

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the data below is what is not here. The Roper Center archive contains a great deal of material from 1969 on Vietnam, the civil rights movement (not represented here simply because it is too voluminous to do it justice in so small a space), education and business. There is very little, however, on the moon landing, or on the death on Chappaquiddick Island of both Mary Jo Kopechne and Ted Kennedy's presidential aspirations. And there is nothing at all

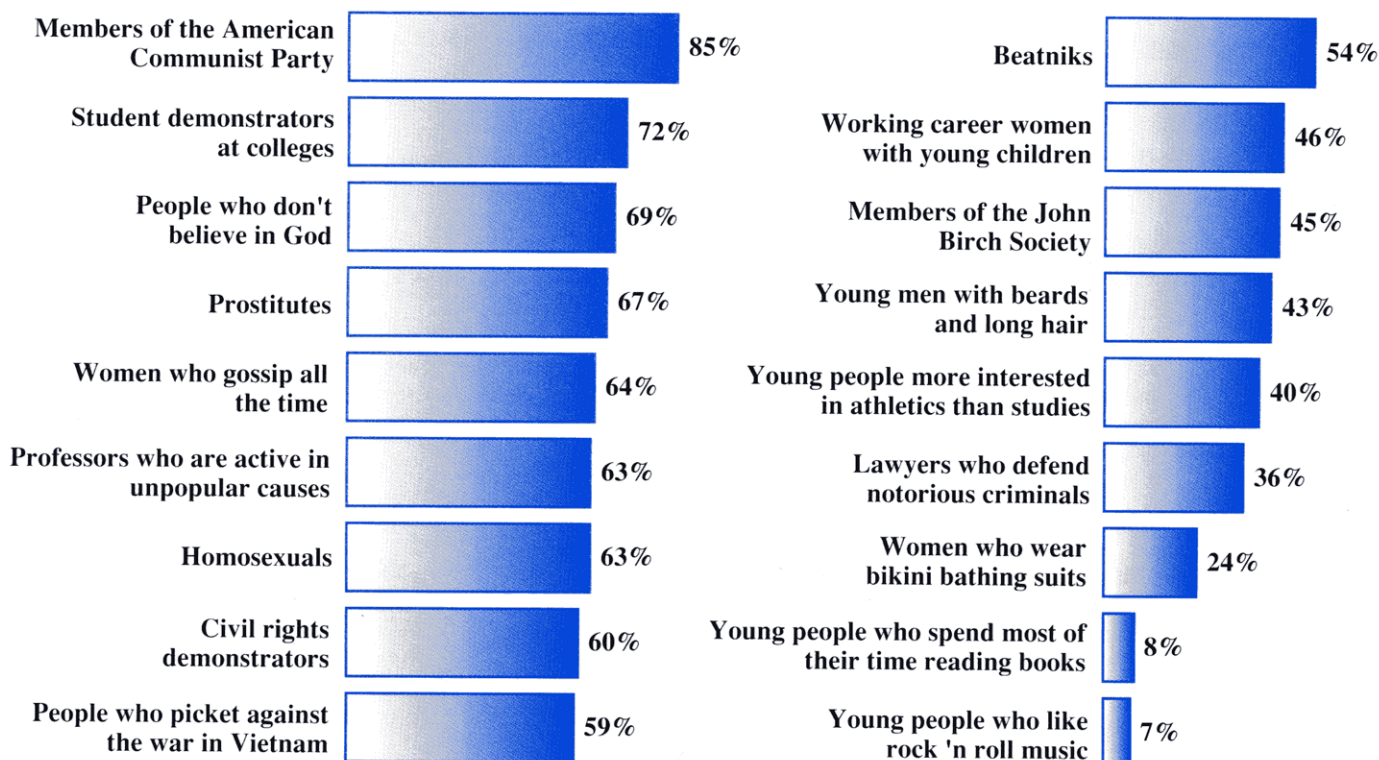
on Woodstock or on the three-day uprising against police by gay patrons of the Stonewall Inn in New York City—now regarded by many as the beginning of the gay rights movement. Maybe, in 1969, some events did not seem as epochal as they do now; and maybe others were so clearly epochal that nobody found it necessary to ask what people thought about them.

—Lisa Ferraro Parmelee

Read, Rock, or Wear a Bikini (But whatever you do, don't join the Party)

Question: America has many different types of people in it. But we would like to know whether you think each of these different types of people is more helpful or more harmful to American life, or don't they help or harm things one way or the other?

Those responding more harmful

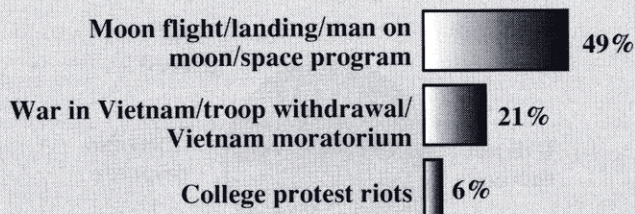


Source: Survey by Louis Harris and Associates, September 1969.

Outstanding Accomplishment

Question: Of all the things that have happened anywhere in the world during 1969, which is the most outstanding?

Top mentions

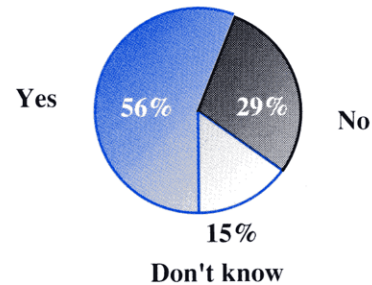


Note: The Mets winning the World Series was mentioned by 1% of the respondents.

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, October 17-22, 1969.

Baby Boom Burden

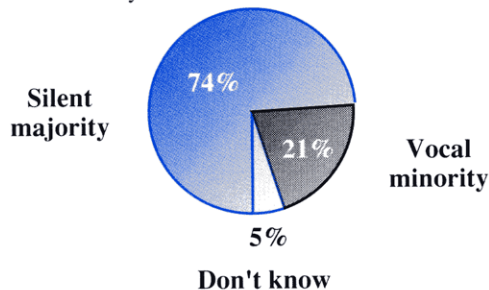
Question: Do you think there is a shortage of classroom space in this community?



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, February 4-20, 1969.

Silent Majority

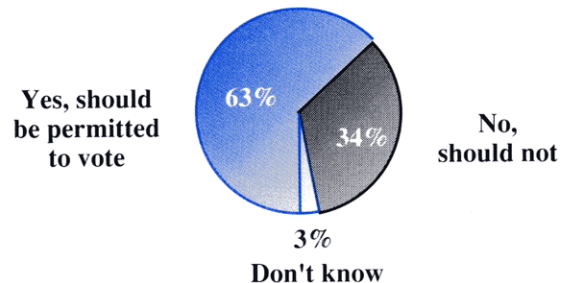
Question: President Richard Nixon says a silent majority of American people support his Vietnam policies, and a vocal minority oppose them. Do you see yourself as closer to the silent majority or the vocal minority?



Source: Survey by CBS News, November 23-25, 1969.

Old Enough to Fight...

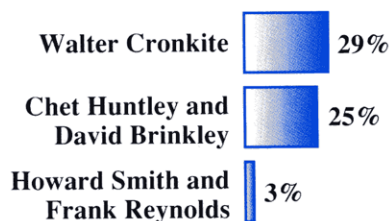
Question: Do you think that persons 18, 19, and 20 years old should be permitted to vote, or not?



Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, October 30-November 4, 1969.

Uncle Walter Tells It Like It Is

Question: Who is your favorite news commentator on television?

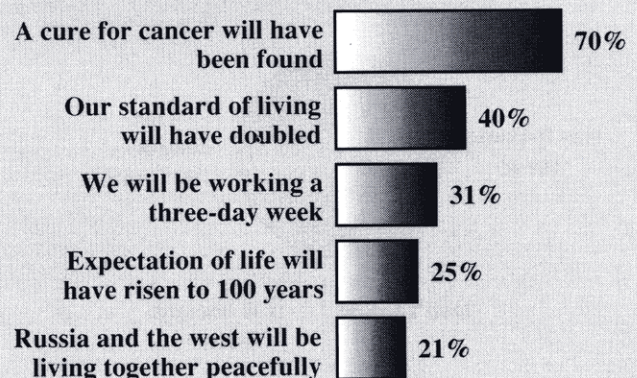


Source: Survey by Sindlinger and Company, December 18-22, 1969.

Still Waiting

Question: Looking ahead to 1990, that is 20 years from now, which of these things do you think will have happened by then?

Top mentions



Note: Multiple responses were allowed.

Source: Survey by the Gallup Organization, October 30-November 4, 1969.