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New Polling Documents Millennials' Position on the Trump Budget

(Washington, DC) Today, the GenForward survey, a project of the University of Chicago, released new polling data on millennials' views of the Trump budget proposal and what the government spends money on. The nationally representative study, led by Dr. Cathy Cohen, is composed of more than 1,800 interviews with adults ages 18-34, broken down by race and ethnicity, representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The new research shows that by wide margins, young people believe President Trump's budget will do more to help the rich than the middle class or the poor.

Unlike standard opinion polling, GenForward surveys include significant data on the views of young people of color, who are often under-sampled, leaving their unique and important perspectives out of the conversation about our country's political landscape. The survey includes extensive analysis of young adults' views of Trump's budget proposals, their views about the trade-off between the economy and environment regulation, and their economic priorities.

"Our findings suggest that any political party or politician seeking to attract the Millennial vote will need to pay attention to the ways race and ethnicity shape their political preferences. They are not one big homogenous group," said Dr. Cathy J. Cohen, GenForward lead researcher and David and Mary Winton Green Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Chicago.

Key findings from the new survey, conducted between April 14 and May 1, 2017, include:

- Young people favor decreasing taxes on the middle class and the poor, and strongly favor increasing taxes on the wealthy—but are more divided on whether taxes or businesses should be raised or lowered.
- The top economic priorities of young adults are consistent across racial and ethnic groups: increasing wages, increasing job growth and reducing income inequality.
- Majorities of young people disapprove of increased military spending at the expense of funding other non-defense governmental institutions.
- Millennials of all racial and ethnic groups hold negative views of the economy, with only 13% of African Americans, 28% of Asian Americans, 19% of Latino/as, and 29% of whites reporting that the national economy today is very or somewhat good.
- Millennials generally support governmental protections for the environment, though African American Millennials express the most hesitancy towards government regulations in general.

- Majorities of Asian American, Latino/a and white Millennials favor increased federal spending on infrastructure, while African Americans are supportive reducing regulations and providing tax incentives for infrastructure.

The full GenForward survey can be found [here](#).

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Led by Dr. Cathy J. Cohen at the University of Chicago and fielded by NORC, the GenForward Survey is the first of its kind—a nationally representative survey of over 1750 young adults ages 18-30 conducted monthly that pays special attention to how race and ethnicity shape how respondents experience and think about the world.

www.GenForwardSurvey.com