



behavior research center's

Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE
RMP 2001-III-18

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HUMAN CLONING: "UNETHICAL"
BUT PLURALITY FAVOR U.S. TAKING SCIENTIFIC LEAD;
ONLY ONE-THIRD FAVOR FEDS OUTLAWING CLONING

Phoenix, Arizona, August 29, 2001. Seven in ten Arizonans admit they know little or nothing about the subject of human cloning, yet two-thirds view human cloning as an unethical practice that should never be done, even in cases where it may be the only way in which an infertile man could have a child with his genetic make up. Women are particularly opposed to this concept, 74 percent saying such a use is unacceptable.

To complicate matters even further, the public is sharply divided as to what public policy toward human cloning should be: 36 percent favor outlawing it, 25 percent say it will happen whether we like it or not and the U.S. should take the lead in scientific research on human cloning, and a third say the government should butt out completely – that cloning, like reproduction, is a private matter and should not be the subject of governmental intervention.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2001-III-18), is based on 593 interviews with adults throughout Maricopa County between August 8th and 14th, 2001. 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 +/-4.1 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult 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.

For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

BELOW: Statistical tables.

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center
Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona
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"Cloning of human beings was discussed before the National Academy of Science recently. Some scientists say they will soon use cloning technology to help couples with infertility problems, others say more research is needed before human cloning can be done safely and still others question the ethics of human cloning. Which of the following statements comes closest to your point of view?"

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>
<u>Human cloning...</u>			
is unethical, so the U.S. should take the lead by outlawing it here.	36%	34%	38%
like reproduction, is a private matter the government should neither support nor oppose.	32	31	34
will be perfected whether we like it or not, so the U.S. should take the scientific lead in cloning research.	25	30	20
Not sure	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>
	100%	100%	100%

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*"Assuming the science of human cloning is perfected someday, would cloning be acceptable or unacceptable to you in cases which it is the only way an infertile man can have a child with his genetic make-up?"*

|              | <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>MEN</u> | <u>WOMEN</u> |
|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Acceptable   | 31%          | 42%        | 19%          |
| Unacceptable | 63           | 52         | 74           |
| Not sure     | <u>6</u>     | <u>6</u>   | <u>7</u>     |
|              | 100%         | 100%       | 100%         |

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