



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Americans love Jesus, Lincoln, and themselves

Raleigh, N.C. – A few weeks ago, PPP found that Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers was the most popular person in any realm on which the company had ever polled. 89% of Wisconsin voters had a favorable impression of him, and only 4% an unfavorable one. In an endeavor to find someone more beloved, PPP asked all American voters about several public figures and someone much more private. Of ten names, the only ones to best Rodgers are Jesus Christ, Abraham Lincoln, and poll respondents themselves.

Only 1% of Americans see themselves unfavorably, and 93% have a positive view. The second most esteemed is President Lincoln, of whom 91% are favorably disposed and 2% unfavorably. Then Jesus, with a 90-3 mark. Also very popular are the first president, George Washington (86-3), and Mother Teresa of Calcutta (83-5). Way behind but still very well-liked are Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (74-10), Mahatma Gandhi (64-9), Santa Claus (67-13), Nelson Mandela (64-10), and Steve Jobs (62-10).

Female respondents to this poll (95-1) were slightly more likely than males (92-2) to see themselves in a good light. Of the age groups, those under the age of 30 were least likely to see themselves well (89-6). The young were also the least charitable toward most of the other figures except King—those over 65 give him only a 54-17 grade. There are some partisan disparities as well. The three civil rights leaders (Gandhi, King, and Mandela) are seen unfavorably by only 5-8% of Democrats and independents but by 13-17% of Republicans.

“Americans have a very high opinion of themselves,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “You can argue that we’re a psychologically healthy nation...or you can argue that we’re an arrogant one. Either interpretation fits the numbers.”

PPP will resume its polling on the image of individual states in December.

PPP surveyed 800 American voters from November 10th to 13th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-3.5%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.





National Survey Results

<p>Q1 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Martin Luther King, Jr.?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 74%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 10%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 17%</p>	<p>Q7 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Abraham Lincoln?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 91%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 2%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 6%</p>
<p>Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mother Teresa?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 83%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 5%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 12%</p>	<p>Q8 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Nelson Mandela?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 64%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 10%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 26%</p>
<p>Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Mahatma Gandhi?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 64%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 9%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 27%</p>	<p>Q9 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Santa Claus?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 67%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 13%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 20%</p>
<p>Q4 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of George Washington?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 86%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 3%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 11%</p>	<p>Q10 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of yourself?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 93%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 1%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 5%</p>
<p>Q5 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Jesus Christ?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 90%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 3%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 7%</p>	<p>Q11 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?</p> <p><i>Very liberal</i>..... 12%</p> <p><i>Somewhat liberal</i> 15%</p> <p><i>Moderate</i>..... 31%</p> <p><i>Somewhat conservative</i>..... 24%</p> <p><i>Very conservative</i> 19%</p>
<p>Q6 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Steve Jobs?</p> <p><i>Favorable</i>..... 62%</p> <p><i>Unfavorable</i> 10%</p> <p><i>Not sure</i> 28%</p>	<p>Q12 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.</p> <p><i>Woman</i> 51%</p> <p><i>Man</i>..... 49%</p>





Q13 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 41%
Republican..... 36%
Independent/Other..... 23%

Q14 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 10%
White 73%
African-American 11%
Other..... 5%

Q15 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 12%
30 to 45..... 28%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
MLK Favorability						
Favorable	74%	73%	85%	82%	64%	62%
Unfavorable	10%	14%	1%	7%	15%	12%
Not sure	17%	13%	14%	11%	21%	25%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Mother Teresa Favorability						
Favorable	83%	78%	81%	90%	79%	84%
Unfavorable	5%	13%	5%	2%	5%	4%
Not sure	12%	9%	14%	8%	16%	12%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Gandhi Favorability						
Favorable	64%	71%	81%	68%	56%	50%
Unfavorable	9%	13%	5%	5%	10%	15%
Not sure	27%	15%	14%	27%	34%	35%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Washington Favorability						
Favorable	86%	78%	76%	85%	90%	95%
Unfavorable	3%	11%	6%	2%	1%	0%
Not sure	11%	10%	18%	13%	9%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Jesus Favorability						
Favorable	90%	78%	86%	90%	96%	96%
Unfavorable	3%	12%	3%	2%	1%	2%
Not sure	7%	10%	11%	8%	3%	2%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Jobs Favorability						
Favorable	62%	62%	74%	62%	59%	55%
Unfavorable	10%	27%	6%	5%	8%	13%
Not sure	28%	11%	20%	33%	34%	31%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Lincoln Favorability						
Favorable	91%	88%	90%	90%	94%	93%
Unfavorable	2%	4%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Not sure	6%	8%	9%	7%	3%	5%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Mandela Favorability						
Favorable	64%	82%	81%	75%	49%	42%
Unfavorable	10%	10%	6%	4%	11%	20%
Not sure	26%	8%	14%	21%	40%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Santa Favorability						
Favorable	67%	64%	59%	71%	68%	67%
Unfavorable	13%	17%	17%	9%	10%	17%
Not sure	20%	18%	24%	20%	22%	16%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Self Favorability						
Favorable	93%	94%	94%	93%	92%	95%
Unfavorable	1%	6%	-	0%	3%	0%
Not sure	5%	-	6%	7%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
MLK Favorability			
Favorable	74%	74%	73%
Unfavorable	10%	6%	13%
Not sure	17%	19%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mother Teresa Favorability			
Favorable	83%	88%	79%
Unfavorable	5%	2%	8%
Not sure	12%	11%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Gandhi Favorability			
Favorable	64%	63%	65%
Unfavorable	9%	6%	12%
Not sure	27%	30%	23%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Washington Favorability			
Favorable	86%	82%	90%
Unfavorable	3%	3%	3%
Not sure	11%	14%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Jesus Favorability			
Favorable	90%	90%	90%
Unfavorable	3%	2%	4%
Not sure	7%	8%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Jobs Favorability			
Favorable	62%	62%	61%
Unfavorable	10%	8%	12%
Not sure	28%	30%	27%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Lincoln Favorability			
Favorable	91%	91%	91%
Unfavorable	2%	2%	3%
Not sure	6%	7%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Mandela Favorability			
Favorable	64%	66%	62%
Unfavorable	10%	6%	14%
Not sure	26%	28%	24%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Santa Favorability			
Favorable	67%	67%	67%
Unfavorable	13%	14%	12%
Not sure	20%	19%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Self Favorability			
Favorable	93%	95%	92%
Unfavorable	1%	1%	2%
Not sure	5%	4%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
MLK Favorability				
Favorable	74%	79%	62%	82%
Unfavorable	10%	6%	16%	6%
Not sure	17%	15%	22%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mother Teresa Favorability				
Favorable	83%	82%	83%	86%
Unfavorable	5%	5%	5%	4%
Not sure	12%	13%	12%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Gandhi Favorability				
Favorable	64%	66%	55%	75%
Unfavorable	9%	8%	13%	5%
Not sure	27%	26%	32%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Washington Favorability				
Favorable	86%	79%	94%	86%
Unfavorable	3%	6%	1%	1%
Not sure	11%	15%	5%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Jesus Favorability				
Favorable	90%	87%	96%	88%
Unfavorable	3%	5%	0%	4%
Not sure	7%	8%	3%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Jobs Favorability				
Favorable	62%	62%	61%	61%
Unfavorable	10%	12%	10%	7%
Not sure	28%	26%	30%	32%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Lincoln Favorability				
Favorable	91%	89%	96%	88%
Unfavorable	2%	3%	1%	3%
Not sure	6%	8%	3%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Mandela Favorability				
Favorable	64%	78%	46%	68%
Unfavorable	10%	5%	17%	6%
Not sure	26%	17%	37%	25%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Santa Favorability				
Favorable	67%	61%	75%	65%
Unfavorable	13%	17%	10%	9%
Not sure	20%	22%	15%	26%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Self Favorability				
Favorable	93%	95%	94%	90%
Unfavorable	1%	1%	2%	1%
Not sure	5%	4%	4%	10%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
MLK Favorability					
Favorable	74%	75%	69%	95%	82%
Unfavorable	10%	9%	11%	3%	4%
Not sure	17%	15%	19%	2%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Mother Teresa Favorability					
Favorable	83%	80%	84%	79%	92%
Unfavorable	5%	12%	5%	2%	-
Not sure	12%	8%	11%	19%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Gandhi Favorability					
Favorable	64%	71%	63%	57%	80%
Unfavorable	9%	12%	9%	8%	-
Not sure	27%	17%	27%	34%	20%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Washington Favorability					
Favorable	86%	83%	91%	64%	76%
Unfavorable	3%	8%	2%	9%	-
Not sure	11%	9%	8%	27%	24%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Jesus Favorability					
Favorable	90%	96%	90%	98%	70%
Unfavorable	3%	3%	3%	-	16%
Not sure	7%	1%	7%	2%	14%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Jobs Favorability					
Favorable	62%	63%	62%	50%	85%
Unfavorable	10%	15%	10%	9%	-
Not sure	28%	22%	28%	41%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Lincoln Favorability					
Favorable	91%	97%	93%	73%	92%
Unfavorable	2%	1%	2%	6%	-
Not sure	6%	2%	5%	21%	8%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Mandela Favorability					
Favorable	64%	68%	59%	85%	87%
Unfavorable	10%	12%	11%	1%	-
Not sure	26%	20%	30%	14%	13%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Santa Favorability					
Favorable	67%	76%	69%	56%	40%
Unfavorable	13%	13%	11%	20%	24%
Not sure	20%	11%	20%	23%	37%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Self Favorability					
Favorable	93%	96%	94%	95%	82%
Unfavorable	1%	3%	1%	1%	3%
Not sure	5%	1%	5%	4%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
MLK Favorability					
Favorable	74%	85%	83%	74%	54%
Unfavorable	10%	8%	6%	9%	17%
Not sure	17%	8%	11%	17%	29%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mother Teresa Favorability					
Favorable	83%	79%	81%	88%	80%
Unfavorable	5%	5%	8%	2%	6%
Not sure	12%	16%	11%	10%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Gandhi Favorability					
Favorable	64%	71%	69%	61%	59%
Unfavorable	9%	13%	10%	7%	11%
Not sure	27%	16%	20%	32%	30%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Washington Favorability					
Favorable	86%	82%	83%	88%	90%
Unfavorable	3%	11%	2%	2%	1%
Not sure	11%	8%	15%	10%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Jesus Favorability					
Favorable	90%	79%	91%	92%	92%
Unfavorable	3%	13%	2%	2%	2%
Not sure	7%	8%	7%	6%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Jobs Favorability					
Favorable	62%	63%	65%	61%	58%
Unfavorable	10%	16%	11%	9%	6%
Not sure	28%	21%	23%	30%	36%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Lincoln Favorability					
Favorable	91%	87%	91%	92%	92%
Unfavorable	2%	5%	1%	2%	3%
Not sure	6%	8%	8%	6%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Mandela Favorability					
Favorable	64%	62%	68%	67%	54%
Unfavorable	10%	5%	9%	9%	15%
Not sure	26%	32%	23%	24%	31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Santa Favorability					
Favorable	67%	64%	66%	67%	69%
Unfavorable	13%	19%	14%	12%	8%
Not sure	20%	17%	20%	20%	23%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Self Favorability					
Favorable	93%	89%	93%	95%	94%
Unfavorable	1%	6%	1%	1%	1%
Not sure	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%

