

Survey of Economics Professors on Immigration, Drug, and Pharmaceutical Policies

DEAR SURVEY RECIPIENT: Feel free to skip any question you are not comfortable with. The survey is entirely anonymous. Thank you for your time and attention!

Part I: Immigration Policy Questions

The federal government maintains various controls on (legal) immigration into the United States.

Please consider the following reform proposal: That the federal government increases the in-flow rate of new legal immigrants by about 30 percent above its status-quo yearly level (across the board, with respect to immigrant/visa categories). (Under the reform, every year, the new policy would permit 130 people to enter where now only 100 are permitted to enter.)

Now, suppose the reform proposal is being discussed on National Public Radio (NPR), and the interviewer has invited you to speak as a professional economist on the matter. In the course of the interview, the interviewer shall report your answers to the following questions (that is, questions 1, 2, and 3): Please mark your disposition toward each of the following statements as you would for the purpose of such an NPR engagement.

1. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for the set of people who are American citizens at present:

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

2. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for humankind (worldwide, present and future):

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

3. The reform ought to be favored over the status-quo immigration policy:

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

Part II: Drug Policy Questions

The federal government maintains various controls on certain intoxicating drugs, including marijuana.

Please consider the following reform proposal: That the federal government treat marijuana in the same manner as alcohol or tobacco are now treated—that is, liberalization of the current controls, but with licensing and monitoring of suppliers and age restrictions on purchase and use.

Again, suppose the reform proposal is being discussed on National Public Radio (NPR), and the interviewer has invited you to speak as a professional economist on the matter. In the course of the interview, the interviewer shall report your answers to the following questions (that is, questions 4, 5, and 6): Please mark your disposition toward each of the following statements as you would for the purpose of such an NPR engagement.

4. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for the set of people who are American citizens at present:

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

5. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for humankind (worldwide, present and future):

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

6. The reform ought to be favored over the status-quo drug policy:

agree
strongly

agree,
not strongly

neutral

disagree,
not strongly

disagree
strongly

have no opinion

Part III: Pharmaceutical Policy Questions

In the United States, a new drug must be approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be produced and marketed in the United States.

Please consider the following reform proposal: That the United States adopt a policy wherein the FDA selects five of the drug-approval agencies of other leading OECD countries (for example, the Health Canada agency in Canada), and then, thereafter, as soon as a new drug is approved by any of those five agencies, that drug automatically gains approval in the United States.

Again, suppose the reform proposal is being discussed on National Public Radio (NPR), and the interviewer has invited you to speak as a professional economist on the matter. In the course of the interview, the interviewer shall report your answers to the following questions (that is, questions 7, 8, and 9): Please mark your disposition toward each of the following statements as you would for the purpose of such an NPR engagement.

7. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for the set of people who are American citizens at present:

agree strongly

agree, not strongly

neutral

disagree, not strongly

disagree strongly

have no opinion

8. Implementing such a reform would, on the whole, increase social welfare for humankind (worldwide, present and future):

agree strongly

agree, not strongly

neutral

disagree, not strongly

disagree strongly

have no opinion

9. The reform ought to be favored over the status-quo pharmaceutical policy:

agree strongly

agree, not strongly

neutral

disagree, not strongly

disagree strongly

have no opinion

Part IV: Background and general feedback

10. Year of birth: 19_____

11. Gender: male female

12. We would welcome your thoughts about specific questions or about the survey in general:

Thank you again for your kindness and attention. Please return the survey to:

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