

Fighting Socialism: A Survey of Americans' Attitudes in Selected Congressional Districts

July 7-14, 2019

Who We Are

AMERICAN ACTION
NETWORK

The American Action Network is a 501 (c) (4) 'action tank' that creates, encourages and promotes center-right policies based on the principles of freedom, limited government, American exceptionalism, and strong national security.

Those principles are under direct attack in Congress.

Fighting Socialism

Liberals in Congress are embracing socialism and pushing a radical agenda inconsistent with personal freedom, free markets, and the very essence of the American Idea pursued by the American Action Network.

Conservatives must fight back and our survey research shows the American people clearly support a center-right agenda.

What We Found

We surveyed 3 types of districts to better understand diverse constituent group attitudes:

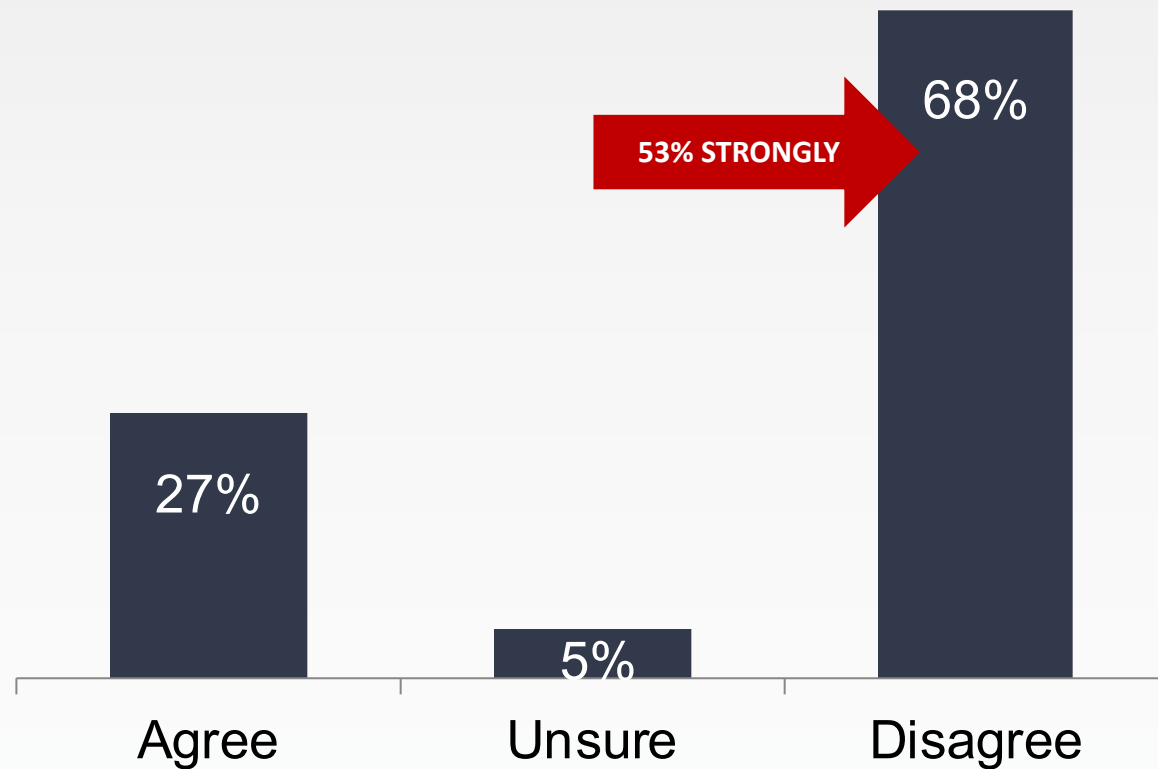
- Districts President Trump won handily in 2016
- Presidential Battle Ground Districts
- Suburban Districts

Using split sampling and regression analyses, we found socialism and related policies were unpopular across all three categories and with key constituencies.

National Environment

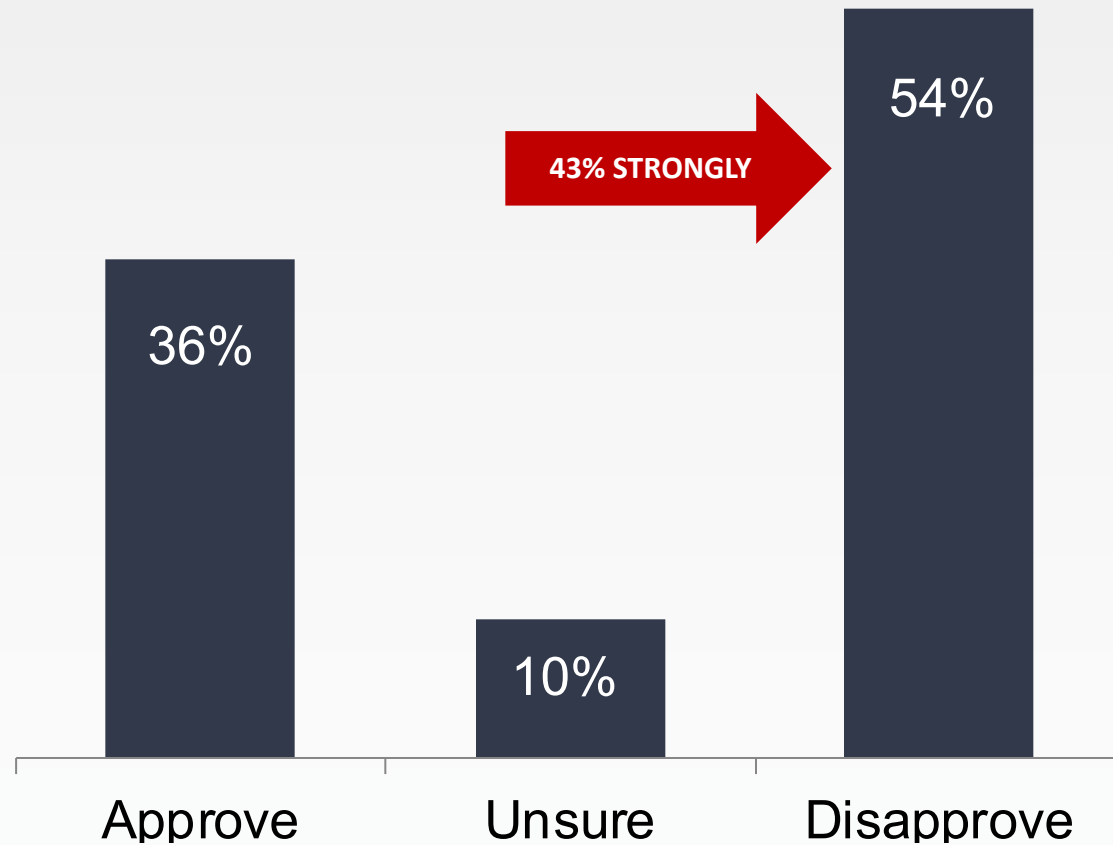


Should Congress begin impeachment proceedings against President Donald Trump?



	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
Strong Trump districts	26%	5%	69%
Pres BG districts	26%	6%	69%
Suburban swing districts	31%	4%	64%

Do you approve or disapprove of the Congressional Democratic agenda?



	Approve	Unsure	Disapprove
Strong Trump districts	31%	10%	59%
Pres BG districts	38%	8%	54%
Suburban swing districts	40%	12%	48%

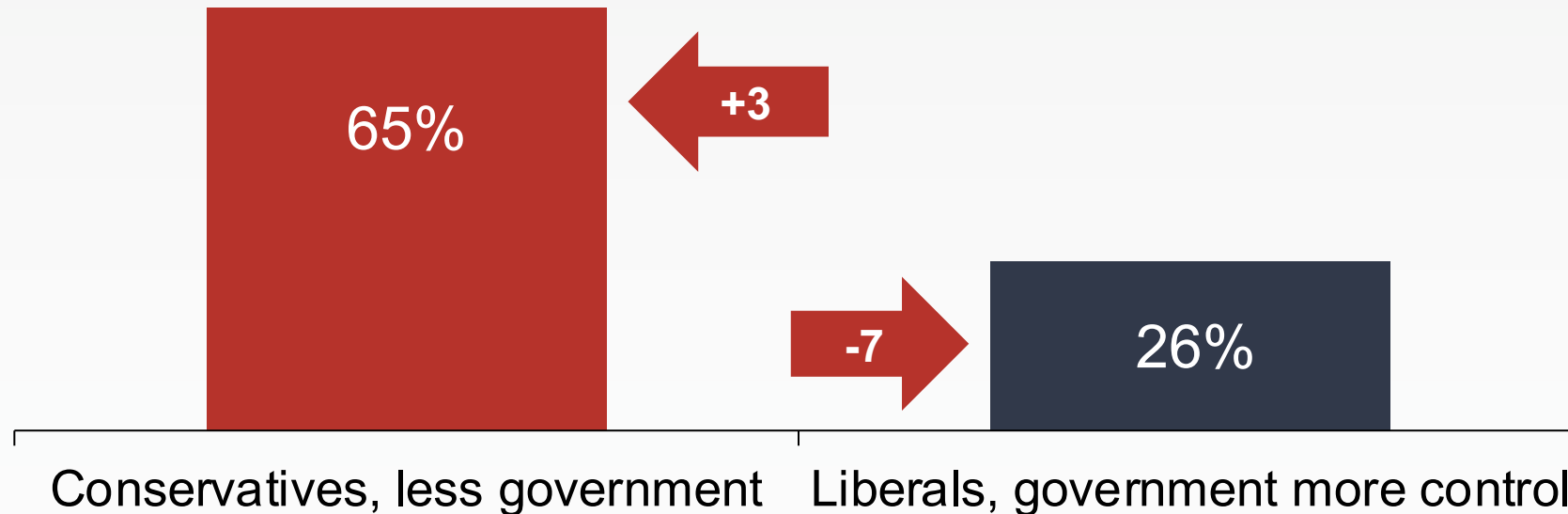


Americans **recognize** and
overwhelmingly **oppose** the
liberal shift toward **socialist**
policies

Highlighting liberal policies as “Socialist” creates stronger opposition by **+10 points** in a split sample.

Conservatives in Congress say we should have less government regulation of our lives, and more freedom and economic opportunity to make the most of our lives

Liberals in Congress say we should pursue a “socialist agenda” where government should have more control over things and balance out the inequalities between the wealthy and everyone else.



July 7-14, 2019 / N = 1,000 Registered voters in thirty selected congressional districts / ±3.1% M.O.E.

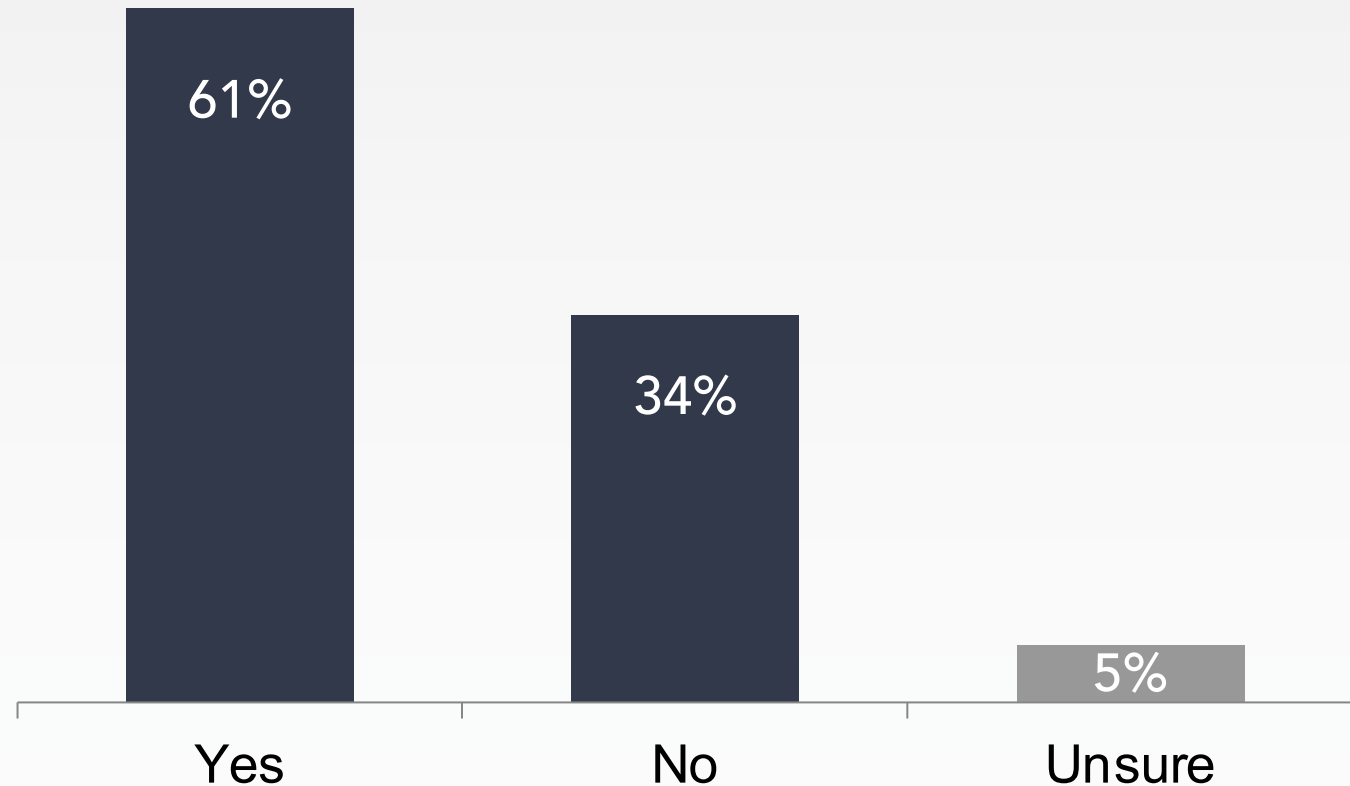
“Socialist” policies move key respondents **toward conservative policies** and **away from liberal policies** in this split sample.

VIEW OF GOVERNMENT

	Net Movement	Total Conservative Support
All Women	+5	61%
Suburban Women	+13	57%
College Graduate Women	+5	54%
18-44 YO	+6	60%
Hispanic/Latino	+20	79%

After learning about key liberal policies proposed in Congress, Americans broadly believe they are socialist. **That is why this term is so effective.**

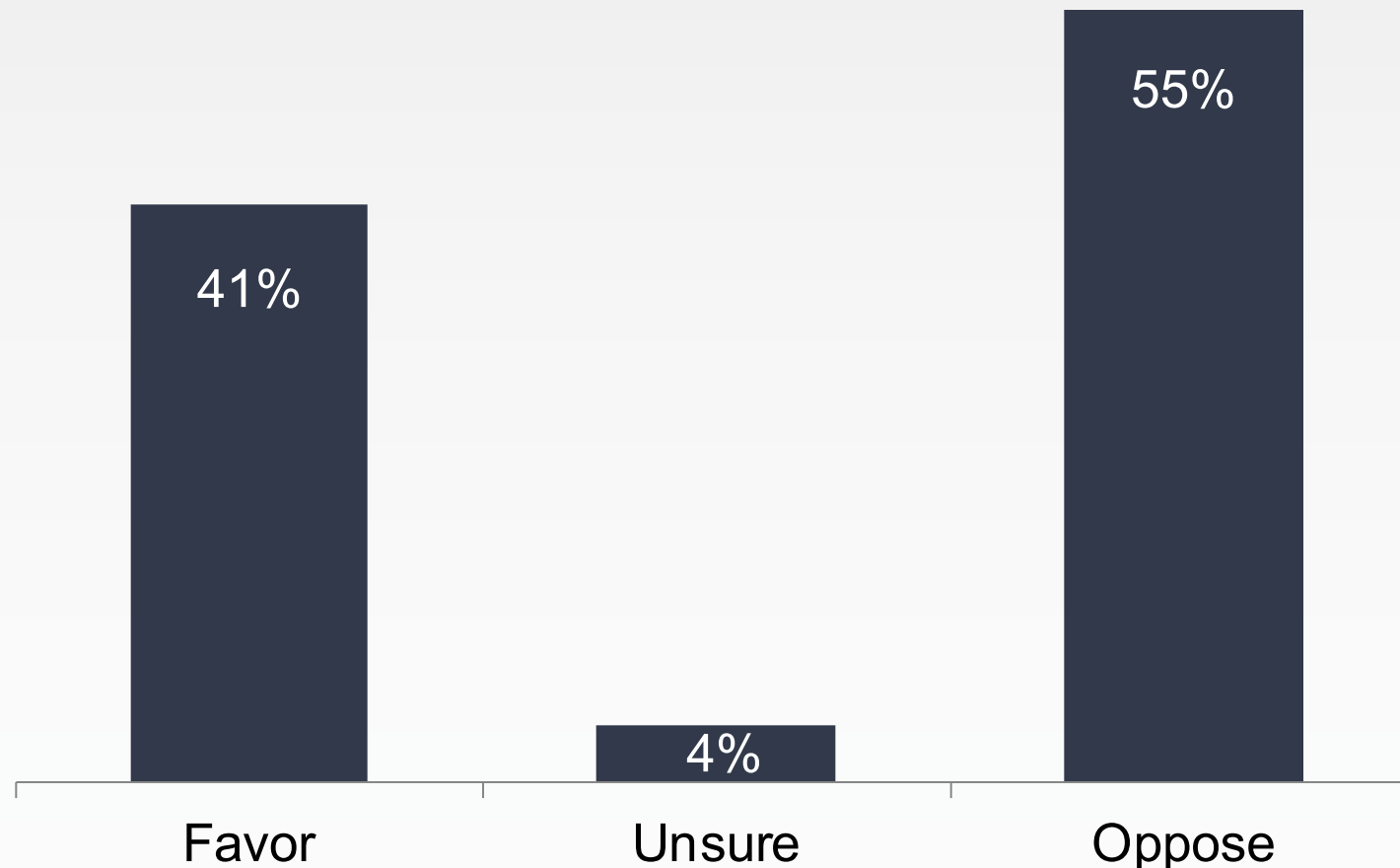
Q: Would you call this agenda we just discussed a "socialist agenda?"





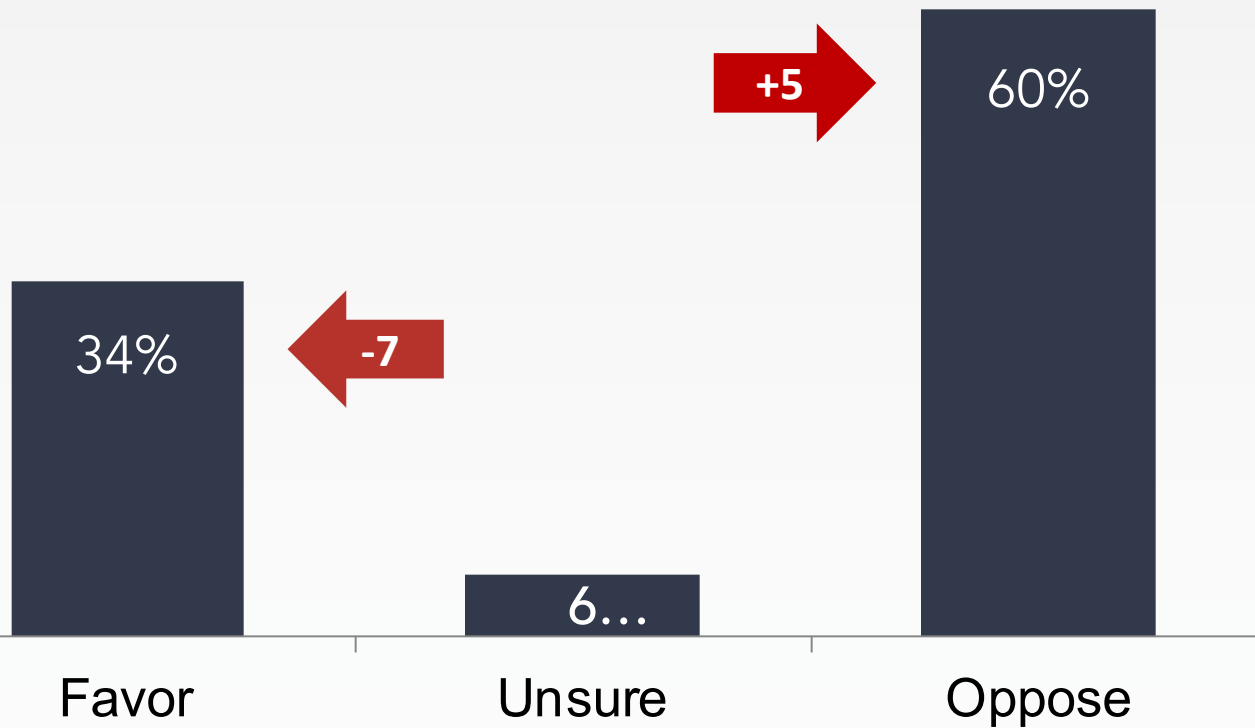
However, we must explain what these
socialist policies are and **their**
consequences.

Would you favor or oppose having a Medicare for All system, in which all Americans would get guaranteed health care coverage regardless of their income, and every American's health insurance would come from a single government-run plan?



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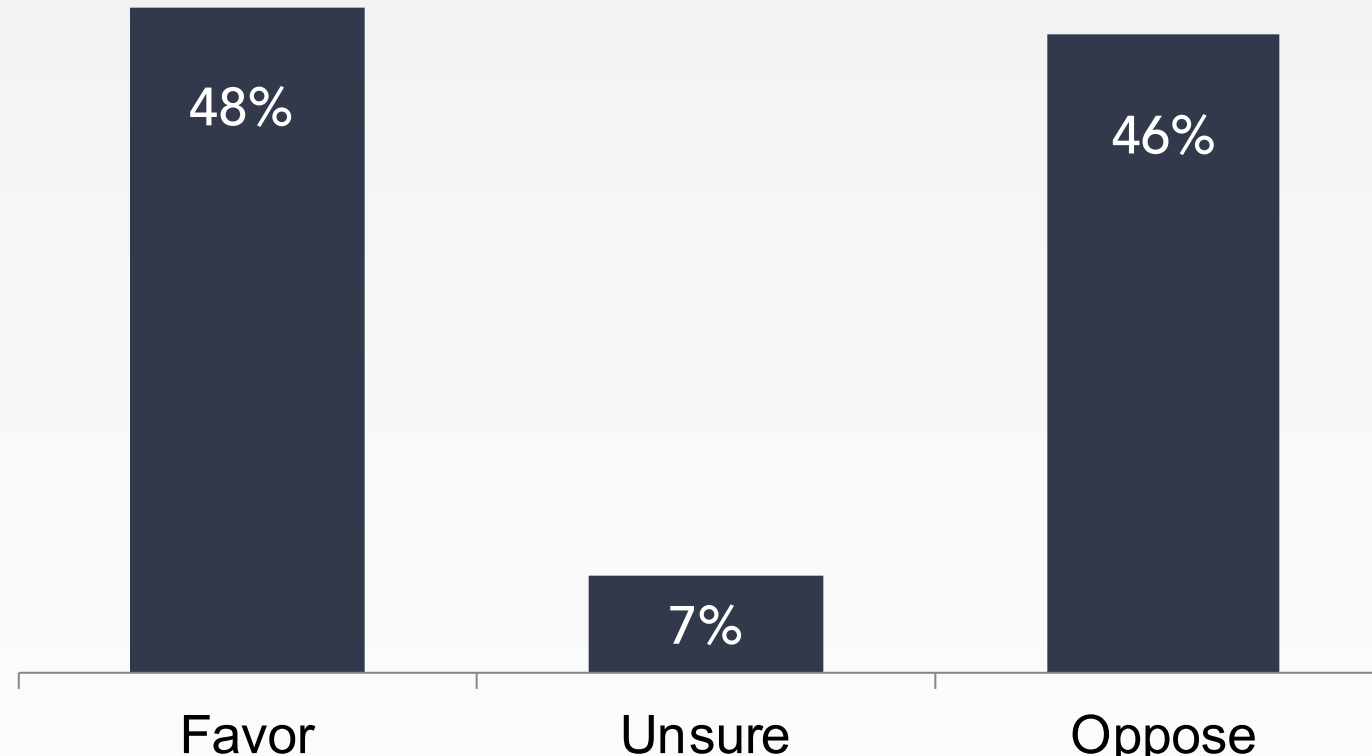
As you may know, independent studies have shown that Medicare for All as proposed in Congress would mean doctor shortages, longer wait times for urgent medical care, and delays in access to the latest drugs for cancer and other serious diseases. Knowing this
Would you favor or oppose having a Medicare for All system?



	Net Movement	Total Oppose
All Women	-4	57%
18-44	-12	49%
Independents	-14	58%

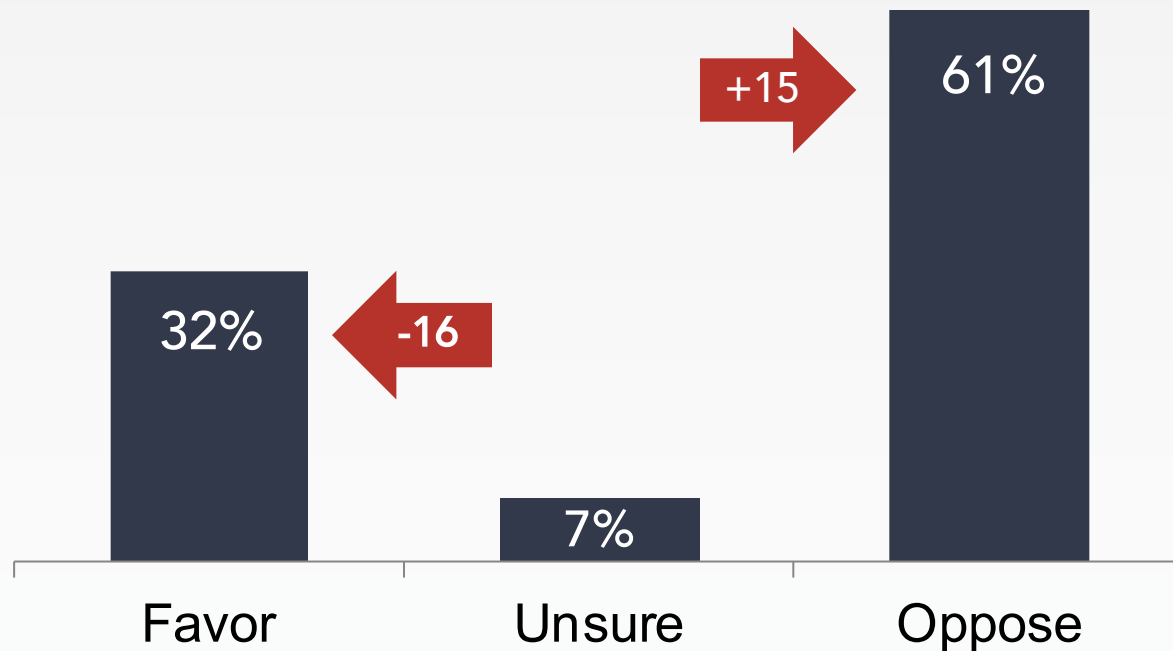
Now, thinking about the issue of the environment and climate change and the Green New Deal which has been proposed by the Democrats in Congress –

Would you favor or oppose Congress passing the proposed Green New Deal – which would work to address climate change and income inequality, and transition the United States from an economy built on fossil fuels to one driven by clean energy?



As you may know, the Green New Deal as proposed by Democrats in Congress could cost 93 trillion dollars, an impact of \$65K per household each year, including a \$3K increase in energy bills. Worse, the plan would not stop climate change because countries like China would not make similar changes.

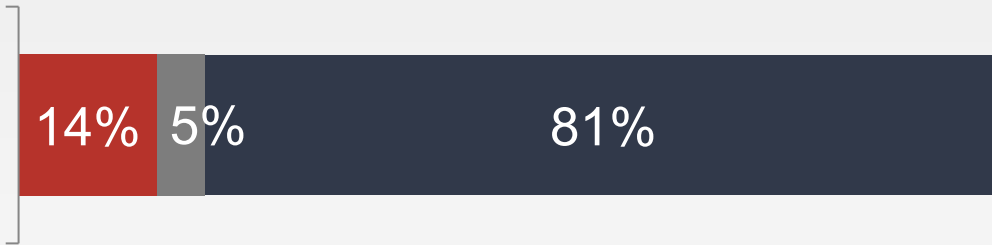
Knowing this- Would you favor or oppose Congress passing the proposed Green New Deal?



	Net Movement	Total Oppose
Presidential Battleground Districts	-31	59%
Suburban Districts	-31	57%
All Women	-35	56%
18-44	-23	51%
Independents	-36	57%

Now, I would like to read you a list of statements about Democrats in Congress. Please listen carefully as I read each proposal and tell me if you would favor or oppose each.

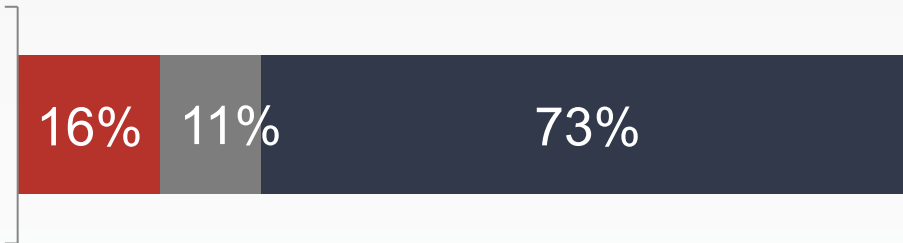
Democrats in Congress have proposed pursuing a socialist agenda by guaranteeing an income for people who are capable of working but say they are unwilling to work.



Democrats in Congress have proposed pursuing a socialist agenda with policies that would give everyone free college tuition at public universities while forcing taxpayers to foot the entire bill.



Democrats in Congress have proposed an election bill that would allow them to bankroll their own political campaigns with upwards of 4.5 million in taxpayer dollars per race.



■ Favor ■ Unsure ■ Oppose

Some people say the Democrats agenda in Congress is quote “socialist.”
And, being as specific as you can, what do the words “socialist” or “socialism” mean to you?

Open-Ended Responses	Percent (%)
Government control - individuals have no freedom	27.8
Positive -Taking care of all/ for the people/ gov ensures basic needs of citizens	13.6
Workers pay for non-workers/ free handouts/ promotes laziness	10.4
Refused/ I don't know	10.0
Everyone is Equal/ Equal distribution of wealth/ community rule	9.2
Negative - Bad for country/ doesn't work/ dictatorship/ Democrats	7.4
Communism/ like Russia	5.6
Other/ Nonsense answer/	5.4
Higher taxes - more government programs/handouts	4.1
Already answered/ will not repeat answer	3.7
Term used to scare people/socialism not Democratic socialism	1.8
Already have in USA- Medicare/SS/Police-Fire Dept.	0.7
Bernie Sanders	0.3

Advocacy Agenda

American Action Network strongly opposes several pieces of legislation that have become the hallmark of the new, liberal agenda.

H.R.1384 - Medicare for All Act

Sponsored by Rep. Pramila Jayapal (117 cosponsors)

H.Res 109 - Green New Deal Resolution

Sponsored by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (94 cosponsors)

H.R.1571 - Free College Act

Sponsored by Rep. Mark Pocan (34 cosponsors)