

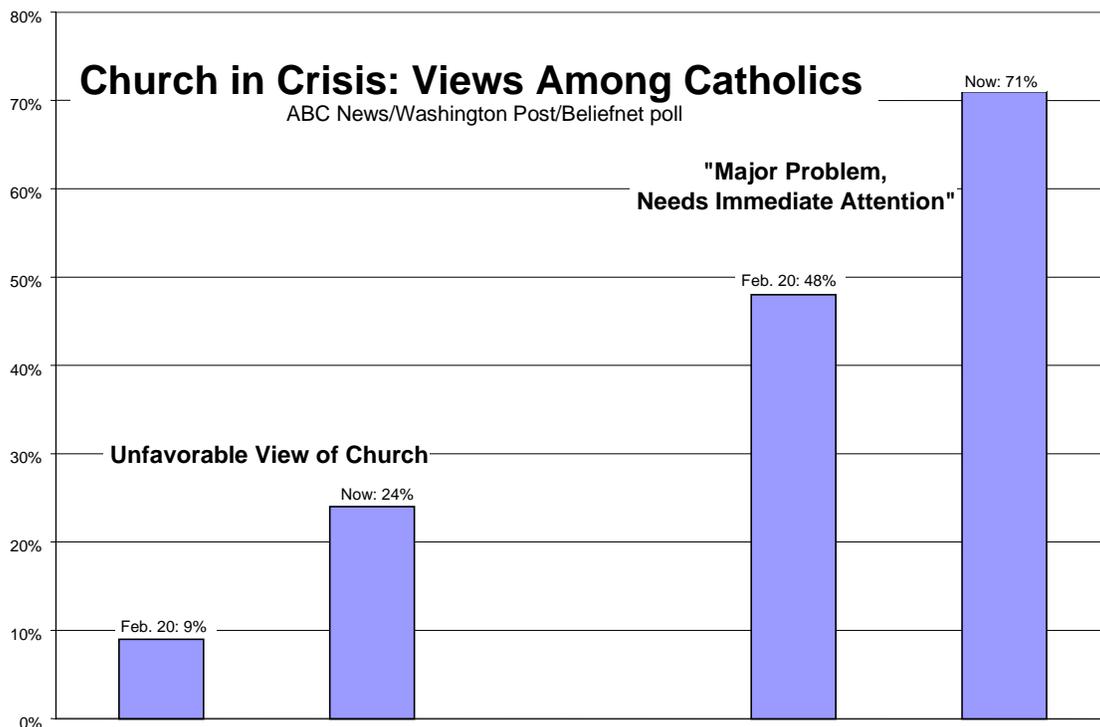
## Seven in 10 Catholics See a Church in Crisis

American Catholics express broad dissatisfaction – even anger – with the church’s handling of priests who sexually abuse children. A soaring number call the scandal a crisis, and two-thirds of the faithful disapprove of how their church has handled it.

Large majorities in this national poll favor disclosure by the church of all accusations against priests, and of all settlement payments. And eight in 10 continue to call for laws requiring the church to notify the authorities of reported abuse.

The effect of the scandal is profound. The number of Catholics calling this a “major problem that demands immediate attention” has soared from 48 percent in an ABC News poll last month to 71 percent now. As many call it a “crisis” for the church. And a month ago barely one in 10 viewed their own church unfavorably; today it’s nearly one in four.

For some it’s also a personal crisis. Fourteen percent of Catholics – one in seven – say the scandal has caused them to re-examine their personal faith, and 11 percent say they may leave the church altogether in the next few years. Among Catholics who are angry about the church’s actions, these numbers double.

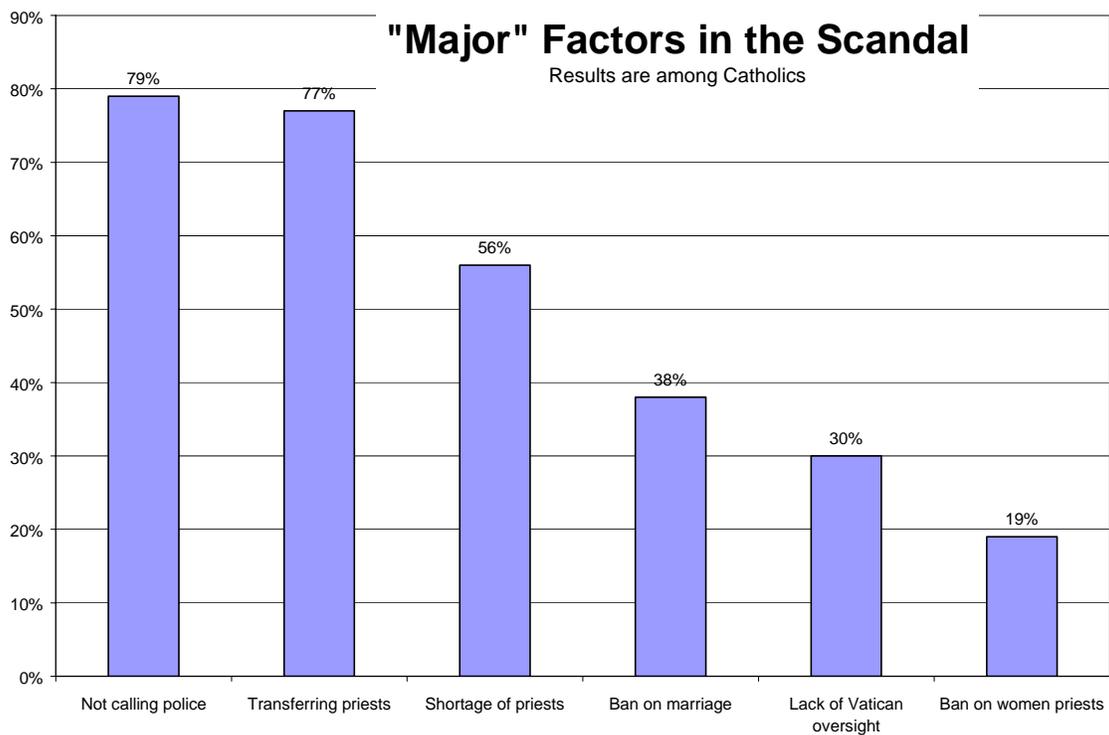


**COVER-UP** – The issue is not the prevalence of sexual abuse of children by priests: Non-Catholics are as likely as Catholics to say a clergy member in their own congregation has been accused of such crimes (six percent in both cases). Instead, it’s the way the church has handled it: Transferring accused priests, settling claims quietly, not calling the police.

Among all Americans, 74 percent say church officials in the past mainly have tried to “cover up the problem” of priests who sexually abuse children, rather than to solve it. Worse for the church is that two-thirds of Catholics say the same.

Specific actions, and inaction, raise ire. Nearly eight in 10 Catholics say the church’s failure to notify the police of such charges is a “major part” of the problem. Almost as many say the practice of transferring accused priests to other parishes is another “major” cause. (Eighty-four percent “strongly” disapprove of that practice.)

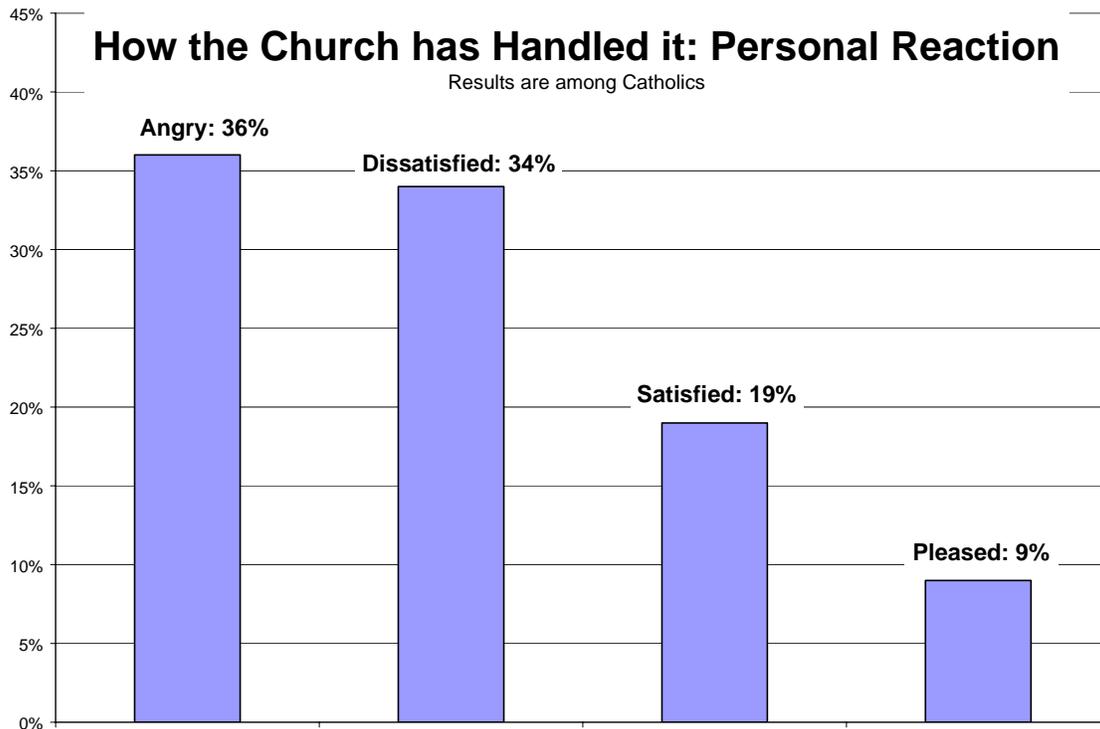
A smaller majority, 56 percent, cites another factor as a “major part” of the problem – a reluctance among church officials to dismiss priests because they’re in such short supply. That suggests most Catholics see the church as having been more interested in its administrative needs – staffing parishes – than in protecting the flock.



**ANGER** – Such views create dissatisfaction and worse. Thirty-six percent of Catholics are “angry” at the way the church has handled the issue of sexual abuse by priests. (About the same number of non-Catholics are angry about it.) For comparison, during the days of deep economic discontent in the early 1990s, the number of Americans who

expressed anger with the federal government never exceeded 24 percent in ABC News polls.

Another 34 percent of Catholics say they're "dissatisfied, but not angry" at the church's handling of this issue. That produces a net negative personal reaction of 70 percent among Catholics. (Among non-Catholics, it's 83 percent negative.)



Anger at the church is 10 points higher among Catholic women (41 percent) than men, and 11 points higher among Catholics with children at home. Frequent churchgoers are more forgiving; 25 percent of those who say they attend church on a weekly basis are angry at the church, compared to 46 percent of those who attend less often.

Anger can have consequences: Among Catholics who are angry at the church, 29 percent say this scandal has caused them to re-examine their personal faith, and 19 percent say they may leave the church altogether in the next few years.

**MARRIAGE/WOMEN** – The church's ban on marriage by priests is seen as another contributing factor in the problem of sexual abuse of children, but much less strongly – 38 percent of Catholics call it a "major part" of the problem. (That's up, though, from 24 percent in a similar question last month.) Lesser "major" factors include a lack of Vatican oversight (cited by 30 percent) and the ban on ordaining women (19 percent).

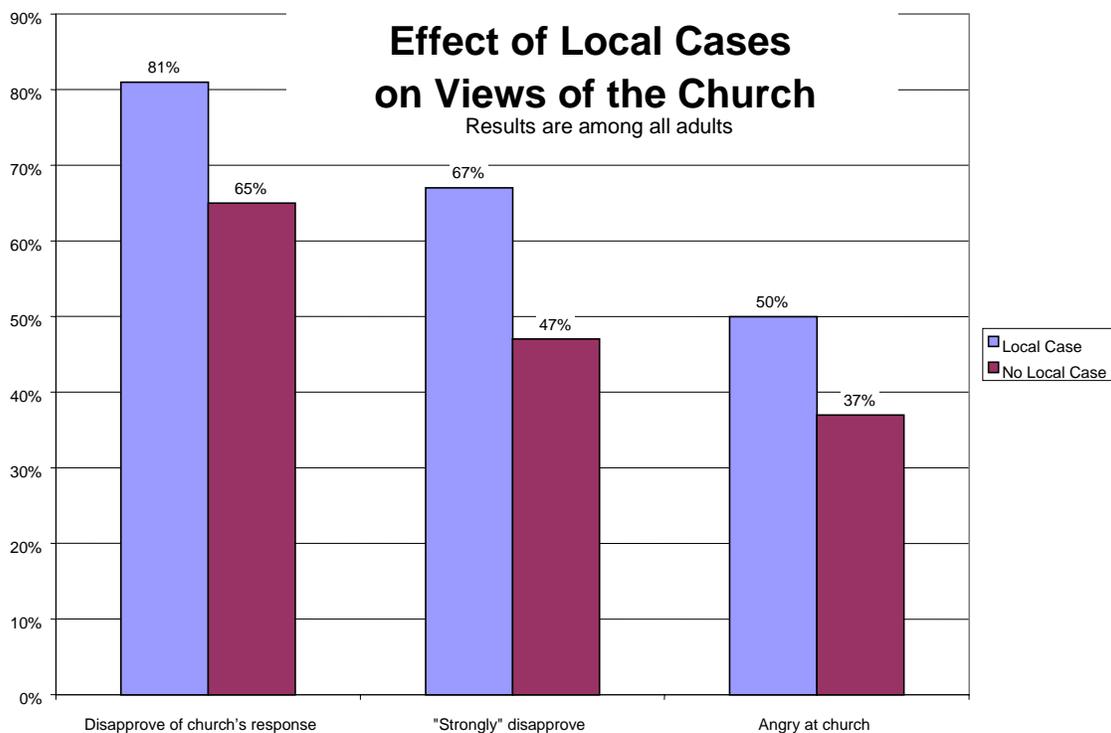
Whatever its role in this scandal, banning marriage and women priests remains unpopular. Six in 10 Catholics favor allowing priests to wed and favor ordaining women, about the same as in a 1993 ABC News/Washington Post poll. Even among the most

faithful churchgoers – those who say they attend Mass weekly – majorities favor both marriage among priests and ordination of women.

Fifty-four percent of Catholics also say the church should do more to involve lay people in deciding church policies and practices – but 42 percent say the church already is doing enough. Catholics who desire more lay involvement are more apt to be critical of the church, both in general and in terms of this scandal.

**EXPERIENCE** – Ten percent of Americans say they’re aware of instances in their community in which a priest has been accused of sexually abusing a child; that includes 13 percent of Catholics and nine percent of non-Catholics.

People who know of local cases of abuse are more apt to be angry at the church (50 percent) and to think such abuse happens somewhat or very often. Their disapproval of the church’s handling of the situation jumps, to 81 percent, and their “strong” disapproval jumps to 67 percent. These are ominous sign for the church, because it suggests that local disapproval may grow as more cases come to light.



	Know of a local case?	
	Yes	No
Disapprove of church's response	81%	65
"Strongly" disapprove	67	47
Angry at church	50	37
(Among all Americans)		

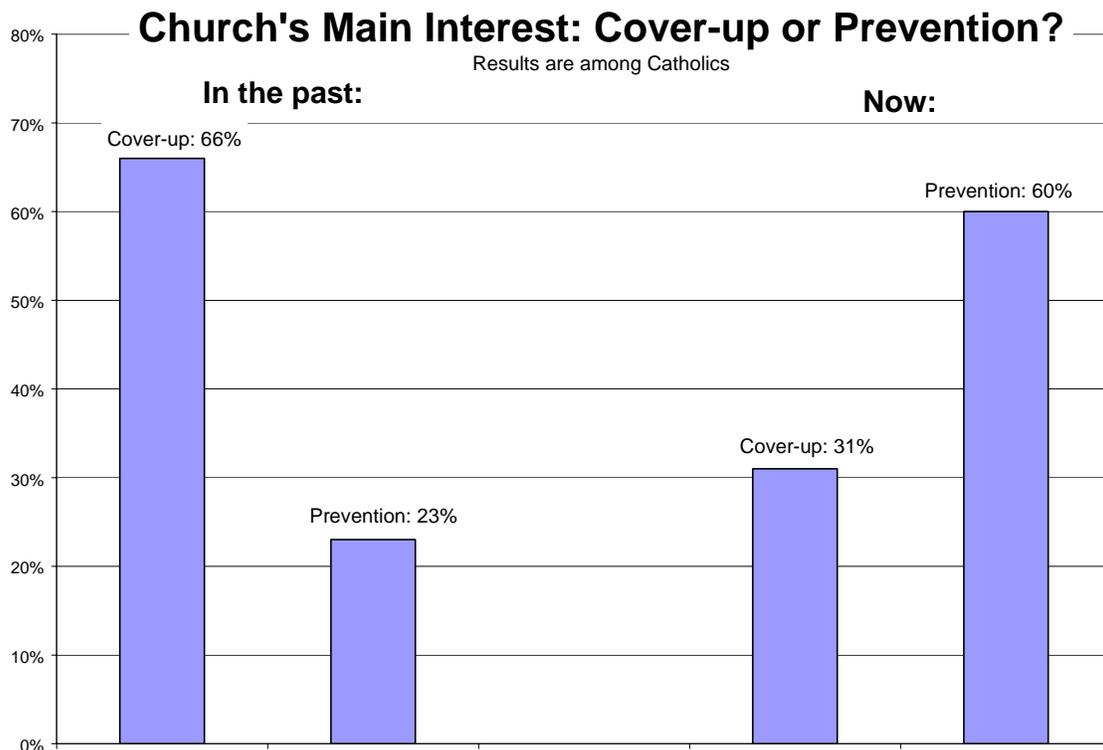
As noted, six percent of Catholics report such an allegation within their own parish. The same number of non-Catholics who have a religion, six percent, say there's been such an allegation against a member of the clergy in their congregation.

Three percent of all Americans and five percent of Catholics (essentially equal numbers, given sampling tolerances), say they have a relative or personal friend who's been sexually abused as a child by a priest.

**REFORM** – This poll also finds resistance to the notion that the church can be left to reform itself. About eight in 10 Catholics and non-Catholics alike say the church should be required by law to report abuse allegations to the police. Six in 10 Catholics also say the church should be legally required to inform parishioners of accusations against priests.

Support for these legal requirements underscores doubt about the church's independent course – informed, perhaps, by the fact that such scandals have arisen before. After a month of heavy pressure, 57 percent of Catholics say the church still is not doing enough to deal with the issue (50 percent said so in late February). That advances to 66 percent among non-Catholics.

Indeed half of non-Catholics think that even now church officials are mainly trying to cover up the problem, rather than to prevent abuse. Catholics go easier on the church – six in 10 think it's now mainly focused on prevention. But still three in 10 Catholics, even today, think cover-up remains the church's primary goal.



	Church's past goal:		Church's goal now:	
	Cover-up	Prevention	Cover-up	Prevention
Catholics	66%	23	31	60
Non-Catholics	76	14	50	39

Among other steps, disclosure is on the agenda. About seven in 10 Catholics say their diocese should publicly release the names of all priests accused of sexually abusing children, and the amount of money it's paid to settle lawsuits against such priests.

Fifty-six percent of all Americans express at least some confidence that the church can solve the problem of sexual abuse of children by priests; that includes 52 percent of non-Catholics, but it rises to 72 percent of Catholics. Even among Catholics, though, far fewer – 31 percent – are “very” confident the church can solve it.

**LEADERSHIP** – Despite the scandal, Catholics still rate church leaders highly for leadership: More than three-quarters say they're satisfied with the leadership of their local priest or priests, their bishop and the pope alike.

High-level support is less strong, and has a local bias. Fifty-seven percent are “very” satisfied with their priest's leadership; that slips to four in 10 for their bishop and the pope alike.

Support softens, moreover, when it comes to the way church officials have handled this scandal in particular. Sixty-seven percent approve of the way their priest has handled it; 45 percent approve “strongly.” Fifty-four percent approve of the way their bishop has handled it, but just 29 percent approve “strongly.” And 41 percent approve of the way national leaders of the church have handled the issue – only 14 percent strongly.

For comparison, George W. Bush has an overall job approval rating of 84 percent among Catholics, and “strong” approval of 54 percent.

	Handling of the scandal	
	Approve	Approve “strongly”
Your priest or priests	67%	45
Your bishop	54	29
National church leaders (Among Catholics)	41	14

Blaming the messenger is unlikely to help much: Seventy-six percent of all Americans say news coverage of the issue has been fair to the church; among Catholics, 66 percent agree. Twenty-nine percent of Catholics call the coverage unfair.

**IMAGE** – Even with their high leadership ratings, there's been some deterioration in the image of priests, as well as of the church. There's been a 13-point rise since February in the number of Catholics who say the issue has hurt the image of the church in their eyes. And there's been a 12-point rise, to 50 percent, in the number of all Americans who think sexual abuse of children by priests happens “very” or “somewhat” often, rather than

infrequently or rarely. That includes an eight-point rise among Catholics, to 38 percent, and a 12-point rise among non-Catholics, to 53 percent.

Additionally, last month Catholics said priests were less likely than other men to sexually abuse children, rather than more likely, by a 27-point margin; today it's down to an 11-point margin.

	Likelihood of abuse by priests		
	More	Less	Same
Now	8	19	72
February	4	31	61
(Among Catholics)			

At the same time, seven in 10 Americans, Catholics and non-Catholics alike, say priests are no more or less likely than other men to sexually abuse children. And just over three-quarters of Catholics say they trust their own parish priest around children, with six in 10 percent saying they trust him “completely.”

Among Catholics with children, though, “complete” trust slips to 52 percent.

**GIVING** – The scandal does not look likely to have a major impact on donations to the church. About one in 10 Catholics say they’re giving less money to the church – but they are mostly people who attend church on only an irregular basis. Hardly any weekly churchgoers are putting less in the basket.

	Donations to the church:		
	Less	More	Same
All Catholics	9%	1	88
Attend weekly	3	2	95
“ monthly	11	0	89
“ less often	15	0	79

**CHURCHGOING** – Forty-three percent of Catholics in this poll say they attend church on at least a weekly basis; 23 percent a few times a month, and 32 percent less often than that. Those who attend more often are more favorably inclined toward the church: Among weekly attendees, 90 percent view it favorably; among monthly attendees, 73 percent; but among less-frequent attendees, just 50 percent express a favorable opinion of the church.

However, more frequent church attendees don’t go easy on the church in terms of its handling of this scandal. Among weekly churchgoers, 59 percent disapprove of the church’s response, two-thirds want public disclosure of accusations and settlement payments, 68 percent call this a crisis, 72 percent support a law requiring the church to report abuse allegations to the police, and 81 percent strongly disapprove of the past practice of transferring accused priests.

At the same time, frequent churchgoers are more optimistic that the church is now trying to address the problem – and that it actually can put this crisis behind it.

**AFFILIATION** – As noted, 11 percent of Catholics say they may leave the church; most of them cite the abuse scandal as a factor, but not as the main factor. In an ABC News poll in 1987, six percent of Catholics said there was a chance they could leave the church. Naturally, there is some normal inflow as well as outflow in religious affiliation; since 1987 the number of Catholics as a percentage of the population has held steady, at about one in four Americans.

**METHODOLOGY** – This ABC News/Washington Post/Beliefnet survey was conducted by telephone March 25-28, 2002, among a random national sample of 1,086 adults, including an oversample of Catholics, producing a net sample of 503 Catholics. The results have a 3.5-point error margin for the full sample, 4.5 points for Catholics. Field work by TNS Intersearch of Horsham, Pa.

Analysis by Gary Langer.

ABC News polls can be found at ABCNEWS.com on the Internet at:  
<http://abcnews.go.com/sections/us/PollVault/PollVault.html>

Media Contact: Lauren Kapp, (212) 456-2478, [lauren.kapp@abc.com](mailto:lauren.kapp@abc.com)

Here are the full results:

\*= less than 0.5 percent

1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

	-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No opin.
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	
3/28/02	79	49	30	18	10	8	3
3/10/02	82	52	30	16	7	9	2
1/27/02	83	56	27	14	7	7	3
12/19/01	86	64	22	12	6	6	2
11/27/01	89	69	21	9	5	4	1
11/6/01	89	65	24	9	4	5	2
10/9/01	92	76	16	6	3	3	1
9/27/01	90	70	20	6	3	3	4
9/13/01	86	63	23	12	6	5	2
9/9/01	55	26	29	41	22	20	3
8/12/01	61	28	33	31	17	14	8
7/30/01	59	28	30	38	22	17	3
6/3/01	55	27	28	40	22	18	6
4/22/01	63	33	30	32	16	16	5
3/25/01	58	NA	NA	33	NA	NA	8
2/25/01	55	NA	NA	23	NA	NA	22

2. Overall, would you say you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the Catholic Church?

		Favorable	Unfavorable	No opin.
3/28/02	All	55	34	11
	Cath.	73	24	3
2/20/02	All	63	27	11
	Cath.	88	9	4
8/30/99*	All	68	19	13

\*Wash Post/Kaiser/Harvard

3. (CATHOLICS ONLY) How satisfied are you with the leadership provided by (READ ITEM) - very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

3/28/02

Summary Table:

	----Satisfied-----			---Dissatisfied---			Don't know	No op.
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Very	Smwt.	priest (vol.)	
a. Your parish priest/priests	86	57	29	8	3	5	5	1
b. Your bishop	76	40	36	17	6	11	NA	7
c. The Pope	79	41	38	18	4	13	NA	3

Trend:

a. Your parish priest/priests

	----Satisfied-----			---Dissatisfied---			Don't know	No op.
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Very	Smwt.	priest (vol.)	
3/28/02	86	57	29	8	3	5	5	1
7/18/01*	87	56	31	7	2	5	NA	6
9/28/95	80	48	32	11	4	7	NA	9
8/5/93	78	44	34	14	5	9	NA	8
6/4/92	80	53	27	11	4	7	NA	9

\*7/01 and previous, Time/CNN.

b. Your bishop

	----Satisfied-----			---Dissatisfied---			No op.
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Very	Smwt.	op.
3/28/02	76	40	36	17	6	11	7
7/18/01*	81	42	39	6	1	5	13
9/28/95	73	35	38	12	4	8	15
8/5/93	75	30	45	11	3	8	14
6/4/92	74	45	29	9	4	5	17

\*7/01 and previous, Time/CNN.

c. The Pope

	----Satisfied-----			---Dissatisfied---			No op.
	NET	Very	Smwt.	NET	Very	Smwt.	op.
3/28/02	79	41	38	18	4	13	3
7/18/01*	84	59	25	12	2	10	4
9/28/95	83	48	35	11	4	7	6
8/5/93	81	32	49	15	2	13	4
6/4/92	86	57	29	7	4	3	7

\*7/01 and previous, Time/CNN.

4. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you think the church should do more to involve lay people in deciding church policies and practices, or is it doing enough?

	Do more	Doing enough	No opin.
3/28/02	54	42	4

5. Currently, Roman Catholic priests cannot get married. Do you favor or oppose that policy?

	Favor	Oppose	No opin.
3/28/02 All	21	66	13
Cath.	34	60	6
10/1/95 Cath.	37	61	1

8/8/93	All	26	65	9
	Cath.	39	58	4
8/23/87	All	28	56	16
	Cath.	45	49	6
3/24/86	All	25	58	17
	Cath.	46	50	5

6. Currently, women cannot become priests in the Roman Catholic Church. Do you favor or oppose that policy?

		Favor	Oppose	No opin.
3/28/02	All	28	64	8
	Cath.	35	61	4
10/1/95	Cath.	33	65	2
8/8/93	All	26	67	6
	Cath.	34	63	2
8/23/87	All	30	60	10
	Cath.	42	53	5
3/24/86	All	26	62	11
	Cath.	43	53	4

7. In your opinion, how much of a problem is the issue of sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests - would you say it's a major problem that demands immediate attention, a less immediate problem or not much of a problem at all?

		Major problem	Less immed. problem	Not much at all	No opin.
3/28/02	All	76	16	6	2
	Cath.	71	19	9	1
2/20/02	All	60	26	12	3
	Cath.	48	29	21	2

8. Would you call this issue a crisis for the church, or not a crisis?

		Yes	No	No opin.
3/28/02	All	80	19	1
	Cath.	71	28	1

9. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the Catholic Church has handled the issue of sexual abuse of children by priests? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

		-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No opin.
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	
3/28/02	All	19	5	14	67	49	18	14
	Cath.	28	12	16	66	45	21	6

10. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you approve or disapprove of the way (READ ITEM) handled this issue? Do you approve/disapprove strongly or somewhat?

3/28/02

Summary Table:

		-----Approve-----			---Disapprove---			Don't know priest (vol.)	No opin.
		NET	Strg.	Smwt.	NET	Strg.	Smwt.		
a.	Your own parish priest/priests	67	45	22	12	6	6	6	14
b.	Your bishop	54	29	25	30	16	14	NA	16

c. National leaders  
of the Catholic  
Church

41 14 26 52 31 22 NA 7

11. Do you think that sexual abuse of children by Catholic priests is something that happens very often, somewhat often, infrequently, or very rarely?

		-----Often-----			-----Not often-----			Never	No
		NET	Very	Smwht.	NET	Infreq.	Rarely	(vol.)	opin.
3/28/02	All	50	17	33	43	21	22	*	7
	Cath.	38	11	27	57	30	27	1	4
2/20/02	All	38	11	27	55	28	26	*	7
	Cath.	30	5	24	65	31	34	0	5

12. Do you feel that the Catholic Church is or is not doing enough to deal with this issue?

		Doing enough	Not doing enough	No opin.
3/28/02	All	26	64	11
	Cath.	39	57	5
2/20/02	All	22	64	14
	Cath.	37	50	13

13. (and 14) Has the issue of sexual abuse of children by priests hurt the overall reputation of the Catholic Church in your eyes, or not? (IF HURT REPUTATION) Has it hurt the church's reputation in your eyes a great deal, or only somewhat?

		-----Hurt reputation-----			Has not hurt	No	
		NET	Grt. deal	Some- what	No opin.	reputation	op.
3/28/02	All	69	38	31	1	29	2
	Cath.	64	35	28	1	35	1
2/20/02	All	59	26	31	1	39	3
	Cath.	51	24	27	1	47	2

15. Do you think Catholic priests are more likely than other men to sexually abuse children, less likely, or about the same?

		More	Less	Same	No opin.
3/28/02	All	15	14	69	2
	Cath.	8	19	72	1
2/20/02	All	11	20	66	3
	Cath.	4	31	61	4

16. Sometimes when a priest has been accused of sexually abusing a child, the church has responded by transferring that priest to another parish, without telling parishioners about the accusation. Do you approve or disapprove of that practice? Do you approve/disapprove strongly, or somewhat?

		-----Approve-----			-----Disapprove-----			No
		NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	op.
3/28/02	All	4	2	2	93	85	9	2
	Cath.	7	4	3	92	84	8	1
2/20/02	All	4	2	2	94	85	9	2
	Cath.	8	5	3	89	76	13	3

17. For each of the following items I mention, please tell me if you think it contributes to the problem of sexual abuse of children by priests, or not. (IF CONTRIBUTES TO PROBLEM) Do you think it's a major part of the problem or a minor part?

3/28/02

Summary Table:

	----Part of Problem----			Not part	No opin.
	NET	Major	Minor		
a. The church's policy of not allowing priests to marry					
All	76	41	35	21	3
Cath.	74	38	36	25	1
b. The church's policy of not allowing women to be priests					
All	55	18	37	42	3
Cath.	54	19	35	44	2
c. The practice of transferring priests accused of sexual abuse to another parish					
All	92	80	13	6	2
Cath.	93	77	16	5	2
d. The practice of not calling the police when a priest is accused of sexual abuse					
All	94	84	10	3	3
Cath.	93	79	14	4	3
e. A reluctance in the Church to dismiss priests because of a shortage of priests					
All	82	57	25	12	7
Cath.	83	56	27	13	3
f. A lack of Vatican oversight of the Catholic Church in the United States					
All	70	33	37	20	10
Cath.	72	30	42	21	7

Trend where available:

a. The church's policy of not allowing priests to marry

	----Part of Problem----			Not part	No opin.
	NET	Major	Minor		
3/28/02 All	76	41	35	21	3
Cath.	74	38	36	25	1

Compare to:

As you may know, the Catholic Church does not allow priests to marry. Do you think this policy contributes to the problem of sexual abuse of children by priests, or not? (IF CONTRIBUTES TO PROBLEM) Do you think it's a major part of the problem or a minor part?

	-----Contributes-----				Does not contribute	No opin.
	NET	Major	Minor	No op.		
2/20/02 All	55	36	17	1	41	4
Cath.	40	24	16	1	56	4

b,c,d,e,f. No trend.

18. (and 19) If a parish priest is accused of sexually abusing a child, do you think church officials should or should not inform his parishioners of the charge? (IF SHOULD INFORM) Should the church be required by law to do that, or should it be up to the church to decide?

	-----Should inform-----				Should not inform	No opin.
	NET	Law	Church	No op.		
3/28/02 All	89	65	22	2	9	2
Cath.	83	60	22	1	13	3

2/20/02	All	89	62	26	1	8	3
	Cath.	85	58	26	1	12	3

20. (and 21) If a priest is accused of sexually abusing a child, do you think church officials should or should not report that information to the police? (IF SHOULD REPORT) Should the church be required by law to do that, or should it be up to the church to decide?

		-----Should report-----				Should not	No
		NET	Law	Church	No op.	report	opin.
3/28/02	All	97	81	15	1	2	1
	Cath.	97	78	17	2	2	1
2/20/02	All	97	80	15	2	2	1
	Cath.	95	75	18	3	3	1

22. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you think your diocese should or should not publicly report the amount of money it has paid to settle lawsuits against priests accused of sexually abusing children?

		Should report	Should not report	Has already reported (vol.)	No opin.
3/28/02		72	25	*	3

23. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you think your diocese should or should not publicly release the names of priests who have been accused of sexually abusing children?

		Should release	Should not release	Has already released (vol.)	No opin.
3/28/02		71	26	1	2

24. In the past, do you think church officials have mainly tried to prevent sexual abuse of children by priests, or mainly tried to cover up the problem?

		Prevent	Cover up	Both (vol.)	No opin.
3/28/02	All	16	74	3	7
	Cath.	23	66	4	7

25. And how about now, do you think church officials now are mainly trying to prevent sexual abuse of children by priests, or mainly trying to cover up the problem?

		Prevent	Cover up	Both (vol.)	No opin.
3/28/02	All	43	46	5	6
	Cath.	60	31	4	4

26. How confident are you that the Catholic church can solve the problem of sexual abuse of children by priests - very confident, somewhat confident, not too confident or not confident at all?

		-----Confident-----			-----Not confident-----			No
		NET	Very	Somewhat	NET	Not too	At all	opin.
3/10/02	All	56	16	40	41	23	19	2
	Cath.	72	31	41	26	19	8	2

27. Overall, do you think the recent news coverage of this issue has been fair to the church, or unfair?

		Fair	Unfair	No opin.
3/28/02	All	76	17	7
	Cath.	66	29	5

28. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Has this issue caused you personally to give less money in donations to the church, to give more money in donations to the church, or has your giving to the church remained about the same?

	Less	More	Same	No opin.
3/28/02	9	1	88	2

29. Overall, when you think of the way the church has handled the issue of sexual abuse of children by priests, how would you say you feel about it - angry; dissatisfied but not angry; satisfied, but not pleased; or are you pleased with the way the church has handled it?

		-----Negative-----			-----Positive-----			No
	NET	Angry	Dissat.	NET	Satis.	Pleased	opin.	
3/28/02 All	80	38	42	17	13	3	3	
Cath.	70	36	34	27	19	9	3	

30. (CATHOLICS ONLY) Has this issue of sexual abuse by priests caused you to rethink or re-examine your own personal faith, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
3/28/02	14	85	1

31. (and 32) (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you think there is any chance that you will leave the Roman Catholic Church altogether in the next few years? (IF YES) Is that very likely, somewhat likely or not too likely?

	-----Chance leave church-----					Has left	No
	NET	Very	Smwt.	Not too	Will not	already	opin.
					leave	(vol.)	
3/28/02	11	5	5	*	85	3	2
8/23/87	6	2	3	1	92	*	1

33. (and 31) (CATHOLICS ONLY) Do you think there is any chance that you will leave the Roman Catholic Church altogether in the next few years? (IF YES) Is the issue of sexual abuse by priests the main reason you might leave the church, a reason but not the main one, or not a reason?

	-----Chance leave church-----					Has left	No
	NET	--Sex abuse as reason--		Will not	leave	already	opin.
		Main	Not main	leave	(vol.)		
3/28/02	11	3	6	2	85	3	2

34. (CATHOLICS ONLY) How much do you trust your own parish priest around children - do you trust him completely, a good amount, somewhat, or not much?

	-----Trust-----			-----Don't trust-----			Don't know	No
	NET	Comp.	Good amt.	NET	Smwt.	Not much	priest	op.
							(vol.)	
3/28/02	78	60	19	14	9	5	7	2
2/20/02	74	59	15	13	9	4	10	4

35. Are you aware of any instances in which a Catholic priest in your own community has been accused of sexually abusing children, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
3/28/02 All	10	89	1
Cath.	13	87	*

36. (CATHOLICS ONLY) As far as you are aware, have any priests in your own parish been accused of sexually abusing children, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't have	No opin.
			parish (vol.)	

3/28/02        6        91        2        1

37. (NON-CATHOLICS ONLY) As far as you are aware, have any clergy in your own religious congregation been accused of sexually abusing children, or not?

	Yes	No	Don't have a congregation (vol.)	No opin.
3/28/02	6	94	*	*

38. As far as you're aware, do you have any relatives or personal friends who've been sexually abused as a child by a Catholic priest, or not?

	Yes	No	No opin.
3/28/02 All	3	96	*
Cath.	5	95	*

\*\*\*END\*\*\*