

YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 1684 GB Adults
Fieldwork: 10th - 11th March 2013

	Voting intention			2010 Vote			Gender		Age				Social grade		Region						
	Total	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Con	Lab	Lib Dem	Male	Female	18-24	25-39	40-59	60+	ABC1	C2DE	London	Rest of South	Midlands / Wales	North	Scotland	
Weighted Sample	1684	411	511	134	542	413	331	818	866	204	429	576	475	960	724	216	547	360	414	147	
Unweighted Sample	1684	413	482	112	557	391	342	790	894	115	441	665	463	1133	551	289	572	310	383	130	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%

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Overall, would you say the British press is a force for good or bad?

Good	45	46	56	45	47	57	48	42	49	43	45	34	46	57	50	41	51	46	42	46	48
Bad	34	32	28	32	35	25	33	35	33	31	35	37	32	24	31	32	36	28	33	31	36
Don't know	20	22	16	23	18	18	19	23	18	27	20	29	22	18	19	27	13	26	25	23	16

Do you think that the press does or does not need much tougher independent regulation with fines for newspapers that behave badly?

Does need much tougher regulation	68	63	59	71	73	56	67	74	62	64	59	64	66	60	63	63	61	61	66	62	67
Does NOT need much tougher regulation	21	25	34	20	21	35	22	18	28	23	24	18	25	32	27	22	28	26	20	28	19
Don't know	11	12	7	9	6	9	11	8	10	14	18	18	9	8	10	15	12	12	14	10	14

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Unweighted Sample

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In his report on the press, Lord Justice Leveson has recommended that there should be a new regulatory body. It would be set up by the press and appointed in an independent way, with no serving newspaper editors or politicians on the board. However, Leveson has proposed that there should be new laws passed by MPs to underpin the regulator. It would be approved and overseen by Ofcom, a government appointed body that already regulates the broadcast media, postal service and phone companies.

Do you believe there should or should not be new laws, passed by MPs, to encourage newspapers to join this new system of regulation?

New laws should be passed by MPs to encourage newspapers to join this new system of regulation

58

New laws should NOT be passed by MPs to encourage newspapers to join this new system of regulation

26

Don't know

15

Do you think MPs should or should not have a say in the design of the system of independent regulation?

Yes, MPs should; it's important for MPs to give the regulation a legal underpinning

31

No, MPs should not; the involvement of MPs in this way threatens the principles of a free press

52

Don't know

16

58	55	53	64	65	49	61	68	57	54	44	63	56	51	58	51	57	52	56	55	62
26	26	34	19	24	37	21	17	28	23	25	16	26	34	27	24	27	28	20	27	23
15	19	13	17	11	14	18	14	15	23	31	20	18	15	15	26	16	19	25	18	15
31	28	31	32	37	24	31	33	31	25	28	32	27	26	29	26	35	24	25	28	40
52	53	57	53	47	61	51	52	55	51	43	45	58	59	55	50	50	54	53	56	44
16	19	12	15	15	14	18	15	14	23	29	24	15	15	15	24	15	22	21	16	16

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Do you believe it is right or wrong that Ofcom, which regulates other services including the broadcast media, postal service and phone companies, would have a say in the system of press regulation?

Right - Ofcom is an appropriate organisation	54	55	58	62	74	52	60	63	52	57	55	63	55	47	56	53	61	52	57	51	60
Wrong - it should be done by a separate organisation	31	28	30	26	15	33	26	24	32	24	21	17	29	39	27	28	22	29	23	33	24
Don't know	15	18	12	12	11	14	13	14	16	19	24	20	16	14	17	19	17	19	19	16	16

How much of a risk, if any, do you believe that by introducing new laws on the press, future governments might use them to control the media?

A large risk	15	15	20	12	12	18	11	12	18	13	22	9	16	18	13	18	12	17	14	18	11
A fairly big risk	32	33	37	35	29	37	32	33	34	33	30	34	34	33	36	30	36	36	33	31	25
TOTAL RISK	47	48	57	47	41	55	43	45	52	46	52	43	50	51	49	48	48	53	47	49	36
Not much of a risk	36	33	32	33	49	32	31	43	33	32	25	35	33	34	36	28	39	29	28	35	41
No risk at all	5	3	2	7	2	1	7	2	4	3	3	2	3	5	4	3	2	2	3	3	10
TOTAL NOT MUCH / NO RISK	41	36	34	40	51	33	38	45	37	35	28	37	36	39	40	31	41	31	31	38	51
Don't know	13	15	9	14	9	11	18	10	10	20	20	20	14	10	12	20	11	16	21	13	13

The Prime Minister has said he supports the need for tougher regulation, but that he opposes new laws for the moment. Do you believe David Cameron was right or wrong to oppose Leveson's recommendation for new laws to underpin the new regulatory body for the press?

Right to oppose this recommendation	29	30	50	20	29	46	21	20	34	26	30	27	28	35	31	29	35	32	27	30	24
Wrong to oppose this recommendation	50	42	31	56	47	32	54	52	46	37	39	36	45	44	44	39	39	42	41	40	51
Don't know	21	28	19	24	24	22	26	28	20	36	31	37	27	21	26	32	25	26	33	30	26

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And do you think David Cameron is opposing the new laws mainly because ...?

He believes in the principle of newspapers being free of any state regulation	24	19	48	6	18	38	7	12	21	17	11	20	18	24	22	15	20	24	17	14	20
He does not wish to jeopardise his relationship with newspaper owners and editors	56	58	34	77	64	41	74	72	59	57	55	51	62	61	58	58	57	54	56	64	63
Neither	6	5	5	6	3	7	4	4	6	5	8	6	5	4	6	5	4	5	6	6	4
Don't know	13	18	13	12	15	14	16	13	13	22	26	23	16	12	14	22	19	18	21	16	14

And do you believe Nick Clegg was right or wrong to support Leveson's recommendation for new laws to underpin the new regulatory body for the press?

Right to support this recommendation	50	41	34	51	65	33	45	59	45	38	41	44	41	39	44	38	44	40	41	40	49
Wrong to support this recommendation	26	26	39	21	20	37	24	16	32	20	17	19	27	35	27	25	29	27	21	28	23
Don't know	25	33	27	28	15	30	32	25	23	42	41	37	32	26	30	37	27	33	38	32	28

Regardless of whether you support or oppose Leveson's recommendations, do you believe Nick Clegg was right to set out a different view from that of the Prime Minister or should he, as deputy Prime Minister, have presented a united front with David Cameron?

Right, it is more important for him to say what he believes than to present a united front	66	62	49	75	82	51	71	85	65	60	51	60	64	67	66	57	68	61	57	62	74
Wrong, as deputy Prime Minister he should have presented a united front with David Cameron	22	20	39	12	3	36	13	4	21	19	18	15	22	24	20	20	19	21	20	23	12
Don't know	12	18	11	13	14	14	15	11	14	21	30	25	14	9	13	23	13	18	23	15	13

Ed Miliband supports Leveson's recommendation for new laws to underpin the new regulatory body for the press. Do you think he is mainly doing this...?

Because he believes in protecting the victims of press behaviour	32	27	11	55	25	11	51	33	25	28	19	24	29	29	27	26	25	24	25	31	32
To undermine the coalition	46	48	73	26	52	69	26	45	53	43	48	44	48	52	51	44	50	49	49	46	44
Neither	6	8	6	7	7	7	6	7	7	8	10	7	6	8	8	7	8	8	7	6	11
Don't know	16	18	10	13	15	13	16	16	14	22	23	25	17	11	15	22	18	19	19	17	14

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Some people have claimed that giving the state a role in press regulation is a major change to the relationship between the state and the press whereas others believe that it will actually make very little difference at all. Do you think Leveson's proposals would be a major or a minor change in the relationship between the state and the press?

A major and worrying change	21	21	33	17	17	30	18	16	25	18	15	17	22	27	21	22	21	23	20	22	16
A major and welcome change	25	24	22	32	27	22	31	25	29	19	23	22	24	25	25	22	26	21	25	26	20
A minor change	32	31	31	33	40	30	29	40	31	31	27	30	33	32	34	28	35	31	30	27	40
Don't know	22	24	15	19	16	18	22	20	15	32	34	30	22	15	20	28	19	25	24	24	23

Lord Justice Leveson has proposed that journalists' exemption from the Data Protection Act should be ended. He argues that it would improve transparency by enabling people to submit requests to newspapers to find out what information they have about them. Critics, however, say that investigative journalism, which relies on the protection of sources when exposing corruption or wrongdoing, would be undermined. Do you believe the exemption should, or should not be ended?

The exemption should be ended	41	35	40	37	48	36	37	39	40	30	24	33	38	37	36	33	34	35	35	33	40
The exemption should NOT be ended	30	32	40	31	30	39	29	32	37	27	29	26	34	36	35	27	37	32	28	33	31
Don't know	29	33	20	32	22	25	34	29	23	42	47	41	28	26	28	39	29	32	37	34	29

Lord Justice Leveson thinks it is important for the press to remain "irreverent, unruly and opinionated". Do you believe these qualities would or would not survive under his proposals?

Would survive	43	38	36	45	55	33	40	53	47	30	38	36	40	39	42	34	41	36	43	31	52
Would NOT survive	28	29	40	27	14	40	29	17	28	29	27	23	28	36	30	27	33	29	26	30	24
Don't know	29	33	24	27	31	27	31	30	25	40	35	42	32	25	28	39	26	34	31	39	24

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Lord Justice Leveson has also recommended that all government ministers and senior politicians should have to publicly declare all their meetings with newspaper owners and editors. Do you believe they should or should not publicly declare all their meetings with newspaper owners and editors?

Should be required to declare all their meetings with newspaper owners and editors	73	69	70	73	79	69	75	78	72	66	49	60	73	80	73	63	74	68	66	69	69
Should NOT be required to declare all their meetings with newspaper owners and editors	13	13	17	11	13	16	10	8	15	12	24	14	12	10	13	13	14	13	10	15	14
Don't know	15	18	13	16	9	15	14	14	13	23	27	26	15	11	14	24	11	19	24	16	17