



MEDIA RELEASE Embargoed until Wednesday 18 March
18 March 2009

83% Still Want Smacking Law Fixed - Poll

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These are the key finding of research commissioned by Family First NZ, following on from similar research in 2007 and 2008. The Curia Market Research poll surveyed 1,000 people, and also found huge confusion over the legal effect of the law.

83% said that the new law should be changed to state explicitly that parents who give their children a smack that is reasonable and for the purpose of correction are not breaking the law (85% in 2008, 82% in 2007).

KEY FINDINGS

83% say the law should be changed – only 13% say to keep it as is

77% says the law won't help reduce the rate of child abuse in NZ

Less than one third of respondents actually understand the law

"This is essentially the same question that will be put to NZ'ers in the Referendum at the end of July. The government can save \$8 million of taxpayer funding towards the cost of running the Referendum during a recession, and amend the law now," says Bob McCoskrie, National Director of Family First NZ.

Respondents were also asked whether the new law makes it always illegal for parents to give their children a light smack. 55% said yes, 31% said no, and 14% didn't know.

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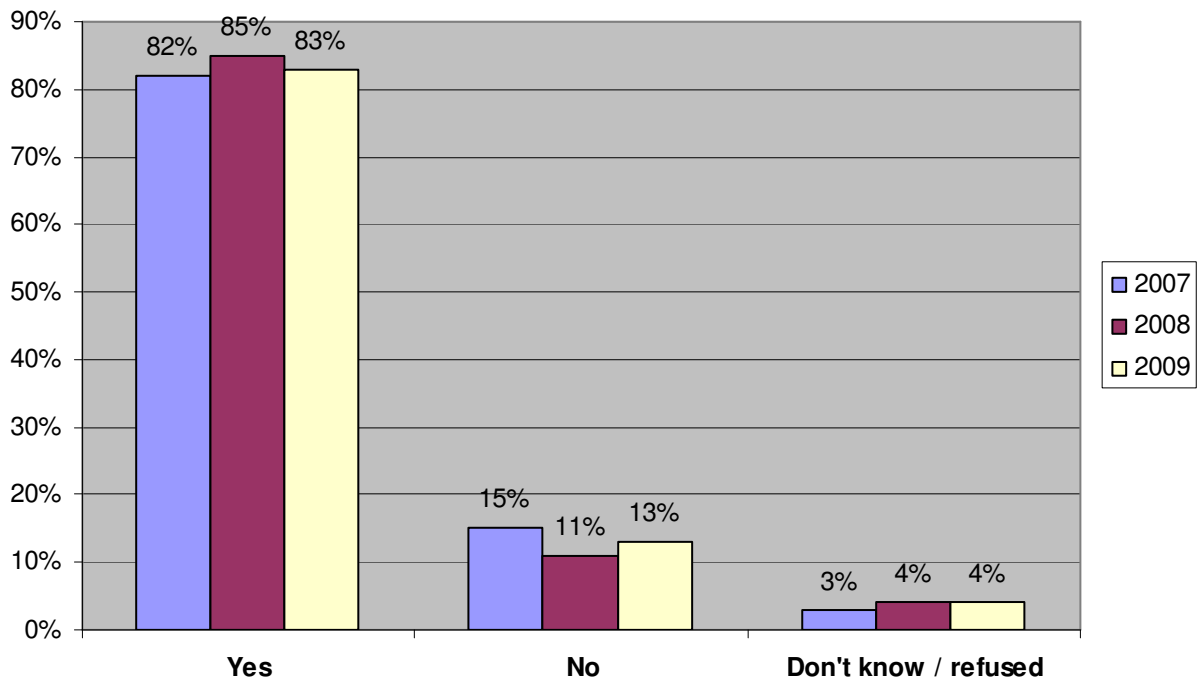
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The poll was conducted during the week beginning March 9, and has a margin of error of +/- 3.2%.

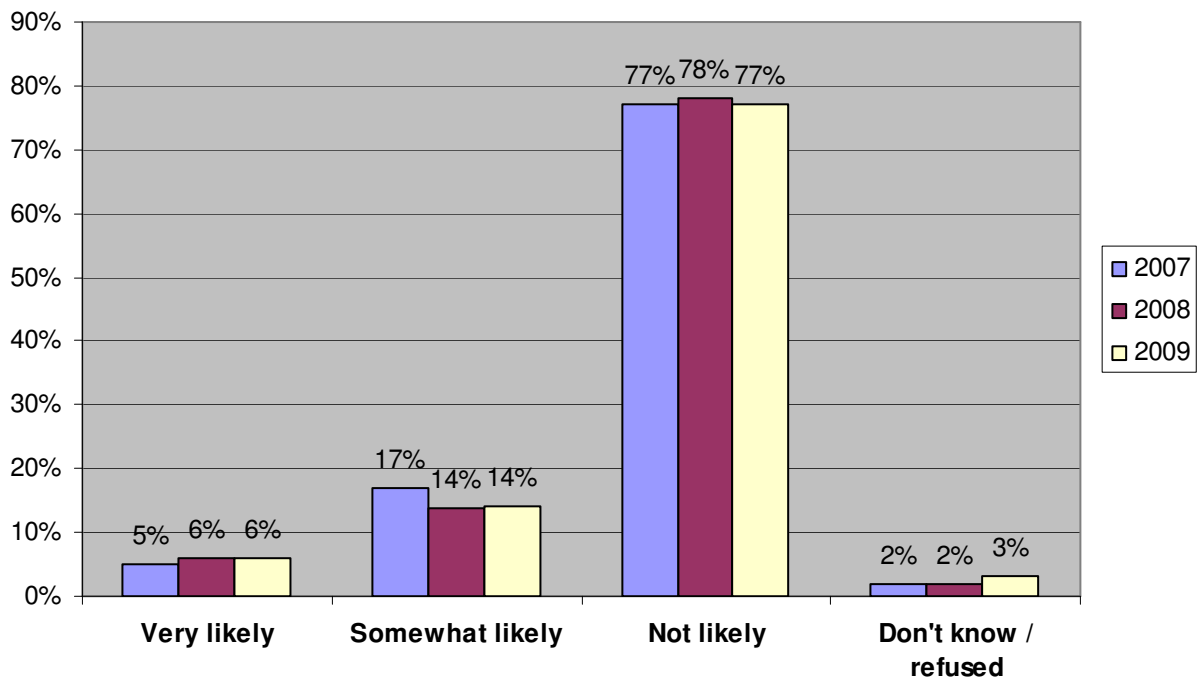
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For More Information and Media Interviews, contact Family First:
Bob McCoskrie - NATIONAL DIRECTOR
Mob. 027 55 555 42

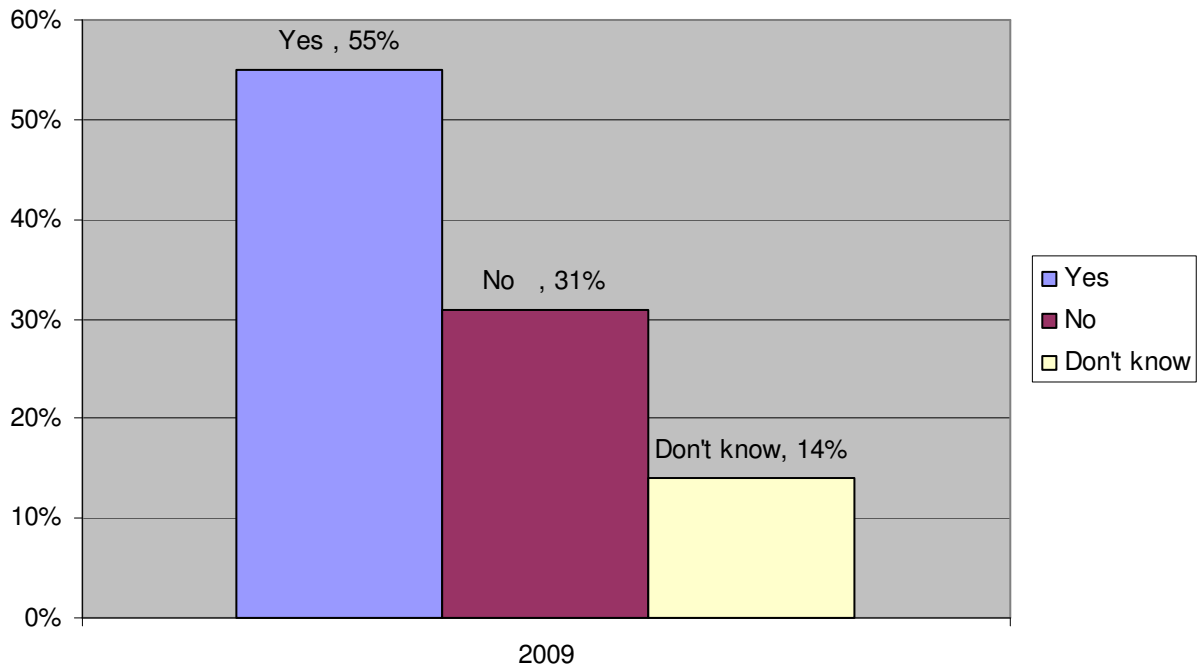
Should the law be changed?



Will the law reduce the rate of child abuse?



Is it always illegal for parents to give light smack?





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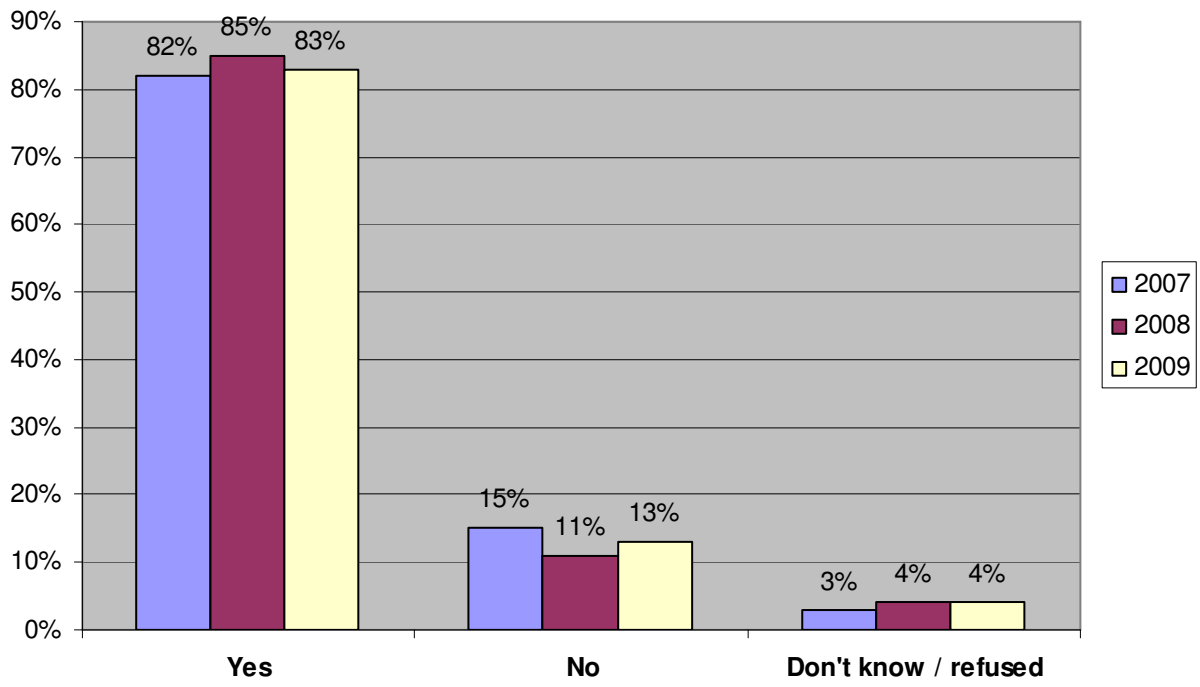
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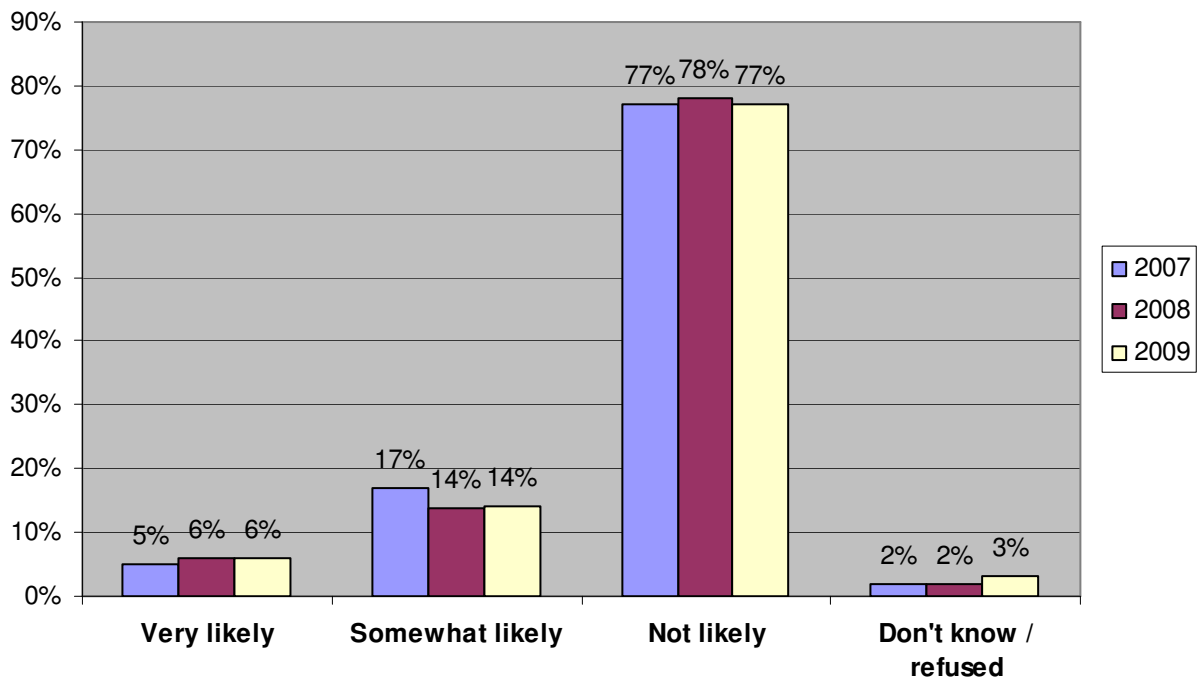
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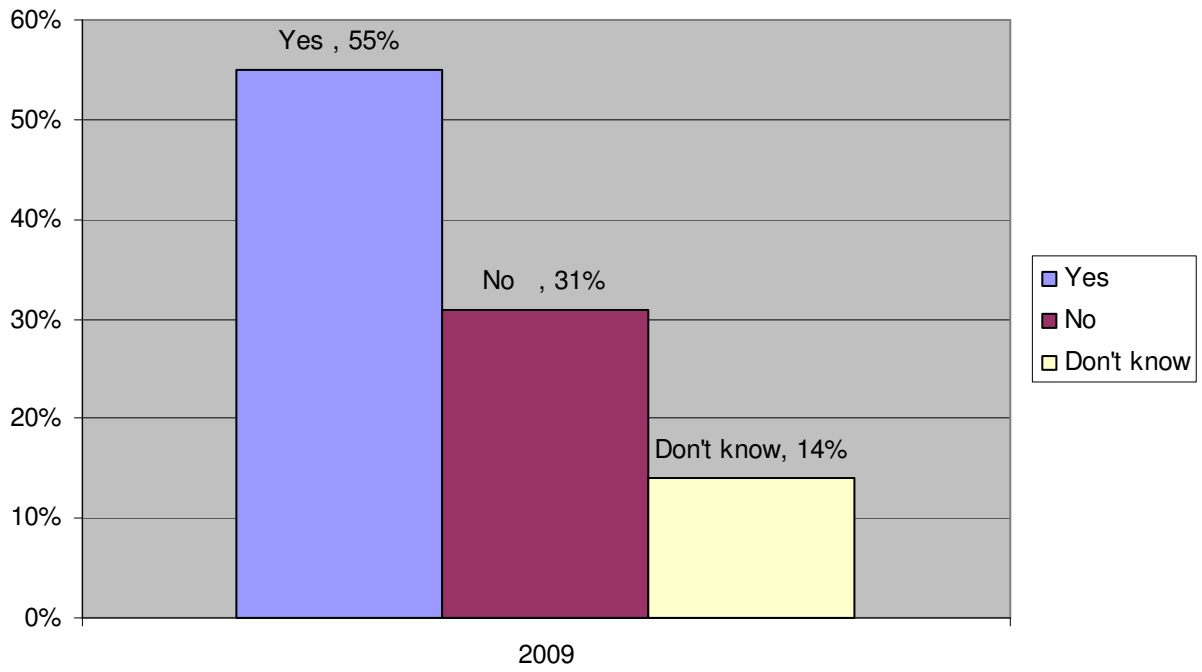
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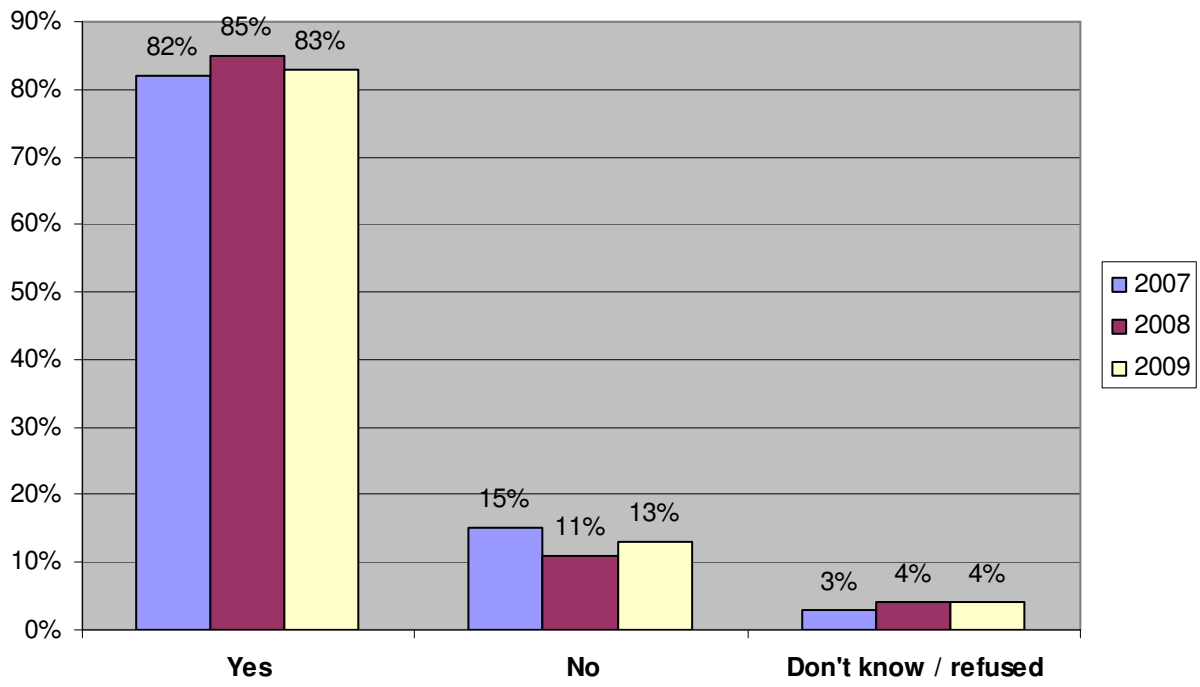
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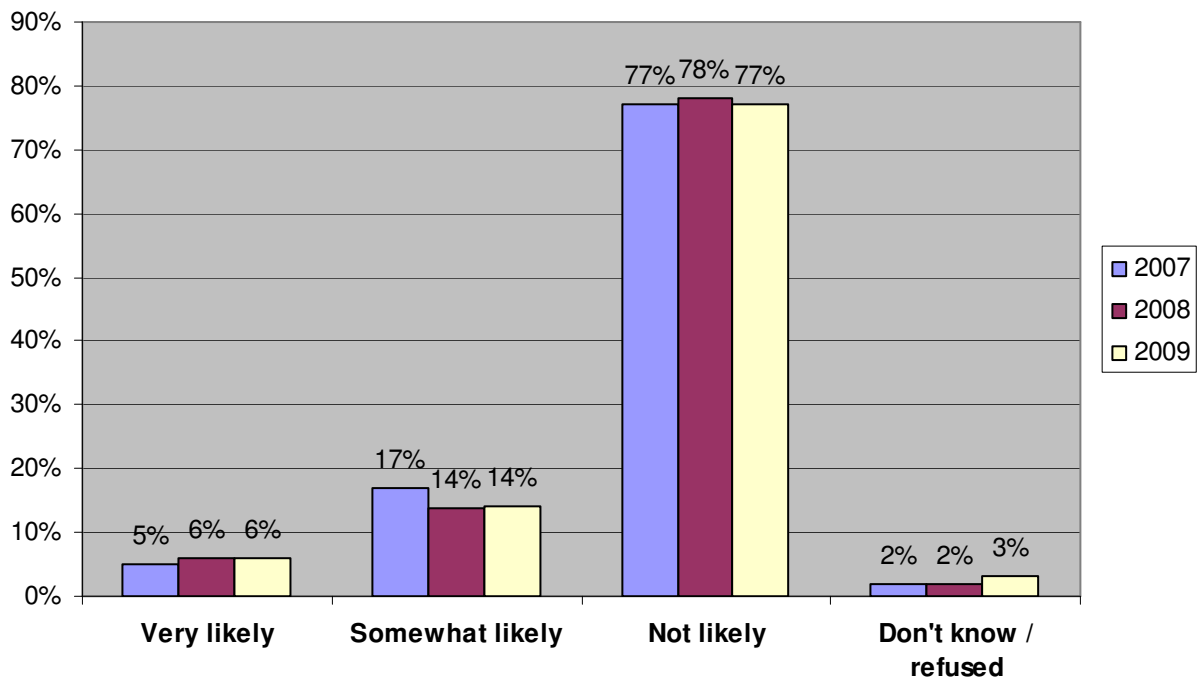
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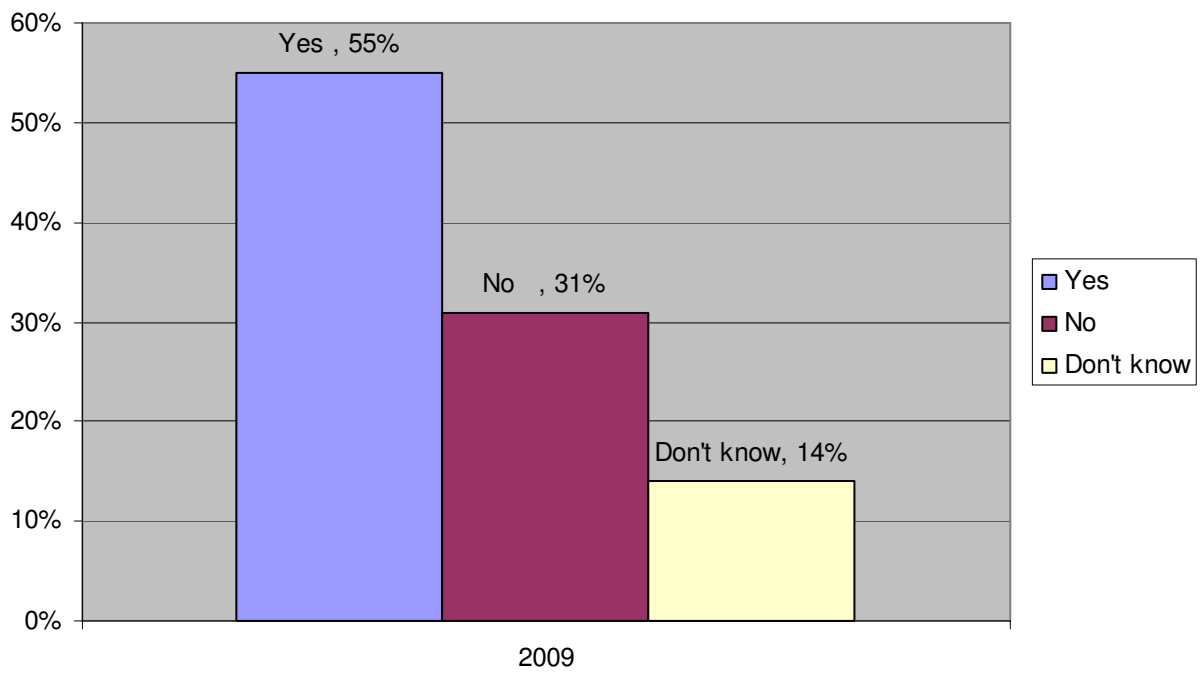
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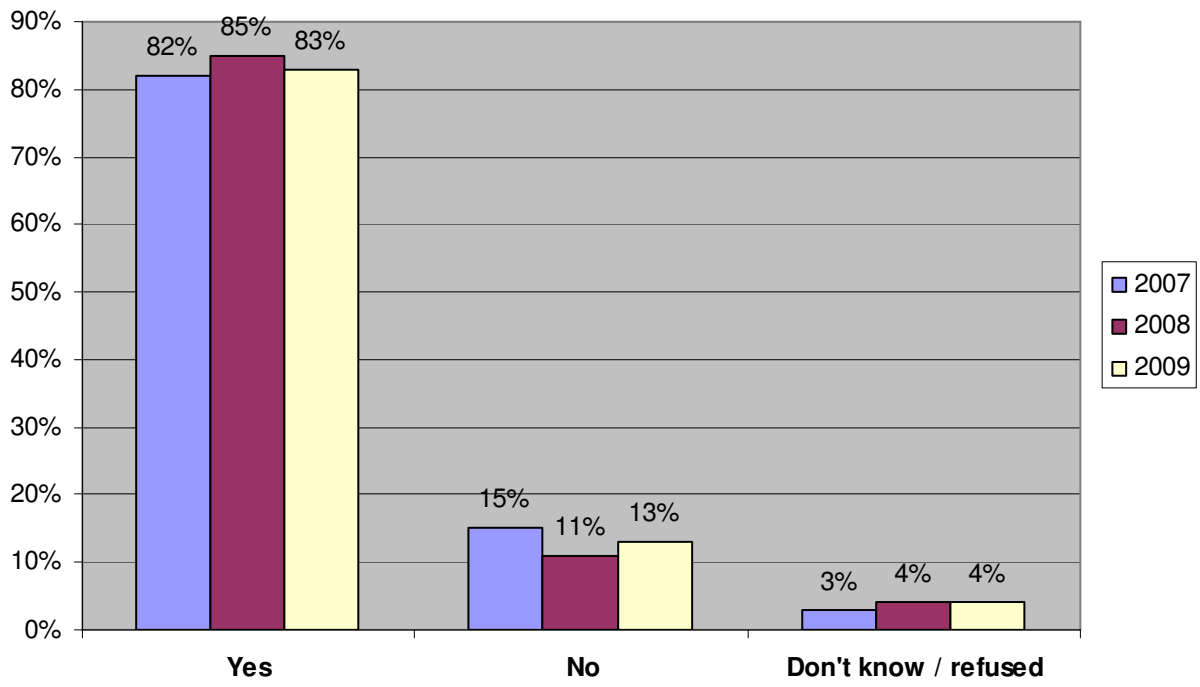
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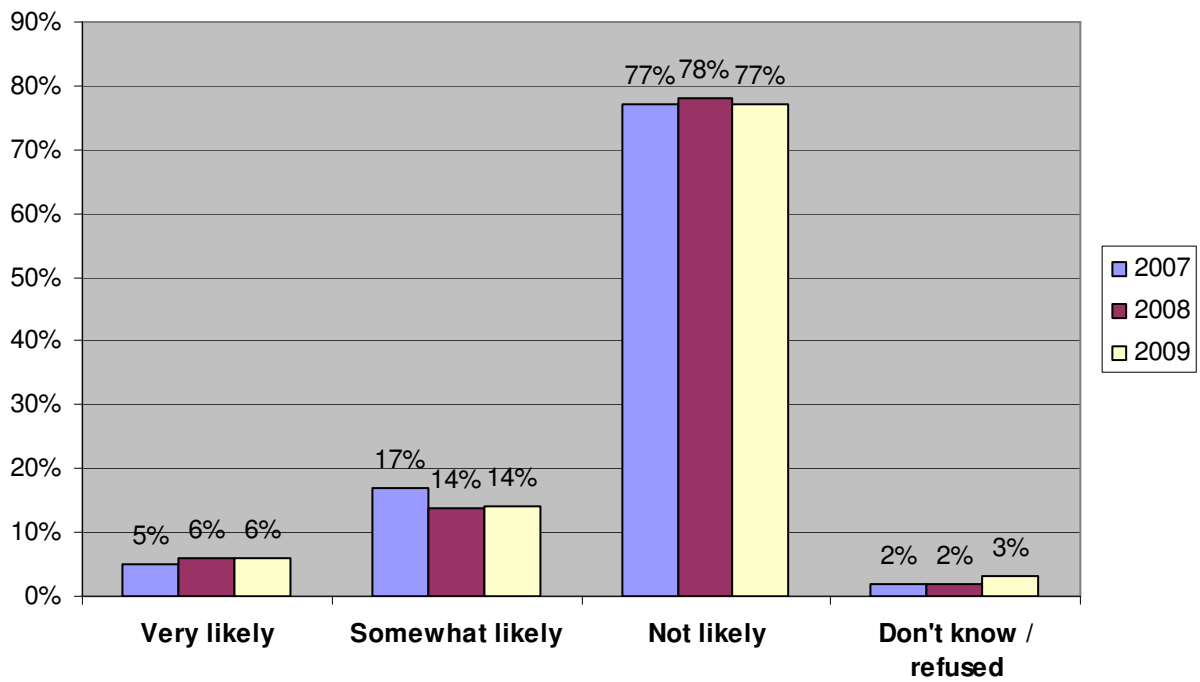
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