

# The Gallup Poll

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MAJORITY IN EACH REGION FAVOR  
LAW AGAINST HIRING ILLEGAL ALIENS

By George Gallup

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE PUBLIC OPINION  
PRINCETON, N. J.

PRINCETON, N.J. -- The American people take a "hard line" in regard to illegal aliens.

1. A large majority of Americans (72 per cent) favor a law which would make it illegal to employ a person who has entered the U.S. without proper papers. Majorities in each region are found to favor such a law.

2. A proposal that has generated considerable debate is one that would require all persons to carry an identification card to distinguish illegal aliens from legal job-seekers. The public votes heavily in favor of this proposal, 65 per cent to 30 per cent.

The question measured reactions to an identification card such as a Social Security card.

When this plan was put to a sample of the nation's adults earlier in the form of a tough proposal which would require a person to carry an identification card containing, among other things, a picture and fingerprints, the public was found to be closely divided, with 45 per cent in favor

of such a law and 50 per cent opposed.

#### AMNESTY FOR ALIENS?

3. Public opinion was also sought regarding President Carter's controversial proposal to grant permanent resident status to all aliens who entered the U.S. illegally before 1970. It is estimated that this group totals approximately 500,000 persons.

When survey respondents were asked to vote on this issue -- allowing illegal aliens who have been in the U.S. for seven years to remain in this country -- the vote is 52 to 39 per cent in opposition. However, among younger adults, non-whites and persons with a college background, the vote is evenly divided.

#### PROBLEM LIKELY TO BE OF GROWING CONCERN

The problem of immigration and of illegal aliens, especially from Latin American countries, is likely to be of growing concern to the United States. A global survey conducted by Gallup International for the Charles F. Kettering Foundation found that one person in five in Latin America (South America, Central America and the Caribbean) would like to emigrate to another country. The United States is

their favorite nation as a future home. One-third of all Mexicans included in the survey said they would like to leave Mexico, and they too prefer the U.S. over other nations.

Here is the first question:

"Do you think it should or should not be against the law to employ a person who has come into the U.S. without proper papers?"

LAW AGAINST HIRING ILLEGAL ALIENS?

	Should Be	Should Not	No Opinion
NATIONAL	72%	23%	5%
Whites	72	23	5
Non-whites	70	23	7
College	73	24	3
High School	71	23	6
Grade School	70	23	7
East	69	26	5
Midwest	74	23	3
South	72	19	9
West	72	25	3

The above question was asked after the Carter administration delivered its proposals to Congress. When the same question was asked in April, 82 per cent voted in favor and 14 per cent were opposed.

"Do you believe everyone in the United States should be required to carry an identification card such as a Social Security card, or not?"

EVERYONE REQUIRED TO CARRY  
AN IDENTIFICATION CARD?

	Should	Should Not	No Opinion
NATIONAL	65%	30%	5%
Whites	63	32	5
Non-whites	74	18	8
College	47	49	4
High School	70	25	5
Grade School	77	16	7
East	57	36	7
Midwest	71	26	3
South	67	25	8
West	61	37	2

"It has been proposed that illegal aliens who have been in the U.S. for seven years be allowed to remain in the U.S. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?"

ALLOW ALIENS HERE SEVEN YEARS TO REMAIN?

	Favor	Oppose	No Opinion
NATIONAL	39%	52%	9%
Whites	38	53	9
Non-whites	45	45	10

College	46	48	6
High School	36	55	9
Grade School	35	52	13
East	37	51	12
Midwest	40	54	6
South	37	51	12
West	44	53	3

The results reported today are based on in-home, in-person interviews with 1,509 adults, 18 and older, interviewed in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the nation during the period Sept. 30-Oct. 3.

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