

# WOMEN AND THE USE OF FORCE

The sharp disagreement between men and women on the appropriateness of caning the young man who confessed to acts of vandalism in Singapore underscores the different outlooks men and women bring to virtually any issue involving the use of force. Some examples are shown below.

Question: **Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?**

## DEATH PENALTY, 1937

Favor death penalty for persons convicted of murder



**Note:** In a 1988 Gallup poll, 83% of men and 75% of women said they favored the death penalty.  
**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, 1937.

Question: **People are called "hawks" if they want to step up our military effort in Vietnam. They are called "doves" if they want to reduce our military effort in Vietnam. How do you describe yourself—as a "hawk" or as a "dove?"**

## VIETNAM

Describe self as a "hawk" on Vietnam military effort



**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, April 4-9, 1968.

Question: **Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns, except by the police and other authorized persons?**

## HANDGUNS

Should be a law to ban possession of handguns except by police and authorized persons



**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, December 17-19, 1993.

Question: **What do you think we should do now in Korea...Keep trying to work out a way to stop the fighting in Korea, stop fooling around and do whatever is necessary to knock the Communists out of Korea once and for all even at the risk of starting WW III, or pull out of Korea right away and let them handle their own problems with the Communists?**

Do whatever is necessary to knock the Communists out of Korea



**Source:** Survey by the Roper Organization, October 1952.

Question: **Should American bombers attack all military targets in Iraq including those in heavily populated areas where civilians may be killed, or should American bombers attack only those military targets that are not in heavily populated areas?**

## PERSIAN GULF WAR

In Iraq, American bombers should attack all military targets including those in heavily populated areas



**Source:** Survey by CBS News/*New York Times*, Jan. 19, 1991.

Question: **Suppose the German army gets rid of Hitler, gives up all the countries Germany has conquered, and offers to make peace. If that happens, should we make peace, or should we continue the war until the German army is completely defeated?**

## WORLD WAR II

Should continue the war until the German army is completely defeated



**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization, October 8-13, 1943.

Question: **If there is clear evidence that North Korea is developing a nuclear bomb, should the United States take military action to prevent that from happening, or not?**

## NORTH KOREA, 1993

If there is clear evidence North Korea is developing a nuclear bomb, United States should take military action



**Note:** Asked of split sample.  
**Source:** Survey by the Gallup Organization for *USA Today* and CNN, November 19-21, 1993.

Question: **As you may know, an American teenager who lives in the Asian nation of Singapore recently confessed to carrying out multiple acts of vandalism in that country over several days....[caning described in some detail] Some people think the youth deserves caning because he admitted carrying out multiple acts of vandalism over a period of days and because this is Singapore law. Others think the punishment of caning is inhumane given the crime and question the validity of the boy's confession. Do you approve or disapprove...?**

Approve of Singapore carrying out the sentence of caning on the American teenager



**Source:** Survey by the *Los Angeles Times*, April 16-19, 1994.