THE HAMILTON COLLEGE HOT BUTTON ISSUES POLL
Released: January 5, 2005

APPENDIX

This appendix includes the wording of and responses to all the substantive and demographic items used in the survey. The responses have been re-weighted for sex and geographic region. The not sure (NS) alternatives were not read.

ABORTION QUESTIONS

Q1. PRO Which side of the abortion debate do you sympathize with more: the Pro-life side that believes abortion is the taking of human life and should be outlawed, OR the Pro-choice side that believes that a woman has the right to choose what happens to her body, including the right to decide to have an abortion? Are you more pro-life or pro-choice? [IF HESITATES]. Would you like me to re-read that? (*Only first two responses were read).*

	Freq.	%
1) Pro-life	472	47.2
2) Pro-choice	475	47.5
3) MixNeithr	40	4.0
4) NoUnderst	1	0.1
5) NS	12	1.2
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q2. LEGAL Do you think abortion should be legal in all cases, legal in most cases, ILLEGAL in most cases, or illegal in all cases?

	Freq.	%
1) LegAll	121	12.1
2) LegMost	409	40.9
3) IllegMost	279	27.9
4) IllegAll	174	17.4
5) NS	17	1.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q3. ROEWADE The 1973 Supreme Court decision called Roe v. Wade guaranteed women the right to get an abortion in the first three months of pregnancy. Should the Supreme Court overturn Roe v. Wade or let it stand?

	Freq.	%
1) Overt	352	35.2
2) Stand	624	62.4
3) NS	25	2.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q4. MORAL Whether you think that abortion should be legal or not, how do you feel about the morality of abortion? Is abortion always morally wrong, usually morally wrong, usually morally acceptable, or always morally acceptable?

	Freq.	%
1) AlwaysWr	226	22.6
2) UsualWr	442	44.2
3) UsualAc	278	27.8
4) AlwaysAc	41	4.1
5) NS	13	1.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Two different statements, randomly assigned to respondents, were used to introduce the following block of questions (Q5 - 10). Since the two versions produced virtually identical results, the data were combined for analysis. They were introduced as follows: "Here are some specific situations in which a woman might have an abortion. Regardless of how you feel about the morality of abortion / [VERSION A] tell me whether the woman should have a legal right to an abortion or not have a legal right to an abortion, in each case / [VERSION B] tell me whether you think abortion should be legal or illegal in each case.

Q5) AbHealth
If the pregnancy seriously threatens the woman's health.

	Freq.	%
1) YES	884	88.4
2) NO	104	10.4
3) NS	12	1.2
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q6) AB18
 If the woman is under 18 and unmarried.

	Freq.	%
1) YES	492	49.2
2) NO	493	49.3
3) NS	16	1.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q7) ABMore
If woman is married and does not want more children.

	Freq.	%
1) YES	285	28.5
2) NO	701	70.1
3) NS	14	1.4
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q8) ABRape
If the pregnancy is the result of rape.

	Freq.	%
1) YES	809	80.9
2) NO	180	18.0
3) NS	10	1.0
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q9. ABDef
If the baby will probably have a serious birth defect

	Freq.	%
1) YES	482	48.2
2) NO	484	48.4
3) NS	35	3.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q10 AB$$
If the family is poor and cannot afford another child.

	Freq.	%
1) YES	398	39.8
2) NO	583	58.3
3) NS	19	1.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q11. PREG12 Suppose a student in her senior year of high school became pregnant. Generally, what do you think would be the best thing for her to do?

	Freq.	%
1) Keep	263	26.3
2) Abort	131	13.1
3) Adopt	542	54.2
4) Other	25	2.5
5) NS	40	4.0
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q12. PARENTAL In your opinion, should a woman under 18 be required by law to get the permission of a parent before she can have an abortion?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	666	66.6
2) No	320	32.0
3) NS	13	1.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q13. KNOWAB Do you know anyone who has had an abortion?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	429	42.9
2) No	569	56.9
3) NS	2	0.2
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q14. CLOSEAB Have any of your close friends or family members had an abortion? *(Not asked of 571 respondents who answered No or Not Sure to the previous question).*

	Freq.	%
0)	571	57.1
1) Yes	236	23.6
2) No	192	19.3
3) NS	1	0.1
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q15 PREGF *(Asked of females).* Suppose, even if it is very unlikely, that you became pregnant while still in high school. Would you consider having an abortion? *(Responses 3-5 were not read).*

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	137	25.8
2) No	372	70.0
3) Never	10	1.8
4) Ref	3	0.5
5) NS	10	1.9
TOTAL	532	100.0

Q16. PREGM *(Asked of males)*. Suppose, even if it is very unlikely, that someone you were involved with while in high school became pregnant, would you want her to consider having an abortion? (*(Responses 3-5 were not read)*.

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	126	26.9
2) No	313	66.9
3) Never	11	2.4
4) Ref	4	0.9
5) NS	14	3.0
TOTAL	468	100.0

GAY ISSUES

Q17. LEGAL Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?

	Freq.	%
1) Legal	650	65.0
2) NotLeg	314	31.4
3) NS	36	3.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q18. JOBDIS Would you support or oppose a law to protect gays against job discrimination.

	Freq.	%
1) Supp	797	79.7
2) Opp	177	17.7
3) NS	26	2.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q19. MARRIAGE Would you support or oppose a law that would allow same sex couples to get married?

	Freq.	%
1) Supp	536	53.6
2) Opp	429	42.9
3) NS	35	3.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q20. CIVIL Would you support or oppose a law that would allow same sex couples to form civil unions, giving them the legal rights of married couples in areas such as inheritance, health insurance, pension coverage and hospital visiting privileges *(Not asked of 536 respondents who supported gay marriage in previous question)*.

	Freq.	%
0)	536	53.6
1) Supp	201	20.1
2) Opp	246	24.6
3) NS	17	1.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q21. AMEND Would you support or oppose amending the United States Constitution to ban same sex marriage? *(Not asked of 536 respondents who supported gay marriage in earlier question)*.

	Freq.	%	
0)		536	53.6
1) Supp	258	25.8	
2) Opp	186	18.6	
3) NS	20	2.0	
TOTAL	1000	100.0	

Q22. ADOPT Do you think same-sex couples should or should not be allowed to adopt children?

	Freq.	%
1) Should	630	63.0
2) Not	345	34.5
3) NS	25	2.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q23. CONTRIB Gay people contribute in unique and positive ways to society.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAgr	184	18.4
2) Agree	525	52.5
3) Disagr	185	18.5
4) StrDisgr	87	8.7
5) NS	19	1.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q24. LESBACPT Lesbian women should be accepted by society.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAgr	278	27.8
2) Agree	519	51.9
3) Disagr	138	13.8
4) StrDisagr	59	5.9
5) NS	6	0.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q25. GAYACPT Gay men should be accepted by society.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAg	278	27.8
2) Agree	499	49.9
3) Disagr	141	14.1
4) StrDisag	75	7.5
5) NS	6	0.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q26. CLOSET   It would be better if gay people kept their sexual orientation private and hidden.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAgr	182	18.2
2) Agree	276	27.6
3) Disagr	383	38.3
4) StrDisag	138	13.8
5) NS	22	2.2
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q27. WRONG   Gay lifestyles are morally wrong.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAg	193	19.3
2) Agree	198	19.8
3) Disagr	335	33.5
4) StrDisag	261	26.1
5) NS	13	1.3
TOTAL	999	100.0

Q28. LESBDISG Lesbians are disgusting.

	Freq.	%	
1) StrAgr	72	7.2	
2) Agree	192	19.2	
3) Disagr	409	40.9	
4) StrDisag	310	31.0	
5) NS		17	1.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0	

Q29. GAYDISG Gay men are disgusting.

	Freq.	%
1) StrAg	121	12.1
2) Agree	202	20.2
3) Disagr	371	37.1
4) StrDisag	289	28.9
5) NS	17	1.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q30 GayIndex
Index of attitudes toward gays. Based on average of the previous seven items, rounded to nearest whole number.   Negative items were reverse coded.

	Freq.	%
1) AntiGay+	52	5.2
2) AntiGay	251	25.1
3) ProGay	477	47.7
4) ProGay+	219	21.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q31. YGAY? In your opinion, what causes someone to be gay? Is it something that people are born with, or is it something that develops because of the way people are brought up, or is it just the way that some people choose to live?

	Freq.	%
1) Born	225	22.5
2) Raised	154	15.4
3) Choose	467	46.7
4) Combin	136	13.6
5) NS	19	1.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q32. OPENGAY Thinking of all the people you know, either well or even only casually, do you know anyone who is gay?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	850	85.0
2) No	147	14.7
3) NS	3	0.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q33. CLOSEGAY   As far as you know, are any of your friends, relatives or close acquaintances gay?
(Not asked of 150 respondents who did not answer YES to previous question).

	Freq.	%
0)	150	15.0
1) Yes	74	57.4
2) No	275	27.5
3) NS	1	0.1
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q34. HOME If you brought a friend home who happened to be gay, how do you think your parents would react?

	Freq.	%
1) Accept	432	43.2
2) PartAc	403	40.3
3) NotAcc	148	14.8
4) NS	18	1.8
TOTAL	1000	100.0

GUN CONTROL

Q35. FIRED Have you ever fired a gun - whether for hunting, for target practice or for any purpose?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	465	46.5
2) No	535	53.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q36. OWN Do you or anyone else in your household own a gun?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	428	42.8
2) No	570	57.0
3) NS	3	0.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q37 GUNTHRET Do you know of anyone in your high school who has been shot at or threatened with a gun, either at school or anyplace else?

	Freq.	%
1) Yes	353	35.3
2) No	644	64.4
3) NS	3	0.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q38. GUNLAWS In general, do you feel that laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict or kept as they are now?

	Freq.	%
1) MoreStr	539	53.9
2) LessStr	29	2.9
3) Same	406	40.6
4) NS	27	2.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q39. LAWCOOL Require a 5-day waiting period between the purchase and delivery of a handgun, to keep the buyer from acting on impulse against himself or others.

	Freq.	%
1) Appr	884	88.4
2) Disappr	101	10.1
3) NS	15	1.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q40. LAWREG Register all handguns, at the time of purchase, so that they could be traced by the police when necessary for criminal investigations.

	Freq.	%
1) Appr	957	95.7
2) Disappr	39	3.9
3) NS	4	0.4
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q41. LAWAGE   Raise the age at which someone can legally purchase a handgun from 18 to 21.

	Freq.	%
1) Appr	634	63.4
2) Disappr	355	35.5
3) NS	11	1.1
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q42. LAWBAN Ban the possession of handguns except by police and other authorized personnel.

	Freq.	%
1) Appr	309	30.9
2) Disappr	666	66.6
3) NS	25	2.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

DEMOGRAPHICS

Q43. CAREER In the long run, what do you think will be more important to you: having a successful career OR having a rewarding family life with children?

	Freq.	%
1) Career	227	22.7
2) Family	626	62.6
3) Both	130	13.0
4) NS	17	1.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q44 KIDS Ideally, how many children would you like to have? Or, do you not expect to have children?

	Freq.	%
1) 1	70	7.0
2) 2	440	44.0
3) 3	277	27.7
4) 4+	132	13.2
5) None	57	5.7
6) NS	25	2.5
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q45. REGION

	Freq.	%
1) East	195	19.5
2) South	270	27.0
3) Centr	298	29.8
4) West	237	23.7
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q46. PLACE Which of the following best describes the place you live?

	Freq.	%
1) Rural	205	20.5
2) Suburb	261	26.1
3) SmCity	202	20.2
4) MedCity	201	20.1
5) LargCity	127	12.7
6) NS	4	0.4
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q47) PAED How much education did your father complete?

	Freq.	%
1) <HS	89	8.9
2) HS Grad	267	26.7
3) SomCol	161	16.1
4) ColGrad	318	31.8
5) PostGrad	135	13.5
6) NS	29	2.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q48) MAED What about your mother? How much education did she complete?

	Freq.	%
1) <HS	65	6.5
2) HS Grad	258	25.8
3) SomCol	207	20.7
4) ColGrad	335	33.5
5) PostGrad	125	12.5
6) NS	11	1.1
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q49 RACE/ETH Which category best describes your ethnic or racial background?

	Freq.	%
1) White	678	67.8
2) Black	100	10.0
3) Hisp	91	9.1
4) Asian	39	3.9
5) Other	89	8.9
6) NS	3	0.3
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q50 RELIGION Do you consider yourself to be Catholic, some other kind of Christian, Jewish, another religion or no religion at all?

	Freq.	%
1) Catholic	255	25.5
2) OtrChrist	470	47.0
3) Jewish	28	2.8
4) Other	75	7.5
5) None	167	16.7
6) NS	6	0.6
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q51. BORNAGN
Would you describe yourself as a born again Christian? *(Not asked of 530 Catholics, Jews and other respondents who did not classify themselves as "some other kind of Christian" in the previous item.)*

	Freq.	%
0)	530	53.0
1) Yes	253	25.3
2) No	196	19.6
3) NS	21	2.1
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q52 RELIGION2 *(Based on last two items).*

1) Prot-BornAgain	253	25.8
2) Prot-NotBornAg	196	20.0
3) Catholic	255	26.1
4) Other	102	10.4
5) None	167	17.1
6) NS	6	0.6
TOTAL	979	100.0

Q53 RELIGIOUS2
How many times, if any, did you attend a religious service during the last month?

	Freq.	%
0) Zero	357	36.2
1) 1 - 3	235	23.9
2) Four	194	19.6
3) 5 - 8	126	12.8
4) Nine+	73	7.5
TOTAL	986	100.0

Q54 PARTY

	Freq.	%
1) Dems	462	46.2
2) Reps	359	35.9
3) NS/RF	179	17.9
TOTAL	1000	100.0

Q55 REDBLUE

	Freq.	%
1) Blue	315	31.5
2) Gray	404	40.4
3) Red	280	28.0
TOTAL	1000	100.0