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information@publicpolicypolling.com, OR CONSULT THE FINAL PARAGRAPH
OF THE PRESS RELEASE**

Akin still leads McCaskill by a point

Raleigh, N.C. – Missouri voters strongly disagree with the comments Todd Akin made about abortion over the weekend, but it hasn't moved the numbers a whole lot in the Senate race. Akin leads Claire McCaskill by a single point, 44-43. That's basically identical to our last poll of the contest in late May, which found Akin ahead by a 45-44 spread.

It's not that Missouri voters are ok with or supportive of Akin's comments. 75% of voters, including even 64% of Republicans, say they were inappropriate to only 9% who consider them to have been appropriate. 79% of voters say they disagree with what Akin said, including 65% who express 'strong' disagreement with him. 51% of GOP voters say they strongly disagree with him.

All of that is taking a toll on Akin's image. Only 24% of voters have a favorable opinion of him to 58% with a negative one. He's pretty universally disliked by Democrats (3/85) and independents (21/61) and even with Republicans (43/34) he's on only narrowly positive ground.

But for all of that the overall numbers in the race have moved very little. When we polled in May McCaskill was getting only 8% of the Republican vote, and even with the controversy around Akin she's only pushed up to 10% of it. GOP voters dislike McCaskill so much they're not going to vote for her no matter what their nominee does. Independent voters haven't moved at all either. In May they supported Akin 45-41, and even though they don't like him on tonight's poll we still found him leading 45-41 with them.

“Todd Akin still has a very decent chance at winning the Missouri Senate race,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “Voters were appalled by his comments about abortion, but not so much that they decided to vote Democratic when they were previously planning to support the GOP. This looks like it will be a closely contested race if Akin stays in.”

PPP surveyed 500 likely Missouri voters on the evening of August 20th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.4%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews.



Missouri Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Claire McCaskill's job performance?

Approve 41%
Disapprove..... 53%
Not sure 5%

Q2 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Todd Akin?

Favorable..... 24%
Unfavorable 58%
Not sure 18%

Q3 The candidates for Senate this fall are Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Todd Akin. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

Claire McCaskill 43%
Todd Akin 44%
Undecided..... 13%

Q4 Do you think Todd Akin's recent comments over the weekend about rape were appropriate or inappropriate, or are you not familiar with what Akin said about rape?

Appropriate 9%
Inappropriate..... 75%
Not familiar with Akin's comments..... 16%

Q5 This past weekend, Todd Akin said that abortion should be illegal even in the case of rape, because, "If it's a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down." Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with Akin's comments?

Strongly agree 6%
Somewhat agree..... 12%
Somewhat disagree 14%
Strongly disagree..... 65%
Not sure 4%

Q6 Generally speaking, do you identify as pro-choice or pro-life on the issue of abortion?

Pro-choice..... 40%
Pro-life 52%
Not sure 7%

Q7 Which of the following statements comes closest to your position on abortion: it should be legal in all cases; it should generally be illegal with exception for rape, incest, or protection of the mother's life; or should it be completely illegal?

Legal in all cases 33%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life 47%
Completely illegal..... 14%
Not sure 5%

Q8 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 49%
Barack Obama..... 44%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%





Q9 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

<i>Very liberal</i>	9%
<i>Somewhat liberal</i>	16%
<i>Moderate</i>	27%
<i>Somewhat conservative</i>	29%
<i>Very conservative</i>	19%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

<i>Woman</i>	53%
<i>Man</i>	47%

Q11 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

<i>Democrat</i>	30%
<i>Republican</i>	39%
<i>Independent/Other</i>	32%

Q12 If you are white, press 1. If other, press 2.

<i>White</i>	74%
<i>Other</i>	26%

Q13 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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	22%
<i>46 to 65</i>	46%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCaskill Approval				
Approve	41%	9%	79%	27%
Disapprove	53%	86%	15%	65%
Not sure	5%	5%	6%	8%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Akin Favorability				
Favorable	24%	40%	7%	24%
Unfavorable	58%	39%	81%	40%
Not sure	18%	21%	12%	35%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
McCaskill/Akin				
Claire McCaskill	43%	10%	83%	18%
Todd Akin	44%	70%	14%	53%
Undecided	13%	20%	3%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate				
Appropriate	9%	10%	9%	4%
Inappropriate	75%	72%	80%	59%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	18%	11%	37%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments				
Strongly agree	6%	6%	5%	11%
Somewhat agree	12%	17%	5%	13%
Somewhat disagree	14%	18%	8%	18%
Strongly disagree	65%	53%	81%	51%
Not sure	4%	6%	1%	7%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Pro-Choice or Pro-Life?				
Pro-choice	40%	20%	68%	28%
Pro-life	52%	77%	21%	56%
Not sure	7%	3%	11%	16%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Abortion Position				
Legal in all cases	33%	15%	57%	20%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	58%	32%	62%
Completely illegal	14%	24%	5%	-
Not sure	5%	2%	6%	19%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCaskill Approval						
Approve	41%	83%	76%	57%	16%	8%
Disapprove	53%	10%	22%	37%	77%	88%
Not sure	5%	6%	2%	6%	7%	4%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Akin Favorability						
Favorable	24%	2%	11%	10%	28%	60%
Unfavorable	58%	89%	84%	74%	42%	22%
Not sure	18%	9%	5%	16%	30%	18%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
McCaskill/Akin						
Claire McCaskill	43%	83%	77%	59%	19%	8%
Todd Akin	44%	8%	20%	29%	56%	85%
Undecided	13%	9%	3%	12%	25%	7%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate						
Appropriate	9%	8%	8%	8%	8%	12%
Inappropriate	75%	80%	83%	79%	71%	64%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	12%	9%	13%	21%	23%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments						
Strongly agree	6%	3%	7%	7%	1%	13%
Somewhat agree	12%	9%	6%	4%	20%	15%
Somewhat disagree	14%	21%	8%	14%	14%	15%
Strongly disagree	65%	66%	79%	74%	59%	50%
Not sure	4%	1%	-	1%	6%	8%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Pro-Choice or Pro-Life?						
Pro-choice	40%	72%	75%	52%	22%	10%
Pro-life	52%	15%	21%	40%	69%	86%
Not sure	7%	13%	4%	8%	9%	3%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Abortion Position						
Legal in all cases	33%	53%	59%	48%	17%	7%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	42%	30%	43%	59%	52%
Completely illegal	14%	2%	2%	4%	21%	35%
Not sure	5%	3%	9%	5%	3%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCaskill Approval			
Approve	41%	47%	35%
Disapprove	53%	47%	60%
Not sure	5%	5%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Akin Favorability			
Favorable	24%	22%	27%
Unfavorable	58%	60%	55%
Not sure	18%	18%	18%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCaskill/Akin			
Claire McCaskill	43%	49%	36%
Todd Akin	44%	39%	50%
Undecided	13%	13%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate			
Appropriate	9%	10%	8%
Inappropriate	75%	70%	79%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	20%	13%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments			
Strongly agree	6%	8%	4%
Somewhat agree	12%	15%	8%
Somewhat disagree	14%	15%	13%
Strongly disagree	65%	60%	70%
Not sure	4%	2%	5%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Pro-Choice or Pro-Life?			
Pro-choice	40%	40%	41%
Pro-life	52%	51%	53%
Not sure	7%	9%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Abortion Position			
Legal in all cases	33%	34%	32%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	42%	53%
Completely illegal	14%	18%	11%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill Approval				
Approve	41%	80%	12%	41%
Disapprove	53%	14%	84%	53%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Akin Favorability				
Favorable	24%	3%	43%	21%
Unfavorable	58%	85%	34%	61%
Not sure	18%	12%	23%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCaskill/Akin				
Claire McCaskill	43%	88%	10%	41%
Todd Akin	44%	8%	71%	45%
Undecided	13%	4%	19%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate				
Appropriate	9%	5%	13%	7%
Inappropriate	75%	83%	64%	80%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	12%	22%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments				
Strongly agree	6%	8%	5%	5%
Somewhat agree	12%	5%	17%	11%
Somewhat disagree	14%	8%	20%	12%
Strongly disagree	65%	77%	51%	71%
Not sure	4%	1%	8%	1%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Pro-Choice or Pro-Life?				
Pro-choice	40%	66%	23%	39%
Pro-life	52%	22%	73%	54%
Not sure	7%	12%	4%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Abortion Position				
Legal in all cases	33%	59%	16%	31%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	34%	55%	49%
Completely illegal	14%	4%	24%	12%
Not sure	5%	3%	5%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McCaskill Approval			
Approve	41%	37%	54%
Disapprove	53%	58%	39%
Not sure	5%	5%	7%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Akin Favorability			
Favorable	24%	28%	13%
Unfavorable	58%	56%	62%
Not sure	18%	16%	26%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
McCaskill/Akin			
Claire McCaskill	43%	38%	58%
Todd Akin	44%	48%	32%
Undecided	13%	14%	10%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate			
Appropriate	9%	8%	12%
Inappropriate	75%	75%	74%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	17%	15%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments			
Strongly agree	6%	4%	12%
Somewhat agree	12%	11%	13%
Somewhat disagree	14%	13%	18%
Strongly disagree	65%	69%	53%
Not sure	4%	4%	4%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Pro-Choice or Pro- Life?			
Pro-choice	40%	40%	43%
Pro-life	52%	56%	39%
Not sure	7%	4%	17%

	Base	Race	
		White	Other
Abortion Position			
Legal in all cases	33%	32%	36%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	50%	38%
Completely illegal	14%	14%	15%
Not sure	5%	3%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill Approval					
Approve	41%	45%	37%	43%	40%
Disapprove	53%	50%	59%	51%	54%
Not sure	5%	5%	4%	6%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Akin Favorability					
Favorable	24%	9%	20%	28%	27%
Unfavorable	58%	59%	54%	59%	58%
Not sure	18%	32%	26%	12%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCaskill/Akin					
Claire McCaskill	43%	50%	33%	45%	45%
Todd Akin	44%	36%	52%	44%	41%
Undecided	13%	14%	15%	12%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Akin's Comments Appropriate/Inappropriate					
Appropriate	9%	11%	6%	10%	7%
Inappropriate	75%	67%	71%	77%	77%
Not familiar with Akin's comments	16%	22%	22%	13%	15%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Agree/Disagree w/ Akin Comments					
Strongly agree	6%	18%	4%	4%	5%
Somewhat agree	12%	12%	18%	9%	9%
Somewhat disagree	14%	24%	8%	15%	14%
Strongly disagree	65%	47%	63%	68%	69%
Not sure	4%	-	6%	4%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Pro-Choice or Pro-Life?					
Pro-choice	40%	31%	35%	43%	45%
Pro-life	52%	56%	59%	51%	46%
Not sure	7%	13%	7%	6%	9%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Abortion Position					
Legal in all cases	33%	25%	26%	36%	39%
Illegal except for rape, incest, or the mother's life	47%	50%	57%	41%	51%
Completely illegal	14%	19%	13%	16%	10%
Not sure	5%	6%	4%	7%	1%

