

To: Interested Parties

From: Heart+Mind Strategies

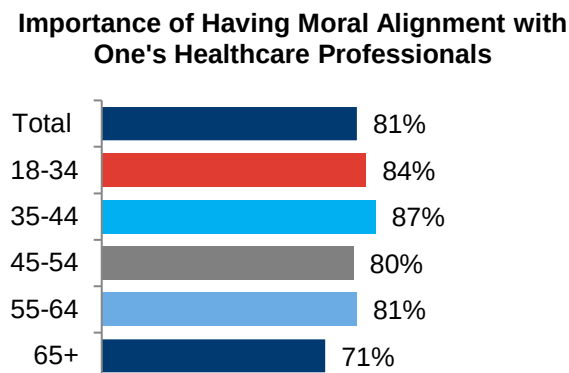
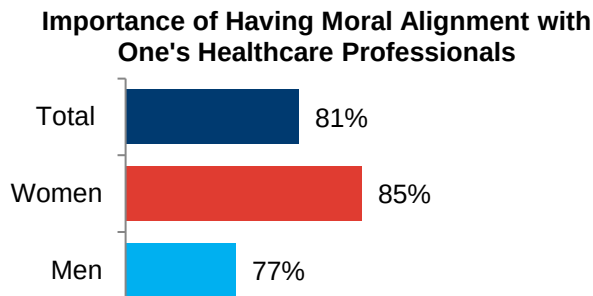
Date: August 9, 2019

Subject: Key Findings on 2019 Conscience Rights Polling

On behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Heart+Mind Strategies conducted a nationwide survey of 1,004 American adults. Full statements of methodology can be found at the end of this document.

Having moral alignment with one's healthcare professional is important to most Americans.

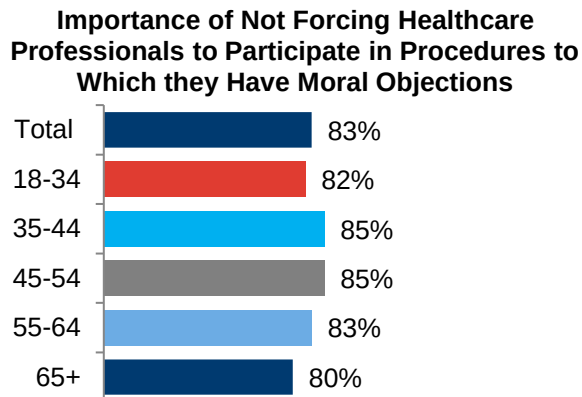
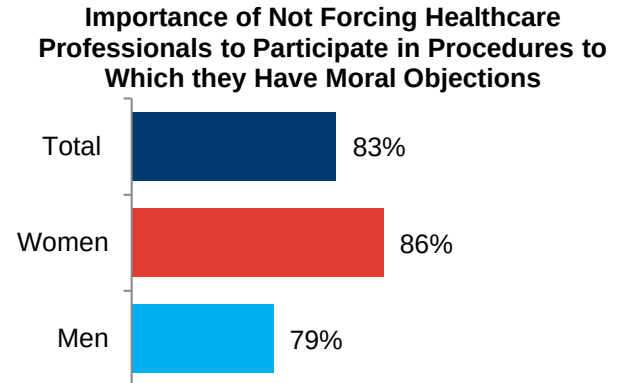
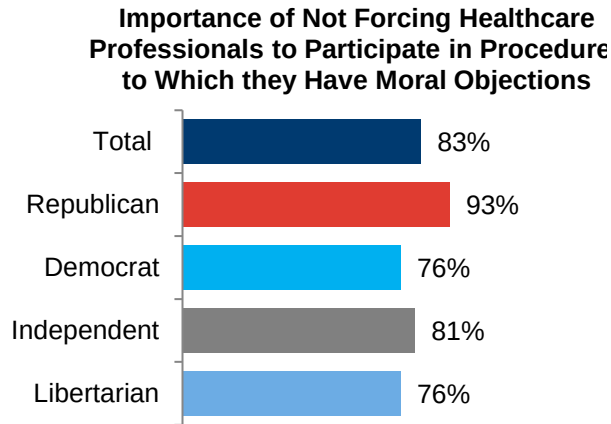
A solid majority, 81% of American adults feel it is "very" or "somewhat" important to them that their medical professionals share similar moral beliefs. Results among Females (85%), Millennials (21-38 YO, 85%), and Hispanics (89%) were significantly stronger than their counterparts.



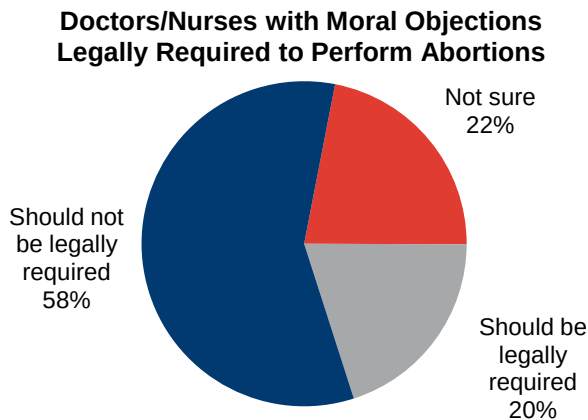
RESPOND COMMUN
LETTER MEMO CON
SUBJECT RESPOND

Healthcare professionals should not be forced to perform procedures against their moral beliefs.

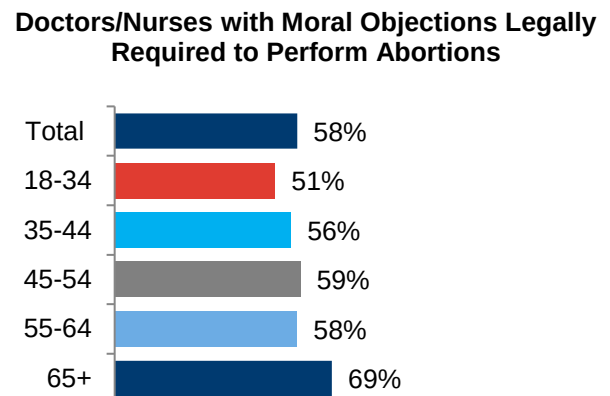
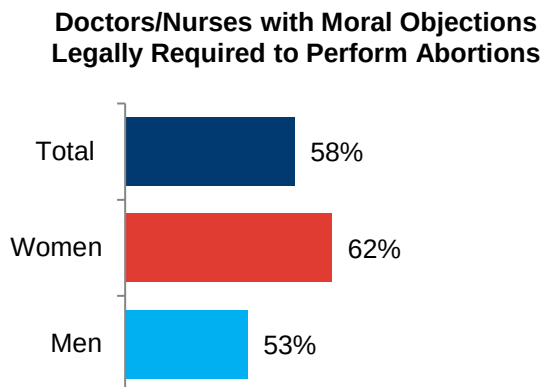
83% of American adults also support making sure *“healthcare professionals in America are not forced to participate in procedures or practices to which they have moral objections”*. Females, in particular, support this notion at 86%. Republicans strongly support moral belief protection, with 93% stating it is important (53% “very”).



Abortions are included in procedures that should not be required of healthcare professionals.



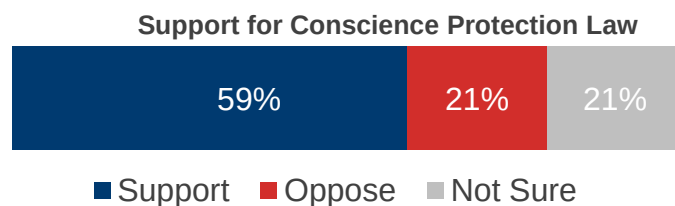
For healthcare professionals who have moral objections to performing abortions, 58% of American adults **oppose** legislation that would require them to do so. Again, Females (62%), 65+ YO (69%), Whites (63%), and College Educated (61%) opposition to legislation is significantly higher than their counterparts. Additionally, African Americans (34%), <\$50K Household Income (27%), and High School Education or less (29%) were more unsure than others.

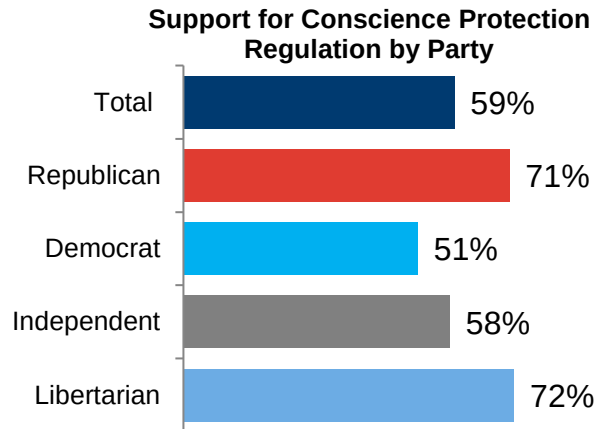


A majority of Americans support conscience protection regulation.

“A federal regulation known as ‘conscience protection’ is scheduled to go into effect this year in response to reports of doctors and nurses being discriminated against for declining to perform abortions. The regulation enforces existing laws that protect doctors and other medical professionals who work at institutions that receive federal money from having to perform medical procedures to which they object on moral or religious grounds”.

Respondents were presented with a description of a proposed regulation regarding conscience protection. Overall support of this regulation among American adults is 59%. Strong support (the 35% who said they “strongly support” it) of this regulation outweighed the total who oppose it (21%). Strong support is higher among GenX (39-54 YO, 38%), Boomers (55-73 YO, 40%), Republicans (51%), Libertarians (36%), and Whites (39%).

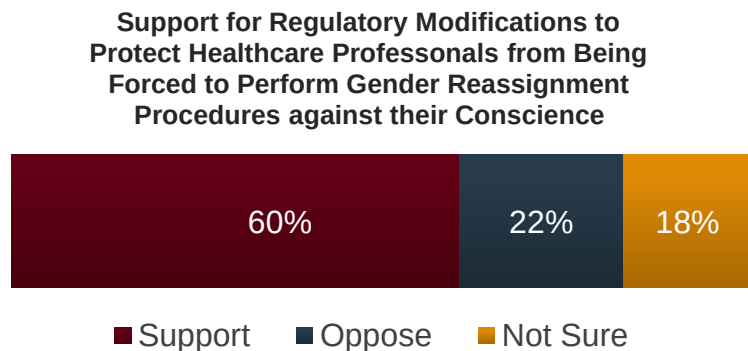




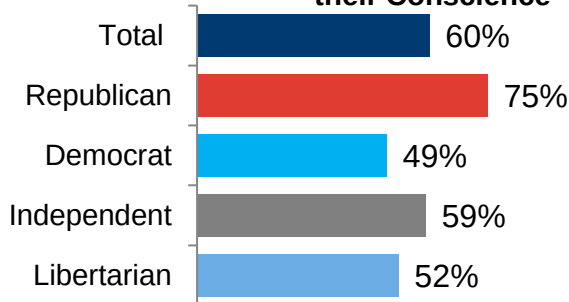
Gender reassignment procedures should be included in regulations protecting conscience.

Respondents were presented with a proposed modification to existing regulations affecting conscience protection. Support for this modification is similar to that for the proposed conscience protection regulation with 60% support, 22% oppose, 18% unsure. There are no significant differences by age or gender.

Recent proposals have been put forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to modify regulations in ways that would help protect doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals and institutions, from being forced to perform gender reassignment procedures, such as hormone treatments and surgeries, to which they have moral objections.



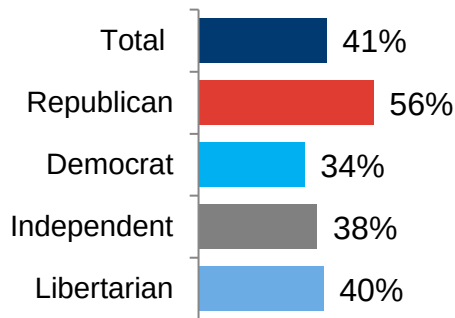
**Support for Regulatory Modifications to Protect
Healthcare Professionals from Being Forced to
Perform Gender Reassignment Procedures against
their Conscience**



Members who vote in favor of conscience protection initiatives will benefit in the next election.

Finally, respondents were asked how likely they would be to vote for their current Member of Congress if he/she supported conscience protection. 41% said they would be more likely to vote for their Member of Congress, 16% said they would be less likely, 24% said it wouldn't have an impact, and 19% said they were unsure. Republicans are particularly more likely to vote for members who support conscience protection. There are no significant differences by age or gender.

**More Likely to Support Member of
Congress if They Support Conscience
Protection**



Statement of Methodology

On behalf of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), Heart+Mind Strategies conducted a CARAVAN survey via Engine among a sample of 1,004 adults comprising 502 men and 502 women 18 years of age and older.

The online omnibus study is conducted twice a week among a demographically representative U.S. sample of 1,000 adults 18 years of age and older. This survey was live on July 18-21, 2019.

Completed interviews are weighted by five variables: age, sex, geographic region, race and education to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total U.S. population, 18 years of age and older. The raw data are weighted by a custom designed program which automatically develops a weighting factor for each respondent. Each respondent is assigned a single weight derived from the relationship between the actual proportion of the population based on US Census data with its specific combination of age, sex, geographic characteristics, race and education and the proportion in the sample. Tabular results show both weighted and unweighted bases.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have volunteered to participate in online surveys and polls. The data have been weighted to reflect the demographic composition of the 18+ population. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to multiple sources of error, including, but not limited to sampling error, coverage error, error associated with nonresponse, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments.

Appendix.

QC1. How important is it that your doctors and other healthcare providers share a similar set of morals as you? Is it...

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
IMPORTANT (NET)	81%	77%	85%	84%	87%	80%	81%	71%	82%	78%	81%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET)	19%	23%	15%	16%	13%	20%	19%	29%	18%	22%	19%

QC2. In your opinion, how important is it to make sure that healthcare professionals in America are not forced to participate in procedures or practices to which they have moral objections?

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
IMPORTANT (NET)	83%	79%	86%	82%	85%	85%	83%	80%	85%	82%	80%
NOT IMPORTANT (NET)	17%	21%	14%	18%	15%	15%	17%	20%	15%	18%	20%

QC3. Do you think doctors, nurses or other healthcare professionals who have moral objections to abortion should or should not be legally required to perform abortions?

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
Should not be legally required	58%	53%	62%	51%	56%	59%	58%	69%	52%	63%	61%
Should be legally required	20%	26%	15%	28%	21%	21%	18%	11%	19%	20%	23%
Not sure	22%	21%	22%	21%	23%	20%	24%	20%	29%	18%	16%

QC4. “A federal regulation known as ‘conscience protection’ is scheduled to go into effect this year in response to reports of doctors and nurses being discriminated against for declining to perform abortions. The regulation enforces existing laws that protect doctors and other medical professionals who work at institutions that receive federal money from having to perform medical procedures to which they object on moral or religious grounds”. Do you support or oppose this regulation?

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
SUPPORT (NET)	59%	59%	58%	59%	58%	62%	51%	63%	54%	58%	65%
OPPOSE (NET)	21%	22%	20%	22%	21%	21%	21%	19%	19%	22%	22%
Not sure	21%	19%	22%	20%	21%	18%	28%	18%	28%	20%	13%

QC5. Recent proposals have been put forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to modify regulations in ways that would help protect doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals and institutions, from being forced to perform gender reassignment procedures, such as hormone treatments and surgeries, to which they have moral objections.

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
SUPPORT (NET)	60%	61%	59%	56%	56%	60%	59%	70%	59%	61%	61%
OPPOSE (NET)	22%	24%	20%	27%	19%	25%	19%	16%	19%	20%	25%
Not sure	18%	15%	21%	17%	26%	15%	22%	14%	22%	19%	14%

QC6. Though the next congressional election will not occur until 2020 would you be more likely or less likely to vote for your current Member of Congress if you knew that she or he supported conscience protection laws and regulations for doctors and nurses?

	Total	Sex		Age					Education		
		Male	Female	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	HS Grad or less	College Incomplete	College Graduate
UnWgt Base	1004	502	502	316	212	132	202	142	320	266	418
MORE LIKELY (NET)	41%	42%	39%	35%	39%	43%	43%	44%	34%	43%	47%
Makes no difference	24%	26%	23%	29%	27%	21%	18%	24%	28%	23%	22%
LESS LIKELY (NET)	16%	20%	12%	14%	15%	18%	18%	17%	13%	17%	20%
Not sure	19%	11%	26%	21%	19%	18%	21%	14%	26%	18%	12%