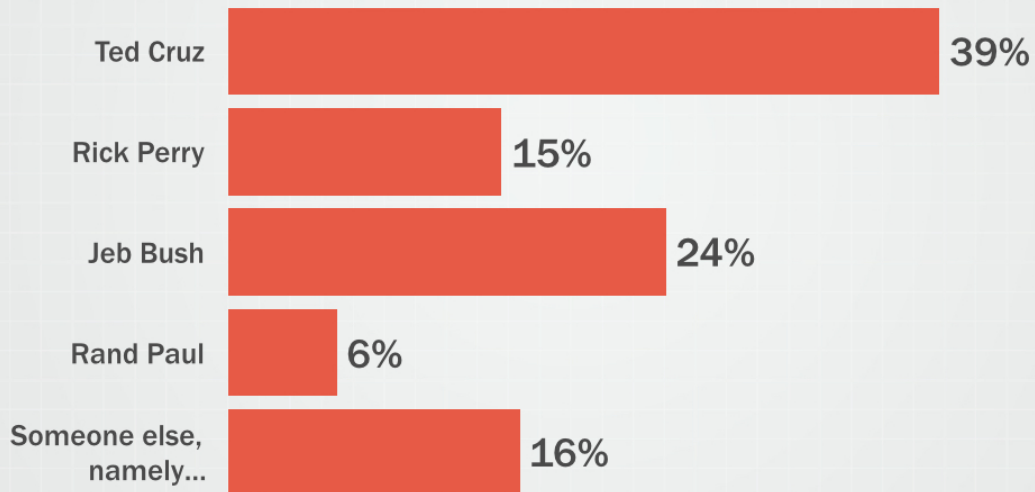


“INSIDE” INTELLIGENCE

*The Texas Weekly/Texas Tribune insider poll
for the week of 24 July 2015*

INSIDE INTELLIGENCE

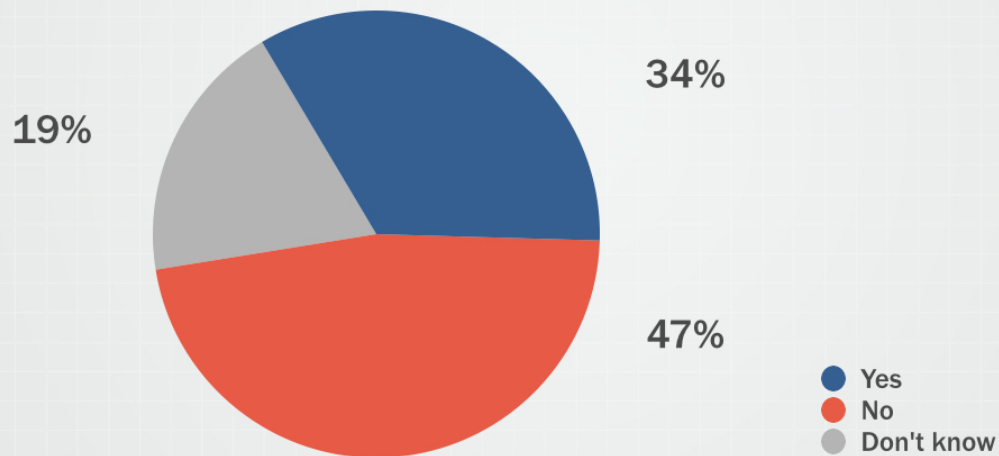
WHO BENEFITS FROM A TRUMP FLAME-OUT?



Inside Intelligence is an informal survey of political and government insiders in Texas and is not meant to measure public opinion.

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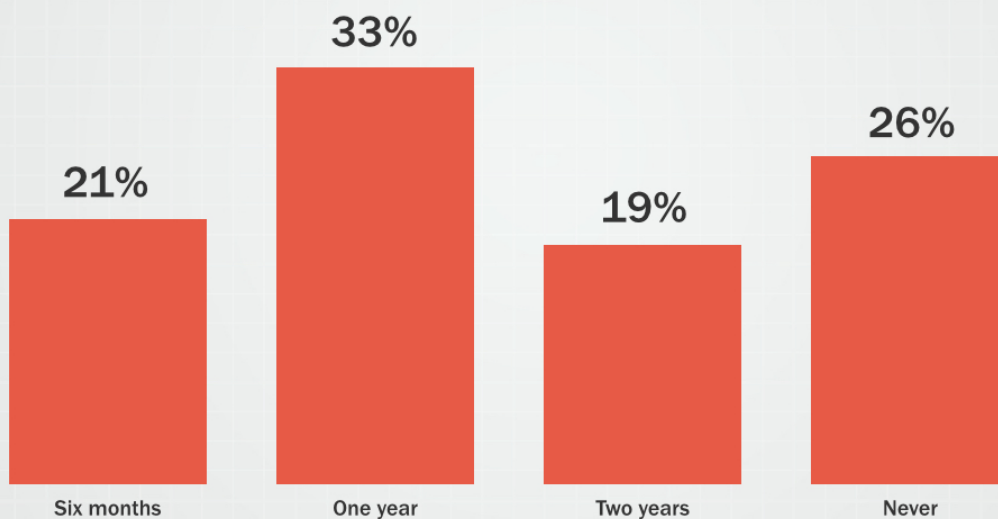
ARE RELATIONS BETWEEN BLACKS AND POLICE
IN TEXAS WORSE THAN 10 YEARS AGO?



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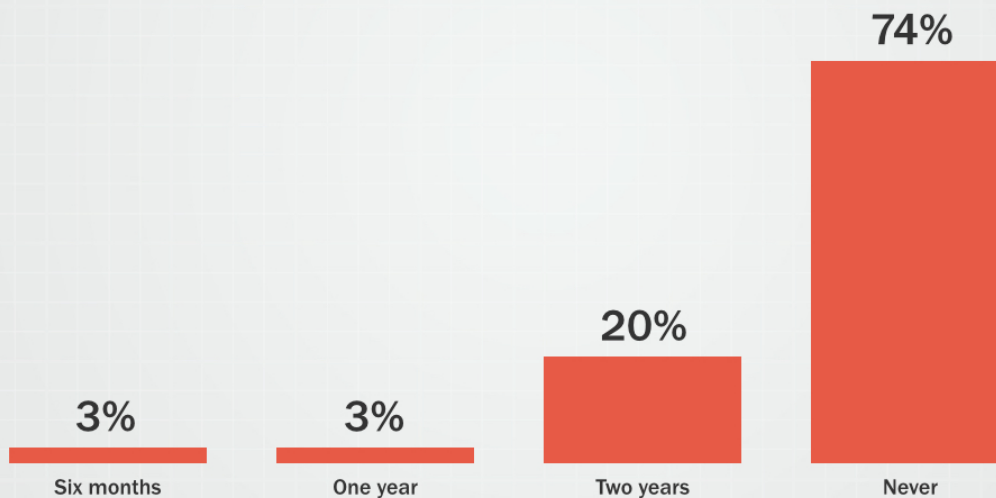
HOW LONG UNTIL CONFEDERATE STATUES ARE
OFF UT-AUSTIN CAMPUS?



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HOW LONG UNTIL CONFEDERATE STATUES ARE OFF CAPITOL GROUNDS?



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Who would benefit the most from a Donald Trump flame-out?

- "Cruz is in the right position to bring in all of Trump's crazies into his tent."
- "Everyone else in the world"
- "All of them. Trump has proven himself to be a buffoon. Again."
- "The American public"
- "Humanity will benefit most when The Donald flames out."
- "Trump was stealing Cruz's oxygen; it will return soon."
- "Bush wins each time one of the flakier biscuits burns up. Trump won't be the last."
- "Ted because the crazies will go to him next."
- "Trump hurts all Republicans but it is probably best that he remain in the GOP Primary until he completely marginalizes himself and makes the odds of his mounting a serious challenge as an independent less of a threat. At this point, as an independent candidate, he could hand the presidency to Hillary and the

Democrats in the same way that Ross Perot handed it to her husband."

- "The American people!!!"
- "The American People."
- "Perry just loves attention. Not serious candidate."
- "The American People"

• "You forgot the option for 'The entire GOP.'"

- "Perry is rising well on this opportunity."
- "Who's the craziest?"
- "The Republican Party"

Are relations between blacks and the police in Texas worse than 10 years ago?

- "Looks like dash cams are the police's worst nightmare, since that's what drives public opinion instead of the 80% of the videos that exonerate them when people claim harassment."
- "They were bad then and remain bad now."
- "The relationship is the same. Because society wasn't as connected to each other 10 years ago as they are today, the general public was not aware of the hostility that existed between both groups. Today, the general public gets to witness any injustice in real time and they do not need the news to report it."
- "No not necessarily, we just have more dash cam and iPhone video to tell the story of what is going on out there."
- "We have a President that seeks to divide people. He uses race, our military, gender, income, immigration and any other thing he can find. Rather than inspire people to reach higher and excel, he encourages people to view themselves as victims. In South Carolina, the first thing the President

did was to try to politicize the situation by interjecting politically charged gun control politics into the equation. Fortunately, the local Christians would have none of it and instead focus on forgiveness."

- "How on earth does one quantify this?"
- "They are the same...."
- "You are kidding, right. Of course it is better. Do you know the percentage of urban police officers in Texas who are African American. The institution has changed but there are still problems."
- "It's NEVER been good, so worse is hard to quantify."
- "Not a new problem, but now, social media has brought instances to light quickly and engages the public."
- "When you have a man in the White House who never had a real job, just a community organizer and hates Texas though don't think his machine is stirring things up in Texas. Please, he is

still an organizer, which means stir up hate and trouble by telling lies."

- "The reality is that minorities are better treated in our society than 10 years ago, but politicians need factions, thus they, the media, and certain hustlers blow on the even the slightest spark of trouble just to see what happens."
- "With the broadcast and print media showcasing this issue, it's hard to get a good read, but there are there issues, certainly, to the extent it is played up, probably not. The vast majority of these encounters rest on poor police training, poor screening of potential police candidates and lack of accountability among and between the rank and file police themselves."
- "No, but relationship between race card hucksters and their bank accounts is probably better than its been in years."
- "They have been bad, also for others of color, predominantly Latinos in

How long until those Confederate statues are off the UT-Austin campus?

- "Bet Robert E Lee is pissed he is getting painted with the broad brush."
- "It all depends on what type of pressure is placed by the student body and media. The Confederate story was so last week and those are the times we live in."
- "Moving them to a museum on campus is a more likely scenario."

Texas, and much is now in the news due to national attention."

- "Not Texas specific, but perhaps in general across the Nation."
- "We just have better cameras."
- "It's not just 'blacks and police,' there's a mortifying trend in police misbehavior against civilians, but unfortunately it does seem to single out Black Americans more than the rest of society."
- "If you listen to the 24 hour news cycle you would think a race war is on the horizon . The only thing that has changed in the last 10 years is the coverage."
- "I am a white guy, don't ask me."
- "It's simply frightening; there are no words!"
- "Statues less provocative than a flag and many of those Confederate officers fought in other engagements on behalf of the United States."
- "A friend from another Southern state recommended that everyone send there unwanted Davis statues to Bouvier in Biloxi, Miss., like the Russians have done with Lenin statues."
- "Jeff Davis moves once a replacement is cast. The rest of them stay put."

- "And while we are at it, shouldn't we dump the Houston name as he owned slaves!"
- "They'll wait until they've talked it to death, then will move them quietly to some garage where no one will see them for a while. Then they'll sell them, and watch for the fun to begin."
- "History is history. You can't re-write it, only ensure we don't make the same mistakes. The statues serve as a reminder of our faltered past."
- "Texas is so out of touch with the rest of the nation. Does anyone think this is a real issue of political concern in Texas? Lots of top officials talking about this, eh? Insert cricket noises here."
- "They are gone."
- "The museum is on campus, right?"
- "See the organizer in chief continues his job and this is proof."
- "It should be never. But the 'American thought police' is hell-bent on erasing the past. Just like the Taliban and the Bamiyan Buddhas or ISIS and Jonah's tomb."
- "The committee process needs to work, but they are coming down."
- "Some statutes of Rebs who had no connection to Texas will go (looking at you, Jeff Davis!), but those who were Texans will remain. What, are they going to tear down the Littlefield House and plow under the Littlefield Fountain? Not hardly."
- "UT will do what is done at the Nation's Capitol, move the statutes inside a building and place them as museum pieces."
- "They shouldn't be removed but put in a corner on campus — don't sanitize this crazy history!"

How long until those Confederate statues are off the Capitol grounds?

- "There are a lot of House members who would lose their primary if they vote on removing those statutes off the Capitol grounds."
- "Same observation."
- "Maybe they could replace it with a Tea Party Commemorative statue? It's basically the same movement."
- "Does this include the official Confederate flag, one of the Six Flags of Texas?"
- "It's historical can we move on and discuss real challenges facing Texas?"
- "Five or 10 years before the Capitol clears them off. Remember the last time this dusted up? David Swinford's bill? Practically mayhem on the House floor."
- "History is history. You can't re-write it, only ensure we don't make the same mistakes. The statues serve as a reminder of our faltered past."

- "Texas is so out of touch with the rest of the nation. Does anyone think this is a real issue of political concern in Texas? Lots of top officials like Patrick and Abbott (or even chairman Geren) talking about this, eh? Insert cricket noises here."
- "Big stupid fight in the next legislative session. Predict they will plead budget constraints and agree to leave the statues and re-write the plaques. Will take a year to come up with the right wording. SBOE will get involved..."
- "The ignorance of history destinies the repeat of history. Everyone needs to settle down."
- "Not likely, not likely at all. Texas responding to pressure from outside the state is one of the most un-Texan things to do, federal, social or otherwise."
- "There might be some re-branding or added context given them, but they aren't going anywhere."
- "Not as long as the current political climate holds in the House and Senate."
- "As a minority, I am fully aware of the history Texas has with minority people. It is ever so evident now with the vitriol against Mexican and Latin American immigrants coming to Texas — simple people looking for a better life, which is how this country got started. Do you honestly believe that removing a statute of some fatass, dead Confederate soldier is really going to solve race relations? Those statutes represent one thing: a dead guy from the history of Texas. What we should focus on is the current anti-minority attitudes of conservative elitists that is more problematic to society than some stupid piece of metal on public grounds."
- "Hopefully never — again, if they must be re-located, do it and place in a corner area! Don't sanitize history!"
- "Never is a very long time, but at least not during this decade."
- "I don't know. Probably not never. But also not in two years."

Our thanks to this week's participants: Gene Acuna, Cathie Adams, Brandon Aghamalian, Brandon Alderete, Clyde Alexander, George Allen, Jay Arnold, Charles Bailey, Walt Baum, Amy Beneski, Andrew Biar, Tom Blanton, Chris Britton, Raif Calvert, Lydia Camarillo, Snapper Carr, Elna Christopher, Kevin Cooper, Randy Cubriel, Denise Davis, Nora Del Bosque, Glenn Deshields, Tom Duffy, David Dunn, Richard Dyer, Jack Erskine, Jon Fisher, Tom Forbes, Dominic Giarratani, Bruce Gibson, Eric Glenn, Daniel Gonzalez, Jim Grace, John Greytok, Jack Gullahorn, Clint Hackney, Wayne Hamilton, Bill Hammond, Steve Holzheuser, Deborah Ingersoll, Mark Jones, Lisa Kaufman, Robert Kepple, Richard Khouri, Tom Kleinworth, Nick Lampson, Pete Laney, James LeBas, Luke Legate, Myra Leo, Ruben Longoria, Homero

Lucero, Vilma Luna, Matt Mackowiak, Steve Minick, Bee Moorhead, Mike Moses, Keir Murray, Nelson Nease, Keats Norfleet, Nef Partida, Gardner Pate, Jerod Patterson, Robert Peeler, Jerry Philips, Tom Phillips, Wayne Pierce, Allen Place, Gary Polland, Jay Pritchard, Ted Melina Raab, Karen Reagan, Patrick Reinhart, David Reynolds, Carl Richie, A.J. Rodriguez, Kim Ross, Grant Ruckel, Tyler Ruud, Andy Sansom, Jim Sartwelle, Barbara Schlieff, Stan Schlueter, Robert Scott, Ben Sebree, Jason Skaggs, Ed Small, Martha Smiley, Larry Soward, Leonard Spearman, Dennis Speight, Bill Stevens, Colin Strother, Tom Suehs, Sherry Sylvester, Jay Thompson, Trey Trainor, Vicki Truitt, Corbin Van Arsdale, Ware Wendell, David White, Darren Whitehurst, Christopher Williston, Angelo Zottarelli.