



*behavior research center's*

# ***Rocky Mountain Poll***

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2013-II-09]

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SUPPORT FOR ENLISTED WOMEN SERVING IN  
CLOSE GROUND COMBAT ROLES APPROACHES 70%

83% WANT STRICTER ENFORCEMENT  
OF SEX CRIME LAWS IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES

Phoenix, Arizona, May 21, 2013. Nearly 70 percent of Arizonans believe that enlisted women should be allowed to serve in close ground combat roles. This finding underscores the changing views of the public toward the role women can play in service to the nation. In addition, over 80 percent believe that sex crime laws should be more strictly enforced in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Support for women being able to serve in close combat roles rises to 71 percent within the ranks of women, but men are not far behind at 66 percent. Only 23 percent oppose women assuming close ground combat roles and while opposition is highest among conservatives and Republicans, a majority of both believe women should have this opportunity.

Given recent news stories and documentaries on the extent to which both women and men have been the victims of sex crimes in the U.S. Armed Forces and of weak enforcement of laws pertaining to such crimes, as has been alleged, it may come as no surprise that the public favors stricter enforcement of sex crime laws in the military. In this survey, 83 percent say they favor stricter enforcement. Men (80%) are nearly as likely as women (85%) to favor tougher enforcement and support is definitely bi-partisan. Just five percent indicate opposition to stronger enforcement.

For this and other polls, see [www.brcpolls.com/results](http://www.brcpolls.com/results).

RMP (2013-II-09)

**EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2013-II-09), is based on 700 interviews with heads of household statewide including 438 registered voters statewide, conducted between April 3 and 16, 2013. Interviewing was conducted in both English or Spanish by professional interviewers of the Behavior Research Center on both landlines and cell phones. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire population been surveyed and 4.8 percent had the entire voter population been surveyed. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center.**

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

ENCLOSED: Statistical tables.

**STATISTICAL DATA**

Behavior Research Center  
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona  
RMP (2013-II-09)

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	Do you favor or oppose allowing enlisted women to serve in close ground combat roles?			Do you favor or oppose stricter enforcement of sex crime laws in the U.S. Armed Forces?		
	Favor	Oppose	Unsure	Favor	Oppose	Unsure
<b>Statewide</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>12%</b>
Women	71	22	7	85	4	11
Men	66	25	9	80	8	12
Democrats	76	20	4	87	4	9
Independents	72	17	11	83	10	7
Republicans	54	40	6	85	5	10
Age under 35	68	22	10	82	7	11
35 to 54	76	21	3	85	4	11
55 plus	61	27	12	81	6	13

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