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2013

### ARIS 2013 National College Student Survey

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# ARIS 2013 National College Student Survey

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Young adult Americans have been identified as the population most responsible for recent changes in the nation's religious identification and patterns of religiosity. In order to better understand this trend the ARIS 2013 College Student Survey focuses on the student component of the millennial generation.

## Part 1

## Economic & Public Policy Findings



## Sample Details

A national on-line survey conducted in April-May 2013 of the worldviews and opinions of 1710 students at 38 four-year private and public colleges and universities in 27 states.

59% of respondents were women and 28% were minorities.

Roughly equal numbers of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Majors - STEM 36%, Social & Behavioral sciences 30%, Arts & Humanities 29%, Undecided 5% .

## Respondents' Colleges by Region

### South

Augusta State University  
Berea College  
Eastern Carolina University  
Guilford College  
Loyola University New Orleans  
University of Alabama  
University of Georgia  
University of North Carolina  
University of North Texas  
University of Tennessee  
Oklahoma State University  
University of Arkansas

### Northeast

Barnard College  
Bridgewater University  
Gettysburg College  
Haverford College  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
Penn State  
Providence College  
Rowan University  
University of Massachusetts  
University of Vermont  
Wesleyan University  
Yeshiva University

### Midwest

Fort Hayes State University  
Iowa State University  
Notre Dame  
Oberlin College  
University of Chicago  
University of Minnesota

### West

Colorado College  
Idaho State University  
Pomona College  
University of Arizona  
University of Montana  
University of Washington  
Utah State University  
Washington State

## Methodology

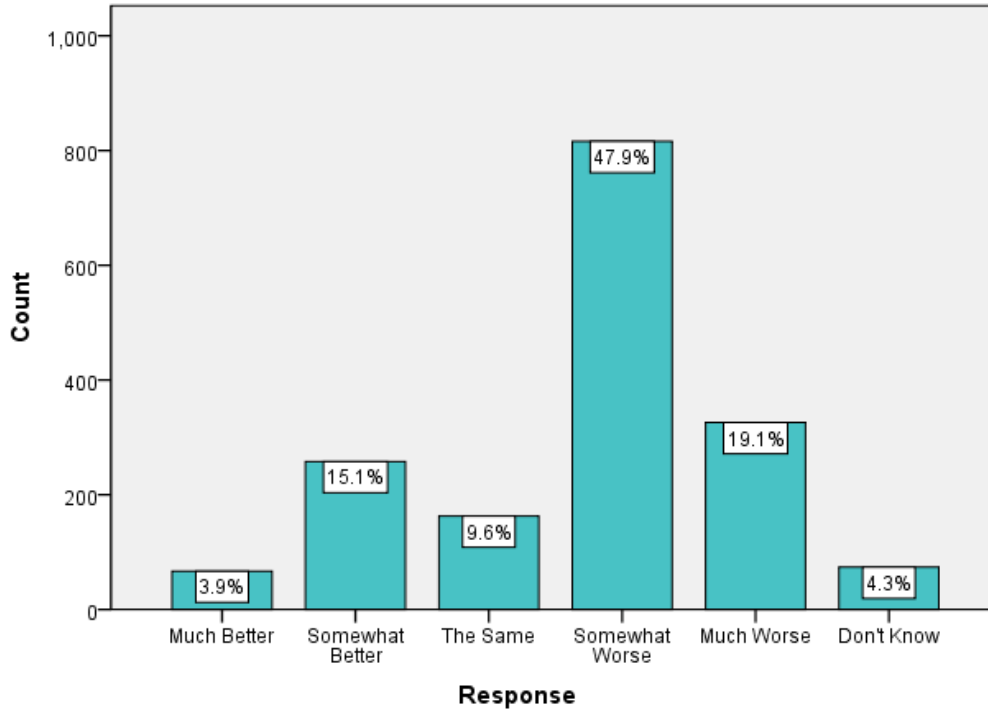
The Worldviews and Opinions of American College Students National Survey questionnaire was emailed to addresses collected from the online directories of 38 colleges and universities in the United States during April-May 2013. The sampling frame was colleges stratified by Census Region and whether the institution was private (including sectarian) or public. Twelve of these institutions were located in the South, twelve were in the Northeast, eight were in the West and six were in the Midwest. Fourteen of these colleges and universities were private while the remaining twenty-four were public. It is important to note that the project could survey only students whose emails were in the public domain, and who did not withhold their contact information from their college directory as permitted by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, a federal law that protects the privacy of student educational records. In addition some state laws and institutional practices limit access to contact information and prevent a larger sample from being created. For example, the California Information Practice Act prohibits information from directories of state institution of universities from being “used, rented, distributed, or sold for commercial purposes,” thereby reducing the number of emails collected from the state. Many institutions also operate limited public access to their directories even when there is no legal requirement to do so. Furthermore, there are myriad colleges and universities whose student directories cannot be found by web searches.

In order to assure diversity the project also specifically searched for the top ten most common surnames for certain minority groups (African Americans, Hispanics, and Asians). A random sample of emails was taken from each university’s list. These random samples were used in four waves of emails sent to students asking for their participation in the survey. Every email address was assigned a unique online link to the survey.

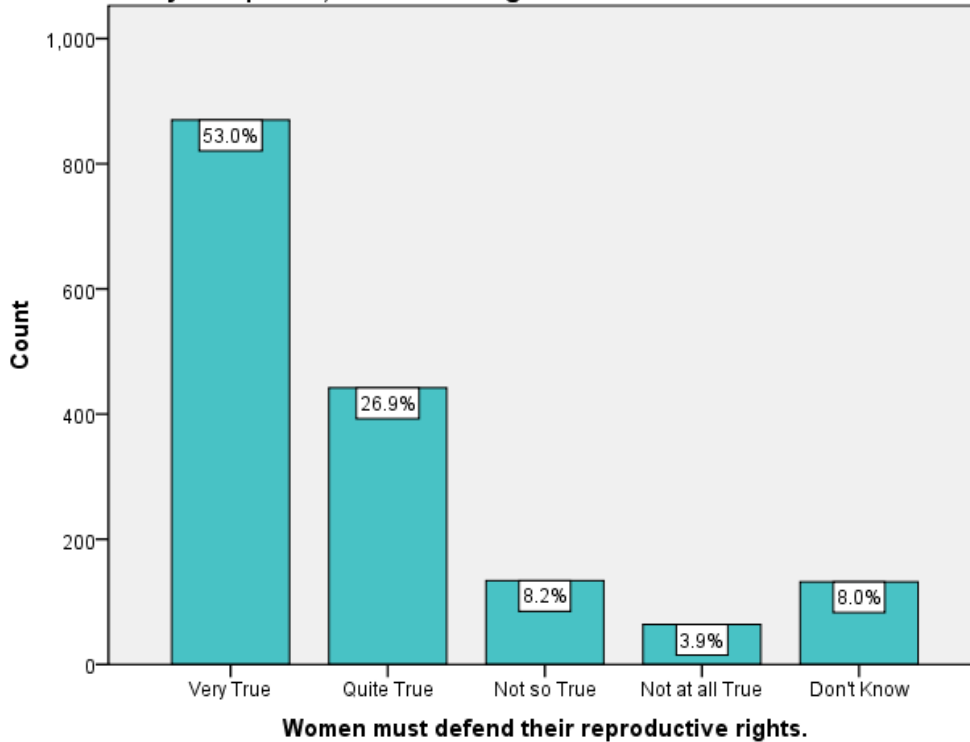
The emails sent to students were all identical and stated that those who completed the survey would be entered into a sweepstake for the opportunity to win one of ten \$50 gift cards. This was done to incentivize responses from recipients. One reminder was sent to each non-respondent. The survey was closed on June 7, 2013 with 1710 respondents.

## Economic & Public Policy Findings

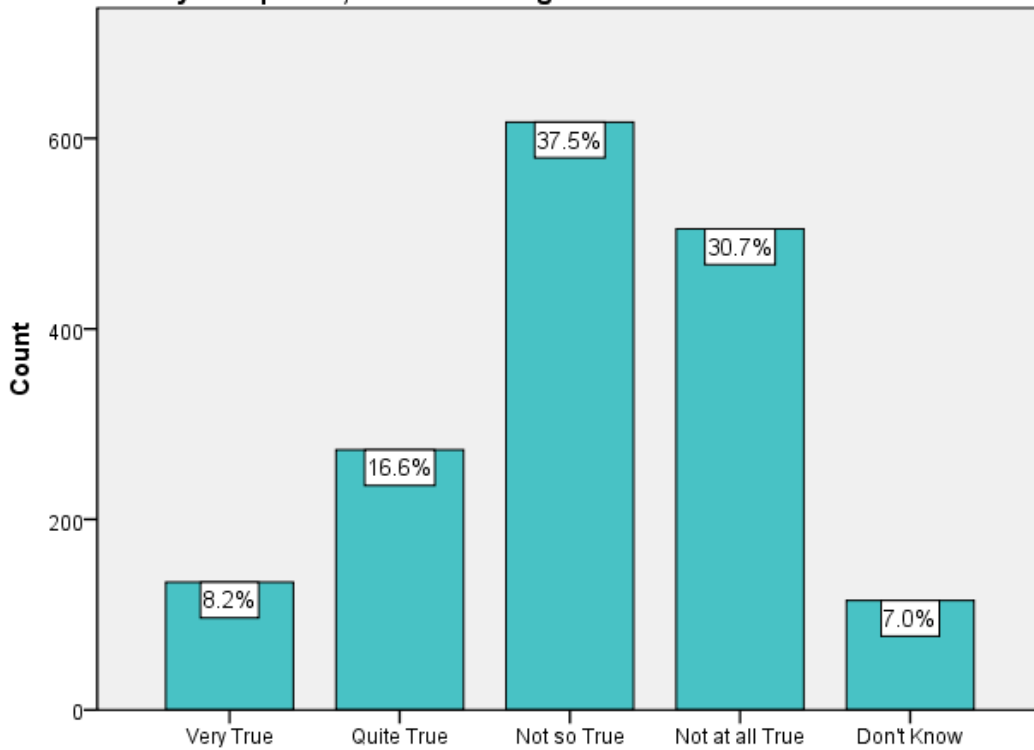
In your opinion, how do young people's (ages 18-29) chances of establishing themselves economically and professionally in the U.S., compare with their parent's generation?



In your opinion, is the following statement true or untrue?

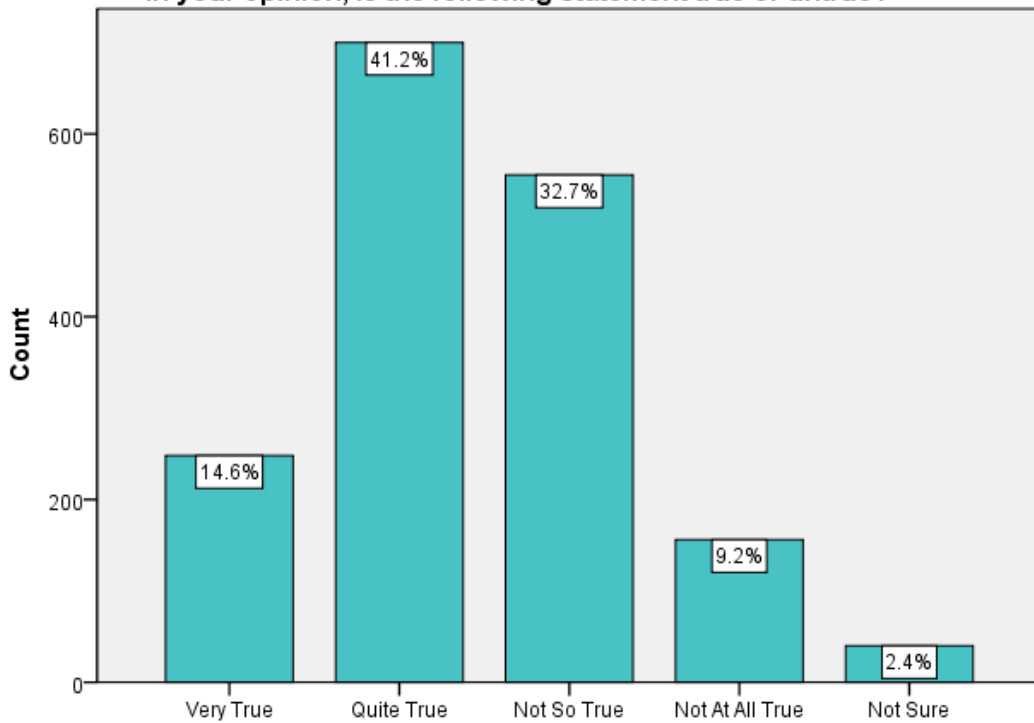


In your opinion, is the following statement true or untrue?

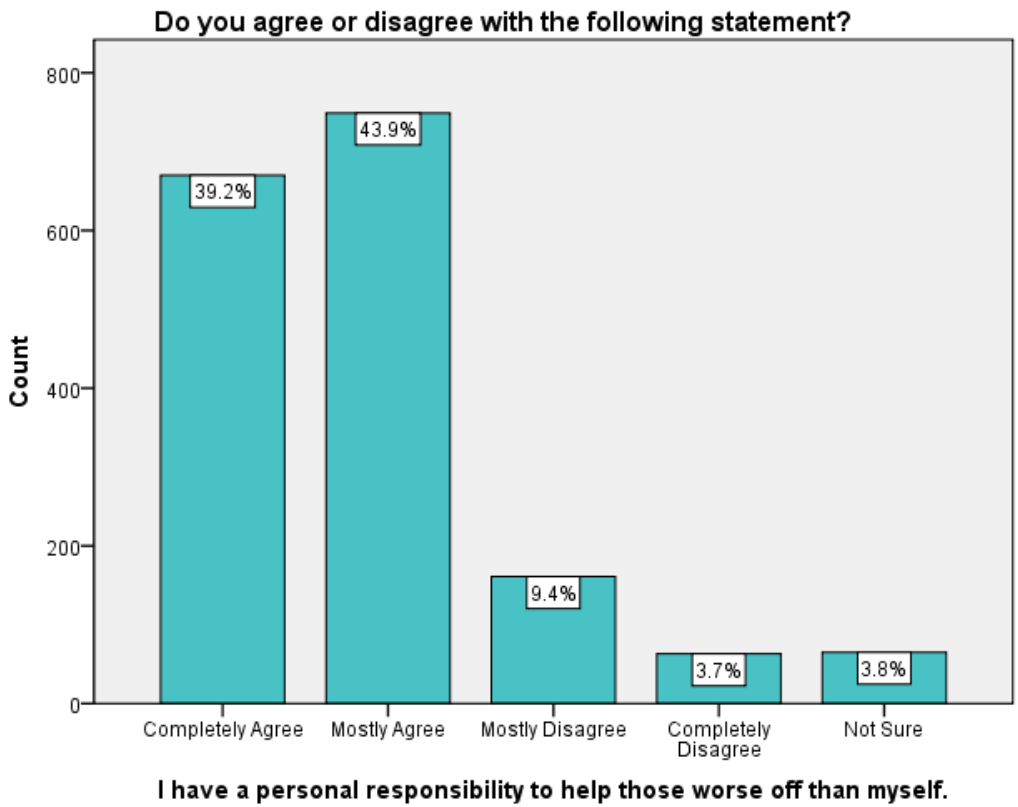
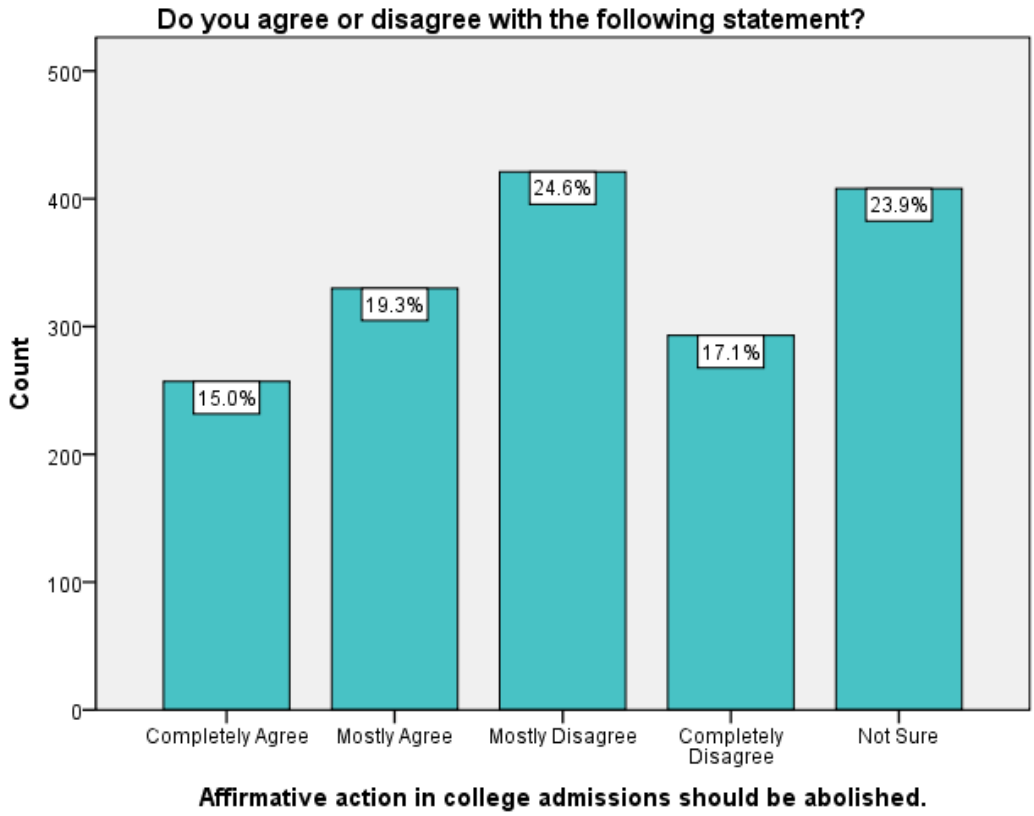


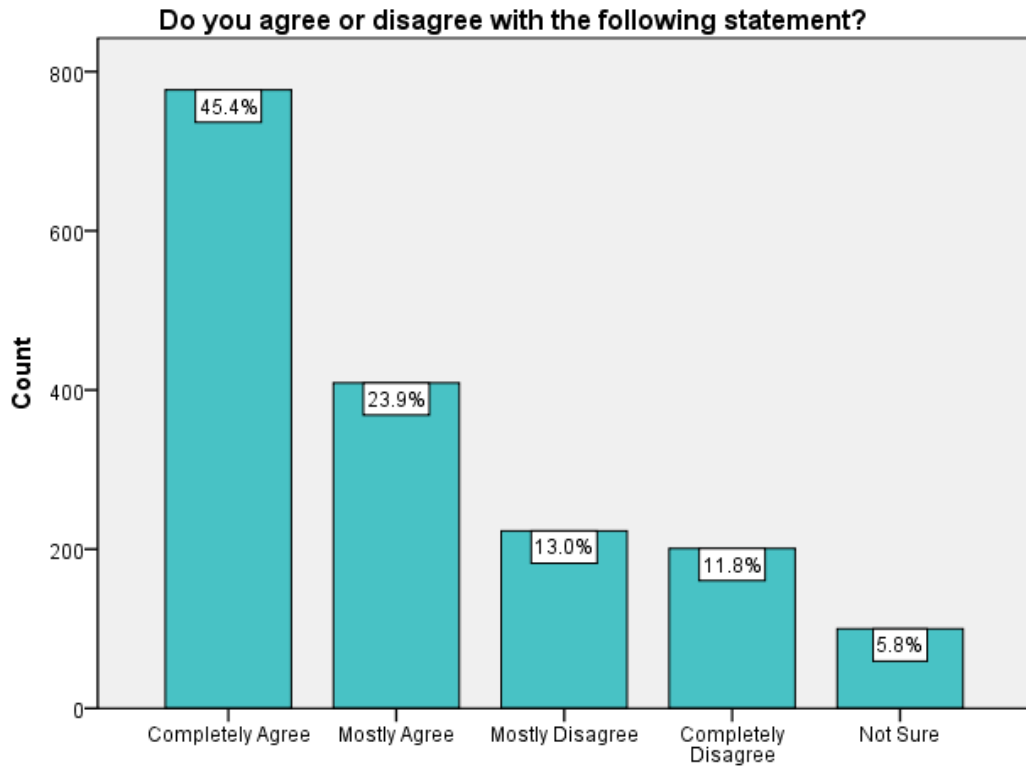
**Immigration threatens American jobs.**

In your opinion, is the following statement true or untrue?

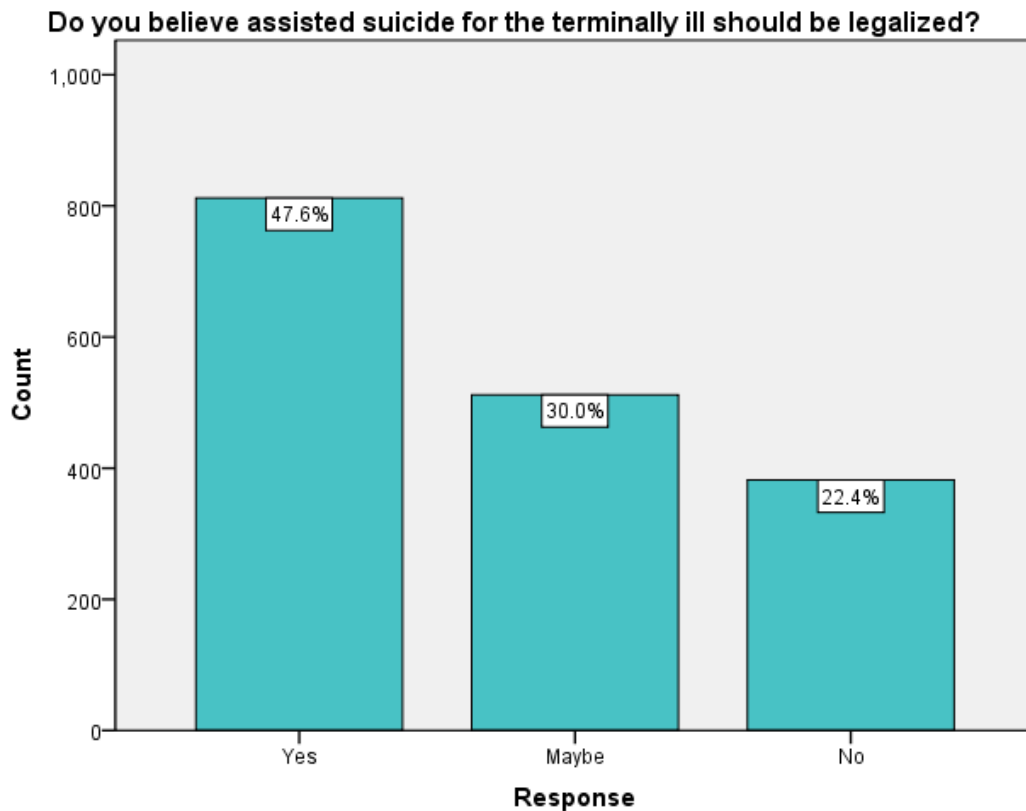


**People with no college degree have little chance of succeeding in life in the United States today.**

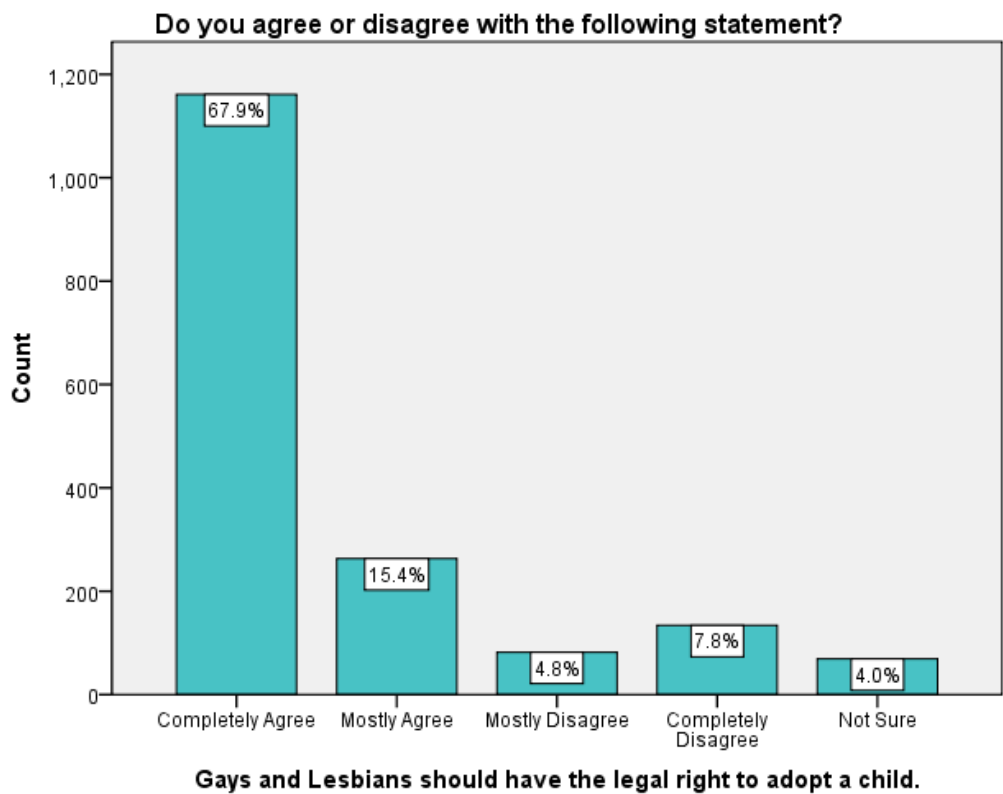
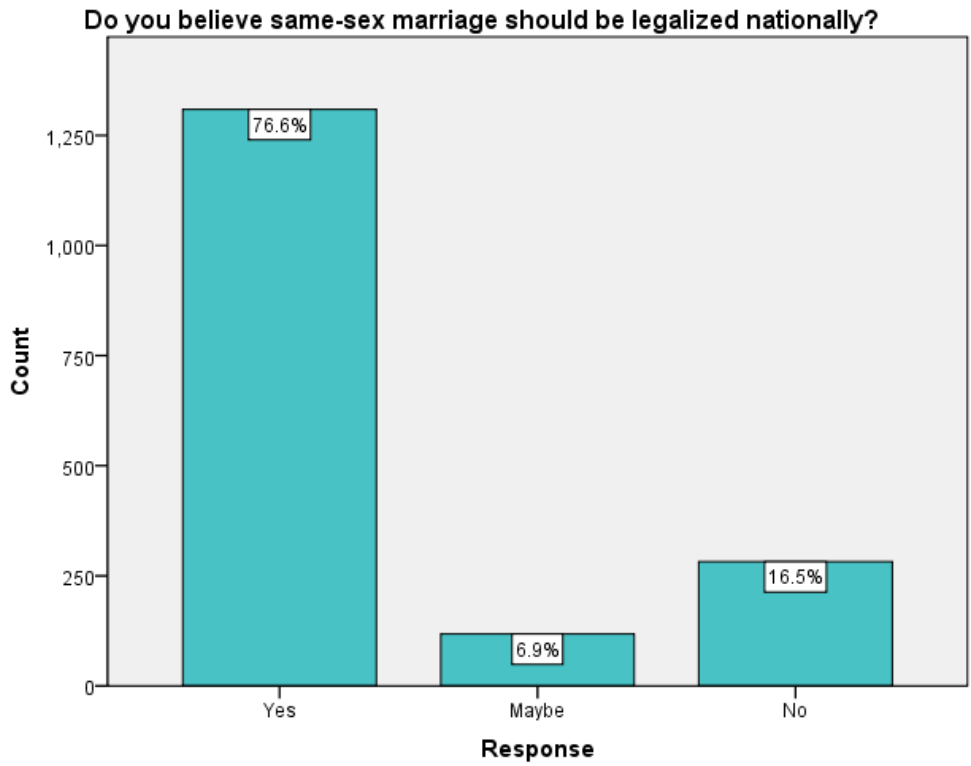


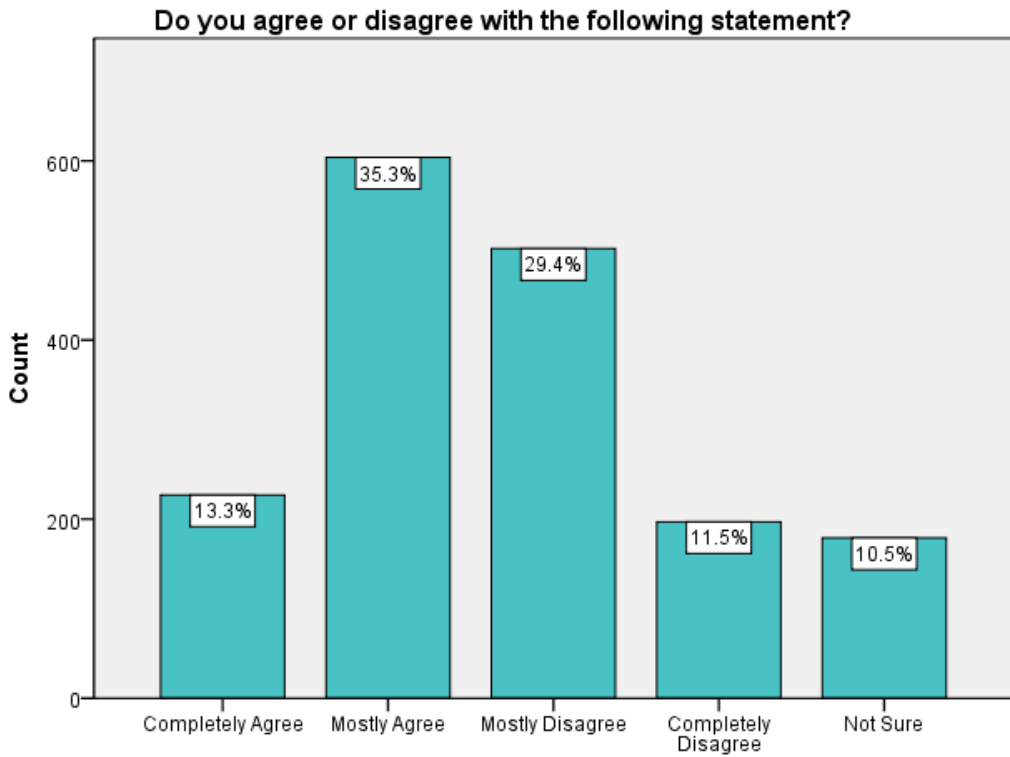


**The federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns.**

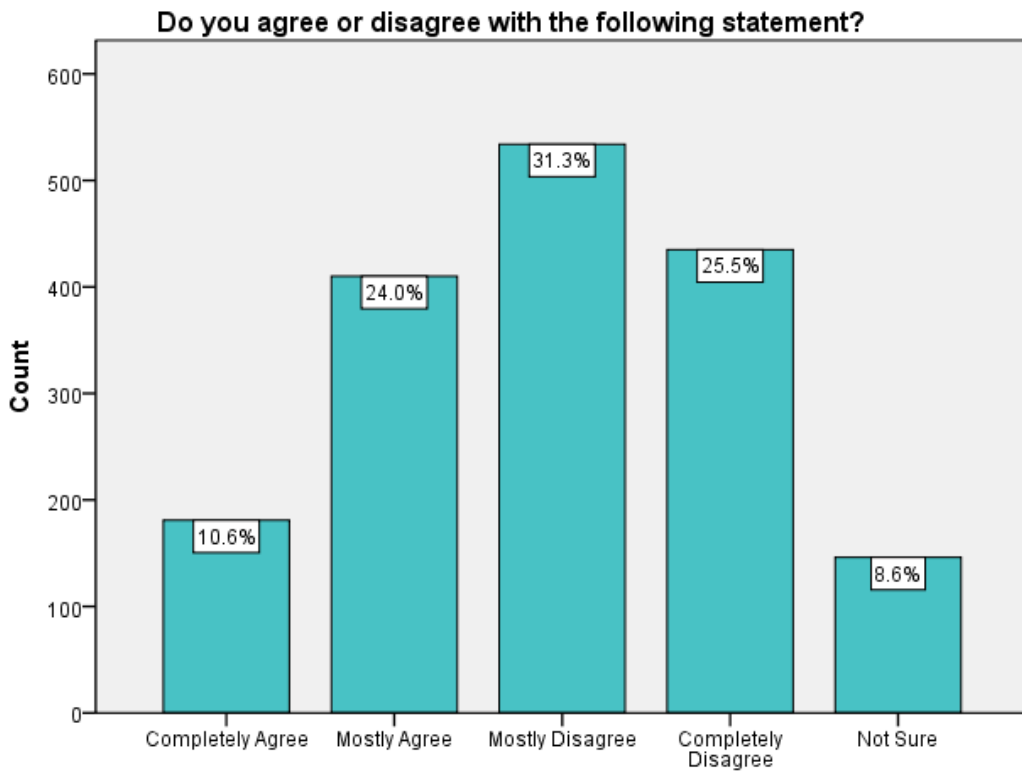






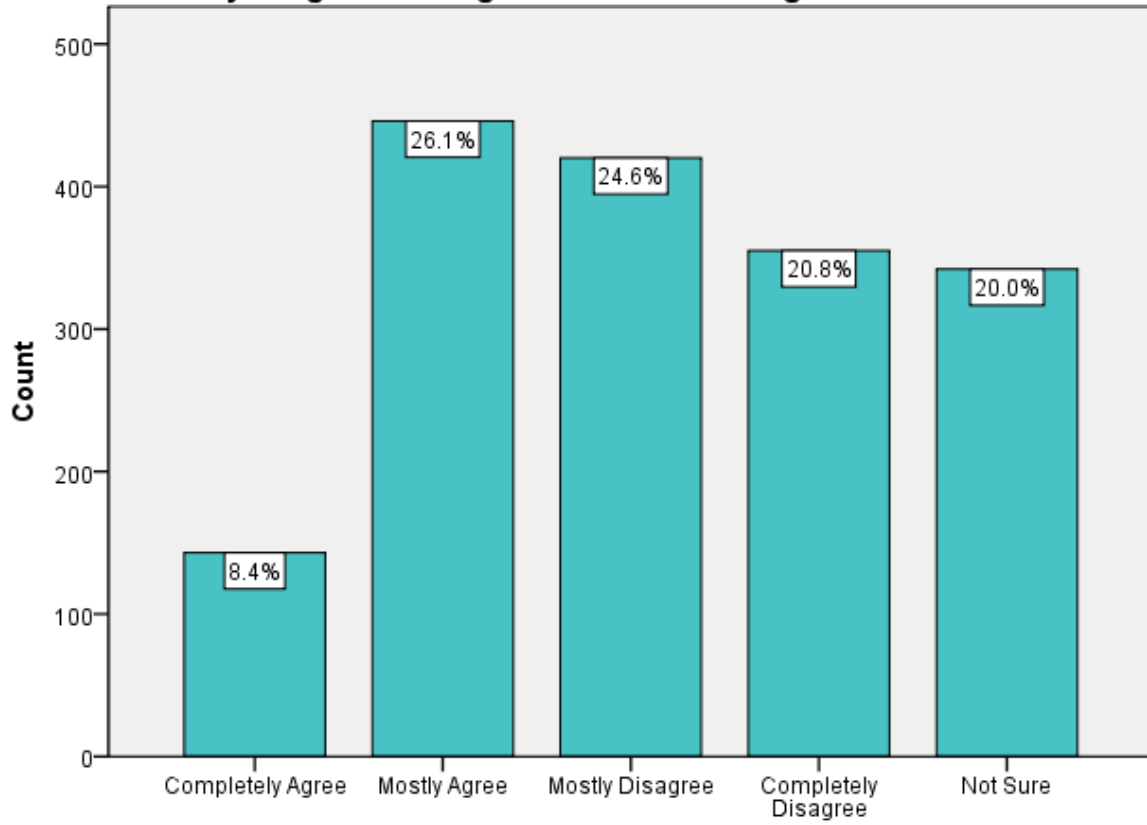


**Looking around the world, religions bring more conflict than peace.**



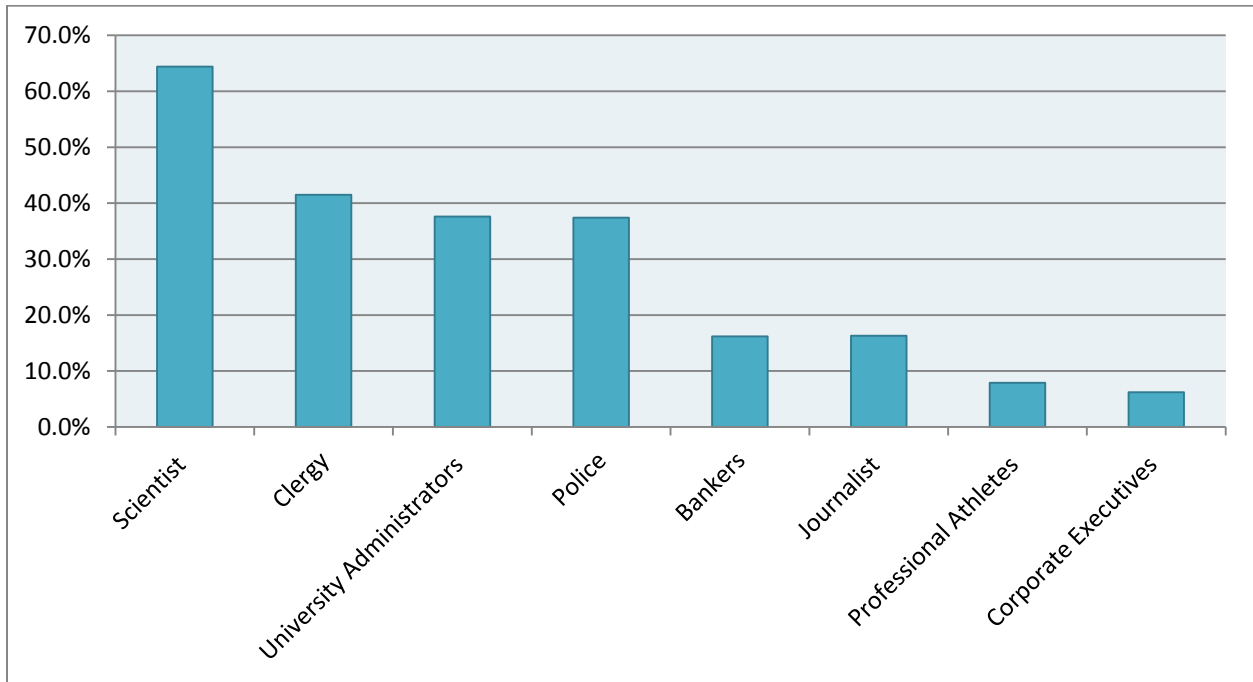
**The right of religious liberty is being threatened in America today.**

**Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?**



**Religious institutions and clergy are entitled to their tax breaks.**

Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields?  
 % Very High & High



Whose opinion do you trust in social and political issues?

