

## Christian Institute Northern Ireland Public Opinion Poll

**1) The Westminster Government is planning to lower the age of consent for sexual activity in Northern Ireland from 17 to 16, which has faced cross-party opposition in the Northern Ireland Assembly. To what extent do you support or oppose the Westminster Government's proposal to reduce the age of consent in Northern Ireland?**

	Total	Gender		Age				Social Class												
		Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-54	55+	ABC1	C2	DE										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%										
Unweighted sample	500	240	260	78	96	177	149	235	121	144										
Weighted sample	500	100%	240	100%	260	100%	83	100%	94	100%	174	100%	149	100%	231	100%	115	100%	154	100%
Strongly support	27	5%	19	8%	8	3%	13	16%	4	4%	8	4%	2	1%	9	4%	7	6%	11	7%
Support	64	13%	32	13%	32	12%	12	15%	16	17%	20	12%	16	11%	31	13%	20	18%	12	8%
Oppose	128	26%	65	27%	63	24%	23	27%	25	27%	46	27%	34	23%	70	30%	27	24%	31	20%
Strongly Oppose	235	47%	95	40%	140	54%	27	33%	38	41%	81	46%	89	60%	101	44%	52	45%	81	53%
Don't know	46	9%	29	12%	17	7%	8	9%	11	12%	19	11%	8	5%	20	8%	8	7%	18	12%

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	<u>Region 1</u>					<u>Region 2</u>				<u>Religious Affiliation</u>						Prefer not to say												
	Total	Belfast City		North	South	West	Greater Belfast	Rest of Northern Ireland	Evangelical Protestant	Other Protestant	Catholic	Other religion	Agnostic	Atheist														
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%														
Unweighted sample	500	130	74	166	130	231	269	85	133	171	19	19	28	45														
Weighted sample	500	100%	133	100%	73	100%	165	100%	128	100%	234	100%	266	100%	84	100%	133	100%	172	100%	19	100%	19	100%	27	100%	46	100%
Strongly support	27	5%	12	9%	3	4%	8	5%	4	3%	16	7%	11	4%	3	4%	1	1%	15	9%	0	0%	2	10%	5	17%	1	2%
Support	64	13%	15	11%	7	9%	20	12%	23	18%	27	12%	37	14%	8	9%	14	11%	18	10%	4	20%	3	16%	9	32%	9	19%
Oppose	128	26%	31	23%	22	30%	48	29%	28	22%	60	25%	69	26%	18	21%	47	35%	37	21%	7	38%	6	31%	5	19%	9	19%
Strongly Oppose	235	47%	61	46%	38	52%	76	46%	60	47%	110	47%	125	47%	47	57%	61	46%	87	51%	7	37%	7	38%	7	24%	19	40%
Don't know	46	9%	14	11%	4	6%	13	8%	14	11%	21	9%	25	9%	8	9%	10	8%	15	9%	1	5%	1	5%	2	8%	9	19%

## Christian Institute Northern Ireland Public Opinion Poll

**2) Sexually transmitted infections among under-16s are currently much lower in Northern Ireland than in England and Wales. If the age of consent were lowered to 16 do you think that the number of under-16 year-olds with sexually transmitted infections (STIs) will increase, decrease or stay the same?**

	Total	<u>Gender</u>			<u>Age</u>				<u>Social Class</u>											
		Male	Female	16-24	25-34	35-54	55+	ABC1	C2	DE										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%										
Unweighted sample	500	240	260	78	96	177	149	235	121	144										
Weighted sample	500	100%	240	100%	260	100%	83	100%	94	100%	174	100%	149	100%	231	100%	115	100%	154	100%
Increase	292	58%	138	57%	154	59%	48	58%	50	54%	101	58%	92	62%	134	58%	70	60%	89	57%
Decrease	11	2%	3	1%	8	3%	2	2%	2	2%	4	2%	3	2%	3	1%	3	3%	5	3%
Stay the same	162	32%	78	33%	84	32%	28	34%	40	42%	60	35%	35	23%	85	37%	37	32%	41	27%
Don't know	35	7%	21	9%	14	5%	5	6%	2	2%	8	5%	19	13%	10	4%	6	5%	19	13%

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	<u>Region 1</u>					<u>Region 2</u>				<u>Religious Affiliation</u>																		
	Total	Belfast City		North	South	West	Greater Belfast	Rest of Northern Ireland		Evangelical Protestant	Other Protestant		Catholic	Other religion		Agnostic	Atheist	Prefer not to say										
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%										
Unweighted sample	500	130	74	166	130	231	269	85	133	171	19	19	28	45														
Weighted sample	500	100%	133	100%	73	100%	165	100%	128	100%	234	100%	266	100%	84	100%	133	100%	172	100%	19	100%	19	100%	27	100%	46	100%
Increase	292	58%	78	58%	45	61%	93	57%	76	59%	139	60%	152	57%	46	55%	80	61%	109	63%	13	69%	8	44%	9	32%	26	56%
Decrease	11	2%	2	1%	2	3%	5	3%	2	2%	4	2%	7	3%	1	1%	4	3%	5	3%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	2%
Stay the same	162	32%	46	35%	25	34%	52	32%	40	31%	78	33%	84	32%	23	28%	41	31%	51	30%	5	26%	10	51%	18	64%	14	31%
Don't know	35	7%	7	5%	2	3%	14	9%	11	9%	12	5%	23	8%	13	16%	7	5%	7	4%	1	5%	1	5%	1	4%	5	11%