IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE RABIN ASSASSINATION

A Survey of American Jewish Opinion About Israel and the Peace Process

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IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE RABIN ASSASSINATION

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Introduction

The data reported here are from the fourth in a series of American Jewish Committee-sponsored surveys gauging the reaction of American Jews to the Israel-Arab peace process and examining the attachment of American Jews to Israel. The first survey was carried out in September 1993, immediately following the signing of the Israel-PLO accord. Eleven months later, in August 1994, the American Jewish Committee returned to the matter with a second probe. In September 1995, on the second anniversary of the signing of the Israel-PLO agreement, the American Jewish Committee came forward with the results of a third survey.

Having established a pattern of annual probes, the American Jewish Committee did not plan to return to the issue of the Israel-Arab peace process until September 1996. However, in the aftermath of the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on November 4, 1995, it was deemed important to quickly revert to the subject. Hence, the current survey, which seeks to measure the impact of the assassination on attitudes toward the Israel-Arab peace process and attachment to Israel, as well as to examine a number of issues arising directly out of the assassination.

Since all four American Jewish Committee-sponsored surveys employ the identical methodology and make use of many of the same questions, trends over time may be readily discerned.

The present survey was conducted for the American Jewish Committee by Market Facts, Inc., a leading survey-research organization. Respondents were interviewed by telephone during January 10-16, 1996; no interviewing took place on the Sabbath. The sample consisted of 1,013 self-identified Jewish respondents selected from the Market Facts consumer mail panel. The respondents are demographically representative of the United States adult Jewish population in terms of age, household income, gender, and geographic region. The margin of error for the sample as a whole is plus or minus three percentage points.

Approximately 49 percent of respondents are men and 51 percent are women. Thirty-five percent are under age 40, 36 percent are 40-59, and 29 percent are 60 and over. Seventy-five percent are married and 25 percent are unmarried. Twenty-two percent report their 1994 household incomes as under \$30,000, 26 percent as \$30,000-49,999, 27 percent as \$50,000-74,999, and 24 percent as \$75,000 and over. Fifteen percent have a high-school education or less, another 25 percent have attended some college, another 23 percent have four years of college, and another 33 percent have five or more years of higher education.

In terms of Jewish background, 7 percent of respondents identify as Orthodox, 36 percent as Conservative, 31 percent as Reform, 1 percent as Reconstructionist, and 24 percent as "Just Jewish." Fifty-six percent of respondents belong to a synagogue or temple. Of married respondents, 79 percent have Jewish spouses. When asked "How important would you say being Jewish is in your own life?" 64 percent of respondents say "very important," 29 percent "fairly important," and 7 percent "not very important."

Key Findings

Among the key findings of the new survey are the following:

- 1. In the aftermath of the Rabin assassination, support for the Israel-Arab peace process has increased significantly among American Jews.
- 2. While American Jews see broad sectors of Israeli society as having contributed to the "climate of hate that led to the [Rabin] killing," it is "opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States" who are most often viewed as having contributed "heavily."
- 3. Despite the Rabin assassination, a very large majority of American Jews continue to regard criticism of the Israel-Arab peace process as legitimate.

- 4. A very large majority of American Jews have a "favorable" impression of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. In contrast, as many American Jews have an "unfavorable" as a "favorable" impression of Israeli opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu. Complicating this finding is the fact that a large percentage of American Jews are unaware that Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to different political parties.
- 5. A sense of attachment to Israel on the part of American Jews continues at a high level, but has not increased in the aftermath of the Rabin assassination.
- 6. Orthodox Jews (7 percent of the total sample) feel the greatest attachment to Israel. At the same time, a majority of the Orthodox, uniquely among the various subgroups of American Jews, continue to oppose the Israel-Arab peace process.
- 7. In relating to Israel, it is the "security of the State of Israel" that American Jews most often cite as an "essential" value. Least often cited as an "essential" value is "retaining all of the land of Israel."

Additional Findings

Additional findings that emerge from the new survey are the following:

- 1. A majority of American Jews endorse United States economic aid to the Palestinians, in light of the fact that the government of Israel favors this position.
- 2. A very large majority of American Jews think that the PLO is not doing enough to control Palestinian extremist elements.
- 3. A majority of American Jews oppose amending Israel's Law of Return to bar Jewish political extremists from entering the country.
- 4. A very large majority of American Jews believe that Reform and Conservative conversions conducted in Israel should be recognized on a par with Orthodox conversions.
- 5. A majority of American Jews reject the view that Jewish organizations in the United States are not doing enough to support the Israel-Arab peace process.

- 6. Support for the Israel-Arab peace process is widespread among American Jews, but varies by religious denomination, closeness to Israel, gender, and education.
- 7. Attachment to Israel is widespread among American Jews, but less so among the Reform and the "Just Jewish," non-synagogue members, the intermarried, younger Jews, and women.

The Data in Review

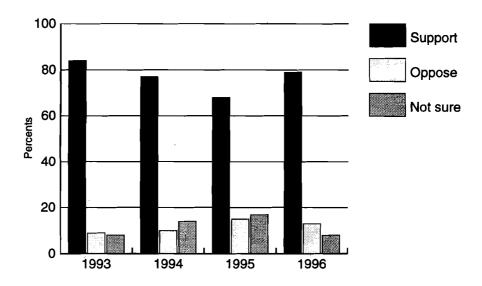
Key Findings

1. In the aftermath of the Rabin assassination, support for the Israel-Arab peace process has increased significantly among American Jews.

When asked in general terms if they "support" or "oppose" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs," 79 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "support," 13 percent "oppose," while 8 percent are "not sure." In September 1995, the figures were 68 percent "support," 15 percent "oppose," and 17 percent "not sure" (Figure 1).

In a more focused way, 75 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "support" the handling of the peace negotiations with the Palestinians, as against 64 percent who did so in September 1995. In addition, 70 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "support" the handling of the peace negotiations with the Syrians, as compared with 61 percent who did so in September 1995.

Figure 1. Attitude Toward the Israeli Government's Current Handling of the Peace Negotiations with the Arabs: 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996



In response to the question "Do you think that the past two years of negotiations between Israel and her Arab negotiating partners increase the likelihood of another war, or increase the likelihood of peace with the Arabs?" 77 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "increase the likelihood of peace with the Arabs," 15 percent say "increase the likelihood of another war," 3 percent volunteer "neither increase the likelihood of war nor the likelihood of peace," and 5 percent are "not sure." In September 1995, the comparable figures were 66 percent, 18 percent, 9 percent, and 7 percent.

2. While American Jews see broad sectors of Israeli society as having contributed to the "climate of hate that led to the [Rabin] killing," it is "opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States" who are most often viewed as having contributed "heavily."

Presented with a list of groups and asked whether each contributed "heavily," "somewhat," or "not at all" to the "climate of hate that led to the [Rabin] killing," 40 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "heavily" for "opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States," 31 percent "heavily" for "West Bank settlers," 24 percent "heavily" for "Orthodox rabbis in Israel and the United States," 14 percent "heavily" for "both sides of the political spectrum," 12 percent "heavily" for "Israel's Likud Party politicians," 9 percent "heavily" for "supporters of the peace process in Israel and the United States," 9 percent "heavily" for "Israeli society as a whole," and 8 percent "heavily" for "Israel's Labor party politicians" (Figure 2).

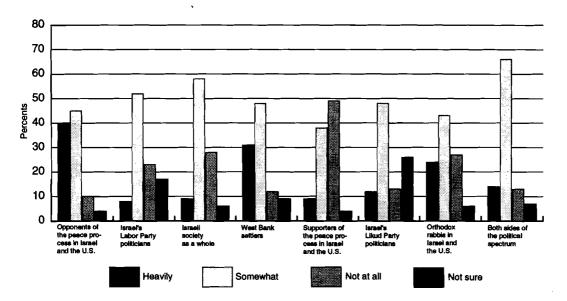
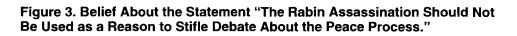


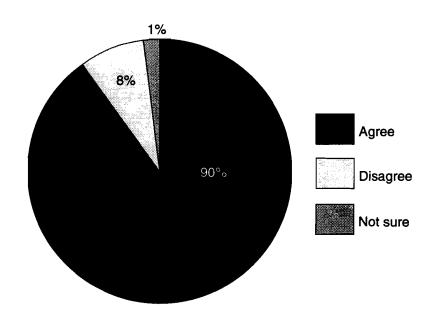
Figure 2. Extent of Each Group's Contribution to the Climate of Hate

When the framework is broadened to include both the "heavily" and "somewhat" categories, blame for contributing to the climate of hate that led to the Rabin assassination becomes much more evenly distributed. The new rank order is as follows: "opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States"—85 percent; "both sides of the political spectrum"—80 percent; "West Bank settlers"—79 percent; "Israeli society as a whole"—67 percent; "Orthodox rabbis in Israel and the United States"—67 percent; Israel's Likud Party politicians"—60 percent; "Israel's Labor Party politicians"—60 percent; and "supporters of the peace process in Israel and the United States"—47 percent.

3. Despite the Rabin assassination, a very large majority of American Jews continue to regard criticism of the Israel-Arab peace process as legitimate.

When asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "The Rabin assassination should not be used as a reason to stifle debate about the peace process," 90 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "agree," 8 percent "disagree," and 1 percent are "not sure" (Figure 3). Similarly, when asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "In the wake of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, criticism of the peace process is no longer

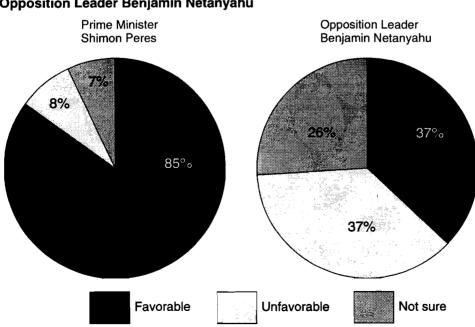




legitimate," 79 percent of American Jews "disagree," 17 percent "agree," and 4 percent are "not sure."

4. A very large majority of American Jews have a "favorable" impression of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. In contrast, as many American Jews have an "unfavorable" as a "favorable" impression of Israeli opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu. Complicating this finding is the fact that a large percentage of American Jews are unaware that Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to different political parties.

Presented with a list of "leaders and groups in Israel" and asked about their impression of each, 85 percent of American Jews in January 1996 view "Prime Minister Shimon Peres" favorably ("very favorable"—42 percent; "somewhat favorable"—43 percent), 8 percent unfavorably ("somewhat unfavorable"—5 percent; "very unfavorable"—3 percent), while 7 percent are "not sure." In the case of "opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu," 37 percent of American Jews view him favorably ("very favorable"—7 percent; "somewhat favorable"—30 percent), 37 percent unfavorably ("somewhat unfavorable"—29 percent; "very unfavorable"—8 percent), while 26 percent are "not sure" (Figures 4a and 4b).



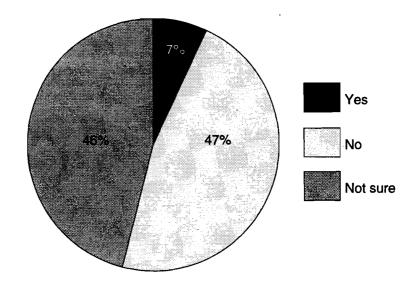
Figures 4a and 4b. Favorablity Ratings of Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Opposition Leader Benjamin Netanyahu

Note: Within "favorable" and "unfavorable" ratings, "very" and "somewhat" categories are combined.

The responses for some of the groups on the list are as follows: "Israel's Labor Party"—65 percent favorably ("very favorable"—11 percent; "somewhat favorable"—54 percent), 13 percent unfavorably ("somewhat unfavorable"—11 percent; "very unfavorable"—2 percent), and 21 percent "not sure"; "Israel's Likud Party"—43 percent favorably ("very favorable"—6 percent; "somewhat favorable"—37 percent), 21 percent unfavorably ("somewhat unfavorable"—18 percent; "very unfavorable"—3 percent), and 36 percent "not sure"; and "West Bank settlers"—47 percent favorably ("very favorable"—10 percent; "somewhat favorable"—37 percent), 41 percent unfavorably ("somewhat unfavorable"—31 percent; "very unfavorable"—10 percent), and 12 percent "not sure."

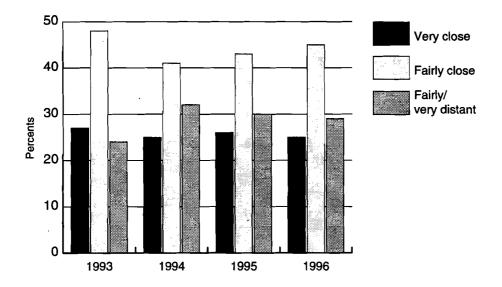
When asked "As far as you know, do Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to the same political party?" 7 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "yes" and 46 percent "not sure"; 47 percent correctly respond "no" (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Response to the Question "As Far as You Know, Do Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu Belong to the Same Political Party?"



5. A sense of attachment to Israel on the part of American Jews continues at a high level, but has not increased in the aftermath of the Rabin assassination.

When asked "How close do you feel to Israel?" 25 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "very close," 45 percent "fairly close," 25 percent "fairly distant," 4 percent "very distant," and 1 percent "not sure." In September 1995, the comparable figures were 26 percent, 43 percent, 24 percent, 6 percent, and 1 percent (Figure 6).





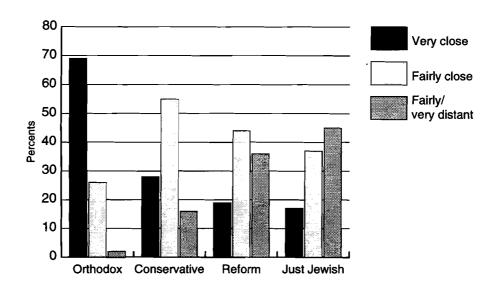
Asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew," 76 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "agree," 23 percent "disagree," and 1 percent "not sure." The comparable figures in September 1995 were 78 percent, 20 percent, and 2 percent.

Note: "Not sure" responses are not shown.

6. Orthodox Jews (7 percent of the total sample) feel the greatest degree of attachment to Israel. At the same time, a majority of the Orthodox, uniquely among the various subgroups of American Jews, continue to oppose the Israel-Arab peace process.

When asked "How close do you feel to Israel?" 69 percent of the Orthodox in January 1996 indicate "very close," as compared with 28 percent of Conservative Jews, 19 percent of Reform Jews, and 17 percent of the "Just Jewish." Combining the categories of "very close" and "fairly close" yields figures of 95 percent for the Orthodox, 83 percent for Conservative Jews, 63 percent for Reform Jews, and 54 percent for the "Just Jewish." At the other end of the spectrum, only 2 percent of the Orthodox feel either "fairly distant" or "very distant" from Israel, in constrast to 16 percent of Conservative Jews, 36 percent of Reform Jews, and 45 percent of the "Just Jewish" (Figure 7).

Figure 7. Feelings of Closeness to Israel: Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and "Just Jewish" Respondents

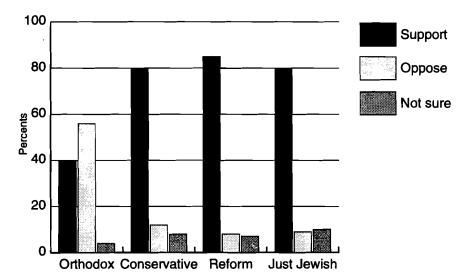


Note: "Not sure" responses are not shown.

Turning now to support for the Israel-Arab peace process, 56 percent of the Orthodox in January 1996 "oppose" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs," as against 12 percent of Conservative Jews, 8 percent of Reform Jews, and 9 percent of the "Just Jewish." The figures for "support" are 40 percent among the Orthodox, 80 percent among Conservative Jews, 85 percent among Reform Jews, and 80 percent among the "Just Jewish" (Figure 8).

While a majority of Orthodox Jews continue to oppose the Israel-Arab peace process, support for the peace process among the Orthodox has increased in the aftermath of the Rabin assassination. Thus, in January 1996, 56 percent of the Orthodox "oppose" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs," as against 64 percent who did so in September 1995. Conversely, in January 1996, 40 percent of the Orthodox "support" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs," in contrast to 31 percent who did so in September 1995.

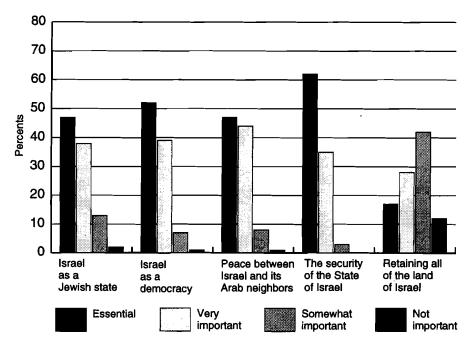




7. In relating to Israel, it is the "security of the State of Israel" that American Jews most often cite as an "essential" value. Least often cited as an "essential" value is "retaining all of the land of Israel."

Asked the question "In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values," 62 percent of American Jews in January 1996 deem "the security of the State of Israel" an "essential" value, 52 percent see "Israel as a democracy" as an "essential" value, 47 percent cite "Israel as a Jewish state" as an "essential" value, 47 percent select "peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors" as an "essential" value, and 17 percent choose "retaining all of the land of Israel" as an "essential" value (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Response to the Question "In Thinking About the State of Israel, How Important Do You Consider Each of the Following Values? Do You Consider Each Value to Be Essential, Very Important, Somewhat Important, or Not Important?"



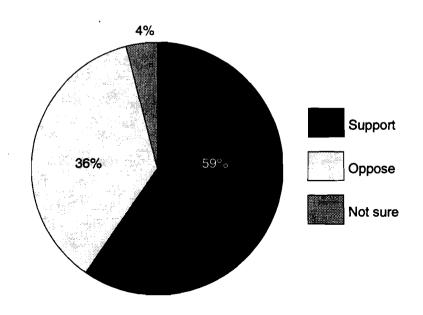
Note: "Not sure" responses are not shown.

Additional Findings

1. A majority of American Jews endorse United States economic aid to the Palestinians, in light of the fact that the government of Israel favors this position.

Asked the question "The government of Israel favors United States economic aid to the Palestinians as a way of re-enforcing the peace process. In light of this fact, do you support or oppose such aid to the Palestinians?" 59 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "support," 36 percent "oppose," and 4 percent "not sure" (Figure 10).

Figure 10. Attitude Toward U.S. Economic Aid to the Palestinians, Given Israel's Favoring of the Step



2. A very large majority of American Jews think that the PLO is not doing enough to control Palestinian extremist elements.

Asked "Is the PLO doing enough or not doing enough to control terrorist activity against Israel by Hamas and other Palestinian extremist groups?" 82 percent of American Jews in January 1996 answer "is not doing enough," 9 percent "is doing enough," and 9 percent "not sure."

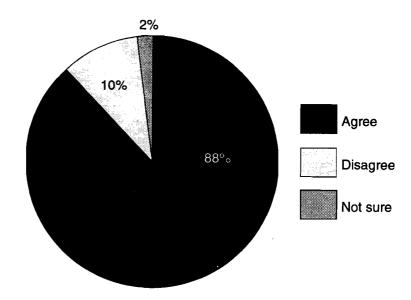
3. A majority of American Jews oppose amending Israel's Law of Return to ban Jewish political extremists from entering the country.

Asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "Israel's Law of Return, guaranteeing Israeli citizenship to all Jews who move to Israel, should be amended to ban Jewish political extremists from entering the country," 57 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "disagree," 38 percent "agree," and 5 percent are "not sure."

4. A very large majority of American Jews believe that Reform and Conservative conversions conducted in Israel should be recognized on a par with Orthodox conversions.

Asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "Conversions performed in Israel by Reform and Conservative rabbis should be recognized as much as Orthodox conversions," 88 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "agree," 10 percent "disagree," and 2 percent are "not sure" (Figure 11).





5. A majority of American Jews reject the view that Jewish organizations in the United States are not doing enough to support the Israel-Arab peace process.

Asked if they "agree" or "disagree" with the statement "Jewish organizations in the United States have not been doing enough to show support for the peace process," 59 percent of American Jews in January 1996 "disagree," 33 percent "agree," and 8 percent are "not sure."

6. Support for the Israel-Arab peace process is widespread among American Jews, but varies by religious denomination, closeness to Israel, gender, and education.

As noted above, in January 1996, 40 percent of the Orthodox—Orthodox Jews constitute 7 percent of the total sample— "support" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs," as against 80 percent of Conservative Jews, 85 percent of Reform Jews, and 80 percent of the "Just Jewish." In addition, 43 percent of Orthodox Jews believe that the past two years of negotiations with the Arabs "increase the likelihood of another war"; in contrast, 15 percent of Conservative Jews, 9 percent of Reform Jews, and 15 percent of the "Just Jewish" take this position.

In January 1996, American Jews who feel very close to Israel—25 percent of the total sample—are more than twice as likely as others to say that they "oppose" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs" (very close: "support," 69 percent; "oppose," 24 percent; fairly close: "support," 85 percent; "oppose," 10 percent; fairly/very distant: "support," 78 percent; "oppose," 8 percent). At the same time, American Jews who feel "very close" to Israel are only slightly more likely than others to believe that the past two years of negotiations with the Arabs "increase the likelihood of another war" ("very close," 20 percent; "fairly close," 13 percent; "fairly/very distant," 15 percent).

In January 1996 men are somewhat more likely than women to support the Israel-Arab peace process. For example, 81 percent of men, as against 76 percent of women, "support" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs." Men are also more likely than women to believe that the past two years of negotiations with the Arabs "increase the likelihood of peace"-men, 81 percent; women, 72 percent.

In January 1996, American Jews with more education tend to express greater support for the Israel-Arab peace process. For example, the better educated are more likely to "support" the "Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs" ("support": high school or less, 74 percent; some college, 71 percent; four years of college, 84 percent; five or more years of higher education, 83 percent). Better-educated respondents are also more likely to believe that the past two years of negotiations with the Arabs "increase the likelihood of peace" (high school or less, 69 percent; some college, 71 percent; four years of college, 82 percent, five or more years of higher education, 80 percent).

Respondents in various age groups do not differ strongly and consistently in their views of the Israel-Arab peace process.

7. Attachment to Israel is widespread among American Jews, but less so among the Reform and the "Just Jewish," non-synagogue members, the intermarried, younger Jews, and women.

In January 1996, 69 percent of Orthodox Jews feel "very close" to Israel, as compared with 28 percent of Conservative Jews, 19 percent of Reform Jews, and 17 percent of the "Just Jewish." Orthodox and Conservative Jews are more likely than Reform Jews and the "Just Jewish" to agree with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew" (Orthodox, 90 percent; Conservative, 85 percent; Reform, 71 percent; Just Jewish, 64 percent).

In January 1996, synagogue members are more likely than nonmembers to feel "very close" to Israel (35 percent and 14 percent, respectively). In addition, synagogue members are much more likely than nonmembers (83 percent and 66 percent, respectively) to agree with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew."

In January 1996, inmarried Jews are much more likely than the intermarried to feel "very close" to Israel (34 percent and 7 percent, respectively), as well as to agree with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew" (inmarried, 81 percent; intermarried, 64 percent).

In January 1996, American Jews who are 60 years of age and older are more likely to express attachment to Israel than those who are younger. At the same time, there are few significant differences between those age 40-59 and those age 39 and younger with regard to attachment to Israel. Thus, 35 percent of those age 60 and older feel "very close" to Israel, as compared with 22 percent of those age 40-59 and 21 percent of those age 39 and younger. At the other end of the spectrum, of those age 60 and older, 15 percent feel "fairly distant" and 2 percent feel "very distant" from Israel; the comparable figures for those age 40-59 are 27 percent and 3 percent, and for those age 39 and younger 30 percent and 6 percent. Similarly, 83 percent of those age 60 and older agree with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew," as compared with 72 percent of those age 40-59 and 74 percent of those age 39 and younger.

In January 1996, men are more likely than women to feel "very close" to Israel (31 percent and 20 percent, respectively). Men are also more likely than women to agree with the statement "Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew" (80 percent and 72 percent, respectively).

Conclusion

In the aftermath of the Rabin assassination, support for the Israel-Arab peace process has grown significantly among American Jews. In addition, the vast majority of American Jews view Prime Minister Shimon Peres favorably.

American Jews see broad sectors of Israeli society as having contributed to the climate of hate that led to the Rabin assassination. Still, it is opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States who are most often viewed as having contributed heavily to this climate.

APPENDIXES

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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE Survey Questionnaire on American Jewish Attitudes Toward Israel and the Peace Process (All responses in percents*) January 10-16, 1996

1. To begin, how closely do you follow the news about Israel?

Very closely	26
Somewhat closely	57
Not closely	17
Not sure	0

2. How close do you feel to Israel?

Very close	25
Fairly close	45
Fairly distant	25
Very distant	4
Not sure	1

3. Looking ahead 3 to 5 years, do you see Jews in Israel and in the United States becoming closer, drifting apart, or neither?

34
12
51
4

4. Overall, do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs?

Support	79
Oppose	13
Not sure	8

5a. More specifically, do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Palestinians?

Support	75
Oppose	17
Not sure	8

5b. Do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Syrians?

Support	70
Oppose	16
Not sure	15

*Note: Due to rounding, not all items add to 100 percent.

6. Do you think that the past two years of negotiations between Israel and her Arab negotiating partners increase the likelihood of another war, or increase the likelihood of peace with the Arabs?

Increase the likelihood	
of another war	15
Increase the likelihood	
of peace with the Arabs	77
Neither increase the	
likelihood of war nor the	
likelihood of peace (volunteered)	3
Not sure	5

7. How do you see Israel's overall situation today?

Very good	6
Good	47
Neither good nor bad	32
Bad	11
Very bad	2
Not sure	2

8a. Do you think that the Palestinians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?

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Are interested	46
Are not interested	45
Not sure	9

8b. Do you think that the Syrians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?

Are interested	41
Are not interested	44
Not sure	15

9. Is the PLO doing enough or not doing enough to control terrorist activity against Israel by Hamas and other Palestinian extremist groups?

Is doing enough	9
Is not doing enough	82
Not sure	9

10. To what extent do you get your information and ideas about Israel from each of the following sources? Would you say to a great extent, to some extent, or hardly at all?

	To a great extent	To some extent	Hardly at all	Not sure
a. TV news broadcasts b. Daily newspapers and	45	45	11	0
newsmagazines c. Jewish newspapers and	47	41	11	0
magazines	17	29	53	1
d. Friends or family members e. Synagogues or other Jewish	13	38	49	0
organizations	12	37	50	0

11. As far as you know, do Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to the same political party?

Yes	7
No	47
Not sure	46

12. In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?

	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
a. Israel as a Jewish state	47	38	13	2	0
b. Israel as a democracy	52	39	7	1	1
c. Peace between Israel and its Arab					
neighbors	47	44	8	1	0
d. The security of the					
State of Israel	62	35	3	0	0
e. Retaining all of the land of Israel	17	28	42	12	2

13. What is your impression of the following leaders and groups in Israel? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

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	Very favor- able	Some- what favor- able	Some- what unfa- vorable	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
a. Israel's Labor Party	11	54	11	2	21
b. Israel's Likud Party	6	37	· 18	3	36
c. Prime Minister					
Shimon Peres	42	43	5	3	7
d. Opposition leader					
Benjamin Netanyahu	7	30	29	8	26
e. Israeli hawks	3	18	30	12	37
f. Israeli doves	7	41	14	4	35
g. West Bank settlers	10	37	31	10	12
h. Secular or nonreligious					
Israelis	17	54	14	3	11
i. Modern Orthodox Israelis	12	47	25	6	11
j. Ultra-Orthodox Israelis	5	20	39	29	7

14. What is your impression of the following groups of American Jews? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?

	Very favor- able		Some- what unfa- vorable	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
a. Secular or nonreligious					
Jews	15	52	21	5	7
b. Reform Jews	37	48	8	4	3
c. Conservative Jews	36	53	5	1	4
d. Modern Orthodox					
Jews	20	57	16	2	5
e. Ultra-Orthodox					
Jews	9	36	36	16	4
f. American Jewish					
political liberals	15	50	18	5	12
g. American Jewish					
political					
conservatives	10	50	22	3	15

15. The government of Israel favors United States economic aid to the Palestinians as a way of re-enforcing the peace process. In light of this fact, do you support or oppose such aid to the Palestinians?

Support	59
Oppose	36
Not sure	4

16. For each of the following statements, please tell me if you agree or disagree:

	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
 a. Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew. b. Regardless of their individual views on the peace process, American 	76	23	1
Jews should support the policies of the duly elected government of Israel. c. In the wake of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin,	66	32	2
criticism of the peace process is no longer legitimate.	17	79	4
 d. The Rabin assassination should not be used as a reason to stifle debate about the peace process. e. Jewish organizations in the United States have not been doing enough 	90	8	1
to show support for the peace process. f. Talk about Jewish unity is nice, but the reality is that Orthodox and	33	59	8
non-Órthodox Jews have little in common. g. Israel's Law of Return, guaranteeing Israeli citizenship to all Jews who	52	47	1
 move to Israel, should be amended to bar Jewish political extremists from entering the country. h. Conversions performed in Israel by Reform and Conservative rabbis should be recognized as much as 	38	57	5
Orthodox conversions.	88	10	2

17. In the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, there has been much talk among Jews about a climate of hate that led to the killing. To what extent, if any, do you believe each of the following contributed to the climate of hate? Did each contribute heavily, somewhat, or not at all?

	Heavi- ly	Some- what	Not at all	Not sure
a Opponents of the pages process				
a. Opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States	40 ·	45	10	4
b. Israel's Labor Party politicians	40	43 52	23	17
c. Israeli society as a whole	9	58	23	6
d. West Bank settlers	31	48	12	9
e. Supporters of the peace process	51	40	12	9
in Israel and the United States	9	38	49	4
	12	- 38 - 48	13	26
f. Israel's Likud Party politicians	12	40	15	20
g. Orthodox rabbis in Israel and the	24	40	27	(
United States	24	43	27	6
h. Both sides of the political				_
spectrum	14	66	13	7

18. How important would you say being Jewish is in your own life?

.

Very important	64
Fairly important	29
Not very important	7
Not sure	0

19. Do you belong to a synagogue or temple?

Yes	56
No	44

20. Do you think of yourself as ...

Orthodox	7
Conservative	36
Reconstructionist	1
Reform	31
Just Jewish	24

21. Are you currently married?

Yes	75
No	25

21a. (IF YES IN 21, ASK:) Is your spouse Jewish?

Yes - spouse Jewish	59
No - spouse not Jewish	16

22. What is your age as of your last birthday?

.

Under 30	13
30-39	22
40-49	21
50-59	15
60-69	17
70 or over	12

23. I'm going to read a series of income ranges, and please stop me when I read the one that includes your total household income in 1994 before taxes.

Under \$20,000	8
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	14
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	13
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	13
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	27
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13
\$100,000 and over	11
Don't know	1

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE 1996, 1995, 1994, AND 1993 AJC-SPONSORED SURVEYS COMPARATIVE DATA (All responses in percents*)

	1996	1995	1994	1993
1. To begin, how closely do you follow	the new	s about	Israel?	
Very closely	26	23	26	39
Somewhat closely	57	56	54	50
Not closely	17	21	20	12
Not sure	0.	0	0	0
2. How close do you feel to Israel?				
Very close	25	26	25	27
Fairly close	45	43	41	48
Fairly distant	25	24	25	20
Very distant	4	6	7	4
Not sure	1	1	1	1

3. Looking ahead 3 to 5 years, do you see Jews in Israel and in the United States becoming closer, drifting apart, or neither?

Becoming closer	34	29	NA**	NA
Drifting apart	12	11	NA	NA
Neither	51	56	NA	NA
Not sure	4	4	NA	NA

4. Overall, do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs?

Support	79	68	77	84
Oppose	13	15	10	9
Not sure	8	17	14	8

5a. More specifically, do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Palestinians?

Support	75	64	70	NA
Oppose	17	22	15	NA
Not sure	8	14	14	NA

*Note: Due to rounding, not all columns add to 100 percent.

** Note: Identical question not asked that year.

1996	1995	1994	1993

5b. Do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Syrians?

Support	70	61	62	NA
Oppose	16	17	14	NA
Not sure	15	23	24	NA

6. Do you think that the past two years of negotiations between Israel and her Arab negotiating partners increase the likelihood of another war, or increase the likelihood of peace with the Arabs?

Increase the likelihood of another				
war	15	18	NA	NA
Increase the likelihood of peace				
with the Arabs	77	66	NA	NA
Neither increase the likelihood of				
war nor the likelihood of				
peace (volunteered)	3	9	NA	NA
Not sure	5	7	NA	NA

7. How do you see Israel's overall situation today?

Very good	6	5	6	9
Good	47	40	43	56
Neither good nor bad	32	37	37	26
Bad	11	14	10	6
Very bad	2	3	2	1
Not sure	2	2	2	2

8a. Do you think that the Palestinians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?

Are interested	46	37	44	NA
Are not interested	45	51	42	NA
Not sure	9	12	15	NA

8b. Do you think that the Syrians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?

Are interested	41	38	33	NA
Are not interested	44	45	47	NA
Not sure	15	18	20	NA

9. Is the PLO doing enough or not doing enough to control terrorist activity against Israel by Hamas and other Palestinian extremist groups?

Is doing enough	9	5	NA	NA
Is not doing enough	82	91	NA	NA
Not sure	9	4	NA	NA

10. As far as you know, do Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to the same political party?

Yes	7	7	10	NA
No	47	40	28	NA
Not sure	46	53	62	NA

11. Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew.

Agree	76	78	76	79
Disagree	23	20	22	19
Not sure	1	2	3	2

12. Regardless of their individual views on the peace process, American Jews should support the policies of the duly elected government of Israel.

Agree	66	53	NA	NA
Disagree	32	43	NA	NA
Not sure	2	4	NA	NA

13. How important would you say being Jewish is in your own life?

-			
64	59	57	59
29	32	35	35
7	8	8	6
emple?			
56	55	51	56
44	45	49	44
7	8	5	7
36	36	35	35
1	1	1	1
31	32	34	33
24	23	25	24
	29 7 emple? 56 44 7 36 1 31	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

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	1996	<u>19</u> 95	1994	1993
16. Are you currently married?				
Yes No	75 25	75 25	71 29	75 25
16a.(ASKED OF RESPONDENTS WH QUESTION 16) Is your spouse Jew		WEREI) "YES'	' TO
Yes - spouse Jewish No - spouse not Jewish	59 16	60 15	49 22	59 15
17. What is your age as of your last birth	day?			
Under 30 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70 or over	13 22 21 15 17 12	13 22 22 15 15 14	13 25 20 12 15 16	11 26 17 14 15 17
 I'm going to read a series of income n when I read the one that includes you 1994 before taxes. 				

Under \$20,000	8	8	12	10
\$20,000 to under \$30,000	14	14	12	12
\$30,000 to under \$40,000	13	13	16	16
\$40,000 to under \$50,000	13	12	17	14
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	27	22	21	24
\$75,000 to under \$100,000	13	15	10	11
\$75,000 to under \$100,000 \$100,000 and over	13	15 10	10	11

Note: The 1996 and 1995 surveys asked about total household income in 1994 before taxes; the 1994 survey asked about total household income in 1993 before taxes; and the 1993 survey asked about total household income in 1992 before taxes.

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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE Survey Questions — January 1996 Subgroup Data

Table 1 "How closely do you follow the news about Israel?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Very closely	Somewhat closely	Not closely	Not sure
Total	26	57	17	0
Sex				
Male	33	56	11	0
Female	19	57 ·	24	0
Age				
Under 40	18	56	25	0
40-59	23	60	17	0
60+	38	53	9	0
Income				
<\$30,000	24	51	24	0
\$30,000-49,999	26	58	16	0
\$50,000-74,999	22	59	19	0
\$75,000+	30	57	13	0
Education				
High school or less	21	54	25	0
Some college	21	60	19	0
Four years of college	27	58	16	0
Five or more years of higher education	31	54	14	0
Denomination				
Orthodox	50	46	4	0
Conservative	31	58	11	0
Reform	19	61 [.]	20	0
Just Jewish	20	54	27	0
Synagogue member				
Yes	33	56	12	0
No	17	58	25	0
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	61	38	1	0
Fairly close	21	70	9	Ŏ
Fairly/very distant	3	52	45	0
Marital status (if married)				
Spouse Jewish	29	58	12	0
Spouse not Jewish	13	53	34	Ő

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 Table 2

 "How close do you feel to Israel?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Very close	Fairly close	Fairly distant	Very distant	Not sure
Total	25	45	25	4	1
Sex					
Male	31	47	18	2	1
Female	20	43	31	5	1
Age					
Under 40	21	42	30	6	1
40-59	22	47	27	3	0
60+	35	46	15	2	1
Income					
<\$30,000	25	41	27	6	1
\$30,000-49,999	26	47	23	4	0
\$50,000-74,999	20	47	27	5	1
\$75,000+	31	42	24	3	0
Education					
High school or less	23	50	21	5	1
Some college	23	46	27	4	0
Four years of college	25	43	27	5	0
Five or more years of					
higher education	28	44	24	3	1
Denomination					
Orthodox	69	26	1	1	1
Conservative	28	55	15	1	0
Reform	19	44	33	3	0
Just Jewish	17	37	35	10	2
Synagogue member					
Yes	35	46	17	2	1
No	14	44	34	7	I
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	100	0	0	0	0
Fairly close	0	100	0	0	0
Fairly/very distant	0	0	86	14	0
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	34	46	18	2	1
Spouse not Jewish	7	40	44	9	1

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Тs	ah	le	3

"Overall, do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Arabs?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Total	79	13	8
Sex			
Male	81	13	6
Female	76	13	10
Age	х.		
Under 40	74	18	8
40-59	83	9	8
60+	80	12	8
Income			
<\$30,000	71	17	12
\$30,000-49,999	79	14	8
\$50,000-74,999	86	10	4
\$75,000+	82	11	8
Education			
High school or less	74	13	12
Some college	71	20	8
Four years of college	84	10	6
Five or more years of higher education	83	10	7
Denomination			
Orthodox	40	56	4
Conservative	80	12	8
Reform	85	8	7
Just Jewish	80.	9	10
Synagogue member			
Yes	77	15	7
No	81	10	9
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	69	24	7
Fairly close	85	10	5
Fairly/very distant	78	8	14
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	79	15	7
Spouse not Jewish	80	8	12

Table 4

1

"More specifically, do you support or oppose the Isracli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Palestinians?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Total	75	17	8
Sex			
Male	78	18	4
Female	71	16	13
Age			
Under 40	72	20	8
40-59	78	14	8
60+	74	17	9
Income			
<\$30,000	67	20	13
\$30,000-49,999	73	18	9
\$50,000-74,999	80	14	6
\$75,000+	7 9	15	6
Education			
High school or less	68	19	13
Some college	65	25	9
Four years of college	79	13	8
Five or more years of higher education	81	13	6
Denomination			
Orthodox	35	63	3
Conservative	77	16	7
Reform	80	11	8
Just Jewish	76	12	12
Synagogue member			
Yes	74	19	7
No	76	14	11
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	69	27	4
Fairly close	78	15	7
Fairly/very distant	74	11	15
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	74	20	6
Spouse not Jewish	76	10	14

Table	5
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"Do you support or oppose the Israeli government's current handling of the peace negotiations with the Syrians?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Total	70	16	15
Sex			
Male Female	76 64	17 14	7 22
Age			
Under 40	65	18	17
40-59	76	11	12
60+	67	18	16
Income	50	10	
<\$30,000	59 72	18 15	23 14
\$30,000-49,999 \$50,000-74,999	72	15	14 14
\$75,000+	78	13	9
Education	70	15	,
High school or less	62	16	22
Some college	63	20	16
Four years of college	72	14	14
Five or more years of higher education	76	13	12
Denomination			
Orthodox	39	58	3
Conservative	75	14	12
Reform	74	· 11	15
Just Jewish	66	12	22
Synagogue member			
Yes	71	18	11
No	68	13	20
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	67	27	6
Fairly close	74	12	13
Fairly/very distant	64	11	25
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	71	19	10
Spouse not Jewish	63	11	27

"Do you think that the past two years of negotiations between Israel and her Arab negotiating partners increase the likelihood of another war, or increase the likelihood of peace with the Arabs?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Increase likelihood of war	Increase likelihood of peace	Increase likelihood of neither war nor peace (vol.)	Not sure
Total	15	77	3	5
Sex				
Male	13	81	3	3
Female	17	72	4	7
Age				
Under 40	19	72	4	5
40-59	11	80	3	6
60+	16	77	3	3
Income				
<\$30.000	23	68	4	5
\$30,000-49,999	14	76	3	6
\$50,000-74,999	11	80	6	2
\$75,000+	13	81	2	4
Education				
High school or less	21	69	4	6
Some college	21	71	2	6
Four years of college	12	82	3	3
Five or more years of				
higher education	12	80	4	4
Denomination				
Orthodox	43	46	8	3
Conservative	15	77	5	4
Reform	9	85	2	4
Just Jewish	15	75	2	8
Synagogue member				
Yes	15	77	4	4
No	16	76	2	6
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	20	72	4	3
Fairly close	13	79	4	4
Fairly/very distant	15	77	2	6
Marital status (if married)				
Spouse Jewish	16	77	4	3
Spouse not Jewish	9	78	4	9

Table '	7
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"How do you see Israel's overall situation today?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Very good	Good	Neither good nor bad	Bad	Very bad	Not sure
Total	6	47	32	11	2	2
Sex						
Male	8	56	24	8	2	2
Female	5	39	39	13	2	2
Age						
Under 40	4	44	34	14	3	1
40-59	7	49	30	10	1	2
60+	8	48	31	9	1	2
Income						
<\$30,000	6	42	33	11	3	4
\$30,000-49,999	8	50	29	11	1	1
\$50,000-74,999	6	48	36	9	1	0
\$75,000+	6	51	28	13	2	1
Education						
High school or less	6	44	35	9	2	4
Some college	7	40	36	12	2	3
Four years of college	5	50	33	9	2	1
Five or more years of						
higher education	7	51	28	12	2	1
Denomination						
Orthodox	3	33	21	28	15	0
Conservative	7	51	31	9	1	1
Reform	6	49	33	.9	1	2
Just Jewish	7	44	33	12	1	3
Synagogue member						
Yes	6	50	30	11	2	1
No	7	44	34	11	ī	2
Closeness to Israel						
Very close	9	51	23	11	4	2
Fairly close	6	50	30	10	i	2
Fairly/very distant	4	40	42	12	Ô	ī
Marital status (if married)			. —		-	-
Spouse Jewish	7	50	30	10	3]
Spouse not Jewish	3	40	40	10	1	2

Table 8

"Do you think that the Palestinians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Are interested	Are not interested	Not sure
Total	46	45	9
Sex			
Male	52	38	10
Female	41	51	8
Age			
Under 40	46	47	6
40-59	50	40	9
60+	41	47	12
Income			
<\$30,000	38	51	11
\$30,000-49,999	49	43	8
\$50,000-74,999	47	45	8
\$75,000+	50	40	10
Education			
High school or less	34	56	9
Some college	41	51	8
Four years of college	51	39	9
Five or more years of higher education	52	39	9
Denomination			
Orthodox	28	69	3
Conservative	45	46	9
Reform	50	41	9
Just Jewish	48	40	11
Synagogue member			
Yes	45	46	9
No	47	43	10
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	43	48	9
Fairly close	46	43	10
Fairly/very distant	48	44	8
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	46	45	9
Spouse not Jewish	43	46	11

Table	9
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"Do you think that the Syrians are interested, or are not interested, in a true and lasting peace with Israel?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Are interested	Are not interested	Not sure
Total	41	44	15
Sex			
Male	46	41	13
Female	35	48	17
Age	•		
Under 40	43	42	15
40-59	45	41	14
60+	32	51	17
Income			
<\$30,000	33	47	20
\$30,000-49,999	37	47	16
\$50,000-74,999	46	42	12
\$75,000+	47	40	13
Education			
High school or less	34	51	16
Some college	35	49	16
Four years of college	44	41	15
Five or more years of higher education	45	42	13
Denomination			
Orthodox	24	64	13
Conservative	39	49	13
Reform	47	40	13
Just Jewish	40 .	39	21
Synagogue member			
Yes	41	45	14
No	40	44	16
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	36	51	13
Fairly close	42	43	15
Fairly/very distant	43	41	16
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	40	47	13
Spouse not Jewish	38	41	21

"Is the PLO doing enough or not doing enough to control terrorist activity against Israel by Hamas and other Palestinian extremist groups?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Is doing enough	Is not doing enough	Not sure
Total	9	82	9
Sex			
Male	10	81	8
Female	8	83	9
Age			
Under 40	10	81	10
40-59	10	82	8
60+	7	85	8
Income			
<\$30,000	10	77	13
\$30,000-49,999	8	86	6
\$50,000-74,999	11	83	7
\$75,000+	10	84	6
Education			
High school or less	7	84	8
Some college	8	86	6
Four years of college	8	82	10
Five or more years of higher education	11	79	10
Denomination			
Orthodox	6	92	3
Conservative	6	88	6
Reform	11	81	8
Just Jewish	11	75	14
Synagogue member			
Yes	8	85	7
No	10	79	10
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	5	90	5
Fairly close	9	84	7
Fairly/very distant	12	75	13
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	9	85	6
Spouse not Jewish	9	81	11

Table 11

"As far as you know, do Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu belong to the same political party?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Yes	No	Not sure
Total	7	47	46
Sex			
Male	7	58	34
Female	7	36	57
Age			
Under 40	6	44	50
40-59	7	45	49
60+	9	54	37
Income			
<\$30,000	8	36	56
\$30,000-49,999	8	46	46
\$50,000-74,999	6	48	45
\$75,000+	7	57	36
Education			
High school or less	11	32	58
Some college	10	38	52
Four years of college	5	53	42
Five or more years of higher education	5	56	38
Denomination			
Orthodox			
Conservative	11	67	22
Reconstructionist	7	56	37
Reform	8.	39	54
Just Jewish	6	37	57
Synagogue member			
Yes	7	57	36
No	7	35	58
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	9	71	19
Fairly close	7	49	43
Fairly/very distant	5	23	72
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	8	54	38
Spouse not Jewish	6	25	70

"In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?—Israel as a Jewish state." (in percents)

Subgroup	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
Total	47	38	13	2	0
Sex					
Male	48	37	13	2	1
Female	46	38	13	2	0
Age					
Under 40	47	33	16	4	0
40-59	48	37	14	2	0
60+	45	45	9	1	1
Income					
<\$30,000	39	39	18	3	1
\$30,000-49,999	47	42	9	2	0
\$50,000-74,999	48	36	13	3	0
\$75,000+	52	32	14	2	0
Education					
High school or less	37	44	13	5	1
Some college	46	41	11	2	0
Four years of college	46	38	15	1	0
Five or more years of higher education	51	33	14	2	0
Denomination					
Qrthodox	60	33	1	4	1
Conservative	52	39	9	1	0
Reform	47	34	17	2	0
Just Jewish	35	42	18	4	0
Synagogue member					
Yes	52	37	10	2	0
No	40	39	17	3	0
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	61	35	3	1	0
Fairly close	51	37	11	1	0
Fairly/very distant	28	41	26	5	0
Marital status (if married)					-
Spouse Jewish	51	37	9	2	0
Spouse not Jewish	37	37	22	3	1

"In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?—Israel as a democracy." (in percents)

Subgroup	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
Total	52	39 .	7	1	1
Sex					
Male	54	39	5	1	0
Female	50	39	10	1	l.
Age					
Under 40	49	38	12	1	0
40-59	58	35	6	1	0
60+	50	45	4	0	1
Income				·	
<\$30,000	43	48	7	1	1
\$30,000-49,999	54	38	7	0	0
\$50,000-74,999	55	36	8	0	0
\$75,000+	57	33	8	2	0
Education					
High school or less	36	51	11	0	3
Some college	53	36	10	1	0
Four years of college	54	37	8	0	0
Five or more years of higher education	57	38	4	1	0
Denomination		•			
Orthodox	38	44	14	3	1
Conservative	56	38	5	1	1
Reform	54	39	6	0	1
Just Jewish	49	40	10	1	0
Synagogue member					
Yes	52	39	7	1	1
No	52	39	8	0	1
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	59	34	6	1	1
Fairly close	55	39	5	0	L
Fairly/very distant	43	43	12	1	0
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	55	37	7	1	1
Spouse not Jewish	45	43	11	1	1

Table 1	4
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"In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?—Peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors." (in percents)

Subgroup	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
Total	47	44	8	1	0
Sex					
Male	43	47	9	2	0
Female	51	41	7	1	0
Age					
Under 40	43	42	13	2	0
40-59	50	44	5	1	0
60+	48	47	4	1	0
Income					
<\$30,000	46	45	8	1	0
\$30,000-49,999	46	45	8	1	0
\$50,000-74,999	51	39	9	1	0
\$75,000+	46	47	5	2	0
Education					
High school or less	42	51	5	1	0
Some college	45	46	7	2	0
Four years of college	49	41	9	0	0
Five or more years of higher education	48	42	9	1	0
Denomination					
Orthodox	21	50	24	6	0
Conservative	47	44	8	1	0
Reform	52	42	6	0	0
Just Jewish	49	45	4	1	0
Synagogue member					
Yes	44	45	10	1	0
No	50	43	5	1	0
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	45	42	10	2	0
Fairly close	48	44	7	1	0
Fairly/very distant	47	47	6	1	0
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	45	45	9	1	0
Spouse not Jewish	47	46	6	1	0

"In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?—The security of the State of Israel." (in percents)

Subgroup	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
Total	62	35.	3	0	0
Sex					
Male	64	33	2	0	0
Female	59	37	3	0	0
Age					
Under 40	64	32	4	1	0
40-59	66	31	2	0	0
60+	54	45	1	0	0
Income					
<\$30,000	53	44	3	0	0
\$30,000-49,999	62	35	3	0	0
\$50,000-74,999	67	29	2	1	0
\$75,000+	67	31	2	0	0
Education					
High school or less	48	48	3	1	1
Some college	58	38	4	0	0
Four years of college	65	32	3	0	0
Five or more years of higher education	67	30	2	0	0
Denomination					
Orthodox	56	43	0	1	0
Conservative	64	35	1	0	0
Reform	64	34	3	0	0
Just Jewish	58	36	5	1	0
Synagogue member					
Yes	63	35	1	0	0
No	60	35	5	0	0
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	66	34	0	0	0
Fairly close	66	32	2	0	0
Fairly/very distant	52	41	6	1	0
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	64	34	1	0	0
Spouse not Jewish	56	40	4	0	0

"In thinking about the State of Israel, how important do you consider each of the following values? Do you consider each value to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not important?—Retaining all of the land of Israel." (in percents)

Subgroup	Essen- tial	Very impor- tant	Some- what impor- tant	Not impor- tant	Not sure
Total	17	28	42	12	2
Sex					
Male	16	23	44	14	2
Female	17	32	40	9	1
Age					
Under 40	18	28	41	13	0
40-59	15	26	45	12	2
60+	17	30	40	10	3
Income					
<\$30,000	21	33	36	9	1
\$30,000-49,999	19	31	39	10	2
\$50,000-74,999	15	25	47	11	2
\$75,000+	11	23	48	17	1
Education					
High school or less	21	38	32	8	1
Some college	24	29	36	9	2
Four years of college	13	27	45	14	1
Five or more years of higher education	11	23	50	15	1
Denomination					
Orthodox	22	36	32	10	0
Conservative	17	27	46	9	2
Reform	16	29	41	13	1
Just Jewish	17	26	40	15	2
Synagogue member					
Yes	17	27	43	12	1
No	16	29	41	12	3
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	19	34	34	10	3
Fairly close	18	25	44	12	1
Fairly/very distant	13	26	46	14	1
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	17	27	41	12	2
Spouse not Jewish	14	30	43	12	1

"What is your impression of the following leaders and groups in Israel? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?—Prime Minister Shimon Peres." (in percents)

Subgroup	Very favor- able	Some- what favor- able	what unfa-	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
Total	42	43	、 5	3	7
Sex					
Male	44	43	6	4	5
Female	41	44	4	2	9
Age					
Under 40	29	49	6	5	12
40-59	46	44	4	2	4
60+	54	36	4	2	4
Income					·
<\$30,000	33	45	4	5	12
\$30,000-49,999	44	42	5	3	5
\$50,000-74,999	44	44	5	1	6
\$75,000+	49	39	5	2	5
Education					
High school or less	44	37	7	3	10
Some college	39	41	6	4	10
Four years of college	40	49	3	3	6
Five or more years of higher education	45	44	4	3	5
Denomination			•		
Orthodox	18	28	18	32	4
Conservative	44	46	4	1	5
Reform	47	45	2	0	5
Just Jewish	39	43	5	1	12
Synagogue member					
Yes	43	42	5	5	5
No	41	44	4	0	10
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	47	32	9	9	3
Fairly close	46	45	4	1	5
Fairly/very distant	32	50	3	0	14
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	45	40	6	5	4
Spouse not Jewish	31	50	4	1	14

Table 18

"What is your impression of the following leaders and groups in Israel? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?—Opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu." (in percents)

Subgroup	Very favor- able	Some- what favor- able	Some- what unfa- vorable	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
Total	7	30	29	8	26
Sex					
Male	11	35	29	8	18
Female	4	24	30	7	34
Age					
Under 40	7	27	26	9	30
40-59	6	31	31	7	25
60+	9	31	31	7	23
Income					
<\$30,000	7	26	24	9	34
\$30,000-49,999	8	33	27	7	26
\$50,000-74,999	7	24	35	9	25
\$75,000+	8	36	31	7	19
Education					
High school or less	9	26	20	8	37
Some college	6	27	33	8	26
Four years of college	8 7	26	32 30	9 7	25 22
Five or more years of higher education	1	34	30	7	22
Denomination	~ 4	17			0
Orthodox	24 10	47 30	17 32	4 7	8 21
Conservative Reform	4	30 29	32 29	9	21 29
Just Jewish	3	29	29	9 7	36
	5	25	27	,	50
Synagogue member Yes	10	32	30	8	20
No	4	27	29	8 7	34
Closeness to Israel	-	21	29	,	54
Very close	17	41	22	10	10
Fairly close	5	31	22 34	7	24
Fairly/very distant	3	19	29	7	42
Marital status (if married)	-	• •		,	
Spouse Jewish	10	34	30	7	20
Spouse not Jewish	2	21	23	8	46

"What is your impression of the following leaders and groups in Israel? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?—West Bank settlers." (in percents)

Subgroup	Very favor- able	what	Some- what unfa- vorable	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
Total	10	37	31	10	12
Sex					
Male Female	11 9	36 38	32 31	13 7	8 16
Age					
Under 40	9	37	32	6	16
40-59	7	40	31	12	10
60+	15	34	30	11	10
Income <\$30,000	12	40	20	8	21
\$30,000-49,999	12	40 37	32	10	11
\$50,000-74,999	5	39	38	10	8
\$75,000+	12	33	34	12	8
Education					
High school or less	16	38	22	6	18
Some college	12	42	26	8	14
Four years of college	6	34	39	11	11
Five or more years of higher education	9	34	. 35	13	9
Denomination					
Orthodox	29	44	15	7	4
Conservative	8	41	31	9	10
Reform	8	37	36	9	11
Just Jewish	9	30	30	11	19
Synagogue member					
Yes No	12 8	37 36	32 30	11 9	8 17
	ð	30	30	9	17
Closeness to Israel	10	27	25	1.4	
Very close	19 8	37 39	25 34	14 10	4 10
Fairly close Fairly/very distant	8 6	39 34	34 32	10	21
	0	54	34	0	21
Marital status (if married)	11	36	32	12	9
Spouse Jewish Spouse not Jewish	6	30 32	32	12	19
	0	32	35		19

Table 20

"What is your impression of the following leaders and groups in Israel? Is your impression very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable?—Ultra-Orthodox Israelis." (in percents)

Subgroup	Very favor- able	Some- what favor- able	Some- what unfa- vorable	Very unfa- vorable	Not sure
Total	5	20	39	29	7
Sex					
Male	4	19	40	31	6
Female	5	22	38	27	8
Age					
Under 40	10	25	37	20	7
40-59	2	20	38	33	7
60+	2	15	42	34	6
Income					
<\$30,000	10	25	33	22	11
\$30,000-49,999	5	23	40	26	6
\$50,000-74,999	2	18	44	31	5
\$75,000+	3	16	40	36	5
Education					
High school or less	10	28	30	18	13
Some college	5	24	39	26	6
Four years of college	3	18	44	30	5
Five or more years of higher education	3	17	40	35	6
Denomination					
Orthodox	39	40	13	7	1
Conservative	I	22	46	25	6
Reform	2	18	38	37	5
Just Jewish	3	17	39	30	12
Synagogue member					
Yes	6	22	38	30	5
No	3	19	41	27	10
Closeness to Israel					
Very close	12	22	33	30	3
Fairly close	2	20	43	30	5
Fairly/very distant	2	20	39	27	12
Marital status (if married)					
Spouse Jewish	6	20	39	29	6
Spouse not Jewish	4	20	43	24	9

"The government of Israel favors United States economic aid to the Palestinians as a way of re-enforcing the peace process. In light of this fact, do you support or oppose such aid to the Palestinians?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Support	Oppose	Not sure
Total		36	4
Sex			
Male	66 `	32	3
Female	53	41	6
Age			
Under 40	56	41	4
40-59	59	36	4
60+	64	31	5
Income			
<\$30,000	54	43	. 3
\$30,000-49,999	61	35	4
\$50,000-74,999	63	32	5
\$75,000+	63	33	4
Education			
High school or less	55	40	5
Some college	51	44	5
Four years of college	60	36	5 4
Five or more years of higher education	68	28	4
Denomination			
Orthodox	36	63	1
Conservative	52	43	4
Reform	68	28	4
Just Jewish	65	30	5
Synagogue member			
Yes	58	38	4
No	62	33	5
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	63	33	3
Fairly close	59	36	5
Fairly/very distant	57	39	4
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	58	39	4
Spouse not Jewish	62	32	6

Table 22

"For each of the following statements, please tell me if you agree or disagree—Caring about Israel is a very important part of my being a Jew." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	76	23	1
Sex			
Male	80	19	1
Female	72	27	2
Age			
Under 40	74	25	1
40-59	72	27	1
60+	83	16	1
Income			
<\$30,000	73	26	L
\$30,000-49,999	78	21	1
\$50,000-74,999	72	27	1
\$75,000+	78	21	1
Education			
High school or less	79	19	2
Some college	75	24	1
Four years of college	74	25	1
Five or more years of higher education	74	24	1
Denomination			
Orthodox	90	8	1
Conservative	85	14	1
Reform	71	29	0
Just Jewish	64	34	2
Synagogue member			
Yes	83	16	1
No	66	33	1
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	98	2	0
Fairly close	85	14	1
Fairly/very distant	41	56	2
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	81	19	1
Spouse not Jewish	64	34	2

Table	23
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"Regardless of their individual views on the peace process, American Jews should support the policies of the duly elected government of Israel." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	66	32	2
Sex			
Male	68	31	1
Female	64	32	4
Age			
Under 40	61	37	2
40-59	63	34	3
60+	75	23	2
Income			
<\$30,000	69	27	4
\$30,000-49,999	67	32	1
\$50,000-74,999	63	34	3,
\$75,000+	64	35	1
Education			
High school or less	76	21	3
Some college	68	29	3
Four years of college	62	37	1
Five or more years of higher education	62	36	3
Denomination			
Orthodox	40	58	1
Conservative	70	28	2
Reform	68	30	2
Just Jewish	64	31	4
Synagogue member			
Yes	66	32	2
No	65	32	3
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	69	29	1
Fairly close	70	28	2
Fairly/very distant	57	39	4
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	67	31	2
Spouse not Jewish	57	41	2

Table 24

"In the wake of the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, criticism of the peace process is no longer legitimate." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	17	79	4
Sex			
Male	14	84	3
Female	19	75	6
Age			
Under 40	14	82	5
40-59	14	83	3
60+	23	71	6
Income			
<\$30,000	18	75	8
\$30,000-49,999	16	80	4
\$50,000-74,999	15	83	2
\$75,000+	16	82	2
Education			
High school or less.	17	75	7
Some college	22	74	4
Four years of college	11	86	2
Five or more years of higher education	16	80	4
Denomination			
Orthodox	7	90	3
Conservative	14	81	4
Reform	21	75	4
Just Jewish	17	78	5
Synagogue member			
Yes	15	81	4
No	19	77	5
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	13	82	5
Fairly close	18	79	3
Fairly/very distant	18	77	5
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	16	80	4
Spouse not Jewish	13	83	4

Table 25

"The Rabin assassination should not be used as a reason to stifle debate about the peace process." (in percents)

Subgroup	Адгее	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	90	8	1
Sex			
Male	93	7	1
Female	88	10	2
Age	`		
Under 40	87	11	2
40-59	95	5	1
60+	89	10	1
Income			
<\$30,000	84	13	3
\$30,000-49,999	91	9	0
\$50,000-74,999	93	5	1
\$75,000+	93	6	. 0
Education			
High school or less	87	12	1
Some college	87	11	2
Four years of college	93	6	1
Five or more years of higher education	94	5	1
Denomination			
Orthodox	75	21	4
Conservative	92	7	1
Reform	92	7	0
Just Jewish	· 89	10	1
Synagogue member			
Yes	91	8	2
No	90	9	1
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	88	12	1
Fairly close	92	7	1
Fairly/very distant	90	8	2
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	92	7	1
Spouse not Jewish	88	12	0

Table 26

"Jewish organizations in the United States have not been doing enough to show support for the peace process." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	33	59	8
Sex			
Male	32	61	7
Female	33	57	10
Age			
Under 40	38	56	7
40-59	31	61	8
60+	29	60	11
Income			
<\$30,000	34	55	11
\$30,000-49,999	35	57	8
\$50,000-74,999	32	61	7
\$75,000+	32	63	6
Education			
High school or less	34	57	9
Some college	36	56	8
Four years of college	35	56	10
Five or more years of higher education	29	64	7
Denomination			
Orthodox	26	68	6
Conservative	32	63	5
Reform	33	58	9
Just Jewish	35	52	13
Synagogue member			
Yes	32	62	6
No	34	55	11
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	32	61	6
Fairly close	34	58	8
Fairly/very distant	31	58	10
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	31	62	7
Spouse not Jewish	37	52	11

Table 27

"Talk about Jewish unity is nice, but the reality is that Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jews have little in common." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	52	47	1
Sex			
Male	48	51	1
Female	56	42	2
Age	`		
Under 40	46	53	1
40-59	52	47	1
60+	59	38	3
Income			
<\$30,000	57	41	2
\$30,000-49,999	54	45	1
\$50,000-74,999	55	44	1
\$75,000+	44	56	. 0
Education			
High school or less	59	40	1
Some college	57	40	3
Four years of college	50	50	0
Five or more years of higher education	48	52	1
Denomination			
Orthodox	33	67	0
Conservative	47	52	1
Reform	56	42	1
Just Jewish	.60	37	3
Synagogue member			
Yes	46	53	1
No	60	38	2
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	43	56	0
Fairly close	51	47	2
Fairly/very distant	61	38	2
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	49	51	1
Spouse not Jewish	58	40	2

Table 28

"Israel's Law of Return, guaranteeing Israeli citizenship to all Jews who move to Israel, should be amended to bar Jewish political extremists from entering the country." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	38	57	5
Sex			
Male	36	60	3
Female	40	54	6
Age			
Under 40	26	68	6
40-59	39	56	5
60+	53	44	3
Income			
<\$30,000	43	52	5
\$30,000-49,999	36	59	5
\$50,000-74,999	36	59	6
\$75,000+	39	60	1
Education			
High school or less	51	43	6
Some college	46	50	4
Four years of college	28	69	3
Five or more years of higher education	34	62	5
Denomination			
Orthodox	21	78	1
Conservative	40	57	3
Reform	41	55	5
Just Jewish	39	54	7
Synagogue member			
Yes	36	60	4
No	41	54	5
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	36	61	3
Fairly close	38	58	5
Fairly/very distant	41	54	6
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	37	60	4
Spouse not Jewish	36	54	10

Table 29

"Conversions performed in Israel by Reform and Conservative rabbis should be recognized as much as Orthodox conversions." (in percents)

Subgroup	Agree	Dis- agree	Not sure
Total	88	10	2
Sex			
Male	85	12	2
Female	90	8	2
Age			
Under 40	84	14	2
40-59	89	9	2
60+	90	8	2
Income			
<\$30,000	84	14	1
\$30,000-49,999	88	10	2
\$50,000-74,999	91	7	2
\$75,000+	88	10	, 2
Education			
High school or less	85	13	2
Some college	85	12	3
Four years of college	89	9	2
Five or more years of higher education	89	9	1
Denomination			
Orthodox	25	75	0
Conservative	91	7	2
Reform	97	2	1
Just Jewish	, 90	6	4
Synagogue member			
Yes	83	15	2
No	93	4	2
Closeness to Israel			
Very close	75	25	1
Fairly close	92	6	2
Fairly/very distant	92	5	3
Marital status (if married)			
Spouse Jewish	85	14	2
Spouse not Jewish	94	4	2

"In the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, there has been much talk among Jews about a climate of hate that led to the killing. To what extent, if any, do you believe each of the following contributed to the climate of hate? Did each contribute heavily, somewhat, or not at all?—Opponents of the peace process in Israel and the United States." (in percents)

Subgroup	Heavi- ly	Some- what	Not at all	Not sure
Total	40	45	10	4
Sex				
Male	41	45	11	3
Female	40	46	9	6
Age				
Under 40	41	46	8	5
40-59	42	45	10	2
60+	37	46	11	6
Income				
<\$30,000	37	45	11	7
\$30,000-49,999	37	50	9	4
\$50,000-74,999	44	44	9	2
\$75,000+	44	45	8	2
Education				
High school or less	30	51	11	7
Some college	42	45	8	5
Four years of college	39	44	14	3
Five or more years of higher education	44	44	9	3
Denomination				
Orthodox	25	42	30	3
Conservative	43	46	9	2
Reform	43	46	7	4
Just Jewish	39	43	9	8
Synagogue member				
Yes	40	45	11	3
No	40	46	8	5
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	39	46	13	3
Fairly close	43	43	11	4
Fairly/very distant	39	50	4	7
Marital status (if married)				
Spouse Jewish	39	48	11	3
Spouse not Jewish	38	46	8	8

"In the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, there has been much talk among Jews about a climate of hate that led to the killing. To what extent, if any, do you believe each of the following contributed to the climate of hate? Did each contribute heavily, somewhat, or not at all?—West Bank settlers." (in percents)

Subgroup	Heavi- ly	Some- what	Not at all	Not sure
Total	31	48	12	9
Sex		•		
Male	36	45	13	6
Female	27	50	11	12
Age				
Under 40	23	54	11	12
40-59	33	48	13	6
60+	39	40	13	8
Income				4
<\$30,000	24	47	16	12
\$30,000-49,999	31	50	12	7
\$50,000-74,999	36	48	10	6
\$75,000+	35	46	12	7
Education				
High school or less	27	50	11	12
Some college	32	45	12	11
Four years of college	32	46	15	6
Five or more years of higher education	32	50	11	7
Denomination		•		
Orthodox	24	42	30	4
Conservative	32	49	12	7
Reform	32	49	10	9
Just Jewish	29	46	12	13
Synagogue member				
Yes	31	48	14	6
No	31	47	10	12
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	35	44	16	4
Fairly close	33	50	10	7
Fairly/very distant	25	48	12	15
Marital status (if married)				
Spouse Jewish	35	46	14	6
Spouse not Jewish	24	53	6	17

"In the aftermath of the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, there has been much talk among Jews about a climate of hate that led to the killing. To what extent, if any, do you believe each of the following contributed to the climate of hate? Did each contribute heavily, somewhat, or not at all?—Orthodox rabbis in Israel and the United States." (in percents)

Subgroup	Heavi- ly	Some- what	Not at all	Not sure
Total	24	43	27	6
Sex				
Male Female	28 20	43 43	25 29	4 9
Age				
Under 40	16	42	35	7
40-59	23	48	24	6
60+	35	39	20	7
Income				
<\$30,000	25	36	31	8
\$30,000-49,999	21	46	27	6
\$50,000-74,999	27	37	29	6
\$75,000+	24	52	20	4
Education				
High school or less	23	39	30	8
Some college	23	42	29	6
Four years of college	22	44	28	5
Five or more years of higher education	24	45	24	7
Denomination				
Orthodox	17	28	54	1
Conservative	23	46	27	4
Reform	26	47	22	5
Just Jewish	23	39	25	13
Synagogue member				
Yes	26	42	27	5
No	21	45	26	8
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	29	35	31	5
Fairly close	26	45	24	5
Fairly/very distant	16	48	27	10
Marital status (if married)				
Spouse Jewish	27	43	27	4
Spouse not Jewish	16	41	29	14

Table 33 "How important would you say being Jewish is in your own life?" (in percents)

Subgroup	Very important	Fairly important	Not very important	Not sure
Total	64	29	7	0
Sex				
Male	64	28	7	0
Female	63	30	6	0
Age				
Under 40	58	34	8	0
40-59	63	31	6	0
60+	71	22	6	0
Income				
<\$30,000	60	29	11	0
\$30,000-49,999	65	27	6	1
\$50,000-74,999	64	31	5	0
\$75,000+	61	32	6	0
Education				Ť
High school or less	66	23	10	1
Some college	64	30	5	0
Four years of college	59	32	9	0
Five or more years of higher education	64	31	5	0
Denomination				
Orthodox	97	1	1	0
Conservative	76	22 ·	2	0
Reform	59	36	4	0
Just Jewish	41	41	18	0
Synagogue member				
Yes	80	19	1	0
No	43	43	14	0
Closeness to Israel				
Very close	93	6	1	0
Fairly close	65	31	4	0
Fairly/very distant	37	47	16	0
Marital status (if married)			_	
Spouse Jewish	72	25	3	0
Spouse not Jewish	43	43	14	0

Table 34Number of respondents in each subgroup.

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Subgroup	N
Total	1,013
Sex	
Male	501
Female	512
Age	
Under 40	355
40-59	364
60+	292
Income	
<\$30,000	209
\$30,000-49,999	252
\$50,000-74,999	256
\$75,000+	225
Education	140
High school or less	149 252
Some college Four years of college	232
Five or more years of higher education	338
Denomination	550
Orthodox	72
Conservative	368
Reform	311
Just Jewish	246
Synagogue member	
Yes	569
No	443
Closeness to Israel	
Very close	258
Fairly close	457
Fairly/very distant	290
Marital status (if married)	
Spouse Jewish	601
Spouse not Jewish	162