# Attitudes to Nuclear Weapons 

Greenpeace/ MORI

## Topline Results

16 September 2005

- Results are based on responses from a nationally representative sample of 1,973 British adults aged 15+ using MORI's face-to-face omnibus
- All questions with the exception of Q2 were split sampled, with approximately one half of respondents being asked one 'version' of the survey and the other half a second version. 1,016 respondents were interviewed for Version 1 of the questionnaire and 957 for Version 2 - giving an overall sample size of 1,973 .
- Data are weighted to age, gender, social class, tenure, work status and Government Office Region (GOR)
- Fieldwork was conducted between $8^{\text {th }}$ and $13^{\text {th }}$ September 2005. Quotas were set for age, gender, GOR and social class
- An asterisk (*) denotes a finding of less than $0.5 \%$ but greater than zero


## VERSION 1

The UK's 'Trident' nuclear weapons are now ageing and will become unusable in about 20 years' time. This means that, for the UK to maintain effective nuclear weaponry, the government needs to decide soon on whether to develop a replacement.

Q1 On balance, do you think the UK should replace its nuclear weapons, or not?

|  | Yes, should |
| ---: | ---: |
| No, should not | 44 |
| Don't know | 46 |

Base: all respondents Version $1(1,016)$

## VERSION 2

The UK's 'Trident' nuclear weapons are now ageing and will become unusable in about 20 years' time. This means that, for the UK to maintain effective nuclear weaponry, the government needs to decide soon on whether to develop a replacement.

The total cost of replacing 'Trident' missiles, submarines and base facilities is likely to be around $£ 25$ billion. This is the equivalent of building around 1,000 new schools at current prices.

Q1. On balance, do you think the UK should replace its nuclear weapons, or not?

|  | $\%$ |
| ---: | :---: |
| Yes, should | 33 |
| No, should not | 54 |
| Don't know | 13 |

Base: all respondents Version 2 (957)

In your opinion which, if any, of these are appropriate ways for the UK to make a decision on whether or not to replace its nuclear weapons? Just read out the letter or letters that apply.

| A full national debate in which the government <br> and organisations like Greenpeace \& CND work <br> together to give the public all the options <br> available | $\%$ <br> 43 |
| ---: | ---: |
| A national referendum | 42 |
| The government giving Parliament \& the public <br> access to all the information it has about <br> advantages \& disadvantages of building a new <br> nuclear weapon | 39 |
| A prime-time televised debate on arguments for <br> and against developing nuclear weapons, to <br> include politicians and representatives from <br> other organisations | 17 |
| None of these | Don't know |

Base: all respondents Versions 1 and $2(1,973)$

## VERSION 1

Q3-5 Would you approve or disapprove of the UK using nuclear weapons against a country we are at war with and that $\qquad$

|  |  | Approve <br> $\%$ | Disapprove <br> $\%$ | Don't know <br> $\%$ <br> $\%$ |
| :--- | ---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Q3 | Does not have nuclear <br> weapons | 9 | 84 | 7 |
| Q4 | Has nuclear weapons but has <br> never used them | 16 | 72 | 11 |
| Q5 | Heser nuclear weapons against <br> the UK | 53 | 37 | 10 |

Base: all respondents Version $1(1,016)$
VERSION 2: WORDING DERIVED FROM OCTOBER 1955 GALLUP QUESTION *
Q3-5 Would you approve of using the nuclear bomb in these cases?

| Q3 | Against an enemy that does not possess it themselves | Approve \% 5 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Disapprove } \\ \% \\ 87 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Don’t know } \\ \% \\ 9 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gallup October 1955 | 11 | 77 | 12 |
| Q4 | Against an enemy that does possess it but is not using it | 11 | 77 | 12 |
|  | Gallup October 1955 | 22 | 64 | 14 |
| Q5 | Against an enemy that has it and uses it against us | 55 | 32 | 13 |
|  | Gallup October 1955 | 76 | 16 | 8 |

Base: all respondents Version 2 (957)

[^0]
## KEY DEMOGRAPHICS

## Daily Newspapers

Here is a list of daily newspapers. Which of these do you read or look at regularly? By regularly I mean on average at least three out of four issues.

|  | $\%$ |
| ---: | :---: |
| Daily Express | 4 |
| Daily Mail | 14 |
| The Mirror | 8 |
| Daily Record | 3 |
| Daily Telegraph | 6 |
| Financial Times | 1 |
| The Guardian | 5 |
| The Herald (Glasgow) | 1 |
| The Independent | 3 |
| Metro | 3 |
| The Scotsman | 1 |
| Daily Star | 3 |
| The Sun | 16 |
| The Times | 5 |
| Evening Standard | 2 |
| Other | 10 |
| None of these | 37 |

Base: all respondents $(1,973)$

## Voting Intention

How would you vote if there were a General Election tomorrow? (IF AGED 15-17 ADD: If you were old enough to vote?)

|  | $\%$ |
| ---: | :---: |
| Conservative | 19 |
| Labour | 31 |
| Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem) | 16 |
| Scottish/Welsh Nationalist | 1 |
| Green Party | 2 |
| UK Independence Party | $*$ |
| Other | 1 |
| Would not vote | 11 |
| Undecided | 17 |
| Refused | 2 |

Base: all respondents $(1,973)$

## Inclination to Support

Which party are you most inclined to support?

|  | $\%$ |
| ---: | :---: |
| Conservative | 14 |
| Labour | 21 |
| Liberal Democrats (Lib Dem) | 8 |
| Scottish/Welsh Nationalist | ${ }^{*}$ |
| Green Party | 1 |
| UK Independence Party | 0 |
| Other | ${ }^{*}$ |
| Would not vote | 1 |
| Undecided | 48 |
| Refused | 8 |

[^1]
## Socio-Political Activism

And which, if any of the things on this list have you done in the last two or three years? Just read out the letters that apply.

|  |  | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | Presented my views to a local councillor or MP | 14 |
| B | Written a letter to an editor | 6 |
| C | Urged someone outside my family to vote | 16 |
| D | Urged someone to get in touch with a local councillor or MP | 12 |
| E | Made a speech before an organised group | 11 |
| F | Been an officer of an organisation or club | 8 |
| G | Stood for public office | 1 |
| H | Taken an active part in a political campaign | 3 |
| I | Helped on fund raising drives | 20 |
| J | Voted in the last general election | 68 |
|  | None of these | 21 |
|  | Activist (5 + activities) | 6 |
|  | Semi-activist (3 or 4 activities) | 15 |
|  | Non-activist (2 or fewer activities) | 80 |


[^0]:    * The October 1955 Gallup survey question referred to the hydrogen bomb, and was worded as follows: "What do you think about the H-Bomb in a war? Would you approve of using it in these cases:"; the same three scenarios as cited above were then provided. The sample size was 1,000 British adults, and a similar face-to-face, in-home methodology was used.

[^1]:    Base: all undecided or refused at voting intention question (386)

