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SCSU SURVEY
Summary of Methodology-Fall 1987

The SCSU Survey is a twice-a-year omnibus survey of Central Minnesota adults that has been conducted since October 1980. The geographical area has been gradually expanded. In addition to the immediate St. Cloud area the outer geographical areas of the survey include Albany, Foley, Cold Spring, Clearwater and Clear Lake. Occasionally, other surveys are done for contracting clients. The survey is a joint project of the SCSU departments of Political Science and Sociology.

Faculty Directors of the SCSU Survey are Dr. Steve Frank, SCSU professor of political science, and Dr. John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology. A group of senior student directors take a lead role in developing, administering and analyzing the survey. Student directors are Nancy Larson, Debra Schiernbeck, David Kleis, Glenn Bernier, Patrick Wrubel, Carrie Krautkremer, Joseph Sizer, Lori Hedeem, Helen Cunningham, Lisa Dalton, David Francis, Matthew Brokl, Patricia Scheuer, and Kim Weihe. Approximately 85 SCSU political science and sociology students participated in the survey. The survey was administered between Oct. 17 and Oct. 22, 1987.

Several steps were taken to ensure that the telephone sample of Central Minnesota adults who were 18 years of age or older was representative of the larger population. As part of the sampling methodology all telephone numbers were randomly selected by a computer program. Random digit dialing makes available changed, new and unlisted numbers. Within each household the particular respondent was determined in a statistically unbiased fashion. This means the selection process alternated between men and women and older and younger respondents. Few substitutions were allowed. In order to reach hard-to-get respondents each number was called up to four times over different days and appointments made to interview the designated respondent at her/his convenience. The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission estimates that 96 percent to 98 percent of all Minnesota households have a telephone. Calls were primarily made after 5 p.m. and on weekends but weekday day calls were made as necessary. All calls were made from the SCSU Survey Research Laboratory by trained and supervised interviewers.

In samples of 885 interviews the error due to sampling and other random effects is approximately plus/minus 3.5 percent at the 95 percent level of confidence for the overall figures. This means if we were to draw 20 samples of the same area we would expect the overall findings to be greater/lesser than 3.5 percent of the stated findings only one time in twenty. However, in all sample surveys there are other possible sources of error for which precise estimates cannot be calculated. For subsamples, such as males and females the sample error is larger. Even though the demographic characteristics of the sample matched census and other known characteristics of the larger population very well, the sample was weighted for sex. As is characteristic of telephone surveys females were slightly oversampled. The completion rate of the survey was approximately 69 percent which is considered good especially since much of the calling was done when the Minnesota Twins were playing in the World Series. Completion rate means that once eligible respondents were contacted over two-thirds agreed to participate in the survey.

The total survey consisted of 60 questions. Material on the SCSU Survey's methodology and findings are available by contacting the faculty directors.

THE DIRECTORS ARE MEMBERS OF THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH (M.A.P.O.R) AND THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC OPINION RESEARCH AND SUBSCRIBE TO THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE A.A.P.O.R.

As part of this study, we are interested in some issues that affect the quality of life--that is, people's views about various aspects of the United States, Minnesota, views toward public officials, and so on.

- 1) First I would like to ask you about Minnesota as a place in which to live. Do you consider it very desirable, somewhat desirable, somewhat undesirable, or very undesirable as a place in which to live?

☐ 1. VERY DESIRABLE☐ 2. SOMEWHAT DESIRABLE☐ 3. SOMEWHAT UNDESIRABLE☐ 4. VERY UNDESIRABLE☐ 8. DON'T KNOW☐ 9. REFUSED

- 2) What do you think is the single most important problem facing Minnesota today? (PROBE FOR ONE RESPONSE, IF NECESSARY--WRITE OUT RESPONSE IN SPACE PROVIDED)

☐ 88. DON'T KNOW☐ 99. REFUSED

--SKIP TO QUESTION 4

- 3) Which political party, if any, do you think can do a better job of handling the problem you have just mentioned--the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

☐ 1. DEMOCRATIC PARTY☐ 2. REPUBLICAN PARTY☐ 3. OTHER-VOLUNTEERED☐ 4. NO DIFFERENCE-VOLUNTEERED☐ 8. DON'T KNOW☐ 9. REFUSED

- 4) We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?

☐ 1. BETTER☐ 2. SAME-VOLUNTEERED☐ 3. WORSE☐ 8. DON'T KNOW☐ 9. REFUSED

Now here's some questions concerning telephones in your home.

- 5) Deregulation of the telephone industry began in 1984 resulting in the breakup of A.T. and T. How would you rate the quality of your home telephone service since deregulation began--is it excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?

☐ 1. EXCELLENT☐ 2. PRETTY GOOD☐ 3. ONLY FAIR☐ 4. POOR☐ 8. DON'T KNOW☐ 9. REFUSED

- 6) Now, regarding your personal phones, were they (READ LIST-PROBE FOR AND MARK ONE RESPONSE):

1. Purchased or rented from the telephone company

2. Purchased from a store

3. Purchased and/or rented from both the telephone company and a store

☐ 6. OTHER-_____☐ 8. DON'T KNOW☐ 9. REFUSED

- 7) What company provides your long distance service?

☐ 01. AMERICAN EXPRESS☐ 02. A.T. & T☐ 03. MCI☐ 04. MIDAMERICAN☐ 05. SPRINT☐ 06. U.S. LINKS☐ 07. S.B.S. SKYLINE☐ 10. OTHER-_____☐ 88. DON'T KNOW☐ 99. REFUSED

- 8) If the monthly base rate for telephone service continues to increase, some very low income people might have to disconnect their phones. With this in mind would you consider paying an extra 25 cents each month to help keep the base rate for the very low income people at the present rate?

1. YES

5. NO

6. OTHER-

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

- 9) If the base rate of your monthly telephone bill was raised, is there a point at which you would consider disconnecting your telephone? Would it be (READ LIST-PROBE FOR ONE RESPONSE):

1. at a \$5 a month increase

2. a \$10 increase

3. \$15

4. \$20

5. \$25

6. or would you pay whatever it takes

7. NOTHING-VOLUNTEERED

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

- 10) An alternative method of billing for local services is called measured line. That is, you would pay for phone service much like electricity is billed. After a basic charge your bill would be based on the number of local calls you make, the length of those calls, and time of day you make those calls. If you had the option, would you consider changing to local measured line service?

1. YES

5. NO

6. OTHER

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

Now, let's change the subject to that of speed limits.

- 11) Recently the speed limit on some of the interstate highways was raised from 55 miles per hour to 65 miles per hour. If you could set a speed limit on these interstate highways what would it be? (PROBE FOR A NUMBER-NOT A RANGE)

 -NUMBER

888. DON'T KNOW

999. REFUSED

- 12) If, you drive on the state's interstate highways how fast do you drive on the average?

 -NUMBER

777. DON'T DRIVE

888. DON'T KNOW

999. REFUSED

Now, we have two questions relating to the use of condoms and one on aids. Lately, there has been a quite a bit of discussion about the use of condoms.

- 13) Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose having condoms available in public restrooms? (GIVE EXPLANATION OF CONDOMS-IF NECESSARY)

1. STRONGLY FAVOR

2. FAVOR

3. OPPOSE

4. STRONGLY OPPOSE

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

- 14) Concerning the protection that condoms may provide. Do you think condoms always, sometimes, or never provide protection from the aids virus during sexual intercourse.

1. ALWAYS

2. SOMETIMES

3. NEVER

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

- 15) If you found out that a close family member was diagnosed as having the aids virus, would you feel comfortable in being in close contact with them?

1. YES

5. NO

6. OTHER

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

The next topic concerns religion but because different questions are asked of people of different beliefs we need to know the following:

- 16) What, if any, is your religious preference? (IF DON'T KNOW OR NO RESPONSE)-Well are you closer to being Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, Presbyterian, or something else?

01. CATHOLIC-ASK NEXT QUESTION-17

02. LUTHERAN 03. BAPTIST 04. METHODIST

05. PRESBYTERIAN 06. EPISCOPALIAN

07. OTHER PROTESTANT 08. JEWISH

10. NO RELIGION 11. OTHER-EXPLAIN 99. REFUSED

SKIP TO QUESTION-27

- 17) Has the Pope's recent visit to the United States made you more likely to practice the church's teaching, less likely to practice the church's teachings, or has it not changed your practices?

1. MORE LIKELY 2. LESS LIKELY 3. NO CHANGE 8. DK 9. REF

- 18) Has the Pope's recent visit made you feel more favorable toward him, less favorable toward him, or was there no change in your feelings?

1. MORE FAVORABLE 2. SAME 3. LESS FAVORABLE

8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED

Has the Pope's visit to America changed your position on (READ LIST AND CIRCLE APPROPRIATE CODE):

	YES	NO	OTHER	DK	REFUSED
19) abortion?-----	1	5	6	8	9
20) women becoming priests?-----	1	5	6	8	9
21) homosexuals?-----	1	5	6	8	9
22) and lastly-what about birth control?-----	1	5	6	8	9

- 23) Do you think abortion should be legal under some circumstances?

1. YES 5. NO 6. OTHER 8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED

- 24) Do you favor or oppose ordaining women as priests?

1. FAVOR 5. OPPOSE 6. OTHER 8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED

- 25) Do you favor or oppose permitting a known homosexual to become a priest?

1. FAVOR 5. OPPOSE 6. OTHER 8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED

- 26) Do you favor or oppose allowing married couples to practice birth control by using methods such as pills or IUDs?

1. FAVOR 5. OPPOSE 6. OTHER 8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED

- 27) Now, I would like to ask you a question about fireworks. Presently, Minnesota law bans the sale or use of fireworks. Do you favor or oppose the Minnesota law banning the sale or use of fireworks?

1. FAVOR LAW 5. OPPOSE LAW 6. OTHER- 8. DK 9. REFUSED

Now we would like your opinions on some of our national and state officials and those who would like to be elected to public offices. But first:

DATA ENTRY:
GO TO LINE 2

28) Are you presently registered to vote or do you plan to register to vote in the area in which you are now living?

☐ 1. YES-ASK NEXT QUESTION-29

☐ 2. YES-BUT WILL NOT VOTE IN THE SURVEY AREA

☐ 5. NO

☐ 8. DON'T KNOW

☐ 9. REFUSED

GO TO QUES.-47

29) Now, here's a different kind of question. I would like you ^{to} think of a thermometer that has a range from 1 to 100. I'd like you to rate your feelings toward some of our political leaders and other people who are in the news these days. Ratings on the thermometer between 50 and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 1 and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel too favorable toward the person.

If we come to a person whose name you don't recognize, you don't need to rate that person. Just tell me and we'll move on to the next one.

If you do recognize the name, but don't feel particularly warm or cold toward the person, you would rate the person at the 50 degree mark.

	RATING 001 TO 100	CAN'T JUDGE	DON'T KNOW	REFUSED	
30) Ronald Reagan	777	888	999	- - - -	
31) Steve Wenzel	777	888	999	- - - -	
32) Joe Bertram	777	888	999	- - - -	
33) Rudy Perpich	777	888	999	- - - -	
34) Dave Durenberger	777	888	999	- - - -	
35) Arlan Stangeland	777	888	999	- - - -	
36) Marlene Johnson	777	888	999	- - - -	
37) Collin Peterson	777	888	999	- - - -	
38) Walter Mondale	777	888	999	- - - -	
39) Jim Fehler	777	888	999	- - - -	
40) Marv Hanson	777	888	999	- - - -	
41) Keith Langseth	777	888	999	- - - -	
42) Hubert H. Humphrey III	777	888	999	- - - -	
43) Rudy Boschwitz	777	888	999	- - - -	

43) Looking ahead to the 1990 election for Governor of the State of Minnesota do you think Rudy Perpich has performed his job well enough to deserve re-election, or do you think it's time to give a new person a chance?

☐ 1. RE-ELECT

☐ 5. NEW PERSON

☐ 8. DON'T KNOW

☐ 9. REFUSED

- 44) Because our next series of questions depend on where you live in central Minnesota could you please tell me in what city or area you presently reside?

01. WITHIN ST. CLOUD CITY LIMITS
02. SAUK RAPIDS AND AREA
03. ST. AUGUSTA AND AREA
04. ST. CLOUD TOWNSHIP
05. WAITE PARK
06. ALBANY AND AREA
07. AVON AND AREA
08. COLD SPRING AND AREA
09. FOLEY AND AREA
10. GILMAN AND AREA
11. HOLDINGFORD AND AREA
12. KAMEY AND AREA
13. RICE AND AREA
14. SARTELL AND AREA
15. ST. JOSEPH AND AREA

ASK NEXT QUESTION-45

16. CLEAR LAKE AND AREA
17. CLEARWATER AND AREA
77. OTHER-LIST
99. REFUSED

SKIP TO QUESTION-47

- 45) Now I would like your opinion about Republican United States Congressperson Arlan Stangeland who represents this area in Congress in Washington D.C. Looking ahead a year to the November, 1988 election for Congressperson, do you think Arlan Stangeland has performed his job well enough to deserve re-election, or do you think its time to give a new person a chance?

1. RE-ELECT-ASK NEXT QUESTION-45-A

5. NEW PERSON-SKIP TO QUESTION-45-B

8. DON'T KNOW 9. REFUSED-SKIP TO 46

- 45-A) What is the single most important reason you think Arlan Stangeland deserves re-election? (PROBE FOR AND WRITE OUT SINGLE REASON)

GO TO 46

88. DON'T KNOW

99. REFUSED

- 45-B) What is the single most important reason you think a new person should be given a chance? (PROBE FOR AND WRITE OUT SINGLE REASON)

88. DON'T KNOW

99. REFUSED

- 46) Is there any one issue that is so important to you that you would change your vote for a candidate for United States Congressperson because you disagreed with the candidate's position on that issue? (PROBE FOR ONE ISSUE AND WRITE THAT ISSUE POSITION OUT-INFLATION OR ABORTION IS INADEQUATE)

55. NO SINGLE ISSUE

88. DON'T KNOW

99. REFUSED

- 47) Do you usually consider yourself to be a Democrat, Republican, or independent? (IF DEMOCRAT OR REPUBLICAN)-Would you say that you always vote (Democrat/Republican) or do you sometimes vote for a person of the other party? (IF INDEPENDENT)-Although you are an independent, do you usually consider yourself to be closer to the Democrats or closer to the Republicans?

01. ALWAYS DEMOCRAT
02. WEAK DEMOCRAT-SOMETIMES VOTES REPUBLICAN
03. INDEPENDENT CLOSER TO DEMOCRAT
04. INDEPENDENT
05. INDEPENDENT CLOSER TO REPUBLICAN
06. WEAK REPUBLICAN-SOMETIMES VOTES DEMOCRATIC
07. ALWAYS REPUBLICAN
10. OTHER PARTY
88. DON'T KNOW/APOLITICAL
99. REFUSED

- 48) Thinking about your own general approach to politics, do you consider yourself to be very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

1. VERY LIBERAL	3. MODERATE	4. SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
2. SOMEWHAT LIBERAL		5. VERY CONSERVATIVE
8. DON'T KNOW	9. REFUSED	

- 49) Now, here's a question on how laws are made. Law makers in state legislatures and the congress frequently trade votes on bills so that they can get other bills passed that will benefit the people they represent in their districts. How do you feel about this? Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with this practice?

1. STRONGLY AGREE	2. AGREE	3. DISAGREE	4. STRONGLY DISAGREE
8. DON'T KNOW	9. REFUSED		

Now we'd like to ask you some different kinds of questions. During the last few years the issue of family violence has gained a great deal of attention. Many communities are debating what the role of the police should be when they are asked to respond to family violence calls.

- 50) When the police do intervene in a case of spouse abuse do you think they should act as authority figures who are there to enforce the law, or do you think they should act as service providers who are there to help resolve the conflict and send the victim and abuser to agencies that can help them?

1. AUTHORITY FIGURES	2. SERVICE PROVIDERS	3. BOTH-VOLUNTEERED
5. NEITHER	8. DON'T KNOW	9. REFUSED

- 51) What do you think the police officers see as their role in spouse abuse cases? Do you think they see their role as a service provider who is there to help resolve the conflict or do you think they see their role as an authority figure who is there to enforce the law?

1. AUTHORITY FIGURE	2. SERVICE PROVIDER	3. BOTH-VOLUNTEERED
5. NEITHER	8. DON'T KNOW	9. REFUSED

- 52) Which of these two roles of the police to you think is more important? Do you think being an authority figure or a service provider is more important?

1. AUTHORITY FIGURE	5. SERVICE PROVIDER	8. DK	9. REFUSED
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- 53) Many communities are debating whether or not they should have mandatory arrest laws that would order police to arrest the abuser when they answer a spouse abuse call? Do you feel that this type of a law would or would not help prevent spouse abuse?

1. WOULD HELP	5. WOULDN'T HELP	8. DON'T KNOW	9. REFUSED
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54) Do you think mandatory arrest laws in spouse abuse cases would or would not prevent a violent person from abusing their spouse in the future?

1. WOULD HELP

5. WOULDN'T HELP

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

55) Have you ever been in a dating relationship or in a family, either as a spouse or child, in which you witnessed or experienced some form of physical or sexual abuse?

1. YES

5. NO

8. DON'T KNOW

9. REFUSED

Finally, the following are demographic questions to help us determine if we are getting a random sample and for statistical analysis. You don't have to answer all the questions, but it will help us if you do.

56) What age group are you? Are you...(READ LIST UNTIL STOPPED-IF NECESSARY)

01. 18-21	07. 46-50
02. 22-24	08. 51-55
03. 25-30	09. 56-60
04. 31-35	10. 61-65
05. 36-40	11. 65+
06. 41-45	99. REFUSED

57) Would you please tell me the range which best represents the total income, before taxes, of all immediate family living in your household? Is it: (READ LIST AS NECESSARY)

1. Under \$10,000 5. \$25-\$30 Thousand
2. \$10-\$15 Thousand 6. \$30-\$40 Thousand
3. \$15-\$20 Thousand 7. \$40-\$50 Thousand
4. \$20-\$25 Thousand 8. \$50,000 plus
9. REFUSED

58) Are you now married and living with your (HUSBAND/WIFE)-or are you widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

1. MARRIED, LIVING WITH SPOUSE

2. NEVER MARRIED

3. DIVORCED

4. SEPARATED

5. WIDOWED

6. LIVING TOGETHER

9. REFUSED

59) What was the last grade in school you completed?

1. LESS THAN 9	4. POST HIGH-NOT COLLEGE	7. 16 YEARS PLUS
2. 9-11 YEARS	5. 13-15 YEARS	9. REFUSED
3. 12 YEARS	6. 16 YEARS-COLLEGE GRAD.	

60) What is your job--your occupation? (PROBE TO GET A SPECIFIC RESPONSE--IF MORE THAN ONE IS GIVEN-GET MAJOR OCCUPATION)

99. REFUSED

I would like to thank you very much for your time and cooperation. You have been very helpful. If you would like the results of the study, either let me know now--GET NAME AND FULL ADDRESS--or contact the St. Cloud State University Political Science Department or Sociology Department. Goodbye!

RESPONDENT SEX-DON'T ASK ----- 1. MALE 5. FEMALE

RESPONDENT'S COOPERATION WAS--1. VERY GOOD 2. GOOD 3. FAIR 4. POOR

INTERVIEWER--CAREFULLY CHECK QUESTIONNAIRE FOR COMPLETENESS, ACCURACY, AND LEGIBILITY. PLEASE DESCRIBE ON THE BACK OF THE SHEET ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE INTERVIEW, SUCH AS DIFFICULT QUESTIONS, CODING PROBLEMS, ETC.

NEWS

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS / ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA 56301 / TELEPHONE (612) 255-3151

MEDIA ADVISORY: RESULTS OF ANNUAL SCSU FALL SURVEY TO BE RELEASED

11-5-87

Results of the latest St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey, examining the views of Central Minnesota residents on telephone service since deregulation, will be released at a press conference set for 8 a.m. Nov. 10 in the Civic Room, Atwood Memorial Center, SCSU.

Reporters are invited to attend the conference and interview Stephen Frank, SCSU political science professor. Directors of the survey are Stephen Frank and John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology.

The results report whether Central Minnesotans have purchased personal telephones, asks what company provides long distance service to their homes, whether residents would be willing to pay an additional 25 cents a month to keep the base rate low for low-income people, what telephone rate would cause people to disconnect their telephone and their views on local measured service.

Also being released at this press conference are the views of Central Minnesota residents on the Minnesota fireworks law and opinions on the speed limit and how fast respondents are traveling on the state's interstate highways.

A complete methodology and results from the survey, which is based on telephone interviews, will be distributed at the press conference.

Questions about the press conference or interviews should be referred to Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, 255-3151.

-end-

NEWS

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

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SCSU SURVEY: MOST CENTRAL MINNESOTANS LIKE WHERE THEY LIVE

11-6-87

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (Nov.) -- Central Minnesotans like where they live, now more than ever, according to the results of the St. Cloud State University fall survey released Nov. 6.

Although area residents cite economic issues as the most important problems facing Minnesota, a majority of those surveyed said they felt they were financially "better off" than a year ago.

These results of the SCSU Survey, released at a press conference, are based on telephone interviews conducted with nearly 900 residents of Central Minnesota between Oct. 17 and Oct. 22.

Questions dealt with Minnesota as a desirable state in which to live; Minnesota's most important problem (an open-ended question) and which political party (if any) could best handle the mentioned problem; and perceptions of economic well being.

Survey directors noted that AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, was mentioned as an important problem facing Minnesota for the first time in the seven years the survey has been conducted.

The discovery that Central Minnesotans like where they live is not necessarily surprising, says Stephen Frank, SCSU professor of political science and one of the co-directors of the SCSU Survey, along with John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology. "Most people in most states like where they live," Frank says. "However, the desirability level is the highest in five years."

As Frank points out, 58 percent of those surveyed in October answered "very desirable" to the question "...Do you consider (Minnesota) very desirable, somewhat desirable, somewhat undesirable, or very undesirable as a place in which to live?" Thirty-eight percent answered "somewhat desirable."

-more-

By comparison, only 48 percent responded with "very desirable" to the same question asked in the 1982 survey, Frank said.

The survey also asked the open-ended question: "What do you think is the single most important problem facing Minnesota today?" About 52 percent of the responses related to economic issues, particularly taxes which were cited as a major concern, according to Frank. And, for the first time, 5 percent of those surveyed felt AIDS was a major problem.

Those surveyed were divided fairly evenly on which political party, if any, could best handle the major problems facing Minnesota. Of those surveyed, 32 percent cited the Republican party, 30 percent chose the Democrats. The gap is closer than it was six years ago when 35 percent of those surveyed felt Republicans could handle the problems facing the state compared to 27 percent who gave the nod to Democrats.

But while those surveyed pointed to economic issues as major Minnesota concerns, 51 percent said they felt as though they were "better off" financially than they were one year ago. This is a major jump from 1983 when only 26 percent of Central Minnesotans surveyed felt they were better off financially. Also, the 51 percent responding positively is above the national average found by the Gallup Poll in September which showed, nationally, that 43 percent felt they were better off now financially than a year ago.

Those thinking that they are worse off now included retirement-age respondents, those with a combined household income of less than \$10,000 and those with less than 12 years of education, according to Frank.

The SCSU Survey is conducted twice a year. Residents contacted generally live within a 20-mile radius of St. Cloud. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

For additional information on the SCSU Survey, contact Frank at (612) 255-4131.

-end-

(Contact: Angelo Gentile or Deborah Hudson, 255-3151).

NEWS

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS / ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA 56301 / TELEPHONE (612) 255-3151

11-10-87

MOST CENTRAL MINNESOTANS LIKE THEIR TELEPHONE SERVICE, APPROVE OF THE FIREWORKS LAW AND SAY THEY USUALLY DRIVE 65 MPH ON MINNESOTA INTERSTATE HIGHWAYS

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (Nov.) -- Seventy percent of the Central Minnesotans contacted for the St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey have a positive view of their home telephone survey since deregulation, according to results released at a Nov. 10 press conference.

Of those responding positively, 20 percent rated home telephone service excellent, while 50 percent responded service was "pretty good." In contrast, 29 percent had a negative opinion--22 percent rating the service "fair," and 7 percent rating services "poor."

Questions in the the survey dealt with views on telephone service since deregulation in 1984; which company provides long-distance service; how high a base rate would have to go before respondents discontinued service; purchase of telephones and opinions on local measured service.

In a question dealing with the purchase of telephones, 42 percent said they purchased their phones from a store, while 34 percent said they purchased their home telephones from a phone company. Respondents under 35 were most likely to have purchased a phone from a store, according to the survey.

A large majority of those polled, 78 percent, said that they use American Telephone & Telegraph (AT&T) as their long-distance provider. U.S. Link long-distance service is used by 11 percent of the respondents, according to the survey.

Also noted in the survey, conducted by Stephen Frank, SCSU professor of political science, is that seven out of 10 Central Minnesota adults, (70 percent), said they would be willing to pay an additional 25 cents a month if the fee would be designated to keep the monthly telephone service rate from being increased for low-income people.

-more-

About one-third of those surveyed said they would disconnect their telephones if the cost of monthly service went up \$15 a month. Those respondents with a combined household income of \$10,000 or less (55 percent) would consider disconnecting their phone. Of those 56 or older, 56 percent of them would consider disconnecting their phone at that rate, according to the survey.

Almost half of the respondents, 48 percent, said they would pay whatever it takes to maintain telephone service.

On the question on local measured service, in which the telephone company bills for local calls according to length of call and distance, 47 percent favored the idea while 44 percent opposed it.

Two other questions in the survey dealt with questions on the speed limit set on interstate highways and opinions on the Minnesota law banning the sale or use of fireworks.

Almost half of those polled, 45 percent, said that they drive the legal limits on Minnesota interstate highways, while 19 percent said they drive faster.

"The faster drivers tended to be those between the ages of 22 and 24; males; those who are single; and those who are in high-level professional positions including doctors and lawyers, and those who are students," Frank said.

When asked to set any limit desired for interstate highway travel, a majority -- 56 percent -- responded that they would set the limit at 65 mph. Only 12 percent wanted higher limits while 33 percent wanted lower limits.

On the question about fireworks, a majority of Central Minnesota adults, 57 percent, said they favored the Minnesota law banning the sale or use of fireworks. However, Frank noted that a large minority, 39 percent, opposed the law.

-more-

"Those tending to disapprove of the law were between the ages of 18 and 25, were single, were students and those with blue-collar jobs," Frank said.

The results of the SCSU Survey, released Nov. 10, are based on telephone interviews conducted with nearly 900 residents of Central Minnesota between Oct. 17 and Oct. 22. Frank and survey co-director, John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology, noted that residents contacted generally live within a 20-mile radius of St. Cloud. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

For additional information on the SCSU Survey, contact Frank at (612) 255-4131.

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(Note to media: To arrange telephone interviews with Frank, or for additional information, contact Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, (612) 255-3151).

NEWS

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS / ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA 56301 / TELEPHONE (612) 255-3151

11-10-87

MEDIA ADVISORY: SCSU SURVEY ON POLITICAL CANDIDATE RATINGS TO BE RELEASED

Results of the latest St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey, examining the views of Central Minnesota residents on political candidates, will be released at a press conference set for 8 a.m. Nov. 13 in the Civic Room, Atwood Memorial Center, SCSU.

Reporters are invited to attend the conference and interview Stephen Frank, SCSU political science professor. Directors of the survey are Stephen Frank and John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology.

The results of the survey are based on ratings of the following: President Ronald Reagan, Rep. Steve Wenzel, Sen. Joe Bertram, Gov. Rudy Perpich and Lt. Gov. Marlene Johnson, U.S. Sen. Dave Durenberger, U.S. Sen. Rudy Boschwitz, U.S. Rep. Arlan Stangeland, former Sen. Collin Peterson, Walter Mondale, Sen. Jim Pehler, Marv Hanson, Keith Langseth and attorney general Hubert H. (Skip) Humphrey III.

The survey reports responses from Central Minnesota adults on whether Perpich and Stangeland have done a good enough job to deserve re-election, and why Stangeland should or should not be re-elected.

Responses to questions on single-issue voting and on vote trading will also be released.

A complete methodology and results from the survey, which is based on telephone interviews, will be distributed at the press conference.

Questions about the press conference or arranging of interviews should be referred to Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, (612) 255-3151.

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11-12-87

MEDIA ADVISORY: SURVEY RESULTS ON CENTRAL MINNESOTA CATHOLICS TO BE RELEASED

Results of the latest St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey, examining the views of Central Minnesota residents, will be released at a press conference set for 8 a.m. Nov. 17 in the Civic Room, Atwood Memorial Center, SCSU.

Reporters are invited to attend the conference and interview Stephen Frank, SCSU political science professor. Directors of the survey are Stephen Frank and John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology.

The survey results are based on 10 questions asked of Central Minnesota residents. Residents who said they were Catholic were then asked to respond to questions on views on the pope's recent U.S. visit, whether the visit changed views on the pope, abortions, female priests, homosexuals and birth control. Additional questions asked for views on abortion, homosexual priests and birth control devices for married couples.

The survey asked all Central Minnesota residents questioned for opinions on making condoms available in public restrooms, how safe they think condoms are in preventing contraction of the AIDS virus, and how comfortable they would be with having close contact with a family member who has AIDS.

A complete methodology and results from the survey, which is based on telephone interviews, will be distributed at the press conference.

Questions about the press conference or arranging interviews should be referred to Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, (612) 255-3151.

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11-13-87

SCSU SURVEY: PERPICH'S POPULARITY DROPS, VOTERS DIVIDED ON STANGELAND

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (Nov.) -- Minnesota Gov. Rudy Perpich's popularity has dropped considerably since fall 1986 among registered Central Minnesota voters contacted for the St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey.

A "feeling thermometer" and questions about re-election of Perpich and Rep. Arlan Stangeland are part of the 60-question SCSU Survey, a random sample telephone survey conducted by Stephen Frank, SCSU professor of political science, and co-director John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology. The survey was conducted between Oct. 17 and Oct. 22.

Among 747 registered Central Minnesota voters, drawn from the total sample of 885, only one-fourth, or 25 percent of those surveyed think Perpich has done a good enough job to deserve re-election, while 70 percent responded that it was time to give a new person a chance, according to survey results released at a press conference Nov. 13.

Disenchantment with Perpich was widely spread among all demographic groups surveyed, including three-fourths of the respondents who called themselves Democrats, Frank said.

Among the 688 Central Minnesota adults who are registered voters in the 7th Congressional District, 42 percent said that Independent-Republican Arlan Stangeland deserves re-election, while 43 percent said it was time to give a new person a chance, according to the survey.

Of those surveyed for the spring 1986 SCSU Survey, 34 percent said Stangeland deserved re-election while 30 percent indicated a new person should be elected. The fall 1985 SCSU Survey showed that 40 percent favored Stangeland's re-election, while 34 percent said it was time to give a new person a chance.

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Also asked in the survey were questions relating to a "feeling thermometer" in which respondents were asked to rate individuals on a scale of 1 to 100, with a 50 and above rating considered "warm and favorable" toward the politician, and a rating below 50 as "cold and unfavorable." Those surveyed were asked to state if they didn't know or couldn't judge the person.

Here is a summary of the results. The first number is the mean, or average of ratings among those who could judge the person. The percentage figure that follows the rating is the combined percent of those who said they didn't know or couldn't judge the person.

Ronald Reagan - 55.1 (0.7 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 64.8
Rudy Perpich - 48.8 (2 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 56.3
Dave Durenberger - 60.1 (6 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 63.3

Asked for the first time:

Walter Mondale - 55.4 (3 percent)
Rudy Boschwitz - 57.9 (5 percent)
Hubert "Skip" Humphrey III - 58.1 (11 percent)

Additional names:

Arlan Stangeland - 54.2 (11 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 52
Collin Peterson - 51.2 (37 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 54
(22 percent)
Jim Pehler - 58.5 (35 percent) - Fall 1986 SCSU Survey rating was 58.3
Marv Hanson - 48 (79 percent)
Keith Langseth - 48.7 (81 percent)
Steve Wenzel - 53.3 (52 percent) - Fall 1985 SCSU Survey rating was 50.6
(61 percent)
Joe Bertram - 60.3 (33 percent)
Marlene Johnson - 52.3 (37 percent)

Frank stressed that political opinions are mercurial and can easily change. He also pointed out that the large "don't know-can't judge" percentages for Wenzel, Hanson and Langseth have to be cautiously interpreted with the "feeling thermometer" ratings.

The residents contacted for the survey generally live within a 20-mile radius of St. Cloud. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

For additional information on the SCSU Survey, contact Frank at (612) 255-4131, or Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, (612) 255-3151.

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11-17-87

SCSU SURVEY: 2/3 CENTRAL MINNESOTA CATHOLICS APPROVE OF ABORTION IN SOME CASES; POPE'S U.S. VISIT DID LITTLE TO CHANGE VIEWS AND PRACTICES

ST. CLOUD, Minn. (Nov.) -- Almost two-thirds of Central Minnesota Roman Catholics recently polled for the St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Survey say they favor abortion in some circumstances, and most say the pope's recent U.S. visit did not change their personal views and practices.

The results of the random sample telephone survey of 530 Catholics were released at a press conference Nov. 17 at St. Cloud State University. The total sample for the SCSU Survey was 885, approximately 60 percent of those asked identified themselves as Catholics. Several of the survey questions were asked only of those who said they were Catholic, according to survey co-director Stephen Frank, SCSU professor of political science.

A variety of questions were asked for the survey, conducted between Oct. 17 and Oct. 22. Frank also released results from the SCSU Survey taken in fall 1986. The first question (1987 survey) dealt with how Central Minnesota Catholics felt about the pope's recent U.S. visit. About 9 out of 10, 91 percent of those polled, said the visit did not affect their positions with respect to the church's teachings on homosexuals, birth control or women becoming priests. With respect to the Catholics' positions on certain issues: two-thirds of those polled said they favored abortion in some circumstances; a slight majority (52 percent) said they favored ordaining women for priesthood; and three-fourths (74 percent) said they favored allowing married couples to practice birth control by using devices such as the pill or IUDs. Only 26 percent of those polled said they would permit a known homosexual to become a priest, according to results from the fall 1987 SCSU Survey.

Frank also noted that the better educated Catholics, those with one year or more of college, were more likely to favor abortion, women priests and allowing the use of birth control, according to the demographic breakdown for that question.

For the first time, results from the Fall 1986 SCSU Survey on Central Minnesotans views on abortion have been released. This section on the 1986 SCSU Survey used the total sample and divided respondents by religion. The results showed:

*82 percent of Central Minnesota Catholics favored legal abortions if the mother's life is endangered; 88 percent of the Protestants also favored abortion in the same circumstance;

*69 percent of Central Minnesota Catholics favored legal abortions in the case of rape or incest; 83 percent Protestants questioned also approved;

*Catholics were divided on the question of allowing abortion if there was a strong chance of serious defect in the baby -- 48 percent would allow abortion, the percentage of Protestants allowing abortion in that case was 83 percent;

*Only 16 percent of the Catholics polled approved of abortion if the family had a low income and couldn't afford more children; only 12 percent of the Catholics approved of abortion for a married woman who didn't want more children;

*Only 14 percent of the Catholics said they would allow a legal abortion for any reason.

The 1987 SCSU Survey for the first time asked three questions concerning AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and the use of condoms. These questions were asked of all 885 respondents in the survey, Frank said.

About two-thirds of the Central Minnesota adults polled favored having condoms available in public restrooms. Only 13 percent of those surveyed said they believed that condoms always provide protection from the AIDS virus during sexual intercourse, while 68 percent said that condoms sometimes provide protection and 5 percent said condoms never provide protection.

A third question asked Central Minnesota adults whether they would be comfortable being around a close family member who was diagnosed as having AIDS. About two-thirds (63 percent) said they would be comfortable, and one-third said they would not be comfortable.

The SCSU Survey is directed by Stephen Frank and John Murphy, SCSU associate professor of sociology. Residents contacted for the survey generally live within a 20-mile radius of St. Cloud. The survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

For additional information on the SCSU Survey, contact Frank at (612) 255-4131.

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(Note to media: Frank has additional survey questions and demographic breakdowns for the SCSU Survey. To arrange telephone interviews with Frank, or for more detailed information, contact Deborah Hudson, SCSU news editor, (612) 255-3151).