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The Effect of an Illinois Wesleyan University Education on Political Ideology

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The Effect of an

Illinois Wesleyan University Education

On Political Ideology

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Political commentators often label American students not as liberals or conservatives, but simply as apathetic citizens unconcerned with political issues. The number of students venturing to the polls continues to be depressing to any advocate of a democratic form of government. Outside of political science classrooms, few students seem to be knowledgeable of simple political events and personalities.

Has this apathy always plagued universities in the United States? There existed in the 1960s a movement in American students that awakened a generation of political activists. The rise of the student movement in opposition to the Vietnam War gained national attention as teach-ins and other forms of protest became a daily occurrence on campuses. The beginning of the student-based civil rights movement only fueled this activism. As the media looked on, the students of America gained a reputation as a radical, left-wing population.

The nation has seen a rebirth of many of the Vietnam-era values in today's students. Protests, mostly in opposition to the war in Iraq, have become frequent events on college campuses. Student organizations advocating equal rights for women, racial minorities and the gay community have made their voice heard in state and federal legislatures. Perhaps there is some truth to the view that college students are a very liberal group that tends to become more liberal as they approach graduation.

Many scholars feel that the university environment nurtures this liberalization in the student body. There seems to be a general acceptance of social and economic liberal ideas both in and out of the classroom. Some feel that professors have a large effect on students' political development. Others speculate that the material studied by students awakens new views that tend to push them to the left. Still others believe that it is the

effect of peers and the general college environment that has the biggest impact. Whatever the source, it seems as if college students tend to cross the graduation platform more liberal than they arrive. This research will look at the political views of students at Illinois Wesleyan University to see if a liberalizing trend exists within the campus. The source of this liberalization (or lack thereof) will be construed from data provided by several hundred students at the institution.

Literature Review

Between the fall of 1935 and the spring of 1939, Theodore M. Newcomb (1943) completed what has been called the benchmark in the study of political socialization in college. The Bennington Study, published in 1943, made use of questionnaires, written reports and personal interviews with the students of Bennington College, a small women's college located in Vermont. The main finding of the study was that "Bennington students show a significant change in social attitudes... between freshman and senior years in college" and that "the change may be described as being from more to less conservatism" (146). In addition, Newcomb discovered that this attitude change is only slightly related to courses of study pursued in college. Newcomb did, however, find that the attitudes of seniors often persist after graduation, publishing continuing results of the political attitudes of the Bennington women twenty-five and fifty years after their graduation (1991).

There are many reasons why this liberalizing effect is so strong during the college years. Philip Altbach (1967) contends that "the student days are one of the few times in the life of an individual when he is not burdened by financial or social responsibilities or

subject to outside control" (76). These years of undergraduate education serve as a transitional period between youth and adulthood when a student is exposed to politics and how political issues might affect his or her life. This phenomenon naturally fosters increased awareness of political issues and, occasionally, a drastic shift in a student's views and beliefs. In addition, students are dealing with ideas and intellectual concepts in their studies, making them "better able to understand abstract ideology systems than are persons who regularly work in concrete 'non-intellectual' situations" (77).

One of the leading criticisms of Newcomb's findings came in a study conducted by Philip E. Jacob (1957). Jacob considers the results of an extensive survey conducted at several institutions to determine whether general education in the social sciences brought about changes in students' beliefs and values. Jacob concludes that college liberalism is a myth, stating that "the value changes which seem to occur in college and set the college alumnus apart from others are not very great... and do not support the widely held assumption that a college education has an important, general, almost certain 'liberalizing' effect' (50). Jacob claims that the results of Newcomb's study were partly due to the drastic reorientation of public beliefs occurring during the 1930s and were not influenced by exposure to academics.

There are many other scholars that tend to support Jacob's views over Newcomb's. Lipset, Lazarsfeld, Barton and Linz (1954) explained the development of political orientations through a succession of clearly identifiable life stages. They concluded that the family had a great influence on the political development of children and adolescents and that these attitudes tend to persist into adulthood. Many other scholars have suggested this strong familial influence. Hyman (1959) concluded that "the

individual's political orientation is a product of socialization essentially within the family" (85). Campbell, Converse, Miller, and Stokes speak of this in <u>The American</u> <u>Voter</u> (1960). They find a strong resemblance between the party identification of respondents and the party identification that respondents report for their parents, suggesting that "party identification has its origin in the early family years" (48).

Lipset, Lazarsfeld, Barton and Linz state, however, that these political orientations could be "upset by fundamentally different sets of experiences and social relations" (1144). If it is true that family is the greatest influence in the development of political orientation in children, it is possible that the fundamentally different experiences and social relations existing within the college environment might be enough to change these orientations. The work of Robert Weissberg (1974) supports this conclusion. Weissberg states that although political loyalties originated within the family are strong, many political attitudes and behaviors are not totally determined by the family, so adolescents are "available for persuasion toward new positions and actions in a number of areas" (172). Manipulation of the socialization process can occur in schools as the political and social environments at many universities seem to spark political attitude change.

Although Newcomb found that course of study was only slightly related to political change in college, many scholars have speculated that there exists a dramatic difference in a student's ideology based on his or her major course of study. Lipset and Altbach (1967) note that "students in humanistic and social science courses are exposed to more liberalizing and politically activating experiences than those in other fields" (221). Their research from the 1960s included data reporting that 70 to 90 per cent of

students in business, engineering or the sciences were in favor of the Vietnam conflict, as opposed to only 47 per cent of students studying education and the social sciences (222).

The liberal ideological shift of students in the Bennington study is especially surprising after considering the work of Sniderman, Brody and Tetlock (1991). The authors showed that there exists an asymmetry in persuasibility between liberal and conservative ideologies. It is easier, they claim, to talk liberals out of their opinions than it is to convince conservatives to adhere to liberal ideas (225). This trend may be explained by the work of Fibert and Ressler (1998). Their work shows that liberals are more likely to be tolerant of ambiguity, or more likely to be comfortable with uncertainty, than conservatives (37). The literature suggests that liberal students should be more accepting of uncertainty and more likely to experience a shift in political ideology than conservatives. The data suggest, however, the shift most students experience in the university setting is in the liberal, not the conservative, direction.

Hypotheses

The previous literature on the topic of political socialization in the college setting is mixed. This research seeks to determine whether there is a significant change in the political ideologies of Illinois Wesleyan students as Newcomb suggests or whether Jacob is correct and the student body will experience no major change in political values. When informal discussions with students and personal experiences are considered, it seems as if the findings of the Bennington Study conducted by Newcomb hold true to this day. In short, it seems as if IWU students are influenced by the college environment as

they shift their political views to the left during their four years of undergraduate education.

Hypothesis 1: Obtaining an undergraduate education from Illinois Wesleyan
University will have a liberalizing effect on students, shifting the political
ideology of the student body to a more liberal view.

The findings of Lipset and Altbach regarding the correlation between a student's major and his or her political ideology will also be tested. The data presented in previous literature seems to support a conclusion that can be drawn from personal experience.

There is a difference, however, between the major that a student selects based on his or her ideology and the effect that pursuing that major may have on the student's political views. Even though a student may choose a major based on his or her placement on the liberal-conservative scale, it seems that studies within the humanities and social sciences will push the student to become more liberal.

Hypothesis 2: Students pursuing a major in the social sciences or humanities will undergo a stronger liberal shift than students in other departments.

Data Measurement

The data for this study were drawn from the Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) prepared by the Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles. The CIRP, which was established in 1966, is the nation's largest and oldest empirical study of higher education, involving data on some 1,800 institutions and over 11 million students. Two surveys conducted by the CIRP were used in this study: the CIRP Freshman Survey and the College Student Survey (CSS).

The Freshman Survey¹ is administered to freshman students and provides participating institutions with a detailed profile of the entering freshman class, including the students' expectations of the college experience, demographic information, degree and career plans, attitudes, values and life goals. At IWU, the survey is mandatory for all freshman students during the university's fall orientation week. Around ninety percent of freshman students complete the CIRP Freshman Survey each year.

The College Student Survey² is very similar to the freshman survey and is used to measure a broad range of student outcomes, including satisfaction with the college experience, student involvement, cognitive development, and student values and attitudes. The CSS was initiated in 1993 to allow institutions to conduct follow-up studies of their student body. Since 1999, IWU seniors have received a copy of the CSS through the mail during their final semester before graduation. Completion of the survey is encouraged but not mandatory and about 145 seniors complete the survey each year.

Since the senior survey has been distributed at IWU only since 1999, complete information is available only for the classes of 1999 through 2002. Both freshman and senior survey information is available for each of these classes. The total number of students in these four classes that completed both surveys exceeded 600; however, many students failed to respond with their political orientation, particularly during their freshman year. After eliminating students that failed to respond to this crucial question, 450 respondents remained.

The data collected from these surveys involved the students' political views and came from two specific questions. On each survey, students are asked to characterize

¹ The CIRP Survey can be found in Appendix A.

² The College Student Survey can be found in Appendix B.

their political orientation as far left, liberal, middle-of-the-road, conservative or far right.³ The question has remained the same on both the freshman and senior surveys since IWU began distributing the survey instruments in 1991.

The second question used in this study involves a several questions measuring the political views of the student.⁴ Respondents are given a variety of questions regarding social issues. For each statement, the student is asked whether he or she agrees strongly, agrees somewhat, disagrees somewhat or disagrees strongly. There were eight questions that were asked on both the freshman and senior surveys of all 450 respondents. One of the questions dealing with the individual's ability to bring about changes in our society was omitted, as it did not seem to fall upon the traditional liberal-conservative scale. The remaining seven questions, shown in Figure 1, deal with abortion, the death penalty, attitudes on sex, marijuana, homosexual relationships, racial discrimination and taxes.

Figure 1

Political Views Questions and Liberal Responses

- 1. Abortion should be legal. (agree)
- 2. The death penalty should be abolished. (agree)
- 3. If two people really like each other, it's all right for them to have sex even if they've known each other for only a very short time. (agree)
- 4. Marijuana should be legalized. (agree)
- 5. It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships. (disagree)
- 6. Racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America. (disagree)
- 7. Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now. (agree)

³ The self-identification question can be is question #28 on the CIRP survey and #12 on the CSS.

⁴ The list of political views questions make up question #32 on the CIRP survey and #26 on the CSS.

It is important for reasons of external validity to clarify that the students at Illinois Wesleyan University are quite similar to those in other private four year colleges. There are a few differences that should be mentioned. First of all, the grade point average of IWU students tends to be higher than the national average, although the difference is not major. Second, IWU has a higher number of business and natural sciences majors than most other four year colleges. Finally, the political views of IWU students tend to be more liberal than the national average. According to the 2002 College Student Survey, 36.4% of IWU students characterize themselves as liberal or far left as opposed to the national average of 26.9%.

Data Analysis

The results of the CIRP surveys clearly support Hypothesis 1. A simple glance at the students' responses to the self-identification question suggests that a clear liberalizing trend is occurring at IWU. The results of the surveys are found in Table 1. In each cell, the number of respondents is noted, followed by the percent within the class year. The students identifying themselves as liberal or far left increase from 24% as freshmen to 39.4% as seniors. Likewise, the number of students claiming to be conservative or far right drops from 22.7% to 17.1% and the number of students identifying themselves as "middle of the road" drops by over 10%. These numbers clearly show a much more liberal student body at graduation than during freshman orientation, supporting the idea of the university as a liberalizing agent.

These results are shown more clearly in Table 2. Political change was measured by subtracting the political ideology as freshmen from the ideology as seniors. If the result was zero, there was no change in ideology. If the result was positive, there was a liberal shift. A change of one degree (such as middle of the road to liberal) was classified as a liberal shift. Changes of two and three degrees were classified as strong liberal shifts and extreme liberal shifts, respectively. A negative result signified a conservative shift. Again, a change of one degree was classified as a conservative shift and a change of two degrees was classified as a strong conservative shift. Out of 450 students included in this study, 140 became more liberal (31.2%), 255 remained constant (56.7%) and 55 became more conservative (12.2%). Although the number of students changing their political ideology is slightly less than a majority, it is still a very large percent of students. Of the 195 students that experienced a change in ideology, 71.8% became more liberal. There was also a much greater tendency for students to undergo a strong or extreme liberal shift than a strong conservative shift. Both of these tables support the first hypothesis and suggest that obtaining an IWU education will cause students to shift their political views to the left, becoming more liberal.

Table 1

	Political Orientation by Class Year									
	Class of 1999		Class of 2000		Class	Class of 2001		Class of 2002		Senior
	Fresh.	Sen.	Fresh.	Sen.	Fresh.	Sen.	Fresh.	Sen.	Total	Total
	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	4	1
Far Right	1.4%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.9%	0.2%
	17	9	28	18	25	26	28	25	98	76
Conservative	24.6%	13.0%	23.0%	14.8%	20.0%	20.8%	20.9%	17.2%	21.8%	16.9%
Middle of the	30	35	63	59	72	43	75	59	240	196
Road	43.5%	50.7%	51.6%	48.4%	57.6%	34.4%	56.0%	44.0%	53.3%	43.6%
	21	23	28	43	25	51	29	48	103	165
Liberal	30.4%	33.3%	23.0%	35.2%	20.0%	40.8%	21.6%	35.8%	22.9%	36.7%
	0	2	2	2	2	4	1	4	5	12
Far Left	0.0%	2.9%	1.6%	1.6%	1.6%	3.2%	0.7%	3.0%	1.1%	2.7%
Total		69		122		125		134		450

Table 2

Political Change by Class Year								
	1999	2000	2001	2002	Total			
Strong Conservative	0	1	1	2	4			
Shift	0.0%	0.8%	0.8%	1.5%	0.9%			
	12	14	16	9	51			
Conservative Shift	17.4%	11.5%	12.8%	6.7%	11.3%			
	33	70	68	84	255			
No Change	47.8%	57.4%	54.4%	62.7%	56.7%			
	21	31	34	34	120			
Liberal Shift	30.4%	25.4%	27.2%	25.4%	26.7%			
	2	6	5	4	17			
Strong Liberal Shift	2.9%	4.9%	4.0%	3.0%	3.8%			
	1	0	1	1	3			
Extreme Liberal Shift	1.4%	0.0%	0.8%	0.7%	0.7%			
Total	69	122	125	134	450			

The results of the political views questions for freshmen and seniors can be found in Table 3. The liberalism scale is measured from zero to seven, with one point being added for each question that was answered with the liberal response; thus, higher scores are more liberal. As a whole, the responses to the political view questions on the senior survey gained a higher score than those on the freshman survey. For example, 215 seniors (48.8%) answered four or more questions with the traditionally liberal answer, compared to only 137 freshmen (31.9%). The change in this liberalism scale that students display over four years is also shown. Again, a positive number indicates a shift to more liberal responses. A majority of students responded to more questions with the liberal answer on the senior survey, as compared to 19.1% that responded to more questions with the conservative answer.

Table 3

Freshn	Freshman Liberalism Scale			Senior Liberalism Scale			MA	Chang	e in Liberalis	m Scale
Scale	Frequency	Percent		Scale	Frequency	Percent	Trans	Scale	Frequency	Percent
0	15	3.3%		0	1	0.2%	187	-4	1	0.2%
1	45	10.0%		1	28	6.2%	The state of	-3	2	0.4%
2	103	22.9%		2	86	19.1%	HIPS	-2	17	3.8%
3	129	28.7%		3	111	24.7%	Aug I	-1	61	13.6%
4	94	20.9%	5301	4	107	23.8%		0	126	28.0%
5	33	7.3%	43	5	81	18.0%		1	116	25.8%
6	10	2.2%	300	6	26	5.8%		2	68	15.1%
7	0	0.0%		7	1	0.2%	Press	3	29	6.4%
							Hg.	4	1	0.2%
						_		5	2	0.4%

It is interesting to note that the responses of students on five of the seven political views questions were more liberal in the senior survey. All five of these questions had to do with social issues: abortion, the death penalty, sex, marijuana and homosexuality. Responses to the question on whether discrimination is still a major problem in America showed little change, but 9.6% of respondents (43 students) displayed a conservative shift as compared to 4.9% (22 students) that displayed a liberal shift. The question for which the highest number of students changed their answers stated that wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now. One-third of students changed their answers on this question between the two surveys, with 17.8% shifting to the conservative answer and 13.3% shifting to the liberal alternative.

The results of comparing the change in responses to political views questions of the students with self-reported political change can be seen in Table 4. The students with a self-identified liberal shift undergo a fairly obvious liberal change in political views. Students reporting no political change have vastly different changes in their responses to

⁵ The change in responses for each of the political views questions can be found in Appendix C.

political views questions, although 45.3% become more liberal in their views as compared to only 21.8% that become more conservative.

Table 4 – Political change by shift in responses to political views questions

					Political Ch	nange			
			Strong conservative shift	Conservative shift	No change	Liberal shift	Strong liberal shift	Extreme liberal shift	Total
Change in	-4	Count			1				1
liberalism		% within Political Change			.4%				.2%
scale (no	-3	Count			1	1			2
ind.)		% within Political Change			.4%	.9%			.5%
	-2	Count	1	6	6	4			17
-1		% within Political Change	25.0%	12.5%	2.5%	3.5%			4.0%
	-1	Count		6	44	11			61
		% within Political Change		12.5%	18.5%	9.6%			14.4%
	Count	1	13	78	29	5		126	
		% within Political Change	25.0%	27.1%	32.8%	25.4%	31.3%		29.8%
	1	Count	2	16	63	27	6	2	116
		% within Political Change	50.0%	33.3%	26.5%	23.7%	37.5%	66.7%	27.4%
	2	Count		6	32	25	4	1	68
		% within Political Change		12.5%	13.4%	21.9%	25.0%	33.3%	16.1%
	3	Count		1	11	16	1		29
		% within Political Change		2.1%	4.6%	14.0%	6.3%		6.9%
	4	Count			1				-
		% within Political Change			.4%				.2%
	5	Count	_		1	1			2
		% within Political Change			.4%	.9%			.5%
Total		Count	4	48	238	114	16	3	423
		% within Political Change	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The students that claim to be more conservative as seniors present an interesting case. Only 25% of those students reporting a conservative shift in their ideology actually give more conservative answers to the political views questions as seniors, compared to 47.9% that give more liberal answers. What seems to be happening is that all students, regardless of their self-reported political change, are becoming more liberal in their political views. Those reporting a liberal change are having the stronger liberal shift in the views, but even those claiming to have undergone a conservative shift are actually becoming more liberal on the political views questions.

The political views questions that were included in the survey may provide the answer for this puzzling phenomenon. Of the seven political views questions included in the surveys, only one question had anything to do with fiscal as opposed to social

ideology. It is also interesting that more students shifted to the liberal answer on five of the six questions concerning social issues but the single question on economic issues resulted in more students shifting to the conservative response. This brings us to an interesting dilemma. A majority of students consider themselves as becoming more liberal. This trend is supported by data on the political views of students on social issues but not on the single fiscal issue measured by the survey. The self-identification question simply asks students to characterize their general political views without asking for specifically social or fiscal views. It seems that students may be becoming more conservative on fiscal issues, but equate the term "political ideology" with social issues.

The reasoning for this disparity between social and fiscal liberalism has not been explicitly covered in recent literature. Many IWU faculty members were able to speculate on the difference between the two kinds of liberalism. While the college experience may foster and even promote a change in social issues (as discussed later), little is done to influence students' economic beliefs. In addition, the diversity of the student body regarding socio-economic backgrounds is very minimal. Finally, seniors are "getting closer to making their own money and are exposed to worries about taxes, student loans and debt" (Ernst). Over the four years of study, economic concerns escalate in students, many of whom are not influenced with respect to economic matters as they are with social issues. It is understandable, therefore, that the liberal shift in ideology with respect to social issues is not accompanied by a shift with respect to fiscal issues.

* * *

It is clear at this point that the first hypothesis is supported by the data regarding students' self-declared political ideology and their responses to political views questions.

We now turn to different data from the surveys to discover what factors are causing this change to take place.

The gender of the student respondents was first tested to see if it accounted for any variation in the political change of the student body. The results, shown in Table 5, do not seem to account for a majority of the change. Slightly more males than females tend to become more liberal over the four years of their undergraduate education (33% of males and 30.5% of females), however many more males also tend to become more conservative than females (17.4% of males are more conservative compared to 10.6% of females). It seems that males are more likely to undergo some form of political change, although these changes are similar to those experienced by females. The gender of the student does not seem to have any influence on that student's ideological views.

Table 5

Political Change by Students' Gender							
	Male	Female	Total				
	1	3	4				
Strong conservative shift	0.9%	0.9%	0.9%				
	18	33	51				
Conservative shift	16.5%	9.7%	11.3%				
	54	201	255				
No change	49.5%	58.9%	56.7%				
	30	90	120				
Liberal shift	27.5%	26.4%	26.7%				
	4	13	17				
Strong liberal shift	3.7%	3.8%	3.8%				
	2	1	3				
Extreme liberal shift	1.8%	0.3%	0.7%				
Total	109	341	450				

The cumulative grade point averages of the students after seven semesters were then tested. The results of the comparison are shown in Table 6. Interestingly, 36.8% of

students with an A average became more liberal while only 6.6% of these students became more conservative. This trend of liberalization is similar for students with an A-minus or B-plus average, with 30.9% shifting to the left and 10.2% shifting to the right. In total, 75% of students that became more liberal during their undergraduate study earned a B-plus average or above, a figure much higher than the aggregate. Only a slight majority of students shifting to the right earned a B-plus average or higher. Surprisingly, it seems that a correlation exists between a student's grade point average and his or her political change. Specifically, a higher grade point average causes students to shift their ideological views to the left. The reasons for this causal relationship are discussed later.

The findings of Lipset and Altbach regarding the difference in a student's ideology based on his or her major course of study were tested from the data set of IWU students. The 34 majors reported by students were grouped into eight categories: fine

Table 6

	Political Change by Students' GPA								
	Cumulative GPA								
	C- or less	C	B-/C+	В	A-/B+	Α	Total		
Strong	0	0	1	0	3	0	4		
conservative shift			6.3%		1.4%		0.9%		
	0	1	1	24	18	7	51		
Conservative shift		100.0%	6.3%	21.6%	8.4%	6.6%	11.4%		
	1	0	10	56	127	60	254		
No change	100.0%		62.5%	50.5%	59.3%	56.6%	56.6%		
	0	0	4	26	53	37	120		
Liberal shift			25.0%	23.4%	24.8%	34.9%	26.7%		
	0	0	0	5	10	2	17		
Strong liberal shift				4.5%	4.7%	1.9%	3.8%		
Extreme liberal	0	0	0	0	3	0	3		
shift					1.4%		0.7%		
Total	1	1	16	111	214	106	449		

arts, humanities, social sciences, nursing, education, business, natural sciences and mathematics. The self-reported political change within each major can be seen in Table 7. It is interesting to note that the humanities and social sciences show two of the largest liberal shifts with 37.8% and 37.6% of the students within those areas of study becoming more liberal, respectively. The weakest liberal shift and, likewise, one of the strongest conservative shifts occurred in business students with only 21.1% of students becoming more liberal. The overall results of the table, however, do not show any great difference between the areas of study. In fact, five of the eight majors had liberal shifts ranging from 33% and 40%, suggesting that most majors do tend to push students in a liberal direction. It is clear, however, that business seems to be the outlying major with a conservative shift that rivals the liberal shift. There does not seem to be a significant causal relationship between a student's major and his or her ideological change and, therefore, the second hypothesis is not supported by the data.

Table 7

Political Change by Students' Major Course of Study Category of Student's Major Social Fine Natural Sciences Nursing Education **Business** Math Other Arts Human. Sciences Total 2 16 47 Conservative 12.1% shift 7.1% 11.1% 10.0% 8.3% 5.6% 17.8% 14.5% 25.0% 33.3% 23 42 16 22 55 28 10 2 216 18 45.2% No change 64.3% 51.1% 52.5% 66.7% 61.1% 61.1% 50.0% 66.7% 55.7% 12 25 104 8 17 30 19 Liberal shift 37.8% 37.6% 25.0% 33.3% 21.1% 40.3% 25.0% 0.0% 26.8% 28.6% Total 45 24 36 90 62 20 3 388 28 80

⁶ A list of reported majors and each major's corresponding category can be found in Appendix D. It should be noted that the students' majors are determined during their senior year, so any possible change in major is not included in this data. In addition, there may be many students completing multiple majors. In each of these cases, the student is only able to identify one major.

It is interesting to note that the category of majors with the highest liberal shift was actually the natural sciences, with over 40% of students becoming more liberal in their political ideology. The reason for the high amount of natural science students shifting to liberal views was discussed with IWU faculty members. The main reasoning postulated by faculty members was that the natural sciences had a strong commitment to democratic values. The department allows students individual autonomy, no hierarchical class structure and agreement without coercion (Jaggi). All of these qualities led to a liberal shift that was much higher than expected.

The students' gender and college grade point average were then tested for correlations with both the self-described change in ideology of the students and the change in the responses given to the political views questions. The results are displayed in a correlation matrix in Table 8. We can see that a significant correlation exists between the political change of the students and the change in the liberalism scale based

Table 8

Correlations

		Political	Change in liberalism	STUDENT'S GENDER	AVERAGE COLLEGE
Political Change	Pearson Correlation	Change 1	scale (no ind.) .195**	.008	GRADE .119*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000	.863	.012
	N	450	423	450	449
Change in liberalism	Pearson Correlation	.195**	1	004	039
scale (no ind.)	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000		.934	.420
	N	423	423	423	423
STUDENT'S GENDER	Pearson Correlation	.008	004	1	.154**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.863	.934		.001
	N	450	423	450	449
AVERAGE COLLEGE	Pearson Correlation	.119*	039	.154**	1
GRADE	Sig. (2-tailed)	.012	.420	.001	
	N	449	423	449	<u>4</u> 49

^{**.} Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

^{*} Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

on the responses to the political views questions. This should not come as a surprise. However, the relationship between political change and grade point average is also significant at the .05 level. It can be reasonably assumed, therefore, that a high GPA will lead to an increased liberal shift in a student's ideology. It is interesting to note that there does not seem to be a correlation between the gender of the students and political change, although gender is significantly correlated to students' grades.

Regressions were then calculated for a variety of information available from the CSS surveys. The surveys have eight lengthy questions with multiple responses. These question areas cover general college activities, academic activities, student satisfaction, non-academic actions, time management, perceived change in abilities, objectives after graduation and self-rating for various traits. These groups of 11 to 28 questions were each correlated with the change in self-declared political ideology for each student. The regression coefficient (r²) values can be found in Figure 2. These sections range from explaining just 3.4% to 13.4% of the change in political ideology. While the regression coefficients vary, the various questions from the College Student Survey do not seem to account for much of the change in political ideology of students.

Figure 2

Regression coefficient (r2) values

• Academics: 0.134

• Change in abilities: 0.104

Objective: 0.099Actions: 0.097

• Activities: 0.077

Satisfaction: 0.067Self-rating: 0.037

• Time spent on activities: 0.034

⁷ See questions 6, 7, 9, 15, 16, 18, 19 and 23 of the College Student Survey in Appendix B, respectively.

A correlation was then calculated using the self-identified political change of students as the dependent variable. The change in political values questions as well as students' gender and grade point average were input as independent variables. The results are shown in Figure 3. The regression coefficient shows that the model only accounts for 6.2% of the variation in the political change of the students. Both the change in the liberalism scale and the grade point average of the students are statistically significant, suggesting that there exists a causal relationship between students' grade point averages and both their self-identified political change and change in responses to political views questions. Overall, these variables fail to account for a major portion of the political change.

Figure 3

Correlation between self-perceived political change and change in liberalism scale, gender and GPA.						
	R	R^2	Std. Error			
Model	0.248	0.062	0.742			
\						
	Beta	t	Sig.			
Change in liberalism scale	0.201	4.253	0.000			
Gender	0.030	0.623	0.533			
GPA	0.155	3.225	0.000			

Quantitative Conclusions

This research has sought to discover whether students at Illinois Wesleyan University tend to become more liberal in their political views during their years on campus. The research paralleled Newcomb's study conducted at Bennington College in the 1930s which found that students at Bennington showed a significant change in social attitudes from more to less conservative as they progressed towards graduation. While

Newcomb did not find a relationship between change in political attitudes and the course of study pursued by a student, many other researchers have found that students studying the humanities or social sciences tend to be especially susceptible to the liberalizing function of a college education (Lipset and Altbach 1967).

While the first hypothesis was supported by the data, the results did not support the second hypothesis. A simple glance at the data would confirm the general trend that students tend to shift their political ideologies to the left as they progress from freshman to senior year. Although slightly less than a majority of students display a change in ideology, 71.8% of the students that display a change in their self-reported political views become more liberal in their views. Interestingly, many students that claim to have become more conservative actually answer political views questions on social issues with more liberal responses.

The question remains why this liberalization is occurring. It is indeed surprising, especially after considering the literature concerning tolerance of ambiguity and persuasibility. Although a correlation exists between students' grades and the political change of the student body, this explains very little of the self-reported political change of students. These low regression values could possibly be explained in several ways. There seems to be some confusion about the meaning of the terms liberal and conservative. Students tend to shift in a liberal direction with respect to social issues and become more conservative with fiscal and economic matters. Respondents seemed to align the term "political ideology" with social issues rather than fiscal ones.

It is important to note that a majority of students did not undergo a shift in their political ideology. While most students who display a shift in ideologies moved to the left, these students were usually outnumbered by those students that did not shift at all. Therefore, while there may be a larger tendency for students to shift in the liberal rather than the conservative direction, it should be noted that many students will experience no shift in their ideology.

Finally, there may be problems with the representativeness of the data, specifically with regard to senior students completing the CSS. While the CIRP survey is mandatory for freshman and usually has a very high response rate, just under one-third of seniors complete the College Student Survey. The representativeness of the sample completing the CSS, however, seems to be very similar to the aggregate.

While there are many possibilities to continue research into the political socialization process that occurs in the university setting, it is clear from this research that students at IWU do tend to undergo a process of liberalization. The grade point average of students seems to be the strongest variable in causing this ideological shift.

Qualitative Analysis

While the data suggest the movement of students' political ideologies over their undergraduate career, it fails to present a reason for why this movement is taking place. To answer this question, the research shifted from a quantitative to a qualitative approach. The question was brought before ten faculty members and administrators at Illinois Wesleyan through a series of personal interviews. The faculty members represented various departments, teaching political science, economics, sociology, English, music, education, physics and psychology.

In each interview, the faculty member or administrator was briefly introduced to the findings of the quantitative research. The interviewee was then asked to contemplate their own ideological beliefs, the perceived beliefs of their students, their teaching or administrative style and any ties between their field of study and a possible shift in the political views of students. They were then asked to consider four main forces that could be influencing students' ideological beliefs: peers, faculty, the "college environment" and academic material. No faculty member seemed surprised by the findings; indeed, most found the liberal shift in the student body to be a measure of success for a liberal arts institution such as IWU. While there was a general agreement that the results were not surprising, the faculty members offered vastly different approaches to deducing an answer to the question of why students undergo a shift in their ideological beliefs.

Peer Interaction

Several professors and administrators acknowledged the strong power of peer interaction in facilitating ideological change within students. As one administrator stated, faculty may be promoting ideas or suggesting appropriate values, but "ultimately students are having the discussions" (Damschroder).

There is a definite self-selection of peer groups when students arrive on campus. Given the wide variety of student organizations on campus, incoming freshmen are able to align themselves with students holding similar values. The numbers clearly show, however, that there is a great deal of diversity in social values within the campus. One professor suggested that many students "take the safe path and don't allow other passions to disrupt them," but the students that invite this diversity into their peer groups will be

very susceptible to a change in their value system (O'Gorman). It seems that while peers may play a large role in influencing social values, students self-select their peer groups and have the choice of whether to allow their peers to change them.

College Environment

The "college environment" is one that seems to nurture a feeling of acceptance as well as a liberal shift in social values. Twenty years ago, some administrators felt that liberal students found themselves in the minority on the IWU campus (Greder). Over time, the numbers have shifted and liberal students now enjoy strength in numbers. No matter who boasts the largest numbers, however, it is the view of many administrators that the university is a microcosm of society that invites discussion on important questions.

Faculty and administrators encourage the collisions between diverse views to take place on campus. In fact, the mission statement of the university clearly states that IWU is committed to diversity, social justice and environmental sustainability, all of which are arguably liberal social ideals. One administrator reflected on his undergraduate education: "Questions that I couldn't ask in my home town were suddenly part of the dialogue on campus" (Damschroder). Indeed, many students on the IWU campus have lived their entire life in the same community, many in conservative Midwest towns. Faculty agree that "college is the first big exposure to liberal values for most students" (Ernst). Many students get their first experience living and interacting with students and faculty of different races, religions and sexual orientations. Instead of just reading about different social issues, students find themselves face to face with gay students,

international students or students that have had abortions. Discussion and debate over these issues seems to be natural and, while the university is committed to creating an atmosphere where all students are comfortable, faculty agree that they like to see students "itchy" (Magee). There is evidence of this open discussion nearly every evening on campus with discussions, meetings and speakers fostering an environment where multiple sides of nearly every issue are available for students that choose to open their eyes and ears.

Finally, many faculty mentioned the strong presence of a campus figurehead known to many only as "Minor". Minor Myers ir., the former president of IWU, passed away in the summer of 2003. His name came up in most interviews as a strong "liberalizing presence" in the university due to his celebration of the liberal arts education and strong commitment to liberal social values (Prendergast). President Myers presents an interesting case as he was a politically conservative Republican, placing him in the minority of IWU faculty members. Despite his conservative political affiliation, many professors acknowledged his speeches to students as a clear influence in their liberalization. For example, at the conclusion of every commencement ceremony over which he presided, he offered the same concluding remark: "go forth and do well, but more importantly, go forth and do good." These words showed commitment to more than just learning facts and figures but learning what is truly good at every level of Illinois Wesleyan. President Myers' commitment to tolerance and support of many liberal social values were accompanied by a conservative political affiliation. demonstrates the disconnect between overall political views and social political views.

People can consider themselves strong conservatives in regard to their political views but still adhere to liberal social values.

Academic Material

Many faculty members believe that the academic material that students were studying had some effect on their ideologies. As one professor stated, "enlightenment always leads to liberal social views" (Magee). This philosophy seems to have steered the development of the general education program at IWU. The general education requirements were mentioned by many professors as a way to challenge (or to force, according to some) students to open their minds to different and opposing viewpoints. Requirements include class material covering categories such as analysis of values, cultural and historical change, contemporary social institutions, global diversity and others. All students must fulfill every general education requirement before reaching the commencement stage. Many of these classes not only challenge students to consider a certain topic, but also attempt to change the views of students. In fact, a sociology course entitled "Race and Ethnic Relations" was mentioned as it was designed in an effort to persuade students to open their minds to issues of race relations and "change students with values ambivalent to diversity" (Prendergast). Between the general education requirements and design of courses within majors, it seems that the design of the academic sequences for most majors force students to research, consider, debate and write about multiple viewpoints to different social issues.

The data suggested that students with better grades tended to become more liberal. Many professors suggested that students who actually understood the material

were persuaded to adopt the liberal views as their own. One faculty member elaborated on a self persuasion model to explain the correlation between students' grade point averages and the liberal shift based on the work of Elliott Aronson (Ernst). His theory involves a class of conservative students charged with the task of writing a "liberal" paper. The smarter students would develop stronger arguments for the liberal case, earning better grades. As students develop and internalize these strong arguments for the liberal cause, they often realize that the liberal argument outweighs the conservative argument to which they aligned themselves. Thus, the process of self persuasion often leads to an attitude change in the liberal direction for students able to understand and critically analyze both conservative and liberal arguments.

Some faculty felt that their particular field of study nurtured a liberal ideology. This was the same reasoning used by Lipset and Altbach that led to the second hypothesis. If a student is pursuing a course of study that challenges the student to open his or her eyes and consider various issues and viewpoints, the student is more likely to adhere to one or more of these liberal viewpoints. This seems to be the case in majors such as the social sciences and humanities.

One professor of music stated that "you have to be open-minded and be in touch with your emotional self to be in the arts" (Cook). To be in touch with their emotions, people have to constantly challenge themselves and remain open to their surroundings. This opening of one's self often leads students to shed what they have been taught in their past, in many cases conservative social values. In addition, music professors serve as studio teachers, putting them in constant contact with a student through an entire four-year undergraduate career and creating a nearly parental relationship.

A similar argument was proposed by a professor of English who stated that "English is looking at ethical and moral worlds" (O'Gorman). By presenting the material in a literary work, there is a disconnect from reality and students are not as threatened by the material. This disconnect allows students to engage in these ideas and thoroughly consider them. Eventually, however, the human dimension of individual characters becomes evident and this disconnect between literature and reality dissolves. After this step, there is a re-integration with reality.

While most faculty members acknowledge that the shift of students' social values was a strategy of a liberal arts education, some felt that the university should go farther. One professor feels that "our campus is too occupied with a narrow definition of academic success" and that the general education program should be expanded, stating that "we do not pay enough attention to inculcating values" (Jaggi). Indeed, some faculty members agreed that true understanding of intellectual material led to very liberal social views and that the role of the university has been and should be to foster this liberalism. Most felt that this would happen naturally by forcing students to take "giant intellectual leaps" and expand their world views (Magee).

Faculty Interaction

While it is clear that academic material can trigger a change in the ideology and views of students, most faculty members believed that the strongest shifts in the belief structures of students occur as a result of a remarkable professor. One faculty member explained the important effect that a truly interesting professor can have on his or her students, noting that "there are professors whose passions communicate" (O'Gorman).

Simply studying an idea may have an effect on a small number of students, but a passionate professor can actually change students. Most professors stated that their goal was not necessarily to change the values or opinions of their students but to get them to open their eyes. Many admit, however, that their own views are often apparent to students.

Nearly all faculty members and administrators that were interviewed agreed on one thing: the IWU faculty is, as a whole, a very liberal group of people. In addition, most professors are not very shy about their views, especially outside of the classroom setting. It is not uncommon to see posters in faculty offices opposing the war in Iraq or celebrating the role that diversity plays in education and society. One professor noted that "the basic ideology of the faculty is skepticism" and the criticisms of many institutions held by the faculty often come through in their teaching (Mendez-Carbajo). For many students, this is the first time that their leaders and role models actually support challenging thins like textbooks, religion or the government. Most students, particularly students with high grade point averages, are aware of these liberal views and often adjust their thinking to match professors. "Students are singing the song that instructors want to hear" (Mendez-Carbajo). This helps to explain the strong correlation between the liberal shift in social values and students' grade point averages. As students mesh their ideas with the ideology of instructors, these ideas remain with the students long after class is dismissed. Other professors spoke of a halo effect influencing the grades distributed by professors. The halo effect occurs when one's objectivity in making judgments is undermined because one characteristic or quality overrides others (Gall). Some faculty members admitted that they are more interested in (and sometimes appreciative of) paper topics with which they agree. Thus, some professors may be encouraging a liberal shift in students through a halo effect coupled with the self persuasion model defined above.

It is possible that students choosing to present a certain ideology in order to parallel their professors' views may succeed in convincing the professor of their ideology without actually committing themselves to the set of beliefs. For example, a conservative student may present liberal views in a paper in order to impress a professor, even though the student never truly accepts those views. Conversations with current IWU students suggest that this is often the case. It seems that temporarily aligning one's self to an ideology in order to impress a professor (or to complete a paper assigned by a professor) may persuade the student to adopt that ideology. This will only take place, however, if the student can actually convince himself that the arguments for the new ideology are stronger than those for the old. A student motivated to explore a new ideology without being prompted by a professor, however, seems much more likely to firmly adopt the new ideology.

Many professors were quick to offer "successful" examples of their teaching style when the social views or ideology of a student was actually changed. One faculty member noted her "teach to reach" style, questioning whether it was possible to separate the academic from the political or the personal (Magee). Another stated that she didn't know "how you can help but become more liberal as you open your world view" (Montgomery). This professor recounted her experience teaching a class entitled "The Politics of Motherhood". During the class, there was a marked change in the views of many students, particularly males. As the class progressed and students were given more academic material to read and debate, many students shifted from using terms like "I'll

let my wife work if she wants" to considering dual parenting when they had children.

This is one of many specific examples provided by faculty in which the material that they
offered to the class led to changes in opinions and social values.

It seems, however, that it doesn't even take a passionate professor to have an effect on the ideology of students. In many classes, politics and social problems are rarely discussed. One music professor stated that his students never discuss politics in class and are rarely asked to explore new topics outside of music performance. Even though there seems to be lacking a critical analysis that most professors believed led to the liberal shift in students' social views, he felt that there was a "subtle influence" both in and out of the classroom (Cook). Even though a professor may not offer fiery lectures on the importance of liberal social values from behind the lectern, many faculty members develop an almost parental relationship with their students. As students find themselves somewhat free from the influences of their family and friends from home, professors often fill this void. Both the academic and personal life of the professor can often influence his or her students.

A Personal View

While it is rare for researchers to use experiences from their own lives in their writing, it seems appropriate to include the author as an example in this research. While conducting research on this topic, I consulted dozens of literary sources and spoke to several professors and administrators in formal interviews. What could not be easily condensed to paper, however, were the multitudes of students that I have spoken and interacted with in the past four years. I submit my own undergraduate experience at

Illinois Wesleyan as I believe it sheds much light on the liberalizing effect that the institution has on its students.

I grew up in Pekin, a small Illinois town not far from IWU. The town has a very homogenous population with very little diversity with respect to race, religion or sexual orientation. Traditional social values in were taught and reinforced throughout my education. As a result, I graduated from high school with very conservative values with respect to most social issues.

Although many believe that the diversity on the IWU campus is lacking, leaving a 99% white population instantly opened my eyes. In addition, I quickly befriended students with a wide variety of experiences and backgrounds. While I held on to my conservative tendencies and found friendships with very conservative peers, I felt myself intrigued by the diversity around me and interested in discovering what different students could teach me. The influence that peers had on my belief system was immediate and made it comfortable for me to continue exploring different viewpoints. The effect of the college environment, in my opinion, was almost inseparable from the influence of my peers. While the college environment made it possible to discuss issues that were taboo in high school, it was ultimately my peers that engaged me in those discussions. I do not believe, however, that my views changed solely by talking about them with my peers.

While the influence of a diverse peer group allowed me to feel comfortable pursuing different viewpoints, the academic material that I studied opened my eyes to ways of thinking vastly different from my own. A major in political science, and presumably with most social sciences, forced me to analyze the political and social problems plaguing our society. The breadth of my education with the liberal arts focus

and general education requirements challenged me to study and discover numerous other subjects and ultimately allowed me to put the pieces of my newfound knowledge together to create a new and exciting world view.

There is truth in the statement that good teachers can communicate passions. While many professors opened my eyes to issues, a few professors truly led me to the discovery of the liberal ideology that I have adopted. Before I arrived at IWU, diversity, specifically with respect to sexual orientation, made me uncomfortable. Now I am active in the community lobbying for gay rights. When I was a freshman, I would have never seriously considered a candidate's commitment to the environment. Now I value environmental issues more than many others. In four short years, my views on the death penalty, abortion and defense have also shifted from traditionally conservative to liberal positions. These changes would not have been possible without the strong influence of my professors and the intelligent debate of my peers.

I did not realize the massive change that my value system has undergone until I filled out the CSS survey while conducting my research. I was given the opportunity to gather my personal data from my freshman and senior surveys. The results were shocking. In four short years my ideology has swung far to the left. In my experience, the shift from a conservative to a liberal ideology was never formally explained. At no point did a professor state that a liberal view of social issues was the correct view. The shift happened slowly and naturally. While I believe that peers, professors, the university setting and academic materials do nurture this change in ideology, I firmly believe that it is up to each student to decide whether to allow this shift to take place. The university can only go so far in inculcating values in its students. If the minds of students are

opened through this process, however, I believe that many students will choose to adhere to a value system that they never would have considered without educated peers and a passionate faculty. In talking with many peers while completing this research, I feel that my experience is not unusual and many students share my thoughts on their ideological change.

Conclusions

When all of the interviews are considered, it seems that Illinois Wesleyan University faculty members and administrators believe that ideological change on social issues occur for a variety of reasons. Peer influence does play a large part, as does the general environment of the university. Most, however, believe that the intellectual growth of the students will make it much easier to adopt liberal social views. While the academic growth may be the biggest factor, it often takes a passionate member of the faculty to connect with their students and force them to open their eyes and consider views different than their own. When taken together, quality teaching and intellectual growth seem to play the largest part in influencing the liberalization of students at IWU.

The causal relationship between college grade point average and liberal shifts in students can be explained by this emphasis on intellectual growth. The second hypothesis, which predicted a causal relationship between the major course of study and ideology, was originally intended to measure the effect of intellectual growth. Grade point average turned out to be the significant variable, suggesting that perhaps all students are likely to undergo similar intellectual development, regardless of their major. If it is true that the ascent to intellectualism causes a student to open his or her eyes to

liberal viewpoints, especially with respect to social issues, it is reasonable that students with higher grades are more able to grasp the concepts being presented to them. By showing a true understanding of the concepts, they are more likely to persuade themselves to actually adhere to liberal social values.

The disconnect between shifts in social and fiscal liberalism is a logical one. The goals of a liberal arts university do not seem to place much emphasis on the economic or fiscal viewpoints of students. There is instead a commitment to diversity, social justice and environmental sustainability, meaning that the effects of peers, the college environment, academic growth and faculty are often restricted to social, not fiscal, ideas.

It seems that the members of the university understand that the liberal shift that students undergo is a process that happens naturally and should be nurtured. This commitment to liberal values is one that many faculty members are very proud of. In a 2003 admissions video, Minor Myers jr. stated that an education at this institution will aid both the student and the faculty in answering four important questions: what do we know, what should we know, what is good and what is right. This vision is shared with many members of the IWU community, including administrators, faculty and students. "The great goal," stated one administrator, "is not that we should always agree. The goal is that we all learn, absorb, express and synthesize ideas. Sometimes we throw down a value and pick up another. Sometimes a value is challenged and we reaffirm it. The university is not intended to be a place of like mind, but a place where ideas collide" (Greder). This goal is inherent in the academic and social focus of the university. The results of this research suggest that the university has been successful in the goals outlined by Minor Myers ir, and the current faculty and administration.

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Annondices
Appendices
Appendix A
Cooperative Institutional Research Program Freshman Survey
Appendix B
Cooperative Institutional Research Program College Student Survey
Appendix C
Frequency in response changes for political values questions
Appendix D
Categorization of student majors

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21. How much of your first year's educational expenses (room, board, tuition, and fees) do you expect to cover from each of the sources listed below? (Mark one answer for each possible source) Family resources (parents, relatives, spouse, etc.)	26. For the activities below, indicate which ones you did during the <u>past year</u> . If you engaged in an activity frequently, mark ①. If you engaged in an activity one or more times, but not frequently, mark ②. (Occasionally). Mark ③. (Not at all) if you have not performed the activity during the past year. (Mark <u>one</u> for each item)	29. In deciding to go to college, how important to you was each of the following reasons? (Mark one answer for each possible reason) My parents wanted me to go
My own resources (savings from work, work-study, other income).	(Mark <u>one</u> for each item)	I could not find a job
Aid which need <u>not</u> be repaid (grants, scholarships, military funding, etc.)	Was bored in class Participated in organized demonstrations F	To be able to get a better job ① ⑤ N To gain a general education and appreciation of ideas ② ⑥ N
Aid which <u>must</u> be repaid (loans, etc.)	Tutored another student	There was nothing better to do ① ⑤ N To make me a more cultured
Other than above	Was a guest in a teacher's home. F @ N Smoked cigarettes	person
Income last year? Consider income from all sources before taxes. (Mark one)	Drank beer	To learn more about things that interest me
Less than \$10,000\$50,000-59,999\$10,000-14,999\$60,000-74,999	Felt depressed	To prepare myself for graduate or professional school
○ \$15,000-19,999 ○ \$75,000-99,999	Performed volunteer work	
© \$20,000-24,999 © \$100,000-149,999	Played a musical instrument F ① N	To get training for a specific career
<pre>\$25,000-29,999</pre> \$150,000-199,999	Asked a teacher for advice	To find my purpose in life Y (3) (N)
\$30,000-39,999 \$200,000-249,999	after class	
○ \$40,000-49,999 ○ \$250,000 or more	Discussed politics	30. How would you characterize your political views? (Mark one)
23. Current religious preference: (Mark one in each column)	Socialized with someone of	○ Farleft
(Mark one in each column)	another racial/ethnic group F (1) (N)	○ Liberal
Baptist	Came late to class	○ Middle-of-the-road
Buddhist	Used the Internet for research	O Conservative
Church of Christ	or homework	◯ Farright
Eastern Orthodox	Performed community service as part of a class (F) (I) (N)	31. Rate yourself on each of the following
Episcopalian	Used a personal computer	traits as compared with the average person your age. We want the most
Islamic		accurate estimate of
Jewish	Discussed religion/spirituality:	How you see your set 10% (Mark one in each row)
LDS (Mormon)	With friends	Bank Avy
Lutheran T F III	With family	High Abou Aver Lowe
Methodist Y F M	Worked on a local, state, or	Academic ability
Presbyterian	national political campaign F @ N	Artistic ability
Quaker (Y) (F) (III)	Maintained a healthy diet F (10) (N)	Compassion
Roman Catholic	Stayed up all night	Computer skills O O O O
Seventh Day Adventist 🍸 🗗 🐠	Missed school because of illness . F @ N	Cooperativeness
Unitarian/Universalist 🎔 🗈 🔟	27. For each item, please mark Yes or No:	Courage
United Church of Christ/Congregational . 🎔 🕒 📵	Did your high school require	Creativity
Other Christian	community service for Yes No graduation?	Drive to achieve O O O O
None	Have you participated in:	Forgiveness
None	A summer research program? . Y N	Generosity
24. Do you consider yourself a Born-Again Christian?	A health science research program	Kindness
◯ Yes ◯ No	sponsored by a university? (N)	Leadership ability O O O
		Mathematical ability O O O O
25. Please indicate your ethnic background. (Mark all that apply)	28. What is the highest level of formal education obtained by your parents? (Mark one in each column) Father Mother	Physical health
White/Caucasian	Grammar school or less	Religiousness
African American/Black	Some high school	Self-confidence
American Indian/Alaska Native	High school graduate	(intellectual) O O O O
Asian American/Asian	Postsecondary school other	Self-confidence (social) . O O O O
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	than college	Self-understanding O O O O
Mexican American/Chicano	Some college	Spirituality
Puerto Rican	College degree	Time management O O O O
Other Latino	Some graduate school	Understanding of others . O O O O
Other	Graduate degree	Writing ability

column.	33. Mark one in each low.	2 Disagree Somewhat
M Your mother's occupation		3 Agree Somewhat
F Your father's occupation	There is too much concern in the courte for the ri	Agree Strongly
Your probable career occupation —		ghts of criminals
	_	
NOTE: If your father or mother	A	
is deceased, please indicate his or her last occupation.	_	
		al relationships 4 3 2 1
Accountant or actuary 🏵 🗈 🖫		m in America
Actor or entertainer 🏵 🗈 🖫	Realistically, an individual can do little to bring ab	out changes in our society
Architect or urban planner Y 🕒 🕦	STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P	s than they do now
Artist Y 🗈 🖫	Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on o	campus 4 3 2 1
Business (clerical) Y 🗊 🖫	Same-sex couples should have the right to legal	marital status
Business executive	Affirmative action in college admissions should b	e abolished
(management, administrator) Y 🗈 🗓	The activities of married women are best confine	d to the home and family 4 3 2 1
Business owner or proprietor Y 🗊 🗓	Federal military spending should be increased	
Business salesperson or buyer Y 🗈 🖫		4321
Clergy (minister, priest)	100 Aug 1 Au	
Clergy (other religious)	in the people really line each ether, it e all right re	time
Clinical psychologist		ol the sale of handguns
College administrator/staff	5.00	
College teacher		activities. Indicate which of these you
Computer programmer or analyst . Y 🗈 🖫	participated in during high school (Mark all th	nat apply)
Conservationist or forester		Community improvement/
Dentist (including orthodontist) Y 🗈 🛈		Conflict mediation
	0 0	
Dietitian or nutritionist 😗 🖪 🛈	5	octvice to my religious
Engineer 🎔 🖪 🗓		ducation O community
Farmer or rancher	Child care Services to the	e homeless . O Other community service O
Foreign service worker		
(including diplomat)		37. Below are some reasons that might
Homemaker (full-time)	35. During your last year in high school, how	1 37. Delow are some reasons marmium
		have influenced your decision to
Interior decorator (including designer). Y	much time did you spend during a typical	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college.
Interior decorator (including designer). Y 🗈 🗓 Lab technician or hygienist Y 🗈 🗓	much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason
Interior decorator (including designer). Y	much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason in your decision to come here?
Interior decorator (including designer). Y	much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities?	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason in your decision to come here? (Mark one answer for each possible reason)
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Interior decorator (including designer). Y F (Including designer).	much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities? Hours per week: Studying/homework	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason in your decision to come here? (Mark one answer for each possible reason)
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Interior decorator (including designer). Y E G Lab technician or hygienist Y E G Law enforcement officer Y E G Lawyer (attorney) or judge Y E G Musician (performer, composer) Y E G Musician (performer, composer) Y E G Optometrist Y E G Pharmacist Y E G Physician Y E G School counselor Y E G School principal or superintendent Y E G Scientific researcher Y E G Therapist (physical, occupational, speech) Y E G	much time did you spend during a typical week doing the following activities? Hours per week: Studying/homework Socializing with friends Talking with teachers outside of class Working (for pay) Student clubs/groups Watching TV Household/childcare duties Household/childcare duties Household/childcare duties Household/childcare duties Household/childcare duties Household/childcare duties Household/childcare Household/chi	have influenced your decision to attend this particular college. How important was each reason in your decision to come here? (Mark one answer for each possible reason) My relatives wanted me to come here . Y S N My teacher advised me. Y S N This college has a very good academic reputation . Y S N I was offered financial assistance . Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N This college counselor advised me . Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N This college counselor advised me . Y S N This college counselor advised me . Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N The cost of attending this college Y S N This college counselor advised me . Y S N This
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① Disagree Strongly —

38. Below is a list of different undergraduate major fields grouped into general categories. Mark only one oval to indicate your probable field of study.

ARTS AND HUMANITIES	PHYSICAL SCIENCE
Art, fine and applied ①	Astronomy
English (language and literature) ②	Atmospheric Science (incl. Meteorology)
History	Chemistry 45 Earth Science 46
Language and Literature (except English) 5	Marine Science (incl. Oceanography)
Music	Mathematics
Philosophy ①	Physics
Speech	Statistics
Theater or Drama 9	Other Physical Science 51
Theology or Religion 10	PROFESSIONAL
Other Arts and Humanities 113	Architecture or Urban
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE	Planning
Biology (general) 12	Home Economics
Biochemistry or Biophysics	Health Technology (medical, dental, laboratory) 54
Botany1	Library or Archival Science 59
Environmental Science 15 Marine (Life) Science 16	Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine 58
Microbiology or	Nursing
Bacteriology	Pharmacy 58
Zoology	Therapy (occupational, physical, speech)
BUSINESS	Other Professional
Accounting 20	SOCIAL SCIENCE
Business Admin. (general) 20	Anthropology
Finance	Economics
International Business	Ethnic Studies
Marketing	Geography
Management25 Secretarial Studies	Political Science (gov't., international relations) 65
Other Business	Psychology
EDUCATION	Social Work
Business Education 28	Sociology
Elementary Education 29	Women's Studies
Music or Art Education 39	Other Social Science 70
Physical Education or	TECHNICAL
Recreation	Building Trades 70
Secondary Education 32	Data Processing or
Special Education	Computer Programming @
Other Education	Drafting or Design
ENGINEERING	Electronics
Aeronautical or Astronautical Eng	Other Technical
Civil Engineering	OTHER FIELDS
Chemical Engineering 37	Agriculture
Computer Engineering 38	Communications79
Electrical or Electronic	Computer Science
Engineering	Forestry
Industrial Engineering	Kinesiology
Mechanical Engineering 41	Law Enforcement
Other Engineering	Military Science
	Other Field
	Undecided
	OOOOOOOOO

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

JJ.	personally of each of the following:	S Somewhat Important
	(Mark one for each item)	V Very Important
	Becoming accomplished in one of the	E) Essential
	performing arts (acting, dancing, etc.) .	E Y S R
	Becoming an authority in my field	EWS®
	Obtaining recognition from my colleagues	for
	contributions to my special field	
	Influencing the political structure	EVSN
	Influencing social values	
	Raising a family	
	Having administrative responsibility for the	1000
	Being very well off financially	- No. 10 ACC ACC
	Helping others who are in difficulty	
	Making a theoretical contribution to scient	23.000
	Writing original works (poems, novels, she	
	Creating artistic work (painting, sculpture	
	Becoming successful in a business of my	
	Becoming involved in programs to clean u	
	Developing a meaningful philosophy of life	
	Participating in a community action progra	
	Helping to promote racial understanding	
	Keeping up to date with political affairs	The second secon
	Becoming a community leader	
	Integrating spirituality into my life	
	Improving my understanding of other cou	
	Working to find a cure to a health problem	n
40.	What is your best guess as to	No Chance
	the chances that you will:	S Some Chance Very Good Chance
	Change major field?	
	Change career choice?	
	Participate in student government?	
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ssociate (A.A. or equivalent)	. (A) (B)		Wit	ndrawi	from s	school			· · · ·		\supset		8. If	VOI	con	ıld	mak	(8)	VOLU	colle	апе	che	oice	1
lachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., etc.).	. A B				honors															10056				
faster's degree (M.A., M.S., etc.)	. A B				ed in an												-			st rec				je
h.D. or Ed.D.					d in lea								C	O O	efinit	teh	yes							
M.D., D.O., D.D.S., or D.V.M					d from				-								Lwc	uk	t					
L.B. or J.D. (Law)					d from										roba									
B.D. or M.DIV. (Divinity)			Par	ticipate	ed in a s	study-	abroac	pro	gram	1. ()	and the same of th			efinit									
Other	(A) (B)	1										-	-	3 10	on't l	KO	STAC							

An opportunity to discuss coursework outside

An opportunity to apply classroom learning

Seventh Day Adventist

United Church of Christ O

Other Christian

Other Religion

Hindu..... ○

Islamic.....

LDS (Mormon)

Lutheran

25. Below is a list of different major fields.

 (Mark only one in each column) 		(Mark one for each item)
 Undergraduate major (final or 	r most recent)	(Mark one for each item)
 G Graduate major (omit if you do 	not plan to go to graduate school)	(Mark one for each item) (Mark one somewhat Som
_		Agn. Agn. Disa
ARTS AND HUMANITIES	PHYSICAL SCIENCE	Abortion should be legal
Art, fine and applied	Astronomy @ ©	The death penalty should be abolished
English (language and	Atmospheric Science	If two people really like each other, it's all right for them to have
■ literature)	(incl. Meteorology) (III)	sex even if they've known each other for only a very short time. 4 3 2 1
History (I) (G)	Chemistry	The activities of married women are best confined to the
Journalism ① ③	Earth Science	home and family 4 3 2 0
Language and Literature	Marine Science (incl.	Marijuana should be legalized
(except English) (U) (G)	Oceanography)	It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships . 4 3 2 1
Music	Mathematics	Racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America
Philosophy	Physics	
Speech ① ②	Statistics	Realistically, an Individual can do little to bring about changes in our society
Theater or Drama @ @	Other Physical Science . (1) (3)	
		Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now
Theology or Religion	PROFESSIONAL	
Other Arts and	Architecture or Urban	Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus
Humanities	Planning ① ⑥	Affirmative action in college admissions should be abolished 4 3 2 1
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE	Home Economics	There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals . 4 3 2 1
Biology (general)	Health Technology (medi-	The federal government should do more to control the sale
Biochemistry or	cal, dental, laboratory) ① ©	of handguns
Biophysics	Law	Same sex couples should have the right to legal marital status ③ ③ ② ①
Botany © ©	Library/Archival Science . (U) (G)	People have the right to know about the personal lives
Environmental Science @ @	Medicine, Dentistry	of public figures 4 3 2 1
Marine (Life) Science (U) (G)	Veterinarian	Federal military spending should be increased
Microbiology or	Nursing	
Bacteriology	Pharmacy @ @	27. Is English your native language? Yes No
Zoology	Therapy (occupational,	28. Since entering college, how many of your courses have included
Other Biological Science @ @	physical, speech) (II) @	community service/service learning?
BUSINESS	Other Professional	O None (skip to question 31) One Two or more
Accounting (U) (G)	SOCIAL SCIENCE	29. In which type(s) of course(s) did you participate in community
Business Admin. (general). @ @	Anthropology	service? (Mark all that apply)
Finance (general)	Economics	○ First-year seminar
International Business W ©	Ethnic Studies (II) ©	General education/core curriculum
■ Marketing	Geography ① ⑥	Required course in my major
Management (4) (6)	Political Science (gov't.,	Optional course in my major
Secretarial Studies	international relations) . (1) (2)	Senior project (capstone, thesis)
Other Business	Psychology	
= EDUCATION	Social Work @ @	 In your most recent course involving community service, was the community service:
	The state of the s	
Business Education	Sociology	Required Optional
Elementary Education	Women's Studies	31. Do you give the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA permission
Music or Art Education	Other Social Science	to include your ID number should your college request the data for
Physical Education or	TECHNICAL	additional research analyses?
Recreation	Building Trades	
Secondary Education	Data Processing or	
Special Education	Computer Programming. (1)	ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS: If you received an additional page of questions,
Other Education	Drafting or Design	please mark your answers below:
ENGINEERING	Electronics	32. A B C D E 42. A B C D E 52. A B C D E
Aero-/Astronautical	Mechanics	33. A B C O E 43. A B C O E 53. A B C O E
Engineering	Other Technical	34. A B O D E 44. A B O D E 54. A B O D E
Civil Engineering @ @	OTHER FIELDS	35. A B C D E 45. A B C D E 55. A B C D E
Chemical Engineering ① ⑤	Agriculture ① ②	36. A B C D E 46. A B C D E 56. A B C D E
Electrical or Electronic	Communications	37. 8 B C D E 47. A B C D E 57. A B C D E
■ Engineering	Computer Science	38. A B C D E 48. A B C D E 58. A B C D E
■ Industrial Engineering	Forestry (U) @	39. A B C D E 49. A B C D E 59. A B C D E
■ Mechanical Engineering ② ⑤	Kinesiology U @	40. A B C D E 50. A B C D E 60. A B C D E
Other Engineering	Law Enforcement	41. A B C D B 51. A B C D B 61. A B C D E
	Military Science	THANK YOU!
_	Other Field	
	Undecided	© 2004. Prepared by the Higher Education Research Institute, University
		of California, Los Angeles, California 90095-1521

26. Please indicate your agreement with

Frequency Table

Change in abortion

	_	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	31	6.9	7.1	7.1
	No change	324	72.0	74.1	81.2
	Liberal shift	82	18.2	18.8	100.0
	Total	437	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.9		/
Total		450	100.0		

Change in death penalty

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	28	6.2	6.4	6.4
	No change	327	72.7	74.8	81.2
	Liberal shift	82	18.2	18.8	100.0
	Total	437	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.9		
Total		450	100.0		

Change in sex OK

	-		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
ſ	Valid	Conservative shift	27	6.0	6.1	6.1
-		No change	312	69.3	70.7	76.9
-		Liberal shift	102	22.7	23.1	100.0
-		Total	441	98.0	100.0	
-	Missing	System	9	2.0		
Į	Total	***	450	100.0		

Change in marijuana

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	26	5.8	5.9	5.9
	No change	314	69.8	71.7	77.6
	Liberal shift	98	21.8	22.4	100.0
	Total	438	97.3	100.0	
Missing	System	12	2.7		
Total		450	100.0		<u> </u>

Change in homosexuality

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	20	4.4	4.6	4.6
	No change	358	79.6	81.5	86.1
	Liberal shift	61	13.6	13.9	100.0
	Total	439	97.6	100.0	
Missing	System	11	2.4		
Total		450	100.0		

Change in discrimination

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	43	9.6	9.8	9.8
	No change	376	83.6	85.3	95.0
	Liberal shift	22	4.9	5.0	100.0
1	Total	441	98.0	100.0	
Missing	System	9	2.0		
Total		450	100.0		

Change in taxes

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Conservative shift	80	17.8	18.3	18.3
	No change	297	66.0	68.0	86.3
	Liberal shift	60	13.3	13.7	100.0
	Total	437	97.1	100.0	
Missing	System	13	2.9		
Total		450	100.0		

Major Categories

Fine Arts

Arts

Music

Theater/Drama

Humanities

English

History

Language/Literature

Philosophy

Social Sciences

Anthropology

Economics

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Women's Studies

Other, Social Science

Nursing

Nursing

Education

Business Education

Elementary Education

Music/Art Education

Business

Accounting

Business Administration

Finance

International Business

Marketing

Other, Business

Natural Sciences

General Biology

Other, Biological Science

Chemistry

Physics

Mathematics

Mathematics

Data Processing

Computer Science

Other

Other, Professional

Other Fields

Undecided