

PRRI/RNS May 2011 Survey
May 5-8, 2011
N=1,007

Q.1 Do you think capturing and killing Osama Bin Laden will help or hurt America's image in the world?

52	Help
20	Hurt
8	Neither (VOL.)
13	Help in some places, hurt in others (VOL.)
<u>7</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.2 As I read a couple statements please tell me whether you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree or completely disagree with each one. The first statement is **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. Next... **[INSERT NEXT]**.

a. God has granted America a special role in human history

30	Completely agree
21	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
22	Completely disagree
1	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>7</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Osama Bin Laden distorted the teachings of Islam to suit his own purposes

60	Completely agree
22	Mostly agree
4	Mostly disagree
3	Completely disagree
<u>11</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

c. God had a hand in helping the U.S. find and kill Osama Bin Laden

20	Completely agree
19	Mostly agree
18	Mostly disagree
32	Completely disagree
2	Do not believe in God (VOL.)
<u>9</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

d. Using torture against suspected terrorists in order to gain important information can never be justified

25	Completely agree
24	Mostly agree
20	Mostly disagree
23	Completely disagree
<u>8</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

e. It is immoral to celebrate the death of another human being, no matter how bad that person was

34	Completely agree
28	Mostly agree
15	Mostly disagree
17	Completely disagree
<u>6</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

f. I personally believe Osama Bin Laden will be eternally punished for his sins in hell

48	Completely agree
17	Mostly agree
9	Mostly disagree
12	Completely disagree
2	Do not believe in Hell (VOL.)
<u>14</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

Now, a different question...

Q.3 Scripture says, “Do not rejoice when your enemies fall.” Do you believe this passage applies to how Americans should react to the death of Osama Bin Laden, or not?

60	Yes
29	No
2	Other
<u>9</u>	Don’t know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.4 Thinking about how the U.S. was able to locate Osama Bin Laden, do you think the use of harsh interrogation techniques such as water boarding of suspected terrorists provided critical information, some important but not critical information, little important information or no important information?

27	Critical information
17	Important, but not critical information
21	Little important information
16	No important information
*	Wrong information (VOL.)
1	Other (VOL.)
<u>18</u>	Don’t know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.5 Now I’m going to read you a pair of statements. Please tell me whether the FIRST statement or the SECOND statement comes closer to your own views, even if neither is exactly right. The first statement is **[INSERT; ROTATE STATEMENTS]** Next...**[INSERT]**

39	1—In these dangerous times, it is justifiable for our government to use methods against our enemies that we would not want used on American soldiers.
53	2—Even in these dangerous times, our government should follow unchanging principles like the Golden Rule. We should NEVER use methods against our enemies that we would not want used on American soldiers
2	Both (VOL.)
3	Neither (VOL.)
<u>4</u>	Don’t know (VOL.)
100	Total

Q.6 Now I'd like to get your views on some issues that are being discussed in the country today. All in all, do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose **[INSERT; RANDOMIZE]**. What about... **[INSERT NEXT]**.

a. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to legally marry

24	Strongly favor
27	Favor
18	Oppose
25	Strongly oppose
<u>6</u>	Don't know (VOL.)
100	Total

b. Allowing gay and lesbian couples to adopt children

<u>May</u> <u>2011</u>		<u>September</u> <u>2010</u>
24	Strongly favor	19
32	Favor	34
15	Oppose	20
21	Strongly oppose	22
<u>7</u>	Don't know (VOL.)	<u>5</u>
100	Total	100

Note: Numbers may not add to 100% due to rounding

Methodology

The survey was designed and conducted by Public Religion Research Institute. Results of the survey were based on RDD telephone interviews conducted between May 5, 2011 and May 8, 2011 by professional interviewers under the direction of Opinion Research Corporation. Interviews were conducted among a random sample of 1,007 adults 18 years of age or older living in private households in the continental United States.

The final sample was weighted to five different parameters—age, sex, geographic region, education and race—to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total adult population.

The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.0 percentage points at the 95% level of confidence. In addition to sampling error, surveys may also be subject to error or bias due to question wording, context and order effects.