

**POPULATION INCREASE**

**PUBLIC OPINION NEWS SERVICE**

**For Release** NOT EARLIER THAN: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 1963

*'The Population Explosion' — No. 1*

# 'Population Explosion' Fears Have Little Impact on Public

**Dutton Educational Display Meets Concern; Poll Charts Public's Views on Ideal Size of Family**

Copyright, 1963, American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J., June 11 — The fears of many experts about a coming "population explosion" have yet to have much of an impact on the American people.

A great many persons across the country have heard about the predicted great increase in the world's population during the next few decades.

But two out of three Americans in a nationwide Gallup Poll say they do not think such an increase in population is something to be seriously concerned about.

The chief rationale for this lack

care of things somehow."

Nearly seven out of ten persons (68 per cent) say they have heard about the predicted population increase which some authorities believe may double the present number of persons living on the globe by the year 2000.

All persons interviewed were next asked:

"Are you worried or not worried about this population increase?"

The results:

**WORRIED ABOUT POPULATION EXPLOSION?**

Not worried ..... 66  
No opinion ..... 9  
Further analysis reveals that education and religion are important factors bearing on one's concern (or lack of it) over the population explosion.

College-trained persons, for

persons of a great population increase than do persons with less formal training.

Persons of the Roman Catholic faith are less likely to be worried about the population explosion than are Protestants.

personal background.

	WORRIED ABOUT POPULATION EXPLOSION?		
	Not		No
	Worried	Worried	Opin.
	%	%	%
College	34	63	3
High Sch'l	26	65	9
Grade Sch'l	19	67	14

Protestants	28	62	10
Catholics	19	74	6

**Ideal Family Size**

A further question in the current study sheds light on another aspect

THIS SHOWS that a substantial number of Americans today believe that a large family is a good thing.

For over a quarter-century, the Gallup Poll has charted the public's attitudes about family size. These figures reflect, for example, the "baby boom" which followed World

At the current time, moreover, the results show that just over four out of ten adults think that a family with four or more children constitutes the "ideal family" size.

Here is the trend of thinking

children) since 1936.

**IDEAL-SIZED FAMILY**

	More Children	%
1936	.....	34%
1942	.....	41
1945	.....	49
1947	.....	47
1953	.....	41
1957	.....	38
1960	.....	45
TODAY	.....	49

**Coming Friday!**

**BIRTH CONTROL INFORMATION**

Should the United Nations provide birth control information to any nation that requests it?

Birth control information to anyone in the U.S. who wants it?

Read the public's verdict on these two controversial issues on Friday EXCLUSIVELY in the

(NAME OF PAPER)