



From: Tom Jensen, Director of Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Americans Don't Want GOP Frontrunners Making Court Appointment

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A new national Public Policy Polling survey finds Americans want President Obama to be able to appoint Antonin Scalia's replacement on the Supreme Court- and they *really* don't want any of the Republican front runners for President making the call.

Key findings from the survey include:

-Only 33% of voters trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice (57% don't), only 31% trust Donald Trump to (62% don't), and just 26% trust Marco Rubio to (61% don't). Independent voters in particular have little faith in the GOP hopefuls to nominate a Supreme Court justice- 61% don't trust Trump to, and 58% don't trust either Cruz or Rubio to. One particularly brutal finding for Rubio on this poll is that even among Republicans there are more (45%) who don't trust him to make that appointment than do (41%) trust him.

-Reflecting what other national polling has found, 56% of voters in the country want the vacant seat on the Supreme Court seat to be filled this year by a nominee of President Obama's, to only 40% of voters who think the seat should remain vacant for the next year. That includes 53/41 support from independents for filling the seat this year. Voters especially think that the Senate should at least see who President Obama puts forward before making a decision- 66% think Obama's nominee should be given a chance to only





25% who believe the Senate should just refuse to confirm someone no matter who it is. Even Republican voters, 53/37, think the Senate should be open to Obama's nominee rather than reflexively dismissive.

-This continues to look like an issue that has the potential to hurt Senate Republicans nationally this year. By a 19 point margin voters say they're less likely to vote for a Senator who refuses to consider a nominee to the Supreme Court this year, with only 31% saying they're more likely to vote for someone who takes that stance compared to 50% who say they're less likely to. Independents would vote against a Senator with that position by a 16 point spread. This issue is just reinforcing the already awful brand of Senate Republicans nationally. Just 10% of voters in the country approve of the job Mitch McConnell is doing, to 59% who disapprove. His unpopularity is a liability for members of his caucus hoping to be reelected this year, and the approach he's taking on this issue is just making the problem worse.

-Americans have so little faith in Donald Trump to make a decision of this magnitude that they would prefer a celebrity do it. By a 47/35 spread they would prefer Tom Hanks make the Supreme Court choice, and 45/35 they'd prefer Peyton Manning do it. The news isn't *all* bad for Trump on that front though- he does manage to tie Taylor Swift 40/40 on the question of who's more qualified to put forward a Supreme Court nominee, and he even edges out Mickey Mouse by a narrow 43/39 spread. It may not be much, but it's a lot better than his 9 to 13 point deficit against Hillary Clinton in this week's NBC/Wall Street Journal and ABC/Washington Post polls.

Public Policy Polling interviewed 747 registered voters nationally on March 8th and 9th.

The survey's margin of error is +/-3.6%. This research was conducted on behalf of Americans United for Change.





National Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Mitch McConnell's job performance?

Approve 10%
Disapprove..... 59%
Not sure 32%

Q2 Do you think the vacant seat on the Supreme Court caused by the death of Antonin Scalia should be filled this year, or do you think the seat should be left empty for the next year?

The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be filled this year 56%
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be left empty for the next year 40%
Not sure 4%

Q3 Do you think the Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person, or should it refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is?

The Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person 66%
The Senate should refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is 25%
Not sure 9%

Q4 If your Senator refused to confirm a replacement for Justice Scalia this year no matter who it was, would that make you more or less likely to vote for them this fall, or would it not make a difference?

More likely..... 31%
Less likely 50%
Wouldn't make a difference..... 19%

Q5 If the Senate refuses to confirm a replacement for Justice Scalia it could result in a lot of 4-4 votes this year on major issues. Who would you blame more for this gridlock: Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate, or President Obama?

Blame Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court.. 54%
Blame President Obama more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court.. 35%
Not sure 11%

Q6 In 1988 the Senate confirmed President Reagan's nomination of Anthony Kennedy to a vacant seat on the Supreme Court even though it was Reagan's last year in office. Do you think the Senate should abide by this precedent when it comes to filling Justice Scalia's seat, or not?

The Senate should abide by this precedent... 52%
The Senate should not abide by this precedent..... 32%
Not sure 16%

Q7 Do you trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice, or not?

Trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice..... 33%
Do not trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice 57%
Not sure 10%

Q8 Do you trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice, or not?

Trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice 26%
Do not trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice..... 61%
Not sure 13%





Q9 Do you trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice, or not?

Trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice 31%
Do not trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice..... 62%
Not sure 7%

Q10 Who would you trust more to nominate the new Supreme Court justice: Tom Hanks or Donald Trump?

Tom Hanks..... 47%
Donald Trump 35%
Not sure 18%

Q11 Who would you trust more to nominate the new Supreme Court justice: Taylor Swift or Donald Trump?

Taylor Swift 40%
Donald Trump 40%
Not sure 20%

Q12 Who would you trust more to nominate the new Supreme Court justice: Peyton Manning or Donald Trump?

Peyton Manning..... 45%
Donald Trump 35%
Not sure 20%

Q13 Who would you trust more to nominate the new Supreme Court justice: Will Smith or Donald Trump?

Will Smith..... 40%
Donald Trump 41%
Not sure 19%

Q14 Who would you trust more to nominate the new Supreme Court justice: Mickey Mouse or Donald Trump?

Mickey Mouse..... 39%
Donald Trump 43%
Not sure 18%

Q15 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 53%
Man..... 47%

Q16 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If an independent, press 3.

Democrat 41%
Republican..... 33%
Independent..... 26%

Q17 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 9%
White 75%
African American..... 12%
Other..... 4%

Q18 If you are 18 to 45 years old, press 1. If 46 to 65, press 2. If older than 65, press 3

18 to 45..... 33%
46 to 65..... 40%
Older than 65..... 28%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McConnell Approval			
Approve	10%	10%	9%
Disapprove	59%	53%	65%
Not sure	32%	36%	26%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Scalia Seat Filled This Year or Next			
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be filled this year	56%	58%	54%
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be left empty for the next year	40%	38%	43%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Senate Wait for Nominee Yes/No			
The Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person	66%	63%	69%
The Senate should refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is	25%	26%	24%
Not sure	9%	10%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Senator Refuse Confirmation More/Less Likely			
More likely	31%	31%	32%
Less likely	50%	53%	47%
Wouldn't make a difference	19%	16%	22%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Who To Blame for Gridlock			
Blame Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	54%	57%	50%
Blame President Obama more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	35%	33%	37%
Not sure	11%	9%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Senate Follow Kennedy Precedent Yes/No			
The Senate should abide by this precedent	52%	54%	50%
The Senate should not abide by this precedent	32%	29%	36%
Not sure	16%	18%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust Cruz To Nominate Justice Yes/No			
Trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	33%	31%	34%
Do not trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	57%	57%	57%
Not sure	10%	12%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust Rubio to Nominate Justice Yes/No			
Trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	26%	23%	29%
Do not trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	61%	63%	59%
Not sure	13%	14%	12%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust Trump to Nominate Justice Yes/No			
Trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	31%	27%	36%
Do not trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	62%	66%	58%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More to Nominate: Hanks or Trump			
Tom Hanks	47%	49%	44%
Donald Trump	35%	30%	42%
Not sure	18%	21%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More to Nominate: Swift or Trump			
Taylor Swift	40%	40%	40%
Donald Trump	40%	35%	46%
Not sure	20%	25%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More to Nominate: Manning or Trump			
Peyton Manning	45%	46%	45%
Donald Trump	35%	31%	40%
Not sure	20%	24%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More to Nominate: Smith or Trump			
Will Smith	40%	44%	36%
Donald Trump	41%	33%	50%
Not sure	19%	22%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Trust More to Nominate: Mickey Mouse or Trump			
Mickey Mouse	39%	43%	34%
Donald Trump	43%	34%	53%
Not sure	18%	22%	13%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
McConnell Approval				
Approve	10%	9%	10%	10%
Disapprove	59%	63%	56%	55%
Not sure	32%	29%	34%	34%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Scalia Seat Filled This Year or Next				
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be filled this year	56%	82%	26%	53%
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be left empty for the next year	40%	16%	71%	41%
Not sure	4%	2%	3%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Senate Wait for Nominee Yes/No				
The Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person	66%	78%	53%	63%
The Senate should refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is	25%	14%	37%	28%
Not sure	9%	8%	10%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Senator Refuse Confirmation More/Less Likely				
More likely	31%	20%	47%	29%
Less likely	50%	71%	29%	45%
Wouldn't make a difference	19%	10%	24%	26%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Who To Blame for Gridlock				
Blame Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	54%	84%	18%	50%
Blame President Obama more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	35%	13%	64%	33%
Not sure	11%	3%	17%	17%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Senate Follow Kennedy Precedent Yes/No				
The Senate should abide by this precedent	52%	73%	23%	54%
The Senate should not abide by this precedent	32%	14%	56%	33%
Not sure	16%	13%	21%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust Cruz To Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	33%	17%	54%	31%
Do not trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	57%	73%	36%	58%
Not sure	10%	10%	10%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust Rubio to Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	26%	12%	41%	30%
Do not trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	61%	76%	45%	58%
Not sure	13%	12%	14%	12%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust Trump to Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	31%	14%	54%	28%
Do not trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	62%	82%	38%	61%
Not sure	7%	3%	8%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust More to Nominate: Hanks or Trump				
Tom Hanks	47%	66%	23%	46%
Donald Trump	35%	16%	62%	33%
Not sure	18%	18%	15%	21%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust More to Nominate: Swift or Trump				
Taylor Swift	40%	58%	19%	39%
Donald Trump	40%	18%	68%	41%
Not sure	20%	24%	14%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust More to Nominate: Manning or Trump				
Peyton Manning	45%	59%	32%	41%
Donald Trump	35%	18%	57%	34%
Not sure	20%	23%	11%	25%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust More to Nominate: Smith or Trump				
Will Smith	40%	63%	14%	37%
Donald Trump	41%	17%	72%	40%
Not sure	19%	20%	14%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent
Trust More to Nominate: Mickey Mouse or Trump				
Mickey Mouse	39%	56%	19%	37%
Donald Trump	43%	21%	69%	44%
Not sure	18%	23%	11%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
McConnell Approval					
Approve	10%	16%	9%	7%	12%
Disapprove	59%	39%	63%	50%	57%
Not sure	32%	45%	28%	43%	31%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Scalia Seat Filled This Year or Next					
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be filled this year	56%	64%	52%	80%	49%
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be left empty for the next year	40%	28%	45%	19%	42%
Not sure	4%	7%	3%	1%	9%





	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Senate Wait for Nominee Yes/No					
The Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person	66%	60%	66%	66%	67%
The Senate should refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is	25%	21%	26%	20%	30%
Not sure	9%	19%	7%	14%	2%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Senator Refuse Confirmation More/Less Likely					
More likely	31%	38%	30%	35%	31%
Less likely	50%	37%	53%	45%	41%
Wouldn't make a difference	19%	25%	17%	20%	28%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Who To Blame for Gridlock					
Blame Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	54%	65%	50%	71%	50%
Blame President Obama more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	35%	28%	37%	25%	35%
Not sure	11%	7%	13%	4%	15%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Senate Follow Kennedy Precedent Yes/No					
The Senate should abide by this precedent	52%	59%	50%	61%	45%
The Senate should not abide by this precedent	32%	19%	35%	23%	31%
Not sure	16%	22%	15%	16%	24%





	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust Cruz To Nominate Justice Yes/No					
Trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	33%	38%	33%	24%	50%
Do not trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	57%	56%	58%	56%	44%
Not sure	10%	6%	9%	20%	6%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust Rubio to Nominate Justice Yes/No					
Trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	26%	18%	29%	15%	22%
Do not trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	61%	73%	59%	65%	61%
Not sure	13%	8%	12%	20%	17%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust Trump to Nominate Justice Yes/No					
Trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	31%	28%	33%	21%	35%
Do not trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	62%	68%	61%	74%	45%
Not sure	7%	4%	7%	5%	19%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust More to Nominate: Hanks or Trump					
Tom Hanks	47%	56%	44%	61%	27%
Donald Trump	35%	25%	38%	21%	44%
Not sure	18%	19%	17%	18%	29%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust More to Nominate: Swift or Trump					
Taylor Swift	40%	49%	35%	64%	48%
Donald Trump	40%	25%	46%	13%	36%
Not sure	20%	26%	18%	24%	16%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust More to Nominate: Manning or Trump					
Peyton Manning	45%	44%	41%	70%	42%
Donald Trump	35%	27%	39%	13%	43%
Not sure	20%	29%	19%	17%	15%





	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust More to Nominate: Smith or Trump					
Will Smith	40%	57%	36%	59%	30%
Donald Trump	41%	25%	45%	26%	44%
Not sure	19%	18%	19%	15%	25%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African American	Other
Trust More to Nominate: Mickey Mouse or Trump					
Mickey Mouse	39%	45%	34%	65%	40%
Donald Trump	43%	29%	49%	16%	44%
Not sure	18%	25%	17%	19%	16%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McConnell Approval				
Approve	10%	11%	8%	10%
Disapprove	59%	55%	62%	59%
Not sure	32%	34%	30%	31%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Scalia Seat Filled This Year or Next				
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be filled this year	56%	56%	56%	55%
The vacant seat on the Supreme Court should be left empty for the next year	40%	37%	43%	41%
Not sure	4%	6%	1%	4%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Senate Wait for Nominee Yes/No				
The Senate should wait to see who is nominated to the Supreme Court before deciding whether to confirm that person	66%	66%	65%	66%
The Senate should refuse to confirm a nominee to fill the seat no matter who it is	25%	28%	25%	23%
Not sure	9%	7%	9%	11%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Senator Refuse Confirmation More/Less Likely				
More likely	31%	35%	30%	27%
Less likely	50%	45%	52%	53%
Wouldn't make a difference	19%	19%	18%	20%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Who To Blame for Gridlock				
Blame Mitch McConnell and the other Republicans in the Senate more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	54%	53%	55%	54%
Blame President Obama more for this gridlock on key issues at the Supreme Court	35%	33%	34%	38%
Not sure	11%	14%	11%	8%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Senate Follow Kennedy Precedent Yes/No				
The Senate should abide by this precedent	52%	53%	52%	51%
The Senate should not abide by this precedent	32%	31%	34%	31%
Not sure	16%	16%	14%	18%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust Cruz To Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	33%	36%	33%	29%
Do not trust Ted Cruz to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	57%	59%	54%	59%
Not sure	10%	4%	13%	13%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust Rubio to Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	26%	29%	25%	23%
Do not trust Marco Rubio to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	61%	62%	60%	62%
Not sure	13%	9%	15%	15%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust Trump to Nominate Justice Yes/No				
Trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	31%	42%	25%	27%
Do not trust Donald Trump to nominate the new Supreme Court justice	62%	54%	69%	62%
Not sure	7%	4%	6%	11%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More to Nominate: Hanks or Trump				
Tom Hanks	47%	43%	53%	42%
Donald Trump	35%	41%	31%	36%
Not sure	18%	16%	16%	22%





	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More to Nominate: Swift or Trump				
Taylor Swift	40%	41%	43%	36%
Donald Trump	40%	44%	36%	41%
Not sure	20%	16%	21%	22%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More to Nominate: Manning or Trump				
Peyton Manning	45%	41%	52%	41%
Donald Trump	35%	39%	31%	36%
Not sure	20%	21%	17%	23%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More to Nominate: Smith or Trump				
Will Smith	40%	37%	44%	38%
Donald Trump	41%	45%	37%	42%
Not sure	19%	18%	19%	20%

	Base	Age		
		18 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Trust More to Nominate: Mickey Mouse or Trump				
Mickey Mouse	39%	38%	40%	40%
Donald Trump	43%	47%	40%	42%
Not sure	18%	16%	21%	17%

