

 McLaughlin & Associates

Yale Undergraduate Survey

Sponsored By:

The William F. Buckley, Jr. Program at Yale



April 25th, 2017

Presented by:

Jim McLaughlin and Rob Schmidt

www.mclaughlinonline.com

Methodology

McLaughlin & Associates conducted a survey of 872 Yale undergraduate students from April 17th to 23rd, 2017.

All interviews were conducted online and students were contacted through email and promoted Facebook postings where they were provided a hyperlink to a secure survey platform. Only students who provided a verified Yale email address had their responses counted. To encourage participation, students were offered a \$5 gift card of their choice upon successful completion of the survey.

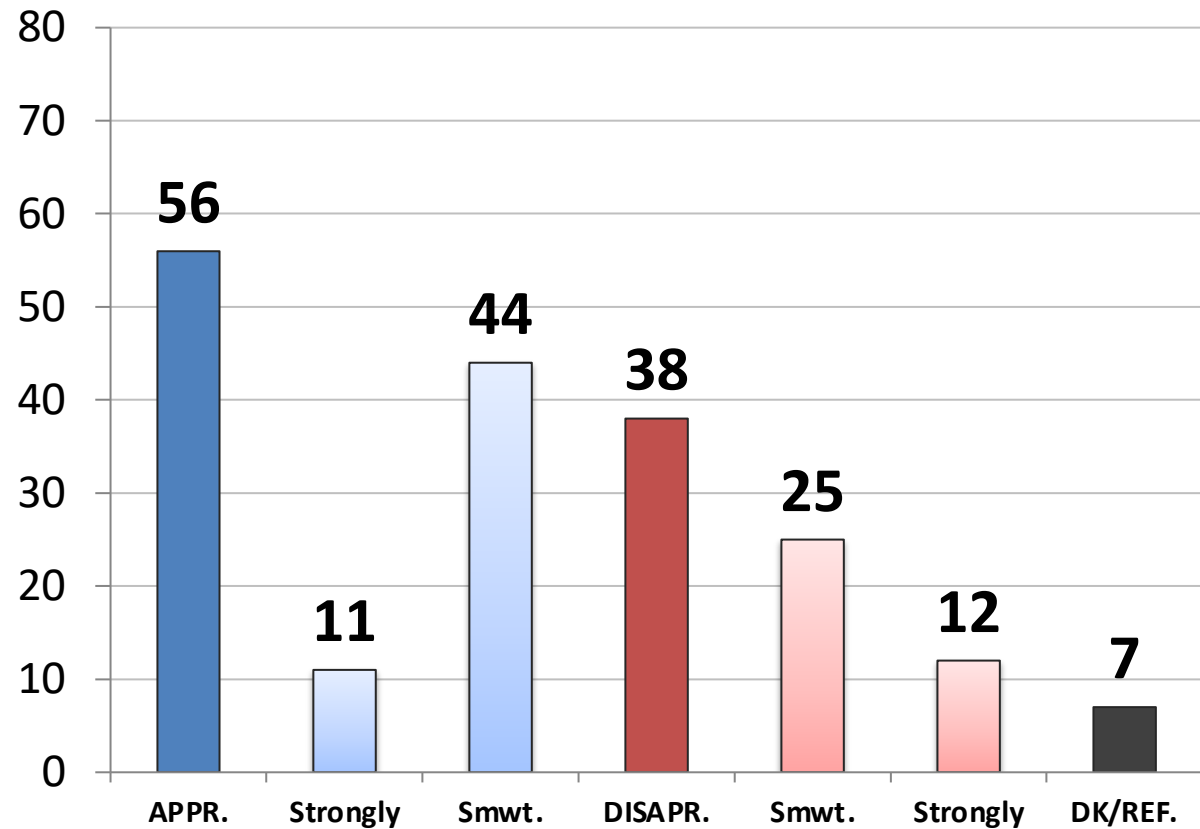
Data for this survey have been stratified by age, race/ethnicity and gender using the 2015-2016 Yale Facts and Statistics Report to reflect the actual demographic composition of Yale undergraduate students.

Because the sample is based on those who initially self-selected for participation rather than a probability sample, no estimates of sampling error can be calculated. All surveys may be subject to multiple sources of error, including, but not limited to sampling error, coverage error and measurement error.

However, a confidence interval of 95% was calculated in order to produce an error estimate of +/- 3.3% for the 872 respondents. This error estimate should be taken into consideration in much the same way that analysis of probability polls takes into account the margin of sampling error. The error estimate increases for cross-tabulations. Totals may not add up to exactly 100% due to rounding and refusals.

Part One – General Opinions on Free Speech and Intellectual Diversity at Yale

Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the job that Yale is doing when it comes to promoting intellectual diversity and differing opinions in the classroom and on campus?

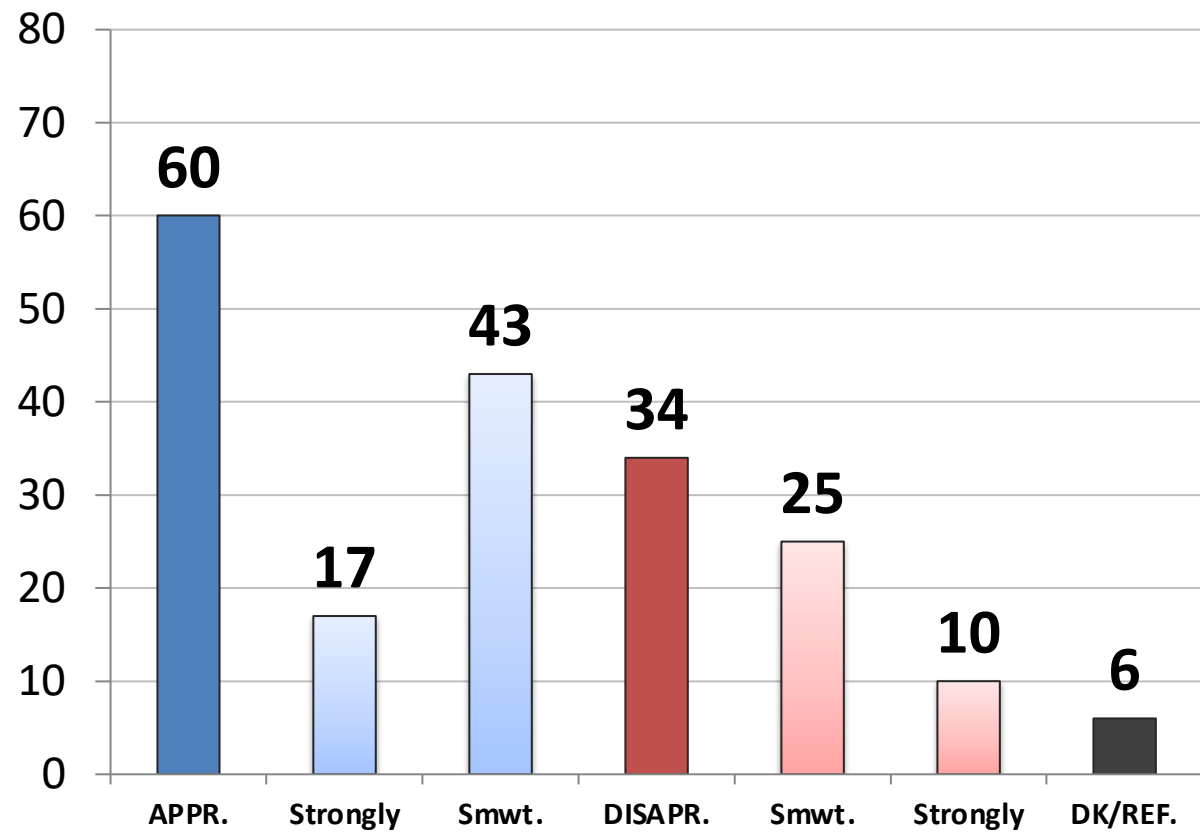


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	<u>Appr</u>	<u>Disapr</u>
Freshman	58	36
Sophomore	58	35
Junior	50	44
Senior	55	38
Social Sciences	53	42
Humanities	55	39
Physical Sciences	52	37
Engineering	54	35
Republican	32	67
Democrat	67	26
Independent	48	46
Liberal	70	23
Moderate	47	46
Conservative	30	66
White	52	42
Hispanic	52	39
Black	55	35
Asian	63	28
Male	48	45
Female	63	31
White Liberal	70	23
Non-White Liberal	69	24

And generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the job that Yale is doing when it comes to promoting free speech in the classroom and on campus?

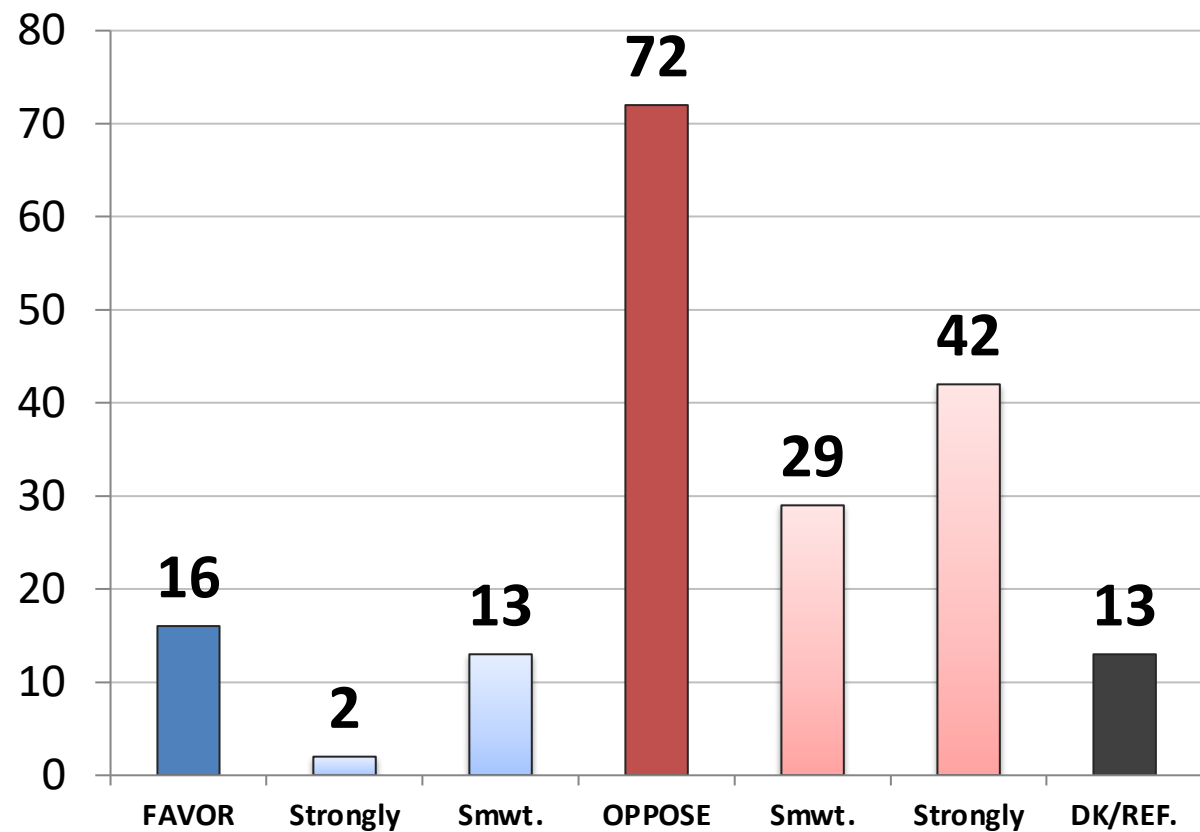


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	<u>Appr</u>	<u>Disapr</u>
Freshman	62	33
Sophomore	60	33
Junior	54	41
Senior	63	31
Social Sciences	56	38
Humanities	57	35
Physical Sciences	63	33
Engineering	60	32
Republican	28	70
Democrat	75	20
Independent	52	43
Liberal	76	17
Moderate	51	44
Conservative	31	66
White	55	40
Hispanic	61	36
Black	61	33
Asian	68	23
Male	53	42
Female	67	27
White Liberal	74	19
Non-White Liberal	77	15

Would you say you favor or oppose Yale having speech codes to regulate speech for students and faculty?



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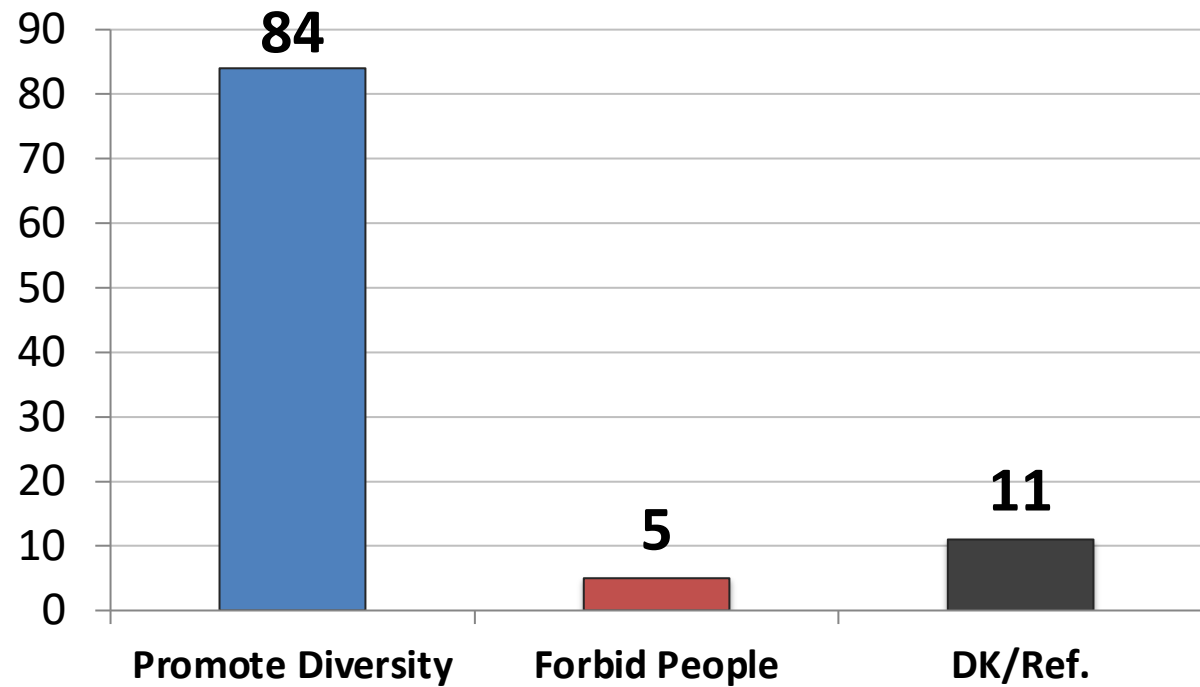
	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
Freshman	17	72
Sophomore	13	74
Junior	15	75
Senior	20	64
Social Sciences	14	73
Humanities	19	70
Physical Sciences	15	74
Engineering	11	78
Republican	10	81
Democrat	18	68
Independent	14	75
Liberal	20	65
Moderate	10	80
Conservative	9	83
White	13	77
Hispanic	15	69
Black	24	61
Asian	19	68
Male	13	79
Female	18	65
White Liberal	13	76
Non-White Liberal	25	57

Which of the following statements comes closer to your own personal opinion?

Yale should always do its best to promote intellectual diversity and free speech by allowing a wide range of people with differing views and opinions to speak on campus

OR

Yale should forbid people from speaking on campus who have controversial views and opinions on issues like politics, race, religion or gender



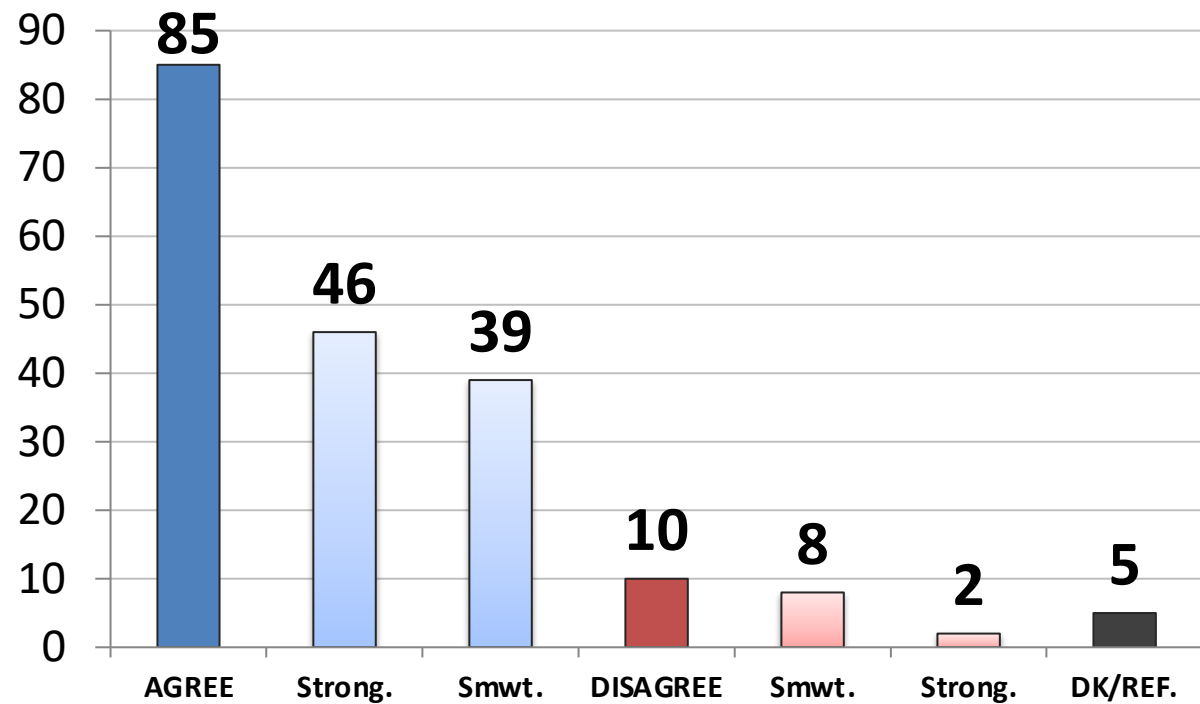
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	<u>Div.</u>	<u>Forbid</u>
Freshman	88	4
Sophomore	83	3
Junior	85	5
Senior	79	10
Social Sciences	85	5
Humanities	83	7
Physical Sciences	86	4
Engineering	88	3
Republican	95	1
Democrat	79	6
Independent	80	4
Liberal	77	7
Moderate	94	2
Conservative	97	1
White	86	4
Hispanic	79	9
Black	81	4
Asian	87	2
Male	88	5
Female	82	5
White Liberal	77	7
Non-White Liberal	77	7

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“Yale must do everything possible to ensure within it the fullest degree of intellectual freedom...We take a chance, as the First Amendment takes a chance, when we commit ourselves to the idea that the results of free expression are to the general benefit in the long run, however unpleasant they may appear at the time.”



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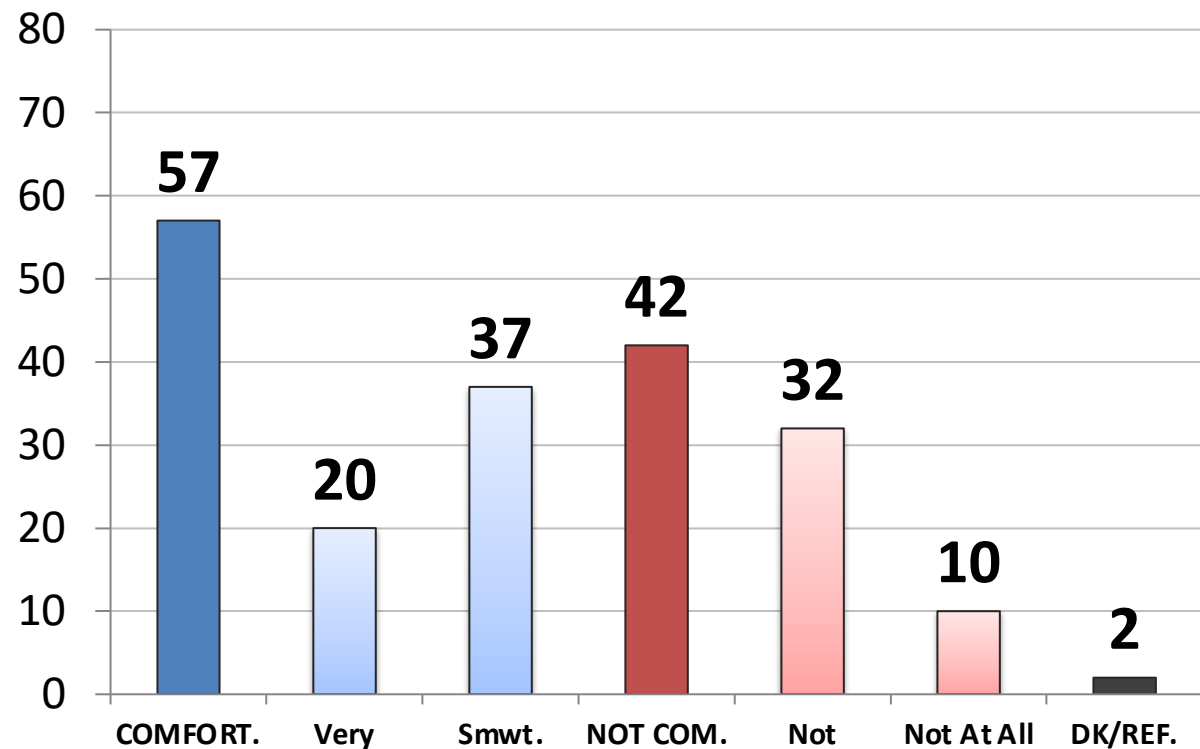
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	Agree	Disagr
Freshman	87	8
Sophomore	85	9
Junior	88	8
Senior	81	15
Social Sciences	84	10
Humanities	84	11
Physical Sciences	88	8
Engineering	89	8
Republican	96	3
Democrat	80	12
Independent	91	5
Liberal	79	14
Moderate	94	4
Conservative	96	3
White	88	7
Hispanic	80	16
Black	84	12
Asian	87	7
Male	90	6
Female	81	13
White Liberal	82	10
Non-White Liberal	76	17

Part Two –

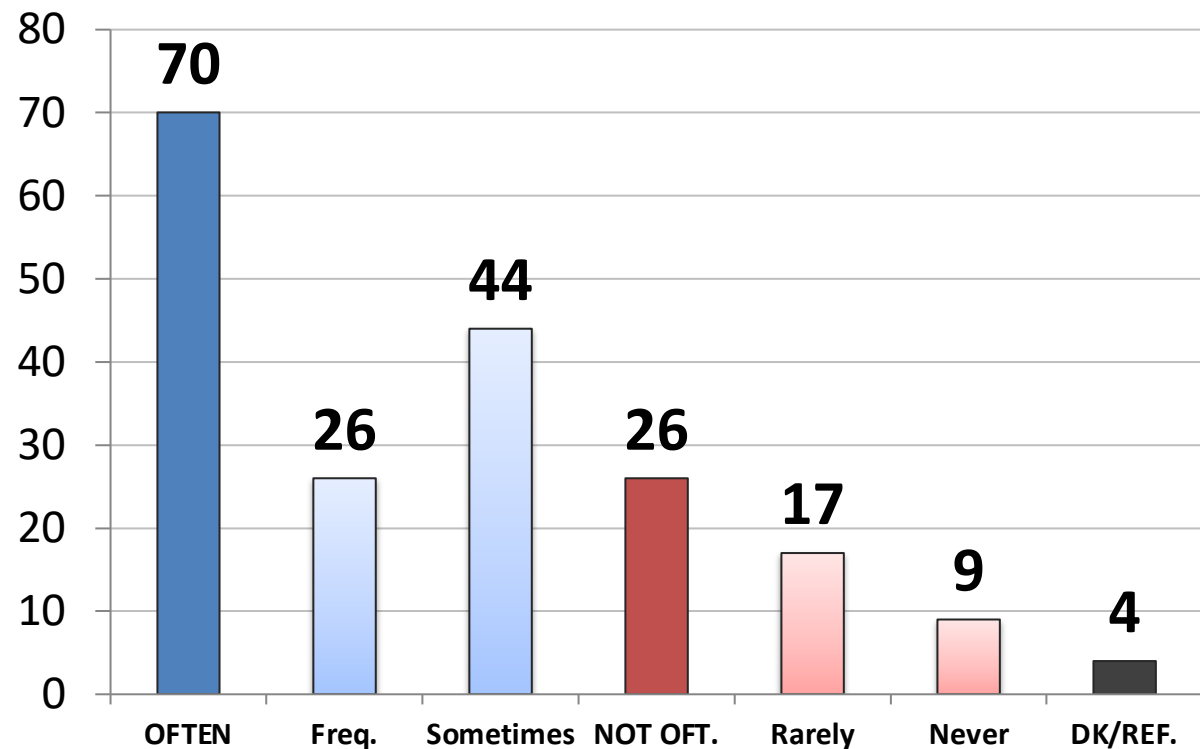
Perceptions of the Academic Environment on Free Speech and Intellectual Diversity

How comfortable do you feel about voicing your opinions in the classroom and on campus on issues such as politics, race, religion and gender?



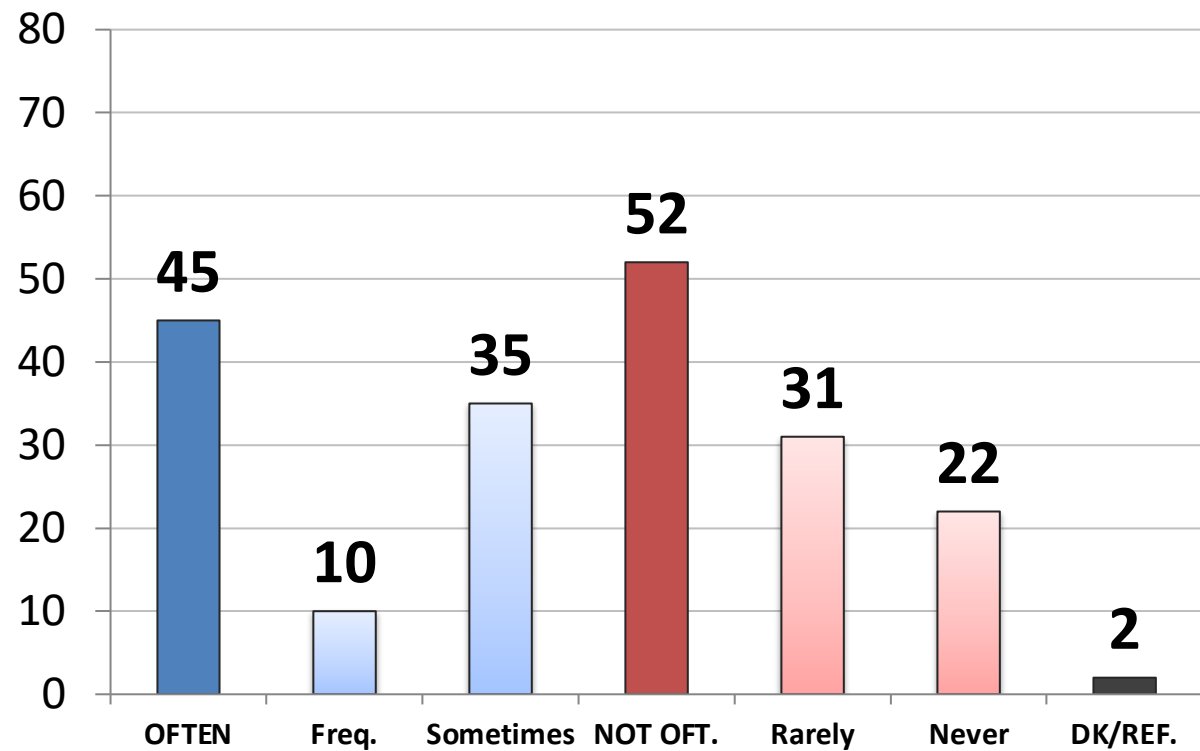
	<u>Comf.</u>	<u>Not C.</u>
Freshman	61	38
Sophomore	56	42
Junior	49	49
Senior	30	38
Social Sciences	57	41
Humanities	61	38
Physical Sciences	52	47
Engineering	51	48
Republican	24	75
Democrat	70	28
Independent	53	46
Liberal	74	24
Moderate	45	54
Conservative	27	71
White	57	42
Hispanic	60	39
Black	61	39
Asian	57	41
Male	53	46
Female	61	38
White Liberal	77	22
Non-White Liberal	72	26

Have you had any experiences with political bias in the classroom, either from students, professors or teaching fellows?



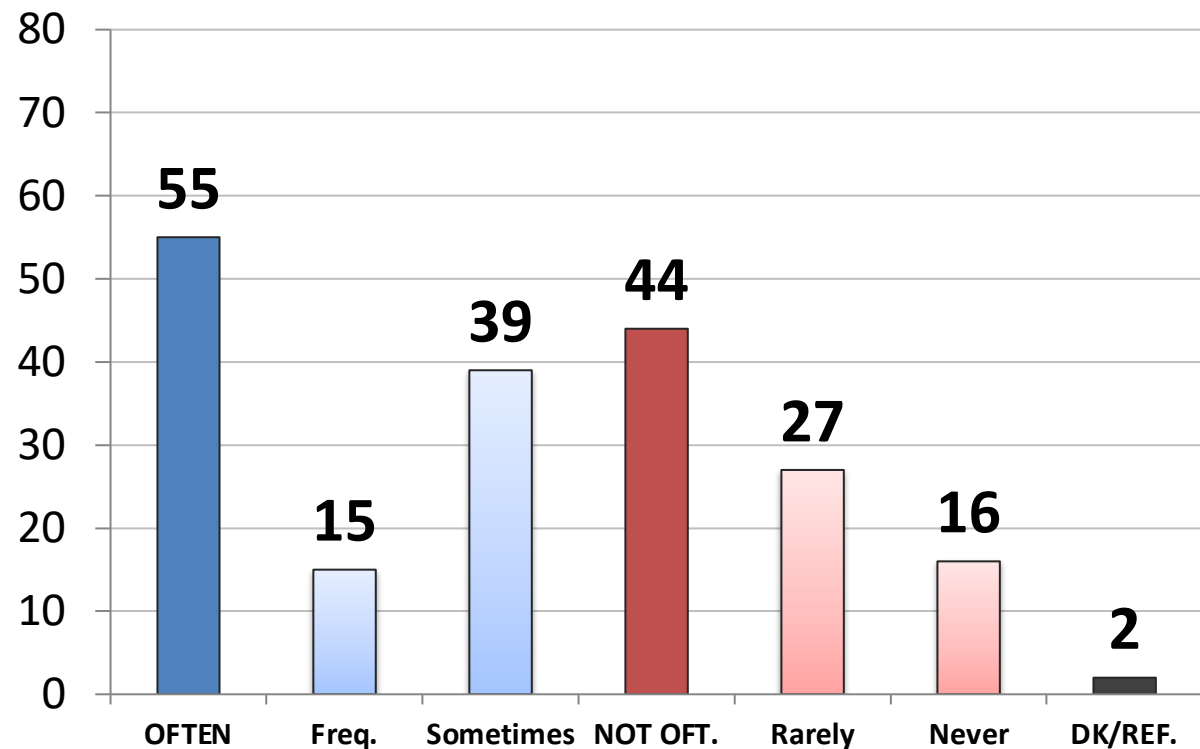
	<u>Often</u>	<u>Not Of</u>
Freshman	67	28
Sophomore	70	28
Junior	75	22
Senior	71	25
Social Sciences	74	23
Humanities	70	27
Physical Sciences	67	28
Engineering	67	28
Republican	88	11
Democrat	64	33
Independent	74	22
Liberal	64	32
Moderate	74	24
Conservative	84	14
White	73	24
Hispanic	75	19
Black	65	33
Asian	65	30
Male	71	25
Female	71	26
White Liberal	65	33
Non-White Liberal	64	31

Have you felt intimidated to share your ideas, opinions or beliefs in class because they were different than those of your professors and teaching fellows?



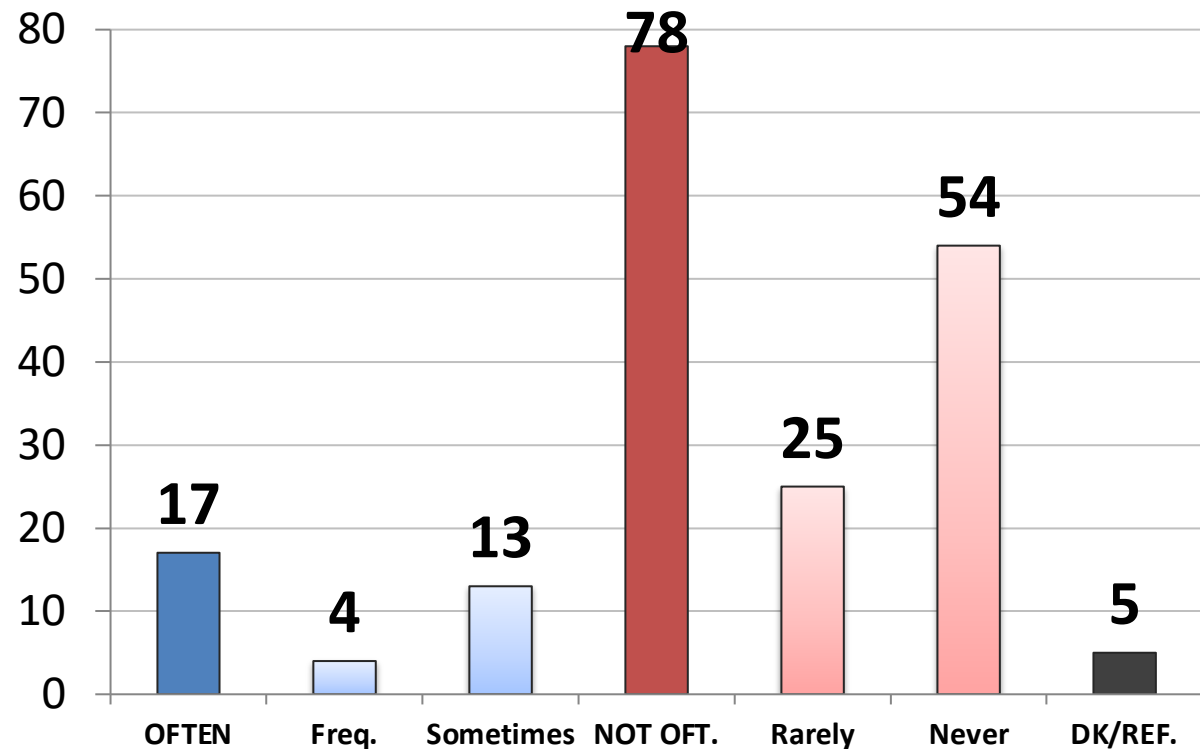
	Often	Not Of
Freshman	44	53
Sophomore	48	50
Junior	49	50
Senior	41	57
Social Sciences	51	48
Humanities	46	53
Physical Sciences	40	57
Engineering	40	57
Republican	83	17
Democrat	31	67
Independent	51	46
Liberal	26	71
Moderate	62	37
Conservative	76	22
White	45	53
Hispanic	47	52
Black	40	53
Asian	43	55
Male	47	52
Female	44	53
White Liberal	22	76
Non-White Liberal	31	67

And have you felt intimidated to share your ideas, opinions or beliefs in class because they were different than those of your classmates or peers?



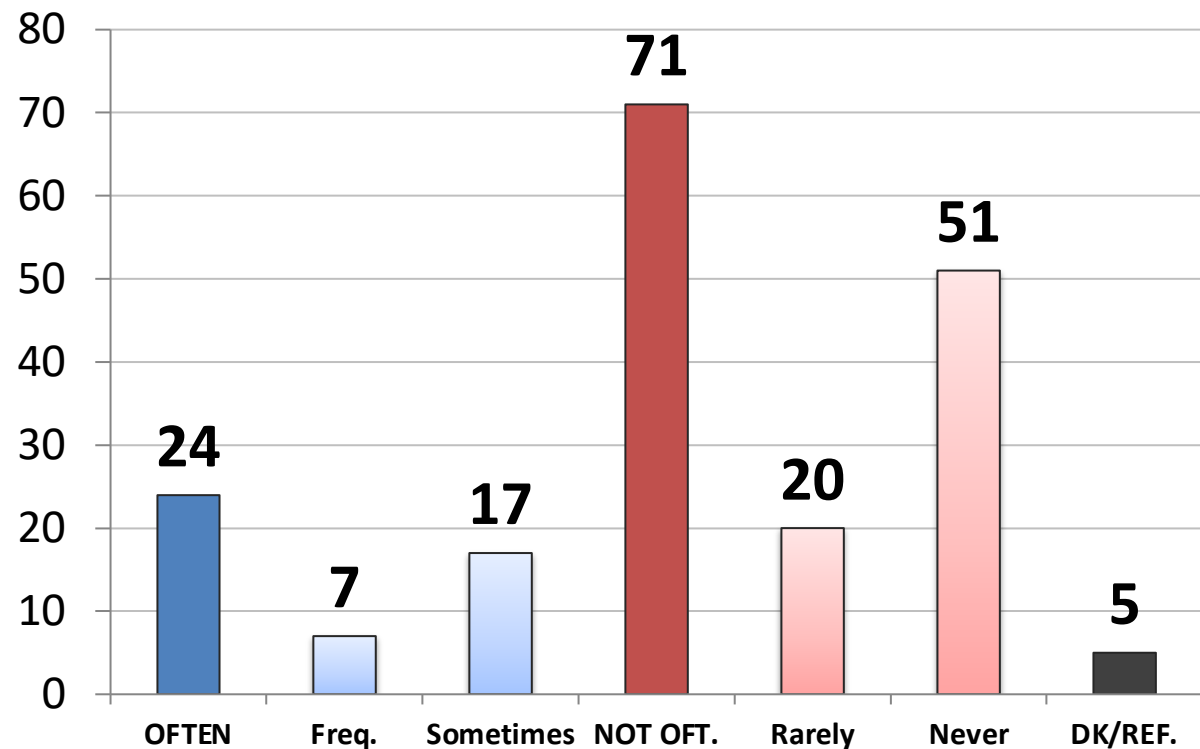
	Often	Not Of
Freshman	52	46
Sophomore	57	41
Junior	62	37
Senior	48	51
Social Sciences	58	40
Humanities	52	48
Physical Sciences	56	42
Engineering	53	45
Republican	80	20
Democrat	41	58
Independent	65	33
Liberal	38	60
Moderate	70	29
Conservative	81	18
White	54	45
Hispanic	63	37
Black	55	41
Asian	55	43
Male	56	43
Female	54	44
White Liberal	31	67
Non-White Liberal	45	54

Have you been treated unfairly on campus by either fellow students or professors as a result of your political opinions and beliefs?



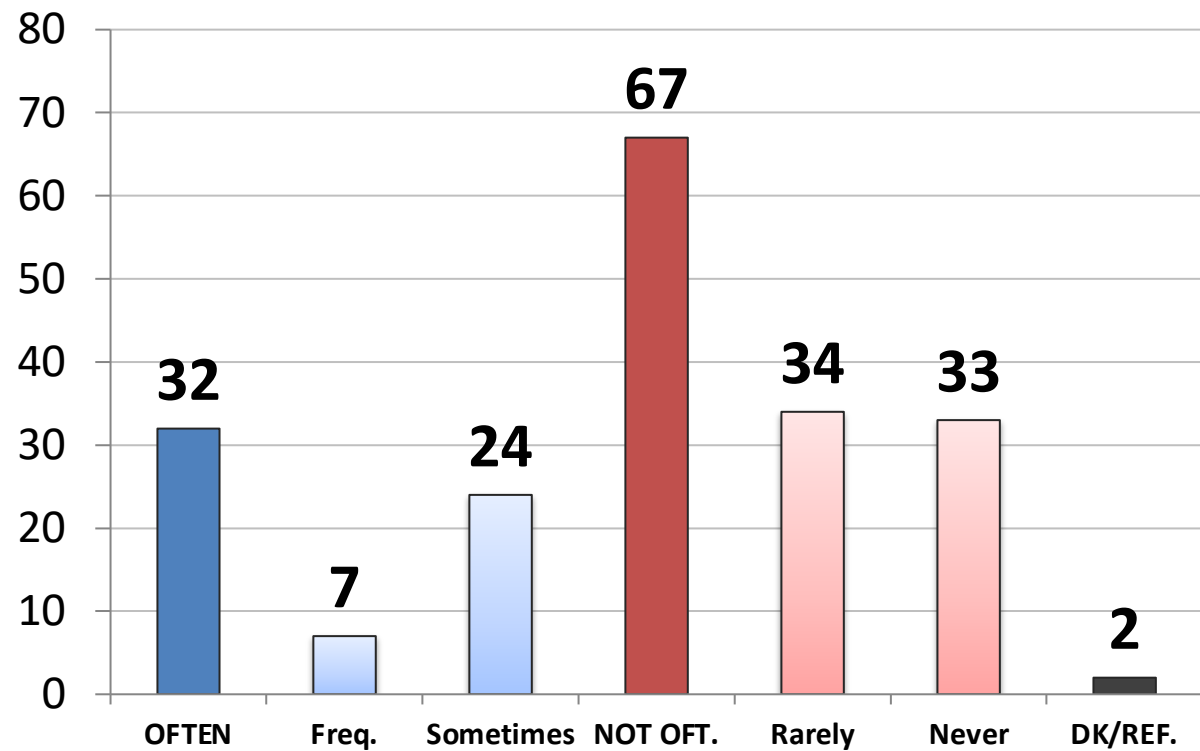
	Often	Not Of
Freshman	15	80
Sophomore	15	80
Junior	18	76
Senior	19	78
Social Sciences	22	74
Humanities	14	80
Physical Sciences	14	82
Engineering	13	81
Republican	47	43
Democrat	7	91
Independent	16	76
Liberal	8	89
Moderate	15	81
Conservative	39	51
White	17	78
Hispanic	17	79
Black	25	71
Asian	12	84
Male	19	76
Female	13	82
White Liberal	5	91
Non-White Liberal	10	87

Have you felt intimidated to write a paper espousing your own ideas, opinions or beliefs because they were different than your professors and teaching fellows and would result in a bad grade?



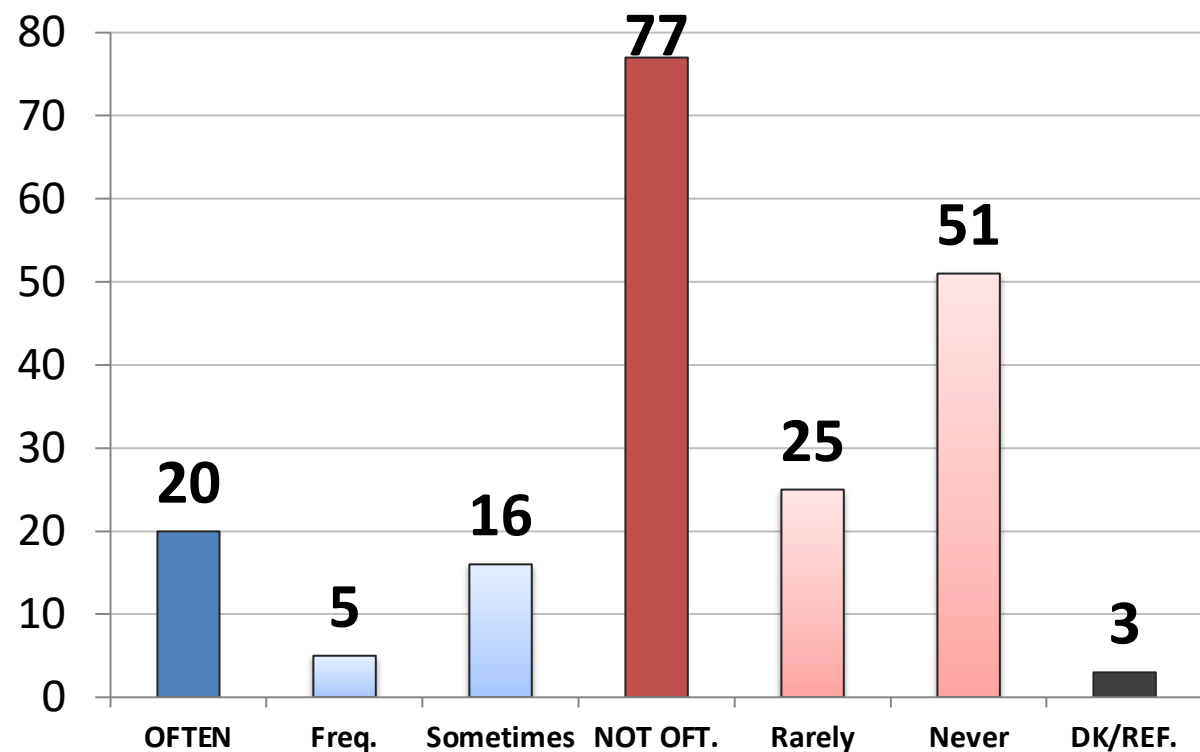
	Often	Not Of
Freshman	22	71
Sophomore	28	69
Junior	23	72
Senior	23	74
Social Sciences	29	67
Humanities	22	74
Physical Sciences	13	80
Engineering	22	74
Republican	61	36
Democrat	12	84
Independent	28	69
Liberal	11	85
Moderate	25	70
Conservative	55	41
White	24	73
Hispanic	24	74
Black	29	72
Asian	19	72
Male	30	67
Female	18	76
White Liberal	7	90
Non-White Liberal	14	81

Have you had any professors that have used class time to express their own social or political beliefs that are completely unrelated to the subject of the course?



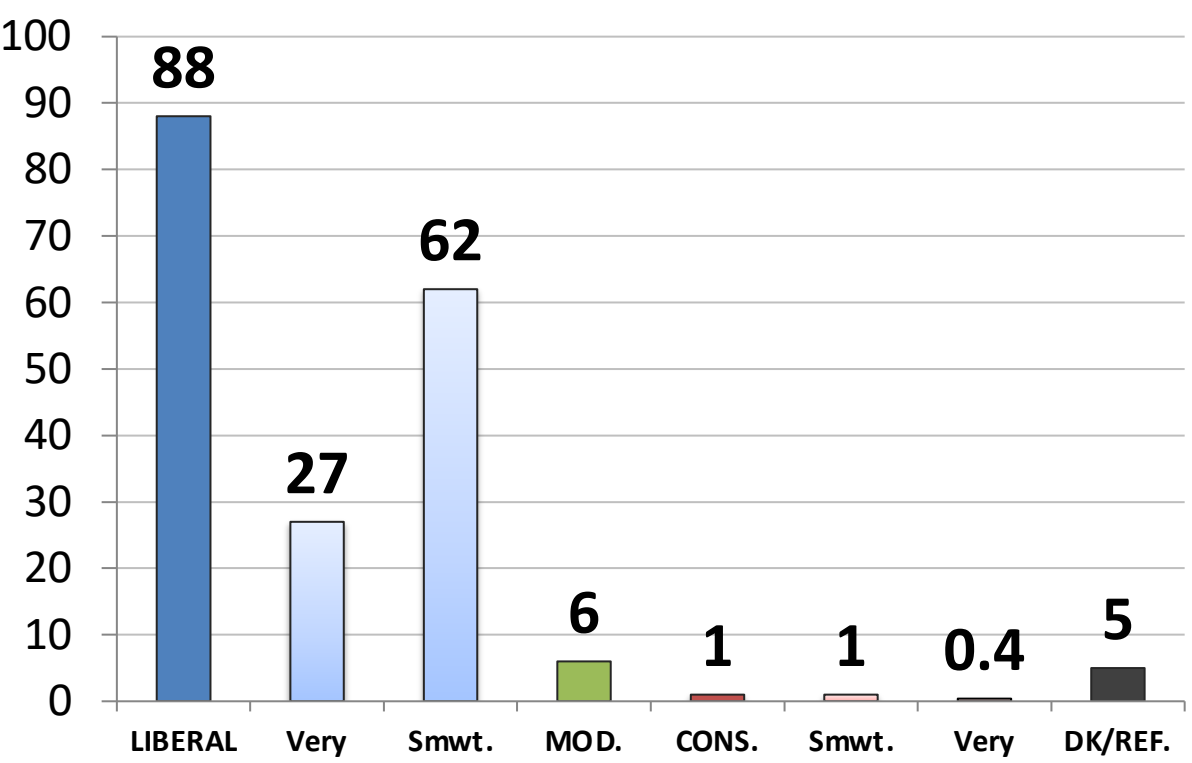
	Often	Not Of
Freshman	28	70
Sophomore	35	64
Junior	33	66
Senior	32	68
Social Sciences	33	66
Humanities	35	64
Physical Sciences	27	71
Engineering	31	68
Republican	61	38
Democrat	24	75
Independent	33	65
Liberal	23	75
Moderate	32	67
Conservative	51	47
White	34	65
Hispanic	33	66
Black	25	75
Asian	22	75
Male	35	64
Female	28	70
White Liberal	25	75
Non-White Liberal	22	76

And have you had any teaching fellows that have used class time to express their own social or political beliefs that are completely unrelated to the subject of the course?



	Often	Not Of
Freshman	14	80
Sophomore	28	70
Junior	20	77
Senior	18	80
Social Sciences	24	72
Humanities	19	77
Physical Sciences	16	81
Engineering	15	82
Republican	48	52
Democrat	14	84
Independent	19	75
Liberal	13	84
Moderate	18	79
Conservative	38	59
White	21	76
Hispanic	19	78
Black	30	66
Asian	13	81
Male	24	74
Female	15	81
White Liberal	11	86
Non-White Liberal	15	81

Generally speaking, when it comes to the political ideology of your professors, would you say most of them are...?



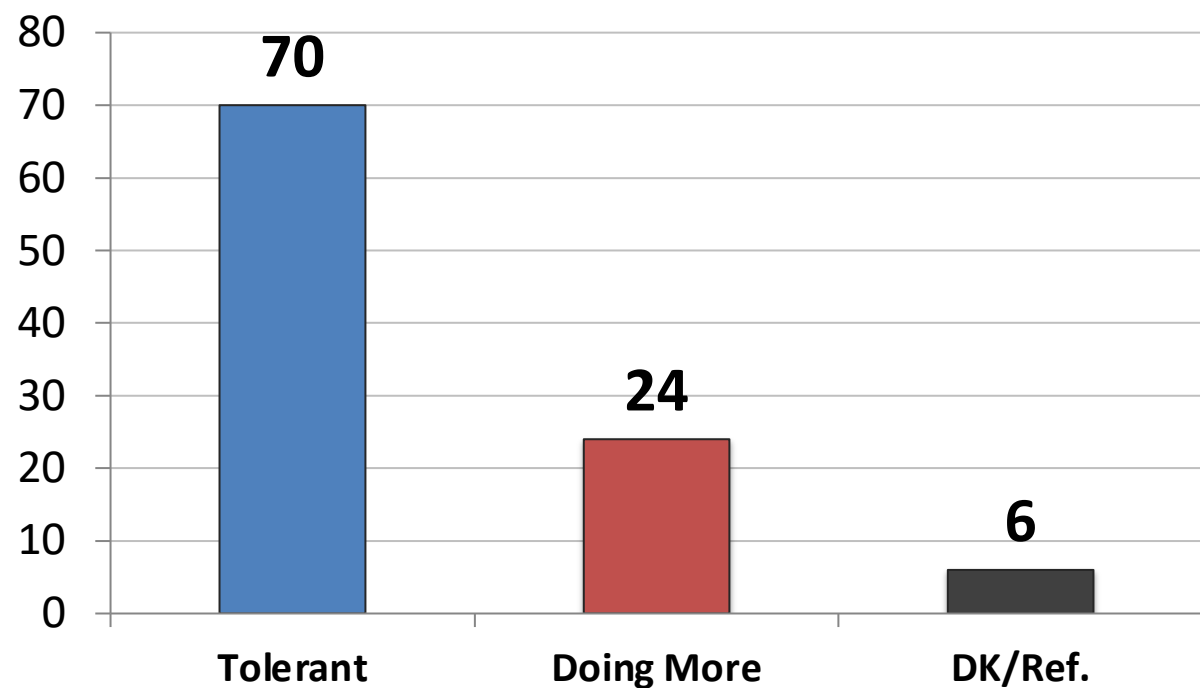
	<u>Lib</u>	<u>Mod</u>	<u>Cons</u>
Freshman	85	8	2
Sophomore	87	6	2
Junior	92	4	1
Senior	91	6	0
Social Sciences	88	7	2
Humanities	90	5	2
Physical Sci.	91	6	0
Engineering	90	4	1
Republican	94	2	4
Democrat	90	6	0
Independent	88	7	0
Liberal	90	6	0
Moderate	86	9	0
Conservative	90	3	4
White	91	4	1
Hispanic	86	7	2
Black	76	20	2
Asian	85	8	0
Male	89	6	1
Female	88	6	1
White Lib.	94	3	0
Non-White Lib.	86	8	0

Which of the following comes closer to your own opinion?

My professors are generally tolerant of diverse opinions in the classroom and encourage open debate and exposure to a wide range of views.

OR

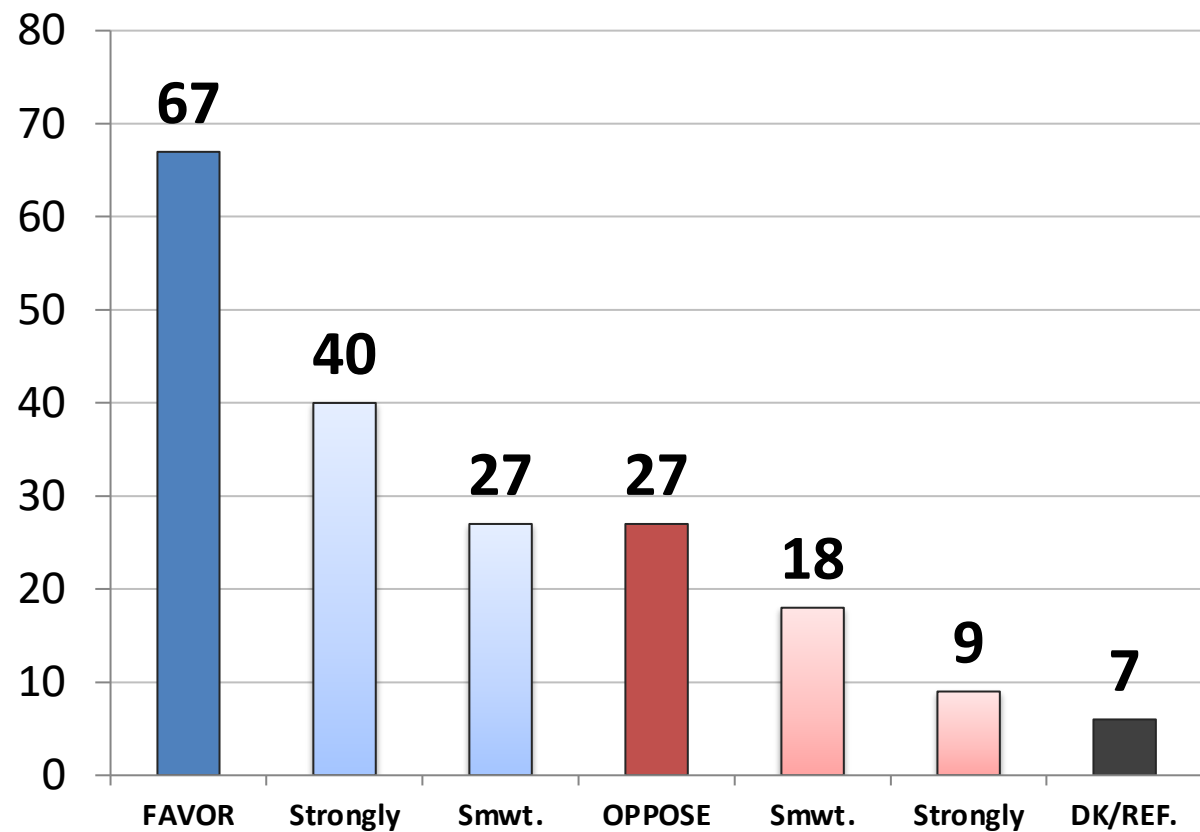
My professors should be doing more to promote intellectual diversity, encourage open debate and reduce political bias in the classroom.



	<u>Toler.</u>	<u>More</u>
Freshman	71	24
Sophomore	70	23
Junior	70	23
Senior	68	27
Social Sciences	67	29
Humanities	73	23
Physical Sciences	71	18
Engineering	71	22
Republican	35	61
Democrat	84	11
Independent	61	29
Liberal	84	12
Moderate	68	25
Conservative	40	52
White	67	28
Hispanic	73	22
Black	68	21
Asian	77	18
Male	66	28
Female	74	20
White Liberal	84	11
Non-White Liberal	82	13

Part Three – Renaming Calhoun College

Switching topics now, do you favor or oppose the school's decision to rename Calhoun College?



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	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
Freshman	67	26
Sophomore	63	31
Junior	66	27
Senior	71	22
Social Sciences	60	33
Humanities	64	29
Physical Sciences	69	24
Engineering	73	21
Republican	28	63
Democrat	84	12
Independent	57	35
Liberal	87	10
Moderate	54	33
Conservative	31	61
White	62	32
Hispanic	67	20
Black	79	20
Asian	77	17
Male	59	33
Female	74	20
White Liberal	86	11
Non-White Liberal	87	9

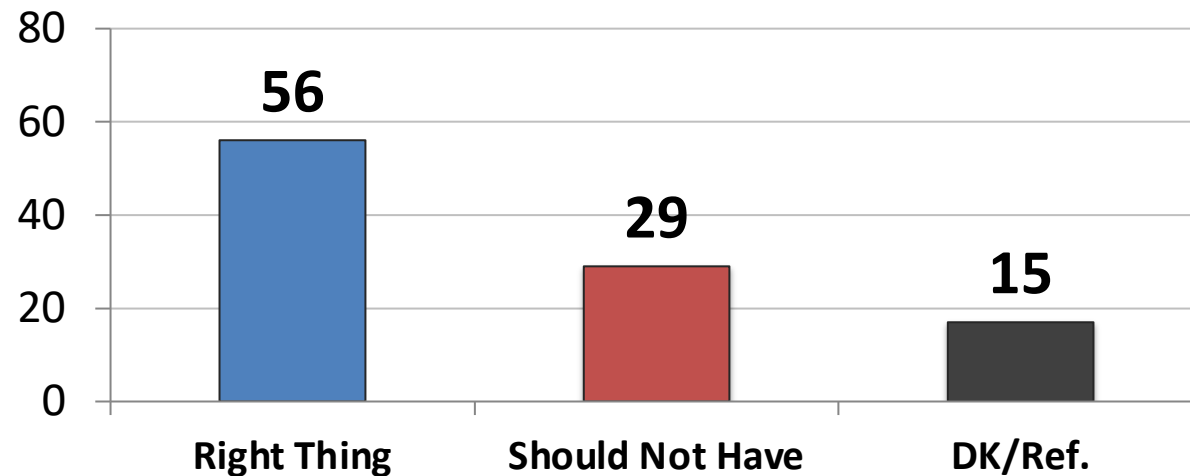
On the decision to rename Calhoun College, which of the following statements comes closer to your own personal opinion?

Yale did the **RIGHT THING** by renaming Calhoun College because John Calhoun was a white supremacist and defender of slavery. Being associated with these kinds of beliefs reflects poorly on the school and does not represent its values.

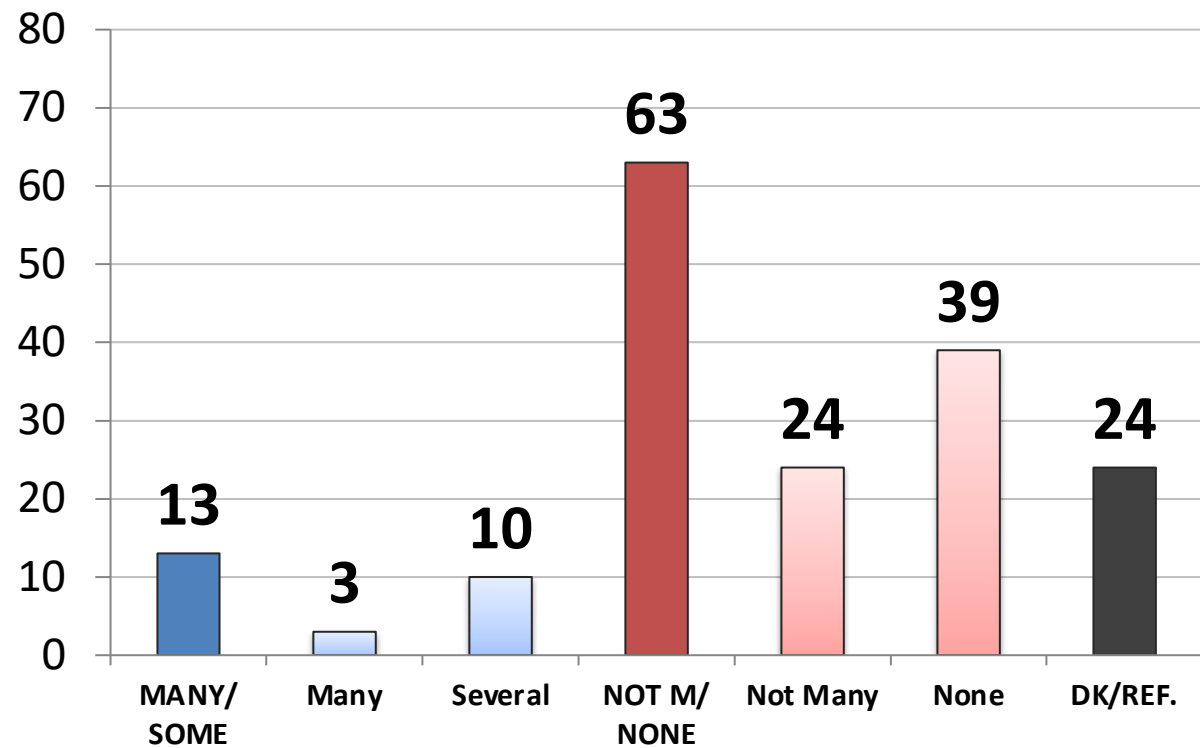
OR

While John Calhoun's beliefs are offensive, Yale **SHOULD NOT** have renamed Calhoun College. This is a matter of the school's tradition and there may be others that held similar views, which opens the door to changing more of Yale's history in an effort to be politically correct.

	<u>Right</u>	<u>Not</u>
Freshman	54	29
Sophomore	50	35
Junior	59	29
Senior	63	23
Social Sciences	50	37
Humanities	57	28
Physical Sciences	57	27
Engineering	59	24
Republican	18	70
Democrat	74	14
Independent	46	34
Liberal	78	11
Moderate	38	39
Conservative	18	66
White	53	33
Hispanic	55	21
Black	73	21
Asian	60	24
Male	50	33
Female	62	25
White Liberal	78	11
Non-White Liberal	78	11

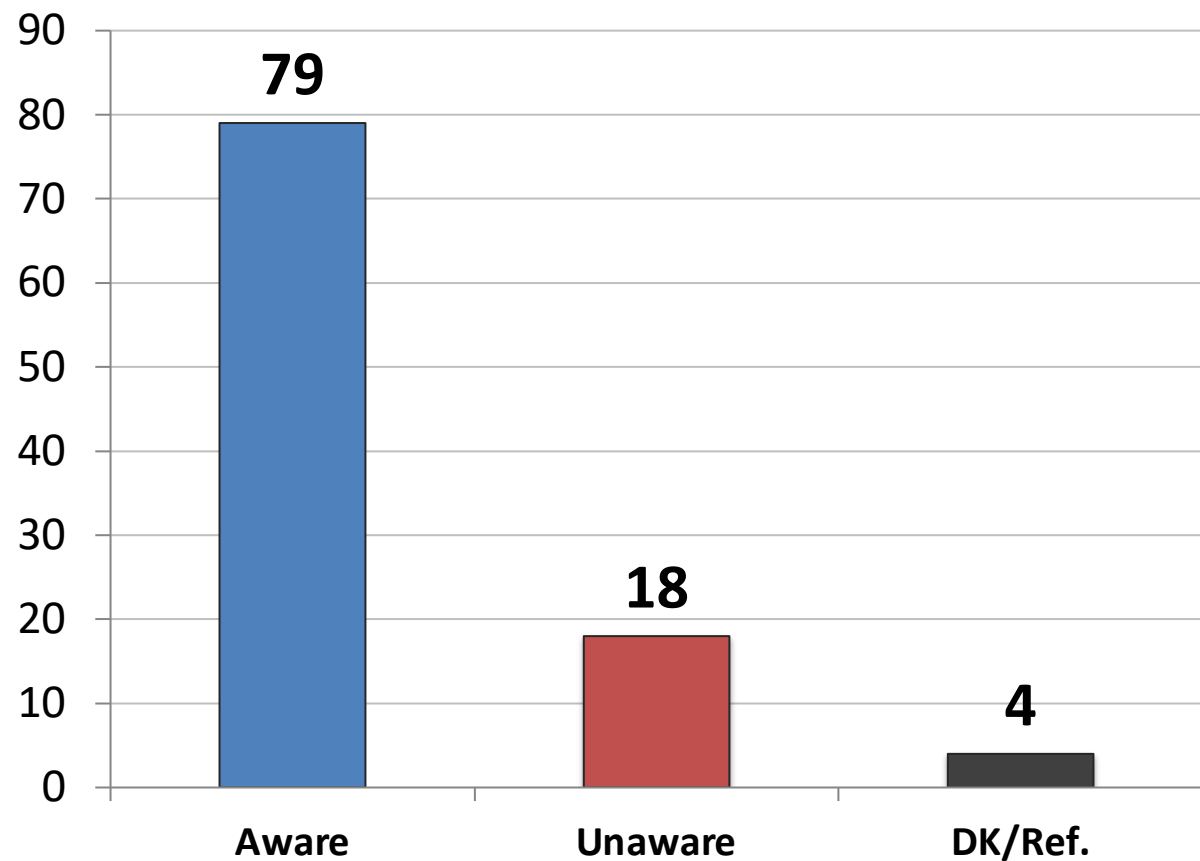


In your opinion, are there additional buildings, titles, programs or other entities on campus that should be renamed?



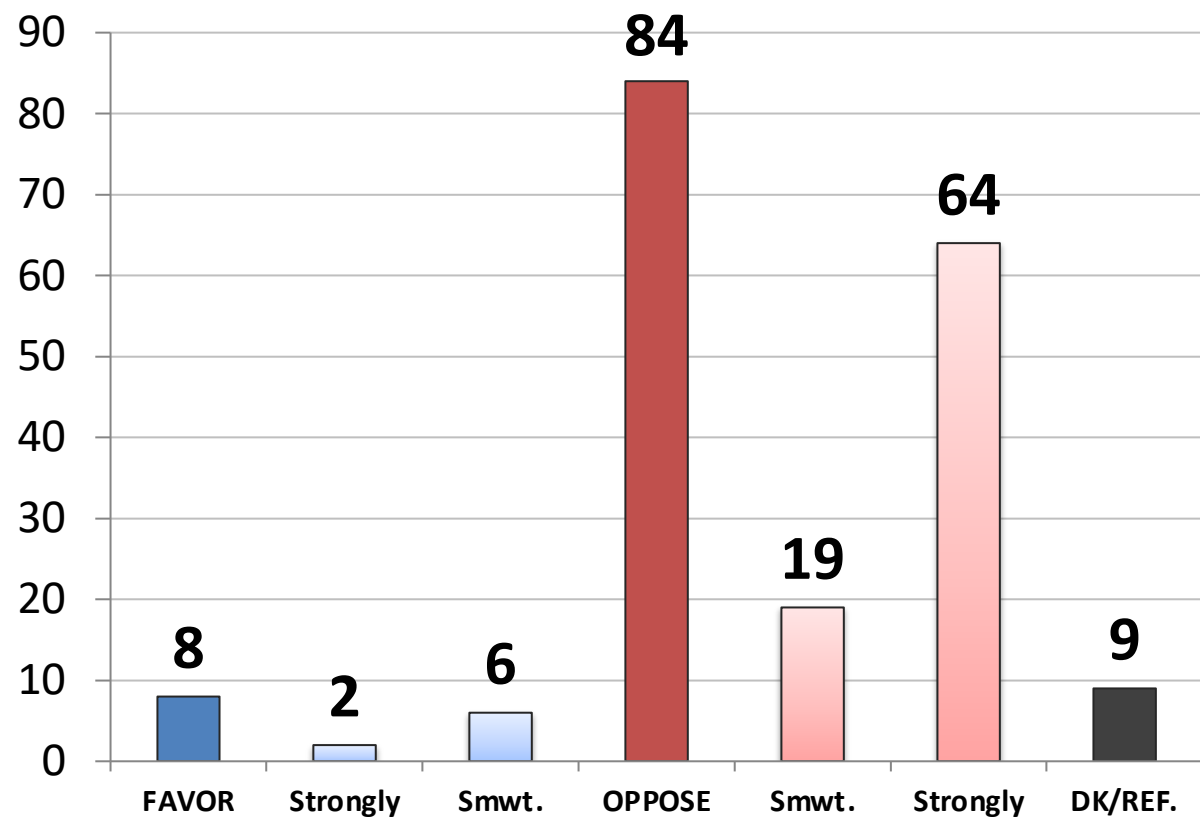
	<u>M/S</u>	<u>NM/N</u>
Freshman	13	63
Sophomore	15	61
Junior	13	62
Senior	11	66
Social Sciences	13	67
Humanities	13	66
Physical Sciences	14	62
Engineering	10	58
Republican	4	88
Democrat	19	54
Independent	8	70
Liberal	20	48
Moderate	4	78
Conservative	4	84
White	9	71
Hispanic	11	58
Black	34	47
Asian	17	51
Male	9	70
Female	16	56
White Liberal	14	59
Non-White Liberal	25	39

Are you aware or unaware that Elihu Yale was a slave trader?



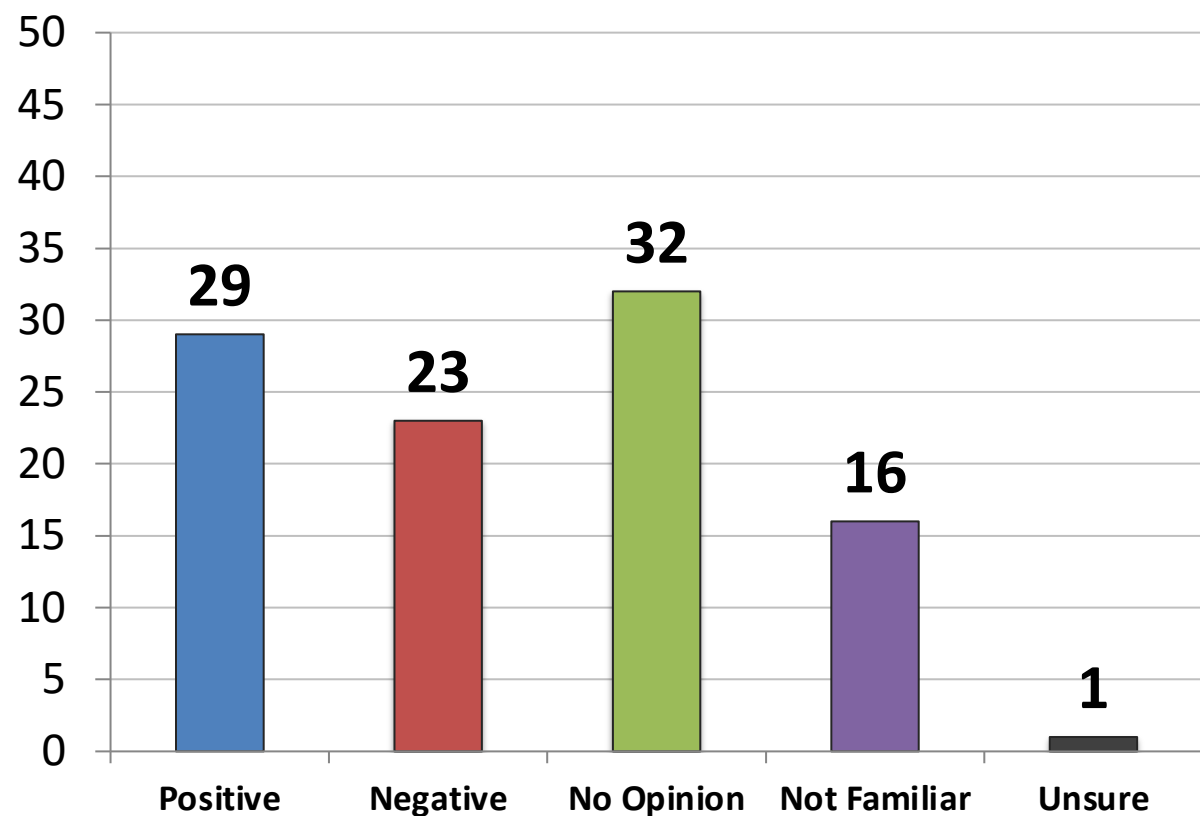
	<u>Awar</u>	<u>Unawr</u>
Freshman	70	25
Sophomore	89	8
Junior	73	21
Senior	83	16
Social Sciences	80	17
Humanities	87	11
Physical Sciences	76	20
Engineering	73	21
Republican	86	13
Democrat	80	16
Independent	80	17
Liberal	77	18
Moderate	79	17
Conservative	82	15
White	82	16
Hispanic	80	15
Black	79	14
Asian	69	26
Male	82	15
Female	75	20
White Liberal	81	15
Non-White Liberal	75	20

Knowing this to be true that Elihu Yale was a slave trader, would you favor or oppose renaming Yale itself?



	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Opp.</u>
Freshman	5	82
Sophomore	9	84
Junior	8	87
Senior	10	82
Social Sciences	7	84
Humanities	7	87
Physical Sciences	10	83
Engineering	8	79
Republican	3	94
Democrat	11	78
Independent	5	89
Liberal	11	77
Moderate	1	93
Conservative	3	94
White	6	87
Hispanic	6	86
Black	18	74
Asian	8	76
Male	7	88
Female	7	81
White Liberal	10	82
Non-White Liberal	11	74

Are you familiar with the William F. Buckley, Jr. Program?



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	<u>Pos.</u>	<u>Neg.</u>
Freshman	32	20
Sophomore	24	22
Junior	32	23
Senior	25	28
Social Sciences	36	21
Humanities	33	26
Physical Sciences	23	23
Engineering	27	15
Republican	67	2
Democrat	16	34
Independent	33	16
Liberal	12	34
Moderate	34	13
Conservative	60	3
White	35	21
Hispanic	26	28
Black	17	32
Asian	18	18
Male	39	16
Female	18	29
White Liberal	18	34
Non-White Liberal	8	35

Demographic Summary

		Major(s)*	Tot.	Perceived Ideology	Tot.
Age	Tot.	Social Sciences	42%	Liberal	52%
18	11%	Humanities	27%	Moderate	21%
19	29%	Physical Sciences	18%	Conservative	24%
20	28%	Engineering	18%	Race/Ethnicity*	Tot.
21	19%	Bio Sciences	13%	White	63%
22	13%	Undeclared	5%	Hispanic	13%
Class	Tot.	Party Affiliation	Tot.	Black	6%
Freshman	29%	Republican	14%	Asian	23%
Sophomore	29%	Democrat	44%	Other	9%
Junior	22%	Ind./Unaffiliated	27%	Gender Identity	Tot.
Senior	20%	Other Party	1%	Male	50%
		Not Registered	8%	Female	48%
				Other	1%

Key Takeaways – Part One

- 1. Yale Undergrads generally approve of how the school is currently handling intellectual diversity and free speech on campus. Students, though, largely oppose speech codes and believe that Yale should still always do its best to promote intellectual diversity and free speech.**
 - **When it comes to promoting intellectual diversity and differing opinions in the classroom and on campus, 56% approve of the job Yale is doing, while a notable 38% disapprove. Intensity is soft among those who approve, as 44% only “somewhat approve” compared with just 11% who “strongly approve.” Democrats approve by a 67% to 26% margin, while Independents are more divided, 48% approve to 46% disapprove. On the other hand, two-thirds, 67%, of Republicans disapprove, while 32% approve. Male students are divided, 48% to 45%, while females approve by a greater than two to one margin, 63% to 31%.**
 - **Students are more likely to approve of the job Yale is doing when it comes to promoting free speech, 60% approve to 34% disapprove. Intensity is similarly soft among the approvals, as 43% only “somewhat approve” and 17% “strongly approve.” Democrats are again strongest in their approval, 75% to 20%, with the majority of Independents also approving, 52% to 43%. By contrast, Republicans disapprove by a higher margin on Yale’s promotion of free speech than they do on intellectual diversity, 28% approve to 70% disapprove.**
 - **By a 72% to 16% margin, students oppose Yale having speech codes to regulate speech for students and faculty. Republicans are most likely to oppose speech codes, 81% (10% favor), as do nearly seven in ten Democrats, 68%, (18% favor). Three in four, 75%, Independents also oppose speech codes (14% favor).**
 - **By a lopsided 84% to 5% margin, students believe that Yale should always do its best to promote intellectual diversity and free speech rather than forbid people from speaking on campus who have controversial views and opinions. Eleven percent (11%) were unsure.**

Key Takeaways – Part Two

- 2. Most students have had experiences with political bias in the classroom and there is a sizable amount who have felt intimidated to share differing viewpoints. Importantly, though, many students say they have not been treated unfairly as a result of their political opinions and believe their professors are generally tolerant of diverse opinions. However, the overwhelming majority says their professors are liberal.**

 - **Almost six in ten, 57%, feel comfortable voicing their opinions in the classroom and on campus on issues such as politics, race, religion and gender. Greater than four in ten, though, 42%, do not feel comfortable voicing their opinions. By party, Republicans and Democrats are the inverse of one another, with 70% of Democrats feeling comfortable (28% uncomfortable) and 75% of Republicans feeling uncomfortable (24% comfortable). Independents are divided, 53% to 46%. By ideology, liberals and conservatives are also opposite, with 74% of liberals feeling comfortable (24% uncomfortable) and 71% of conservative feeling uncomfortable (27% comfortable). Moderates are slightly more likely to feel uncomfortable, 54% to 45%. Female students are more likely than male students to feel comfortable, 61% to 53%, respectively.**
 - **Seven in ten, 70%, have had experiences with political bias in the classroom often, while 26% say it has not happened often. Republicans are most likely to have experienced political bias often, 88% to 11%. Even two in three Democrats, 64%, and 74% of Independents have also experienced political bias often.**
 - **When it comes to students having differing opinions with their professors and teaching fellows, 45% say they have often felt intimidated to share their views, while 52% say they have not often felt intimidated. On the other hand, students are more likely to feel intimidated to share their views when it comes to a divergence of opinions with their classmates and peers, 55% often to 44% not often.**
 - **Nearly eight in ten, 78%, say they have not often been treated unfairly on campus by either fellow students or professors as a result of their political opinions and beliefs. Notably, though, the plurality of Republicans, 47%, and 39% of conservatives say they have often been treated unfairly for their opinions.**
 - **Greater than seven in ten, 71%, say they have not often felt intimidated to write a paper espousing their own opinions because they were different than their professors and it would result in a bad grade. Again, Republican and conservative students were much more likely to often feel intimidated, 61% and 55%, respectively.**
 - **Almost nine in ten, 88%, say their professors are liberal. Just 6% say they are moderate and only 1% say they are conservative.**
 - **By a 70% to 24% margin, students say their professors are generally tolerant of diverse opinions and encourage open debate rather than believing they need to do more to promote diversity and reduce bias in the classroom.**

Key Takeaways – Part Three

3. **Students support the decision to rename Calhoun College, but do not think there are additional entities that should be renamed or that Yale itself should be renamed because of Elihu Yale's connections to the slave trade.**
 - **Two in three, 67%, favor Yale's decision to rename Calhoun College, while 27% oppose it. Democrats favor the renaming by an 84% to 12% margin, while Republicans oppose it, 63% to 28%. Fifty-seven percent (57%) of Independents favor it, while 35% oppose. By ideology, liberals favor 87% to 10%, moderates favor 54% to 33% and conservatives oppose by a two to one margin, 61% to 31%. Female students are more likely than males to favor, 74% to 59%, respectively. By ethnicity, African American and Asian students favor the renaming at the highest levels, 79% and 77%, respectively.**
 - **When given a choice, 56% of students say Yale did the right thing by renaming Calhoun College because John Calhoun was a defender of slavery and being associated with these kinds of beliefs reflect poorly on the school. Three in ten, 29%, say Yale should not have renamed Calhoun College because it is a matter of the school's tradition and opens the door to changing more of Yale's history to be politically correct. Three in four Democrats, 74%, said Yale did the right thing (14% should not have), while a similar proportion of Republicans, 70%, said Yale should not have renamed Calhoun (18% right thing). By a 46% to 34% margin, Independents say Yale did the right thing.**
 - **Regarding additional buildings, titles and programs on campus, greater than six in ten, 63%, say there are not many (24%) or any at all (39%) that should be renamed. Just 3% say many should be renamed and 10% say there are several that should be renamed.**
 - **Almost eight in ten, 79%, are aware that Elihu Yale was a slave trader. Even when taking that into consideration, 84% oppose renaming Yale itself.**