

RACIAL ATTITUDES IN AMERICA

TRENDS AND INTERPRETATIONS

2011 UPDATE

WHITE RESPONDENTS

Table 3.3, Supplement

New social distance questions (white respondents).

	1990	1994	1996	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010
Live Where Half of N'bers Black (NORC)										
Strongly favor	2%	---	5%	7%	8%	10%	7%	8%	7%	7%
Favor	8	---	14	12	15	18	16	16	18	17
Neither favor/oppose	42	---	50	47	46	45	55	52	54	56
Oppose	33	---	21	23	19	19	18	16	15	15
Strongly oppose	15	---	11	11	12	9	5	8	6	5
Relative Marry Black Person (NORC)										
Strongly favor	2%	---	6%	7%	11%	14%	11%	11%	11%	14%
Favor	3	---	11	10	12	11	11	13	14	14
Neither favor/oppose	28	---	39	41	40	41	48	46	49	50
Oppose	29	---	19	19	16	17	17	16	14	11
Strongly oppose	38	---	25	22	22	18	13	14	12	11
Difference in Closeness to Whites and Blacks (NORC)										
Closer to blacks	---	---	4%	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	5%	4%
No difference	---	---	42	41	39	43	45	48	50	48
Closer to whites	---	---	54	56	57	52	51	48	45	49

Question Wording and Notes:

Live Where Half of Neighbors Black (NORC): "Now I'm going to ask you about different types of contact with various groups of people. In each situation would you please tell me whether you would be very much in favor of it happening, somewhat in favor of it happening, neither in favor nor opposed to it happening, somewhat opposed or very much opposed to it happening? Living in a neighborhood where half of your neighbors were blacks? (Sample sizes fewer than 1,000 cases occurred in 1996, when there were 737 white respondents.)

1. Strongly favor
2. Favor
3. Neither favor nor oppose
4. Oppose
5. Strongly oppose

Relative Marry Black Person (NORC): (Same introduction as Live Where Half of Neighbors were Blacks) What about having a relative or family member marry a black person? Sample size fewer than 1,000 cases occurred in 1996, when there were 744 white respondents.

1. Strongly favor
2. Favor
3. Neither favor nor oppose
4. Oppose
5. Strongly oppose

Differences in Closeness to Whites and Blacks (NORC): "In general, how close do you feel to Blacks?"

1=Not at all close; 5=neither one nor the other; 9=very close

"And in general, how close do you feel to Whites?"

1=not at all close; 5=neither one nor the other; 9=very close

Results presented are a difference score between closeness to whites and closeness to blacks, collapsed to the categories that are presented.