



AMERICAN ATTITUDES ON THE GLOBAL GAG RULE

Results of a Bipartisan National Poll

WHAT IS THE GLOBAL GAG RULE?

The Global Gag Rule prohibits foreign non-governmental organizations from using their private, non-U.S. funds to provide comprehensive, safe abortion services, information or referrals for abortions, or to advocate for the legalization or liberalization of safe abortion services if they want to continue receiving U.S. assistance. In addition to reproductive health and family planning, the expanded Global Gag Rule under President Trump now applies to all U.S. global health assistance, impacting maternal and child health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, infectious diseases, neglected tropical diseases and water sanitation and hygiene programming. Previously known as the Mexico City Policy, the legal name of the policy is now “Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance.”

While the Global Gag Rule has existed since 1984 and has served as a political football between Republican and Democratic presidential administrations, there have been no comprehensive, bipartisan polling efforts to measure public opinion on the policy. The Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) and PAI engaged public opinion research firms Lake Research Partners and American Viewpoint to conduct a joint nationwide survey among voters to determine the favorability of banning U.S. global health assistance to health care organizations in other countries that provide abortions or referrals to women even if they use their own funding. The survey also measured opinions on the U.S.’s role in providing foreign assistance to other countries for medical care.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over half (59%) of likely American voters oppose banning U.S. global health assistance to health care organizations in other countries that provide abortions or referrals to women even if they use their own funding. Three-in-ten (30%) favor banning assistance to these organizations. A majority of likely voters oppose the ban across all demographics including:
58% of Democrats | **60%** of Republicans | **57%** of Independents
- A majority of voters agree that the U.S. has a role and a moral obligation when it comes to the health of women and girls in the world.
 - U.S. has a role: **79%** agree, **66%** agree strongly
 - U.S. has a moral obligation: **77%** agree, **64%** strongly
 - Women are more likely than men to strongly agree, but solid majorities of both men and women strongly agree
 - Voters agree across party identification, race, and abortion stance
- A solid majority (60%) favor the U.S. providing foreign assistance to other countries for medical care.

METHODOLOGY

Lake Research Partners and American Viewpoint designed and administered this survey that was conducted by telephone using professional interviewers from May 8th – May 15th, 2018. The survey reached a total of 1,000 Likely 2018 Voters with an oversample of 100 likely 2018 African American voters and 100 likely 2018 Latino voters.

The sample was drawn from a national voter file and respondents were screened to be likely November 2018 voters. The base likely voter sample was weighed slightly by region, age, race, educational attainment, party ID, choice stance, and choice stance by gender to reflect the demographic composition of likely voters. The African American oversample was weighted slightly by gender and age, and the Latino oversample was weighted slightly by gender. The African American and Latino oversamples were weighed down to reflect their actual proportion within the population of likely voters.

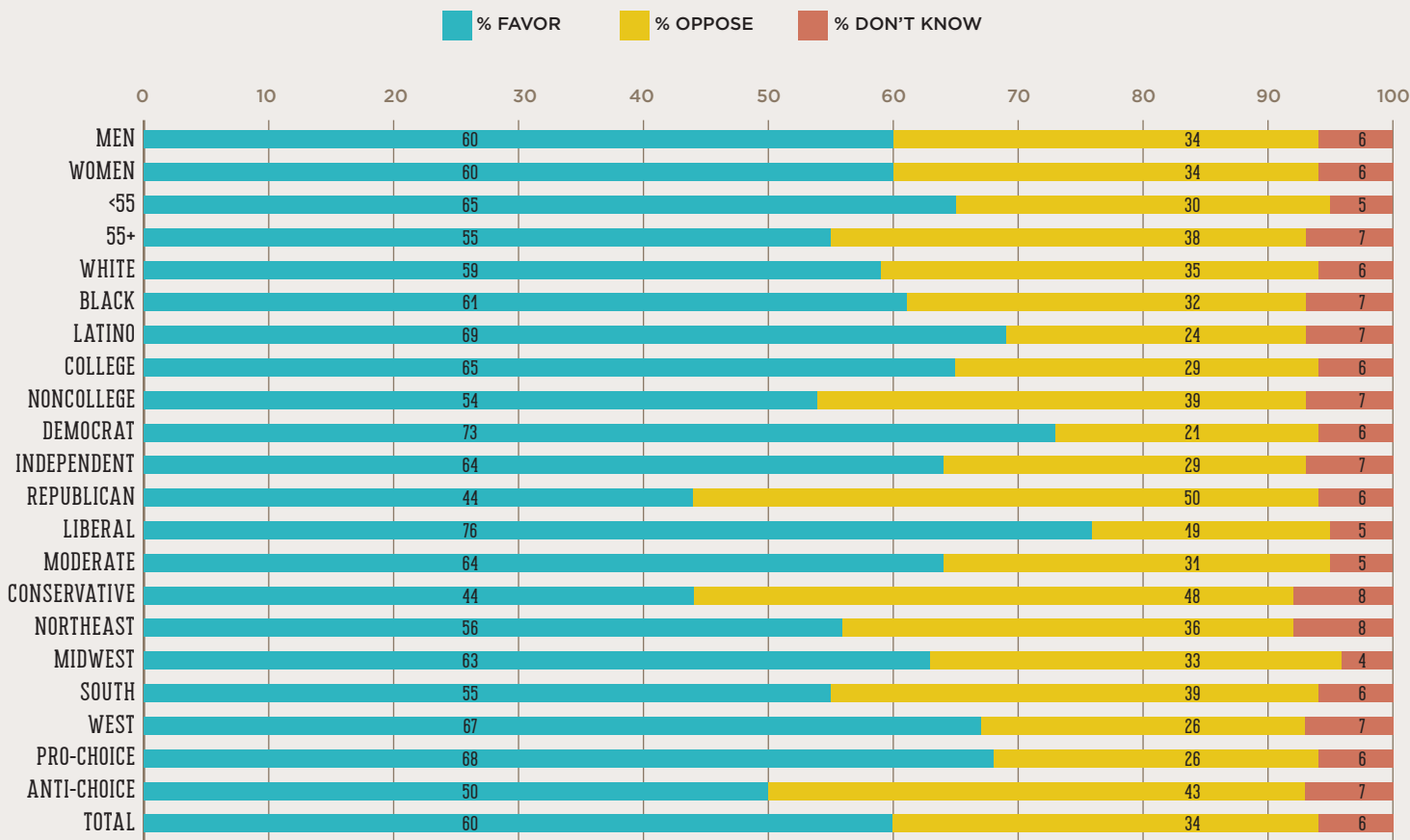
The margin of error is +/-3.1 for the total likely voter sample.

FINDINGS

VIEWS ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE FOR MEDICAL CARE

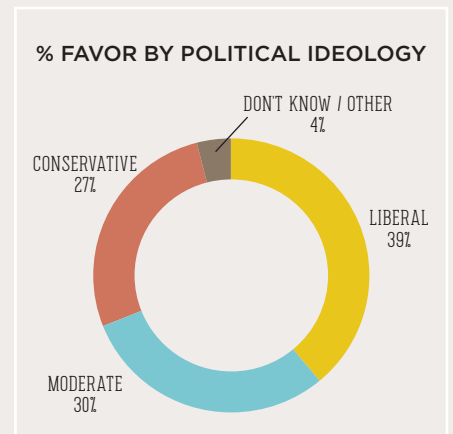
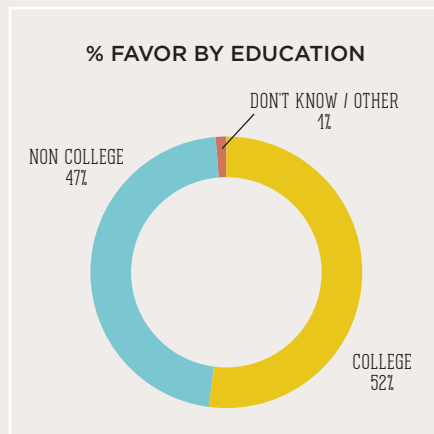
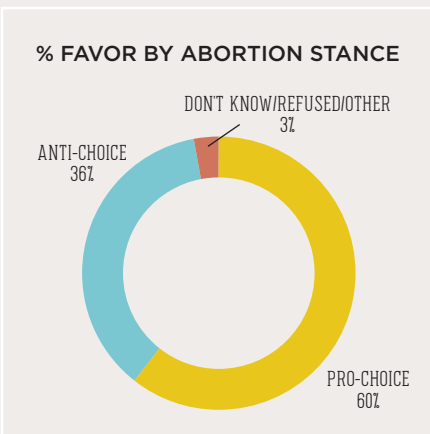
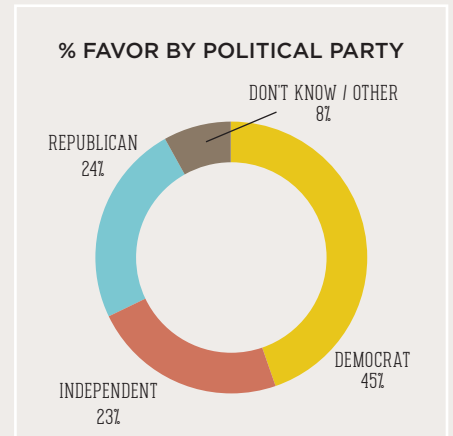
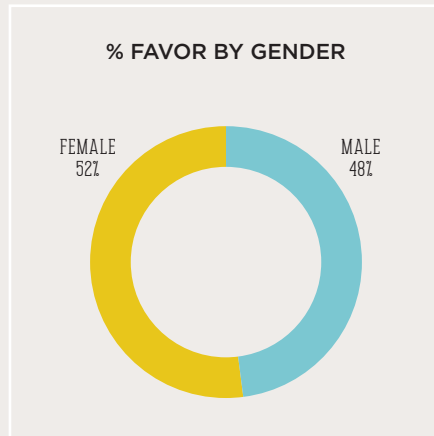
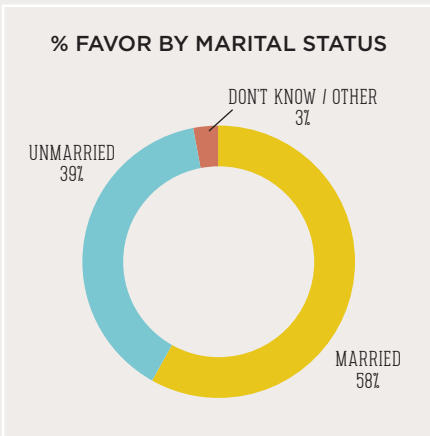
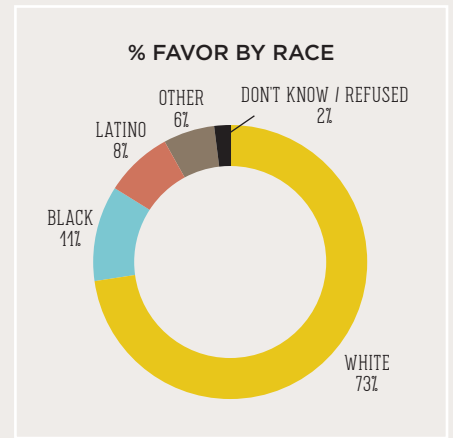
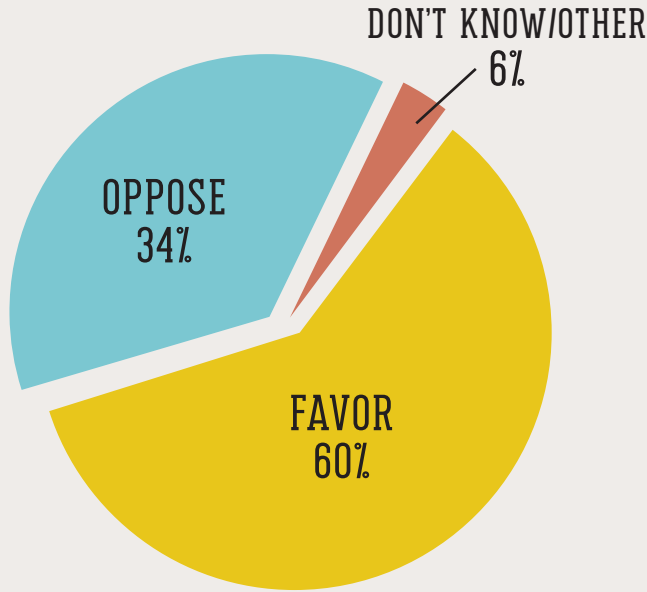
In the survey, when asked specifically about the U.S. providing foreign assistance to other countries for medical care, a majority of voters favor doing so, including a strong majority of voters under 55, voters of color, college educated voters, Democrats, liberals, and pro-choice voters. Just over half of Republicans are opposed.

SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED STATES PROVIDING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTRIES FOR MEDICAL CARE



Q: Do you favor or oppose the United States providing foreign assistance to other countries for medical care?

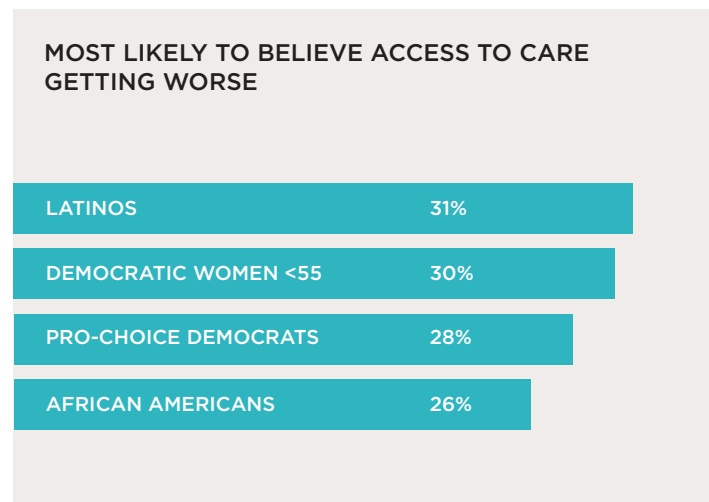
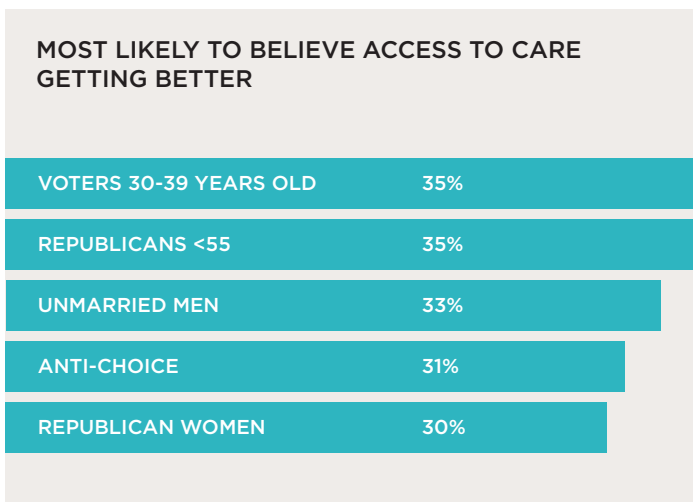
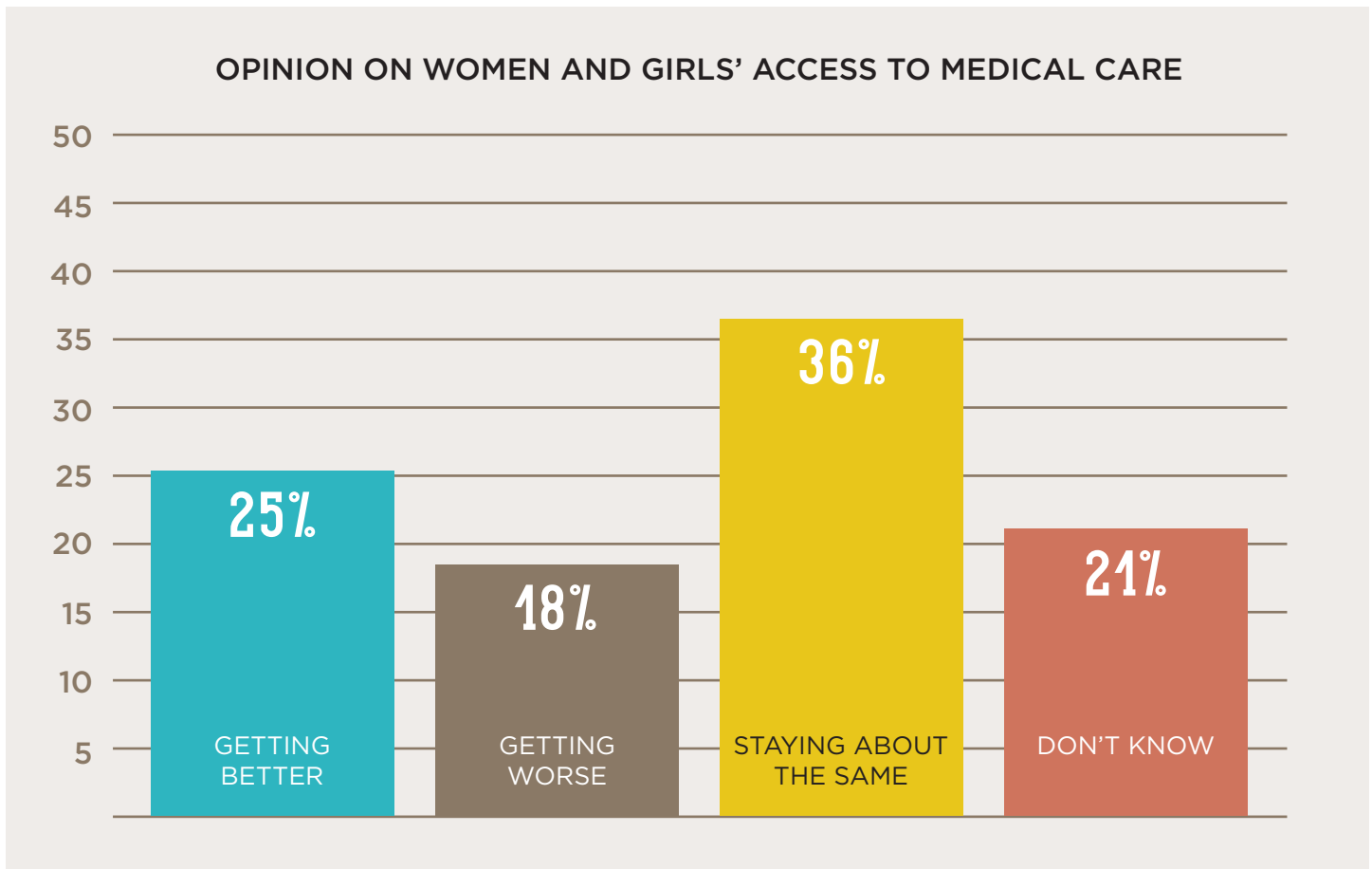
A MAJORITY (60 PERCENT) OF VOTERS FAVOR THE U.S. PROVIDING FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO OTHER COUNTRIES FOR MEDICAL CARE



VIEWS ON ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS GLOBALLY

While one-quarter believe women and girls' global access to medical care is getting better, more than one-third believe it is staying about the same. Men, Republicans and anti-choice respondents were most likely to say it is getting better. Fewer believe it is getting worse, with Latinos, Democratic women and African Americans most often choosing this response.

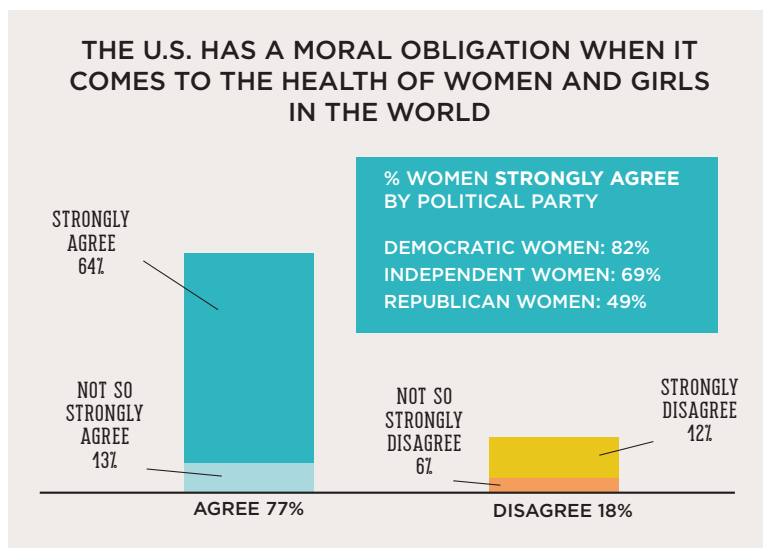
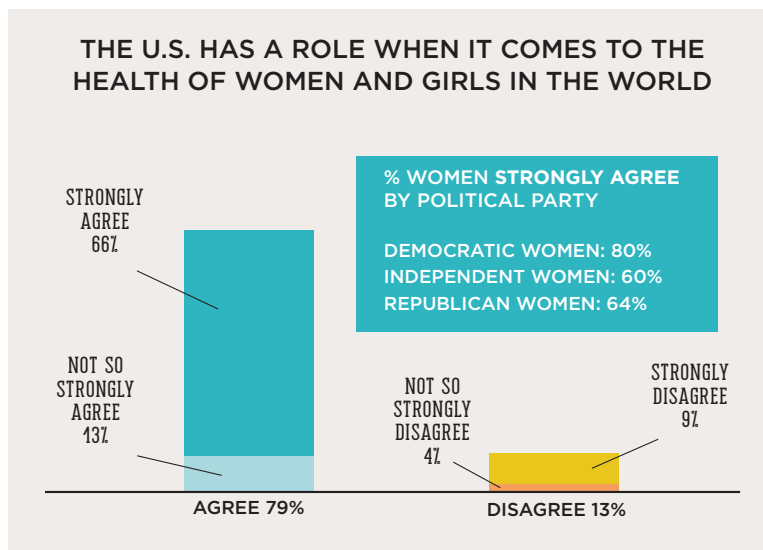
Q: Do you think access to medical care for women and girls globally is getting better, getting worse, or staying about the same?



A majority of voters see access to medical care for women and girls globally as a serious problem. Liberals, Democratic women, African Americans, and Latino voters are the most likely to believe it is a serious problem.

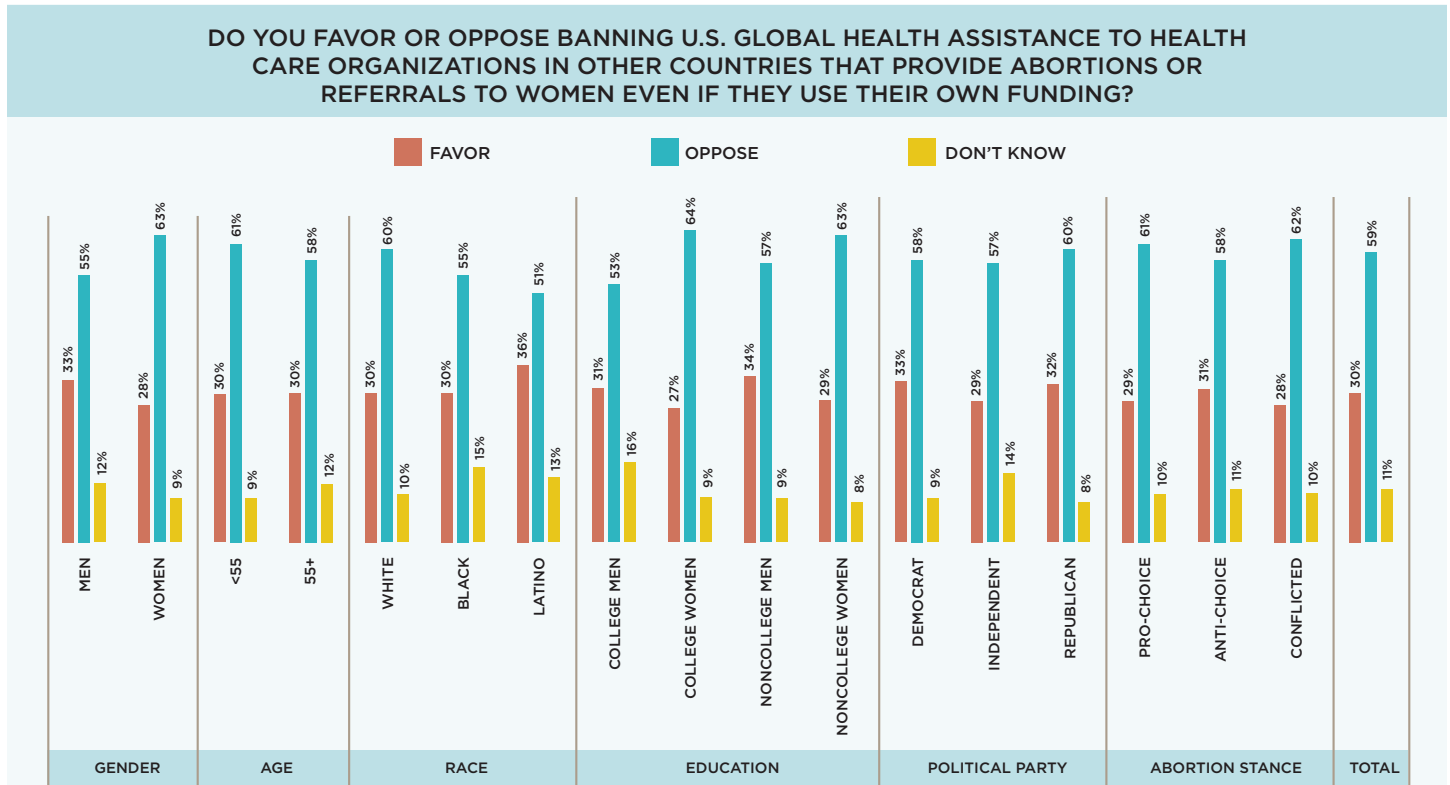


About two-thirds of voters strongly agree that the United States has a role and a moral obligation when it comes to the health of women and girls in the world. Democratic women are most likely to strongly agree that the U.S. has a moral obligation. Republican women are more likely to strongly agree that the U.S. has a role than a moral obligation.



REACTIONS TO THE “PROTECTING LIFE IN GLOBAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE” POLICY, OR “THE GLOBAL GAG RULE”

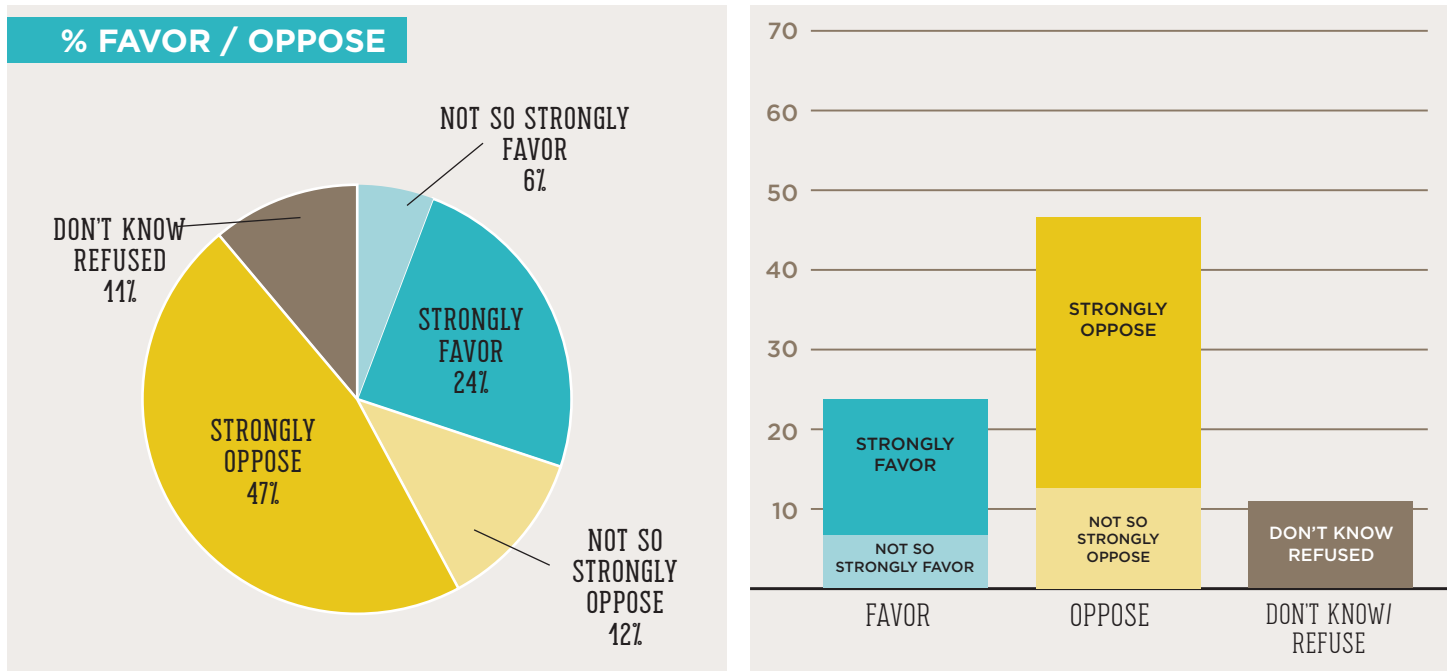
“Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance,” also known as the “Global Gag Rule,” is a policy that forces foreign NGOs to choose between receiving U.S. global health assistance and providing comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care. Providers must agree not to provide information, referrals or services for legal abortion or to advocate for the legalization of abortion in their country with their own non-U.S. funds. A majority of survey respondents (59%) oppose the idea of banning U.S. global health assistance to health care organizations in other countries that provide abortions or referrals to women.



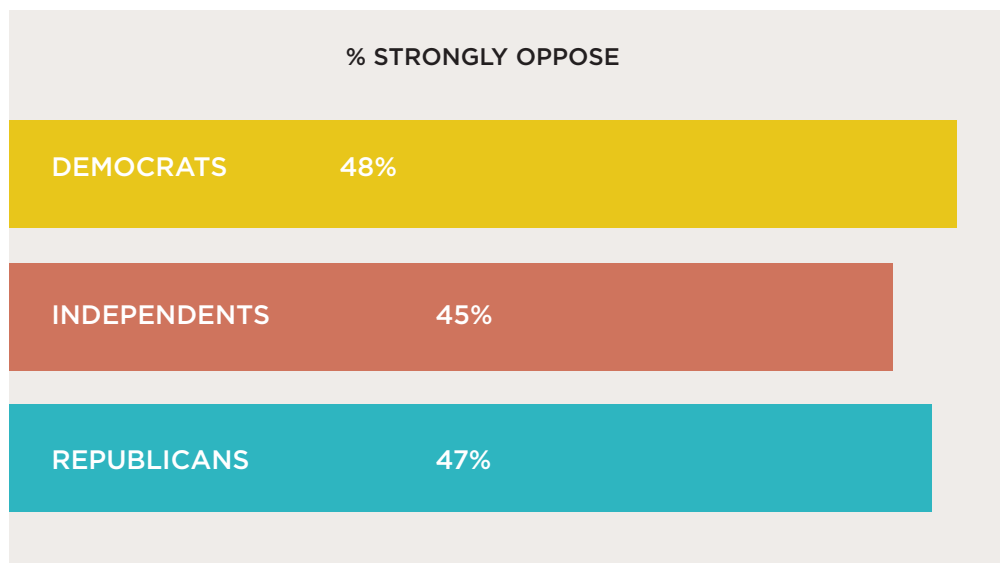
Across gender, age, race, education, political party affiliation and even abortion stance, the majority of respondents were opposed to this practice.

	GENDER		AGE		RACE			EDUCATION				POLITICAL PARTY			ABORTION STANCE			TOTAL
	Men	Women	<55	55+	White	Black	Latino	College men	College women	Non-college men	Non-college women	Democrat	Independent	Republican	Pro-choice	Anti-choice	Conflicted	
FAVOR	33%	28%	30%	30%	30%	30%	36%	31%	27%	34%	29%	33%	29%	32%	29%	31%	28%	30%
OPPOSE	55%	63%	61%	58%	60%	55%	51%	53%	64%	57%	63%	58%	57%	60%	61%	58%	62%	59%
DON'T KNOW	12%	9%	9%	12%	10%	15%	13%	16%	9%	9%	8%	9%	14%	8%	10%	11%	10%	11%

Q: Do you favor or oppose banning U.S. global health assistance to health care organizations in other countries that provide abortions or referrals to women even if they use their own funding?



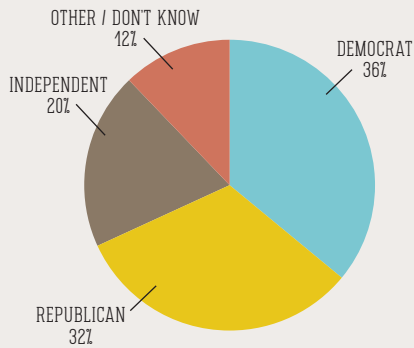
Of the nearly 60% who oppose the ban, most voters *strongly oppose* it.



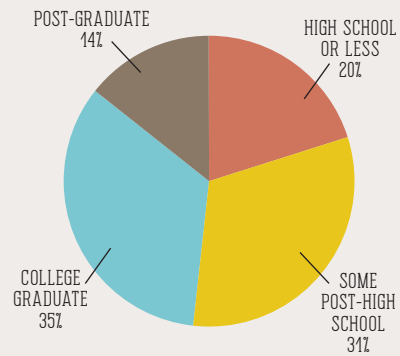
Almost half of Democrats (48%), Independents (45%), and Republicans (47%) are strongly opposed.

GLOBAL GAG RULE OPPOSITION BY DEMOGRAPHIC

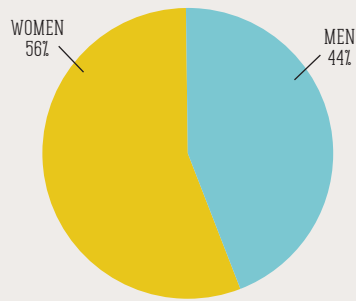
% OPPOSE BY PARTY IDENTIFICATION



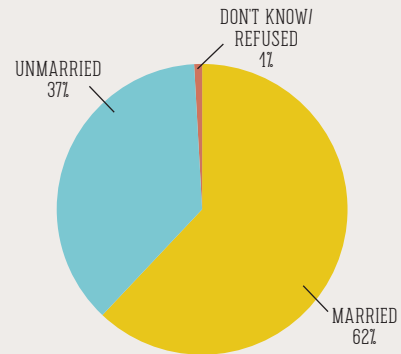
% OPPOSE BY EDUCATION



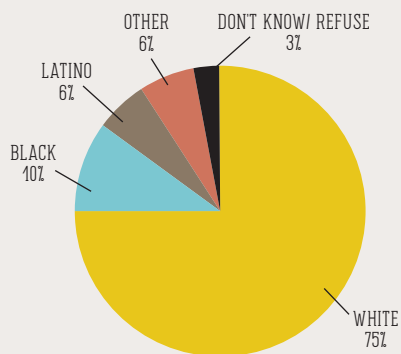
% OPPOSE BY GENDER



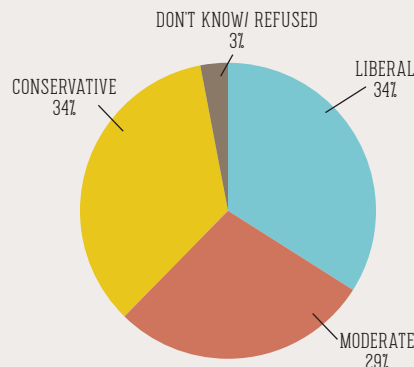
% OPPOSE BY MARITAL STATUS



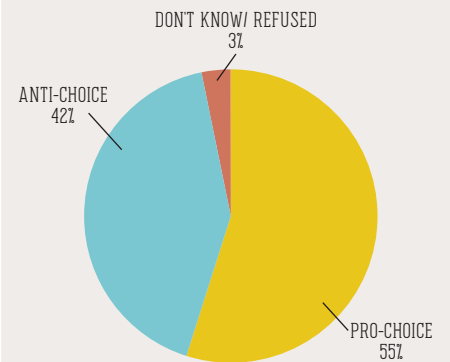
% OPPOSE BY RACE



% OPPOSE BY POLITICAL IDEOLOGY



% OPPOSE BY ABORTION STANCE



ABOUT CHANGE

The mission of CHANGE is to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights as a means to achieve gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls by shaping public discourse, elevating women's voices, and influencing the United States Government.

ABOUT PAI

PAI champions policies that put women in charge of their reproductive health. We work with policymakers in the United States and our network of partners in developing countries to remove roadblocks between women and the services and supplies they need. For more than 50 years, we've helped women succeed by upholding their basic rights. To learn more, visit www.pai.org.

**CHAMPIONS
OF GLOBAL
REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS**
pai.org



For questions, please contact: info@pai.org and change@genderhealth.org.