## American Views on Intolerance and Religious Liberty in America

Phone Survey of 1,000 Americans



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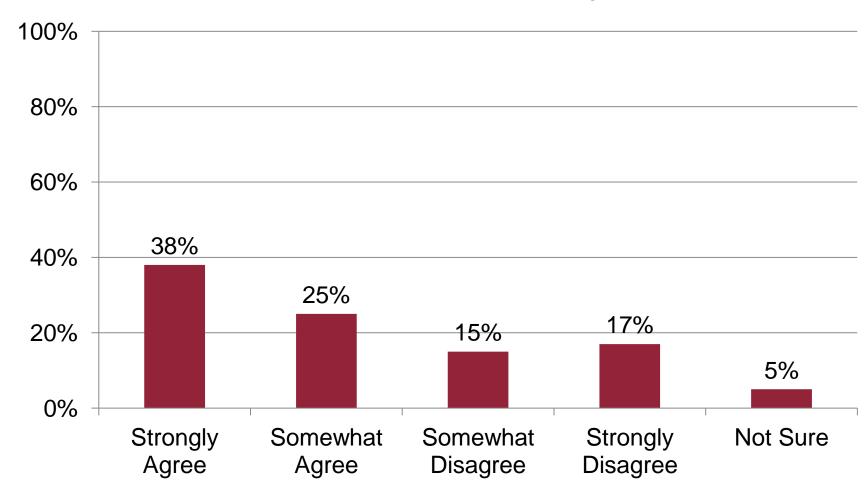
#### Methodology

- The phone survey of Americans was conducted September 14-28, 2015
- The calling utilized Random Digit Dialing. 50% of completes were among landlines and 50% among cell phones
- Maximum quotas and slight weights were used for gender, region, age, ethnicity, and education to more accurately reflect the population
- The completed sample is 1,000 surveys
- The sample provides 95% confidence that the sampling error does not exceed <u>+</u>3.6%
- Margins of error are higher in sub-groups
- Comparisons are also made to a LifeWay Research telephone survey conducted September 6-10, 2013

#### **Survey Responses**

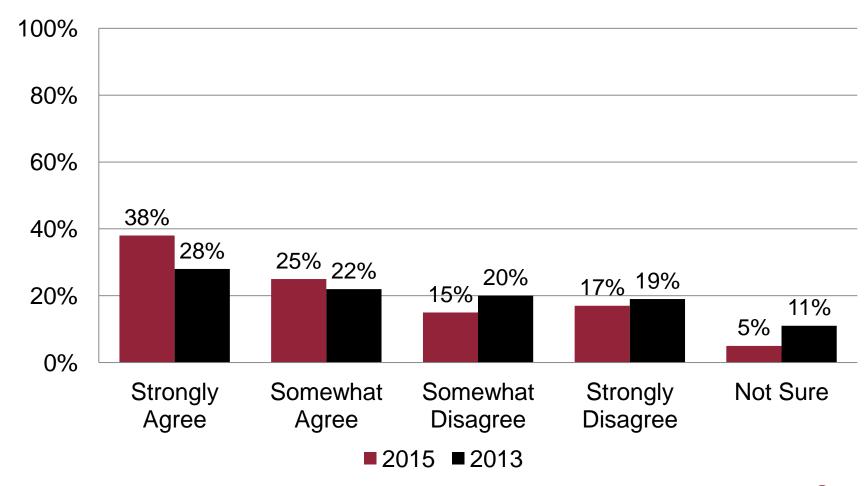


# 63% Americans agree that Christians increasingly are confronted with intolerance in America today



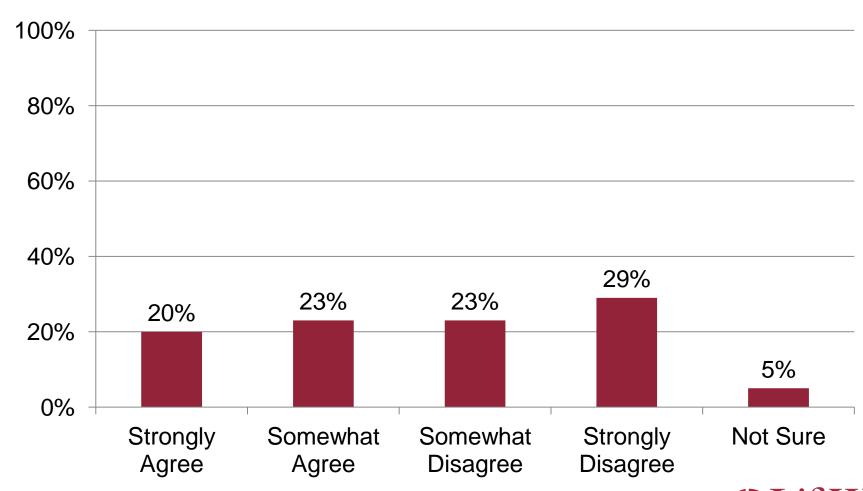


### "Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today."



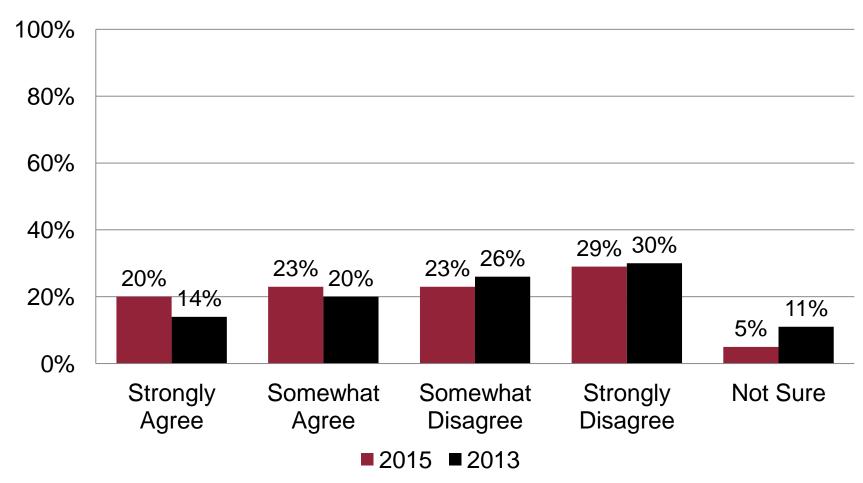


## 43% agree that American Christians complain too much about how they are treated



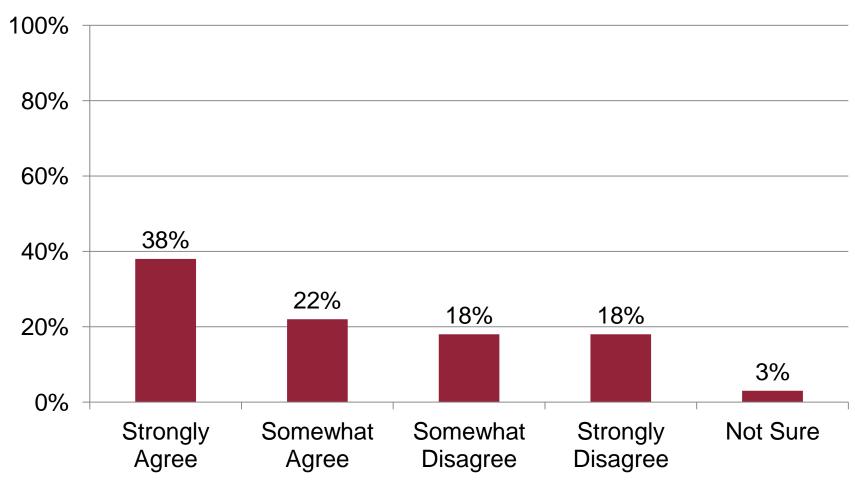


### "American Christians complain too much about how they are treated."



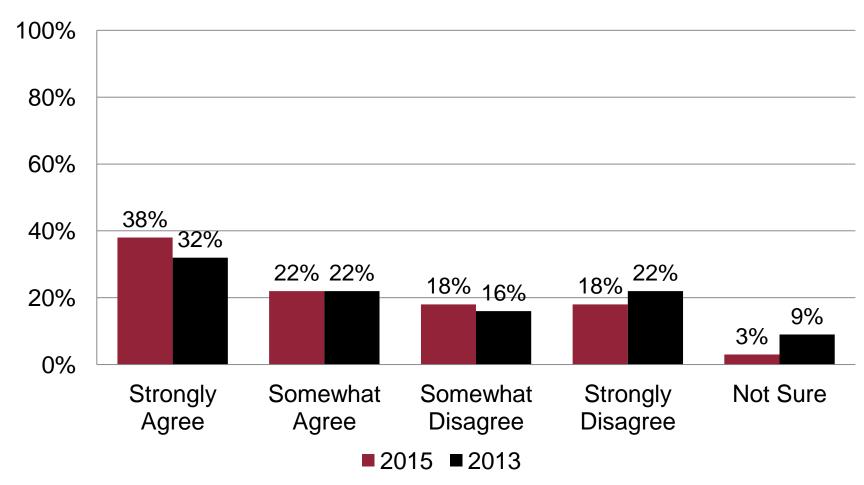


# 6 out of 10 Americans agree that religious liberty is on the decline in America





### "Religious liberty is on the decline in America"





#### Significant Differences

Gender Region Age Ethnicity **Education Level** Religious Preference Catholic/Protestant Self-Identified Evangelical Protestant **Evangelical Beliefs** Religious Service Attendance



#### Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among gender, region of the country, age, ethnicity, and education level.

Gender	Region	Age	Ethnicity	Education Level
Male	Northeast	18-24	White	High school graduate or less
Female	Midwest	25-34	African American	Some college
	South	35-44	Hispanic	College graduate (Bachelor's degree)
	West	45-54	Other Ethnicities	Graduate degree
		55-64		
		65+		

Notes: Region is defined by US Census locations



#### Significant Statistical Differences

Comparisons were made to determine if there are any significant statistical differences among religious preference, denomination, Self-identified Evangelical Protestants, Evangelical Beliefs, and religious service attendance.

Religious Preference	Denomination	Self- Identified Evangelical Protestant	Evangelical Beliefs	Religious Service Attendance
Christian*	Protestant / Nondenominational	Yes	Yes	Once a week or more
Other Religions	Catholic	No / not sure	No	Once or twice a month
Nonreligious**				Only on religious holidays
				Rarely or never

<sup>\*</sup>includes Catholic, Protestant, Nondenominational, and Orthodox





#### Evangelical Beliefs

- Evangelical Beliefs are defined using the NAE LifeWay Research
  Evangelical Beliefs Research Definition based on respondent beliefs
- Respondents are asked their level of agreement with four separate statements using a four-point, forced choice scale (strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree). Those who strongly agree with all four statements are categorized as having Evangelical Beliefs
  - The Bible is the highest authority for what I believe
  - It is very important for me personally to encourage non-Christians to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior
  - Jesus Christ's death on the cross is the only sacrifice that could remove the penalty of my sin
  - Only those who trust in Jesus Christ alone as their Savior receive God's free gift of eternal salvation



### "Christians increasingly are confronted by intolerance in America today."

- Those in the South (69%) are more likely to Agree than those in the West (57%)
- Those age 55-64 (71%) are more likely to Agree than those 18-24 (58%), 25-34 (59%), and 65+ (59%)
- Hispanics (39%) are more likely to Disagree than Whites (30%)
- Those with some college (66%) and those who are college graduates (66%) are more likely to Agree than those with a graduate degree (53%)
- Christians (70%) are more likely to Agree than Other Religions (43%) and Nonreligious (48%)
- Protestants (74%) are more likely to Agree than Catholics (59%)
- Self-Identified Evangelical Protestants are more likely to Agree (82% v. 55%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (79% v. 55%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a week or more are the most likely to Agree (76%)



### "American Christians complain too much about how they are treated."

- Men (47%) are more likely to Agree than women (39%)
- Those age 18-24 (50%) and 25-34 (50%) are more likely to Agree than those 35-44 (38%) and 55-64 (37%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less (46%) more likely to Agree than those who are college graduates (37%)
- Nonreligious (59%) are more likely to Agree than Christians (38%) and Other Religions (39%)
- Self-Identified Evangelical Protestants are more likely to Disagree (58% v. 50%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Disagree (57% v. 50%)
- Those who rarely or never attend a religious service are the most likely to Agree (53%)



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#### "Religious liberty is on the decline in America"

- Those in the South (63%) are more likely to Agree than those in the Northeast (52%)
- Those age 18-24 are the most likely to Disagree (56%)
- Those age 25-34 (62%), 35-44 (61%), 45-54 (66%), 55-64 (65%) and 65+ (58%) are more likely to agree than those age 18-24 (42%)
- Whites (64%) are more likely to Agree than Hispanics (52%) and Other Ethnicities (50%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less (64%) or have some college (61%) are more likely to Agree than those with a graduate degree (44%)
- Christians (64%) and Other Religions (65%) are more likely to Agree than Nonreligious (46%)
- Protestants (67%) are more likely to Agree than Catholics (56%)
- Self-Identified Evangelical Protestants are more likely to Agree (71% v. 55%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are more likely to Agree (75% v. 52%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a week or more are the most likely to Agree (70%)

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