

FOR RELEASE: DECEMBER 20, 2017

**AMERICANS HAVE LITTLE HOPE FOR WORLD PEACE IN 2018,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY NATIONAL POLL FINDS;
'MERRY CHRISTMAS' IS BOGUS ISSUE, VOTERS SAY 4-1**

The world will be a less peaceful place in 2018, American voters say 73 – 18 percent in a Quinnipiac University national poll released today.

One bright spot is the Middle East, as voters say 48 – 41 percent that a way can be found for Israelis and Palestinians to coexist peacefully, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds. Women are hopeful 51 – 37 percent. Men are divided as 45 percent say a way to coexistence can be found and 47 percent say no.

American voters say 58 – 26 percent that 2018 will be better than 2017 for them personally. Democrats say 44 – 38 percent that 2018 will be worse for them, the only party, gender, education, age or racial group listed with a pessimistic outlook.

The nation's economy will be better next year, voters say 52 – 38 percent. The economy will be worse, Democrats say 64 – 22 percent; women say 48 – 40 percent and black voters say 61 – 28 percent. White women are divided 44 – 45 percent. Every other listed group has a positive outlook.

A total of 33 percent of American voters are “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the way things are going in the nation today, while 67 percent are “somewhat dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied.”

“Hope for Mideast peace and a belief we’ll all be better off financially are bright spots in a survey that has an undercurrent of unease over an ever more dangerous world,” said Tim Malloy, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll.

“American voters suspect a political Grinch behind the so-called war on Christmas.”

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Quinnipiac University Poll/December 20, 2017 – page 2

The call for more people to say, “Merry Christmas,” instead of “Happy Holidays” is an issue “made up for political purposes” rather than a real issue, American voters say 76 – 19 percent. No listed group believes this is a real issue.

Gun Control

Five years after the Sandy Hook massacre, American voters support 95 – 4 percent, including 94 – 5 percent among voters in households where there is a gun, background checks for all gun buyers.

These results have been consistent in every Quinnipiac University poll since Sandy Hook.

There is a wide gender gap as voters support 59 – 36 percent stricter gun laws in the U.S. Women support stricter gun laws 69 – 26 percent. Men are divided 47 – 47 percent.

Voters also support 68 – 27 percent a ban on gun modifications that can make a semi-automatic weapon work more like an automatic weapon. There is no group, including gun owners, opposed to this measure.

Congress is not doing enough to reduce gun violence, voters say 67 – 25 percent. Republicans are the only listed group who say, 49 – 38 percent, that Congress is doing enough.

“The horror of Sandy Hook still resonates, especially with women. But while Americans are crying out for tougher gun laws, the consensus is that Congress is sitting on its hands,” Malloy said.

From December 13 – 18, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,230 voters nationwide with a margin of error of +/- 3.3 percentage points, including the design effect. Live interviewers call landlines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts nationwide public opinion surveys, and statewide polls in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa and Colorado as a public service and for research.

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7. In general, how satisfied are you with the way things are going in the nation today; are you very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Very satisfied	7%	19%	1%	5%	8%	5%	5%	11%		
Smwht satisfied	26	48	10	24	32	20	24	33		
Smwht dissatisfied	24	23	19	27	25	23	24	21		
Very dissatisfied	43	9	70	44	33	51	46	34		
DK/NA	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1		

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Very satisfied	5%	7%	7%	7%	11%	5%	8%	-	6%
Smwht satisfied	23	26	28	27	34	24	29	12	26
Smwht dissatisfied	24	24	23	23	24	21	23	29	18
Very dissatisfied	47	43	40	43	30	48	40	59	48
DK/NA	1	-	2	1	1	1	1	-	2

8. Do you think 2017 was better or worse than 2016 for you personally?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Better	46%	81%	20%	44%	57%	36%	46%	54%		
Worse	37	9	60	39	29	45	37	29		
NEITHER (VOL)	14	8	17	15	12	16	13	14		
DK/NA	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3		

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Better	47%	47%	49%	42%	64%	38%	50%	23%	43%
Worse	39	37	38	36	23	42	33	55	48
NEITHER (VOL)	10	14	12	18	11	16	14	21	7
DK/NA	4	2	2	4	2	3	3	1	3

9. Do you think 2018 will be better or worse than 2017 for you personally?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Better	58%	86%	38%	59%	65%	53%	56%	67%		
Worse	26	5	44	25	21	30	29	17		
NEITHER (VOL)	5	2	8	5	3	6	5	4		
DK/NA	11	8	11	12	11	12	9	11		

	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....				
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp
Better	69%	59%	61%	49%	72%	53%	62%	46%	57%
Worse	22	26	26	25	17	29	23	34	31
NEITHER (VOL)	3	5	3	9	3	6	5	8	2
DK/NA	7	10	10	16	8	12	10	12	9

11. In 2018, do you think that the world will be a more peaceful place or a less peaceful place?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
More peaceful	18%	36%	6%	17%	23%	14%	15%	23%		
Less peaceful	73	55	86	77	68	77	78	67		
NEITHER (VOL)	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	2		
DK/NA	6	8	5	4	6	6	4	8		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
More peaceful	19%	18%	22%	14%	23%	15%	19%	8%	25%	
Less peaceful	72	75	72	74	70	76	73	84	67	
NEITHER (VOL)	4	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	3	
DK/NA	5	5	5	9	6	6	6	7	5	

25. Do you think that the nation's economy will be better or worse next year?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Better	52%	89%	22%	52%	65%	40%	50%	63%		
Worse	38	7	64	38	26	48	40	27		
NEITHER (VOL)	3	-	3	4	3	3	2	3		
DK/NA	7	4	11	6	5	9	8	7		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Better	51%	51%	56%	52%	72%	44%	57%	28%	47%	
Worse	38	41	38	34	20	45	34	61	42	
NEITHER (VOL)	4	3	1	3	2	2	2	3	6	
DK/NA	7	5	5	11	6	9	7	7	6	

42. Thinking about this holiday season, do you plan to spend more on gifts this year than last year, less on gifts or about the same as last year?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
More	14%	19%	8%	16%	18%	11%	16%	13%		
Less	27	18	32	26	19	33	23	26		
About the same	58	62	59	57	61	55	61	61		
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1		
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
More	19%	19%	12%	8%	22%	9%	15%	12%	13%	
Less	28	26	26	26	17	31	24	39	28	
About the same	51	54	61	64	61	60	61	46	58	
DK/NA	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	3	2	

43. As you may know, some politicians have talked about how more Americans should be saying "Merry Christmas" instead of "Happy Holidays". Do you think that this is a real issue, or do you think that this issue is made up for political purposes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Real issue	19%	39%	7%	16%	19%	20%	19%	22%		
Made up	76	56	88	79	76	75	76	73		
DK/NA	5	5	6	5	5	5	5	5		
AGE IN YRS.....					WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Real issue	8%	19%	24%	23%	22%	19%	20%	13%	14%	
Made up	88	76	72	68	74	75	75	80	79	
DK/NA	4	5	4	9	5	5	5	7	7	

44. Do you support or oppose stricter gun laws in the United States?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG			
							Yes	No		
Support	59%	31%	85%	58%	47%	69%	66%	45%		
Oppose	36	63	12	36	47	26	31	49		
DK/NA	5	6	3	6	6	5	3	6		
AGE IN YRS.....					WHITE.....					
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	
Support	59%	60%	57%	61%	45%	65%	56%	81%	59%	
Oppose	34	36	38	35	50	31	40	19	25	
DK/NA	7	4	5	5	5	5	5	-	15	
REGION.....					DENSITY.....			Gun		
	NEast	MWest	South	West	City	Suburb	Rural	HsHld		
Support	71%	61%	53%	55%	64%	62%	46%	43%		
Oppose	25	35	42	36	32	32	49	52		
DK/NA	4	4	4	9	4	6	6	6		

45. Do you support or oppose requiring background checks for all gun buyers?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	95%	92%	98%	96%	92%	98%	97%	95%			
Oppose	4	6	2	4	6	1	3	3			
DK/NA	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	2			
AGE IN YRS.....											
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	WHITE.....						
					Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	96%	95%	96%	96%	94%	98%	96%	96%	96%		
Oppose	4	5	3	2	5	1	3	3	4		
DK/NA	-	-	1	3	1	1	1	1	-		
REGION.....											
	NEast	MWest	South	West	DENSITY.....		Gun				
					City	Suburb	Rural	HsHld			
Support	98%	94%	95%	95%	96%	96%	94%	94%			
Oppose	2	4	4	4	3	3	5	5			
DK/NA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			

46. Do you support or oppose a ban on gun modifications that can make a semi-automatic gun work more like an automatic gun?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Support	68%	56%	80%	73%	63%	73%	79%	63%			
Oppose	27	38	18	25	33	22	18	32			
DK/NA	4	6	2	2	4	5	3	5			
AGE IN YRS.....											
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	WHITE.....						
					Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Support	62%	73%	72%	70%	64%	77%	71%	64%	66%		
Oppose	33	24	26	23	32	19	25	30	30		
DK/NA	5	3	2	7	3	4	4	6	5		
REGION.....											
	NEast	MWest	South	West	DENSITY.....		Gun				
					City	Suburb	Rural	HsHld			
Support	76%	71%	65%	65%	73%	71%	60%	64%			
Oppose	21	24	30	31	24	25	36	33			
DK/NA	3	5	5	4	3	5	4	3			

47. Do you think Congress is doing enough to reduce gun violence or do you think Congress needs to do more to reduce gun violence?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Doing enough	25%	49%	6%	24%	31%	20%	26%	30%			
Do more	67	38	92	70	59	75	69	57			
DK/NA	8	13	2	6	10	5	6	13			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Doing enough	28%	25%	27%	19%	34%	23%	28%	8%	22%		
Do more	68	71	66	68	54	71	63	88	74		
DK/NA	4	4	8	13	12	6	9	3	4		
	REGION.....				DENSITY.....			Gun			
	NEast	MWest	South	West	City	Suburb	Rural	Hshld			
Doing enough	16%	27%	28%	25%	19%	23%	38%	36%			
Do more	76	64	66	65	77	69	50	55			
DK/NA	8	9	6	10	4	8	12	9			

48. Is being the victim of a mass shooting something you personally worry about or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE..... COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Yes/Worry	37%	28%	48%	38%	29%	45%	30%	30%			
No	62	72	50	62	70	54	70	70			
DK/NA	1	-	2	-	1	1	-	-			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Yes/Worry	47%	42%	31%	33%	20%	39%	30%	58%	59%		
No	52	58	68	66	80	61	70	38	39		
DK/NA	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	4	2		
	REGION.....				DENSITY.....			Gun			
	NEast	MWest	South	West	City	Suburb	Rural	Hshld			
Yes/Worry	37%	31%	39%	41%	44%	33%	32%	32%			
No	62	69	59	59	55	66	68	67			
DK/NA	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	1			

49. Do you think a way can be found for Israelis and Palestinians to coexist peacefully with each other, or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	WHITE.....				
							COLLEGE DEG				
							Yes	No			
Yes/Coexist	48%	35%	55%	51%	45%	51%	50%	39%			
No	41	58	30	42	47	37	42	53			
DK/NA	11	8	15	7	9	12	8	9			
	AGE IN YRS.....				WHITE.....						
	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp		
Yes/Coexist	58%	45%	47%	42%	41%	47%	44%	55%	61%		
No	32	45	44	45	52	43	47	24	27		
DK/NA	10	10	9	12	7	10	8	21	12		