

Views on Race and Gender Mark Stark Divide between Clinton, Trump Supporters

For release: 7 a.m., Sept. 28, 2016

By Gregory Holyk and Sofi Sinozich

The conflict between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump over racial and gender issues in Monday's debate reflects a deep divide in voter attitudes: Views on the influence of men, women and racial groups in society are closely related to vote preferences.

The latest ABC News/Washington Post poll, mainly released Sunday, finds that majorities of Hillary Clinton's supporters believe minorities and women have too little influence in American society, while half say men and whites have too much influence. For all his outsider appeal, Donald Trump's supporters, by contrast, are far more apt to endorse the status quo in this regard.

All told, the survey, produced for ABC by [Langer Research Associates](#), finds that about half of Americans think women, men and whites have about the right amount of influence in society these days. Fewer, three in 10, say the same about racial and ethnic minorities.

Of the rest, many more say women have too little rather than too much influence (42 vs. 10 percent). The gap also is wide for minorities (40 percent say they have too little influence, 23 percent too much). In contrast, Americans overall are more apt to say men and whites have too much rather than too little influence, 37 vs. 9 percent for men, 34 vs. 12 percent for whites.

The divisions among Clinton and Trump supporters are deep. Two-thirds of Clinton supporters say minorities have too little influence in the country these days, while just 17 percent of Trump supporters agree. Among Clinton supporters, 58 percent say women have too little influence; only 21 percent of Trump's say the same.

Further, 50 percent of Clinton's backers say men have too much influence, and 53 percent say the same about whites. That view plummets to 20 and 8 percent, respectively, among Trump voters.

Instead, roughly two-thirds of Trump supporters say women, whites and men alike have about the right amount of influence. Four in 10 Trump supporters say minorities have the right amount of influence – and as many say they have too much.

	Women	Men	Whites	Minorities
Clinton supporters:				
Too much	6%	50	53	9
About right	35	37	37	21
Too little	58	10	7	67
Trump supporters:				
Too much	8	20	8	38

About right	69	68	64	38
Too little	21	8	21	17

These results stand up in a statistical model. Controlling for demographics, partisanship, ideology and presidential approval, seeing too little influence for whites and men and too much influence for minorities and women independently predicts support for Trump. Other than disapproval of Barack Obama, which is by far the best predictor of support for Trump, views of group influence have a similar effect as partisanship, ideology and race.

Holding these pro-Trump views – that is, seeing too little influence for whites and men and too much influence for minorities and women – peaks among strong conservatives and core Trump supporters, those who wanted him to win the GOP presidential nomination. It’s also more prevalent among conservatives overall, people who disapprove of Obama’s job performance or feel they’ve gotten worse off financially under his presidency, men and older, less-educated and less well-off Americans.

Conversely, the opinion that whites and men have too much influence, and minorities and women have too little, tops out among strong liberals and those who supported Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary.

GROUPS – Democrats and liberals are more apt to see too little influence for minorities and women, and too much for whites and men, while Republicans and conservatives generally are OK with the current state of affairs. Independents and moderates, as they often do, fall in between.

Education also is a factor. About half of college graduates say minorities and women have too little influence, 15 and 12 percentage points more than non-graduates. And 45 percent of college graduates say whites have too much influence, 15 points more than non-graduates.

Perhaps surprisingly, women are only somewhat more likely than men to say that men have too much power (42 vs. 32 percent) and that women have too little power (46 vs. 39 percent.) Another gap is wider: Minorities are more apt to think that whites have too much influence rather than too little influence (44 vs. 11 percent, peaking at 55-13 percent among blacks). Whites, by contrast, divide 29-12 percent on whether whites have too much or too little influence, with 55 percent it’s about right.

The impact of education and gender is magnified when looking at the two key groups of whites, non-college white men and college-educated white women. Among white women with a four-year degree, 46 percent say whites have too much influence. Among non-college white men, just 21 percent agree. Similarly, while 53 percent of college-educated white women think men have too much influence, only 28 percent of non-college white men feel the same.

----- Influence of groups -----
 Women Men Whites Minorities

Among...

Men:				
Too much	10%	32	32	24
About right	49	54	52	34
Too little	39	10	11	36
Women:				
Too much	9	42	36	22
About right	43	46	48	27
Too little	46	9	12	44
Whites:				
Too much	8	38	29	27
About right	48	53	55	31
Too little	42	6	12	38
Nonwhites NET:				
Too much	13	37	44	17
About right	42	45	41	31
Too little	43	14	11	44
No college degree:				
Too much	11	35	30	25
About right	48	50	52	32
Too little	39	11	13	36
College graduates:				
Too much	6	43	45	18
About right	41	49	43	27
Too little	51	6	8	51
Democrats:				
Too much	9	50	52	12
About right	37	35	36	24
Too little	53	11	10	60
Republicans:				
Too much	11	25	17	36
About right	62	64	62	35
Too little	27	9	15	24
Independents:				
Too much	10	36	32	23
About right	44	53	53	34
Too little	44	9	10	36
Liberals:				
Too much	11	54	54	12
About right	31	37	35	25
Too little	58	7	8	61
Moderates:				
Too much	8	39	39	22
About right	46	51	48	30
Too little	44	7	10	44

Conservatives:				
Too much	11	26	16	32
About right	57	58	61	36
Too little	29	13	17	24
Non-college white men:				
Too much	7	28	21	31
About right	56	62	60	41
Too little	35	8	15	24
College-educated white women:				
Too much	5	53	46	19
About right	40	44	41	24
Too little	53	1	8	54

METHODOLOGY – This ABC News/Washington Post poll was conducted by landline and cellular telephone Sept. 19-22, 2016, in English and Spanish, among a random national sample of 1,001 adults, including 651 likely voters. Results have a margin of [sampling error](#) of 3.5 points, including the design effect, for the full sample, and 4.5 points for likely voters. Partisan divisions are 33-23-36 percent, Democrats-Republicans-independents, in the full sample, and 37-27-28 among likely voters.

The survey was produced for ABC News by [Langer Research Associates](#) of New York, N.Y., with sampling, data collection and tabulation by Abt-SRBI of New York, N.Y. See details on the survey's methodology [here](#).

Full results:

25. For each group I name, please tell me whether you think it has too (much) influence in the country these days, too (little) influence, or about the right amount. First is [ITEM]? How about [NEXT ITEM]?

9/22/16 - Summary Table

	Too much	Too little	Right amount	No opinion
a. Women	10	42	46	2
b. Men	37	9	50	3
c. Whites	34	12	50	5
d. Racial and ethnic minorities	23	40	30	6

*** END ***