[your wife] work because she needs to in order to help your family's finances, because she wants to, or for both reasons?

- Both: 50%
- Needs to work: 21%
- Wants to work: 29%

Question: Would you prefer it if your wife did not work outside the home, or do you prefer that she works?

- Did work: 44%
- Didn't work: 44%
- Don't know: 12%

Question: Do you think your wife would prefer to work outside the home, or would she prefer not to work?

- Didn't work: 50%
- Did work: 46%
- Don't know: 4%

Source: Survey by the Washington Post of 882 randomly selected participants in the October 4 Promise Keepers gathering on the mall.

THE PUBLIC PERSPECTIVE, DECEMBER/ JANUARY 1998 15
1997's Big Stories...

October 30 • Louise Woodward Convicted of Second-Degree Murder in the Death of Infant in Her Care

November 10 • Judge Reduces Charge to Manslaughter and Frees Woodward

**Question:** As you may know, last week a jury convicted British nanny, Louise Woodward, of 2nd degree murder for the death of an 8 month old baby in her care. Today, the judge in the case reduced the murder conviction to a lesser charge of involuntary manslaughter. Do you approve or disapprove of the judge's decision to reduce the charge to manslaughter?

**Question:** The original murder conviction carried a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison. Instead, the judge freed Louise Woodward today, reducing her sentence to the 10 months she had already served in jail. Do you approve or disapprove of the judge's decision to free her today?


**Question:** Do you approve or disapprove of the judge's decision to reduce the verdict against the nanny (Louise Woodward) from murder to manslaughter?

**Question:** Do you approve or disapprove of the judge's decision to free the nanny (Louise Woodward) after the nine months she's spent in jail awaiting trial (for murder)?
