



PRESS RELEASE

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Surprising National Survey Shows Strong Support for Stem Cell Research Among Those Who Voted to Re-Elect the President

Majority of Bush Voters Support Medical Research Using Embryonic Stem Cells; A Majority Feel the Administration Policy Needs to be Expanded; But Issue Was Not A Deciding Factor Among Bush Voters in 2004 Election

New York, November 17, 2004 – In stark contrast to generally held perceptions, stem cell research is widely supported by those who voted to re-elect the President, according to a poll made public today by the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. In fact, the study showed, a greater percentage of President Bush’s 2004 voters polled support embryonic stem cell research than oppose it, and would favor a broadened policy for federal funding of scientific investigation using embryonic stem cells that would otherwise be discarded from fertility clinics.

In a national survey of 800 self-identified Bush voters conducted on November 12-14, 2004, 52% said they strongly support (31%) or somewhat support (21%) medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos that are frozen in fertility clinics five days after an egg has been fertilized, have been donated by the parents, and will be discarded if they are not donated. By contrast, 42% are either strongly opposed (32%) or somewhat opposed (10%).

Just as important, the poll showed, self-identified Bush voters rank embryonic stem cell research low on the list of issues they took into consideration when deciding whether to re-elect the President. Only 2% of voters polled identified embryonic stem cell research as the most important factor, ranking it far behind fighting terrorism (16%), the war in Iraq (13%), abortion (12%), national defense (12%), the economy (8%), gay marriage (7%), judicial appointments (6%), and taxes (5%).

“What is most surprising is the range of opinion within American voters who have identified themselves as supporters of President Bush when it comes to understanding and supporting embryonic stem cell research,” said Peter Van Etten, President and Chief Executive Officer of JDRF. “While these voters are portrayed as being unanimously and vehemently opposed to expanding scientific investigation using stem cells, the results of this poll indicate that facts are very different from the

perception; in fact, more supporters of the President polled already approve of embryonic stem cell research than oppose it, and a majority would approve expanding it.”

The results of the JDRF-sponsored poll were also surprising concerning the outlook of those who supported the President’s re-election when it came to a possible expansion of the current Administration position on federal funding for embryonic stem cell research. When asked if they would support an expansion of President Bush’s policy on embryonic stem cell research, a 55% majority agreed that the policy should be broadened, compared with only 38% who felt the policy should remain the same.

Respondents to the JDRF-sponsored poll all (100%) voted to re-elect the President; and the majority either voted for all Republicans (32%) or for most Republican candidates (46%) on their ballots. These voters consider themselves very conservative (32%) or somewhat conservative (45%); and are either strongly pro-life (57%) or somewhat pro-life (10%). A majority of these voters also attend religious services regularly (21% more than once a week, and 34% at least once a week). The majority of respondents were between the ages of 35 and 54 (43%), with 50% of the total men and 50% women. A strong majority of these voters live in a rural or small town (42%) and come mostly from the South, representing 39% of those polled, followed by the Midwest (26%), the West (20%), and the Northeast (16%).

JDRF was founded in 1970 by the parents of children with juvenile (Type 1) diabetes – a disease that strikes suddenly, makes them insulin-dependent for life, and carries the constant threat of devastating complications. The world’s leading charitable funder and advocate of research leading to a cure, JDRF has provided more than \$800 million to diabetes research worldwide, including approximately \$300 million over the past three year alone. Consistently one of the top-rated foundations, more than 80 percent of JDRF’s annual expenditures directly support research and research-related education.

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Bush 2004 Voters and Stem Cell Research

Draft: **Final**
N= 800 Self-Identified 2004 Bush Voters
Margin of Error: $\pm 3.5\%$
Questions: 40
Field Dates: November 12-14, 2004

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from First Media Services, a national public opinion research company. Your household has been randomly selected as a participant. This is strictly for research purposes. Your answers are completely anonymous. We are not selling anything.

1. Did you vote in the recent Presidential election?

100 Yes (CONTINUE)
- No (THANK AND TERMINATE)

2. For whom did you vote? (DO NOT RANDOMIZE)

100 George W. Bush (CONTINUE)
- John Kerry (THANK AND TERMINATE)
- Ralph Nader (THANK AND TERMINATE)
- Or another candidate..? (THANK AND TERMINATE)

3. Which ONE of the following best describes your voting in this election:

32 straight ticket Republican
46 mostly Republican
15 half Republican, half Democratic
3 mostly Democratic
4 unsure / refused

Thinking some more about your vote for President...

4. Which ONE best describes your vote for George W. Bush?

75 it was a vote FOR President Bush and his agenda
21 it was a vote AGAINST John Kerry and his agenda
4 unsure / refused (DO NOT READ)

5. What was the most important reason why you voted for President Bush?
 (PRE-CODED OPEN END)
 (ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE HERE)

ECONOMIC ISSUES (5%)

- 2 tax cuts / increased child tax credit / marriage penalty relief
- 2 economy improving / good economic plan
- * support private social security accounts
- 1 support tax reform
- * Kerry would have raised taxes / hurt economy / other anti-Kerry comments regarding economic issues

HOMELAND SECURITY ISSUES (18%)

- 15 support President in war on terror / fight terrorism aggressively
- 3 Kerry too soft to fight war on terror

FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES (6%)

- 5 support President in war in Iraq / support troops
- 1 Kerry position on Iraq wrong / confusing

VALUES / MORAL ISSUES (32%)

- 9 opposition to abortion / pro-life
- 3 opposition to gay marriage / marriage is one man, one woman
- 2 keep "under God" in pledge of allegiance
- 9 President shares my values
- 8 other moral issues / general moral issues
- 2 Kerry did not share my values / Kerry pro-choice, Etc.

SOCIAL ISSUES (2%)

- * education reform / no child left behind
- * support for gun owner's rights
- * Kerry supports gun control
- support for death penalty
- Kerry opposed to death penalty
- opposition to affirmative action
- Kerry supports affirmative action
- opposition to illegal immigration
- Kerry wrong on immigration
- support legal reform / medical liability reform
- Kerry opposed to legal reform
- 1 want more conservative Supreme Court
- * Kerry would create more liberal Supreme Court

HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES (1%)

- Medicare prescription drug benefit
- Medicare drug discount card
- support health savings accounts
- 1 oppose embryonic stem cell research
- support embryonic stem cell research

LEADERSHIP / CANDIDATE ISSUES (26%)

- 11 Bush is a strong leader
- 10 Bush is a good man / good Christian / prays
- 5 Stay with the leader we have

NEGATIVE IMPRESSIONS OF JOHN KERRY (8%)

- 1 Kerry too liberal
- * Kerry is a flip flopper
- 2 Don't trust Kerry
- 3 Don't like Kerry
- 1 Kerry protested Vietnam War

4 OTHER _____

6. What was the most important reason you did not vote for John Kerry?
(PRE-CODED OPEN END)
(ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE HERE)

ECONOMIC ISSUES (4%)

- 2 Kerry would have raised taxes
- 1 Kerry would have hurt economy
- 1 Other anti-Kerry comments regarding economic issues

HOMELAND SECURITY ISSUES (4%)

- 4 Kerry too soft to fight war on terror

FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES (4%)

- 2 Kerry position on Iraq wrong
- 1 Kerry position on Iraq confusing / contradictory
- * Kerry voted against money (\$87 Billion) for troops
- 1 Kerry wrong to say the US must "pass the global test" before taking military action

VALUES / MORAL ISSUES (23%)

- 8 Kerry is pro-choice
- 3 Kerry's position on gay marriage confusing / wrong
- 12 Kerry does not share my values

SOCIAL ISSUES (1%)

- 1 Kerry supports gun control
- Kerry opposed to death penalty
- Kerry supports affirmative action
- * Kerry wrong on immigration
- Kerry opposed to legal reform
- 1 Kerry would create more liberal Supreme Court

HEALTH-RELATED ISSUES (1%)

- 1 Kerry health care plan would lead to poor quality care / socialized medicine
- * **Kerry supported federal funding for embryonic stem cell research**

LEADERSHIP / CANDIDATE ISSUES (8%)

- 6 Kerry would be a weak leader
- 2 Kerry would not make good decisions quickly

NEGATIVE IMPRESSIONS OF JOHN KERRY (49%)

- 5 Kerry too liberal
- 14 Kerry is a flip flopper
- 10 Don't trust Kerry
- 11 Don't like Kerry
- 3 Kerry protested Vietnam War
- 7 Other negative comments

NEGATIVE IMPRESSIONS OF KERRY SUPPORTERS (2%)

- * Kerry supported by Michael Moore
- 1 Kerry supported by Hollywood
- Kerry supported by George Soros
- * Negative comments regarding Teresa Heinz Kerry
- 1 Negative comments about other Kerry supporters

6 OTHER _____

7. Which ONE of the following was the most important issue to you when deciding your vote? (RANDOMIZE)

- 42 moral values
- 20 terrorism
- 15 the war in Iraq
- 9 the economy and jobs
- 5 taxes
- 2 health care
- 2 education
- 5 None of the above (DO NOT READ)

Now I'm going to read you an expanded list...

8. Which ONE of these was the most important issue to you when deciding your vote? (RANDOMIZE)

9. And which ONE of these was the SECOND most important issue to you when deciding your vote? (RANDOMIZE, omit 1st choice)

Combo 1st & 2nd	1 st choice	2 nd choice	
31	16	15	fighting terrorism
26	13	13	the war in Iraq
20	12	7	abortion
20	12	8	national defense
18	8	10	the economy
16	7	9	gay marriage
11	6	5	partial birth abortion
11	5	6	taxes
9	6	3	judicial appointments
6	2	4	education
5	2	3	embryonic stem cell research
4	2	3	the Medicare prescription drug benefit
3	1	2	school prayer
3	1	2	private social security accounts
1	1	*	the environment
1	1	*	lawsuit reform
1	*	1	immigration
6	3	5	None of the above (DO NOT READ)
4	3	4	Refused (DO NOT READ)

Thinking about an issue that has been in the news...embryonic stem cell research...

10. Did you see, read, or hear anything about embryonic stem cell research during the campaign season?

77 Yes
22 No
1 Unsure

11. Thinking some more about embryonic stem cell research...

How well do you think you could explain embryonic stem cell research to a family member or friend – very well, somewhat well, not very well, or not at all well?

20 very well
41 somewhat well
23 not very well
13 not at all well
3 unsure
* refused

12. Based on what you know about embryonic stem cell research, would you say you favor or oppose it, or do you need more information?

(If FAVOR or OPPOSE, ask: And is that STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?)

25 Total Favor
33 Total Oppose

15 Strongly Favor
11 Somewhat Favor
7 Somewhat Oppose
26 Strongly Oppose
41 Unsure/Need more information
1 DK/Refused

Now I'm going to give you some more information about embryonic stem cell research. After I do, I am going to ask you some more questions.

A stem cell is the basic cell in the body from which all other cells develop. Medical researchers have been able to study stem cells taken from adults, but they believe stem cells taken from embryos have far greater research potential.

Excess human embryos are developed through the process of *in vitro* (in - vee - troh = like flow) fertilization, a process that typically fertilizes more eggs than are needed. These excess embryos are usually frozen at fertility clinics after maturing for five days. There are approximately 400,000 of these frozen embryos at fertility clinics across the United States. Many of these excess frozen embryos are discarded after couples have had children and wish to have no more. The process of extracting the stem cells destroys the embryo.

Medical researchers believe that embryonic stem cells may some day be developed into replacement cells to cure diseases such as diabetes, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's, cancer, severe burns and spinal cord injuries.

I'm going to read you some scenarios for stem cell research, and please tell me if you support or oppose each of the following... **(DO NOT RANDOMIZE)**

(If SUPPORT or OPPOSE, ask: And is that STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?)

	Strongly Support 1	Somewhat Support 2	Somewhat Oppose 3	Strongly Oppose 4	Unsure 5		Ref. 6			
			Total Supp	Total Opp	Str Supp	Smw Supp	Smw Opp	Str Opp	Unsu re	Ref
13. Medical research using stem cells obtained from adults with their permission.			81	14	52	30	4	10	5	1
14. Medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos that have been destroyed in the past.			53	38	28	25	8	30	7	2
15. Medical research using stem cells obtained from excess human embryos that are frozen in fertility clinics five days after an egg has been fertilized.			41	50	22	20	12	38	7	1
16. Medical research using stem cells obtained from excess human embryos that are frozen in fertility clinics five days after an egg has been fertilized and have been donated by the parents.			50	44	28	22	9	35	5	1
17. Medical research using stem cells obtained from human embryos that are frozen in fertility clinics five days after an egg has been fertilized, have been donated by the parents, and will be discarded if they are not donated.			52	42	31	21	10	32	5	1

Thinking some more about this....

18. During the campaign, President Bush explained that he was the first President to provide federal funds for embryonic stem cell research. His decision in August 2001 allowed federally funded research on approximately 60 stem cell groups already created from embryos, but did not allow federal funding for research on stem cells created from embryos after the date of his decision.

Do you support or oppose President Bush's decision on this issue?

(If SUPPORT or OPPOSE, ask: And is that STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?)

64	Total Support
27	Total Oppose
36	Strongly Support
28	Somewhat Support
14	Somewhat Oppose
13	Strongly Oppose
8	Undecided
2	DK/Refused

19. In the years since President Bush's decision only 22 stem cell groups have become available for research, and there are concerns that these stem cell groups have been contaminated. Also, many scientists say that the research value of such a limited pool of cell groups is hindering progress in the search for cures. They are asking the President to expand his policy and allow federal funding for research on stem cells that are developed from embryos frozen in fertility clinics and will be discarded unless donated to research. So, with a couple's consent frozen embryos that would be discarded could be used in research and possibly bring us closer to important cures.

Would you support or oppose President Bush expanding his policy in this area and allowing federal funding for research on stem cells developed from excess embryos frozen in fertility clinics and donated by the parents?

(If SUPPORT or OPPOSE, ask: And is that STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?)

55	Total Support
38	Total Oppose
34	Strongly Support
21	Somewhat Support
8	Somewhat Oppose
30	Strongly Oppose
5	Undecided
2	DK/Refused

Now, I'm going to read you some reasons why some people support expanded federal funding for research on stem cells developed from excess embryos frozen in fertility clinics, and please tell me after each one, how convincing that argument is – very convincing, somewhat convincing, not very convincing or not at all convincing. (RANDOMIZE)

Very Convincing 1 Somewhat Convincing 2 Not Very Convincing 3 Not at all Convincing 4 DK/Ref. 5

	Total Conv	Total Not Conv	Very Conv	Smw Conv	Not Very Con	Not at all Con	DK/Ref
20. Roughly 100 million Americans are suffering from chronic diseases like Parkinson's, Diabetes, Alzheimer's, A-L-S, and cancer. Many scientists believe stem cell research may hold the key to finding cures for these diseases and they support federal funding for research beyond what the President outlined.	58	38	24	34	16	22	4
21. The President's decision to restrict federal research dollars to only 60 stem cell lines is much too limited. At present, only 22 these lines are approved for use and many of these may not be suitable for research purposes. Scientists need federal research dollars to study a more diverse pool of embryonic stem cells to fully understand their properties and find cures.	48	47	16	32	21	27	4
22. In the two years since President Bush announced the Administration's stem cell policy, there have been many advances in stem cell related science requiring that scientists have access to more stem cell lines than are currently allowed under federal rules. Leading scientists believe that in order to achieve President Bush's stated goal of utilizing embryonic stem cells to discover new treatments, the federal policy must be expanded to allow access to stem cell lines derived from fertility clinic embryos that would otherwise be destroyed.	54	42	19	35	18	24	4

...continued	Total Conv	Total Not Conv	Very Conv	Smw Conv	Not Very Con	Not at all Con	DK/ Ref
23. The process of <i>in vitro</i> fertilization creates many more embryos than are needed. A recent study found that there were more than 400,000 frozen embryos in fertility clinics nationwide. Almost all these couples will eventually discard their excess embryos at some future date. Allowing couples to donate their frozen embryos to federally funded stem cell research is a pragmatic and compassionate step that could lead to cures for many diseases.	59	38	26	32	16	23	3
24. This issue is very similar to heart, lung and liver transplants. Both the frozen embryo and the organ donors will not live. In both cases there is a medical need that can be filled by the donation of needed tissue. The organ donor process is fair and saves lives every day. With strong controls and the permission of the couple, broadened and federally funded embryonic stem cell research can save even more lives than our organ donor system.	55	41	26	29	16	25	4

25. Now that you have some more information...

Do you support or oppose expanding the policy in this area and allowing federal funding for research on stem cells developed from embryos that are frozen in fertility clinics and will be discarded unless donated to research by the parents?

(If SUPPORT or OPPOSE, ask: And is that STRONGLY (choice) or just SOMEWHAT (choice)?)

50	Total Support
44	Total Oppose
30	Strongly Support
20	Somewhat Support
10	Somewhat Oppose
34	Strongly Oppose
5	Undecided
1	DK/Refused

26. If a candidate for U.S. Senate or Congress shared your positions on almost every issue, but held a different position than you on stem cell research, would you base your decision to vote for that candidate on all of their issue positions as a whole or would their different position on stem cell research cause you to vote against them?

70	Base decision on other positions
17	Position on Stem Cell would cause to vote against candidate
10	Unsure (DNR)
3	DK/Refused

Among Moral Values Voters Q7:1 n=334

27. What do you think? (ROTATE)

46	Can candidates supporting strong moral values support this research and still be true to their principles?
Or...	
38	Is this an issue that defines who is and is not a candidate with strong moral values?
13	Unsure (DO NOT READ)
2	Refused (DO NOT READ)

(CONTINUE TO ALL)

We're just about finished, and have just a few questions for statistical purposes...

28. Did you vote in the 2000 Presidential election?

90 Yes
10 No
* Refused

29. Did you register to vote within the last year?

29 Yes
71 No
* Refused

30. Did you support the President's re-election by... (RANDOMIZE)
(ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES)

14 donating to his campaign
11 putting up signs as a campaign volunteer
4 making phone calls as a campaign volunteer
4 knocking on doors and talking to voters as a campaign volunteer
4 working at an election day polling place as a campaign volunteer
75 None of the above
* Refused (do not read)

31. Do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

66 Republican
6 Democrat
25 Independent
3 Other

32. In politics today, which ONE of the following best describes your political beliefs?
(ROTATE 1-4, 4-1)

32 Very Conservative
45 Somewhat Conservative
20 Moderate
3 Liberal
1 All other responses

33. On the issue of abortion, do you consider yourself pro-life or pro-choice?

(If “pro-life” or “pro-choice”, ask: And is that STRONGLY (response) or just SOMEWHAT (response)?)

67 Total Pro-Life
28 Total Pro-Choice

57 Strongly Pro-Life
10 Somewhat Pro-Life
10 Somewhat Pro-Choice
17 Strongly Pro-Choice
4 Unsure (DO NOT READ)
2 Refused (DO NOT READ)

34. Do you consider yourself an Evangelical or Born-again Christian?

54 Yes
42 No
4 Refused

35. How often do you attend church or religious services?

21 More than once a week
34 Once a week
12 A few times a month
5 About once a month
6 Several times a year
7 A couple of times a year
9 Rarely
6 Never
1 Refused

36. In what year were you born? ____ ____ ____ ____ (Enter 9999 for refused)
- 4 18-24 years
 - 14 25-34
 - 19 35-44
 - 24 45-54
 - 19 55-64
 - 20 65+
 - 2 Refused
37. What is the last grade of formal education you have completed?
- 4 Less than high school graduate
 - 22 High school graduate
 - 29 Some college
 - 28 College graduate
 - 16 Post graduate
 - 1 Refused (Do Not Read)
38. Which of the following best describes your racial or ethnic heritage? (Rotate 1-5)
- 90 White or Caucasian
 - 1 African American or Black
 - 2 Latino or Hispanic
 - 1 Asian American
 - 2 Native American
 - 1 Other (specify) _____
 - 3 DK/Refused (Do Not Read)
39. Which ONE of the following best describes the area where you live:
- 18 a city
 - 29 suburbs close to the city
 - 10 suburbs a moderate or far distance from the city
 - 42 A rural or small town area
 - 2 DK/Refused (do not read)
40. Gender (by observation)
- 50 Male
 - 50 Female

41. State (FROM SAMPLE) ____ ____

57	Bush voters in Red states
43	Bush voters in Blue states
23	Bush voters in Battleground states
16	Northeast
26	Midwest
39	South
20	West