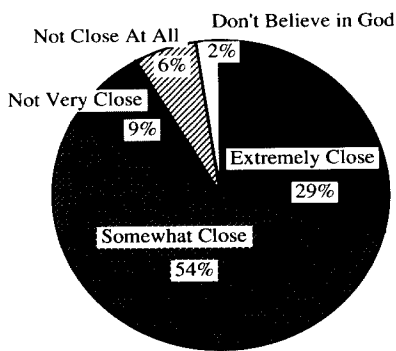


RELIGION IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE

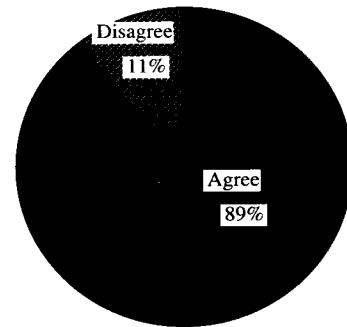
Editor's Note: To understand the substantial public opposition to *Engel*, which has persisted over the 30 years since the ruling was handed down, one needs to start with the strength of religious belief and practice in the US, which distinguishes the country from most other industrial nations. But, many fear, for all its importance religion is losing ground in American life.

RELIGIOUS AMERICA



Question: How close do you feel to God most of the time?

Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey, February-April 1989.



Question: Do you agree or disagree...I never doubt the existence of God.

Source: Survey by Princeton Survey Research Associates, May 1990.

Comparing the Industrial Democracies in Religious Belief and Practice

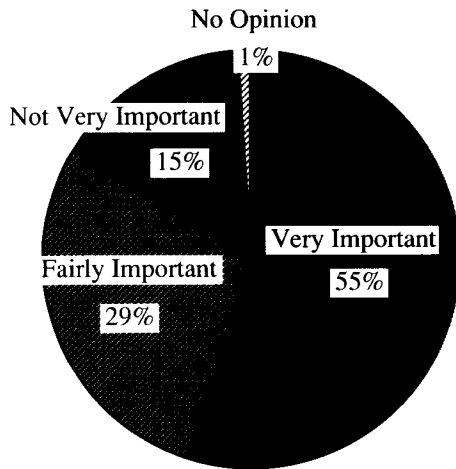
	% Belonging to Church	% Volunteer in Religion	% Saying They Pray	% Believe in Personal God	% Gain Strength
US	57%	23%	85%	65%	79%
UK	22	7	50	31	46
W. Germany	13	7	59	24	44
Italy	7	5	72	26	63
France	4	3	44	26	37

Questions: Which, if any, of the following do you belong to?; And do you currently do any unpaid voluntary work for any of them?...Churches or religious organizations; Do you take some moments of prayer, meditation, or contemplation or something like that?; Which of these statements comes closest to your beliefs? There is a personal God, There is some sort of spirit or life force, I don't really know what to think, I don't really think there is any sort of spirit, God or life force; Do you find that you get comfort and strength from religion or not?

Source: Surveys by the Gallup Organization for the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate and the European Values Study Group, 1981.

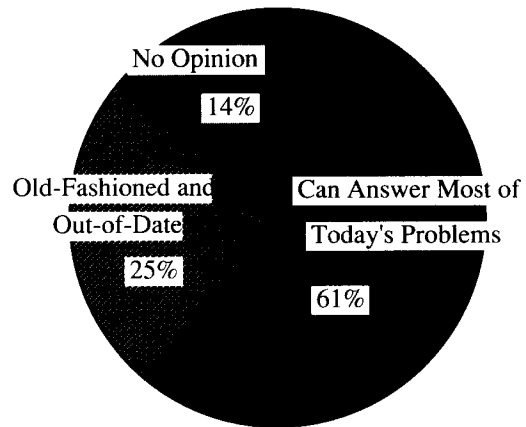
SOMETHING AMERICANS VALUE IS SEEN AS LOSING GROUND

Religion Is Important to Me Personally....



Question: How important would you say religion is in your own life—very important, fairly important, or not very important?

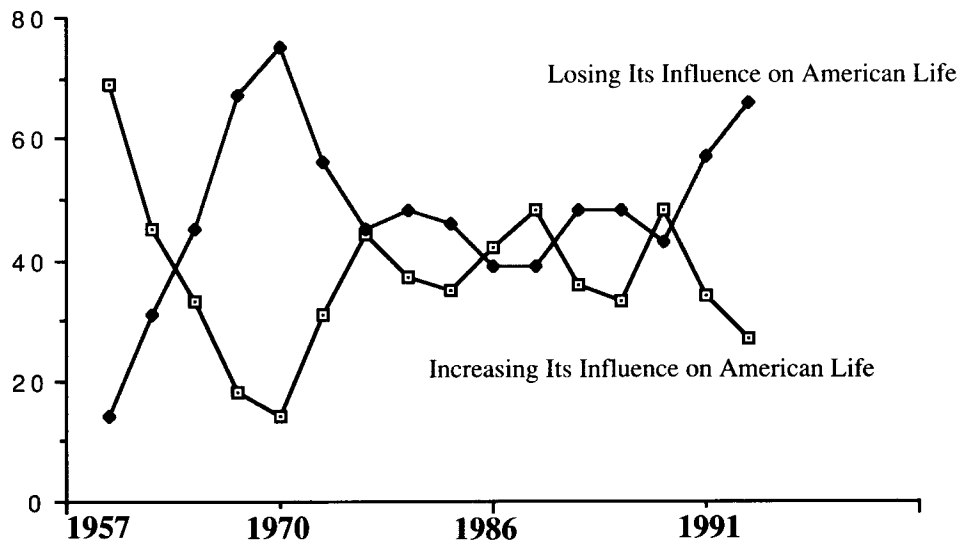
...And Can Answer Most of Today's Problems



Question: Do you believe that religion can answer all or most of today problems, or that religion is largely old-fashioned and out of date?

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, November 21-24, 1991.

But It's Losing Influence in Society



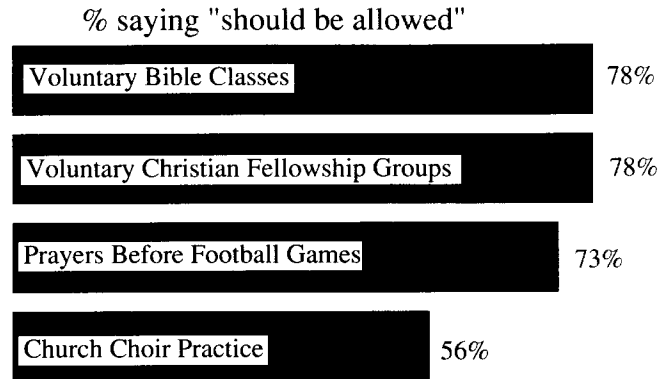
Question: At the present time, do you think religion as a whole is increasing its influence on American life or losing its influence?

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, latest that of November 21-24, 1991.

AS ONE RESPONSE, THE PUBLIC WANTS MORE RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY PERMITTED IN THE SCHOOLS

Question: Which, if any, of these religious activities do you think should be allowed on school grounds?

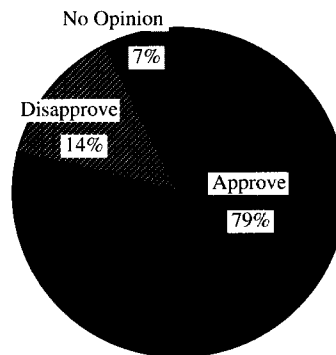
Source: Survey by Time/CNN/Yankelovich Clancy Shulman, October 10, 1991.



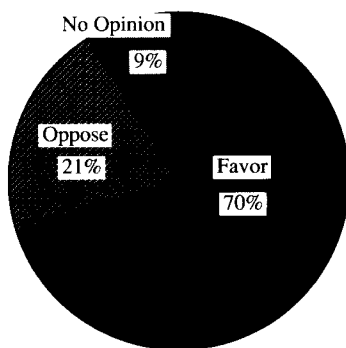
We Approved of Religious Observances in Public School in 1962...

Question: Do you approve or disapprove of religious observances in public schools?

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, July 26-31, 1962.

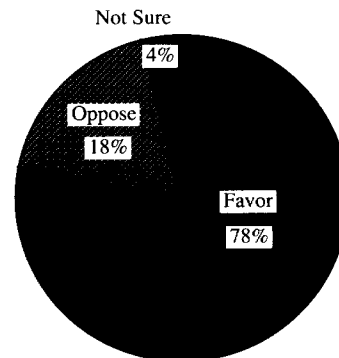


And We Still Do



Question: Do you generally favor or oppose prayer in public schools?

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, June 24-26, 1988.



Question: Do you favor or oppose allowing school children to say prayers in public schools?

Source: Survey by Time/CNN/Yankelovich Clancy Shulman, October 10, 1991.