

**California Marriage  
Statewide Survey of 800 Likely General Election Voters  
September 22-24, 2008**

		<i>Do not like</i>	<i>Sept 8-11</i>	<i>May</i>
Gender of respondent	<i>Total</i>	<i>/accept</i>	<i>(n=800)</i>	<i>(n=172)</i>
Men.....	48	51	47	48
Women .....	52	49	53	52

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm calling for California Opinion Surveys. We are conducting a public opinion survey, and I would like to ask you some questions concerning the issues facing our nation and local communities. We are not selling anything, and I will not ask you for a contribution or donation.

May I please speak with the (MALE/FEMALE) 18 years or older in your household who celebrated a birthday most recently? CONFIRM RESPONDENT IS OVER AGE 18.

1. **[TS]** First, are you registered to vote at this address?

Yes.....	100	100	--	100
No .....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	--	0
(Not sure).....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	--	0

2. **[TS]** How likely are you to vote in the November 2008 election for United States President, Congress and other offices -- are you almost certain to vote, will you probably vote, are the chances about 50-50, are you probably not going to vote, or are you definitely not going to vote?

Almost certain.....	94	93	95	95
Probably.....	6	7	5	5
50-50.....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	0	0
Probably not.....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	0	0
Definitely not.....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	0	0
(Don't know).....	<b>TERMINATE</b> ..... 0	0	0	0

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3. If the election for President were held today and the candidates were [ROTATE] \_Republican John McCain and \_Democrat Barack Obama for whom would you vote, or are you undecided?<sup>1</sup>

**[IF CANDIDATE:]** Would you say you support that candidate strongly or not strongly?

**[IF UNDECIDED:]** Well, toward which candidate do you lean? **[REPEAT CANDIDATES NAMES]**

McCain- strong .....	29	32	--	--
McCain– not strong.....	2	1	--	--
Undecided – lean McCain.....	4	3	--	--
<b>McCain .....</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Undecided-no lean/Don't know .....</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>--</b>
<b>Obama.....</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>--</b>
Undecided – lean Obama .....	4	3	--	--
Obama – not strong.....	4	2	--	--
Obama - strong.....	40	38	--	--
(Other) .....	3	2	2	--
(Refused).....	3	2	4	--

*Here is one of the propositions that will be on the ballot this November*

4. Proposition 8 on the November ballot is an Initiative Constitutional Amendment titled, “Eliminates Rights of Same-Sex Couples to Marry. It changes the California Constitution to eliminate the right of same-sex couples to marry. It provides that only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California. The fiscal impact is over next few years, potential revenue loss, mainly sales taxes, totaling in the several tens of millions of dollars, to state and local governments. In the long run, there is likely to be little fiscal impact on state and local governments. If the election were today, would you vote yes or no on Proposition 8?

**[IF YES/NO]** Do you feel that way strongly or not-so-strongly?

**[IF UNDECIDED]** Well, if you had to decide today, would you lean toward voting yes or would you lean toward voting no?

Yes-strongly.....	38	28	37	43
Yes-not so strongly .....	3	5	5	5
Undecided, lean yes .....	2	6	2	2
<b>Yes .....</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Undecided .....</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>No .....</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>
Undecided, lean no.....	3	7	5	2
No-not so strongly.....	5	9	6	6
No-strongly.....	37	22	37	34
(Refused).....	0	1	1	0

<sup>1</sup> In the September 8-11<sup>th</sup> poll, we did not ask strength of support or prompt undecided voters.

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5. [TS] Just to be clear, is your vote to eliminate marriage for gay and lesbian couples in the state of California or NOT to eliminate marriage for gay or lesbian couples in the state of California?<sup>2</sup>

Eliminate gay marriage .....	46	38	--	47
NOT to eliminate marriage for gay/lesbian .....	43	36	--	44
Undecided (don't know, not sure).....	11	26	--	8

6. [TS] Generally speaking, now that marriage for gay and lesbian couples is the law in California, what best describes your opinion? <sup>3</sup> [READ RESPONSES]

It is acceptable to you .....	36	0	36	40
You do not like it, but it is acceptable .....	22	100	28	16
You do not like it, and it is unacceptable .....	38	0	30	40
(Don't know).....	5	0	6	5

7. Have you seen or heard anything about same-sex marriage recently on television or the radio?

**PROBE:** And was that the radio, television, or both?

Yes, radio .....	8	7	--	--
Yes, television.....	25	23	--	--
Yes, both radio and television.....	23	21	--	--
No, neither radio nor television .....	<b>SKIP TO Q9</b> 41	47	--	--
(Don't know).....	<b>SKIP TO Q9</b> 4	3	--	--

**ASK IF Q7=1-3**

8. And did what you saw or heard make you feel more favorable or less favorable about same-sex marriage?

More favorable.....	12	9	--	--
Less favorable .....	23	20	--	--
(No difference).....	60	63	--	--
(Don't know).....	5	8	--	--

**RESUME ASKING ALL**

9. Here is a statement some people have given for voting YES on Proposition 8, that eliminates the right of same-sex couples to marry. They say the Courts should not legislate. They have overstepped their boundaries, and a handful of activist judges are imposing their will and values on the rest of us. These decisions should be made by the people. In fact, just 8 years ago we voted on this, and we overwhelmingly said no to gay marriage in California. Is this a VERY convincing reason to vote YES on Prop 8, a SOMEWHAT convincing reason, a LITTLE convincing, or not convincing AT ALL reason to vote YES on Prop 8.?

Very convincing.....	33	20	--	38
Somewhat convincing.....	12	24	--	17
A little convincing .....	9	25	--	8
Not convincing at all.....	38	21	--	34
(Don't know/refused).....	7	9	--	3
<b>Convincing .....</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Not convincing.....</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>42</b>

<sup>2</sup> In May, the question was asked as "ban" versus "not ban".

<sup>3</sup> In the September 8-11<sup>th</sup> poll, this question wording was slightly different: Generally speaking, now that marriage for gay and lesbian couples is the law in California, which statement best describes your opinion ...It is acceptable to me, I do not like it but I can live with it, or I do not like it and it is unacceptable.

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Finally, I would like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

10. **[TS]** Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an independent, or something else?

**[IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT:]** Do you consider yourself a strong (Republican/Democrat) or a not-so-strong (Republican/Democrat)?

**[IF INDEPENDENT:]** Would you say that you lean more toward the Republicans or more toward the Democrats?

Strong Republican .....	25	23	21	20
Not-so-strong Republican .....	5	6	8	7
Independent - lean Republican .....	5	8	5	4
<b>Republican .....</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Independent .....</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Democratic .....</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>44</b>
Independent - lean Democratic.....	6	7	4	6
Not-so-strong Democrat .....	6	6	9	8
Strong Democrat .....	35	28	32	30
(Don't know/other) .....	3	3	6	5

11. **[TS]** What is your age? I am going to read you some categories. Stop me when we get to your category.

**READ CATEGORIES:**

18-24 years .....	7	7	8	8
25-29 .....	7	10	6	6
30-34 .....	7	7	5	6
35-39 .....	8	10	8	8
40-44 .....	9	11	8	9
45-49 .....	9	7	9	10
50-54 .....	10	9	11	10
55-59 .....	8	10	11	9
60-64 .....	10	10	8	8
65-69.....	6	7	4	6
70-74.....	5	2	5	7
75 and over .....	12	9	12	11
(Refused) .....	2	1	3	3

12. **[TS]** What was the last year of education you completed? **(DO NOT READ ANSWERS)**

1-11 <sup>th</sup> grade.....	3	3	--	4
High school graduate .....	16	16	--	19
Non-college post HS.....	3	1	--	2
Some college .....	28	27	--	28
College graduate .....	30	36	--	31
Post-graduate education.....	18	16	--	14
(Refused) .....	2	2	--	2

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13. [TS] How would you describe your marital status? Are you...

Married.....	60	61	62	58
Unmarried but living with another person as a couple.....	4	7	24	4
Single.....	17	16	1	20
Separated.....	1	1	5	1
Divorced.....	7	8	5	6
Widowed.....	10	7	0	9
(Refused).....	1	0	2	2

14. [TS] Do you have any children under the age of 18 living at home with you?

Yes.....	31	34	31	34
No.....	67	64	67	64
(Don't know/refused).....	2	2	2	2

15. [TS] Just to make sure we have a representative sample, could you please tell me whether you are from a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking background?

[IF "NO", ASK:] What is your race - white, black, Asian, or something else?

White.....	65	63	65	65
Black / African American.....	6	7	5	6
Spanish speaking/Latino/Hispanic (Puerto Rican, Mexican, etc.).....	17	15	16	16
Asian.....	6	8	5	6
Native American.....	1	1	1	1
(Other including mixed race).....	2	3	5	4
(Don't know/refused).....	3	3	3	3

**Region**

LA County.....	26	26	26	25
Orange.....	9	13	9	10
Inland Empire.....	9	7	9	9
San Diego.....	9	11	9	9
Central Coast.....	6	4	6	6
Fresno.....	6	8	6	6
Sacramento.....	11	10	11	11
Bay Area.....	22	17	22	22
North.....	3	4	3	3

**Media Market**

Los Angeles.....	47	48	47	47
San Fransico - Oakland - San Jose.....	21	16	20	21
Sacramento - Stockton - Modesto.....	11	10	11	11
San Diego.....	8	10	8	8
Fresno - Visalia.....	4	6	3	4
Bakersfield.....	2	2	3	2
Santa Barbara - San Mar - San Luis Obispo.....	2	1	2	2
Chico - Redding.....	2	3	2	2
Monterey - Salinas.....	2	1	2	2
Eureka.....	0	1	1	1
Yuma - El Centro.....	0	1	0	0
Reno.....	0	0	0	0
Medford - Klamath Falls.....	0	1	0	0