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The Resource Page

WEBSITES

Justice at Stake Campaign
www.justiceatstake.org

The Justice at Stake Campaign is a national, nonpartisan campaign to keep courts fair and impartial. It is supported by a number of partner groups, including the American Judges Association, the American Bar Association, the National Center for State Courts, the American Judicature Society, and about 40 other organizations. The website is regularly updated and currently includes commentaries and reactions to the 2006 election results related to the judiciary. If you're looking for talking points for a presentation to a civic group, this would be a good place to check.

National Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Judicial Campaign Conduct
www.judicialcampaignconduct.org

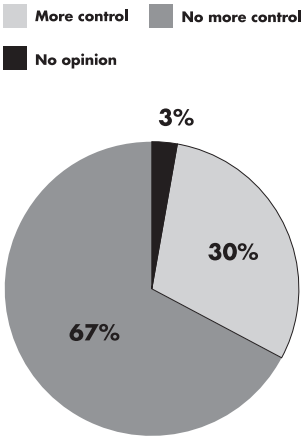
Established by the National Center for State Courts, this site includes a 50-page handbook on setting up an effective judicial campaign conduct committee. Such committees, composed of lawyers and lay members, educate judges and candidates about ethical campaign conduct, encourage appropriate campaign conduct, and publicly criticize inappropriate conduct when it cannot otherwise be resolved. Included on the site are references to key court decisions on proper campaign conduct and a list of campaign conduct committees currently in existence.

ABA Standing Committee on Judicial Independence
www.abanet.org/judind/home.html

The American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Judicial Independence includes an online "Resource Kit" with a variety of materials that could be used in crafting a civic club or school presentation.

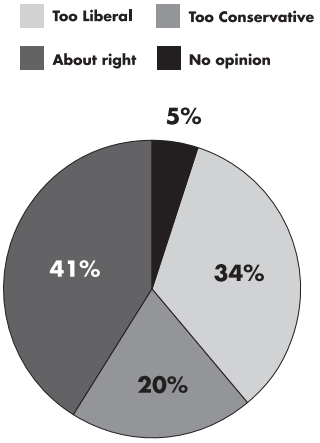
A SNAPSHOT OF PUBLIC OPINION: 2006

SHOULD ELECTED OFFICIALS HAVE MORE CONTROL OVER JUDGES?



Do you think elected officials should have more control over federal judges and the decisions they make in court cases, or don't you think so?

ARE FEDERAL JUDGES TOO CONSERVATIVE OR TOO LIBERAL?



In general, do you think federal court judges are too liberal, too conservative or just about right?

Source: Survey by Opinion Research Corp. for CNN, Oct. 2006. (N=1,013; margin of error 3%.)

CONFIDENCE IN AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

	A Great Deal	Quite a Lot	Some	Very Little	None (vol.)	Unsure
	%	%	%	%	%	%
The military	41	32	19	5	1	1
The police	25	33	29	10	2	1
The church or organized religion	28	24	26	19	2	1
Banks	18	31	39	10	–	1
The U.S. Supreme Court	14	26	41	15	1	3
The medical system	14	24	36	22	2	1
Public schools	15	22	36	23	2	2
The presidency	15	18	25	36	4	1
Television news	12	19	40	25	3	1
Newspapers	12	18	40	25	2	2
The criminal justice system	9	16	43	28	3	1
Organized labor	9	15	43	26	2	6
Congress	5	14	44	32	3	2
Big business	6	12	40	36	4	2
Health maintenance organizatoins, HMOs	6	9	40	33	5	6

Question: I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one: a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little.

Source: Gallup Poll, June 2006, reported in Polling Report.com. (N=1, 002; margin of error 3%.)