

## **ANES QUESTION Proposal for 2016 ANES Pilot Study: Support for Diverse Political Candidates**

### **1) Support for Diverse Political Candidates**

- a. **Proposal Overview:** There are potential discriminatory experiences for female, racial/ethnic minority, and LGBT political candidates. Respondents may feel a linked fate with diverse political candidates and therefore demonstrate more support for them. However, most public opinion datasets do not ask about the respondent's likelihood of supporting diverse political candidates. The 2008 ANES contains a few questions that allow for an exploration of voter support for female candidates. This includes four questions designed to "examine whether respondents evaluate male and female representatives differently depending on policy area and the representative's political party"<sup>11</sup> (Clawson and Oxley, 2010). However, there is a need to provide questions that will allow for a truly intersectional analysis of the combined impact of candidates' identities, controlling for party, as opposed to the traditional interaction-based analysis.
- b. **Proposal Keywords:** identity, race and ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, candidates
- c. **Other related survey questions:**
  - i. **2012 ANES Time Series Questions:**
    1. (vote and preference for candidate) Do you prefer one of the candidates for President (U.S. Senate, U.S. House, Governor)?  
  
Would you say your preference for this candidate is strong or not strong? Who did you vote for?

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<sup>11</sup> Conducting Empirical Analysis: Public Opinion in Action. Sage Press.

2. (support for woman president) Would it be good, bad, or neither good nor bad if the United States has a woman President in the next 20 years? How good (or bad) would it be if we had a woman President? How important is (or is not) it to you that a woman is elected President of the United States?

**ii. Gallup poll and General Social Survey question:** If your party nominated a woman for President, would you vote for her if she were qualified for the job?

**iii. Gallup poll (2012)- support for diverse candidates for president<sup>2</sup>**

*Between now and the 2012 political conventions, there will be discussion about the qualifications of presidential candidates -- their education, age, religion, race, and so on. If your party nominated a generally well-qualified person for president who happened to be \_\_\_\_\_, would you vote for that person?*

	Yes, would	No, would not
	%	%
Black	96	4
A woman	95	5
Catholic	94	5
Hispanic	92	7
Jewish	91	6
Mormon	80	18
Gay or lesbian	68	30
Muslim	58	40
An atheist	54	43

Gallup, June 7-10, 2012

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.gallup.com/poll/155285/atheists-muslims-bias-presidential-candidates.aspx>

**d. Proposed New Questions for the 2016 ANES Pilot Study:**

i. Between now and the 2016 general election, there will be discussion about the qualifications of congressional candidates -- their education, age, religion, race, and so on. If your party nominated a generally well-qualified MAN for the U.S. House who happened to be [ITEMS 1-11 READ IN ORDER], would you vote for that person?

1. White
2. Hispanic/Latino
3. Black/African American
4. Asian/Pacific Islander
5. Openly gay
6. Transgendered
7. Muslim
8. Catholic
9. Jewish
10. Mormon
11. Atheist

ii. Between now and the 2016 general election, there will be discussion about the qualifications of congressional candidates -- their education, age, religion, race, and so on. If your party nominated a generally well-qualified WOMAN for the U.S. House who happened to be [ITEMS 1-11 READ IN ORDER], would you vote for that person?

1. White
2. Hispanic/Latino
3. Black/African American
4. Asian/Pacific Islander
5. Openly gay
6. Transgendered
7. Muslim
8. Catholic
9. Jewish
10. Mormon
11. Atheist

e. **Statistical Information:** The two proposed questions will allow for a truly intersectional analysis of the combined impact of candidates' identities, controlling for party, as opposed to the traditional (theoretically and methodologically problematic) interaction-based analysis. Statistically, we could use basic differences of means tests or more sophisticated multivariate models (because of the n and the breadth of other questions on the survey). The ANES

sample size and diversity allows us the statistical power to examine the interaction of respondent and candidate identity on political attitudes.