STUDY DESCRIPTION SCREEN

Thank you for your participation in the following survey. The purpose of this research study is to better understand the attitudes of the American public regarding a variety of current events and issues. All of your responses will be completely confidential, and no one will be able to connect your responses to you.

The survey will take approximately 9 minutes to complete. We request that you complete the entire survey in one sitting without interruptions. If you are unable to take the entire survey right now, please close the survey window and click on the link provided in the PollingPoint email at a time when you are able to do so."

NEXT SCREEN

Now the computer will randomly select a news story about international events from a large archive collected over the last several months. Everyone in the study might read a different story. **Please read this story carefully, as you will not be able to complete the survey until you correctly answer some questions about the story.**

STIMULUS NEWS STORY GOES HERE

POST-TEST

Now we would like to ask you some questions about the article you read and your general political views. We strongly encourage you to answer *all* of the questions on this survey. Please make your best guess even if you feel you do not have much information on which to base your answer.

Please answer the following questions:

Q1: How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The United States has a moral obligation to do something about the violence in Congo."

STRONGLY DISAGREEE					STRONGLY AGREE
1	2	3	4	5	6

There has been some discussion about what the United States could do to stop the violence in the Congo if the fighting there continues. On a scale of 1-6, where "1" means strongly disapprove and "6" means strongly approve, how much would you approve of the following actions?

Q2: The U.S. should send military forces to Congo to help end the violence there.

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE					STRONGLY APPROVE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q3: The U.S. should send military forces to Congo to help end the violence there, but only as part of an international force.

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE					STRONGLY APPROVE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q5: The U.S. should freeze all trade with Congo except food and medical supplies for the victims.

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE					STRONGLY APPROVE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q6: The U.S. should launch airstrikes against government and military targets in Congo.

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE					STRONGLY APPROVE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q7: The U.S. should help refugees fleeing the violence in Congo gain citizenship in the United States if necessary.

STRONGLY DISAPPROVE					STRONGLY APPROVE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q11: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The perpetrators of this violence should be punished for their actions."

STRONGLY DISAGREEE					STRONGLY AGREE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q12: Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The perpetrators of this violence are evil."

STRONGLY DISAGREEE					STRONGLY AGREE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q13: Regardless of what the people quoted in the article said, do you personally think the violence in Congo should be called "genocide"?

1. Definitely should be called "genocide"
2. Probably should be called "genocide"
3. Probably should *not* be called "genocide"
4. Definitely should *not* be called "genocide"

Q15: Regardless of what the people quoted in the article said, do you personally think the violence in Congo should be compared directly to the Holocaust?

1. Definitely should be compared to the Holocaust
2. Probably should be compared to the Holocaust
3. Probably should *not* be compared to the Holocaust
4. Definitely should *not* be compared to the Holocaust

Q17: The story reported that the latest wave of violence in Congo began after a small group of rebels fighting for increased rights attacked a local police outpost in North Kivu, killing 20 police officers. How responsible do you think the rebels are for prompting the government crackdown that has killed so many civilians?

NOT AT ALL RESPONSIBLE					COMPLETELY RESPONISBLE
1	2	3	4	5	6

Q23: In your personal opinion, should it be called "genocide" if a government tries to kill large numbers of innocent civilians from a particular racial group in the effort to defeat an armed rebellion by some members of that racial group?

1. Definitely should be called "genocide"
2. Probably should be called "genocide"
3. Probably should *not* be called "genocide"
4. Definitely should *not* be called "genocide"
5. Don't know

Debriefing Statement

The purpose of this study was to improve our understanding of American knowledge and attitudes regarding genocide and other kinds of human rights violations.

During this interview you were shown a news story about a conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The news story you read was entirely fictional. We constructed this story, not corresponding directly to any actual event, but based on actual news coverage of the conflict in the DRC. Neither the United States nor the United Nations has officially called the events in the DRC "genocide."

A civil war that occurred in the DRC from 2003-2008, however, is estimated to have killed millions of civilians. After the war, a smaller, but still extremely violent conflict broke out in the North Kivu region of the country in 2008. This conflict has killed at least several hundred civilians and displaced over 250,000 more from their homes.

If you are interested in learning more about the conflict in the DRC, we suggest you visit the International Crisis Group (an independent, non-partisan non-governmental human rights monitoring organization) web page on the conflict.
http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=2829

Thank you for your time. Should you have any questions about this study, please contact Prof. Benjamin Valentino at 6108 Silsby Hall, Hanover, NH 03755. Office phone: 603-646-2555, email: benv@dartmouth.edu