

SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

www.siena.edu/sri

For Immediate Release: Thursday, September 1, 2005 Contact: Joe Caruso at 518-783-2901

Siena New York Poll:

Two-thirds of NYers: Hillary Should Commit to Serve 6 Years; However, More than 70 Percent Say It Will Not Effect their Vote Nearly Two-thirds of Voters Think Hillary Plans to Run for President Clinton & Spitzer Maintain Strong Leads in All Potential Match-ups

Loudonville, NY – Two thirds of New York voters say that "Hillary Clinton should commit to serve a full six-year term in the Senate," however more than 70 percent say that if she "does commit" or "refuses to commit" it will have "no impact" on their vote, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of New York voters released today. More than six in ten voters think that Sen. Clinton "plans to run for President in 2008 if she gets re-elected" next year.

"The vast majority of all New York voters – regardless of party, gender, geography, age, or ethnicity/religion – think that Hillary should commit to serving her whole second term in the Senate," said Joe Caruso, Director of Polling for the Siena Research Institute (SRI).

"The more interesting fact is that only 20 percent of voters say that if she does commit it will make them more likely to vote for her. Similarly, only 22 percent of voters say it will make them less likely to vote for Hillary if she refuses to commit to serving a full term.

If Hillary Clinton <u>does</u> commit to serving a full six-year term in the Senate, would it make you more likely or less likely to vote for her – or would it have no impact on your vote?

	All	Repub- licans		Currently^ Undecided
<i>More</i> likely	20%	14%	9%	12%

If Hillary Clinton <u>refuses to</u> commit to serving a full six-year term in the Senate, would it make you more likely or less likely to vote for her – or would it have no impact on your vote?

	All	Repub- licans		Currently^ Undecided
Less likely	22%	23%	30%	33%

^{*} self-identified-Pirro supporters

[^] undecided in a hypothetical Clinton-Pirro match-up.

"While New Yorkers would like Hillary to commit to six years, they overwhelmingly believe she's going to run for President anyway and whether or not she takes the pledge seems to have a greater influence on those who are not inclined to support her to begin with," Caruso said.

"Hillary continues to maintain more than a 20 point lead over either Jeannine Pirro or Edward Cox, with 56 percent of voters saying she should be re-elected and 39 percent saying they would prefer someone else," Caruso said. The Senator romps in New York City, with Democrats and among minority voters. She also continues to maintain leads upstate and in the suburbs against both potential challengers."

Clinton leads Pirro 55-34 percent (down from 57-31 percent a month ago) and she leads Cox 54-31 percent (down from 58-28 percent two months ago).

In the race for Governor, Attorney General Eliot Spitzer maintains 24-43 point leads against three potential challengers: Thomas Golisano 52-28 percent (52-26 percent in July), former Massachusetts Governor William Weld 56-19 percent (57-15 percent in May); and Secretary of State Randy Daniels, 58-15 percent (55-14 percent in May).

"No Republican candidate has yet to make an inroad against Eliot Spitzer," Caruso said. "With 14 months till Election Day, the Attorney General is looking strong; but with 14 months till Election Day, anything can happen – and likely will, particularly after the first of the year, when New Yorkers begin to focus on next year's elections."

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This SRI survey was conducted August 22-30, 2005 by telephone calls to 535 New York State registered voters. It has a margin of error of \pm 4.2 percentage points. For more information or comments, please call Joe Caruso, SRI Director of Polling, at 518-783-2901.



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Siena New York Poll Trends

If the election for Governor were held tomorrow and the candidates were Thomas Golisano on the Republican line and Eliot Spitzer on the Democratic line, for whom would you vote? (Rotate choices)

DATE	GOLISANO	SPITZER DON'T	Know/No Opinion
August, 2005	28	52	21
July, 2005	26	52	22
June, 2005	22	53	24

If the election for Governor were held tomorrow and the candidates were William Weld on the Republican line and Eliot Spitzer on the Democratic line, for whom would you vote? (Rotate choices)

DATE	WELD	SPITZER DON'T	Know/No Opinion
August, 2005	19	56	26
May, 2005	15	57	28

If the election for Governor were held tomorrow and the candidates were Randy Daniels on the Republican line and Eliot Spitzer on the Democratic line, for whom would you vote? (Rotate choices)

DATE	DANIELS	SPITZER DON'T	KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	15	58	28
May, 2005	14	55	30

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eliot Spitzer?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	60	14	26
July, 2005	62	15	22
June, 2005	59	15	25
May, 2005	58	17	25
April, 2005	53	18	29
March, 2005	50	18	32
February, 2005	48	17	34

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas Golisano?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	28	14	57
July, 2005	28	17	55
June, 2005	28	17	56

Siena New York Poll Trends

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about William Weld?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	9	7	84
May, 2005	10	11	79

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Randy Daniels?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	5	5	90
May, 2005	8	8	84

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about George Pataki?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	50	44	7
July, 2005	52	40	8
June, 2005	46	45	9
May, 2005	40	53	7
April, 2005	50	39	11
March, 2005	37	50	13
February, 2005	39	45	16

Hillary Clinton has indicated that she is running for re-election to the United States Senate. As things stand now, would you vote to re-elect her or would you prefer someone else?

DATE	RE-ELECT	PREFER SOMEONE ELSE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	56	39	6
July, 2005	60	37	4
June, 2005	59	35	7
May, 2005	59	36	5
April, 2005	60	34	5

If the election for United States Senate was held tomorrow and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and Jeanine Pirro on the Republican line, for whom would you vote? (Rotate choices)

DATE	CLINTON	Pirro	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	55	34	11
July, 2005	57	31	12
June, 2005	59	29	12
May, 2005	57	29	14

If the election for United States Senate was held tomorrow and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and Edward Cox on the Republican line, for whom would you vote? (Rotate choices)

DATE	CLINTON	Cox	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	54	31	15
June, 2005	58	28	15

Siena New York Poll Trends

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hillary Clinton?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	59	37	4
July, 2005	60	34	6
June, 2005	60	33	7
May, 2005	58	35	7
April, 2005	60	33	6
March, 2005	58	34	8
February, 2005	61	33	6

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Jeanine Pirro?

DATE	FAVORABLE	Unfavorable	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	26	20	55
July, 2005	27	12	61
June, 2005	23	12	65
May, 2005	20	12	68

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Edward Cox?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	18	10	73
June, 2005	23	12	65

Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

DATE	RIGHT TRACK	WRONG DIRECTION	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
August, 2005	36	44	20
July, 2005	33	41	26
June, 2005	30	44	26
May, 2005	29	46	25
April, 2005	29	44	27
March, 2005	26	47	27
February, 2005	32	44	24

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20%	24%	15%	20%	22%	18%	24%	15%	20%	20%	19%	11%	20%	14%	25%	16%	33%	19%	21%
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7%	8%	6%	5%	6%	8%	10%	6%	5%	6%	12%	11%	4%	7%	8%	7%	10%	8%	8%
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26%	20%	30%	27%	20%	32%	21%	29%	28%	25%	21%	58%	52%	23%	21%	29%	13%	20%	36%
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Total	Dem	Ren		м	F	NYC		Unstate	White		Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
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		6%	41%	38% 5%	36% 3%	24%	41% 4%	45% 6%	45%	4% 4%	16%	39%	39% 3%	36%	44%	25%	46% 6%	18%
			41% 5%	38%	36% 3%	24%	41% 4% Region	45% 6%	45%	4% 4% Ethnic	16%	39%	39%	36%	44%		46% 6%	18%
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4% Total	2% Dem	6% Party Rep	41% 5% Ind./ Other	38% 5% GENI	36% 3% DER	24% 1% NYC	41% 4% Region NYC Suburbs	45% 6% Upstate	45% 4% White	4% 4% Ethnic Afr.Am./ Black	16% 5% Latino	39% 3% 18-34	39% 3% AGE 35-54	36% 5% 55+	44% 4% Cath.	25% Relie Jewish	46% 6% gion Prot.	18% 4% Other
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7. Edward Cox																			
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	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	M	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	18%	16%	20%	16%	19%	16%	17%	15%	19%	16%	19%	21%	15%	18%	18%	17%	10%	18%	18%
unfavorable	10%	14%	7%	7%	8%	11%	9%	9%	11%	11%	5%	11%	6%	9%	12%	9%	15%	9%	7%
don't know/no opinion	73%	70%	73%	77%	73%	72%	73%	76%	70%	73%	75%	68%	79%	73%	70%	74%	75%	73%	75%
8. William Weld																			
			Party		GEN	DER		Region	•		Ethnic			AGE			Reli	gion	
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favorable	9%	7%	10%	14%	12%	6%	7%	9%	10%	10%	5%	11%	7%	8%	10%	8%	13%	8%	10%
unfavorable	7%	8%	3%	11%	9%	6%	12%	7%		6%	11%	11%	4%	9%	6%	5%	5%	6%	6%
don't know/no opinion	84%	85%	87%	76%	80%	88%	81%	84%	86%	85%	84%	79%	89%	84%	83%	87%	83%	86%	85%
9. Randy Daniels		1	D 1		OFNI		1	D		1	F411-			105			D . I'		
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favorable unfavorable	5% 5%	4% 8%	7% 2%	4% 3%	7% 6%	3% 4%	6% 8%	2% 4%	6% 3%	5% 4%	5% 9%	11% 11%	4% 6%	8% 6%	3% 4%	4% 5%	0% 8%	8% 4%	6% 8%
don't know/no opinion	90%	87%	90%	94%		93%	87%			91%	86%	79%	90%	87%	92%	92%	93%	4% 89%	86% 86%
don t know/no opinion	90%	87%	90%	94%	86%	93%	87%	94%	90%	91%	80%	79%	90%	87%	92%	92%	93%	89%	80%
10. Henought is a long way off by	ıt if the el	lootion fo			ald tame		nd the a	andidataa	wara Tha	maa Ca	liaana an th	na Danii	hliaan lir	- and F	Tint Cnit		o Domo	orotio lin	o for
10. I know it is a long way off, by whom would you vote? (rotate		iection ic	or govern	ioi were ne	eia torric	onow a	na me c	anuluales	were mo	illas Go	iisano on ti	ie Kepu	Dilcan III	ie and E	ilot Spit	zei on u	ie Dellio	Crauc IIII	e, ioi
whom would you vote: (Totale t		Party GENDER			1	Region		1	Ethnic		AGE			Relig	nion				
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	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	М	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Thomas Golisano	28%	11%	54%	23%	31%	25%	13%	28%	38%	33%	7%	16%	28%	31%	26%	36%	10%	36%	14%
Eliot Spitzer	52%	78%	23%	46%	49%	54%	69%			46%	77%	68%	44%	52%	54%	43%	75%	48%	56%
don't know/no opinion	21%	11%	23%	31%	20%	21%			20%	21%	16%	16%	28%	18%	20%	21%	15%	17%	31%
don't knownto opinion	2170	1170	2070	0170	2070	2170	1070	2070	2070	2170	1070	1070	2070	1070	2070	2170	1070	17 70	0170
11. How about if the candidates	were Wil	liam We	ld on the	Republica	an line a	nd Flic	t Snitze	r on the D	emocratic	line for	whom wou	ld vou v	ote? (ro	tate cho	nices)				
The decay is the carranates			Party		GENI		l opited	Region		1110, 101	Ethnic	na you v	0.0. (10	AGE	,,,,,,		Reli	noin	
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	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	М	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
William Weld	19%	7%	36%	16%	22%	15%	13%	20%	22%	22%	7%	11%	23%	17%	19%	21%	13%	27%	10%
Eliot Spitzer	56%	79%		50%	56%											48%	75%	52%	60%
don't know/no opinion	26%	14%		34%	22%	29%					16%			26%	24%	31%	13%	22%	31%
,																			
12. How about if the candidates	were Rai	ndy Dan	iels on th	ne Republi	can line	and El	liot Spitz	er on the	Democrat	ic line, fo	or whom wo	ould you	vote? (rotate ch	noices)			· ·	
			Party		GENI			Region			Ethnic		,	AGE	ĺ		Reli	gion	
				Ind./				NYC			Afr.Am./								
	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	M	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Randy Daniels	15%	5%	33%	6%	16%	13%	8%	19%	17%	17%			18%	15%	14%	20%	3%	18%	14%
Eliot Spitzer	58%	80%	35%	51%	58%	57%							48%	60%	59%	52%	83%	54%	49%
don't know/no opinion	28%	15%	32%	42%	25%	30%					19%		34%	25%	28%	28%	15%	28%	38%
·																			
	_					_			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	

13. Hillary Clinton has indicate	d she is ru	nning for	re-elec	tion to the	United S	States S	Senate.	As things	stand nov	w, would	you vote to	re-elec	t her or	would y	ou prefe	r someo	ne else?)	
•			Party		GEN		Region				Ethnic		AGE		Religion				
			-	Ind./				NYC		Afr.Am./									
	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	M	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
re-elect Clinton	56%	79%	28%	49%	52%	59%	69%	50%	49%	49%	88%	74%	55%	54%	57%	47%	70%	50%	74%
prefer someone else	39%	16%	66%	44%	42%	35%	26%	42%	46%	45%	7%	26%	41%	41%	37%	45%	25%	46%	22%
don't know/no opinion	6%	5%	6%	7%	5%	6%	5%	8%	5%	6%	5%	0%	4%	5%	6%	8%	5%	4%	4%
14. Again, I know it is a long w	ay off, but	if the ele	ction fo	r US Sena	te was h	eld ton	norrow a	ind the cai	ndidates w	vere Hilla	ary Clinton	on the D	emocra	tic line a	and Jear	nine Pirro	on the	Republic	can line
for whom would you vote? (rot	ate choices	3)					1			1						ı			
		 	Party		GEN	DER		Region			Ethnic			AGE	I		Reli	gion	
	Total	Dom	Rep	Ind./ Other	N /	F	NVC	NYC	Linatata	White	Afr.Am./	Latina	10 24	25 54	55+	Cath.	lowish	Prot.	Other
Hillary Clinton	55%	Dem 81%	21%	53%	M 53%	<u>г</u> 57%	NYC 69%	Suburbs 48%	Upstate 49%	48%	Black 89%	Latino 68%	18-34 55%	35-54 54%	55%	46%	Jewish 73%	47%	69%
Jeanine Pirro	34%	14%	61%		37%	32%	24%	40%	38%	40%	7%	21%	34%		34%	41%	18%	47%	19%
don't know/no opinion	11%	6%	18%	10%	11%	11%		11%	13%	12%	4%	11%	11%		10%	13%	10%	11%	11%
ион с кножию оринон	1170	070	10%	10%	1170	1170	070	1170	13%	1270	470	1170	1170	1270	10%	13%	10%	1170	1170
15. How about if the candidate	e wara Hill	ary Clint	on on th	a Democr	atic line	and Ed	lward Co	ov on the l	l Zenuhlica:	n line fo	r whom wo	uld vou	vote2 (r	ntate ch	nices)				
13. How about it the candidate	3 WEIG I IIII	ary Cirric	Party		GEN		lwaru oc	Region		11 11116, 10	Ethnic	uiu you	vote: (ii	AGE	Olces)		Relig	nion	
		1	Faity		GLIN	DLK		Region			Lumic			AGL			Keli	JIOH	
				Ind./				NYC			Afr.Am./								
	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	М	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Hillary Clinton	54%	78%	24%	53%	49%	60%		50%	47%	48%	89%	74%	56%	54%	55%	46%	70%	46%	69%
Edward Cox	31%	13%	56%	31%	36%	26%	20%	33%	37%	37%	7%	21%	34%		28%	40%	15%	39%	15%
don't know/no opinion	15%	9%	20%	16%	15%	14%		18%	15%		4%	5%	10%		17%	14%	15%	15%	15%
don't know/no opinion	1370	9 70	20 %	10 /0	1570	14 /0	1270	10 70	1370	10 /6	4 70	370	10 %	1370	17 70	14 70	1370	1370	1370
16. Regardless of whether you	think she	should ri	ın for P	resident o	not do	vou he	lieve Hil	lary Clinto	n should (commit t	n serve a fi	ıll siy-ve	ar term	in the S	enate?				
10. Regardless of whether you	Tunink Sile	Jiloula it	Party		GEN		I	Region			Ethnic	all SIX ye	ar term	AGE	criate:		Relig	nion	
			i uity		OL.II			Rogion			Lamo			AUL			11011	J.O.,	
				Ind./				NYC			Afr.Am./								
	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	М	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
yes	66%	67%	65%	68%	66%	66%		68%	65%	66%	65%	79%	72%		64%		53%	67%	78%
no	26%	25%	26%	23%	24%	27%		25%	27%	25%	30%	16%	21%		25%	27%	28%	25%	15%
don't know/no opinion	9%	7%	9%	10%	10%	7%	10%	7%	8%	9%	5%	5%	7%	7%	11%	7%	20%	8%	7%
ион с кножите ориноп	070	1 70	0 70	1070	10 /0	1 70	1070	1 70	070	0 70	070	070	1 70	1 70	1170	7 70	2070	070	1 /0
17. If Hillary Clinton does com	mit to servi	ng a full	six-vear	r term in th	e Senat	e. woul	d it mak	e vou mor	e or less l	ikely to v	vote for her	– or wo	uld it ha	ve no in	npact on	vour voi	e?		
			Party		GEN			Region			Ethnic			AGE			Reli	noic	
								- J											
				Ind./				NYC			Afr.Am./								
	Total	Dem	Rep	Other	М	F	NYC	Suburbs	Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
More likely	20%	26%	14%	18%	20%	20%		18%	18%		30%	21%	21%		20%		15%	15%	26%
Less Likely	4%	2%	7%		5%			4%				0%					3%	4%	3%
No impact	73%	71%	75%		71%		69%	75%			65%		72%				78%	77%	67%
don't know/no opinion	3%	1%	4%		4%			3%			4%		3%				5%	4%	4%
·																			
18. If Hillary Clinton refuses to	commit to	serving a	a full six	year term	in the S	Senate,	would it	make you	more or	less like	ly to vote fo	r her – d	or would	it have	no impa	ct on you	ur vote?		
			Party	,	GEN	DER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Relig	gion	
				•				NYC		1	Afr.Am./								
				Ind./				1110											
	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	М	F	NYC		Upstate	White	Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
More likely	Total 3%	Dem 5%	Rep 2%		M 3%	4%	5%	Suburbs 4%	2%	3%			18-34 0%	5%	3%	1%	Jewish 3%	4%	
More likely Less Likely		5% 19%	2% 23%	Other 2% 25%		4% 19%	5% 18%	Suburbs 4% 29%	2% 20%	3% 23%	Black 5% 16%	0% 16%	0% 30%	5% 22%	3% 19%	1% 26%	3% 10%	4% 23%	8% 13%
	3%	5% 19% 74%	2%	Other 2% 25% 71%	3% 24% 70%	4% 19% 74%	5% 18% 74%	Suburbs 4% 29% 65%	2% 20% 74%	3% 23% 72%	Black 5% 16% 77%	0% 16% 84%	0%	5% 22% 71%	3% 19% 75%	1% 26% 70%	3% 10% 85%	4%	8% 13% 76%
Less Likely	3% 22%	5% 19%	2% 23%	Other 2% 25% 71%	3% 24%	4% 19%	5% 18% 74%	Suburbs 4% 29% 65%	2% 20% 74%	3% 23% 72%	Black 5% 16%	0% 16% 84%	0% 30%	5% 22% 71%	3% 19% 75%	1% 26% 70%	3% 10%	4% 23%	8% 13%

19. Jeanine Pirro, when announcing her candidacy to run as a Republican for the United States Senate said Hillary Clinton, quote, wants to use New York as a doormat to the White House, unquote. Do you agree or disagree with that statement? GENDER AGE Region **Ethnic** Ind./ NYC Afr.Am./ Rep Other NYC Suburbs | Upstate | White Black Latino 18-34 35-54 Cath. Other Total Dem M F 55+ Jewish Prot. 46% 37% 32% 55% 36% 51% 34% 73% 55% 56% 51% 60% 56% 28% 51% 52% 51% 57% 43% agree 54% 55% 22% 39% 36% 44% 53% 41% 31% 35% 61% 63% 41% 40% 40% 35% 45% 37% disagree 40% don't know/no opinion 9% 5% 6% 8% 10% 10% 8% 8% %8 11% 5% 8% 9% 9% 8% 13% 8% 10% 11% 20. Do you think Hillary Clinton plans to run for President in 2008 if she gets re-elected to the United States Senate in 2006? Party **GENDER** Region **Ethnic AGE** Religion Ind./ NYC Afr.Am./ Black Total Dem Rep Other M NYC Suburbs Upstate White Latino 18-34 35-54 55+ Cath. Jewish Prot. Other 62% 63% 53% 74% 68% 65% 56% 59% 70% 65% 49% 79% 63% 65% 62% 66% 55% 65% 56% 17% 22% 13% 12% 17% 23% 18% 12% 16% 30% 16% 20% 17% 13% 17% 17% 16% 16% 17% no 20% 22% 23% 20% 17% 33% 17% 28% don't know/no opinion 25% 13% 21% 18% 21% 18% 19% 21% 5% 17% 20% Demographics: Gender Party: t t Democrat 42% 48% Republican 52% 33% Ind./Other Total 100% 21% Refused 4% 100% Total Age: t 18-34 13% 35-54 Race/Ethnicity: 37% t Caucasian/white 55+ 78% 48% African American/Black refused 11% 1% Hispanic/Latino 100% 4% Total Other 5% refused 2% Total 100% Region: t Upstate West 36% **Upstate East** 10% NYC Sub 21% NYC 32% Total 100% Religion: t Catholic 40% 8% Jewish 25% Protestant 14% other no affiliation 12% 2% refused Total 100% Page 4 of 4