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## NEARLY 8 IN 10 TEXAS VOTERS SUPPORT LEGAL ABORTION IN CASES OF RAPE OR INCEST, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; $\mathbf{6 3 \%}$ OF TEXANS SAY SUING SCHOOLS OVER MASK MANDATES IS A BAD IDEA

Weeks after Texas enacted one of the most restrictive abortion laws in the country that makes no exceptions for cases of rape or incest, registered voters say $77-16$ percent that abortion should be legal when a pregnancy is caused by rape or incest, according to a Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pea-ack) University Texas poll released today.

That view is shared across party lines. Democrats say $92-5$ percent, independents say $80-14$ percent, and Republicans say $66-29$ percent that abortion should be legal when a pregnancy is caused by rape or incest.

More than 7 in 10 voters ( $72-21$ percent) say it's a bad idea to enforce the new abortion law by allowing private citizens to sue anyone they suspect may have helped an abortion take place after a fetal heartbeat is detectable.

On the issue of making abortion illegal after a fetal heartbeat is detectable, which is usually around six weeks of pregnancy, voters are divided. Forty-five percent of Texas voters say abortion should be illegal after a fetal heartbeat is detectable, 43 percent say it should be legal at that point, and 12 percent did not offer an opinion.
"The state imposes an abortion law, and the citizens of Texas find parts of it grossly unacceptable. While split on what should be the legal time frame for aborting a pregnancy, when rape or incest is involved, they side with the mother and say no one has the right to unilaterally, legally punish folks who exercise the right to choose," said Quinnipiac University Polling Analyst Tim Malloy.

Voters say $60-31$ percent that they agree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion.

Slightly more than half of Texas voters ( 51 percent) say abortion should be legal in all cases ( 17 percent) or in most cases ( 34 percent), while roughly 4 in 10 voters ( 43 percent) say abortion should be illegal in most cases ( 32 percent) or illegal in all cases ( 11 percent).

More than 4 in 10 voters in the state ( 45 percent) say it is too difficult for a woman to get an abortion in Texas, while 32 percent say it's too easy.

## GUN SAFETY

Another law enacted in Texas at the start of September allows people to carry handguns without a license or without having to go through training.

Roughly two-thirds ( 67 percent) of voters, including 58 percent of gun owners, say allowing anyone 21 years of age or older to carry handguns without a license or training makes Texas less safe, while 26 percent say it makes Texas safer.

Half of voters ( 50 percent) say it's too easy to carry a handgun in Texas, while 44 percent say it's about right, and 4 percent say it's too difficult.
"Open carry weapons in the hands of gun novices is a formula for big trouble, say voters in a state concerned that lax gun laws could turn back the clock to the gunslinging wild west," added Malloy.

## COVID-19

The following questions regarding COVID-19 include the views of adults in Texas, not just registered voters.

Adults in Texas think 47-38 percent that Governor Abbott is hurting rather than helping efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Texas, with 15 percent not offering an opinion.

More than 6 in 10 Texans ( $64-26$ percent) think the recent rise in COVID-19 deaths in Texas was preventable.

## MASKS

A majority of Texans ( $63-29$ percent) think it's a bad idea that Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing school districts that are requiring masks for students.

There are divisions along party lines. Democrats say $92-7$ percent and independents say $65-27$ percent that it's a bad idea, while Republicans say $52-42$ percent that it's a good idea.

A majority of Texans say $60-35$ percent that they support requiring students, teachers, and staff to wear masks in schools.
"'Drop the lawsuits against the school districts and mask up those students,' say Texans, who join a chorus of Americans who believe protecting their kids is paramount and letting their school administrators follow the science is the right thing to do," added Malloy.

About two-thirds of Texans ( 64 percent) think local officials should be able to require masks in indoor public spaces if they believe it's necessary, while 31 percent do not.

More than half of Texans (53-41 percent) support requiring everyone to wear masks while in indoor public spaces.

A majority of Texans ( 60 percent) say they consider the issue of wearing masks to be primarily about public health, while 33 percent say they consider the issue of wearing masks to be about personal freedom.

## COVID-19 VACCINES

Texans support, $57-36$ percent, requiring healthcare workers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Texans support, $54-40$ percent, requiring teachers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
Texans are split on businesses requiring their employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, as 45 percent support it while 47 percent oppose it.

Seventy percent of Texans say they either received a COVID-19 vaccine or plan to get one, while 23 percent say they do not plan to get one.

1,020 Texas adults were surveyed from September $24^{\text {th }}-27^{\text {th }}$, including 863 Texas registered voters. The poll has a margin of error of +/- 3.1 percentage points for adults and $+/-3.3$ percentage points for registered voters.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Doug Schwartz, Ph.D. since 1994, conducts independent, non-partisan national and state polls on politics and issues. Surveys adhere to industry best practices and are based on random samples of adults using random digit dialing with live interviewers calling landlines and cell phones.

Visit poll.qu.edu or www.facebook.com/quinnipiacpoll Email poll@qu.edu, or follow us on Twitter @QuinnipiacPoll.
23. Do you think it is too easy to carry a handgun in Texas today, too difficult to carry a handgun in Texas today, or about right?

|  | REGISTERED VOTERS. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE. . . . . . . 4 YR COLL DEG |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |
| Too easy | 50\% | 22\% | 92\% | 45\% | 39\% | 60\% | 51\% | 37\% |  |
| Too difficult | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 5 |  |
| About right | 44 | 73 | 7 | 51 | 54 | 35 | 47 | 55 |  |
| DK/NA | 2 | 1 | - | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 3 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS . . .$35-49$ | $50-64$ | $65+$ | WHITE. |  | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
|  | 18-34 |  |  |  | Men | Wom |  |  |  |
| Too easy | 51\% | 47\% | 54\% | 56\% | 35\% | 48\% | 43\% | 73\% | 56\% |
| Too difficult | 5 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | - | 4 |
| About right | 43 | 48 | 40 | 40 | 59 | 47 | 52 | 26 | 39 |
| DK/NA | - | 2 | - | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
|  | GUN. |  | DENSIT |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | HsHld | Owner | City | Subu | Rura |  |  |  |  |
| Too easy | 42\% | 39\% | 60\% | 53\% | 28\% |  |  |  |  |
| Too difficult | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 |  |  |  |  |
| About right | 54 | 56 | 34 | 43 | 67 |  |  |  |  |
| DK/NA | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |

24. Do you think allowing anyone 21 years of age or older to carry handguns without a license or training makes Texas safer or less safe?


|  | GUN. . . . . . . . . HsHld Owner |  | DENSITY. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | City | Sub | Rural |
| Safer | 32\% | 34\% | 19\% | 25\% | 43\% |
| Less safe | 61 | 58 | 75 | 69 | 49 |
| NEITHER(VOL) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 7 |

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

|  | REGISTERED VOTERS. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE........ <br> 4 YR COLL DEG |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |
| Legal all cases | 17\% | 3\% | 40\% | 14\% | 14\% | 20\% | 18\% | 12\% |  |
| Legal most cases | 34 | 18 | 45 | 42 | 30 | 38 | 33 | 30 |  |
| Illegal most cases | 32 | 52 | 8 | 30 | 37 | 27 | 35 | 38 |  |
| Illegal all cases | 11 | 22 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 11 | 11 | 13 |  |
| DK/NA | 7 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 7 |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { AGE IN } \\ & 18-34 \end{aligned}$ | YRS..$35-49$ |  |  | WHITE. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | 50-64 | $65+$ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Legal all cases | 25\% | 20\% | 12\% | 13\% | 12\% | 16\% | 15\% | 17\% | 21\% |
| Legal most cases | 39 | 34 | 43 | 30 | 28 | 33 | 31 | 52 | 35 |
| Illegal most cases | 24 | 33 | 32 | 37 | 41 | 33 | 36 | 17 | 32 |
| Illegal all cases | 9 | 8 | 10 | 13 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 7 | 8 |
| DK/NA | 4 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 4 |


| Legal all cases | $4 \%$ | $8 \%$ | $15 \%$ | $6 \%$ | $21 \%$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Legal most cases | 18 | 32 | 37 | 31 | 37 |
| Illegal most cases | 54 | 40 | 31 | 36 | 29 |
| Illegal all cases | 21 | 14 | 13 | 22 | 7 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 6 |

26. How about when the pregnancy was caused by rape or incest; do you think abortion should be legal in that situation or illegal?

27. In general, do you agree or disagree with the 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that established a woman's right to an abortion?

28. Do you think abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detectable, which is usually around 6 weeks of pregnancy, should be legal or illegal?

|  | REGIST | ERED VO | TERS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WHITE |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 YR | LL |  |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | Yes | No |  |
| Legal | 43\% | 20\% | 73\% | 43\% | 34\% | 50\% | 48\% | 35\% |  |
| Illegal | 45 | 71 | 22 | 44 | 51 | 40 | 45 | 57 |  |
| DK/NA | 12 | 10 | 5 | 14 | 15 | 9 | 7 | 9 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS. |  |  | WHITE. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Legal | 55\% | 42\% | 44\% | 36\% | 34\% | 44\% | 40\% | 51\% | 46\% |
| Illegal | 35 | 44 | 49 | 55 | 56 | 49 | 52 | 31 | 41 |
| DK/NA | 10 | 14 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 18 | 14 |
|  | RELIGI | N. . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Wht |  |  | ATTEND | SRVCS |  |  |  |  |
|  | Evang | Prot | Cath | Weekly | Less |  |  |  |  |
| Legal | 20\% | 32\% | 44\% | 24\% | 50\% |  |  |  |  |
| Illegal | 73 | 57 | 47 | 67 | 39 |  |  |  |  |
| DK/NA | 8 | 11 | 8 | 9 | 11 |  |  |  |  |

29. Would you say it is too difficult or too easy for a woman to get an abortion in Texas?

REGISTERED VOTERS..................................................

30. As you may know, the new abortion law that recently went into effect in Texas is not enforced by the state, but is instead enforced by allowing private citizens to sue anyone they suspect may have helped an abortion take place after a fetal heartbeat is detectable. Do you think allowing private citizens to enforce the law instead of the state is a good idea or a bad idea?

|  | REGISTERED VOTERS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | WHITE........ |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 YR COLL DEG |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |
| Good idea | 21\% | 35\% | 7\% | 16\% | 24\% | 17\% | 20\% | 21\% |  |
| Bad idea | 72 | 58 | 90 | 79 | 68 | 77 | 74 | 73 |  |
| DK/NA | 7 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 6 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS |  |  | WHITE. |  | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | $65+$ | Men | Wom |  |  |  |
| Good idea | 14\% | 20\% | 23\% | 22\% | 25\% | 18\% | 21\% | 9\% | 22\% |
| Bad idea | 83 | 72 | 73 | 70 | 69 | 76 | 73 | 85 | 71 |
| DK/NA | 3 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
|  | RELIGION. |  |  | ATTEND SRVCS |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Wht |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Evang | Prot | Cath | Week | Less |  |  |  |  |
| Good idea | 37\% | 26\% | 23\% | 27\% | 18\% |  |  |  |  |
| Bad idea | 55 | 67 | 76 | 66 | 78 |  |  |  |  |
| DK/NA | 8 | 7 | 1 | 7 | 5 |  |  |  |  |

31. (Adults) Which comes closest to your situation: you are not planning to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, or you are planning to receive or have already received a COVID-19 vaccine?

32. (Adults) Do you think that Governor Abbott is helping or hurting efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Texas?

|  | ADULTS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ${ }_{\text {WHITE }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | 4 YR COLL DEG |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |
| Helping | 38\% | 73\% | 9\% | 37\% | 44\% | 33\% | 46\% | 51\% |  |
| Hurting | 47 | 14 | 84 | 48 | 39 | 54 | 44 | 34 |  |
| DK/NA | 15 | 13 | 8 | 15 | 17 | 13 | 10 | 15 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS. |  | . | WHITE. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Helping | 29\% | 43\% | 41\% | 38\% | 54\% | 45\% | 49\% | 18\% | 32\% |
| Hurting | 55 | 43 | 47 | 50 | 33 | 41 | 38 | 68 | 54 |
| DK/NA | 16 | 14 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 13 | 14 | 14 |
|  | AREA. . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dall/ |  | South |  |  | DENSITY. |  |  |
|  | East | FtWth | Hstn | Cntrl | West | South | City | Sub | Rural |
| Helping | 46\% | 30\% | 39\% | 34\% | 50\% | 39\% | 33\% | 36\% | 53\% |
| Hurting | 28 | 57 | 52 | 58 | 23 | 47 | 55 | 46 | 36 |
| DK/NA | 26 | 13 | 9 | 8 | 27 | 14 | 12 | 18 | 11 |

33. (Adults) Do you think the recent rise in COVID-19 deaths in Texas was preventable or not preventable?

|  | ADULTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WHITE |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 YR | LL |  |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | Yes | No |  |
| Preventable | 64\% | 44\% | 88\% | 62\% | 57\% | 70\% | 61\% | 53\% |  |
| Not preventable | 26 | 40 | 10 | 31 | 32 | 19 | 29 | 35 |  |
| DK/NA | 11 | 16 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 12 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS. |  |  | WHITE |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | $65+$ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Preventable | 68\% | 63\% | 65\% | 64\% | 51\% | 60\% | 56\% | 77\% | 70\% |
| Not preventable | 25 | 29 | 24 | 25 | 39 | 29 | 33 | 10 | 23 |
| DK/NA | 7 | 7 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 13 | 7 |
|  | AREA. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dall/ |  | South |  |  | DENS | Y. |  |
|  | East | FtWth | Hstn | Cntrl | West | South | City | Subu | Rural |
| Preventable | 58\% | 67\% | 62\% | 68\% | 47\% | 71\% | 69\% | 65\% | 55\% |
| Not preventable | 28 | 22 | 28 | 23 | 39 | 21 | 22 | 27 | 33 |
| DK/NA | 14 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 14 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 12 |

34. (Adults) Do you support or oppose requiring health care workers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

|  | ADULTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WHITE | - |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 YR | OLL D |  |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | Yes | No |  |
| Support | 57\% | 35\% | 93\% | 50\% | 50\% | 64\% | 56\% | 47\% |  |
| Oppose | 36 | 61 | 7 | 43 | 42 | 30 | 42 | 48 |  |
| DK/NA | 7 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 5 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS. |  |  | WHITE |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | $65+$ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Support | 56\% | 51\% | 65\% | 69\% | 44\% | 56\% | 51\% | 73\% | 61\% |
| Oppose | 32 | 46 | 33 | 28 | 49 | 42 | 45 | 18 | 31 |
| DK/NA | 12 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 9 | 7 |
|  | AREA. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dall/ |  | South |  |  | DENSI | . |  |
|  | East | FtWth | Hstn | Cntrl | West | South | City | Subu | Rural |
| Support | 39\% | 62\% | 59\% | 58\% | 46\% | 66\% | 68\% | 57\% | 37\% |
| Oppose | 48 | 32 | 36 | 36 | 47 | 25 | 26 | 38 | 57 |
| DK/NA | 13 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 5 | 5 | 6 |

35. (Adults) Do you support or oppose requiring teachers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

36. (Adults) Do you support or oppose businesses requiring their employees to receive a COVID-19 vaccine?

37. (Adults) Do you support or oppose requiring students, teachers, and staff to wear masks in schools?

38. (Adults) Do you support or oppose requiring everyone to wear masks while in indoor public spaces?

|  | ADULTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | WHITE |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 4 YR | LL |  |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | Yes | No |  |
| Support | 53\% | 24\% | 93\% | 50\% | 43\% | 63\% | 42\% | 38\% |  |
| Oppose | 41 | 71 | 6 | 44 | 48 | 33 | 54 | 55 |  |
| DK/NA | 6 | 5 | - | 6 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 7 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS. |  |  | WHITE |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | $65+$ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Support | 59\% | 55\% | 55\% | 59\% | 30\% | 48\% | 40\% | 81\% | 63\% |
| Oppose | 35 | 41 | 43 | 38 | 62 | 49 | 55 | 15 | 34 |
| DK/NA | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
|  | AREA. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dall/ |  | South |  |  | DENSI | . . |  |
|  | East | FtWth | Hstn | Cntrl | West | South | City | Subu | Rural |
| Support | 39\% | 60\% | 52\% | 61\% | 40\% | 60\% | 62\% | 53\% | 41\% |
| Oppose | 49 | 33 | 46 | 37 | 57 | 33 | 34 | 43 | 55 |
| DK/NA | 13 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

39. (Adults) In general, do you consider the issue of wearing masks to be: primarily about personal freedom or primarily about public health?

40. (Adults) As you may know, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing school districts that are requiring masks for students. Do you think this is a good idea or a bad idea?

41. (Adults) In general, do you think that local officials should be able to require masks in indoor public spaces if they believe it is necessary, or not?

|  | ADULTS . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ${ }_{\text {WHIT }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tot | Rep | Dem | Ind | Men | Wom | 4 YR COLL DEG |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Yes | No |  |
| Yes | 64\% | 40\% | 91\% | 66\% | 55\% | 72\% | 59\% | 54\% |  |
| No | 31 | 56 | 7 | 30 | 38 | 24 | 37 | 43 |  |
| DK/NA | 6 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 3 |  |
|  | AGE IN | YRS |  |  | WHITE. |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18-34 | 35-49 | 50-64 | 65+ | Men | Wom | Wht | Blk | Hsp |
| Yes | 71\% | 69\% | 59\% | 68\% | 46\% | 64\% | 56\% | 85\% | 69\% |
| No | 23 | 28 | 38 | 28 | 50 | 33 | 40 | 10 | 26 |
| DK/NA | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
|  | AREA. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dall/ |  | South |  |  | DENSI | Y. |  |
|  | East | FtWth | Hstn | Cntrl | West | South | City | Subu | Rural |
| Yes | 52\% | 72\% | 66\% | 73\% | 46\% | 63\% | 71\% | 64\% | 53\% |
| No | 35 | 23 | 32 | 24 | 46 | 32 | 25 | 30 | 45 |
| DK/NA | 13 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 |

