REFORMING WELFARE

Bill Clinton's promise to "end welfare as we know it" has strong support among Americans, rich and poor, black and white, Republican and Democrat. While majorities agree the system isn't working, few want to cut or eliminate it entirely. Making people self-sufficient is more important than cutting welfare's cost by removing people from its rolls.

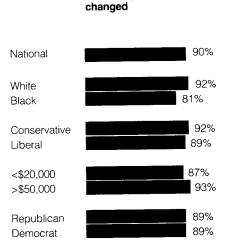
Question: Do you think the welfare system is working well in its current form or should the welfare system be changed?

Welfare system should be

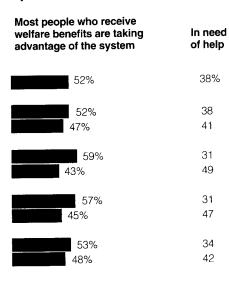
Question: Do you think the current welfare system encourages poor people to find work or discourages them?

Welfare system discourages poor

Question: In your view, are most people who receive welfare payments genuinely in need of help or are they taking advantage of the system?







Question: Here is a list of changes many people would like to make in the current welfare system. For each idea I read, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that change? Question: Here is a list of changes many people would like to make in the current welfare system. For each idea I read, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that change? Question: Which of the following goals of welfare reform is most important to you: cutting the cost of welfare programs by removing people from the welfare rolls, or giving poor people the skills they need to become self sufficient?

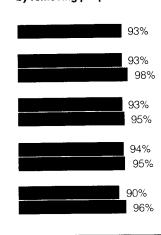
Favor cutting the amount of money given to all people on welfare

National	18%	Oppose 75%	ı
White	18%	76	
Black	21%	72	
Conservative Liberal	24%	69 82	
<\$20,000	21%	70	
>\$50,000	17%	78	
Republican	23%	69	
Democrat	15%	78	

Favor eliminating all welfare programs entirely

6%	Oppose 93%
5%	94%
■ 6%	94%
6%	92%
5%	95%
6%	92%
5%	94%
6%	91%
5%	95%

Making people self-sufficient is more important than cutting costs by removing people from welfare rolls

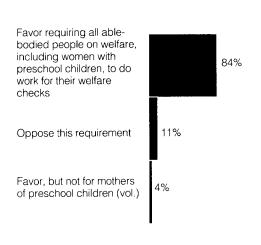


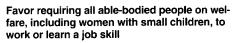
Note: In an August AP poll, 13% of respondents said "the government should spend much more money" on welfare, 34% said "spend about the same," and 46% said "spend much less. **Source:** Survey by Yankelovich Clancy Shulman for *Time* and CNN, May 13–14, 1992.

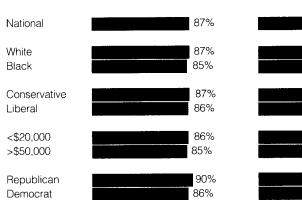
Americans strongly support a work requirement for welfare recipients, even for those with young children. They also support tougher child support enforcement efforts. Majorities oppose paying child support out of public funds if fathers don't pay up and giving more money to unwed mothers on welfare who marry.

Question: One proposal that's being discussed would require all able-bodied people on welfare, including women with preschool children, to do work for their welfare checks. Do you favor or oppose this requirement?

Question: Here are a list of changes many people would like to make in the current welfare system. For each idea I read, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that change....







Source: Survey by ICR Survey Research Group for the Associated Press, July 28-August 1, 1993

Source: Survey by Yankelovich Clancy Shulman for Time and CNN, May 13-14, 1992.

Question: Here is a list of changes many people would like to make in the current welfare system. Do you favor or oppose that change?

who marry Oppose 21% 73% National White 74 20% Black 29% 70 20% 76 Conservative 77 28% Liberal <\$20,000 23% 75 >\$50,000 27% 67 20% Republican 72

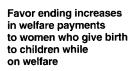
23%

Favor giving additional

assistance to unwed

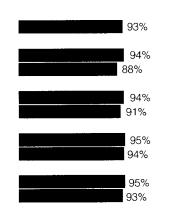
mothers on welfare

Democrat





Favor taking money out of the paychecks and tax refunds of fathers who refuse to make child support payments that a court has ordered



Favor paying child support directly out of public funds to mothers on welfare if the government cannot make the father pay

Favor spending extra money to provide free

classes during the day

day care to allow poor mothers to work or take

92%

91%

93%

94%

91%

89% 92%

94%

88%



Source: Survey by Yankelovich Clancy Shulman for Time and CNN. May 13-14. 1992

72