

Table 2.83

**Attitudes toward banning the possession of handguns except by the police and other authorized persons**

United States, selected years 1980-93

Question: "Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns except by the police and other authorized persons?"

	Should	Should not	Don't know or refused
January 1980	31%	65%	4%
December 1980	38	51	11
April 1981	39	58	3
June 1981	41	54	5
October 1987	42	50	8
September 1990	41	55	4
March 1991	43	53	4
March 1993	42	54	4
December 1993	39	60	1

Note: For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 6.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 340 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, January 1994), p. 22. Reprinted by permission.