

# THE 1997 CANADIAN ELECTION STUDY

This is the final component of the 1997 Canadian Election Study. We appreciate the assistance you have provided us in the study and hope you will complete this questionnaire as soon as possible.

All responses to this questionnaire will be kept *strictly confidential*. Please return the questionnaire in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. No postage is required.

This questionnaire should only be completed by the *same person* who was interviewed over the telephone.

**SECTION A**

For each statement below, please indicate if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree. Please write the number that best reflects your opinion in the space at the right of each statement.

<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
1	2	3	4	8

1. We have gone too far in pushing equal rights in this country . . . . .
2. We should be more tolerant of people who choose to live according to their own standards, even if they are very different from our own . . . . .
3. If a company has to lay off some of its employees, the first workers to be laid off should be women whose husbands have jobs . . . . .
4. The government must do more to reduce the income gap between rich and poor Canadians . . . . .
5. Discrimination makes it extremely difficult for women to get jobs equal to their abilities . . . . .
6. Protecting the environment is more important than creating jobs . . . . .
7. Newer lifestyles are contributing to the breakdown of our society . . . . .
8. The world is always changing and we should adapt our view of moral behaviour to these changes . . . . .
9. This country would have many fewer problems if there were more emphasis on traditional family values . . . . .
10. It is not really that big a problem if some people have more of a chance in life than others . . . . .
11. We should look after Canadians born in this country first and others second . . . . .
12. If people really want work, they can find a job . . . . .
13. Things are so tough for young people today because of the babyboom generation . . . . .
14. Minority groups need special rights . . . . .
15. More should be done to protect Canadian business from foreign competition . . . . .

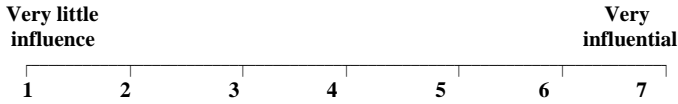
**SECTION B**

Please circle the number that best reflects your opinion.

1. The government should:
  - See to it that everyone has a decent standard of living . . . . . 1
  - Leave people to get ahead on their own . . . . . 2
  - Not sure . . . . . 8
2. The government should:
  - Do more to protect the environment, even if this means higher taxes . . . . . 1
  - Keep taxes from going up, even if this means doing less for the environment . . . . . 2
  - Not sure . . . . . 8
3. Workers and management:
  - Have conflicting interests and are natural enemies . . . . 1
  - Share the same interests in the long run . . . . . 2
  - Not sure . . . . . 8
4. When it comes to job hiring:
  - Quotas should be used to increase the number of women in good jobs . . . . . 1
  - Hiring should be based strictly on merit . . . . . 2
  - Not sure . . . . . 8
5. Which comes closest to your own view:
  - People on welfare who are physically able should be required to work . . . . . 1
  - Requiring people on welfare to work will end up taking jobs away from other people . . . . . 2
  - Not sure . . . . . 8
6. Do you think that people in the government:
  - Waste a lot of the money we pay in taxes . . . . . 1
  - Waste some of it . . . . . 2
  - Don't waste very much of it . . . . . 3
  - Not sure . . . . . 8

### SECTION C

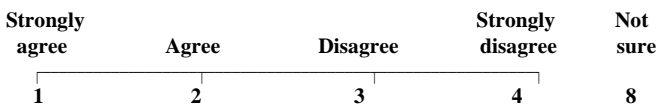
We would like to know how much influence you think various groups **actually have** over Canadian life, and how much influence you think they **should have**. Please rate the groups listed below on a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 means "very little influence" and 7 means "very influential."



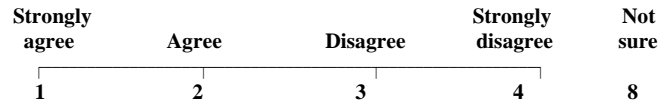
	Influence group has	Influence group should have
Unions	_____	_____
Farmers	_____	_____
Big business	_____	_____
Media	_____	_____
Public sector workers	_____	_____
Banks	_____	_____
Consumers	_____	_____
Feminists	_____	_____
Aboriginal peoples	_____	_____
Racial minorities	_____	_____
People on welfare	_____	_____
Small business	_____	_____
Senior citizens	_____	_____
Gays and lesbians	_____	_____
Baby boomers	_____	_____
Environmentalists	_____	_____

### SECTION D

For each statement below, please indicate if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree. Please write the number that best reflects your opinion in the space at the right of each statement.



1. The problem with democracy is that most people don't really know what's best for them ..... \_\_\_
2. Most people have enough sense to tell whether the government is doing a good job ..... \_\_\_
3. We could probably solve most of our big national problems if decisions could be brought back to the people at the grass roots ..... \_\_\_



4. The government should pay the most attention to those citizens who are well informed ..... \_\_\_
5. All federal parties are basically the same; there isn't really a choice ..... \_\_\_
6. Political parties spend too much time catering to minorities ..... \_\_\_
7. We have gone too far in pushing bilingualism in Canada ..... \_\_\_
8. The best way to protect women's interests is to have more women in Parliament ..... \_\_\_
9. The profits Canadian banks are making these days are a scandal ..... \_\_\_
10. Unemployed people should move to regions where there are jobs ..... \_\_\_
11. International trade creates more jobs in Canada than it destroys ..... \_\_\_
12. Immigrants make an important contribution to this country ..... \_\_\_

### SECTION E

For each of the following, please circle the number that comes closest to your opinion.

1. No matter how we treat people, some will turn out to be better than others ..... 1  
If we really gave everyone an equal chance, almost everyone would turn out to be equally worthwhile ..... 2  
Not sure ..... 8
2. The feminist movement:  
Just tries to get equal treatment for women ..... 1  
Puts men down ..... 2  
Not sure ..... 8
3. Which is more important in a democratic society:  
Letting the majority decide ..... 1  
Protecting the needs and rights of minorities ..... 2  
Not sure ..... 8

4. Which comes closest to your own view:
- Men and women can only be equal when they have the same responsibilities in government, business and the family . . . . . 1
- Equality can exist even when men and women have very different responsibilities . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

5. If a law conflicts with the Canadian Charter of Rights, who should have the final say:
- The courts because they are in the best position to decide what is just and unjust . . . . . 1
- The government because they are elected by the people . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

6. Which comes closest to your own view:
- The government must crack down on marital violence even if that means interfering in people's private lives . . . . . 1
- Couples should basically be left to sort out their own problems . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

7. The feminist movement encourages women:
- To be independent and speak up for themselves . . . . 1
- To be selfish and think only of themselves . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

8. Which comes closest to your own view:
- If Aboriginal peoples tried harder, they could be as well off as other Canadians . . . . . 1
- Social and economic conditions make it almost impossible for most Aboriginal peoples to overcome poverty . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

9. Do you think that:
- Quite a few of the people running the government are a little crooked . . . . . 1
- Not very many are crooked . . . . . 2
- Hardly any of them are crooked . . . . . 3
- Not sure . . . . . 8

**SECTION F**

Please indicate how much **confidence** you have in the following institutions. Circle the number that best reflects your opinion.

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Not very much	None at all
Organized religion . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The armed forces . . . . .	1	2	3	4
Public schools . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The courts . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The civil service . . . . .	1	2	3	4
Unions . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The police . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The federal government . . . . .	1	2	3	4
Your provincial or territorial government . . . . .	1	2	3	4
Big business . . . . .	1	2	3	4
The media . . . . .	1	2	3	4

**SECTION G**

For each statement below, please indicate if you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree. Please write the number that best reflects your opinion in the space at the right of each statement.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure
1	2	3	4	8

- Canada should participate in peacekeeping operations abroad even if it means putting the lives of Canadian soldiers at risk . . . . .
- Respect for authority is one of the most important things that children should learn . . . . .
- Homosexual couples should be allowed to be legally married . . . . .
- Too many recent immigrants just don't want to fit into Canadian society . . . . .
- When it comes to caring for babies and small children, men by nature are less patient and giving than women . . . . .
- Anglophones in Quebec are better treated than francophones in the rest of Canada . . . . .

<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Not sure</b>
1	2	3	4	8

7. Quebec has the right to separate no matter what the rest of Canada says . . . . . —
8. If Quebec separates, Aboriginal communities have the right to remain part of Canada . . . . . —
9. People have a right to work in the region where they are born . . . . . —
10. Overall, free trade with the U.S. has been good for the Canadian economy . . . . . —

**SECTION H**

Please circle the number that comes closest to your own view.

1. Do you think political parties and candidates should be allowed to spend as much as they want in an election campaign or should there be a limit on what they can spend?

- As much as they want . . . . . 1
- Should be a limit . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

2. Which comes closer to your own view:

- Only political parties and candidates should be allowed to advertise during election campaigns . . . . . 1
- Advertising by other individuals and groups should also be allowed during election campaigns . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

3. If individuals and groups other than candidates and political parties are going to advertise during election campaigns, should there be a limit on what they can spend?

- Yes . . . . . 1
- No . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

4. Suppose individuals and groups can advertise, should they be allowed to spend:

- Less than candidates . . . . . 1
- The same as candidates . . . . . 2
- More than candidates . . . . . 3
- Not sure . . . . . 8

5. Do you think that referendums on important questions should be held regularly, occasionally, rarely, or never?

- Regularly . . . . . 1
- Occasionally . . . . . 2
- Rarely . . . . . 3
- Never . . . . . 4
- Not sure . . . . . 8

6. Do you think it would be a good idea or a bad idea to have referendums at the same time as elections?

- Good idea . . . . . 1
- Bad idea . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

7. Under our present system, a party can win a majority of seats without winning a majority of votes. Do you find this:

- Acceptable . . . . . 1
- Unacceptable . . . . . 2
- Not sure . . . . . 8

**SECTION I**

In this section, please circle the number that best reflects your opinion.

1. On the whole, are you satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied, or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in Canada?

<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Fairly satisfied</b>	<b>Not very satisfied</b>	<b>Not at all satisfied</b>
1	2	3	4

2. In some countries, people believe their elections are conducted fairly. In other countries, people believe that their elections are conducted unfairly. Thinking of the last election in Canada, where would you place it on the scale below?

<b>Last election was conducted fairly</b>	<b>Last election was conducted unfairly</b>			
1	2	3	4	5

3. Do you usually think of yourself as close to any particular political party?

- Yes . . . . . 1
- No. . . . . *Go to Question 4* . . . . . 2

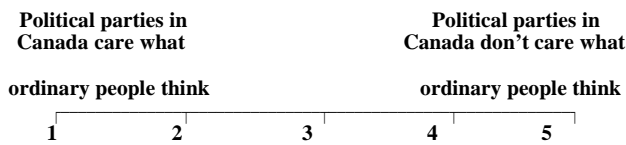
- 3a. Which party is that?

- Liberal Party ..... 1
- Progressive Conservative Party ..... 2
- New Democratic Party ..... 3
- Reform Party ..... 4
- Bloc Québécois ..... 5

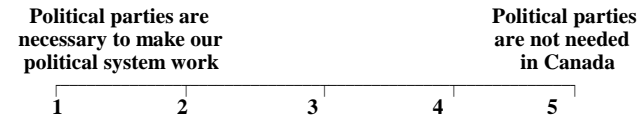
3b. Do you feel very close to this party, somewhat close, or not very close?

- Very close ..... 1
- Somewhat close ..... 2
- Not very close ..... 3

4. Some people say that political parties in Canada care what ordinary people think. Others say that political parties in Canada don't care what ordinary people think. Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?



5. Some people say that political parties are necessary to make our political system work in Canada. Others think that political parties are not needed in Canada. Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?



6. Do you happen to remember the names of any candidates who ran in your riding in the last election?

*Please write in their names below:*

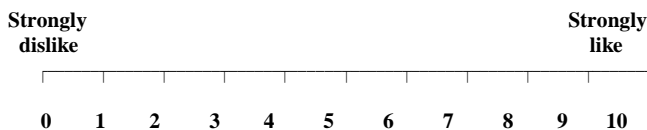
Candidate 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Don't remember ..... 8

7. Using the scale below, please rate each party. Just write in the number that best reflects your opinion of each party.



Liberal Party ..... \_\_\_\_\_

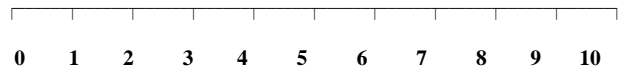
Progressive Conservative Party ..... \_\_\_\_\_

New Democratic Party ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Reform Party ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Bloc Québécois ..... \_\_\_\_\_

8. Using the same scale, please rate each party leader.



Jean Chrétien ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Jean Charest ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Alexa McDonough ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Preston Manning ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Gilles Duceppe ..... \_\_\_\_\_

9. What do you think about the state of the economy these days in Canada? Would you say that the state of the economy is: (*Please circle one.*)

Very good ..... 1

Good ..... 2

Neither good nor bad ..... 3

Bad ..... 4

Very bad ..... 5

10. Would you say that over the past twelve months, the state of the economy in Canada has: (*Please circle one.*)

Gotten much better ..... 1

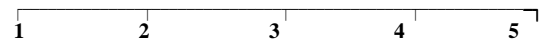
Gotten somewhat better ..... 2

Stayed about the same ..... 3

Gotten somewhat worse ..... 4

Gotten a lot worse ..... 5

11. Some people say that members of Parliament know what ordinary people think. Others say that members of Parliament don't know much about what ordinary people think. Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?

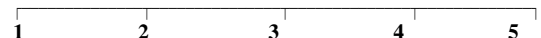


12. During the past twelve months, have you had any contact with a member of Parliament in any way?

Yes ..... 1

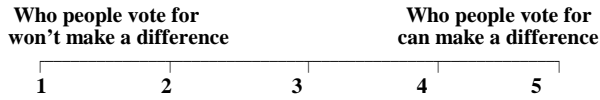
No ..... 2

13. Some people say it makes a difference who is in power. Others say that it doesn't make a difference who is in power. Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?

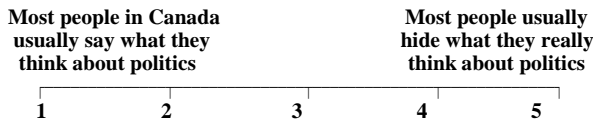


14. Some people say that no matter who people vote for, it

won't make any difference to what happens. Others say that who people vote for can make a difference to what happens. Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?



15. When people are asked to express an opinion, do you believe most people in Canada usually say what they think about politics, or do you believe most people usually hide what they really think about politics? Using the scale below, where would you place your own view?



16. In politics people sometimes talk of left and right. Where would you place yourself on the scale below?



a) Your own position . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

Using the same scale, where would you place the . . .

- b) Liberal Party . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- c) Progressive Conservative Party . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- d) New Democratic Party . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- e) Reform Party . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_
- f) Bloc Québécois . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION J**

1. In what year were you born? 19 \_\_ \_\_

2. What is your gender?

- Male . . . . . 1
- Female . . . . . 2

**SECTION K**

1. There are several different methods of voting that can be used. Supposing that each way is accurate and secure, which would you be willing to use? (*Circle all that apply.*)

- Voting from home by mail . . . . . 1
- Voting from home by telephone . . . . . 1
- Voting from home by computer . . . . . 1
- Voting at the polling station by touching a computer screen . . . . . 1
- Voting at the polling station using paper ballots that are counted by a machine . . . . . 1

2. Please circle which one of these methods you would be MOST LIKELY to use, and then which one you would be LEAST LIKELY to use.

	Most likely	Least likely
Voting from home by mail . . . . . 1 . . . . . 1		
Voting from home by telephone . . . . . 2 . . . . . 2		
Voting from home by computer . . . . . 3 . . . . . 3		
Voting at the polling station by touching a computer screen . . . . . 4 . . . . . 4		
Voting at the polling station using paper ballots that are counted by a machine . . . . . 5 . . . . . 5		

3. Please indicate your reasons for your LEAST LIKELY choice.

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