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Cuba Policy and US Public Opinion

April 15, 2009

Questionnaire

Dates of Survey: March 25-April 6, 2009
Sample Size: 765

Margin of Error: +/- 3.7 percentage points

Q1-Q20 released separately.

STATEMENT: Turning to a different topic, we would like to ask you some questions about Cuba.

Q21-CUBA1. Would you say Cuba represents:

A very serious threat to the United States.....	7%
Republicans.....	10
Democrats	6
Independents	4
A moderately serious threat	27
Republicans.....	37
Democrats	20
Independents	23
Just a slight threat.....	33
Republicans.....	32
Democrats	33
Independents	38
No threat at all.....	30
Republicans.....	19
Democrats	37
Independents	32
Refused/Don't know	3

Q22-CUBA2. As you may know, after Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba, the US ended diplomatic relations, imposed a trade embargo, and prohibited Americans from travelling to Cuba. What effect do you think this has had on the Castro government? Has it:

Mostly weakened the Castro government.....	29%
Republicans.....	35
Democrats	26
Independents	26

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Mostly strengthened the Castro government	16
Republicans.....	11
Democrats	21
Independents	13
Neither weakened nor strengthened it.....	52
Republicans.....	52
Democrats	49
Independents	60
Refused/Don't know	3

Q23-CUBA3. As you may know Fidel Castro has become ill and has been replaced by his brother Raul Castro as head of Cuba's government. Which position is closer to yours:

It is time to try a new approach to Cuba, because Cuba may be ready for a change	59%
Republicans.....	47
Democrats	71
Independents	50
The Communist Party is still in control; therefore the US should continue to isolate Cuba	39
Republicans.....	52
Democrats	27
Independents	45
Refused/Don't know	2

Q24-CUBA4: Do you think it would be a good idea or a bad idea for US government leaders to be ready to meet with Cuban leaders?

Good idea	75%
Republicans.....	66
Democrats	86
Independents	64
Bad idea	23
Republicans.....	33
Democrats	12
Independents	34
Refused/Don't know	2

Q25-CUBA5. Do you favor or oppose re-establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba?

Favor	69%
Republicans.....	57
Democrats	82

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Independents	58
Oppose	28
Republicans.....	40
Democrats	14
Independents	38
Refused/Don't know	3

Q26-CUBA6. Do you think the United States should continue the trade embargo with Cuba or should the United States end the trade embargo and permit normal trade with Cuba?

Continue the embargo	48%
Republicans.....	59
Democrats	38
Independents	49
End the embargo	49
Republicans.....	38
Democrats	58
Independents	46
Refused/Don't know	4

Q27-CUBA7. As you may know, the Obama administration recently relaxed US rules so that it is now less difficult for Cuban-Americans to visit their Cuban relatives. Do you approve or disapprove of this step?

Approve.....	79%
Republicans.....	71
Democrats	90
Independents	70
Disapprove	19
Republicans.....	28
Democrats	9
Independents	28
Refused/Don't know	1

Q28-CUBA8. Do you think, in general, Americans:

Should be free to visit Cuba.....	70%
Republicans.....	62
Democrats	77
Independents	66
Should continue to be prohibited from visiting Cuba.....	28
Republicans.....	37
Democrats	20
Independents	32

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Refused/Don't know2

Q29-CUBA9. If there is increasing travel and trade between Cuba and the United States, do you think it is more likely that:

This will strengthen the communist regime in Cuba 26%
 Republicans.....38
 Democrats16
 Independents28

This will lead Cuba in a more open and democratic direction71
 Republicans.....59
 Democrats80
 Independents69

Refused/Don't know3

Q30-CUBA10. If the US were to relax its restrictions on trade and travel with Cuba, what effect do you think this would have on America's image in the world:

A mainly positive effect..... 42%
 Republicans.....29
 Democrats57
 Independents31

A mainly negative effect.....10
 Republicans.....14
 Democrats6
 Independents10

Neither positive or negative46
 Republicans.....56
 Democrats34
 Independents56

Refused/Don't know2

Q31-Q41 released separately.

[FULL SAMPLE]

DEMOGRAPHICS

D1. Age

18-29	22%
30-44	27
45-59	28
60+	24

D2. Education

Less than high school.....	14%
High school	32
Some college.....	28
BA+.....	27

D3. Race

White, Non-Hispanic	69%
Black, Non-Hispanic.....	11
Other, Non-Hispanic	5
Hispanic	14
2+ Races, Non-Hispanic	1

D4. Gender

Male	48%
Female.....	52

D5. What religion do you follow?

Christian.....	73%
Muslim	*
Jewish.....	2
Buddhist	*
Some other religion.....	7
No religious preference/atheist	16
Refused/Don't know	2

[ASK ONLY THOSE WHO SAY CHRISTIAN (01) ON D3]

D5a. Would you describe yourself as a 'born- again' or evangelical?

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Yes	26% *
No.....	37
No opinion	10
Refused/Don't know	*

D6. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a:

Republican	28%
Independent.....	20
Democrat.....	37
Other	1
No preference.....	14
Refused/Don't know	1

[ASK ONLY IF INDEPENDENT (02), OTHER (04) OR NO PREFERENCE (05) ON D7]

D6a. Do you think of yourself as closer to the:

Republican Party	9% †
Democratic Party	10
Neither.....	16
Refused/Don't know	*

METHODOLOGY

The poll of 765 respondents was fielded March 25-April 6, 2009 with a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points. It was fielded by Knowledge Networks, a polling, social science, and market research firm in Menlo Park, California, with a stratified random sample of its large-scale nationwide research panel. This panel itself has been randomly recruited from the national population of households having telephones; households without internet access are subsequently provided with free web access and an internet appliance. Thus the panel is not limited to those who already have home internet access. The distribution of the sample in the Web-enabled panel closely tracks the distribution of United States Census counts for the US population on age, race, Hispanic ethnicity, geographical region, employment status, income, education, etc. Upon survey completion, the data were weighted by gender, age, education, ethnicity, and partisan identity. For more information about the online survey methodology, please go to: www.knowledgenetworks.com/ganp.

* Percent of total
† Percent of total