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*ABC News/Washington Post Afghanistan*  
*Attack Poll #1, October 2001*

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*ABC News/The Washington Post*



ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST AFGHANISTAN ATTACK POLL #1,  
OCTOBER 2001

(ICPSR 3298)

Principal Investigators

ABC News/The Washington Post

First ICPSR Version  
October 2001

Inter-university Consortium for  
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#### DATA DISCLAIMER

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## DATA COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

ABC News/The Washington Post

ABC NEWS/WASHINGTON POST AFGHANISTAN ATTACK POLL #1, OCTOBER 2001 (ICPSR 3298)

SUMMARY: This special topic poll, conducted October 7, 2001, was undertaken to assess respondents' reactions to and feelings about the United States military action in Afghanistan. Respondents were asked whether they approved of the way President Bush was handling the response to terrorist attacks in the United States, and whether they supported United States air strikes on Afghanistan and sending a significant number of United States ground troops into that country. Those polled also gave their opinions on whether capturing or killing Osama bin Laden and his associates was a higher priority than overthrowing the Taliban government and how concerned they were about the possibility of further terrorist attacks in America. Respondents also tried to predict whether it would be a quick military action or a long war, and whether the military action in Afghanistan would make further terrorist attacks against the United States more or less likely. Opinions were elicited on whether the United States should have done more to find a diplomatic solution before attacking Afghanistan, whether the United States should mount a broader war against terrorism, whether the United States government was doing enough in its anti-terrorism campaign to win the support of Muslim people, and whether respondents supported the humanitarian aid for Afghans. Background information on respondents includes gender and political party affiliation.

NOTE: (1) The data are provided as an SPSS portable file. (2) This collection has not been processed by ICPSR staff. ICPSR is distributing the data and documentation for this collection in essentially the same form in which they were received. When appropriate, documentation has been converted to Portable Document Format (PDF), data files have been converted to non-platform-specific formats, and variables have been recoded to ensure respondents' anonymity. (3) The codebook is provided by ICPSR as a Portable Document Format (PDF) file. The PDF file format was developed by Adobe Systems Incorporated and can be accessed using PDF reader software, such as the Adobe Acrobat Reader. Information on how to obtain a copy of the Acrobat Reader is provided on the ICPSR Web site.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 1 data file + machine-readable documentation (PDF)

EXTENT OF PROCESSING: REFORM.DOC

Cases: 506

Variables: 31

United States Census Region Codes

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1	NEW ENGLAND	Connecticut	New Hampshire
		Maine	Rhode Island
		Massachusetts	Vermont
2	MIDDLE ATLANTIC	New Jersey	
		New York	
		Pennsylvania	
3	EAST NORTH CENTRAL	Illinois	Ohio
		Indiana	Wisconsin
		Michigan	
4	WEST NORTH CENTRAL	Iowa	Nebraska
		Kansas	North Dakota
		Minnesota	South Dakota
		Missouri	
5	SOUTH ATLANTIC	Delaware	North Carolina
		District of Columbia	South Carolina
		Florida	Virginia
		Georgia	West Virginia
		Maryland	
6	EAST SOUTH CENTRAL	Alabama	Mississippi
		Kentucky	Tennessee
7	WEST SOUTH CENTRAL	Arkansas	Oklahoma
		Louisiana	Texas
8	MOUNTAIN	Arizona	Nevada
		Colorado	New Mexico
		Idaho	Utah
		Montana	Wyoming
9	PACIFIC	Alaska	Oregon
		California	Washington
		Hawaii	



TNS INTERSEARCH  
Horsham, PA

#DL-18498  
October 7, 2001  
FINAL

(867--AFGHANISTAN ATTACK POLL #1)

INTRODUCTION: Hello, I'm calling on behalf of ABC News. We're conducting a public opinion survey about America's response to the recent terrorist attacks.

**IF RELUCTANT RESPONDENT USE ANY OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:**

We're not selling anything; we're just interested in your opinions.

It's for a news poll that will be reported on ABC.

We need opinions of average Americans and it will only take a few minutes of your time.

IF RESPONDENT ASKS "WHO ARE YOU," "WHERE ARE YOU CALLING FROM": My name's \_\_\_\_\_ and I work for TNS Intersearch, which conducts these polls for ABC.

Our research experts have randomly selected the person in your household that I should speak to, so that all types of people will be represented in our survey. Thinking of all the (male/female) adults age 18 or over who live in your household and are at home right now, may I please speak to the one who last had a birthday? *(IF NO MALE/FEMALE IN THE HOUSEHOLD, ASK: Then may I please speak to the (female/male) who last had a birthday?)*

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling the U.S. response to last month's terrorist attacks in New York and Washington?

- 1 Approve
- 2 Disapprove
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

2. Today the United States led air strikes on targets in Afghanistan, including military sites of the Taliban government and training camps of the Al Qaeda (al KY-da) terrorist group led by Osama bin Laden.

Do you support or oppose these U.S.-led air strikes on Afghanistan?

**INTERVIEWER NOTE: Get answer and then ask:**

Do you support/oppose this STRONGLY or SOMEWHAT?

- 1 Support STRONGLY
- 2 Support SOMEWHAT
- 3 Oppose STRONGLY
- 4 Oppose SOMEWHAT
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

3. Do you think this will be a quick military action, or do you think it's the start of a long war?

- 1 Quick military action
- 2 Start of a long war
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

4. Do you think the United States should have done more to find a diplomatic solution before attacking Afghanistan, or did it do enough?

- 1 Should have done more
- 2 Did enough
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

**\*\*\*ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES\*\*\***

5. What do you think should be the main goal of the United States in this military action - (capturing or killing Osama bin Laden and his associates), (overthrowing Afghanistan's Taliban government), or both equally?

- 1 Capturing/killing Osama bin Laden and his associates
- 2 Overthrowing Afghanistan's Taliban government
- 3 Both equally
- 4 (VOL) Neither
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

**\*\*\*PROGRAMMER NOTE: ROTATE THE ORDER OF Q6 AND Q7\*\*\***

6. Would you support or oppose sending a significant number of U.S. ground troops into Afghanistan to capture or kill Osama bin Laden and his associates?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 DK/ No opinion
- 9 NA/ Refused

7. Would you support or oppose sending a significant number of U.S. ground troops into Afghanistan to overthrow the Taliban government?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 DK/ No opinion
- 9 NA/ Refused

8. How concerned are you about the possibility there will be more major terrorist attacks in the United States - is that something that worries you a great deal, somewhat, not too much, or not at all?

- 1 Great deal
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not too much
- 4 Not at all
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

14. Do you think today's air strikes in Afghanistan make further terrorist attacks against the United States more likely, less likely, or won't they make much difference?

- 1 More likely
- 2 Less likely
- 3 Won't make much difference
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

**\*\*\*ROTATE ITEMS IN PARENTHESES\*\*\***

9. What do you think creates a greater risk of further terrorism in this country - (the United States taking military action) against terrorists, or (the United States NOT taking military action)?

- 1 US taking military action
- 2 US NOT taking military action
- 3 (VOL) No difference
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

10. Do you think the United States should limit its military action only to those groups or nations responsible for last month's terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, or should the United States mount a broader war against terrorist groups and the nations that support them?

- 1 Limit action to groups/nations responsible
- 2 Mount a broader war against terrorist groups/nations
- 3 (VOL) US should take no action
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

11. In it's anti-terrorism campaign, do you think the United States IS or IS NOT doing enough to win the support of Muslim people around the world?

- 1 Yes, IS doing enough
- 2 No, IS NOT doing enough
- 8 DK/No Opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

12. Do you support or oppose the United States providing an aid package worth 320 million dollars to deliver food and medicine to the people of Afghanistan?

- 1 Support
- 2 Oppose
- 8 DK/ No opinion
- 9 NA/ Refused

**\*\*\*IF SUPPORT AT Q12\*\*\***

13. Do you support the United States giving humanitarian aid to the Afghan people while the Taliban government is still in power, or would it be better to wait until the Taliban is no longer in control?

- 1 Support aid while Taliban still in control
- 2 Better to wait until Taliban no longer in control
- 8 DK/ No opinion
- 9 NA/ Refused

Now just a few more questions to help classify your answers:

**\*\*AUTHOR NOTE: ROTATE ORDER OF CODES 1 and 2\*\***

901. Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as: (READ LIST)

- 1 A Democrat
- 2 A Republican
- 3 An Independent
- 4 Or what?
- (DO NOT READ BELOW)
- 8 DK/No opinion
- 9 NA/Refused

**\*\*\*ASK ONE OUT OF EVERY FIVE RESPONDENTS\*\*\***

920.1 May a reporter call you to talk about some of the things we've been discussing?

1 Yes

2 No (SKIP TO Q.921)

8 DK/No opinion (SKIP TO Q.921)

9 NA/Refused (SKIP TO Q.921)

920.2 May I please have your first name, so the reporter will know who to ask for:

921. RECORD GENDER

1 Male

2 Female

**\*\*\*END\*\*\***