

## *Evangelicals for Biblical Immigration*

### **Poll: Evangelicals Want Jobs for Americans; Not Amnesty and Refugee Resettlement**

An August 25, 2017 national [poll](#) of 1,000 likely midterm voters, of all races and ethnicities, reveals that the sub-set of Americans who identify as “evangelical” Christians does not prefer amnesty, refugee resettlement, “chain migration” (bringing extended families) and the Visa Lottery. They do strongly prefer E-Verify to prioritize jobs for unemployed American citizens.

In the first question, 67% of Evangelicals who are likely mid-term voters would rather raise pay, and prices, to attract Americans than have the U.S. Government bring in new immigrants to keep costs down. See the question and results, below.

Conducted August 24-25, 2017 by Pulse Opinion Research, a licensed affiliate of Rasmussen.  
(+/- 3% margin of error).

#### Question 1

1. When businesses say they are having trouble finding Americans to take jobs in construction, manufacturing, hospitality and other service work, what is generally best for the country?

Is it better to raise the pay until they can attract Americans without jobs even if it causes prices to rise, or is it better for the government to continue to automatically bring in new immigrants each year to keep costs down?

<u>Evangelicals</u>	<u>Total likely mid-term voters</u>	
67%	59%	Better to raise the pay to attract Americans without jobs even if prices rise.
11%	19%	Better for the government to automatically bring in new immigrants to keep the costs down.
21%	22%	Not sure

In the second question, by a ratio of 10:1, (77% to 7%) Evangelicals who are likely mid-term voters want businesses to “try harder to recruit and train people” in the nation’s highest unemployment and poverty groups. Only 7% of Evangelicals believe that Government should bring in more immigrant workers for the same jobs. See the question and results, below.

#### Question 2

2. Some businesses say it is especially difficult to hire workers from among groups with the highest unemployment and poverty rates, which includes Black and Hispanic Americans and younger Americans of all ethnic groups without a college degree.

Should business be required to try harder to recruit and train people from those groups with the highest unemployment or should the government continue to bring in new immigrants to compete for the jobs?

<u>Evangelicals</u>	<u>Total likely mid-term voters</u>	
77%	71%	Business should be required to try harder to recruit and train from groups with the highest unemployment.

7%	11%	Government should continue to bring in new immigrants to compete for the jobs.
16%	18%	Not sure

### EBI Analysis

As demonstrated in these two polling questions, Evangelicals overwhelmingly support an aggressive outreach to their fellow citizens in the form of job recruitment and training. This preference is seen as especially important for the poor and inadequately educated, **regardless of race or ethnicity**. The alternative proposition of providing cheap labor for U.S. businesses through mass immigration is soundly rejected by Evangelicals.

We believe this strong evangelical preference of ‘jobs for unemployed citizens’ over ‘increased immigration’ is rooted in **four (4) primary factors**:

1. **The common sense** to bring more jobs to a nation before bringing more people without jobs.
2. Awareness of rising **cultural chaos, drugs and violence** due, in part, to porous borders and Obama-era immigration and refugee resettlement policies.
3. **Comfort with foreign service**: Not preferring migration to the U.S. in no way indicates a lack of care. Evangelicals know that God loves people of all nations, and they have centuries of tradition helping people both domestically and internationally. Evangelicals are known to be generous with their money and their lives, serving the very poor in hundreds of nations.
4. **The Christian worldview of what it is to be human**. The *Imago Dei*, the image of God.

Christians believe that every individual is an image-bearer of God. This biblical perspective negates the fashionable notion that the current unemployed, especially the urban poor, are incapable of productive work. God has created each person with abilities and moral agency that enable us to be contributing members of society, notably through our work.

No image bearer of God is useless, lost or permanently unproductive. No one is to be forgotten or discarded. From a biblical perspective, humans are creators and providers, as well as consumers. Every person is much more than a physical being with needs that can be met by material means alone. No one is to be bound by the hidden chains of welfare-dependency and then ignored until the next election.

As revealed in polling, Evangelicals dismiss the misleading argument advanced by business interests (who want cheaper labor) that ninety million Americans are hopelessly unemployable. Instead, these Christians see millions of gifted citizen neighbors who not only need to work, but who also have a God-inspired desire to use their talents to their personal well-being, as well as for the benefit of those they love.

Evangelicals recognize the economic injustice inflicted on American citizens in the form of lost jobs and lower wages due to a corporate preference for imported labor. The stolen opportunity for productive work is dehumanizing and does not create happiness, personal satisfaction or a vibrant society. These millions of Americans have an undeveloped potential with great possibilities for our nation and world.

The poll in its entirety is [here](#).

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**EBI: Justice for citizens and kindness to guests. *Wise welcome.***