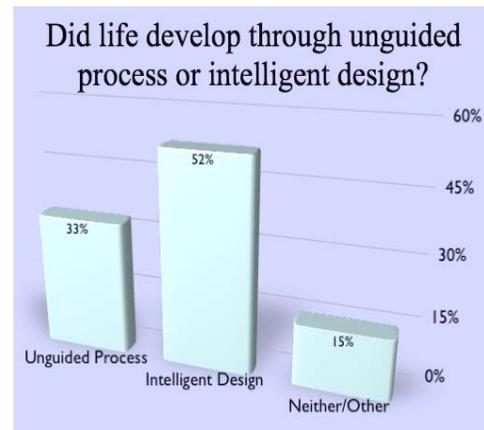


June 30, 2009

In Darwin Anniversary Year, Zogby Poll Reveals Majority Support for Intelligent Design, Doubts about Darwinism

Just a few months before the 150th anniversary of Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, a newly released Zogby poll shows that the American public overwhelmingly rejects Darwinian theory in favor of intelligent design. When asked if life developed "through an unguided process of random mutations and natural selection," a standard definition of Darwinism, only 33 percent of respondents said they agreed with the statement. But 52 percent agreed that "the development of life was guided by intelligent design."

The poll results come from one of four questions commissioned by Discovery Institute for a national Zogby telephone survey conducted earlier in 2009. Results from the other three questions were released previously to coincide with the bicentennial of Charles Darwin's birth. The new results are highlighted below, while Zogby's report on all four questions is attached.



Question about Intelligent Design

Now, I am going to read you two statements about the development of life. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your own point of view—Statement A or Statement B?

Statement A: The development of life came about through an unguided process of random mutations and natural selection.

Statement B: The development of life was guided by intelligent design.

Statement A	33%
Statement B	52
Neither	7
Other/Not sure	8

Zogby International conducted an omnibus telephone survey of likely voters from 1/29/09 through 1/31/09. The sample is 1,053 likely voters interviews with approximately 44 questions asked. Samples are randomly drawn from telephone CDs of national listed sample. Weighting by region, party, age, race, religion, and gender is used to adjust for non-response. The margin of error is +/- 3.1 percentage points.



RE: Results from nationwide poll

Methodology

Zogby International conducted an omnibus telephone survey of likely voters from 1/29/09 through 1/31/09.

The sample is 1,053 likely voters interviews with approximately 44 questions asked. Samples are randomly drawn from telephone CDs of national listed sample. Zogby International surveys employ sampling strategies in which selection probabilities are proportional to population size within area codes and exchanges. Up to six calls are made to reach a sampled phone number. Cooperation rates are calculated using one of AAPOR's approved methodologies¹ and are comparable to other professional public-opinion surveys conducted using similar sampling strategies.² Weighting by region, party, age, race, religion, and gender is used to adjust for non-response. The margin of error is +/- 3.1 percentage points. Margins of error are higher in sub-groups.

Narrative Summary

7. Now, I am going to read you two statements about the development of life. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your own point of view—Statement A or Statement B?

Statement A: The development of life came about through an unguided process of random mutations and natural selection.

Statement B: The development of life was guided by intelligent design.

Statement A	33%
Statement B	52
Neither	7
Other/Not sure	8

¹ See COOP4 (p.38) in *Standard Definitions: Final Dispositions of Case Codes and Outcome Rates of Surveys*. The American Association for Public Opinion Research, (2000).

² *Cooperation Tracking Study: April 2003 Update*, Jane M. Sheppard and Shelly Haas. The Council for Marketing & Opinion Research (CMOR). Cincinnati, Ohio (2003).

Half (52%) say Statement B, “The development of life was guided by intelligent design” comes closest to their point of view, while a third (33%) say Statement A, “The development of life came about through an unguided process of random mutations and natural selection” comes closest to theirs.

4. *Would you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree that teachers and students should have the academic freedom to discuss both the strengths and weaknesses of evolution as a scientific theory?*

Strongly agree	54%	Agree	80%
Somewhat agree	26		
Somewhat disagree	6	Disagree	17
Strongly disagree	11		
Not sure	4		

A large majority (80%) agree that teachers and students should have the academic freedom to discuss both the strengths and weaknesses of evolution as a scientific theory, with more than half (54%) saying they strongly agree. A sixth (17%) disagree.

5. *Charles Darwin wrote that when considering the evidence for his theory of evolution, “...a fair result can be obtained only by fully stating and balancing the facts and arguments on both sides of each question.” Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with Darwin’s statement?*

Strongly agree	45%	Agree	76%
Somewhat agree	31		
Somewhat disagree	6	Disagree	18
Strongly disagree	12		
Not sure	5		

Three-quarters (76%) say they agree with Darwin’s statement, while about a fifth (18%) say they disagree.

6. I am going to read you two statements about Biology teachers teaching Darwin's theory of evolution. Please tell me which statement comes closest to your own point of view—Statement A or Statement B?

Statement A: Biology teachers should teach only Darwin's theory of evolution and the scientific evidence that supports it.

Statement B: Biology teachers should teach Darwin's theory of evolution, but also the scientific evidence against it.

Statement A	14%
Statement B	78
Neither	5
Other/Not sure	2

A large majority (78%) say Statement B, "Biology teachers should teach Darwin's theory of evolution, but also the scientific evidence against it," comes closest to their point of view, while 14% say Statement A, "Biology teachers should teach only Darwin's theory of evolution and the scientific evidence that supports it" comes closest to theirs.