

## APPENDIX B: QUESTION WORDING AND SURVEY TOPLINE

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
TOPLINE  
March 21-April 8, 2013**

**Note: All numbers are percentages. The percentages greater than zero but less than 0.5% are replaced by an asterisk (\*). Columns/rows may not total 100% due to rounding. Questions asked of all based on N=4,006.**

**ASK ALL:**

Q1 Overall, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way things are going in your life today?

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Jul <u>2011</u>	Aug <sup>19</sup> <u>2008</u>	Jan <u>2008</u>
81	Satisfied	75	81	83
16	Dissatisfied	23	16	14
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	3	3

**ASK ALL:**

Q2 Looking ahead to the next ten years, do you think your life, overall, will be better, worse, or about the same as it is now?

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>	
56	Will be better
28	About the same
11	Will be worse
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q3 Thinking back to ten years ago, would you say your life, overall, is better today, worse today, or about the same as it was then?

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>	
56	Better today
25	About the same
18	Worse today
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

<sup>19</sup> Trends from Aug and Jan 2008 are from Pew Internet & American Life Project.

**ASK ALL:**

Q4 As you think about each of the following areas of your life, please tell me whether, on the whole, you would rate this aspect of your life as excellent, good, only fair, or poor: (First/Next) **(INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE) (READ FOR FIRST ITEM, THEN AS NECESSARY: Would you rate this aspect of your life as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?)**

## a. Your personal financial situation

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
12	Excellent	13
42	Good	43
29	Only fair	29
15	Poor	16
*	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

## b. Your employment situation

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
22	Excellent	28
30	Good	38
16	Only fair	19
12	Poor	15
19	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

## c. The number of friends you have

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
36	Excellent	37
42	Good	43
15	Only fair	15
5	Poor	5
1	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

## d. Your spiritual life

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
36	Excellent	38
44	Good	46
13	Only fair	13
3	Poor	4
3	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

## e. Your health

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
27	Excellent	27
47	Good	47
19	Only fair	19
7	Poor	7
*	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

**Q4 CONTINUED...**

f. Your relationship with your children

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
43	Excellent	58
25	Good	34
5	Only fair	6
2	Poor	2
26	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

g. Your relationship with your spouse or partner

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		% <u>rating</u>
39	Excellent	50
28	Good	35
7	Only fair	9
5	Poor	6
22	Doesn't apply <b>(VOL.)</b>	--
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	--

**QUESTIONS 4h, 5-7 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED.****ASK ALL:**

Thinking about medical science.

Q8 Which of these statements comes closest to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?  
**[READ IN ORDER]**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>	
54	(one) Medical treatments these days are worth the costs because they allow people to live longer and better quality lives [OR]
41	(two) Medical treatments these days often create as many problems as they solve.
3	Neither/Both equally <b>(VOL.)</b>
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ALL:**

Q9 How much confidence, if any, do you have that new medicines and medical treatments have been carefully tested before being made available to the public? **[READ]**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>	
24	A lot
47	Some
21	Not too much
6	None at all
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**QUESTION 10 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 11-13****QUESTION 14 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTIONS 15-17****ASK ALL:****OBSERVE FORM SPLITS 1&3 vs.2&4**

Q18. People have different ideas about what it would mean to have a good quality of life in older age. How important, if at all, are each of the following for a good quality of life in older age? First/Next **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE].**

**[READ FOR FIRST ITEM AND THEN IF NECESSARY]:** Would you say this is extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not important for a good quality of life in older age?

a. Being able to talk or communicate with others

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

49	Extremely important
44	Very important
6	Somewhat important
1	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ITEM B OF FORMS 1 AND 3**

bF13. Being able to feed yourself

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,983]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

45	Extremely important
44	Very important
8	Somewhat important
1	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ITEM C OF FORMS 2 AND 4**

cF24. Being able to dress yourself

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=2,023]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

36	Extremely important
45	Very important
17	Somewhat important
1	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**Q18 CONTINUED...**

d. Living without severe long-lasting pain

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

43	Extremely important
44	Very important
10	Somewhat important
2	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ITEM E OF FORMS 1 AND 3**

eF13. Having long term memory about important people and experiences in your life

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,983]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

37	Extremely important
46	Very important
14	Somewhat important
2	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK ITEM F OF FORMS 2 AND 4**

fF24. Having short term memory about events that happened today

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=2,023]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

30	Extremely important
41	Very important
22	Somewhat important
6	Not important
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

g. Getting enjoyment out of life

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

44	Extremely important
46	Very important
9	Somewhat important
1	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

h. Feeling what you do in life is worthwhile

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

37	Extremely important
46	Very important
14	Somewhat important
2	Not important
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**NO QUESTIONS 19-20****QUESTIONS 21-22 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**NO QUESTIONS 23-24****ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

On another topic

Q25 Which comes closer to your view? In all circumstances, doctors and nurses should do everything possible to save the life of a patient. Or, sometimes there are circumstances where a patient should be allowed to die.

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
31	Always save a life	22	15
66	Sometimes let a patient die	70	73
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	8	12 <sup>20</sup>

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q26 In some states, it's legal for doctors to prescribe lethal doses of drugs that a terminally ill patient could use themselves to commit suicide. Do you approve or disapprove of laws that let doctors assist patients who want to end their lives this way?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>
47	Approve	46
49	Disapprove	45
3	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	9

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q27 How much ATTENTION do you think doctors and nurses pay to instructions from patients about whether or not they want treatment to keep them alive? Do you think doctors and nurses pay a lot of attention, some attention, or very little attention to patients' instructions?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
36	A lot of attention	30	20
44	Some attention	38	37
15	Very little attention	17	26
1	No attention at all <b>(VOL.)</b>	2	2
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	13	15

<sup>20</sup> May 1990 survey included a volunteered category "It depends," which is combined with the "Don't know/Refused" category here.

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q28 When a child is born with a life-threatening birth defect, do you think the parents have the right to REFUSE medical treatment that might save the infant's life, or do you think the infant, no matter what the defect, should receive as MUCH treatment as possible?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

38	Parents can refuse treatment
57	Should receive as much treatment as possible
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q29 Do you think a person has a moral right to end his or her own life under any of the following circumstances? First, . . . **(READ IN ORDER)**

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>(VOL.) DK/Ref</u>
a. when this person has a disease that is incurable?			
Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	56	41	4
Nov 2005	53	39	8
May 1990	49	41	10 <sup>21</sup>
Apr 1975 <i>Gallup</i> <sup>22</sup>	40	53	7
b. when this person is suffering great pain and has no hope of improvement?			
Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	62	35	3
Nov 2005	60	34	6
May 1990	55	34	11
Apr 1975 <i>Gallup</i>	41	51	8
c. when this person is an extremely heavy burden on his or her family?			
Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	32	64	4
Nov 2005	29	62	9
May 1990	29	57	14
Apr 1975 <i>Gallup</i>	20	72	8
d. when this person is ready to die because living has become a burden?			
Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	38	58	5
Nov 2005	33	58	9
May 1990	27	59	14

<sup>21</sup> In 1990 questions 29a-d included a volunteered response of depends. Those responses are combined with the "Don't know/Refused" category here.

<sup>22</sup> Note that the 1975 Gallup survey was conducted using face-to-face interviews; differences over time may be due to changes in survey research practices and/or to changes in views over time.

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

**[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION READ AS NEEDED IF RESPONDENT SEEMS UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THESE QUESTIONS]:** I have a few more questions on this subject, and I understand that some of these may be difficult. Because of the importance of these issues, we very much appreciate your answers. If there's any question that you really don't want to answer, please just tell me.

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q30 If a patient with a terminal disease is unable to communicate and has not made his or her own wishes known in advance, should the closest family member be allowed to decide whether to continue medical treatment, or should a family member not be allowed to make this decision?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
78	Allowed	74	71
16	Not allowed	15	16
2	It depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	8

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q31 Now I'm going to describe a few medical situations that sometimes happen, and for each one, please tell me what you would want YOUR OWN DOCTOR to do, if you could make the choice. If you had a disease with no hope of improvement and you were suffering a great deal of physical pain, would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
35	Do everything possible to save your life	34	28
57	Stop treatment	53	59
3	It depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	6	6
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	7	7

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q32 How about if you had a disease with no hope of improvement that made it hard for you to function in your day-to-day activities? **(REPEAT IF NECESSARY: Would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?)**

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
46	Do everything possible to save your life	43	40
46	Stop treatment	42	44
3	It depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	5	5
5	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	10	8

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q33 How about if you had an illness that made you totally dependent on a family member or other person for all of your care? **(REPEAT IF NECESSARY: Would you tell your doctor to do EVERYTHING POSSIBLE to save your life, or would you tell your doctor to STOP TREATMENT so you could die?)**

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
37	Do everything possible to save your life	38	31
52	Stop treatment	44	51
3	It depends <b>(VOL.)</b>	7	7
8	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	11	11

**ASK ALL 1 & 2:**

Q34 Before today, how much had you thought about your own wishes for medical treatment if you were in the kind of circumstances like those we've been talking about? Had you given this a great deal of thought, some thought, not very much thought, or no thought at all?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
37	A great deal of thought	35	28
35	Some thought	36	36
15	Not very much thought	18	22
11	No thought at all	10	13
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	1

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q35 Are your own wishes for medical treatment in these kinds of circumstances written down somewhere, or not?

**IF RESPONDENT SAYS NO READ:** Just to clarify, do you have a living will, or not?

**INTERVIEWER NOTE DO NOT READ:** If R says have a living will, mark Yes.

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u> <sup>23</sup>
35	Yes, written down (includes living will)	34
64	No, not written down	66
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1

**TREND FOR COMPARISON<sup>24</sup>**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
34	Yes	32	16
54	No	57	71
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1	*
11	<i>Given no thought (Q34=4)</i>	10	13

<sup>23</sup> In 2005 there were two separate questions: "Are your own wishes for medical treatment written down somewhere?" and "Do you happen to have a living will for yourself?" Responses shown here are based on all respondents, drawing first from the question "Are your own wishes for medical treatments written down somewhere?" Those who said they had a living will are also included as a yes response.

<sup>24</sup> In 1990 and 2005 there were two separate questions: "Are your own wishes for medical treatment written down somewhere?" and "Do you happen to have a living will for yourself?" In 1990 these questions were not asked of respondents who said they had given "no thought at all" to their own wishes for medical treatment prior to the survey. Responses shown here are based on all respondents, drawing first from the question "Are your own wishes for medical treatments written down somewhere?" Those who said they had a living will are also included as a yes response.

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q36 Have you had a discussion with someone about your own wishes for medical treatment in these kinds of circumstances, or haven't you done this?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u> <sup>25</sup>
62	Yes, discussed with someone	72
37	No, with no one	27
1	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	1

**TREND FOR COMPARISON<sup>26</sup>**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	May <u>1990</u>
60	Yes	70	55
28	No	19	31
1	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	1	*
11	<i>Given no thought (Q34=4)</i>	10	13

**ASK FORM 1 & 2:**

Q37 Have you had any personal experience in the last five years with a relative or close friend suffering from a terminal illness or in a coma?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=1,994]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>	<i>Kaiser/Harvard/ Boston Globe</i> Oct <u>1991</u>
47	Yes	42	42
53	No	58	57
*	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	*	1

**ASK IF YES (1 IN Q37)**

Q38 How recently did this happen? Within the past 12 months, within the past two years, or before that?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=948]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>
33	Within past 12 months	31
24	Within past 2 years	27
42	Before that	41
1	Don't know/Refused ( <b>VOL.</b> )	1

<sup>25</sup> In 2005 question wording differed from 2013 and read, "With whom, if anyone, have you discussed your wishes for your own medical treatment in these kinds of circumstances?" (Multiple responses were allowed.)

<sup>26</sup> In 1990 and 2005 question wording differed from 2013 and read, "With whom, if anyone, have you discussed your wishes for your own medical treatment in these kinds of circumstances?" (Multiple responses were allowed.) In 1990 this question was not asked of respondents who said they had given "no thought at all" to their own wishes for medical treatment prior to the survey. Responses shown here are based on all respondents.

**ASK IF YES (1 IN Q37)**

Q39 Did the issue of withholding life-sustaining treatment come up, or not?

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=948]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>
50	Yes, came up	55
46	No	42
4	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	3

**BASED ON ALL FORM 1 & 2 [N=1,994]**

Mar 21-Apr 8 <u>2013</u>		Nov <u>2005</u>
23	Yes, came up	23
22	No	18
2	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>	1
53	No personal experience with terminal illness	58

**NO QUESTIONS 40-41****QUESTIONS 42-47 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED****NO QUESTION 48-53****QUESTIONS 54-57 HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE****ASK ALL:**

Now, a different kind of question ...

Q58 Do you personally believe that **[INSERT ITEM AND RANDOMIZE ORDER OF A/D AND B/C IN PAIRS, AND RANDOMIZE ITEMS WITHIN PAIRS]** is morally acceptable, morally wrong, or is it not a moral issue? **[IF NECESSARY:]** And is **[INSERT ITEM]** morally acceptable, morally wrong, or is it not a moral issue?

		Morally <u>acceptable</u>	Morally <u>wrong</u>	Not a moral <u>issue</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> Depends on <u>the situation</u>	<b>(VOL.)</b> <u>DK/Ref</u>
a.	Having an abortion					
	Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	15	49	23	9	4
	Jan 9-13, 2013	13	47	27	9	4
	Feb 8-12, 2012	13	48	25	9	5
	Aug 11-17, 2009	10	52	25	8	4
	February, 2006	12	52	23	11	2

**QUESTION 58b-d AND SELECTED RELIGION AND DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES PREVIOUSLY RELEASED**

**ASK ALL:**

RQ10 Do you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?

	-----FAVOR-----			-----OPPOSE-----			<b>(VOL.)</b> DK/Ref
	<u>Total</u>	<i>Strongly</i> <u>favor</u>	<i>Favor</i>	<u>Total</u>	<i>Strongly</i> <u>oppose</u>	<i>Oppose</i>	
Mar 21-Apr 8, 2013	55	18	37	37	10	26	8
Nov 9-14, 2011	62	28	34	31	11	20	7
Sep 22-Oct 4, 2011 <sup>27</sup>	58	--	--	36	--	--	6
Jul 21-Aug 5, 2010	62	30	32	30	10	20	8
August, 2007	62	29	33	32	11	21	6
Early January, 2007	64	30	34	29	11	18	7
March, 2006	65	27	38	27	8	19	8
December, 2005	62	--	--	30	--	--	8
Late November, 2005	61	--	--	27	--	--	12
July, 2005	68	32	36	24	8	16	8
Mid-July, 2003	64	28	36	30	10	20	6
March, 2002	67	33	34	26	9	17	7
March, 2001	66	30	36	27	10	17	7
September, 1999	74	41	33	22	7	15	4
June, 1996	78	43	35	18	7	11	4

**ASK ALL:**

EMPLOY Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed? **[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF RESPONDENT VOLUNTEERS "retired, student, etc." PROBE "just to be clear ..." AND REPEAT QUESTION.]**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

44	Full-time
15	Part-time
41	Not employed
1	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**ASK IF FULL OR PART-TIME:**

HLTHWORK Do you work as a health care provider, or not? {new}

**BASED ON ALL ASKED [N=2,233]:**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

12	Yes
87	No
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>

**BASED ON TOTAL**

Mar 21-Apr 8

2013

7	Yes
51	No
*	Don't know/Refused <b>(VOL.)</b>
42	Not employed/Don't know on EMPLOY

<sup>27</sup> In October 2011 and before, question was asked as part of a list, except in November-December 2005.