

Four Surveys conducted at Sierra College in March

Survey 1: Ukraine (Wednesday, March 5)

<i>Do you know about the Oval Office Meeting last Friday between Trump, Vance, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy?</i>	
Yes, I watched it.	43
I heard or read about it but did not see it.	23
I know nothing about it.	8
Which side do you believe was the aggressor in the war between Ukraine and Russia?	
Ukraine	2
Russia	59
I don't know	11
Do you think we should stand by Ukraine and continue to send military aid?	
YES	48
NO	6
Neutral/No Opinion	15
How concerned are you that Trump is cozying up to Vladimir Putin and turning his back on our allies?	
Very Concerned	50
Maybe a bit concerned	7
Not worried at all	9
How do you view Vladimir Putin?	
He's a dictator who invades other countries	66
He's neither good nor bad	6
He's a friend of the US	1

Survey 2: Amending the Amendments (Tuesday, March 11)

QUESTION #1: <i>The 1st Amendment from 1791, includes the right of freedom of speech. Which of these <u>concerns</u> you the most?</i>	Number of Responses
The Supreme Court ruled that the 1 st Amendment rights of corporations are no different than those of individuals. As a result, they have the right to advertise any time to us.	6
In Citizens United, a Supreme Court case, they ruled that any limits on corporate spending for political communication during a campaign, amounts to a ban on free speech.	22
The rights of free speech shall not be infringed for any one, or any organization; even hate speech must be protected to protect free speech.	11

QUESTION #2: <i>The 1st Amendment includes, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." Which statement do you <u>most</u> agree with?</i>	Number of Responses
Separation of church and state means no government support of religious schools or of only one religion. So, no posting of the 10 commandments.	24
Federal laws and funds cannot support a particular religion. So, vouchers can only be used for public or private non-religious schools.	4
Support for vouchers for school choice means government funds can go to any school at the choice of the parent even religious ones.	10

QUESTION #3: <i>The 2nd Amendment (written in 1791) is about the "right to bear arms." Does this amendment need amending?</i>	Number of Responses
Yes, in 1791 most firearms were single shot flintlocks. There were no automatic weapons designed to kill as many people as possible.	15
Yes, because some states have little to no restrictions and in 2023, according to the CDC, 46,728 people died from gun-related injuries.	18
No, let congress pass laws and the courts decide if those laws violate the 2 nd amendment. Find funds to provide more mental health.	12

QUESTION #4: <i>The 14th amendment of 1868 includes the Right to Citizenship.</i>	Number of Responses
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<i>Does this amendment need amending?</i>	Responses
No, it grants citizenship to all persons naturalized or born in the U.S., which granted citizenship to formerly enslaved people.	22
No, everyone who came to the U.S. since 1492 is an immigrant and came here to help better their lives and that of their families.	12
Yes, some want courts to reinterpret to prevent children born in the U.S. to illegal immigrants from becoming citizens.	9

Survey 3: Fired by DOGE (Wednesday, March 12)

<i>Pick 3 of the mass firings by Elon, Trump and DOGE that concern you the most.</i>	
<p>Department of Education Though fewer than 50 people have been fired so far, there have also been nearly \$900 million in cuts to the Institute of Educational Services that tracks the progress of America’s students. (This number changed overnight, and we updated our survey by hand to reflect the 50% cuts to the Department of Education) IMPACT: Special Education services, student aid, and more!</p>	57
<p>Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) About 400 probationary employees were terminated “without assessment” in February, despite two recent fatal plane crashes. Though Air Traffic Controllers were exempt, workers who install, maintain, and certify air traffic control and national defense equipment were included in the layoffs. IMPACT: Puts air traffic safety at risk for 2.9 million passengers daily and 45,000 flights.</p>	24
<p>Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Layoffs have occurred at the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), the National Institute of Health (NIH), the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. IMPACT: Severely hamper ability to respond to disease outbreaks & potential pandemics, to assure safety of food and water supply, to find cures for diseases, to operate the 988-suicide hotline, and to provide service to Medicare & Medicaid recipients, rural residents, and young people in foster care.</p>	46
<p>Department of the Interior The National Park Service lost about 1,000 employees.</p>	24

<p>IMPACT: Maintenance & visitor services at national park increasing risk for wildfires, vandalism, and sanitation issues.</p>	
<p>National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Over 2300 jobs have been cut after 2 rounds of layoffs. IMPACT: Less accurate weather forecasting and decreased ability to plan and prepare for weather related natural disasters.</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>Veterans Affairs (VA) The VA expects to cut 80,000 jobs in total, including people who purchase medical supplies, schedule appointments and arrange transportation. IMPACT: It will halt drug trials, reduce access to suicide training for staff, reduce support for caregivers, and generally reduce services to veterans who depend on VA for medical care, housing assistance, and more.</p>	<p>18</p>

SURVEY 4: WOMEN’S ISSUES (Wednesday, March 19)

Put the following women’s issues in order: (1) the one that bothers you the most ; (2) bothers you the next most ; (3) bothers you third most ; and (4) bothers you the least .	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
<p>Equal Pay Day is the symbolic day to bring awareness to the gender pay gap.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Pay Day for ALL WOMEN is March 25, 2025. • Equal Pay Day for Moms is May 6, 2025. • Equal Pay Day for LGBTQIA+ is June 17, 2025. • Equal Pay Day for Black Women is July 10, 2025. • Equal Pay Day for Latina Women is October 8, 2025. • Equal Pay Day for Disabled Women is October 23, 2025* • Equal Pay Day for Native Women is November 18, 2025. 	11	29	19	9
<p>Safe, legal abortion access ended in the U.S. in June 2022 with the Supreme Court decision in the Dobbs case that overturned Roe v. Wade, the law of the land since 1973.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently, 12 states have a TOTAL abortion ban. • Currently, 7 additional states ban abortion at either 6, 12, or 18 weeks of pregnancy. • Currently, 22 states ban abortion AFTER 18 weeks of pregnancy. • Currently, 9 states + DC have no ban or gestational limit on abortion. 	47	10	4	2
<p>The House of Representatives has 435 members and the Senate has 100, totaling 535. Currently, 151 women serve in Congress, (110 Democrats and 41 Republicans). This equals just 28.2% of the seats available even though women over age 18 make up approximately 50.5% of the U.S. population overall. * Women also register to vote at higher rates than men: 7.4 million more women than men were registered in 2022, the last year of data. (*This percentage is for overall population and not just “voting citizens”.)</p>	4	7	21	28
<p>The Save Act** requires all Americans to prove their citizenship status by presenting documentation in person when registering to vote or updating their</p>	6	22	11	23

voter registration. Since real IDs, such as a CA Drivers' License, would not be accepted, the majority of Americans would need to rely on a passport or birth certificate for proof of citizenship. But, only half of American citizens have a passport, and as many as 69 million women who have taken their spouse's name do not have a birth certificate matching their legal name! This would disenfranchise millions of Americans, especially women, making them unable to cast a ballot!				
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Notes:

*The Equal Pay date for Disabled Women was inadvertently left off. A disabled student asked why we had not included it, so we quickly retrieved that date for her and have included it here.

**When reading about the SAVE Act, one student remarked, "So they're trying to reverse the 19th amendment, aren't they?")