Gallup Poll (AIPO) [May, 1961]

Can you tell me who the 'Freedom Riders' are and what their purpose is?

48% Any mention of segregation, integration, etc., correct local laws
29% Any mention of the composition of the group of people
12% Any mention of what they are trying to do--help integration in inter-state commerce, prevent segregation in buses, bus stations, etc.
17% Agitators, troublemakers, communists, etc.
1% Incorrect, general
31% Don't know/No answer
6% Not asked--haven't heard/read about recent outbreaks of racial trouble in the South

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization May 28-June 2, 1961, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,502. [USGALLUP.61-646.R08]
Dataset: USAIPO1961-0646
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [May, 1961]

Do you approve or disapprove of what the 'Freedom Riders' are doing?

22% Approve
61% Disapprove
18% No opinion

Note: Asked of those who gave an answer when asked who the 'Freedom Riders' are and what their purpose is (67%)

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization May 28-June 2, 1961, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,502. [USGALLUP.61-646.R09A]
Dataset: USAIPO1961-0646
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [May, 1961]

Do you think 'sit-ins' at lunch counters, 'freedom buses,' and other demonstrations by Negroes will hurt or help the Negro's chances of being integrated in the South?

57% Hurt
28% Help
16% No opinion

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization May 28-June 2, 1961, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,502. [USGALLUP.61-646.R11]
Dataset: USAIPO1961-0646
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------
Survey Research Service Amalgam [April, 1963]
Some people feel that in working for equal rights for negroes, Reverend (Martin Luther) King is moving too fast, others think he is not working fast enough. What do you think?

8% He is moving too fast
71% He is moving at the right speed
21% He isn't moving fast enough

Subpopulation: Blacks (11%)

Methodology: Conducted by National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago during April, 1963, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,515. [USNORC.16OSRS.R29]
Dataset: USNORCSRS1963-0160
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

-----------------------------------------------

Survey Research Service Amalgam [April, 1963]

If there were to be a peaceful parade, march or picketing here in this (town) (area) in favor of equal rights for negroes, would you take part?

72% Yes
28% No

Subpopulation: Blacks (11%)

Methodology: Conducted by National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago during April, 1963, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,515. [USNORC.16OSRS.R32]
Dataset: USNORCSRS1963-0160
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

-----------------------------------------------

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [June, 1963]

DO YOU THINK MASS DEMONSTRATIONS BY NEGROES ARE MORE LIKELY TO HELP OR MORE LIKELY TO HURT THE NEGRO'S CAUSE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY?

27% HELP
60% HURT
4% MAKE NO DIFFERENCE (VOL.)
9% NO OPINION

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization June 21-June 26, 1963, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,606. [USGALLUP.63-674.Q008]
Dataset: USAIPO1963-0674
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

-----------------------------------------------

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [August, 1963]

HAVE YOU HEARD OR READ ABOUT THE PROPOSED MASS CIVIL RIGHTS RALLY TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON AUGUST 28 (1963)?

71% YES
29% NO

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization August 15-August 20, 1963, and bas
WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT THIS (PROPOSED MASS CIVIL RIGHTS RALLY TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON AUGUST 28, 1963)?

23% FAVORABLE
35% UNFAVORABLE--GENERAL
7% UNFAVORABLE--PREDICT VIOLENCE
18% UNFAVORABLE--WON'T ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING
17% NO OPINION--UNDECIDED

Subpopulation: HEARD/READ ABOUT RALLY (71%)

Do you think mass demonstrations by Negroes are more likely to help or more likely to hurt the Negro's cause for racial equality?

16% Help
74% Hurt
4% Make no difference (Vol.)
6% No opinion

Now I want to ask you about the riots by Negroes in New York, Rochester and Jersey City. Do you think Negroes helped their cause, hurt it by these demonstrations, or won't it make much difference one way or the other?

87% Hurt Negro cause
2% Helped Negro cause
4% Not much change
7% Not sure
Gallup Poll (AIPO) [September, 1964]

Have you heard or read about recent violent Negro demonstrations in several northern cities?

91% Yes
9% No

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization September 18-September 23, 1964, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,600. [USGALLUP.P.64-698.R14A]
Dataset: USAIPO1964-0698
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [October, 1964]

PEOPLE HAVE DIFFERENT VIEWS ABOUT THE NEGRO DEMONSTRATIONS. WITH WHICH VIEW DO YOU AGREE? SOME PEOPLE SAY THE NEGROES SHOULD STOP THEIR DEMONSTRATIONS NOW THAT THEY HAVE MADE THEIR POINT EVEN THOUGH SOME OF THEIR DEMANDS HAVE NOT BEEN MET. OTHERS SAY THEY HAVE TO CONTINUE DEMONSTRATING IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE BETTER JOBS, BETTER HOUSING, AND BETTER SCHOOLING. (WITH WHICH VIEW DO YOU AGREE?)

73% NEGROES SHOULD STOP DEMONSTRATIONS
19% HAVE TO CONTINUE
8% DON'T KNOW

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization October 8-October 13, 1964, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,550. [USGALLUP.699.Q013]
Dataset: USAIPO1964-0699
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Harris Survey [January, 1965]

Do you think it is generally a good idea or a bad idea to conduct school boycotts where children are kept away from school in order to protest the lack of integration in schools?

19% Good idea
64% Bad idea
17% Not sure

Subpopulation: Blacks

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Harris Survey [February, 1965]

How would you rate the job that... Martin Luther King... has done in the fight for Negro rights?

94% Positive
3% Negative
3% Not sure
Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during February, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Washington Post. [USHARRIS.022565.R1D]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [March, 1965]

How would you feel about clergymen in your own church taking part in protest marches on civil rights issues. Would you approve or disapprove of this?

33% Approve
56% Disapprove
12% No opinion

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization March 18–March 23, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,541. [USGALLUP.65-708.R05]
Dataset: USAIPO1965-0708
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Harris Survey [May, 1965]

In the recent showdown in Selma, Alabama over Negro voting rights, have you tended to side more with the civil rights groups or with the State of Alabama?

48% Civil Rights Groups
21% State of Alabama
19% Neither
12% Not sure

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during May, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Washington Post. [USHARRIS.051765.R1]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Harris Survey [July, 1965]

Do you feel demonstrations by Negroes have helped more or hurt more the advancement of Negro rights?

36% Helped cause
45% Hurt cause
19% Not sure

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during July, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Washington Post. [USHARRIS.071265.R1]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Harris Survey [August, 1965]

Do you think most Negroes believe in nonviolent action or do you think most Negroes would like to use violence in their demonstrations?

59% Non-violence
21% Violence
20% Some do/Some don't

Subpopulation: Whites

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during August, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Washington Post [USHARRIS.083065.R1]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Gallup Poll (AIPO) [October, 1965]

TO WHAT EXTENT, IF ANY, HAVE THE COMMUNISTS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE DEMONSTRATIONS OVER CIVIL RIGHTS -- A LOT, SOME, TO A MINOR EXTENT OR NOT AT ALL?

48% A LOT
27% SOME
10% MINOR EXTENT
6% NOT AT ALL
10% DON'T KNOW

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization October 29–November 2, 1965, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 2,399. [USGALLUP.719.Q019D]
Dataset: USAIPO1965-0719
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Harris Survey [August, 1966]

I'd like to ask you if you were in the same position as Negroes, if you think it would be justified or not to march and protest in demonstrations?

46% Justified
54% Not Justified

Subpopulation: Whites response

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during August, 1966, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in the Washington Post [USHARRIS.081566.R4]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------

Harris Survey [October, 1966]

All in all, do you feel the demonstrations by Negroes on civil rights have helped more or hurt more in the advancement of Negro rights?

85% Hurts Negro
15% Helps Negro

Subpopulation: Whites

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during October, 1966, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Philadelphia Inquirer. [USHARRIS.101066.R3]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.
Tell me for each man if in your opinion you think he is helping or hurting the Negro cause of civil rights... Martin Luther King?

36% Helping
50% Hurting
14% Not Sure

Subpopulation: Whites

Methodology: Conducted by Louis Harris & Associates during December, 1966, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,250. Sample size is approximate. As reported in The Philadelphia Inquirer [USHARRIS.121966.R1A]

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Negroes would be better off if they would take advantage of the opportunities that have been made available rather than spending so much time protesting.

7% Definitely disagree
11% Probably disagree
30% Probably agree
53% Definitely agree

Survey by Jeffrey K. Hadden

Methodology: Conducted by National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago during January, 1967, and based on personal interviews with a national adult sample of 1,515. [USNORC.67REL.R38H]

Dataset: USNORCSRS1967-4011

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

In the cause of Negro rights, have you personally or has any member of your family... taken part in a sit-in?

11% Done
89% Not done

Survey by Newsweek

Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q26A]

Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955

Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

In the cause of Negro rights, have you personally or has any member of your family... marched in demonstration?

19% Done
81% Not done
Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q26B]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------
Negro Survey [May, 1969]

If you were asked, would you... take part in a sit-in?

41% Would
38% Would not
21% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q27A]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------
Negro Survey [May, 1969]

If you were asked, would you... march in a demonstration?

46% Would
38% Would not
16% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q27B]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------
Negro Survey [May, 1969]

If you were asked, would you... picket a store?

42% Would
40% Would not
18% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q27C]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

------------------------------------------------------------
Negro Survey [May, 1969]

Do you think activities of these kinds (sit ins, demonstrations, picketing a store, stop buying at a store, going to jail) have helped Negroes or hurt them in t
heir effort to win their rights?

70% Helped
14% Hurt
17% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q 28]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Negro Survey [May, 1969]

Have you heard or read about recent demonstrations on college campuses by Negro college students?

89% Yes
11% No

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q 39]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Negro Survey [May, 1969]

In your opinion, are Negro college students who get involved in these demonstrations (on college campuses) helping or hurting the Negro cause?

40% Helping
32% Hurting
28% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q 40]
Dataset: USAIPOSPGONEW1969-6955
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.

Negro Survey [May, 1969]

Some Negro college students have carried guns during these demonstrations on college campuses. Do you approve or disapprove of that?

11% Approve
81% Disapprove
8% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q 41]
Negro Survey [May, 1969]

(Now I want to read off to you a list of people--some living and some dead--and groups prominent in the fight for Negro rights in the past few years. For each, I wish you would tell me how you would rate the job that person or group has done--excellent, pretty good, only fair, or poor.)... Malcolm X

13% Excellent  
14% Pretty good  
14% Only fair  
21% Poor  
38% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek  
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q53G]

Negro Survey [May, 1969]

Do you think the methods the civil rights leaders use, like marches, picketing, and demonstrations, are helping or hurting the cause?

74% Helping  
10% Hurting  
8% Makes no difference (vol.)  
9% Not sure

Survey by Newsweek  
Methodology: Conducted by Gallup Organization during May, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult blacks sample of 977. [USGALLUP.GO6955.Q54]


On the whole, would you say that most negro/black/colored protesters are trying to be helpful, or that they are looking for trouble, or they aren't one way or the other?

45% Looking for trouble  
23% Not one way or the other  
32% Trying to be helpful  
1% Don't know

Methodology: Conducted by Survey Research Center, University of Michigan June 28 -August 31, 1969, and based on personal interviews with a national adult men age 16-64 w/black oversample (see note) sample of 1,374. Results are weighted to be representative of a national adult men population. The principal investigators were Monica D. Blumenthal, Robert L. Kahn, and Frank M. Andrews. [USSRC.45379B.QF02]
Data provided by The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research.