

Race, Religion, Sex and Gender

Erin Pinkus June 23, 2017



Race, Religion, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Presentations

- Can Respondent Race Alter Perceptions of Events? Biased Processing of Officer-involved Shootings Josh Pasek, University of Michigan Hakeem Jefferson, University of Michigan Fabian Neuner, University of Michigan
- Race, Religion and the Meaning of Evangelicalism Claire Gecewicz, Pew Research Center Jessica Hamar Martinez, Pew Research Center Gregory A. Smith, Pew Research Center
- Investigating and Understanding Responses to Questions on Sex, Sexual Orientation and Sexual Identity Carol Pierannunzi, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention William Garvin, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Machell Town, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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SurveyMonkey
June 2017

Can Respondent Race Alter Perceptions of Events? Biased Processing of Officer-Involved Shootings

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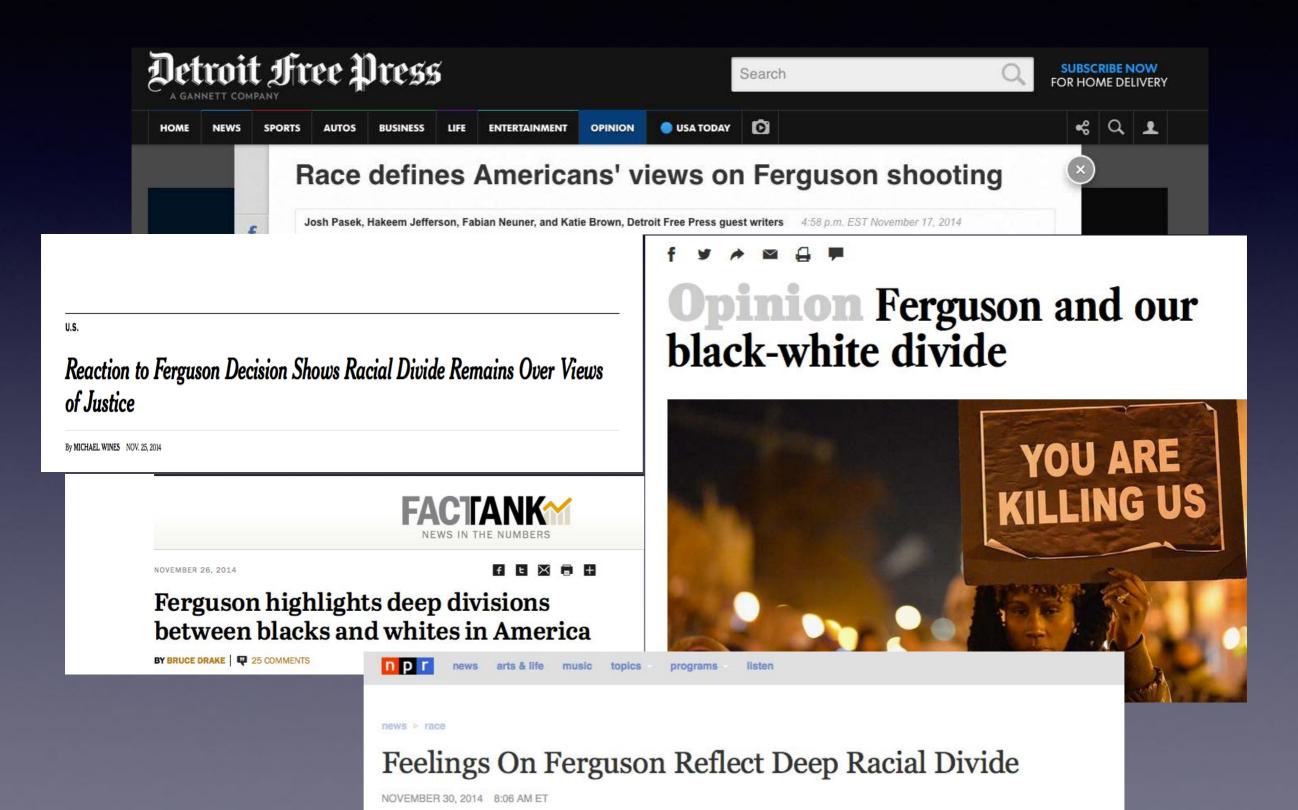
Ferguson, Missouri August 9, 2014



Darren Wilson

Michael Brown

Some evidence that differing interpretations were on racial lines



Our key question:

If individuals' race does alter their perceptions of events like Ferguson, how might that occur?

An initial study Aug 29 - Sept 8, 2014

(3 weeks after the events in question)

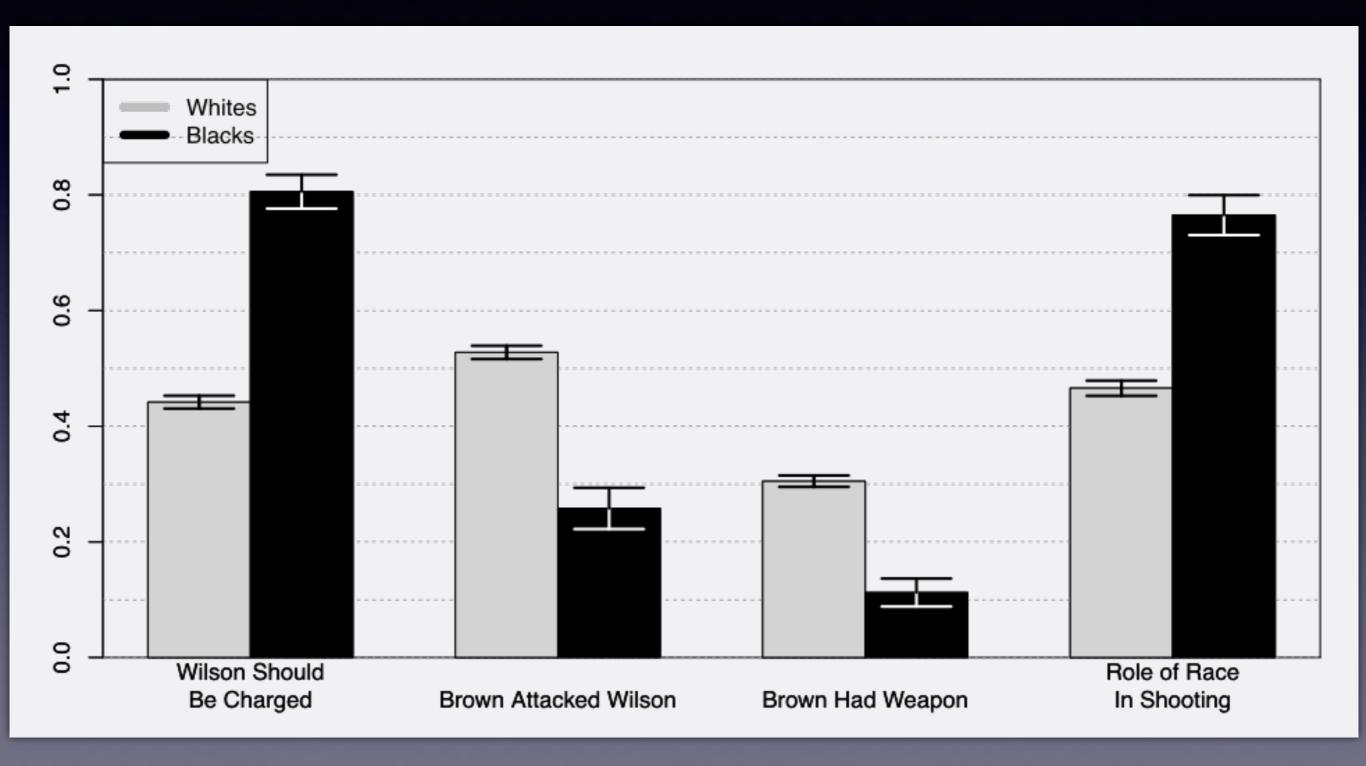
- Questions about Ferguson embedded in the first wave of a four-wave panel study
- Nonprobability survey conducted on Qualtrics, using panelists sourced from Clear Voice
- 3,729 respondents
 (2,962 White, Non-Hispanic only; 253 Black, Non-Hispanic only)
- No quotas or weights applied

Four key questions:

- Given what you have heard, do you think that Darren Wilson, the police officer, should be charged with murder?
 (Definitely should be charged, probably should be charged, probably should not be charged, definitely should not be charged)
- Given what you have heard, how likely do you think it is that Michael Brown attacked Darren Wilson, the police officer? (Not at all likely, a little likely, somewhat likely, very likely, extremely likely)
- Do you happen to recall whether Michael Brown had a weapon?
 (He definitely did not have a weapon, he probably did not have a weapon, he probably had a weapon)
- How much of a role do you think race played in the shooting?
 (No role at all, a little role, a moderate role, a large role, an enormous role)

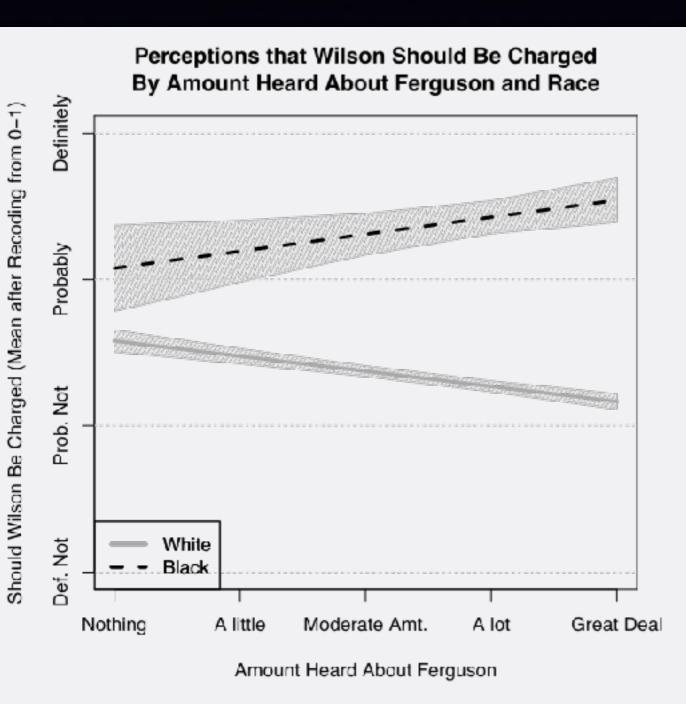
All variables coded to range from 0 to 1

Large differences in beliefs

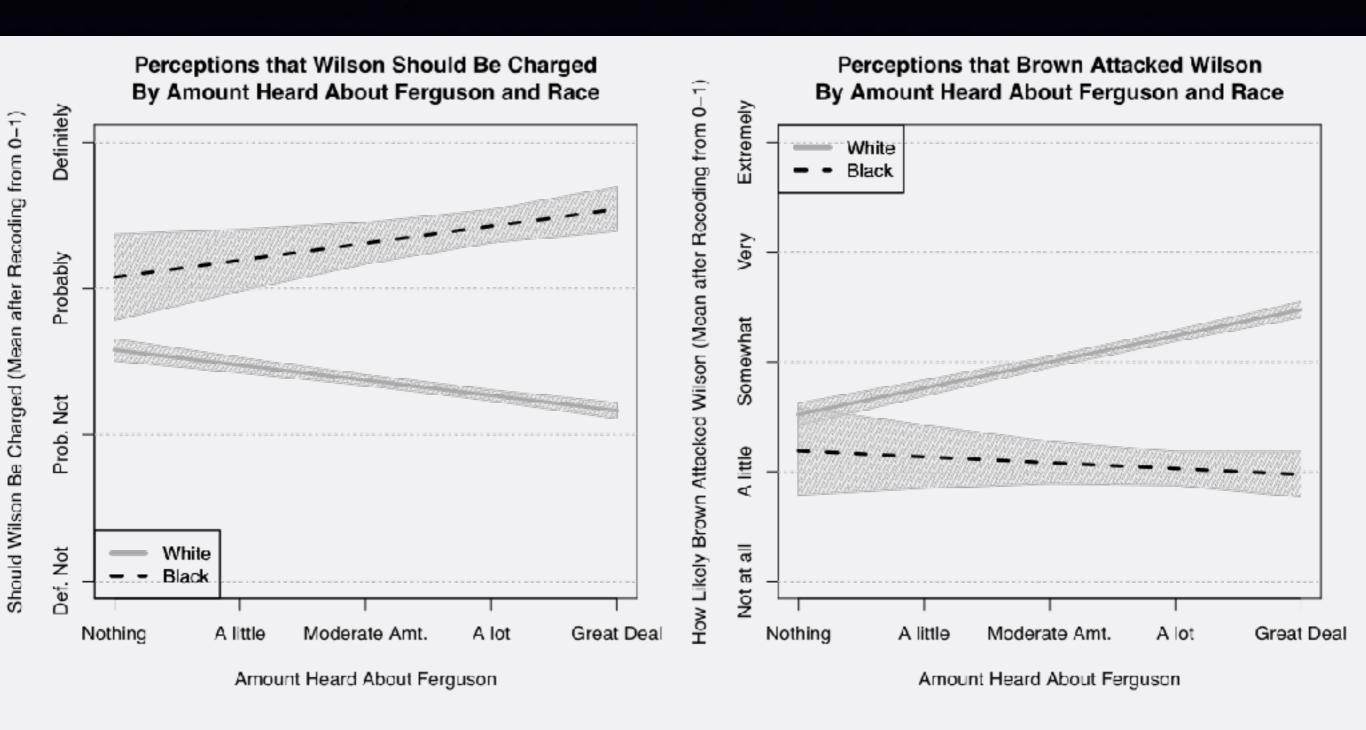


And the more people said they had heard about Ferguson . . .

And the more people said they had heard about Ferguson . . .



And the more people said they had heard about Ferguson . . .



Hence

- Evidence of a clear racial divide
- More informed respondents had the most discrepant perceptions of the incident
- But was this due to biases in the information people received, the people who sought information, or the lens through which they interpreted that information?

Three possible explanations for the racial divide in Ferguson

- 1. Racial differences in media exposure
- 2. Motivated reasoning on the basis of social identity (instead of partisanship)
- 3. Updating from radically different prior beliefs

The current study Two-wave panel design

- Nonprobability surveys conducted on Qualtrics
- Quotas to achieve a 50% Black, 50% White sample
- Wave 1 collected June 15-20, 2016; N=1,430
- Wave 2 collected June 27-Aug 5, 2016; N=895
- Recontact rate of 62,6%
- Individuals contacted after July 5 (date of the Baton Rouge shooting) were excluded from all analyses.

The current study Two-wave panel design

- Wave 1: Demographics, racial identity, perceptions of the criminal justice system, racial resentment, perceptions of Ferguson
- Wave 2: Experimental racial identity prime, scenario with statement evaluations (7 statements), questions about additional information desired (to measure selective exposure), overall perceptions of incident
- Respondents were not informed that the two waves were part of the same study

The Scenario

Dear Citizen,

We are writing to you on behalf of a local municipality where a police officer was recently involved in a controversial incident. As you may have heard, there has been increasing concern with police-involved shootings throughout the United States. We're looking to you and to other citizens to understand the best way to deal with the incident that has occurred. We'd like you to put yourself in the role of a local citizen who may be selected to serve on a grand jury deciding whether the officer should be indicted for acting inappropriately or whether he acted in good faith.

Over the course of this survey, we are going to ask you some questions and present you with some information that might be typical in a grand jury. First, we will ask you a few questions about yourself. We'll then present you with information about the incident in question, including an overall description of the incident and a number of witness statements. As in a real jury, we hope that you will tell us what you think of these various pieces of information and what they should contribute to our overall decision about what we should do about the incident in question. We have anonymized some details of the event as well as the city in question.

Your responses to these various pieces of information will help us better determine how to structure jury decision-making.

We appreciate your assistance. At the end of the survey, we will provide you with contact details should you have any questions.

Seven individual statements

Chief of Police, at a press conference shortly after the event:

At 6:47 PM, on the 300 block of [] Avenue, police were called to the scene of a heated argument between two individuals. According to the police report, when our officers arrived, one of the individuals, an African-American male in his mid-twenties, later determined to be [Mr. Taylor], fled the scene, at which point, Officer [Silver] pursued him on foot for approximately 50 yards. [Mr. Taylor] turned to confront the officer and reached into his pocket for what at the time appeared to be a weapon. In line with the training we provide all of our officers, Officer [Silver] drew his weapon and shot the subject twice at a distance of approximately 10 feet. Shortly afterwards, additional officers arrived at the scene and the individual was pronounced dead at 7:13 PM.

Officer [Silver] is a veteran police officer in the [] Police Department. He has served with competence for 14 years. Although he has been offered the opportunity to be promoted to detective in the past, he has chosen to remain a beat cop. Recently, in recognition of his service to the department, Officer [Silver] was awarded our annual "Officer Excellence Award".

With respect to the deceased, we are always saddened when an incident like this occurs in our community. But while we regret that this happened, it is our job to keep our community safe. And when an individual threatens the safety of one of our officers, real or implied, we must take that threat seriously.

Regarding media reports that [Mr. Taylor] had a warrant out for his arrest, this is in fact the case. However, the warrant had nothing to do with this particular event and was for unpaid traffic tickets [Mr. Taylor] had accrued over prior months.



Where were you when the events occurred?

"I was walking my dog on the other side of [] Avenue. I had gone out with the dog a few minutes earlier and noticed the two guys arguing on the street in front of the yellow house, but I didn't make too much of it at the time. As I'm walking back to my house, a police car pulls up and the officer jumps out and starts running toward one of the guys who was arguing. He tries to get away but doesn't get very far before the officer catches up with him. They were coming right toward me, so I moved onto the grass and got out of the way. From where I was standing, it looked like the guy was not in good shape. He was breathing heavily and started coughing as he turned around to face the officer. You know how runners look after they've finished running? Sweaty, hands on head that's what the guy was doing. And the officer just takes the gun and shoots him. I couldn't believe it. Kid didn't put up a struggle or anything."

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Respondents encountered all statements in the same order

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Department.
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Statements varied in whether they suggested that the officer behaved appropriately or inappropriately

With respect incident lik that this ha

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After the statements, respondents were presented with "excerpts" from additional statements and were asked to tell us what else they would be interested in reading

For each of these excerpts, a full statement is available. Please select the ones you would be interested in reading (select as many as you wish).

"This isn't the first time Officer [Silver] has done something racist. He rides around here all the time giving out tickets, harassing people for standing around minding their own business."

"There's no way [Mr. Taylor] turned around to confront the officer. He looked like was going to collapse."

"If he was trying to surrender to the officer, the way he turned around is not the way to do it."

So that individuals' information environments remained constant, respondents did not actually get to read the statements, though they had no way of knowing this would be the case at the time

After all statements, respondents were asked

 Given what you have heard, how appropriate do you think Officer Silver's actions were?

(Not at all appropriate, a little appropriate, somewhat appropriate, very appropriate, completely appropriate)

 Given what you have read, do you think that Officer Silver should be charged with a crime?

(Definitely should be charged, probably should be charged, probably should not be charged, definitely should not be charged)

 Given what you have read, how likely do you think it is that Mr. Taylor attacked Officer Silver?

(Not at all likely, a little likely, somewhat likely, very likely, extremely likely)

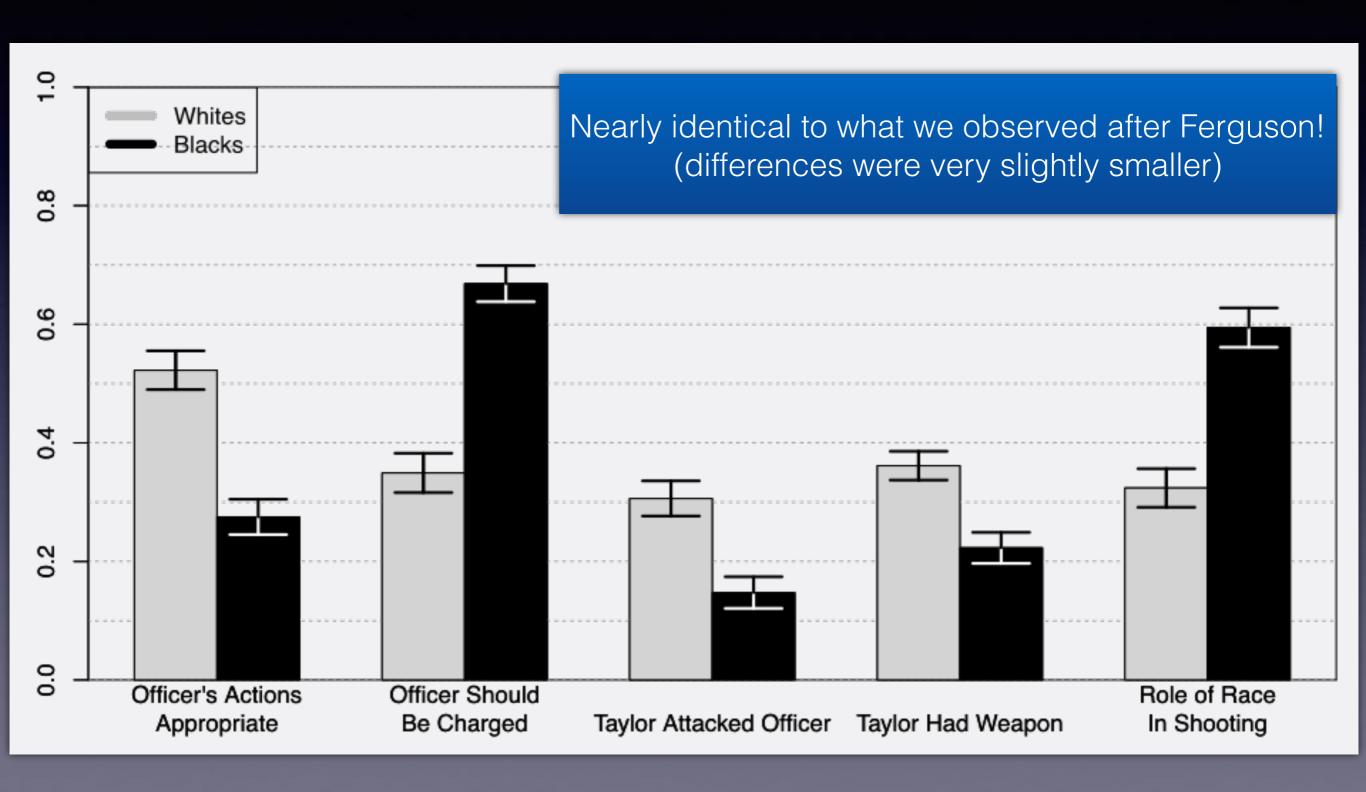
- Do you happen to recall whether Mr. Taylor had a weapon?
 (He definitely did not have a weapon, he probably did not have a weapon, he probably had a weapon)
- How much of a role do you think race played in the shooting?
 (No role at all, a little role, a moderate role, a large role, an enormous role)

All variables coded to range from 0 to 1

Some expectations

- H1 Black and White respondents will differ in their summary judgments even when they receive the same information (evidence of biased processing)
- H2 Respondent will prefer to read excerpts that appear likely to bolster their group identities (evidence of motivated reasoning)
- H3 Respondents will interpret information in line with their pre-existing beliefs about Blacks and the police (evidence of biased updating)

Summary judgments (H1)



Initial conclusions

- Evidence of large differences in how respondents process the same information (H1)
- Respondents are somewhat more likely to seek congenial information (H2)
- Racial differences in information processing correspond with differences in prior beliefs about Blacks and fairness of the criminal justice system (H3)

In sum

- Blacks and Whites reach different conclusions about these incidents because they process information differently, not because the encounter different information
- These differences are partially driven by identityrelated goals, but are more strongly shaped by different racial experiences
- If we want to minimize perceptual differences, interventions should seek to mitigate diverging experiences and expectations across groups

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Race, Religion and the Meaning of Evangelicalism

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Main approach for categorizing Protestants

- Question 1: What is your present religion if any? Are you Protestant, Roman Catholic, Mormon, Orthodox such as Greek or Russian Orthodox, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, atheist, agnostic, something else, or nothing in particular?
- Question 2: Would you describe yourself as a "born again" or evangelical Christian, or not?
- Question 3: Which of the following describes your race? You can select as many as apply. White, Black or African American, Asian or Asian American or some other race.

Attendance at religious services

% who say they attend religious services ...

	Weekly+	Monthly/yearly	Seldom/never	DK/Ref.
	%	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	63	28	9	0=100
White	61	28	10	1
Black	65	29	6	0
Non-evangelical Protestant	28	46	25	1
White	26	45	28	1
Black	32	51	16	1

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

Same-sex marriage

% who ____ allowing gays and lesbians to marry legally

	Oppose	Favor	DK/Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	65	27	7=100
White	68	25	6
Black	59	33	8
Non-evangelical Protestant	34	57	9
White	33	59	8
Black	35	54	11

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

Acceptance of homosexuality

% who say homosexuality should be ...

	Discouraged by society	Accepted by society	Other/DK/Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	55	36	9=100
White	59	33	8
Black	48	44	8
Non-evangelical Protestant	26	66	8
White	25	67	8
Black	28	63	9

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

www.pewresearch.org

Size of government

% who say they prefer a ...

	Smaller govt. w/fewer services	Bigger govt. w/ more services	Other/DK/Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	58	36	6=100
White	73	22	5
Black	23	71	6
Non-evangelical Protestant	54	38	8
White	62	30	8
Black	24	69	8

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

Government aid to poor

% who government aid to the poor ...

	Does more harm than good	Does more good than harm	Other/DK/ Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	51	43	6=100
White	61	34	6
Black	28	66	7
Non-evangelical Protestant	46	48	6
White	50	44	6
Black	27	68	5

Abortion

% who say abortion should be ...

	Illegal in all/most cases	Legal in all/most cases	DK/Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	62	34	4=100
White	67	30	3
Black	46	48	6
Non-evangelical Protestant	35	61	5
White	33	63	4
Black	35	60	6

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

Party affiliation

% who identify as ...

	Rep/lean Rep	Dem/lean Dem	Other/no lean
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	49	36	15=100
White	65	22	13
Black	10	79	11
Non-evangelical Protestant	39	43	18
White	47	36	17
Black	8	80	12

2016 vote intention

% who say they intended to vote for ...

	Trump/lean Trump	Clinton/lean Clinton	Other/DK/Ref.
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	59	34	7=100
White	75	18	7
Black	5	92	3
Non-evangelical Protestant	42	47	11
White	49	40	11
Black	5	86	9
Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2	014		

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

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Prayer

% who say they pray...

	Daily+	Weekly/monthly	Seldom/never	DK/Ref.
	%	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	82	15	2	1=100
White	83	14	2	1
Black	84	13	2	1
Non-evangelical Protestant	53	30	15	1
White	48	33	18	1
Black	70	21	8	1

Importance of religion

% who say religion is ...

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too/not at all important	DK/Ref.
	%	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	85	12	2	1=100
White	84	14	2	0
Black	92	7	1	0
Non-evangelical Protestant	50	38	12	1
White	45	40	14	1
Black	70	26	4	0

Belief in God

% who say they ...

	Believe in God w/absolute certainty	Believe in God, less certain	Don't believe	Other/DK/ Ref.
	%	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	91	9	0	0
White	92	8	0	0
Black	92	7	0	0
Non-evangelical Protestant	66	31	2	1
White	62	35	2	1
Black	81	18	0	1

Source: 2014 U.S. Religious Landscape Study, conducted June 4-Sept. 30, 2014.

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Religious commitment index

	High religious commitment	Medium	Low
	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	89	10	1=100
White	88	12	1
Black	94	6	0
Non-evangelical Protestant	53	38	10
White	47	41	12
Black	73	26	1

Biblical literalism

% who say the Bible is ...

	Literal word of God	Word of God, not literal	Not the word of God	Other/DK/ Ref.
	%	%	%	%
Evangelical Protestant	59	31	5	4=100
White	57	34	5	4
Black	65	26	5	5
Non-evangelical Protestant	23	39	29	9
White	19	40	32	9
Black	41	32	18	9

PewResearchCenter

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Investigating and Understanding Responses to Questions on Sex, Sexual Orientation and Sexual Identity

Carol Pierannunzi, PhD

Lead Survey Methodologist, Population Health Surveillance Branch

Machell Town, PhD

Branch Chief, Population Health Surveillance Branch

William Garvin

Team Lead, Population Health Surveillance Branch

Presented at the American Association for Public Opinion Annual Conference May 2017



BRFSS SOGI Optional Module

1. Do you consider yourself to be:

Read:

- 1 Straight
- 2 Lesbian or gay
- 3 Bisexual

Do not read:

- 4 Other
- 7 Don't know/Not sure
- 9 Refused

2. Do you consider yourself to be transgender?

Y/N

If yes, ask "Do you consider yourself to be 1. male-to-female, 2. female-to-male, or 3. gender non-conforming?"

- 1 Yes, Transgender, male-to-female
- 2 Yes, Transgender, female to male
- 3 Yes, Transgender, gender nonconforming
- 4 No
- 7 Don't know/not sure
- 9 Refused

Demographic Sex Question

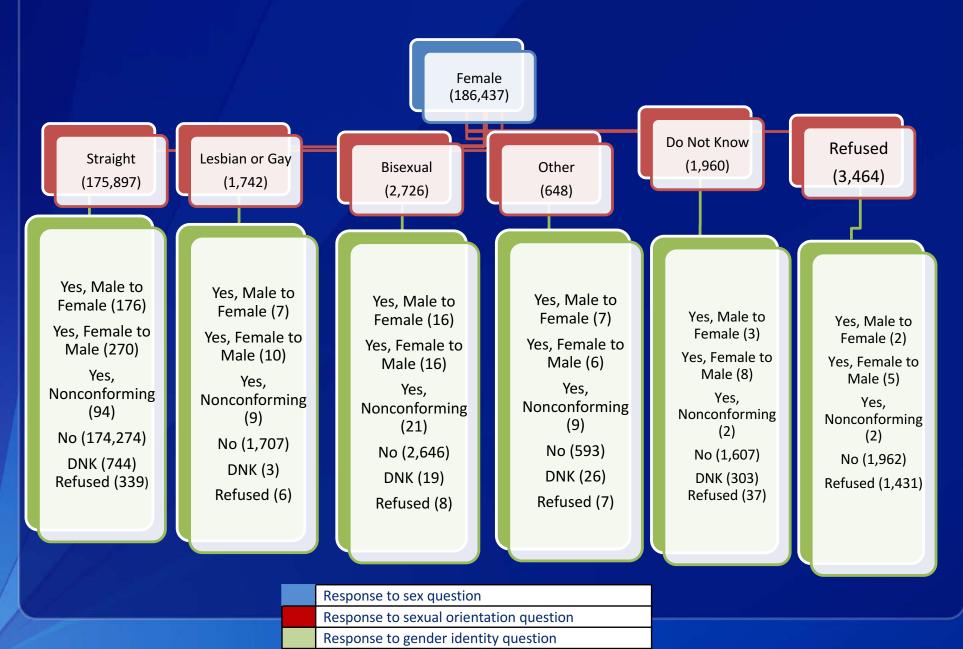
Are you...

1 Male

2 Female

(Note: System may populate field from household enumeration process in landline interviews).

Female Respondents by SOGI Categories



Male Respondents by SOGI Categories

Male (133,593)

Straight (126,613) Lesbian or Gay (2,386)

Bisexual (1,516)

Other (3)

Do Not Know (984) Refused (2,003)

Yes, Male to Female (423)

Yes, Female to Male (116)

Yes, Nonconforming (93)

No (124,750)

DNK (648) Refused (283) Yes, Male to Female (16)

Yes, Female to Male (5)

Yes, nonconforming (6)

No (2,347)

DNK (11) Refused (1) Yes, Male to Female (40)

Yes, Female to Male (5)

Yes, Nonconforming (23)

No (1,421)

DNK (17)

Refused (10)

Yes, Male to Female (11)

Yes, Female to Male (0)

Yes, Nonconforming (4)

No (361)

DNK (12)

Refused (3)

Yes, Male to Female (13)

Yes, Female to Male (4)

Yes, Nonconforming (2)

No (757)

DNK (194) Refused (3) Yes, Male to Female (6)

Yes, Female to Male (132)

Yes, Nonconforming (132)

No (1,104)

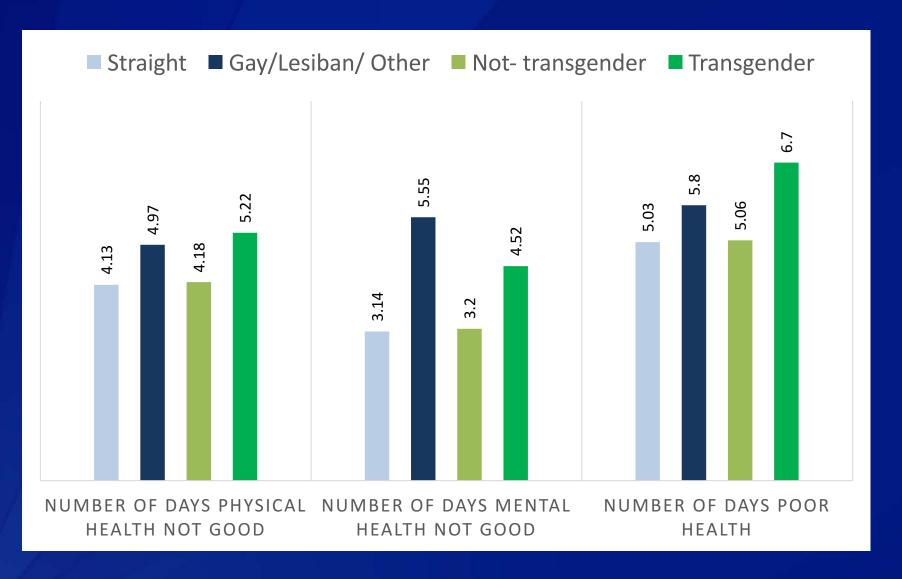
Refused (848)

Response to sex question

Response to sexual orientation question

Response to gender identity question

General Health Indicators By SOGI



Who Is Answering DNK or Refusing? (Transgender/ NE Straight Only)

Mean age = 59.3

- DNK sexual orientation question = 62.5*
- DNK gender identity question = 63.3*
- Refusal sexual orientation question = 59.8
- Refusal gender identity question = 59.7*

Percent male total = 38.9

- DNK sexual orientation question = 39.1
- DNK gender identity question = 39.8
- Refusal sexual orientation question= 37.44
- Refusal gender identity question = 37.0

■ Percent married =47.2

- DNK sexual orientation question = 42.1*
- DNK Gender identity question = 38.6
- Refusal sexual orientation question = 51.2*
- Refusal gender identity question = 51.8*

\square Percent white = 67.3

- DNK Sexual orientation question = 60.2
- DNK gender identity question = 60.9
- Refusal sexual orientation question = 68.4
- Refusal gender identity question = 68.6

Summary of Crosstab Results

- No pattern of answering sex, sexual orientation and gender identity
- Refusal rates high
 - Both male and females
 - People may respond DNK or refuse Sexual Orientation and then indicate that they are transgender
- DNK rates higher than other questions
 - Do they understand the question
- Older, respondents more likely to provide DNK/refusal
- Married respondents more likely to refuse to answer
- Differences in general health outcomes by SOGI group

A Few Lessons Learned

- Don't make assumptions based on traditional sex questions
 - Consider changes in the traditional sex demographic question
- Don't introduce a skip pattern—the transgender questions should be asked of all respondents
- Populations are small (and dispersed) so we still have problems with weighting/ predictive models
- **□** Differences in health outcomes is unexplored territory
- **■** Watch the translation process

Questions?

Thank You ivk7@cdc.gov

For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333

Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348

E-mail: cdcinfo@cdc.gov Web: http://www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Recap

RACE:

- Large differences in how respondents process the same information
- Respondents somewhat more likely to seek congenial information, and
- Racial differences in information processing correspond with differences in prior beliefs

RELIGION:

- Among respondents who identify as "evangelical", religiosity measures look similar, but...
- Differences by race: social issues, partisanship, and vote
 - Whites— more Republican, more conservative on social issues, vote Trump
 - Blacks

 more Democrat, more mod./liberal on social issues, vote Clinton

• **SOGI**:

- SO—Refusal rates are high, people may respond DNK or refuse but also identify as transgender
 - Don't introduce a skip pattern—the transgender question should be asked of all respondents
- DNK rates higher than other questions
 - Do they understand the question? (Spanish translation revision, 2018?)
 - DNK responses more likely for older respondents and married respondents
- Differences in general health outcomes by SOGI group—unexplored territory



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