

Marriage Opinion Poll

Fieldwork : October 4th-6th 2002

Absolutes/col percents

Table 1

Q.1 Are you married, in a relationship, or single at present?**Base: All respondents**

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region				Relationship Status				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid- lands	North Eng- land	Wales & South West	Scot- land	Marr- ied	In a rel- ation- ship	Single
Unweighted base	1000	472	528	88	161	216	199	143	193	212	278	241	269	267	258	248	139	88	510	158	316
Weighted base	1000	490	510	111	192	192	172	131	202	238	277	208	277	266	258	250	137	89	478	170	336
Married	478	234	244	4	76	112	109	84	94	134	133	103	108	118	129	120	67	44	478	-	-
	48%	48%	48%	4%	39%	58%	63%	64%	47%	56%	48%	50%	39%	44%	50%	48%	49%	49%	100%	-	-
In a relationship	170	89	81	47	61	32	19	5	5	42	55	43	29	49	38	44	27	13	-	170	-
	17%	18%	16%	42%	32%	17%	11%	4%	3%	18%	20%	21%	10%	18%	15%	18%	19%	14%	-	100%	-
Single	336	163	173	60	53	47	39	40	97	59	89	60	128	96	85	81	42	32	-	-	336
	34%	33%	34%	54%	28%	24%	23%	31%	48%	25%	32%	29%	46%	36%	33%	32%	31%	36%	-	-	100%
Refused	15	4	12	-	1	1	5	2	6	3	-	1	12	3	6	5	2	-	-	-	-
	2%	1%	2%	-	1%	1%	3%	2%	3%	1%	-	1%	4%	1%	2%	2%	1%	-	-	-	-

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Table 2

Q.2 Do you think that marriage is essential to ensure a lasting relationship?**Base: All respondents**

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region					Relationship Status			
	Total	Male	Fe- male	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid- lands	North Eng- land	Wales & South West	Scot- land	Marr- ied	In a rel- ation- ship	Single
Unweighted base	1000	472	528	88	161	216	199	143	193	212	278	241	269	267	258	248	139	88	510	158	316
Weighted base	1000	490	510	111	192	192	172	131	202	238	277	208	277	266	258	250	137	89	478	170	336
Yes	442 44%	226 46%	216 42%	26 23%	63 33%	68 35%	68 40%	84 64%	133 66%	95 40%	100 36%	91 44%	156 56%	111 42%	99 38%	121 48%	71 51%	40 45%	262 55%	28 16%	144 43%
No	516 52%	240 49%	276 54%	82 74%	119 62%	119 62%	98 57%	39 30%	59 29%	138 58%	164 59%	110 53%	103 37%	145 55%	145 56%	113 45%	67 49%	47 52%	202 42%	139 81%	170 50%
Don't know	42 4%	24 5%	18 4%	3 3%	10 5%	5 3%	5 3%	9 7%	9 4%	5 2%	13 5%	7 3%	17 6%	9 4%	14 5%	16 6%	- -	2 3%	14 3%	4 2%	23 7%

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Table 3

Q.3 Do you think that men should stay at home and bring up children if their wife/partner earns more money?

Base: All respondents

	Sex		Age						Social Class				Region				Relationship Status				
	Total	Male	Fe- male	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid- lands	North Eng- land	Wales & South West	Scot- land	Marr- ied	In a rel- ation- ship	Single
Unweighted base	1000	472	528	88	161	216	199	143	193	212	278	241	269	267	258	248	139	88	510	158	316
Weighted base	1000	490	510	111	192	192	172	131	202	238	277	208	277	266	258	250	137	89	478	170	336
Yes	638 64%	326 67%	312 61%	64 58%	133 69%	136 71%	111 65%	86 65%	108 53%	151 64%	166 60%	147 71%	174 63%	168 63%	175 68%	138 55%	95 69%	62 70%	304 64%	111 65%	214 64%
No	232 23%	103 21%	129 25%	31 28%	36 18%	38 20%	35 20%	29 22%	64 32%	55 23%	66 24%	42 20%	68 25%	68 26%	53 21%	64 25%	30 22%	17 19%	117 24%	36 21%	74 22%
Don't know	130 13%	61 13%	69 13%	16 14%	24 12%	18 9%	26 15%	16 13%	30 15%	31 13%	46 16%	18 9%	35 13%	29 11%	30 12%	48 19%	13 9%	10 11%	57 12%	23 14%	48 14%

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Table 4

Q.4 When people decide to live together and not get married do you agree or disagree that...?**Base: All respondents**

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Relationship Status		
	Total	Male	Fe- male	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid- lands	North Eng- land	Wales & South West	Scot- land	Marr- ied	In a rel- ation- ship	Single
Unweighted base	1000	472	528	88	161	216	199	143	193	212	278	241	269	267	258	248	139	88	510	158	316
Weighted base	1000	490	510	111	192	192	172	131	202	238	277	208	277	266	258	250	137	89	478	170	336
<u>They should enjoy the same rights to their partners pension in the event of death as married people do</u>																					
Agree	791	374	417	95	154	160	137	99	146	190	223	171	207	210	203	196	109	73	385	140	257
	79%	76%	82%	86%	80%	83%	80%	75%	72%	80%	80%	82%	75%	79%	79%	79%	79%	82%	80%	82%	77%
Disagree	159	92	67	14	25	23	27	26	44	36	44	30	49	46	42	37	24	10	72	24	60
	16%	19%	13%	13%	13%	12%	16%	19%	22%	15%	16%	14%	18%	17%	16%	15%	17%	12%	15%	14%	18%
Don't know	50	24	26	2	13	9	8	7	12	12	11	7	21	10	13	16	5	6	22	6	19
	5%	5%	5%	1%	7%	5%	5%	5%	6%	5%	4%	3%	7%	4%	5%	6%	4%	6%	5%	4%	6%
<u>That fathers should have the same rights and responsibilities towards children as married fathers do</u>																					
Agree	931	455	476	106	182	182	158	114	189	225	264	191	251	250	236	233	131	81	448	162	307
	93%	93%	93%	95%	94%	95%	92%	87%	94%	95%	95%	92%	91%	94%	92%	93%	95%	91%	94%	95%	91%
Disagree	39	19	20	4	4	8	9	7	6	7	8	12	12	12	12	5	5	4	19	5	13
	4%	4%	4%	4%	2%	4%	5%	5%	3%	3%	3%	6%	4%	5%	5%	2%	4%	5%	4%	3%	4%
Don't know	30	16	14	2	6	2	4	10	7	6	6	5	13	4	9	12	1	3	11	3	16
	3%	3%	3%	1%	3%	1%	2%	8%	3%	3%	2%	2%	5%	2%	4%	5%	1%	4%	2%	2%	5%
<u>If there is no will that they should have the same rights to inherit their partners wealth if they die</u>																					
Agree	791	391	400	91	157	156	139	94	154	191	213	171	215	207	199	202	107	77	380	143	257
	79%	80%	78%	82%	82%	81%	81%	71%	76%	80%	77%	82%	78%	78%	77%	81%	78%	87%	79%	84%	77%
Disagree	123	62	61	17	17	20	22	18	29	24	43	25	30	37	39	23	19	6	54	18	47
	12%	13%	12%	16%	9%	10%	13%	14%	14%	10%	16%	12%	11%	14%	15%	9%	14%	7%	11%	11%	14%
Don't know	86	37	49	2	18	16	11	19	19	22	21	12	31	23	21	25	11	6	44	9	32
	9%	8%	10%	2%	10%	8%	6%	15%	9%	9%	8%	6%	11%	9%	8%	10%	8%	7%	9%	5%	9%

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Table 5

Q.5 In which of the following ways do you think family life will change by the year 2010 and beyond?

Base: All respondents

	Sex			Age						Social Class				Region					Relationship Status		
	Total	Male	Fe- male	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	AB	C1	C2	DE	South East	Mid- lands	North Eng- land	Wales & South West	Scot- land	Marr- ied	In a rel- ation- ship	Single
Unweighted base	1000	472	528	88	161	216	199	143	193	212	278	241	269	267	258	248	139	88	510	158	316
Weighted base	1000	490	510	111	192	192	172	131	202	238	277	208	277	266	258	250	137	89	478	170	336
There will be more single parent families	828 83%	407 83%	421 83%	89 80%	152 79%	157 82%	150 87%	112 86%	169 84%	199 84%	233 84%	175 84%	222 80%	223 84%	219 85%	197 79%	117 85%	73 82%	404 84%	139 82%	270 80%
More gay couples will adopt or find a surrogate to have their children than happens today	637 64%	296 60%	341 67%	87 78%	157 81%	128 66%	104 60%	78 59%	85 42%	166 70%	193 70%	133 64%	145 52%	187 70%	159 62%	153 61%	82 60%	56 63%	307 64%	124 73%	198 59%
More couples will decide not to have children	619 62%	288 59%	332 65%	70 63%	106 55%	105 54%	121 70%	88 67%	129 64%	156 66%	166 60%	125 60%	172 62%	149 56%	167 65%	157 63%	92 67%	54 61%	300 63%	102 60%	208 62%
Fewer and fewer people will get married	598 60%	327 67%	272 53%	84 75%	113 59%	126 65%	96 56%	76 58%	104 52%	137 58%	170 61%	132 64%	159 57%	156 59%	159 62%	146 58%	85 62%	52 59%	272 57%	117 69%	202 60%
Marriage will become fashionable again	408 41%	171 35%	237 47%	32 29%	84 44%	67 35%	65 38%	67 51%	93 46%	92 39%	117 42%	81 39%	118 43%	116 44%	103 40%	101 40%	54 39%	35 39%	203 42%	63 37%	136 40%
More women will have children by sperm donor rather than by a relationship than happens today	381 38%	197 40%	184 36%	54 49%	82 43%	69 36%	51 30%	54 41%	70 35%	91 38%	118 43%	81 39%	91 33%	104 39%	98 38%	90 36%	56 41%	32 35%	190 40%	67 39%	116 35%
None of these	5 1%	3 1%	2 *	- -	1 1%	1 *	1 1%	1 1%	1 1%	- -	- -	1 *	4 1%	- -	5 2%	- -	- -	1 1%	2 *	2 1%	1 *
Don't know	16 2%	9 2%	6 1%	2 2%	4 2%	3 2%	3 2%	3 2%	2 1%	5 2%	3 1%	1 *	7 2%	2 1%	3 1%	6 3%	2 2%	2 2%	5 1%	1 1%	9 3%