

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
SEXUAL ORIENTATION SURVEY (INTERNAL)

1. Why is the survey being done?
We want to get some up to date information on attitudes toward homosexuals and homosexuality.

2. Can we have a copy of the questionnaire?
No. It could prejudice the results if the questionnaire were to be released now. It will be released at a later date.

3. When?
It is difficult to say. We have to do the survey, analyze the results and decide what we are going to do with them.
Probe: When will that be?
We cannot be sure. Probably by early summer.
Probe: Why can't I have a copy of the questionnaire as soon as the fieldwork is completed?
The questionnaire by itself would be useless. When we release the report, the questionnaire will be included.

4. Does the Canadian Forces base its policies on opinion polls of its members?
No. This survey is designed to measure attitudes and to predict the impact of these attitudes on operational effectiveness of the Canadian Forces.

5. If the survey shows that Canadian Forces members are not opposed to homosexuals in the military, does that mean that the CF will change its policy?
Possibly. Certainly the survey results will be taken into consideration in the policy review.

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6. If the survey shows that Canadian Forces members are opposed to homosexuals in the military, does that mean that the CF will continue to fight changing its policy of not permitting homosexuals to be enrolled?

I think it would be inappropriate to speculate prior to the analysis of the results. We will have a better understanding of the issue at that time.

7. If the survey shows that Canadian Forces members are opposed to homosexuals in the military, doesn't this simply reflect the homophobic attitudes that are instilled in the military?

Not at all. If the survey indicates that the presence of homosexuals is seen as a problem, the survey will tell us why that is so and where the underlying beliefs, values or attitudes come from.

8. Shouldn't the federal government be encouraging the acceptance of all minorities in the military?

No one disagrees with that. However, governments also have a responsibility to make decisions based on the best information available. This survey will improve the quality and add to the existing information.

9. What information do you already have?

We have information that is already in the public domain such as work done by the Kinsey Institute.

10. Does this survey have anything to do with the outstanding court cases?

Yes there is a connection. If we did not have the court cases, we probably would not be doing the survey right now. But the survey is worthwhile independent of the court cases. It is important that our policy be based on the best information available.

Probe: Where do these court cases stand right now?

I am sorry but I cannot answer that question. As a matter of policy we do not discuss cases that are before the courts.

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11. **Who designed the survey?**

It was designed by the firm Urban Dimensions Group Inc. of Toronto.

12. **What is the cost?**

The cost of the survey including design, data gathering, analysis and reporting is estimated at \$135,000.

IF THE SURVEY QUESTIONS ARE LEAKED:

13. **How do you expect to get honest answers to these questions? Won't serving homosexuals be afraid to answer honestly?**

Survey participants know that there is no way we can identify them from the answer sheets. Moreover, all the replies are sealed by respondents and go directly to the research firm for analysis. The Canadian Forces could not identify an individual even if it wanted to.

14. **These questions are very personal and some cater to stereotypes. Isn't it offensive that the federal government should be probing people in these areas.**

These kinds of questions are often asked in social and behavioral research. Many of them are repeated from other studies which have been conducted on the subject of homosexuality.

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