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EXCLUSIVE!

Most Voters Disagree with Obama on Affirmative Action, Workers' Rights, and Self-Defense

Breaking Poll Shows Obama at Odds with Majority of Americans on Key Issues

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C. – Recent statements by Democratic Presidential hopeful Barack Obama put him squarely at odds with a majority of likely voters on three hot-button issues, according to a breaking ATI-News/Zogby poll. These exclusive poll results show Americans disagree with the Illinois Senator's positions on affirmative action, workers rights, and self-defense. This nationwide poll of 974 likely voters was conducted August 15-18 (margin of error +/- 3.2 percentage points).

Affirmative Action

Long a champion of across-the-board racial preferences, Obama most recently took presidential rival John McCain to task for supporting a ballot initiative in Arizona that would ban special preferences based on race and gender in that state. Poll results show American voters disagree with Obama.

ATI-News/Zogby asked likely voters: "Would you support or oppose a ballot measure in your state that prohibits preferential treatment for any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in public employment, public education or public contracting?"

Fifty-four percent of respondents support a ban on racial and gender preferences, while only 40 percent agree with Obama's position of keeping such preferences intact. In addition, a majority of African Americans (52 percent) would ban racial

preferences, as would a majority of Democrats (51 percent) , Republicans (53 percent) and Independents (58 percent).

Workers' Rights

Barack Obama has promised, if elected, to sign a controversial federal labor law that would restrict the rights of workers nationwide. Dubbed the "Employee Free Choice Act," the bill would eliminate the right of workers to vote anonymously in elections that determine whether or not to organize as a union.

ATI-News/Zogby asked likely voters: "Some organized labor groups want to eliminate a worker's right to cast a secret ballot in elections in which workers decide whether or not to organize as a union. Do you support or oppose the workers' right to a secret ballot when deciding on unionizing?"

A decisive majority of respondents, 78 percent, support workers' rights to secret ballots – including a strong majority of Democrats (81 percent), Republicans (73 percent), and Independents (80 percent). Only a slim minority of likely voters (15 percent) agree with Obama that workers do not have a right to vote anonymously in unionization elections.

Self-Defense

Obama has recently voiced tepid support for the right to use firearms for self-defense, however, his legislative record shows otherwise. As a State Senator in 2004, Obama opposed a bill that was passed by the Illinois General Assembly that protects homeowners from prosecution if they defend their families and homes with a firearm in defiance of local gun bans.

ATI-News/Zogby asked likely voters: "Do you agree or disagree that you have the right to use deadly force as a means of self-defense in your home, without having to retreat?"

Eighty-eight percent of respondents agree that they have a right to defend themselves and their families with deadly force during a home invasion. Only eight percent would side with the position Obama took as a State Senator to infringe on the homeowner's right to self-defense.

For more on Obama's positions and how they match up with your views and the views of likely voters, go to www.BarackObamaTest.com.

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