



AN INVESTIGATION OF PANEL CONDITIONING WITH ATTITUDES TOWARD U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

Poom Nukulkiij (pnukulkiij@knowledgenetworks.com), Project Director,
Government & Academic Research, Knowledge Networks

Joe Hadfield, Senior Research Analyst, Government & Academic Research,
Knowledge Networks

Stefan Subias (ssubias@knowledgenetworks.com), Project Director, Government
& Academic Research, Knowledge Networks

Evan Lewis (elewis@pipa.org), Research Associate, Program on International
Policy Attitudes (PIPA)

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Research

INTRODUCTION

While the advantages of survey panels are well known, one potential challenge in managing a survey panel is the possibility of panel conditioning. The concern is that the way participants respond to survey questions could be influenced potentially by prior survey-taking.

Previous research on the Knowledge Networks panel failed to find significant panel conditioning effects (Dennis, 2001). We investigate the matter using KnowledgePanelSM, the RDD-recruited Internet panel managed by Knowledge Networks. Members of KnowledgePanelSM are asked to participate in approximately three surveys per month using either a home-based computer connected to the Internet or a web appliance provided by Knowledge Networks. The survey data for this panel conditioning research are from an October 2006 survey conducted by Knowledge Networks and the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. The October 2006 survey is one study in a series of PIPA-KN surveys on foreign policy issues.

Our first research question is whether the length of panelist tenure is predictive of attitudes toward U.S. foreign policy. The hypothesis is that being on a survey panel might result in longer-tenured participants to become more knowledgeable about foreign policy issues, and over time, to develop new opinions. If this hypothesis is true, survey responses for longer-tenured panelists will be significantly different from those with shorter tenure after controlling for demographic composition.

Our second research question is whether prior survey participation on a particular topic can lead to differences in participants' answers. For example, suppose half of a sample participating in a survey on the Iraqi conflict had taken a survey three months ago on this topic while half had not. Would the responses to this current survey be different for those who had taken the earlier survey? We investigate this potential for specific forms of panel conditioning.

In thinking about topic-specific forms of panel conditioning, the design of the Knowledge Networks panel must be kept in mind. The diverse mix of survey topics administered to KnowledgePanelSM members presents one major difference between participating in the

Knowledge Networks panel versus longitudinal studies that are centered on a specific subject (e.g., politics, health behaviors). In the latter circumstance, participants know what kinds of questions and topics to expect in followup instruments. As members of KnowledgePanelSM, participants expect questions on a wide range of topics and typically are not exposed very much to any single topic. This feature of the Knowledge Networks panel design, we hypothesize, is important in reducing the potential for topic-specific panel conditioning in the Knowledge Networks panel context.

METHOD

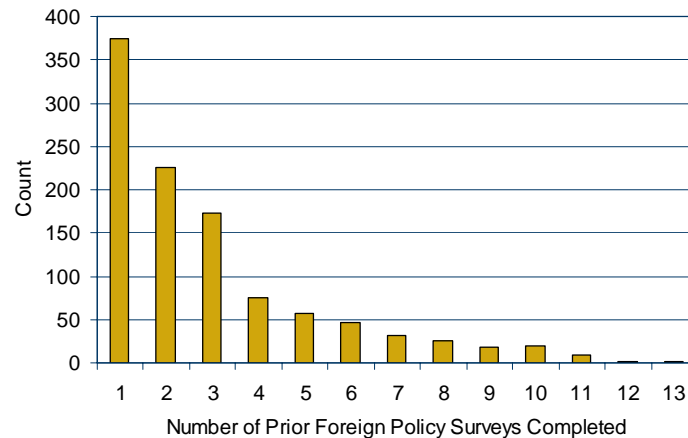
We selected the foreign policy topic for this research as a kind of “worst case” for investigating the presence of panel conditioning. For the duration of the current conflict in Iraq, Knowledge Networks has had an active program in conducting foreign policy surveys. Because of the large number of surveys conducted on foreign policy topics, we speculated that if panel conditioning impacts were detectable on KnowledgePanelSM, it would be in the area of foreign policy surveys. Previous attempts by Knowledge Networks (see Dennis, 2001; other miscellaneous unpublished research) were not successful in identifying significant panel conditioning.

We selected a relatively recent Knowledge Networks panel survey for an in-depth analysis of panel conditioning. In October 2006, Knowledge Networks conducted a study examining attitudes about U.S. foreign policy on behalf of the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA). The survey was fielded between October 6, 2006 and October 15, 2006. A total of 1,533 nationally representative adult members of the KnowledgePanelSM who had not completed any PIPA surveys within the past two calendar months were invited to participate in the survey, with 1,057 completed interviews (68.9% survey participation rate).

Of the 1,057 panelists who participated in the survey, the median panel tenure was 28 months as of September 2006. For the purposes of the analyses that follow, 235 had been KnowledgePanelSM members for 3 to 12 months and 823 had been members for 13 months or longer as of September 2006.

With KnowledgePanelSM, foreign policy is a recurrent survey topic presented to panelists. In the past four years, Knowledge Networks conducted 50 unique surveys about foreign policy, although 12 is the highest number completed by any of the participants in the aforementioned October 2006 PIPA/KN Poll. The typical panelist has completed two surveys about foreign policy, while about one-third of our October cases had not completed any prior surveys on the topic (see Figure 1). This range of prior survey experience and volume allows an examination of whether prior participation on the same subject relates to attitude measures.

Figure 1: Number of prior foreign policy surveys completed among October 2006 PIPA/KN Poll participants (n = 1,057)



ANALYSIS STRATEGY

All the descriptive analyses are weighted using post-stratification weights that incorporate the probabilities of selection.

This research attempts to determine whether actual survey responses to the policy attitude items are associated with length of panel tenure and the number of foreign policy surveys taken previously, while controlling for a number of possible covariates which were selected due to their correlation with political behavior and attitudes. Logistic regression analyses were performed that included the following variables of interest in the model:

Hypothesized key drivers

- Panel tenure (number of months on the panel)
- Number of foreign policy surveys completed (range 0 to 12)

Covariates

- Political party (Republican as baseline, Independent/Other, Democrat)
- Age (in years)
- Gender (Male as baseline, Female)
- Household income (continuous, recoded from original categorical variable)
- Education level (Less than HS as baseline, high school diploma, some college, bachelor's degree or higher)
- Race/Ethnicity (White as baseline, African-American, Hispanic, other racial descent)
- Christian religion (Yes/No)
- Evangelical beliefs (Yes/No)

Logistic regression equations were estimated for survey response data collected using each of the following items in the October 2006 survey:

- Presidential job approval ratings
- Isolationism versus global view

- Satisfaction with position of the United States in the world
- Diplomacy versus military use
- The important lesson of 9/11
- Preferences for amount of U.S. budget devoted to defense spending

Detailed question text and responses for each question of interest can be found in the Appendix at the end of this document.

The results of the analyses are presented in the following pages. For some questions, sample sizes differ due to the design of the survey instrument, in which selected items were shown to a random subset of participants.

RESULTS

PRESIDENTIAL JOB APPROVAL RATINGS

All participants were asked whether they approved or disapproved of the way the President is handling his job. Using a logistic regression model, panel tenure and the number of foreign policy surveys completed did not significantly predict presidential job approval.

As expected, political party, gender, African-American race/ethnicity, Christian religion, and Evangelical beliefs were strong predictors of presidential job approval. Taking each group individually, Democrats, Independents/Others, women, and African-Americans disapproved of the way the President is handling his job more than Republicans, men, and non African-Americans did, respectively. Conversely, Christians and Evangelicals approved of the job done by the President more than non-Christians and non-Evangelicals did, respectively. Table 1 shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 1: "Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?" (n = 1,057)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Panel tenure	0.00	0.00	0.25	1	0.620	1.00
# foreign policy surveys completed	0.01	0.05	0.06	1	0.800	1.01
Political Party - Other	1.21	0.30	16.09	1	0.000	3.37
Political Party - Democrat	2.77	0.19	220.95	1	0.000	15.98
Age	0.01	0.01	1.11	1	0.292	1.01
Gender - Female	0.47	0.17	7.72	1	0.005	1.60
Education - HS diploma	0.12	0.29	0.17	1	0.681	1.13
Education - Some college	-0.58	0.33	3.19	1	0.074	0.56
Education - Bachelor's or higher	0.01	0.33	0.00	1	0.982	1.01
Race/Ethnicity - Black	1.56	0.42	13.78	1	0.000	4.78
Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic	0.04	0.28	0.03	1	0.873	1.05
Race/Ethnicity - Other	-0.26	0.33	0.64	1	0.425	0.77
Christian - Yes/No	-0.40	0.21	3.83	1	0.050	0.67
Evangelical - Yes/No	-1.10	0.22	24.81	1	0.000	0.33
Constant	-0.62	0.46	1.79	1	0.180	0.54

* B < 0 Approve, B > 0 Disapprove.

ISOLATIONISM VERSUS GLOBAL WORLD VIEW

A random subset of participants (n = 800) was asked whether the U.S. should or should not make sacrifices to help the world as a whole, indicators of having a global or isolationist world view. In this logistic regression model, panel tenure and the number of foreign policy surveys completed did not significantly predict responses about the U.S. making sacrifices to help the rest of the world.

Age, gender and education level were significant predictors of having an isolationist or global world view. Taking each group individually, older participants, women and higher educated participants believed that the U.S. should be more willing to make some sacrifices to help the world than did younger participants, men and lower educated respondents, respectively. Table 2 shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 2: "Should the U.S. have to make sacrifices to help the world?" (n = 800)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Panel tenure	0.00	0.01	0.04	1	0.838	1.00
# foreign policy surveys completed	-0.07	0.05	1.86	1	0.172	0.93
Political Party - Other	-0.33	0.37	0.81	1	0.367	0.72
Political Party - Democrat	0.03	0.19	0.03	1	0.868	1.03
Age	0.02	0.01	10.55	1	0.001	1.02
Gender - Female	0.37	0.18	4.23	1	0.040	1.45
Education - HS diploma	0.03	0.29	0.01	1	0.905	1.04
Education - Some college	0.48	0.33	2.12	1	0.145	1.62
Education - Bachelor's or higher	0.84	0.35	5.85	1	0.016	2.31
Race/Ethnicity - Black	0.15	0.28	0.29	1	0.592	1.16
Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic	0.05	0.30	0.03	1	0.865	1.05
Race/Ethnicity - Other	-0.25	0.37	0.47	1	0.495	0.78
Christian - Yes/No	-0.31	0.22	2.05	1	0.152	0.73
Evangelical - Yes/No	0.17	0.23	0.53	1	0.469	1.18
Constant	0.15	0.48	0.10	1	0.756	1.16

* B < 0 Should not make sacrifices, B > 0 Should make sacrifices.

EMPHASIS ON MILITARY OR DIPLOMACY

A random subset of participants (n = 802) was asked whether they felt the Bush administration should put more emphasis on military methods or diplomatic and economic methods. In our logistic regression model, panel tenure was not a significant predictor of whether respondents felt the Bush administration should use military or diplomatic and economic methods.

For this question, the number of foreign policy surveys completed was a significant predictor, with those who completed more of these surveys more likely to say that the Bush administration should focus more on diplomatic and economic methods. However, the relationship is not monotonic between length, the number of prior surveys taken on foreign policy and respondent's favoring diplomatic and economic methods. The group having taken just one or two foreign policy surveys had the largest proportion favoring such methods. Table 3a provides a basic summary of these effects.

Table 3a: "In the effort to fight terrorism, do you think that in the future, compared with what it has been doing, the Bush administration:" (n = 802)

	Number of FP Surveys Completed		
	None (n=275)	1 or 2 (n=309)	3 or more (n=219)
Should put more emphasis on military methods	32.0%	21.7%	30.7%
Should put more emphasis on diplomatic and economic methods	63.3%	71.2%	64.2%
Refused	4.7%	7.1%	5.0%

Political party, education level, and Evangelical beliefs were significant predictors of having an isolationist or global world view. Taking each group individually, Democrats and Independent/Others and higher educated participants indicated that the Bush administration should put more emphasis on diplomatic and economic methods than did Republicans and lower educated participants, respectively. Furthermore, Evangelicals indicated that the administration should put more emphasis on military methods than non-Evangelicals did. Table 3b shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 3b: "In the effort to fight terrorism, do you think that in the future, compared with what it has been doing, the Bush administration:" (n = 802)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Panel tenure	-0.01	0.01	2.75	1	0.097	0.99
# foreign policy surveys completed	0.11	0.05	4.64	1	0.031	1.12
Political Party - Other	1.03	0.35	8.44	1	0.004	2.80
Political Party - Democrat	1.44	0.20	50.59	1	0.000	4.22
Age	0.00	0.01	0.64	1	0.424	1.00
Gender - Female	0.24	0.18	1.78	1	0.182	1.27
Education - HS diploma	0.27	0.30	0.84	1	0.359	1.31
Education - Some college	0.63	0.34	3.43	1	0.064	1.88
Education - Bachelor's or higher	0.71	0.35	4.13	1	0.042	2.03
Race/Ethnicity - Black	-0.41	0.30	1.91	1	0.167	0.66
Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic	-0.14	0.29	0.21	1	0.645	0.87
Race/Ethnicity - Other	-0.26	0.42	0.39	1	0.530	0.77
Christian - Yes/No	0.24	0.22	1.19	1	0.276	1.27
Evangelical - Yes/No	-1.32	0.22	35.97	1	0.000	0.27
Constant	-0.28	0.49	0.32	1	0.569	0.76

* B < 0 Military methods, B > 0 Diplomacy and economic methods.

SATISFACTION WITH THE U.S. POSITION IN THE WORLD

A random subset of participants (n = 802) was asked about whether they were satisfied or dissatisfied with the position of the U.S. in the world today. Our logistic regression model did not find an effect for panel tenure. However, the number of foreign policy surveys completed approached significance as a predictor at the p = .07 level. Those who had completed more foreign policy surveys were less satisfied with the U.S. position in the world than those who had completed fewer such surveys. Table 4a provides a basic summary of these findings.

Table 4a: “On the whole, would you say that you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the position of the United States in the world today?” (n = 802)

	Number of FP Surveys Completed		
	None (n=275)	1 or 2 (n=309)	3 or more (n=219)
Satisfied	30.7%	26.0%	33.3%
Dissatisfied	67.5%	72.7%	63.9%
Refused	1.8%	1.3%	2.7%

Political party, age, African-American race/ethnicity, Christian religion and Evangelical beliefs were significant predictors of satisfaction with the U.S. position in the world. Taking each group individually, Democrats, older participants and African-Americans were more dissatisfied with the U.S. position in the world than Republicans, younger participants and non African-Americans, respectively. On the other hand, Christians and Evangelicals were more satisfied with the U.S. position in the world than were non-Christians or non-Evangelicals, respectively. Table 4b shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 4b: “On the whole, would you say that you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the position of the United States in the world today?” (n = 802)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Panel tenure	0.00	0.01	0.03	1	0.857	1.00
# foreign policy surveys completed	-0.09	0.05	3.26	1	0.071	0.91
Political Party - Other	-0.31	0.31	1.04	1	0.309	0.73
Political Party - Democrat	1.64	0.21	63.87	1	0.000	5.15
Age	0.01	0.01	5.80	1	0.016	1.01
Gender - Female	0.27	0.18	2.36	1	0.124	1.31
Education - HS diploma	0.06	0.32	0.04	1	0.844	1.06
Education - Some college	-0.37	0.36	1.09	1	0.295	0.69
Education - Bachelor's or higher	-0.04	0.37	0.01	1	0.919	0.96
Race/Ethnicity - Black	1.11	0.42	6.92	1	0.009	3.02
Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic	-0.11	0.29	0.13	1	0.714	0.90
Race/Ethnicity - Other	0.18	0.43	0.17	1	0.681	1.19
Christian - Yes/No	-0.65	0.23	8.22	1	0.004	0.52
Evangelical - Yes/No	-0.64	0.22	8.56	1	0.003	0.53
Constant	0.29	0.51	0.33	1	0.568	1.34

* B < 0 Satisfied, B > 0 Dissatisfied.

THE MORE IMPORTANT LESSON OF 9/11

A random subset of participants (n = 796) was asked whether they believed the U.S. needs to work more closely with other countries or act on its own more to fight terrorism. Our logistic regression model also did not find an effect for panel tenure or number of foreign policy surveys completed.

Political party and age were significant predictors of responses to the question of how the U.S. should act as a lesson from 9/11. Democrats and younger participants were more likely to believe that the U.S. should work more closely with other countries in fighting terrorism than Republicans or older participants. Table 5 shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 5: "What do you think is the more important lesson of September 11th?" (n = 796)

	B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.	Exp(B)
Panel tenure	-0.01	0.01	1.07	1	0.302	0.99
# foreign policy surveys completed	0.01	0.05	0.06	1	0.810	1.01
Political Party - Other	-0.23	0.39	0.33	1	0.566	0.80
Political Party - Democrat	-0.54	0.19	7.92	1	0.005	0.58
Age	-0.01	0.01	4.05	1	0.044	0.99
Gender - Female	0.06	0.18	0.11	1	0.737	1.06
Education - HS diploma	0.55	0.31	3.10	1	0.078	1.73
Education - Some college	0.04	0.35	0.02	1	0.902	1.04
Education - Bachelor's or higher	-0.51	0.36	2.02	1	0.156	0.60
Race/Ethnicity - Black	0.27	0.29	0.85	1	0.355	1.31
Race/Ethnicity - Hispanic	-0.57	0.32	3.16	1	0.075	0.56
Race/Ethnicity - Other	0.29	0.34	0.71	1	0.401	1.34
Christian - Yes/No	-0.23	0.21	1.21	1	0.272	0.79
Evangelical - Yes/No	0.34	0.22	2.36	1	0.124	1.40
Constant	-0.18	0.49	0.13	1	0.719	0.84

* B < 0 Work more closely with other countries, B > 0 Act on its own.

DEFENSE SPENDING ALLOCATIONS

For this question, a random subset of participants (n = 776) was asked to allocate dollar amounts to different facets of U.S. foreign policy, defense, and security. All participants saw a dollar amount representing the actual dollar amount allocated for each facet as reference points, and were asked to provide their own allocations in whatever way they saw fit. For this analysis, we will focus on the amount of money allocated to defense spending, not including extra costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Table 6a shows summary statistics for the amounts allocated to defense spending by panel tenure.

Table 6a: "We would like to know how you think this part of the budget should be distributed. [Defense spending (does not include extra costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan)]" (n = 776)

	Panel Tenure	
	1-12 months (n=165)	13+ months (n=612)
Mean (SD)	\$440 (\$234)	\$446 (\$233)

In our regression model, panel tenure did not significantly predict the amount of the budget participants allocated to defense spending. The number of prior foreign policy surveys completed was significant as a predictor of defense spending, p = 0.05. As shown in Table 6b, participants who had completed more foreign policy surveys indicated that they would allocate more money to defense spending than those who completed fewer such surveys.

Table 6b: “We would like to know how you think this part of the budget should be distributed. [Defense spending (does not include extra costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan)]” (n = 776)

	Number of FP Surveys Completed		
	None (n=277)	1 or 2 (n=277)	3 or more (n=222)
Mean (SD)	\$432 (\$235)	\$434 (\$237)	\$475 (\$224)

Political party, gender, education level, African-American race/ethnicity, and Evangelical beliefs were significant predictors of defense spending preferences. Taking each group individually, Democrats, women, and African-American participants allocated less money to defense spending than did Republicans, men, and non African-Americans, respectively. On the other hand, higher educated participants and Evangelicals allocated more money to defense spending than did lower educated participants and non-Evangelicals, respectively. Table 6c shows the coefficients for all variables in the regression model.

Table 6c: “We would like to know how you think this part of the budget should be distributed. [Defense spending (does not include extra costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan)]” (n = 776)

	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
	B	Std. Error	Beta		
(Constant)	381.38	46.01		8.29	0.000
Panel tenure	-0.31	0.44	-0.03	-0.69	0.488
# foreign policy surveys completed	8.92	4.66	0.09	1.92	0.056
Political Party - Other	-44.73	36.26	-0.05	-1.23	0.218
Political Party - Democrat	-99.78	17.79	-0.21	-5.61	0.000
Age	1.07	0.55	0.07	1.93	0.054
Gender - Female	-72.37	16.57	-0.16	-4.37	0.000
Education - HS diploma	86.48	29.73	0.17	2.91	0.004
Education - Some college	72.25	33.02	0.14	2.19	0.029
Education - Bachelor's or higher	75.59	32.69	0.15	2.31	0.021
Race - Black	-84.95	30.76	-0.10	-2.76	0.006
Race - Hispanic	-21.89	27.48	-0.03	-0.80	0.426
Race - Some other race	58.30	32.32	0.07	1.80	0.072
Christian - Yes/No	31.78	19.63	0.06	1.62	0.106
Evangelical - Yes/No	57.41	21.61	0.10	2.66	0.008

DISCUSSION

Survey responses to six questions assessing attitudes about U.S. foreign policy were examined to determine whether they reflected possible panel conditioning. The mechanisms of panel conditioning were operationalized as length of time on the panel and the number of prior surveys taken on the topic of foreign policy.

The research presented here has shown no evidence of panel conditioning resulting from panel tenure. Of the six attitude questions that were examined, for only one was there a nonsignificant, weak association between survey responses and length of panel tenure.

We hypothesize that the lack of a significant relationship between panel tenure and survey responses can be attributed to the fact that KnowledgePanelSM members complete surveys on a variety of topics. Surveys about politics or public affairs make up a relatively small portion of all surveys completed by panelists. In this study, approximately one-third of the participants had not completed any previous survey on foreign policy. Because of this, they are not as prone to becoming extremely aware of a single issue as would participants on specialty panels focusing on a single issue or topic. Accordingly, it should be noted that results of the current study reflect characteristics of KnowledgePanelSM, and may or may not apply to the practices of other survey research organizations.

However, there is some evidence that completion of prior surveys on the topic of foreign policy can have an effect on how participants answer questions about U.S. foreign policy. On three of the six measures, there was some evidence ($p = .10$ or less) that participants who had taken more surveys about foreign policy responded differently.

- Participants who completed 1 or 2 prior surveys on foreign policy were more likely to indicate that the Bush administration should place more emphasis on diplomatic and economic methods compared to those who completed 0 or 3+ prior surveys (71% selecting diplomatic and economic methods vs. 63% and 64%, respectively).
- Participants who completed 3 or more prior surveys on foreign policy were less satisfied with the U.S. position in the world than those who completed 0 or 1-2 prior surveys (64% dissatisfied vs. 68% and 73%, respectively).
- Participants who had completed 3 or more foreign policy surveys indicated that they would allocate more money to defense spending than those who completed 0 or 1-2 such surveys (\$475 out of \$900 vs. \$432 and \$434, respectively).

One way to minimize these effects is to control for completion of surveys on a particular topic during sample selection. On KnowledgePanelSM, it is possible to exclude panelists from being selected for a survey on the basis of their having completed surveys on key topics such as U.S. foreign policy, voting and election behavior, or alcohol consumption.

While the research presented here addresses several questions related to panel conditioning on a survey panel, we propose several directions for future research:

- While U.S. foreign policy has received a large amount of attention in the news in the past few years, we found little evidence of panel conditioning. However, it is possible that topics with more personal relevance for panelists could produce different results. For example, an older participant who completes many surveys on Medicare and social security may learn more about the issues that directly affect him or her by completing such surveys, and may change his or her opinions over time. Thus, future research should focus on issues of varying personal relevance to determine whether conditioning effects exist, and if so, whether there is a consistent relationship between relevance and conditioning.
- As mentioned earlier, the results described in this study apply only to KnowledgePanelSM. Future research examining panel conditioning on panels using different recruitment methodologies and comprised of different samples is warranted. As discussed earlier, KnowledgePanelSM members complete surveys on a wide range of topics, which is not the case for some survey panels. Research focusing on other panel types should be conducted to determine whether panel conditioning effects exist on such panels.

REFERENCES

Dennis, J. Michael. 2001. Are Internet panels creating professional respondents? The benefits of online panels far outweigh the potential for panel effects. *Marketing Research Summer*: 34–38.

APPENDIX: TEXT OF SELECTED OCTOBER 2006 PIPA/KN POLL QUESTIONS

[FULL SAMPLE]

Q1. Do you approve or disapprove of the way George W. Bush is handling his job as president?

- Approve
- Disapprove

[3/4 SAMPLE A,B,D]

Q5. Which statement comes closest to your point of view?

- The US should not make sacrifices in an effort to help the world as a whole.
- Sometimes the US should be willing to make some sacrifices if this will help the world as a whole.

[3/4 SAMPLE B,C,D]

Q6. In the effort to fight terrorism, do you think that in the future, compared with what it has been doing, the Bush administration:

- Should put more emphasis on military methods
- Should put more emphasis on diplomatic and economic methods

[3/4 SAMPLE B,C,D]

Q8. On the whole, would you say that you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the position of the United States in the world today?

- Satisfied
- Dissatisfied

[3/4 SAMPLE A,C,D]

Q14. What do you think is the more important lesson of September 11th ?

- The US needs to work more closely with other countries to fight terrorism
- The US needs to act on its own more to fight terrorism

[3/4 SAMPLE A,B,C]

STATEMENT: As you may know, every year Congress passes a budget, part of which includes spending for US foreign policy, defense, and security. We would like to know how you think this part of the budget should be distributed. For this exercise, this part of the budget is divided into 15 areas. Please imagine that you have \$900 of your tax money to divide among these 16 areas. This is about how much of the average taxpayer's money goes to these 15 areas as a whole. For each area, you'll see how

much of your \$900 goes to each of these areas in the current year's budget. Then you can indicate how many of your dollars you'd like to see go to that area next year. You'll be able to monitor how much of the \$900 you have left as you make decisions by scrolling down to the bottom of the page.

FY2006 BUDGET AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS

		Your preferred amount
Q44a. Defense spending (does not include extra costs for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan)	\$665.98	—
Q44b. Extra costs for military operations in Iraq	\$80.23	—
Q44c. Intelligence agencies	\$52.83	—
Q44d. Department of Homeland Security	\$39.98	—
Q44e. Extra costs for military operations in Afghanistan	\$12.49	—
Q44f. State Department: including diplomacy policy, Development cultural exchanges	\$9.84	—
Q44g. Helping poor countries develop their economies	\$8.77	—
Q44h. Reconstruction in Iraq	\$8.40	—
Q44i. Military aid to other countries	\$6.36	—
Q44j. Preparedness for disasters and outbreaks of disease in the US	\$3.60	—
Q44k. Energy: conservation and developing renewable energy resources	\$3.36	—
Q44l. UN and UN Peacekeeping	\$3.00	—
Q44m. Initiatives to control the global spread of HIV/AIDS	\$2.40	—
Q44n. Humanitarian and disaster assistance	\$1.68	—
Q44o. Programs to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, such as helping other countries secure nuclear materials	\$1.08	—