

THE “BIN LADEN” EFFECT: HOW AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT MUSLIM AMERICANS SHIFTED IN THE WAKE OF OSAMA BIN LADEN'S DEATH

Image of Muslim Americans significantly worsened; Perceived threat from Muslims living in the United States significantly increased; Americans more tolerant of restrictions on Muslim American civil liberties after Bin Laden's killing

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BACKGROUND

On Sunday, May 1st, President Obama formally announced in a press conference that the United States had killed Osama Bin Laden in Pakistan. This announcement garnered attention worldwide and 56.5 million Americans tuned in to watch the press conference live. During the following week of May 2nd through May 8th, according to the Pew Excellence in Journalism Project, 69% of all American media coverage focused on Bin Laden's death and related topics.¹ This focus subsided somewhat in the 2nd week of May 9th-May 15th with 24% of all media coverage centered on Bin Laden, though it still dominated American news overall.²

A substantial portion of the media coverage focused on the implications of Bin Laden's death for American national security and the potential for terrorist retaliation. Other coverage focused on Bin Laden's history and role in the September 11th attacks. Previous academic research has shown that the mass media has a poor track record on reporting about terrorism and Islam, often contributing to negative stereotypes and attitudes about Islam, Muslim Americans, and their civil liberties.³

Thus, the killing of Bin Laden created a "focusing event" that led to an extremely high level of news coverage and public discourse about terrorism and Islam in general for several weeks. As a result, our analysis suggests that American public opinion about Muslim Americans significantly worsened in the wake of Bin Laden's killing and the media coverage that followed. This shift, especially in terms of perceived threat from Muslim Americans, was most pronounced among political liberals and moderates. *The net result was that Americans were more tolerant of restricting Muslim American civil liberties such as using religious profiling, the registration of Muslim American whereabouts, greater surveillance of mosques by law enforcement, and banning mosque construction.*

¹ See http://www.journalism.org/index_report/pej_news_coverage_index_may_2_8_2011

² See http://www.journalism.org/index_report/pej_news_coverage_index_may_9_15_2011

³ See for example Nisbet, E.C., Ostman, R., and Shanahan, J. (2008). Public Opinion toward Muslim Americans: Civil Liberties and the Role of Religiosity, Ideology, and Media Use. In A. Sinno's (ed.) *Muslims in Western Politics*. (pp. 161-199). Bloomington: Indiana University Press

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2011, researchers⁴ at the Ohio State University (OSU) School of Communication commissioned the Survey Research Institute at Cornell University and the University of New Hampshire Survey Center to jointly conduct a national telephone poll of Americans about their perceptions and attitudes about Muslim Americans, national security, and Muslim American civil liberties. The survey was part of a larger research project on intergroup relations funded by the OSU School of Communication and the OSU Mershon Center for International Security Studies. Data collection began April 7, 2011 and ended six weeks later on May 24, 2011. A total of 841 telephone interviews were conducted via random-digit dialing with the sample representative of the continental United States.⁵

Bin Laden was killed by United States Special Forces about three weeks into the project, offering researchers the opportunity to study the influence of major national security event and accompanying media coverage on public opinion about Muslim Americans. The first 500 interviews were conducted prior to Bin Laden's death on May 1st, while the remaining 341 interviews were conducted after he was killed. Statistical analyses of the survey data demonstrates perceptions and policy preferences shifted in response to the Bin Laden killing across six topical areas:

- Perceived threat from Muslim Americans
- Perceptions of Muslim Americans
- Restrictions on Muslim American civil liberties
- Resentment toward Muslim Americans
- Perceived cultural differences and unwillingness to interact with Muslim Americans
- Attention to terrorism news and fear of terrorist attack

⁴ Dr. Erik Nisbet and Dr. Michelle Ortiz, both assistant professors at the OSU School of Communication

⁵ See methodological appendix for more details on survey methodology and data collection

Key Findings:⁶

- **Americans found Muslim Americans more threatening after Bin Laden's death, especially among political liberals and moderates.**
 - After Bin Laden's death, more Americans agreed that Muslims living in the United States "increased the likelihood of terrorist attack" (27 vs. 34%) and "make America a more dangerous place to live" (17% vs. 25%).
 - At the same time, fewer respondents agreed that Muslims living in the United States are "are supportive of the United States" (62% vs. 52%) after the killing of Bin Laden.
 - These shifts were all among liberals and moderates. The percentage of liberal respondents who agreed that Muslims in the U.S. "increased the likelihood of terrorist attack" and "make America a more dangerous place to live" shifting from 22% to 33% and from 8% to 24%, respectively, after the killing.
 - Opinions among political moderates also shifted, with 19% agreeing that Muslims in the U.S. "increase the likelihood of terrorist attack" prior to the killing of Bin Laden compared to 35% after the killing. Likewise, prior to the killing, 1 in 10 (10%) moderates agreed that Muslims "make America a more dangerous place to live" compared to 29% after Bin Laden's death.
 - In contrast, the percentage of conservative respondents who agreed that Muslims in the U.S. "increased the likelihood of terrorist attack" and "make America a more dangerous place to live" did not significantly change after the killing, 38% pre vs. 36% post, and 30% pre vs. 26% post, respectively.
 - Nearly 3 out of 4 liberals (74%) and 2 out of 3 (63%) moderates agreed that Muslims in the United States "are supportive of the U.S." before Bin Laden was killed. After Bin Laden's death, these percentages dropped to 3 in 5 (60%) liberals and half (49%) of moderates. The percentage of conservatives who felt the same, in comparison, did not significantly change after Bin Laden's death (52% pre vs. 48% post).

- **Positive perceptions of Muslim Americans significantly declined in the wake of Bin Laden's killing**
 - Nearly half of respondents described Muslim Americans as "trustworthy" (49%) and "peaceful" (48%) prior to the killing of Bin Laden. Post Bin Laden killing these percentages dropped significantly to one-third (33%) of respondents feeling the same.

⁶ All percentages reported here are estimated population parameters generated by a binomial logistic regression model with reported differences statistically significant unless otherwise noted. See methodological appendix for more information.

- After Bin Laden's killing, 1 in 4 (25%) of respondents described Muslim Americans as "moderate" and about one-third described Muslim Americans as "safe" (31%) or "tolerant" (33%). In comparison, prior to the killing, about 2 in 5 respondents believed the same for each of these attributes (39% "moderate"; 40% "safe"; and 45% "tolerant").
- **After Bin Laden's death, Americans are less likely to oppose restrictions on Muslim American civil liberties**
 - After Bin Laden's death, the percentage of Americans who agree "profiling individuals as potential terrorists based solely on being Muslim is wrong" dropped from 71% to 63%.
 - Disagreement with "Muslims in the United States should register their whereabouts with the U.S. government" and "law enforcement agencies should closely monitor all Islamic mosques for terrorism" also dropped from 64% to 52% and 50% to 41% of respondents, respectively, after Bin Laden was killed.
 - Opposition to a nationwide ban on mosque construction in the United States fell to 57% from 65% after Bin Laden's death
- **Resentment against Muslim Americans increased after the killing of Bin Laden**
 - The percentage of Americans who agreed that "Muslims are mostly responsible for creating the religious tension that exists in the United States today" increased from about 1 in 5 respondents (21%) to 1 in 3 (33%) after Bin Laden's death.
 - Prior to Bin Laden's death, about 1 in 4 (24%) respondents agreed "Over the past few years the government and the media have shown more respect to Muslims than they deserve." After his death, this percentage increased to nearly 1 in 3 respondents (31%).
- **Americans perceive greater cultural differences with Muslims in the United States and are more unwilling to personally interact with Muslims after Bin Laden's death**
 - Prior to the Bin Laden killing, about half (50%) of Americans agreed that Muslims in the United States "conform to the rules and traditions of American society" and "contribute greatly to American society and culture" (52%). After his death, the number of respondents who felt the same dropped 10 percentage points to 40% and 42%, respectively.
 - The percentage of Americans who disagreed with the statements that Muslims in the U.S. "undermine American culture" and "have beliefs and values that are not compatible with the beliefs and values of most Americans" dropped from 56% to 46% and 42% to 33%, respectively, after Bin Laden's death.
 - In the aftermath of Bin Laden's killing, the percentage of Americans who were unwilling to have a neighbor who is Muslim significantly shifted from 10% to 15%, the percentage

unwilling to have a Muslim visit their home rose from 12% to 17%, and the percentage who were unwilling to have a Muslim as a close friend rose from 9% to 20%.

- **The number of Americans who are highly attentive to news about terrorism, and who believe a terrorist attack in the United States is imminent significantly increased after the killing of Bin Laden**
 - Prior to the Bin Laden killing, an estimated 2 in 5 (43%) respondents reported a high level of attention to terrorism news, after the Bin Laden killing this percentage increased to nearly 3 in 5 (57%) of respondents. This is a 30% increase in attention.
 - Approximately 1 in 6 respondents (16%) believed a terrorist attack in the United States in the next few months was likely prior to Bin Laden killing. This percentage increased by 250% to 2 in 5 (40%) respondents post Bin Laden killing.

METHODOLOGICAL APPENDIX

Survey Data Collection & Analysis:

The Cornell University Survey Research Institute (SRI) and University of New Hampshire Survey Center (UNHSC) were contracted to administer the telephone survey. The Marketing Systems Group provided a random digit dial (RDD) sample of the continental United States. Data collection began on April 9, 2011 at SRI and UNHSC began data collection on April 7, 2011. A total of 604 interviews were completed at SRI and 237 by UNHC by the project's close on May 24, 2011. Of the 841 completed interviews, 18% were from cell phone only households. The American Association of Public Opinion Research (APOR) calculated survey response rate (category 3) was 17% for the entire project.

Table 1. Weighted Respondent Demographics

Demographic	% of Respondents
Male/Female	49/51
Attained 4yr college degree or more	25
Self-identified white race	72
Under/Over 55 years of age	67/33
Self-identified Christian Evangelical	40
Political Ideology	
Liberal	33
Moderate	27
Conservative	41

Statistical Analysis and detail results

The analyses reported here focus on differences in reported attitudes or perceptions between respondents who completed the survey prior to Osama Bin Laden's death on May 1, 2011 (N=500) and those who completed the survey after Bin Laden's death (N=341). Survey results obtain prior to Bin Laden's death of have a +/- 4.4% margin of error at a 95% confidence level and results post Bin Laden's death have a +/- 5.3% margin of error at a 95% confidence level.

However, in order to test whether attitudinal differences between the two sets of respondents were statistically significant and a result of Bin Laden's death, rather than due to variations in sample characteristics between the two sets of respondents, we conducted a series of binomial logistic regressions to statistically evaluate whether attitudes/perceptions significantly changed as a result of Bin Laden's death. All binomial regressions employed statistical controls for key demographics including age, gender, race, education, political ideology, self-identified Evangelical Christian, and factual knowledge about Islam. This means that any differences

between survey respondents polled prior and after Bin Laden's death are not the result of any differences on these personal attributes. All results reported in the executive summary and below are the estimated population percentages taking into account aforementioned statistical controls.

Table 2. Perceived threat from Muslim Americans

Muslims living in the United States:	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
Increase the likelihood of terrorist attack ¹	27	34
Make America a more dangerous place to live ¹	17	25
Are supportive of the United States ¹	62	52

1. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" agree with the statement as read

Table 3. Perceived threat from Muslim Americans by political ideology

Muslims living in the United States:	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)			After Bin Laden Death (% agree)		
	Lib	Mod	Con	Lib	Mod	Con
Increase the likelihood of terrorist attack ¹	22	19	38	33	35	36
Make America a more dangerous place to live ¹	8	10	30	24	29	26
Are supportive of the United States ¹	74	63	52	60	49	48

1. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" agree with the statement as read

Table 4. Perceptions of Muslims

Muslims are:	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
Trustworthy ¹	49	33
Peaceful ¹	48	33
Moderate ¹	39	25
Safe ¹	40	31
Tolerant ¹	45	33

1. Respondents who reported the term "somewhat" or "very" applied to Muslims

Table 5. Restrictions on Muslim American Civil Liberties

Statement	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
Profiling individuals as potential terrorists based solely on being Muslim is wrong ¹	71	63
	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% disagree/oppose)	After Bin Laden Death (% disagree/oppose)
Muslims in the United States should register their whereabouts with the U.S. government ²	64	52
Law enforcement agencies should closely monitor all Islamic mosques for terrorism ²	50	41
A national ban on any new mosques being built in the United States ³	65	57

1. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" agree with the statement as read

2. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" disagree with the statement as read

3. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" oppose statement as read

Table 6. Resentment of Muslims

Statement	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
Muslims are mostly responsible for creating the religious tension that exists in the United States today ¹	21	33
Over the past few years the government and the media have shown more respect to Muslims than they deserve ¹	24	31

1. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" agree with the statement as read

Table 7. Perceived cultural differences with Muslim Americans

Muslims living in the United States:	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
Conform to the rules and traditions of American Society ¹	50	40
Contribute greatly to American society and culture ¹	52	42
	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% disagree)	After Bin Laden Death (% disagree)

Undermine American culture ²	56	46
Have beliefs and values that are NOT compatible with the beliefs and values of most Americans ²	42	33

1. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" agree with the statement as read

2. Respondents who reported they "somewhat" or "strongly" disagree with the statement as read

Table 8. Unwillingness to interact with Muslims

Type of Interaction	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% unwilling)	After Bin Laden Death (% unwilling)
Have a Muslim person as a neighbor ¹	10	15
Have a Muslim person visit your home ¹	12	17
Have a Muslim as a close personal friend ¹	9	20

1. Respondents who reported a "1" or "2" on five point scale, with "1" being "very unwilling" and "5" being "very willing"

Table 9. Attention to terrorism news/believe terrorist attack likely

Perception	Prior to Bin Laden Death (% agree)	After Bin Laden Death (% agree)
High attention to news about terrorism ¹	43	57
Believe terrorist attack likely ¹	16	40

1. Respondents who reported a "4" or "5" on five point scale.

Survey Question Text

A. Perceived threat from Muslim Americans

Q:RTHRT

"Now I am going to read a few statements about Muslims living in the United States. For each statement I read, please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each statement. Using the same scale.

Q:RTHRTA

"Muslims living in the United States...

Increase the likelihood of terrorist attack"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | STRONGLY AGREE |
| 2 | SOMEWHAT AGREE |
| 3 | NEITHER |
| 4 | SOMEWHAT DISAGREE |
| 5 | STRONGLY DISAGREE |
| 98 | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| 99 | NA/REFUSED |

Q:RTHRTB

"Muslims living in the United States...

Make America a more dangerous place to live"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- | | |
|----|---------------------|
| 1 | STRONGLY AGREE |
| 2 | SOMEWHAT AGREE |
| 3 | NEITHER |
| 4 | SOMEWHAT DISAGREE |
| 5 | STRONGLY DISAGREE |
| 98 | DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE |
| 99 | NA/REFUSED |

Q:RTHRTC

"Muslims living in the United States...

Are supportive of the United States"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

B. Perceptions of Muslim Americans

Q:STEREO

"Now we are going to ask you some questions about Muslims specifically. Please tell us how much you associate each of the following sets of characteristics with Muslims."

Q:STEREOA

"In your opinion are Muslims very TRUSTWORTHY, somewhat TRUSTWORTHY, neither TRUSTWORTHY nor UNTRUSTWORTHY, somewhat UNTRUSTWORTHY, or very UNTRUSTWORTHY?"

- 1 VERY TRUSTWORTHY
- 2 SOMEWHAT TRUSTWORTHY
- 3 NEITHER TRUSTWORTHY NOR UNTRUSTWORTHY
- 4 SOMEWHAT UNTRUSTWORTHY
- 5 VERY UNTRUSTWORTHY
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STEREOB

"In your opinion are Muslims very PEACEFUL, somewhat PEACEFUL, neither PEACEFUL nor VIOLENT, somewhat VIOLENT, or very VIOLENT?"

- 1 VERY PEACEFUL
- 2 SOMEWHAT PEACEFUL
- 3 NEITHER PEACEFUL NOR VIOLENT
- 4 SOMEWHAT VIOLENT
- 5 VERY VIOLENT
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STEREOC

"In your opinion are Muslims very MODERATE, somewhat MODERATE, neither MODERATE nor EXTREME, somewhat EXTREME, or very EXTREME?"

- 1 VERY MODERATE
- 2 SOMEWHAT MODERATE
- 3 NEITHER MODERATE NOR EXTREME
- 4 SOMEWHAT EXTREME
- 5 VERY EXTREME
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

C. Restrictions on Muslim American Civil Liberties

Q:MOSBAN

"Some people have proposed a national ban on any new mosques being built in the United States. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose banning the construction of any new mosques in the United States?"

- 1 STRONGLY SUPPORT
- 2 SOMEWHAT SUPPORT
- 3 NEITHER SUPPORT OR OPPOSE
- 4 SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
- 5 STRONGLY OPPOSE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:MCIVIL

"Now we would like ask you a few questions about Muslims and policies aimed at fighting terrorism. Please listen to each statement closely and tell us how much you agree or disagree with each statement. Using the same scale.

PRESS '1' TO CONTINUE.

Q:MCIVILB

"Muslims in the United States should register their whereabouts with the U.S. government"

IF NEEDED:Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:MCIVILC

"Profiling individuals as potential terrorists based solely on being Muslim is wrong"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:MCIVILD

"Law enforcement agencies should closely monitor all Islamic mosques for terrorism."

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STEREOD

"In your opinion are Muslims very SAFE, somewhat SAFE, neither SAFE nor DANGEROUS, somewhat DANGEROUS, or very DANGEROUS?"

- 1 VERY SAFE
- 2 SOMEWHAT SAFE
- 3 NEITHER SAFE NOR DANGEROUS
- 4 SOMEWHAT DANGEROUS
- 5 VERY DANGEROUS
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STEREOE

"In your opinion are Muslims very TOLERANT, somewhat TOLERANT, neither TOLERANT nor FANATICAL, somewhat FANATICAL, or very FANATICAL?"

- 1 VERY TOLERANT
- 2 SOMEWHAT TOLERANT
- 3 NEITHER TOLERANT NOR FANATICAL
- 4 SOMEWHAT FANATICAL
- 5 VERY FANATICAL
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

D. Resentment toward Muslim Americans

Q:RACISM

"Now I want to read you some statements people sometimes say about Muslims. For each statement I read, please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each statement? Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree?"

Q:RACISMA

"Muslims are mostly responsible for creating the religious tension that exists in the United States today."

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:RACISMB

"Over the past few years the government and the media have shown more respect to Muslims than they deserve"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

E. Cultural differences and willingness to interact with Muslim Americans

Q:STHRT

"Here are some additional statements about Muslims living in the United States. Again, for each statement I read, please tell me how much you agree or disagree with each statement. Using the same scale.

Q:STHRTA

"Muslims living in the United States...

Conform to the rules and traditions of American society"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STHRTB

"Muslims living in the United States...

Undermine American culture"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STHRTC

"Muslims living in the United States...

"Have beliefs and values that are NOT compatible with the beliefs and values of most Americans"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:STHRTE

"Muslims living in the United States...

Contribute greatly to American society and culture"

IF NEEDED: Do you ... strongly agree ... somewhat agree ... neither agree nor disagree ..., somewhat disagree ... or ... strongly disagree ?"

- 1 STRONGLY AGREE
- 2 SOMEWHAT AGREE
- 3 NEITHER
- 4 SOMEWHAT DISAGREE
- 5 STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:ITGRP

"If you were given the opportunity, how willing are you to be in each of the following situations.. It is important that you answer each as truthfully as possible. Remember that your first responses are usually the most accurate. Let's use a scale where "1" means very unwilling, "5" means very willing" and "3" means neither willing nor unwilling".

Q:ITGRPB

"Have a Muslim person as a neighbor"

READ IF NECESSARY: "Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "very unwilling" and 5 means "very willing" and 3 means "neither willing nor unwilling."

- 1 VERY UNWILLING
- 2
- 3 NEITHER WILLING NOR UNWILLING
- 4
- 5 VERY WILLING
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:ITGRPC

"Have a Muslim person visit your home"

READ IF NECESSARY: "Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "very unwilling" and 5 means "very willing" and 3 means "neither willing nor unwilling."

- 1 VERY UNWILLING
- 2
- 3 NEITHER WILLING NOR UNWILLING
- 4
- 5 VERY WILLING
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:ITGRPD

"Have a Muslim as a close personal friend"

READ IF NECESSARY: "Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "very unwilling" and 5 means "very willing" and 3 means "neither willing nor unwilling."

- 1 VERY UNWILLING
- 2
- 3 NEITHER WILLING NOR UNWILLING
- 4
- 5 VERY WILLING
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

F. Attention to terrorism news and fear of terrorist attack

Q:ATTENT

"When you are watching, reading, or listening to different news channels, shows, or websites, generally speaking, how much attention do you pay to news and opinions about the following topics? Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "no attention at all" and 5 means a "great deal of attention."

"News about terrorism ..."

READ IF NECESSARY: "Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "No attention at all" and 5 means "A great deal of attention."

- 1 NO ATTENTION AT ALL
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED

Q:USATT

"Now for a different topic. In your opinion, how likely do you think it is that there will be a terrorist attack in the United States within the next few months? Let's use a scale where "1" means not likely at all and "5" means "extremely likely".

READ IF NECESSARY: "Let's use a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means "Not likely at all" and 5 means "extremely likely."

- 1 NOT LIKELY AT ALL
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 EXTREMELY LIKELY
- 98 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE
- 99 NA/REFUSED