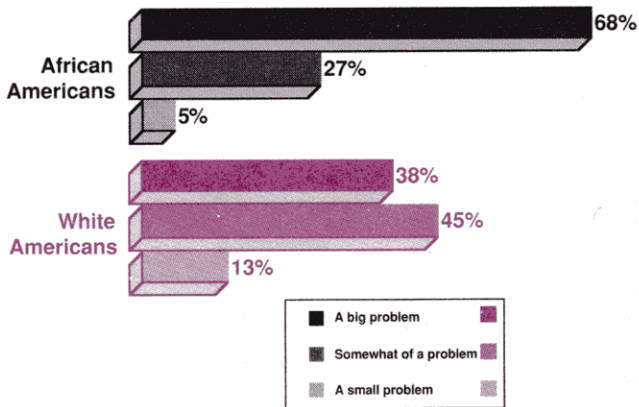


African Americans See Positives as Well as Negatives in the Country's Race Relations

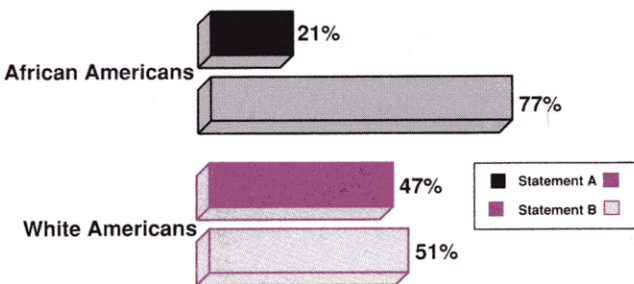
Racism Is a Problem...

Question: How big a problem is racism in our society today? Is it a big problem, somewhat of a problem, a small problem or not a problem at all?



Source: Survey by the *Washington Post* for Kaiser/Harvard, July 20-September 28, 1995.

Question: Which of these two statements comes closer to your view... (A) With the exception of a small number of African Americans who have severe economic and social problems, most African Americans have the same standard of living and opportunities as whites or (B) Most African Americans have a lower standard of living and fewer opportunities than whites?

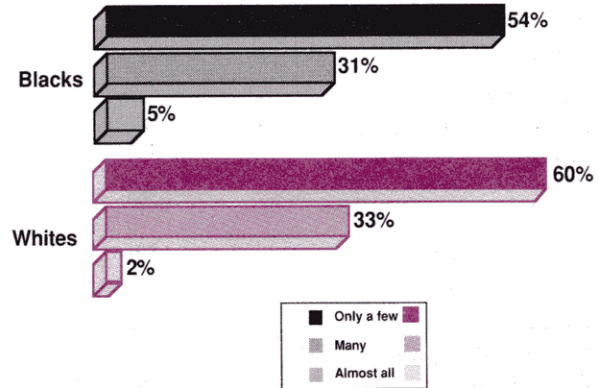


Source: Survey by the *Washington Post* for Kaiser/Harvard, July 20-September 28, 1995.

Editor's Note: Discussions of race relations usually focus mostly on problems. In one sense this is appropriate, because there are problems aplenty. But Americans, including African Americans, see many positive facets as well, as the data shown here attest.

...But Racial Comity Amid Achievement Is Also Seen

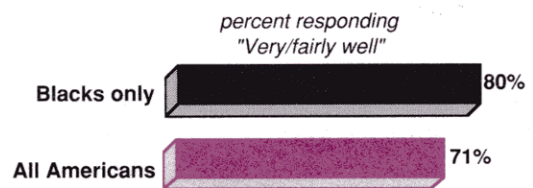
Question: In general, how do you think people in the US feel about people of other races? Do you think only a few white people dislike blacks, many dislike blacks, or almost all white people dislike blacks?



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, October 5-7, 1995.

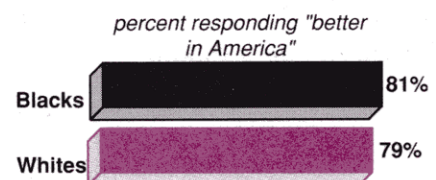
Question: From time to time we hear discussions about how well different groups in society get along with each other. I'd like to get your opinion. For each [group]...tell me if you think they generally get along very well, fairly well, or not well at all?...

...Blacks and Whites



Source: Survey by Roper Starch Worldwide, Roper Reports, 94-6.

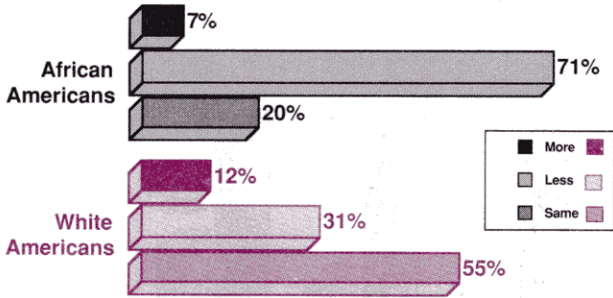
Question: Do you feel that the quality of life is better in America than in most other advanced industrial countries, about the same, or do you feel that people are better off in most other advanced industrial countries than they are in the US?



Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey, 1994.

Opportunity Is Denied...

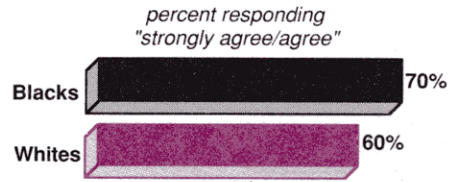
Question: Do you feel that [African Americans] have more opportunity, less opportunity, or about the same opportunity to live a middle class life as whites?



Source: Survey by the *Washington Post* for Kaiser/Harvard, August/September 1995

...Yet It Is Also Present

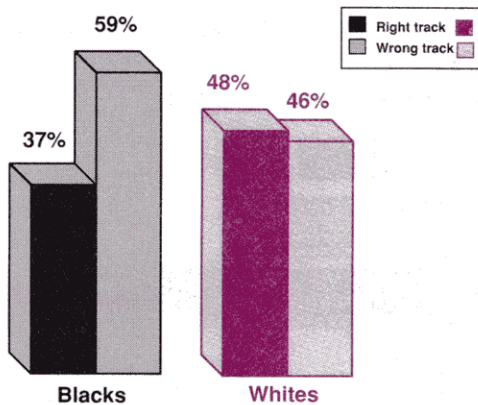
Question: The way things are in America, people like me and my family have a good chance of improving our standard of living—Do you agree or disagree...?



Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey, 1994.

Still on the Wrong Track...

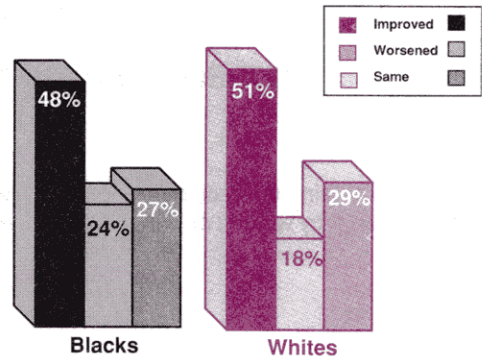
Question: Overall, as far as race relations are concerned, do you feel the country is on the right track or the wrong track?



Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, October 26-29, 1995.

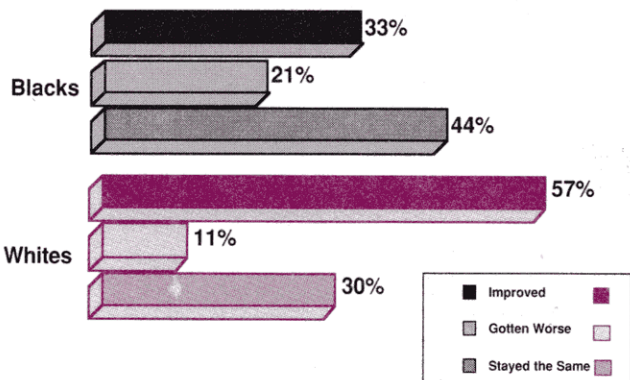
...Yet Better than Before

Question: When (today's/your) children reach your age do you expect that race relations will have improved, will have worsened, or will be about the same as today?

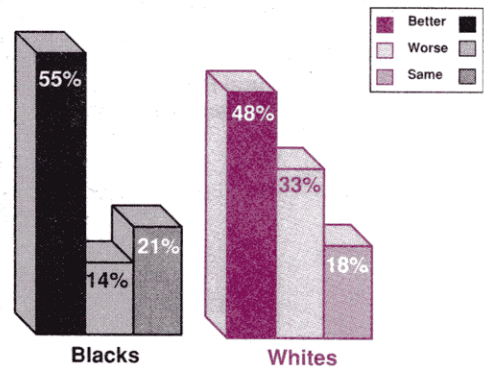


Question: In the past few years, do you think conditions for black people have improved, gotten worse, or stayed about the same?

Question: Do you think race relations in this country are better today than they were forty years ago, are they the same, or are they worse?



Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey, 1994.

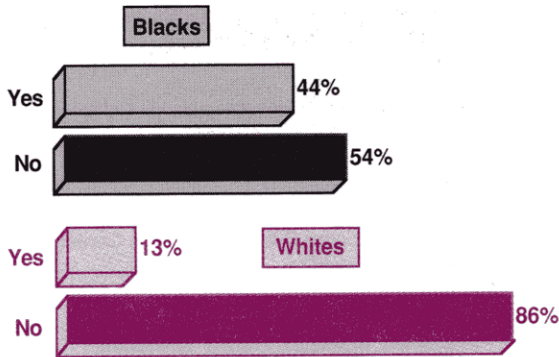


Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization for CNN/*USA Today*, April 22-24, 1994

Ethnicity in Black and White

Blacks More Likely Than Whites to Have Experienced Job Discrimination...

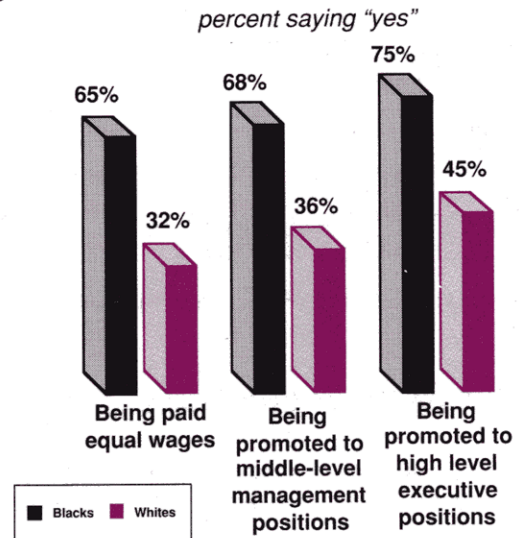
Question: Do you feel that you personally have ever been denied a job or promotion because of your race?



Source: Survey by ABC News/Washington Post, March 16-19, 1995.

...And to Have Seen It Generally in Economic Life

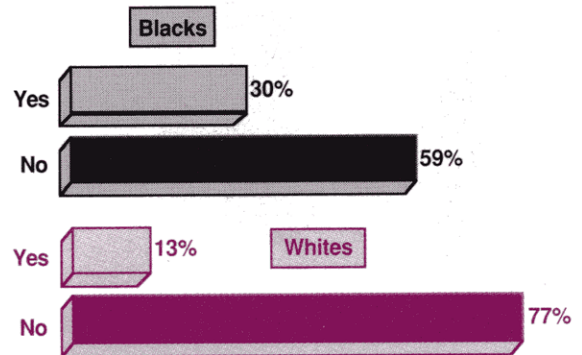
Question: Do you think blacks today are discriminated against in...?



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for Time/CNN, March 22-23, 1995.

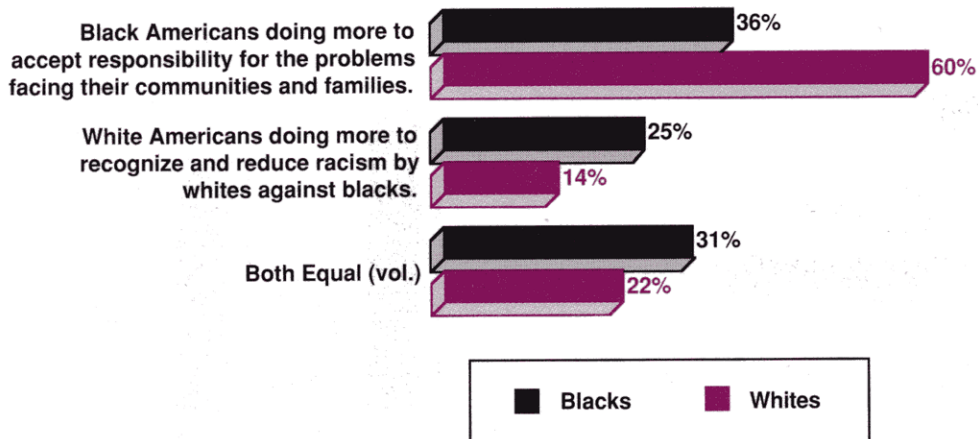
But Racial Problems Reach Far Beyond Discrimination

Question: Do you think the problems that most blacks face are caused primarily by whites, or don't you think this is the case?



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for Time/CNN, October 18-19, 1995.

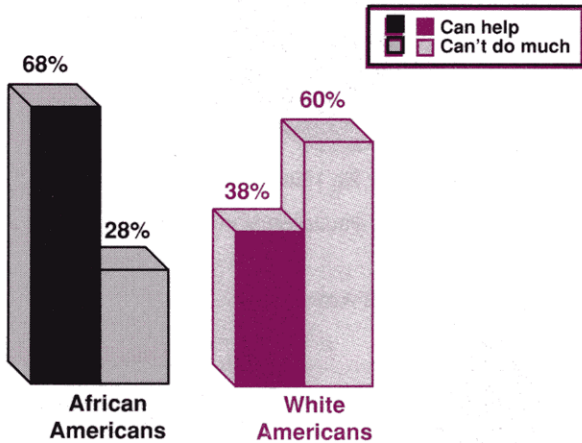
Question: Which of the following do you think is more important for improving race relations today...?



Source: Survey by NBC News/Wall Street Journal, October 27-31, 1995.

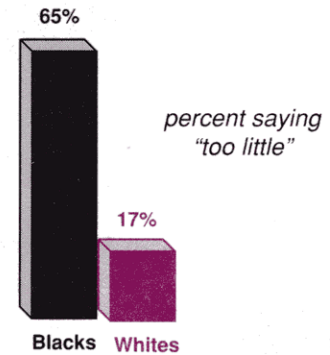
Sharp Differences Between Blacks and Whites on Government's Responsibility in Meeting Racial Problems

Question: Do you think the federal government can do something to help those African Americans with severe problems, or do you think this is a problem the federal government can't do much about?



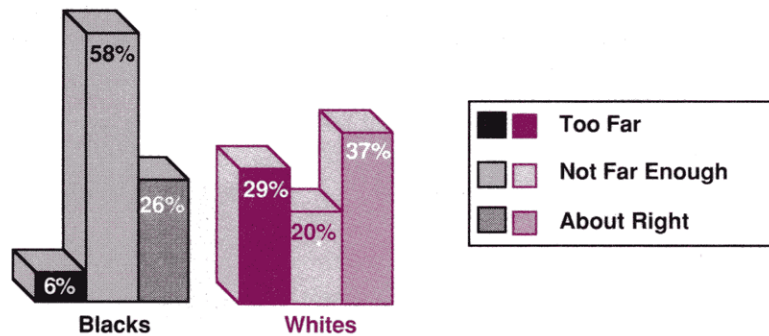
Source: Survey by the *Washington Post* for Kaiser/Harvard, July 20-September 28, 1995.

Question: ...Are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on...assistance to blacks?



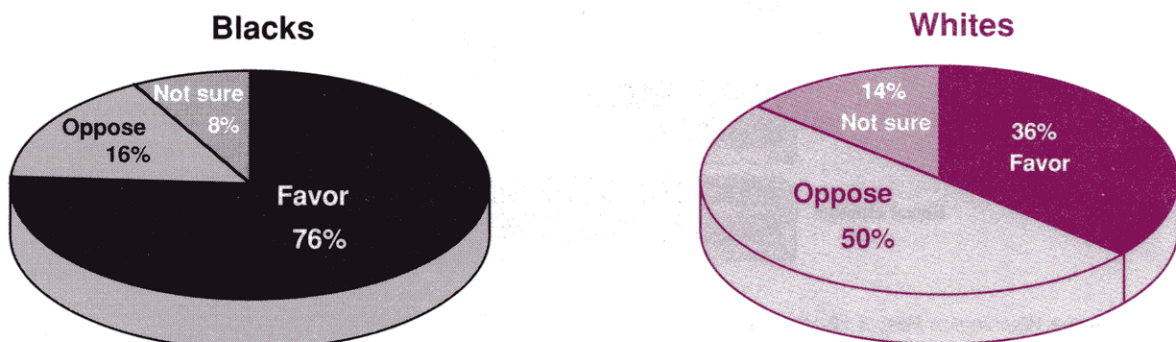
Source: Survey by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey, 1996.

Question: In your view, do current government programs go too far in helping blacks, not far enough, or are they about right?



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for *Time/CNN*, October 4-5, 1995.

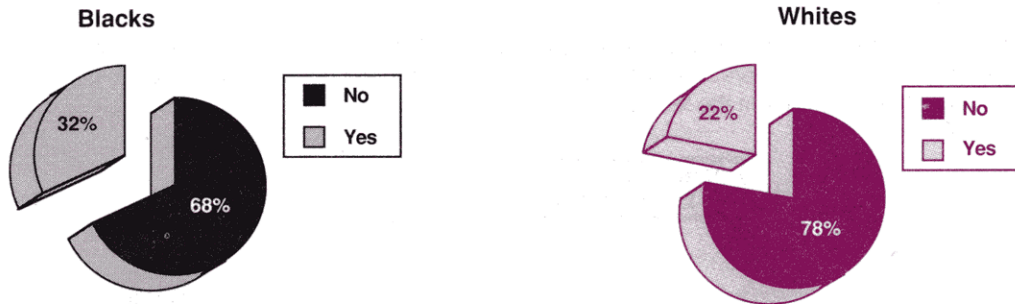
Question: All in all, do you favor or oppose affirmative action programs for blacks and other minority groups?



Source: Survey by NBC News/*Wall Street Journal*, October 27-31, 1995.

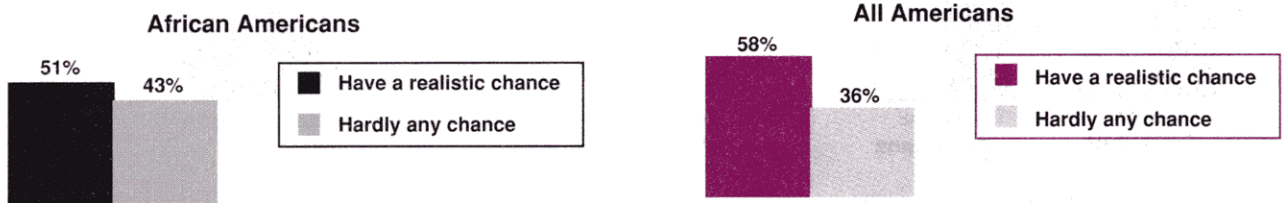
No Disagreement on Ideals

Question: Should there be a top limit on incomes so that no one can earn more than one million dollars a year?



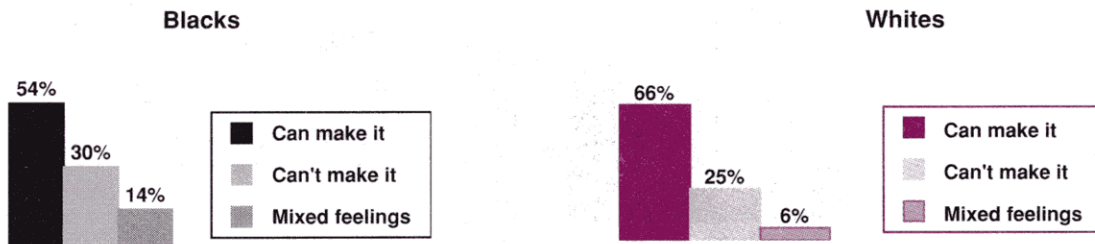
Source: Survey by the Roper Center for *Reader's Digest*, August 22-29, 1994.

Question: In your opinion, do people who are living in poverty have a realistic chance of escaping from it, or do they have hardly any chance of getting out?



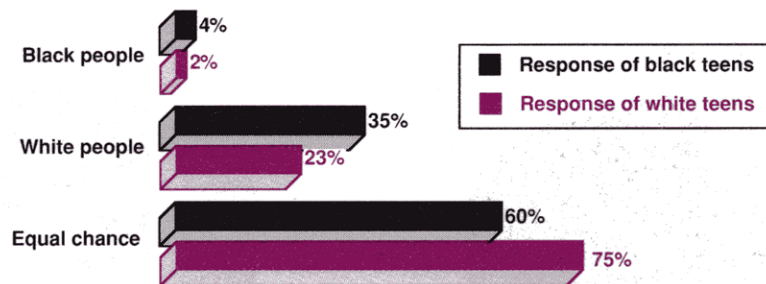
Source: Survey by Roper Starch Worldwide, Inc., Roper Reports 95-3.

Question: Which of these statements comes closer to your opinion: "In the United States today, anyone who works hard enough can make it economically," or "No matter how hard you work you just can't make it economically in this country today...?"



Source: Survey by the *Los Angeles Times*, October 27-30, 1995.

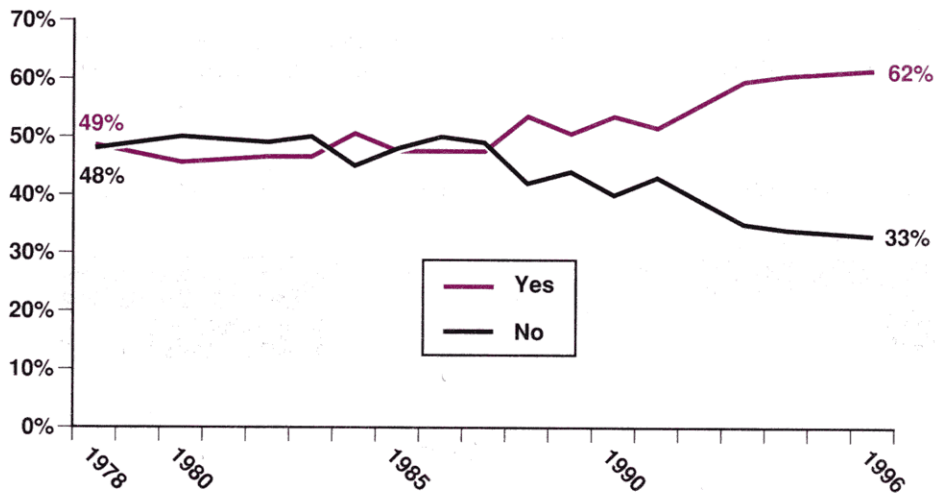
Question: Who has a better chance to succeed in life: black people or white people, or do you think they have an equal chance?



Source: Survey by the *Washington Post* of 12-17 year olds in the Washington, DC area, December 13, 1995.

We Report More Residential Integration

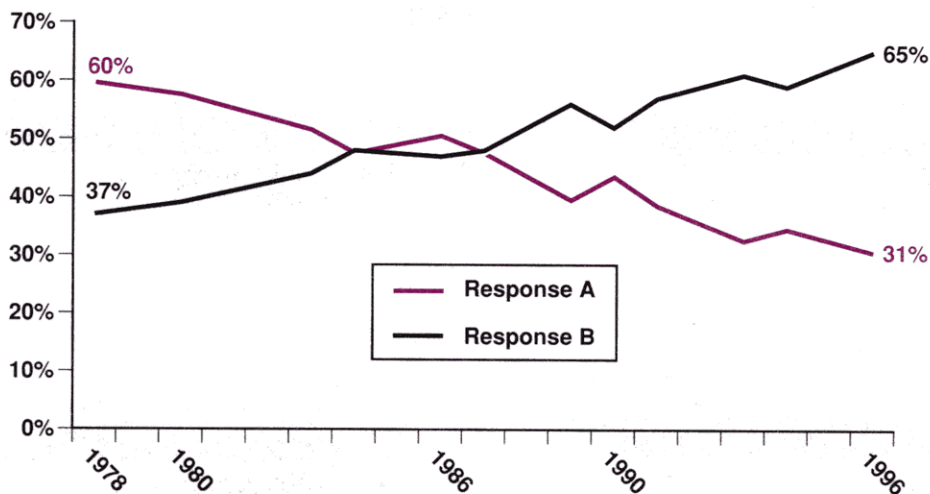
Question: Are there any [negroes/blacks/African Americans]/whites living in this neighborhood now?



Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey.

We Indicate More Support for Open Housing Laws

Question: Suppose there is a community-wide vote on the general housing issue. There are two possible laws to vote on. Which law would you vote for?... (A) One law says that a homeowner can decide for himself whom to sell his house to, even if he prefers not to sell to... [negroes/blacks/African-Americans]... (B) The second law says that a homeowner cannot refuse to sell to someone because of their race or color...?



Source: Surveys by the National Opinion Research Center-General Social Survey.

We Now Report More Cross-Group Friendships Than in the Past

Question: Do you yourself know any *white* person whom you consider a fairly close personal friend?

Question: Do you yourself know any *black* person whom you consider a fairly close personal friend?

(asked of African Americans only)

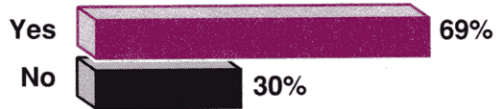


1981

(asked of whites only)

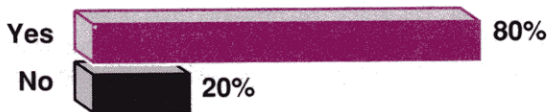


1986

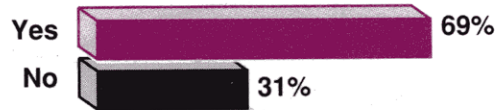
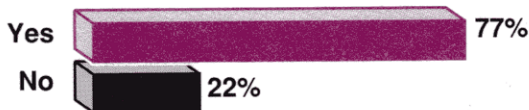


[Not asked of whites in this year]

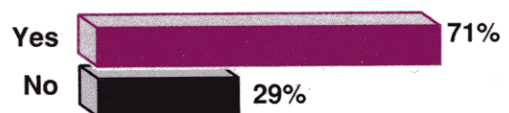
1989



1996



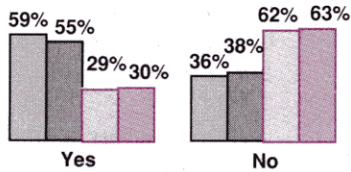
1997



Source: ABC News/Washington Post, latest that of June 5-8, 1997.

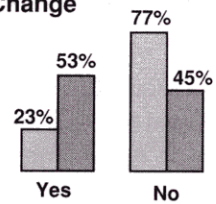
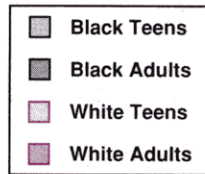
A Story Far More Complex Than Often Acknowledged

Question: To promote job opportunities, do you think that businesses should set a goal of hiring a minimum number of black employees?



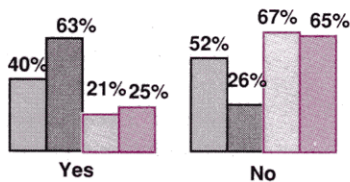
Question: Have you yourself ever been a victim of discrimination because you are black?

Big Generational Change



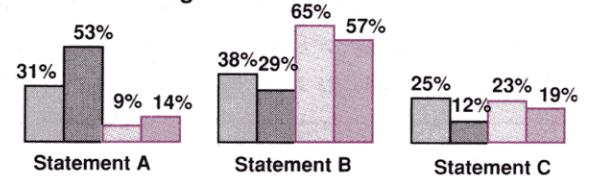
Question: Do you think most whites believe that blacks are inferior to them, or don't you think most whites believe this?

Big Generational Change

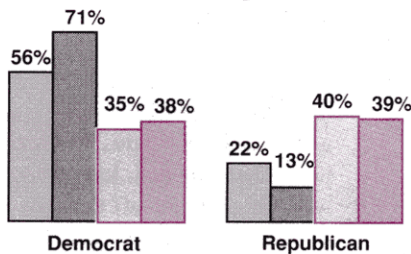


Question: Which one of the following statements do you agree with most... (A) Black job applicants have to be better qualified than whites to get a job; (B) Black job applicants have to be as qualified as whites to get a job; (C) Black job applicants can get jobs even when they are less qualified than other applicants?

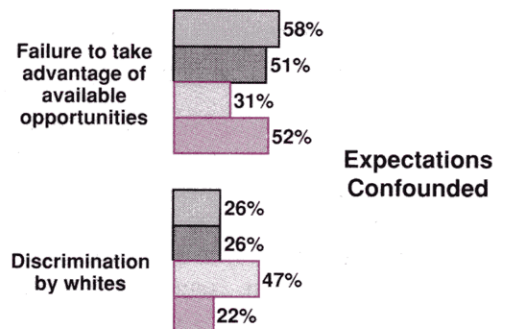
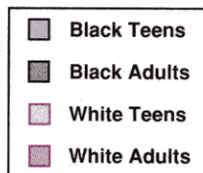
Big Generational Change



Question: Are you a Democrat, a Republican, or an Independent? (Includes leaners.)



Question: In your view, which of the following is more of a problem for black Americans today...?



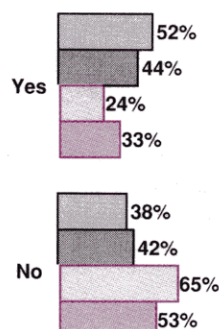
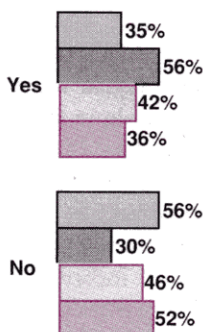
Expectations Confounded

Question: On the average, black Americans have worse jobs, income, and housing than white people. Do you think these differences are...?

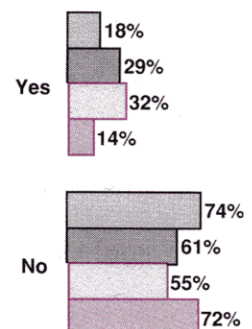
...Mainly due to discrimination

...Mainly because most blacks don't have the motivation or will power to pull themselves up out of their poverty.

Question: Do you think the problems that most black Americans face are caused primarily by whites, or don't you think this is the case?



Expectations Confounded



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Partners, Inc., for Time/CNN, September 23-October 2, 1997.