

American Views on Sexual and Religious Freedom

Representative Survey of 1,000
Americans

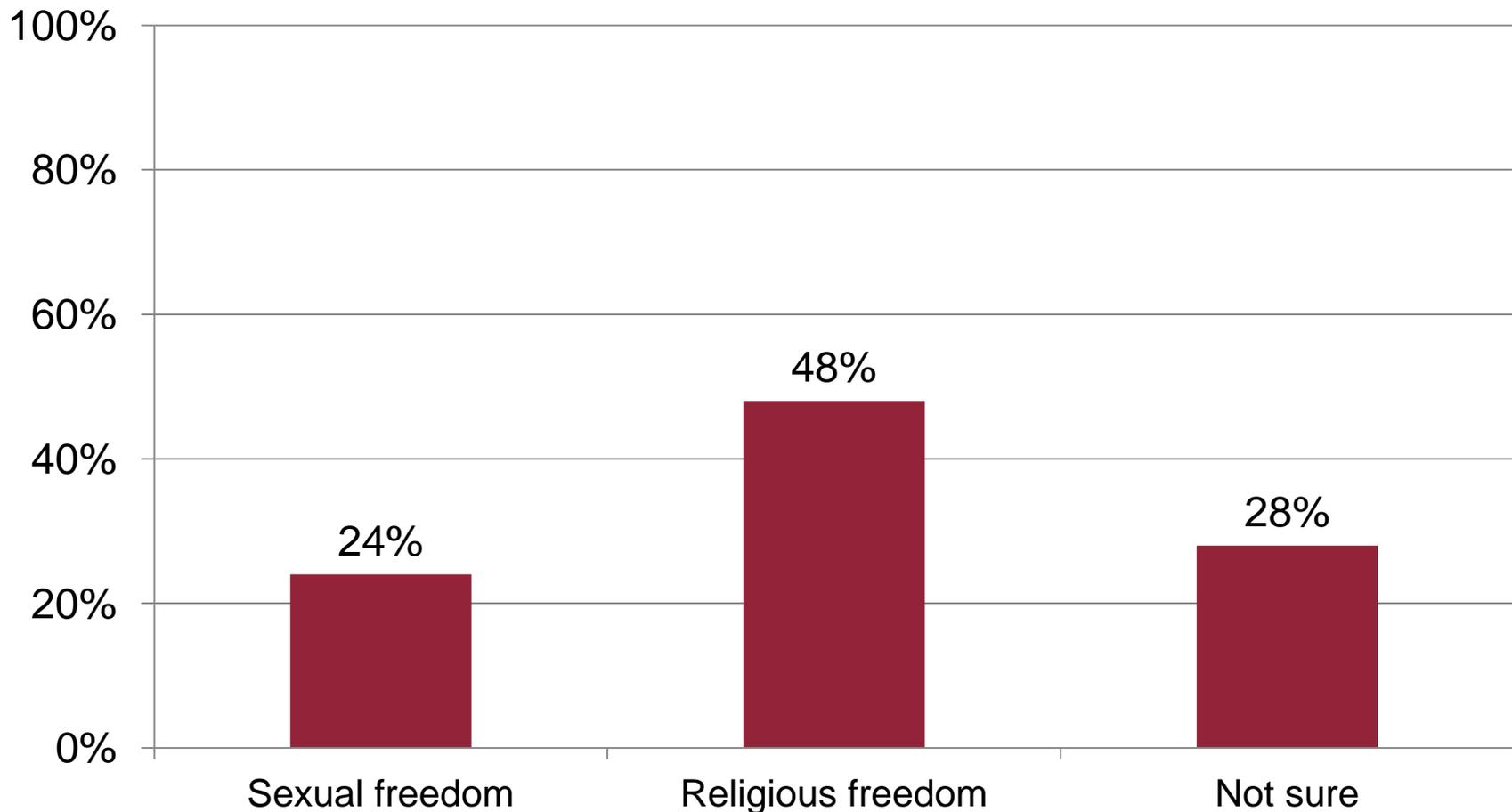
Methodology

LifeWay Research conducted the study Sept. 27 – Oct. 1, 2016. The survey was conducted using the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®, a probability-based panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Initially, participants are chosen scientifically by a random selection of telephone numbers and residential addresses. Persons in selected households are then invited by telephone or by mail to participate in the web-enabled KnowledgePanel®. For those who agree to participate, but do not already have Internet access, GfK provides at no cost a laptop and ISP connection.

Sample stratification and weights were used for gender, age, race/ethnicity, region, metro/non-metro, education, and income to reflect the most recent US Census data. The completed sample is 1,000 surveys. The sample provides 95 percent confidence that the sampling error does not exceed plus or minus 3.1 percent. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

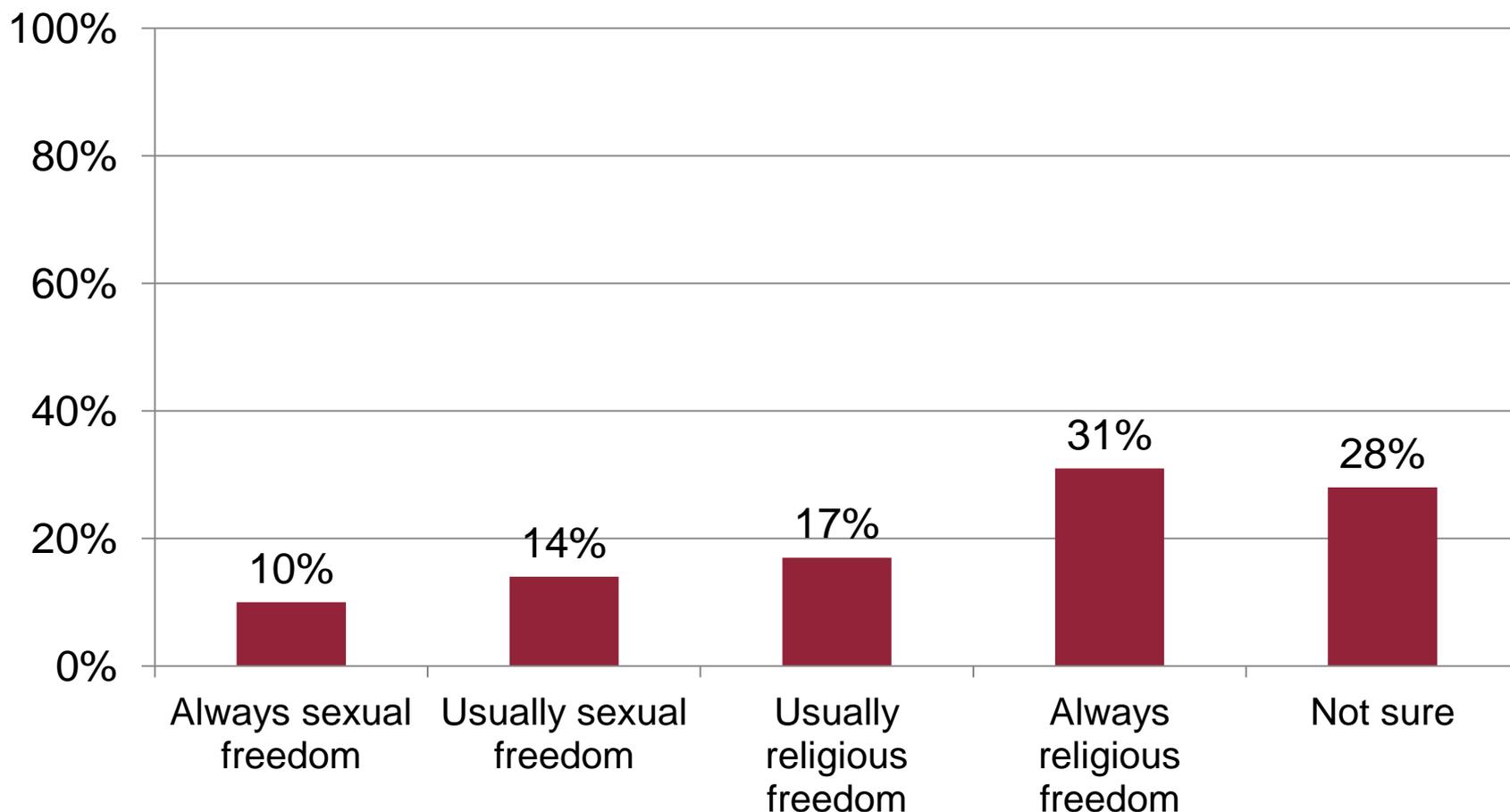
Survey Responses

48% feel religious freedom is more important when in conflict with sexual freedom



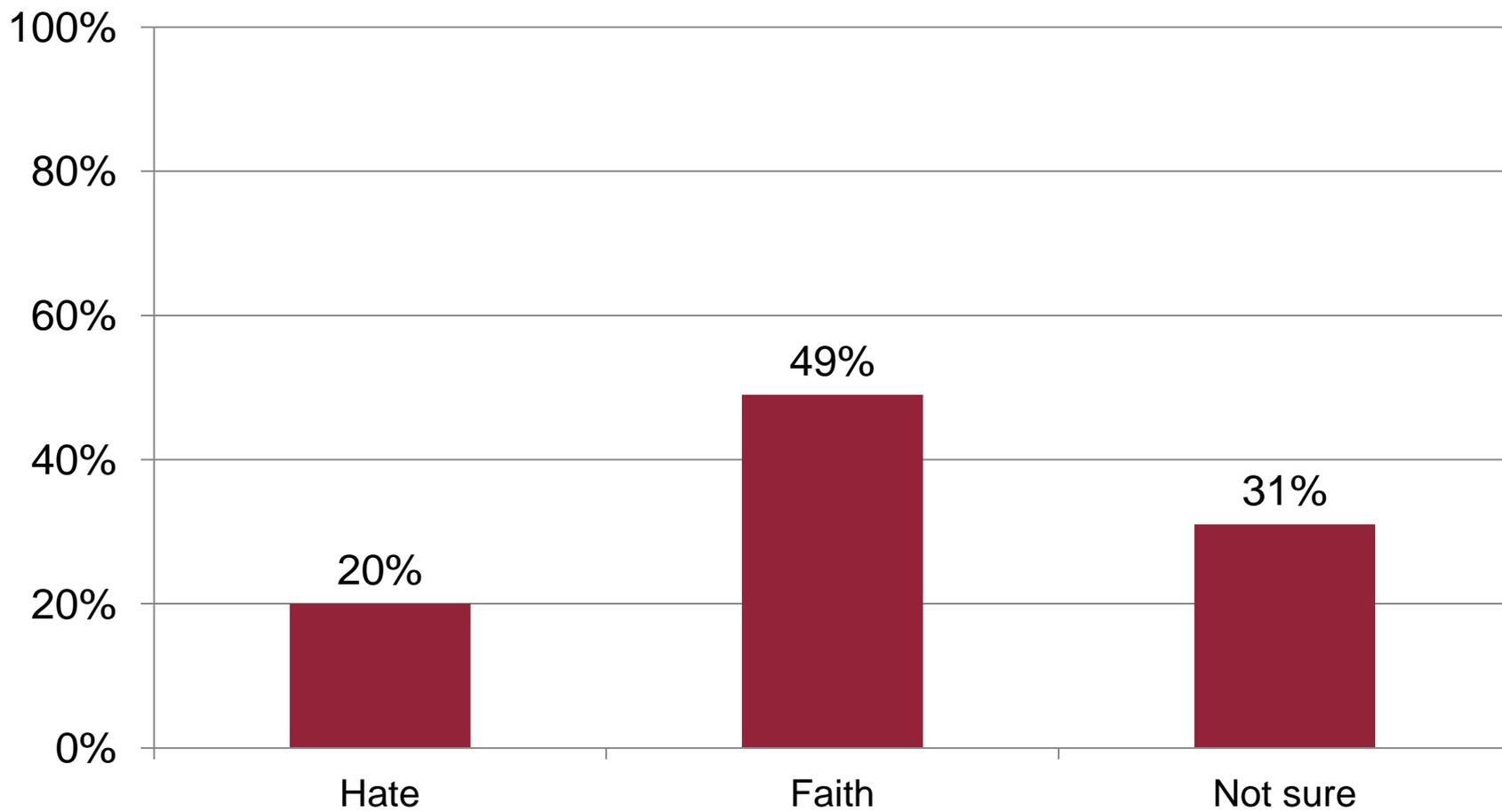
QB10a: "Different people have different views on the issue of sexual freedom today. When sexual freedom and religious freedom conflict, which freedom do you feel is more important?"

31% say religious freedom is always more important



QB10b: "And in your opinion, is (choice of sexual or religious freedom) always more important or usually more important?"

Almost half say that faith motivates religious believers who oppose sexual freedom



Significant Differences

Gender
Region
Age
Ethnicity
Education Level
Religious Preference
Denomination
Evangelical Beliefs
Religious Service Attendance

Significant Statistical Differences

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

Gender	Region	Age	Ethnicity	Education
Male	Northeast	18-24	White, Non-Hispanic	High School graduate or less
Female	Midwest	25-34	Black, Non-Hispanic	Some college
	South	35-44	Hispanic	Bachelor's Degree
	West	45-54	Other Ethnicities	Graduate Degree
		55-64		
		65+		

Note: 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, Evangelical Beliefs, and religious service attendance.

Religious Preference	Denomination	Evangelical Beliefs	Religious Service Attendance
Christian*	Catholic	Yes	Attending at least once a month
Other Religions	Protestant Christian	No	Attending less than once a month
No religion			

*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

“When sexual freedom and religious freedom conflict, which freedom do you feel is more important?”

- Males (30%) are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than females (19%)
- Those in the Northeast (33%) are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than those in the Midwest (22%) and South (21%)
- Those in the South (53%) and West (49%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than those in the Northeast (38%)
- Those age 25-34 (32%) and 35-44 (29%) are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than those 65+ (20%)
- Those age 55-64 (55%) and 65+ (56%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than those 18-24 (33%), 25-34 (41%), and 35-44 (42%)
- Hispanics (31%) are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than Black, Non-Hispanics (19%) and Other Ethnicities (15%)
- Black, Non-Hispanics (58%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than White, Non-Hispanics (46%) and Hispanics (45%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the least likely education category to select “Sexual freedom” (15%) and the most likely education category to select “Religious freedom” (55%)
- Nonreligious (49%) are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than Christians (15%) and Other Religions (28%)

“When sexual freedom and religious freedom conflict, which freedom do you feel is more important?” (continued)

- Christians (59%) and Other Religions (53%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than Nonreligious (15%)
- Catholics (19%) or are more likely to select “Sexual freedom” than Evangelical Protestant Christians (11%)
- Protestant Christians (68%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than Catholics (49%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs (2%) are less likely to select “Sexual freedom” than those without Evangelical Beliefs (29%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs (90%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” than those without Evangelical Beliefs (39%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a month or more (11%) are less likely to select “Sexual freedom” (32%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a month or more (74%) are more likely to select “Religious freedom” (33%)

“And in your opinion, is sexual or religious freedom always more important or usually more important?”

- Males (13%) are more likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than females (8%)
- Those in the South (37%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than those in the Northeast (23%) and West (28%)
- Those age 25-34 (16%) and 35-44 (16%) are more likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than those 18-24 (7%), 55-64 (5%) and 65+ (5%)
- Those age 65+ (39%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than those 18-24 (14%), 25-34 (25%), and 35-44 (29%)
- White, Non-Hispanics (11%) and Hispanics (12%) are more likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than Black, Non-Hispanics (4%)
- Black, Non-Hispanics (39%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than Hispanics (24%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the least likely education category to select “Always sexual freedom” (5%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less (36%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than those with some college (26%) or Graduate Degree (26%)
- Other Religions (15%) and Nonreligious (22%) are more likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than Christians (5%)

“And in your opinion, is sexual or religious freedom always more important or usually more important?” (continued)

- Christians (39%) and Other Religions (34%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than Nonreligious (7%)
- Protestant Christians (47%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than Catholics (30%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs (1%) are less likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than those without Evangelical Beliefs (12%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs (74%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than those without Evangelical Beliefs (22%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a month or more (4%) are less likely to select “Always sexual freedom” than those who attend a religious service less than once a month (13%)
- Those who attend a religious service once a month or more (56%) are more likely to select “Always religious freedom” than those who attend a religious service less than once a month (17%)

“In general, what do you think motivates sincere religious believers who oppose sexual freedom?”

- Those in the South (53%) are more likely to select “Faith” than those in the Northeast (41%)
- Those age 18-24 (23%), 25-34 (27%), and 35-44 (25%) are more likely to select “Hate” than those 55-64 (13%) and 65+ (12%)
- Those age 35-44 (52%), 55-64 (55%) and 65+ (55%) are more likely to select “Faith” than those 18-24 (38%) and 25-34 (40%)
- Black, Non-Hispanics are the least likely ethnic group to select “Hate” (11%) and the most likely ethnic group to select “Faith” (61%)
- Those who are high school graduates or less are the least likely education category to select “Hate” (12%)
- Christians are less likely to select “Hate” (13%) than Other Religions (32%) and Nonreligious (34%)
- Christians are more likely to select “Faith” (58%) than Other Religions (41%) and Nonreligious (29%)
- Those with Evangelical Beliefs are less likely to select “Hate” (3% v. 23%) and more likely to select “Faith” (77% v. 44%) than those without Evangelical Beliefs
- Those who attend a religious service once a month or more are less likely to “Hate” (10% v. 25%) and more likely to select “Faith” (65% v. 42%) than those who attend a religious service less than once a month

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