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Many Young Adults, Especially Millennials of Color, Have Concerns about Donald Trump's Presidency

Most Millennials of all races and ethnicities do not trust the media to report news fully, accurately, and fairly

CHICAGO, Jan. 17, 2017—A new [GenForward](#) survey released today shows that 7 in 10 young adults question President-elect Donald Trump's commitment to democratic principles and worry about how his presidency will affect their lives. At the same time, about 2 in 3 young adults across racial and ethnic groups do not trust the media and are concerned about its ability to provide proper oversight during Trump's presidency.

Majorities of young African Americans, Asian Americans, Latino/as, and whites believe Trump will not respect those he disagrees with and will make it harder for individuals and groups to protest. Many Millennials of all races and ethnicities also expect the lives of people of color, women, and poor people to become worse under Trump, while the lives of whites will improve.

The most recent GenForward survey from the [Black Youth Project](#) at the University of Chicago with [The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research](#) includes young adults' attitudes toward Trump and their assessment of President Barack Obama's legacy after eight years in office.

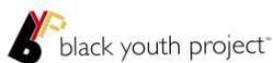
"This report presents the first extensive data on young people's thoughts about the incoming Trump administration, and it shows that Millennials across different race and ethnic groups have a great deal of concern over Trump's presidency," said Cathy Cohen, a professor of political science and founder of the Black Youth Project and GenForward survey at the University of Chicago. "These concerns and fears are especially pronounced among young adults of color."

The survey results highlight that among young adults only 10 percent of whites, 5 percent of Asian Americans, 4 percent of Latino/as, and 2 percent of African Americans believe Trump will go down in history as a great president. In contrast, 60 percent of African Americans, 40 percent of Asian Americans, 38 percent of Latino/as, and 19 percent of whites say Obama will be remembered as a great president.

Obama receives high marks from young adults of all racial and ethnic groups for his overall performance and character. However, young whites are significantly less likely than African Americans, Asian Americans, and Latino/as to approve of his handling of issues such as health care, immigration, and criminal justice.

"The GenForward survey results highlight key racial and ethnic differences in young adults' attitudes toward both Obama's presidency and the incoming Trump administration," said Trevor Tompson, director of The AP-NORC Center. "At the same time, the results also illustrate some important

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similarities in the political opinions of young adults across racial and ethnic groups.”

Some of the key findings from the nationally representative survey of young people age 18-30:

- Majorities of young adults in each racial and ethnic group approve of Obama’s character and overall performance as president over the past eight years.
- Young people of color overwhelmingly approve of Obama’s handling of numerous public policy issues. By contrast, the only issue for which a majority of young whites approve of Obama’s performance is gay rights.
- Sixty percent of young African Americans say Obama will go down in history as a great president compared with 40 percent of Asian Americans, 38 percent of Latino/as, and 19 percent of whites. In contrast, 10 percent of whites, 5 percent of Asian Americans, 4 percent of Latino/as, and 2 percent of African Americans believe Trump will be remembered as a great president.
- Large majorities of all racial and ethnic groups do not trust the media and are concerned about its ability to serve as the public’s watchdog during the Trump presidency.
- Many young adults of all racial and ethnic groups believe the lives of people of color are going to become worse under Trump while the lives of whites will improve. About half of people expect the lives of women and poor people to become worse.
- Millennials are concerned about Trump’s commitment to democratic principles, and majorities of all racial and ethnic groups believe he will not respect those he disagrees with and will make it hard for individuals and groups to protest.

About the Survey

The survey results are from GenForward, a survey of the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research. The December survey featured a nationally representative sample of 1,823 adults age 18-30 years old. Interviews were completed online and using landlines and cell phones from December 9-26, 2016. Results have a margin of sampling error of +/- 4.0 percentage points. More information about the survey and reports can be found at www.GenForwardSurvey.com.

The proper description of the survey’s authorship is as follows: GenForward is a survey of the Black Youth Project at the University of Chicago with The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

About the Black Youth Project

The Black Youth Project (BYP) began as a national survey research project led by Dr. Cathy Cohen in 2005 and has since grown into an organization committed to: 1) producing research about the ideas, attitudes, decision-making, and lived experiences of youth and young adults, especially from communities of color, 2) amplifying the perspectives of young people daily without censorship or control via the BYP website, and 3) providing resources to encourage civic engagement and media literacy among youth and young adults.

BYP has both developed and fielded new national surveys that provide insight into the concerns of

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young Americans, detailing their policy preferences, participatory practices, and views about their communities and the country. Recent media citations include MSNBC, Politico, CNN, National Public Radio, *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune*, The Associated Press, and Reuters. <http://blackyouthproject.com>

About The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research

The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research taps into the power of social science research and the highest-quality journalism to bring key information to people across the nation and throughout the world.

www.apnorc.org

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The two organizations have established The AP-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research to conduct, analyze, and distribute social science research in the public interest on newsworthy topics, and to use the power of journalism to tell the stories that research reveals.

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