



## Survey Memorandum

To: Interested Parties  
From: Centerline  
Date: June 23, 2023  
Topic: Data on LGBT Issues

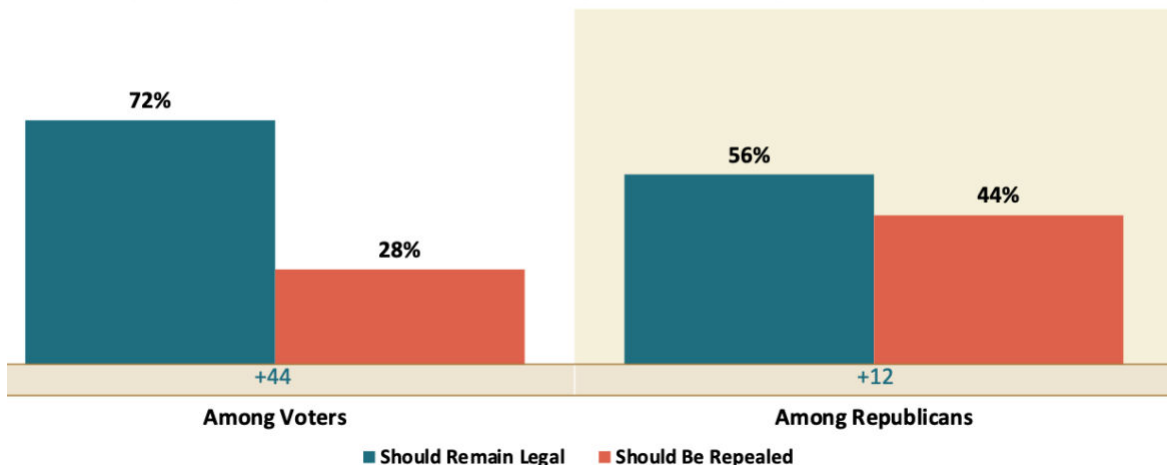
Centerline commissioned a national survey among N=1,000 registered voters with an oversample of N=500 Republican voters. Interviews were conducted online May 24–27, 2023. Quotas and weighting were set to ensure the sample was demographically representative by gender, age, region, race/ethnicity, and educational attainment. The survey was conducted in partnership with New Bridge Strategy and TargetPoint Consulting.

### Key Findings

**1. Nearly three-fourths (72%) of registered voters agree that same-sex marriage should remain legal, with over a majority (56%) of Republicans saying the same.** Majorities of most Republican subgroups agree same-sex marriage should remain legal, including 55% of self-described Trump Republicans and 57% of self-described Traditional Republicans, 54% of Republican men and 58% of Republican women, and majorities across gender and education levels (including college-educated GOP men, 53% remain legal), income groups, 2024 Trump primary voters, DeSantis primary voters, and undecided primary voters.

Key swing voter sub-groups are overwhelmingly in support of marriage remaining legal for same-sex couples. More than three-quarters (76%) of independents say it should stay legal, along with the vast majority of self-described moderates (81%), suburbanites (72%) and small town voters (74%), blue collar workers (77%), non-college voters (71%), Latinos (77%), and parents of children under the age of 18 (76%).

*“As you may know, same-sex marriage has been legal throughout the United States for seven years. Regardless of how you initially felt, do you think same-sex marriage should remain legal, or should it be repealed?”*



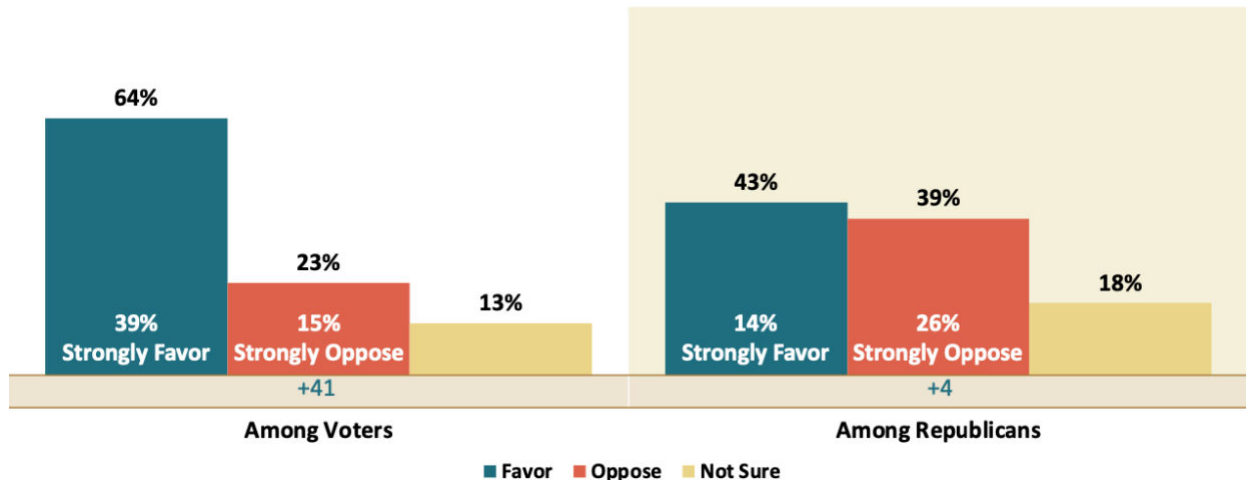
**2. American voters are apt to say that the government should be doing more or is doing the right amount “to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans.”** Fewer than one-quarter of voters (22%) want the government to be doing less, while two-thirds (66%) either say the government should be doing more or is currently doing the right amount. Key swing voter subgroups are even more apt to say the government should be doing more or is doing the right amount, including moderates (71% doing more or about the same amount), Latino voters (73%), voters under age 35 (74%), parents (72%), and those who somewhat disapprove of Biden’s performance as President (74%).

This desire to see government maintain or bolster anti-discrimination efforts is not confined to the political left: Fewer than half of Republicans (40%) want the government to do less to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans with 30% saying the government is doing the right amount and 15% saying the government should be doing more.

**3. Voters overall—and a plurality of Republicans—say they would favor a law that protects gay and transgender people from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, credit, and education.** Nearly two-thirds of voters (64%) favor this anti-discrimination legislation. It is supported by majorities across all gender and age groups (including men 65+), race and ethnicity, and education levels. Importantly, Independent voters overwhelmingly support this legislation, with 68% in favor and just 19% opposed.

More Republicans express support than opposition for such an anti-discrimination law (43% favor – 39% oppose), as do nearly half of white Evangelical voters (47% favor – 36% oppose). Notably, younger GOP voters ages 18–34 are slightly more likely than any other age demographic of Republicans to be supportive, with 49% in favor of this type of law and 32% in opposition. In addition, important segments of the GOP electorate also express more support than opposition, including Republican women (49% favor – 29% oppose), GOP moms (50% favor – 29% oppose), and Republicans who live in the suburbs (45% favor – 38% oppose).

“Would you favor or oppose a law that protects gay and transgender people from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, credit, and education?”



**4. Supporting this law is a net positive among voters, and with Republican voters it does not hurt candidates who might support it.** About half of voters (47%) say they would be more likely to vote for a candidate who voted in favor of legislation to protect gay and transgender people from discrimination, while only a quarter (25%) say they would be less likely. Just over four-in-ten Republicans (42%) say they would be less likely to vote for such a candidate, while the majority (59%) say they would either be more likely (21%) or that it does not make a difference (38%).

Fewer than half of most Republican subgroups say they would be less likely to support a candidate who takes this position, including fewer than half of base Republicans (45%), self-described strong Trump Republicans (47%), and Republican men ages 55+ (48%). However, among these subgroups, at least a third say it would make no difference to them if a candidate voted in favor of legislation to protect gay and transgender people from discrimination. Even Evangelical Republicans are split on the issue, as 52% say it would make them less likely and 48% say more likely or no difference.

**5. As state legislatures across the country consider legislation focusing on transgender-related health care, sports teams, and bathroom use, there are two messages in opposition to these bills that garner significant support among voters and among Republicans.**

“Healthcare decisions are better left to parents and medical professionals. Government shouldn’t get involved in making important medically necessary decisions about any child, including transgender children.”

- Over eight-in-ten voters (83%) and more than three-quarters of Republicans (78%) say that a message centered on the government staying out of medical decisions is a convincing reason to oppose these bills. A majority of voters (54%) and nearly half of Republicans (47%) say this message is *very* convincing.

“The best way to ensure our kids grow up in safe and supportive communities is if we follow the Golden Rule and treat others as we would like to be treated.”

- This messaging incorporating the Golden Rule is convincing to 81% of voters and 78% of Republicans, with half of voters (50%) and 44% of Republicans finding it *very* convincing.

## Centerline – National Survey Data

**Methodology:** Online  
**Field Dates:** May 24–27, 2023  
**Sample Size:** N=1,000 Registered Voters and Oversample of N=500 Republicans

\* Denotes result less than 0.5%.

NOTE: Due to rounding, some figures may be higher or lower by less than one-half of one percent.

Generally speaking, do you believe the government should be doing more or less to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans, or is the government doing about the right amount to combat discrimination against gay and transgender Americans?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
38%	14%	SHOULD BE DOING MORE
28%	30%	DOING ABOUT THE RIGHT AMOUNT
22%	40%	SHOULD BE DOING LESS
12%	15%	NOT SURE/DON'T KNOW

Would you favor or oppose a law that protects gay and transgender people from discrimination in housing, public accommodations, credit, and education?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
39%	14%	STRONGLY FAVOR
25%	29%	SOMEWHAT FAVOR
8%	13%	SOMEWHAT OPPOSE
15%	26%	STRONGLY OPPOSE
13%	18%	NOT SURE/DON'T KNOW
<b>64%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>23%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>

Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate who voted in favor of legislation to protect gay and transgender people from discrimination, or would it not make much of a difference to your vote?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
28%	8%	MUCH MORE LIKELY
19%	13%	SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY
9%	13%	SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY
16%	28%	MUCH LESS LIKELY
28%	38%	NO DIFFERENCE
<b>47%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>TOTAL MORE LIKELY</b>
<b>25%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>TOTAL LESS LIKELY</b>

As you may know, same-sex marriage has been legal throughout the United States for seven years. Regardless of how you initially felt, do you think same-sex marriage should remain legal, or should it be repealed?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
72%	56%	REMAIN LEGAL
28%	44%	SHOULD BE REPEALED

Shifting gears, proposals impacting transgender kids and teenagers are being discussed and debated in some state legislatures around the country. Just so we're all on the same page, the term transgender refers to people whose gender identity is different from the sex they were at birth.

These proposals would make it illegal for transgender kids and teens to receive transgender-related health care or join school sports teams or use restrooms based on the gender they identify with rather than the sex they were at birth.

Below are some statements some people may make to oppose these proposals dealing with transgender kids and teens. For each one, please select whether you find it very convincing, somewhat convincing, not too convincing, or not at all convincing as a reason to oppose these proposals.

	<b>TOTAL CONVINCING</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT CONVINCING</b>	<b>VERY CONV.</b>	<b>SOMEWH AT CONV.</b>	<b>NOT TOO CONV.</b>	<b>NOT AT ALL CONV.</b>
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Healthcare decisions are better left to parents and medical professionals. Government shouldn't get involved in making important medically necessary decisions about any child, including transgender children.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>17%</b>	54%	29%	9%	8%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>22%</b>	47%	31%	10%	11%

Being a part of a school sports team, learning how to win and how to lose, how to be a good leader and a good friend are things every kid, including transgender kids, should be allowed to experience.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>34%</b>	35%	31%	18%	16%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>51%</b>	20%	29%	26%	25%

The best way to ensure our kids grow up in safe and supportive communities is if we follow the Golden Rule and treat others as we would like to be treated.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>19%</b>	50%	31%	12%	7%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>22%</b>	44%	34%	13%	9%

*Continued...*

	<b>TOTAL CONVINCING</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT CONVINCING</b>	<b>VERY CONV.</b>	<b>SOMEWH AT CONV.</b>	<b>NOT TOO CONV.</b>	<b>NOT AT ALL CONV.</b>
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Parents want their kids to be safe, healthy, and happy, including parents of transgender kids. Politicians and government bureaucrats have no business singling out anyone's children for discrimination.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>23%</b>	48%	29%	13%	10%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>35%</b>	29%	36%	18%	16%

The way we craft laws that deliver genuine freedom for everyone, including transgender youth, should be guided by one simple principle: mutual respect.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>28%</b>	36%	36%	17%	12%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>44%</b>	18%	37%	24%	20%

There's no doubt the modern world faces modern challenges, and people of good faith can have a difference of personal opinion on how to navigate them. But at the end of the day we can all agree that no one, including transgender youth, should face discrimination.

<b><u>REG. VOTERS</u></b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>24%</b>	44%	32%	13%	11%
<b><u>GOP</u></b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>34%</b>	24%	41%	17%	17%



In what year were you born?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
7%	5%	18 - 24
16%	15%	25 - 34
18%	16%	35 - 44
16%	16%	45 - 54
18%	20%	55 - 64
25%	27%	65 AND ABOVE

What is your gender?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
48%	52%	MALE
52%	48%	FEMALE

In politics today, do you consider yourself a...

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
22%	53%	STRONG REPUBLICAN
12%	32%	NOT-SO-STRONG REPUBLICAN
7%	15%	LEAN REPUBLICAN
13%	--	INDEPENDENT
7%	--	LEAN DEMOCRAT
15%	--	NOT-SO-STRONG DEMOCRAT
24%	--	STRONG DEMOCRAT
<b>42%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>TOTAL REPUBLICAN</b>
<b>13%</b>	--	<b>INDEPENDENT</b>
<b>46%</b>	--	<b>TOTAL DEMOCRAT</b>

On most economic and fiscal issues, such as taxes and government spending, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
20%	40%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
21%	37%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
35%	21%	MODERATE
15%	2%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
10%	1%	VERY LIBERAL
<b>41%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>TOTAL CONSERVATIVE</b>
<b>35%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>
<b>24%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>TOTAL LIBERAL</b>

On most social issues, such as abortion and LGBT issues, do you consider yourself to be conservative, moderate, or liberal?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
22%	43%	VERY CONSERVATIVE
15%	24%	SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE
29%	23%	MODERATE
14%	7%	SOMEWHAT LIBERAL
20%	2%	VERY LIBERAL
<b>37%</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>TOTAL CONSERVATIVE</b>
<b>29%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>
<b>35%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>TOTAL LIBERAL</b>

What is your main racial or ethnic heritage? Please choose only one option.

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
70%	87%	WHITE
12%	3%	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN
11%	3%	HISPANIC
3%	2%	ASIAN
1%	1%	AMERICAN INDIAN, NATIVE AMERICAN, OR ALASKA NATIVE
--	--	HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER
2%	2%	OTHER
1%	1%	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
*	*	LESS THAN 9 YEARS GRADE SCHOOL
2%	2%	1-3 YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL
22%	24%	GRADUATED 4 YEARS HIGH SCHOOL
34%	35%	1-3 YEARS OF COLLEGE
25%	22%	GRADUATED 4 YEARS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY
17%	16%	MORE THAN 4 YEARS COLLEGE
*	*	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER
<b>58%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>TOTAL &lt;COLLEGE</b>
<b>42%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>TOTAL COLLEGE+</b>

How would you describe the area where you currently live?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
30%	19%	CITY
47%	50%	SUBURBAN AREA
9%	13%	SMALL TOWN
14%	18%	RURAL AREA
<b>76%</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>TOTAL CITY/SUBURBS</b>
<b>24%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>TOTAL SMALL TOWN/RURAL</b>

Do you have any children under the age of 18 living in your household?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
28%	26%	YES
71%	74%	NO
*	--	PREFER NOT TO ANSWER

Which of the following best describes your current employment status? White collar work is usually done in an office or other professional environment, while blue collar refers to jobs that involve manual labor.

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
18%	17%	FULL-TIME WORKER/BLUE COLLAR
22%	22%	FULL-TIME WORKER/WHITE COLLAR
5%	5%	PART-TIME WORKER/BLUE COLLAR
4%	5%	PART-TIME WORKER/WHITE COLLAR
2%	2%	WORK MULTIPLE JOBS
7%	8%	HOMEMAKER
3%	2%	STUDENT
10%	7%	UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR WORK
30%	32%	RETIRED
<b>51%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>TOTAL EMPLOYED</b>
<b>49%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>TOTAL NOT EMPLOYED</b>

Are you, or is anyone in your household, a member of a labor union or a teachers' association or employed by the city, county, state, or federal government, including as a firefighter or law enforcement officer?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
7%	6%	LABOR UNION
5%	3%	TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
3%	3%	GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE
1%	2%	FIREFIGHTER OR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
84%	86%	NO
2%	2%	NOT SURE
<b>14%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>TOTAL YES</b>

Which of the following best describes what your total household income was last year?

<u>REG.</u>		
<u>VOTERS</u>	<u>GOP</u>	
10%	9%	UNDER \$20,000
22%	22%	\$20,000 - \$39,999
19%	20%	\$40,000 - \$59,999
16%	14%	\$60,000 - \$79,999
10%	10%	\$80,000 - \$99,999
17%	19%	\$100,000 - \$200,000
3%	2%	MORE THAN \$200,000
3%	3%	PREFER NOT TO SAY
<b>33%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>TOTAL &lt;\$40K</b>
<b>35%</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>TOTAL \$40K-80K</b>
<b>30%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>TOTAL \$80K+</b>