

Support for Needle Exchange Programs in California

A Summary of The Field Institute Survey - August 1999

Question Asked: "Do you favor or oppose needle exchange programs, which offer clean needles to intravenous drug users in exchange for used needles, to help stop the spread of AIDS and HIV infection?"

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
<u>Overall:</u>	69%	26%	5%
<u>Ethnicity:</u>			
White	71%	24%	5%
Latino	65%	33%	2%
Black*	77%	23%	
Asian/Other*	66%	27%	7%
<u>Political Ideology:</u>			
Strongly Conservative	38%	55%	7%
Moderately Conservative	62%	32%	6%
Middle of Road	75%	21%	4%
Moderately Liberal	82%	13%	5%
Strongly Liberal	82%	17%	1%
<u>Party Identification:</u>			
Republican	51%	42%	8%
Democrat	82%	16%	3%
Other	69%	27%	4%
<u>Likely Voters in 2000:</u>	69%	26%	5%
<u>Geographical Area:</u>			
Los Angeles	72%	24%	5%
Orange County*±	61%	32%	7%
San Diego*+	58%	37%	5%
Inland Empire*+	61%	37%	2%
Central Coast*	62%	33%	5%
Central Valley	65%	28%	7%
Bay Area	83%	14%	3%
North Coast/Sierra	68%	29%	3%

* Sample size is too small i-o make statistically sign ~ficant conclusion.

+ If the results from Orange County, San Diego and the Inland Empire are combined make a statistically sign ~fi cant conclusion, 60% of the respondents favor needle exchange.

About the Survey: The Field Institute is a non-partisan, non-profit public policy research organization devoted to the study of public opinion and behavior on social and political issues. The survey was completed among a representative sample of 1,010 California adults by telephone in either English or

Spanish, between August 16-22, 1999. According to statistical theory, 95% of the time the results from the overall sample would have a \pm error range of 3.2%. A complete copy of the statistical tabulations is available by contacting the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at (415) 487-3080.