

# YouGov Survey Results

## The Trial of Ian Huntley and Maxine Carr

*Prepared for The Mail on Sunday*

**Sample Size: 2014**

**Fieldwork: 18-19 December 2003**

**Do you think the death penalty should or should not be restored for the following types of cases:** %

**Murder?**

Should	57
Should not	35
Don't know	8

**Murder of children?**

Should	67
Should not	29
Don't know	4

**Murder of police officers?**

Should	62
Should not	32
Don't know	6

**Serial killers?**

Should	69
Should not	28
Don't know	3

**Terrorists?**

Should	64
Should not	30
Don't know	6

**If you believe that the death penalty should be restored, how do you think it should be carried out?**

Hanging	14
Electric chair	3
Lethal injection	50
Death penalty should not be restored under any circumstances	24
Don't know	9

**Ian Huntley was found guilty of murdering the two young girls in the Soham case. He now faces a life sentence in prison.**

**Were all options available, which do you think would be the most appropriate sentence?**

A prison sentence	35
The death penalty	63
Don't know	2

**In fact Ian Huntley will serve a 'life' prison sentence.**

**When do you think is the earliest he should be released?**

In 7 years	0
In 10 years	0
In 15 years	1
In 20 years	1
In 25 years	2
In 30 years	4
He should never be released – he should remain in prison for the rest of his life	91
Don't know	1

**Ian Huntley's girlfriend at the time of the murder, Maxine Carr, was found guilty of perverting the course of justice. She was sentenced to three and a half years in prison, and will probably leave prison on bail early next year, having already been in prison for over a year.**

**Do you think her sentence is...?**

Too long	5
Too short	48
About right	39
Don't know	8

**Do you think the police handled this case...?**

Extremely well	14
Quite well	51
Quite badly	23
Extremely badly	8
Don't know	4

Well	65
Badly	31

**It has emerged that Ian Huntley had a record of accusations against him concerning sexual abuse of children, although he had never been convicted. This record was not available to his employers.**

**Do you think this was a failure of...?**

The police	15
The Home Office	10
Both equally	58
It was nobody's fault	10
Don't know	7

**Humberside Police Chief Constable David Westwood said his force had deleted all unproven sexual allegations from Huntley's police file, saying they were obliged to do so under the Data Protection Act. The Data Protection watchdog responded, by saying the police ruling was 'nonsense' and that such records can be kept. Mr Westwood walked out of a TV interview when he was questioned on this matter by Jeremy Paxman.**

**Do you think Mr Westwood should or should not resign?**

Should resign	43
Should not resign	37
Don't know	20

**Cambridgeshire Police Chief Constable Tom Lloyd was criticised for failing to cancel his holidays, begun the day after Holly and Jessica disappeared. Home Office sources said they had to 'order him back' from a holiday in France.**

**Do you think Mr Lloyd should or should not resign.**

Should resign	27
Should not resign	56
Don't know	17

**Under present law, a jury is not told of a defendant's previous charges or convictions unless his or her lawyers agree. This is so that the jury is not prejudiced when hearing the evidence in a new case.**

**Do you think the law should be changed? Should juries have made available to them...?**

**A defendant's previous convictions**

Should be made available to juries	71
Should not	22
Don't know	7

**A defendant's previous charges, even if he or she has not been convicted**

Should be made available to juries	53
Should not	37
Don't know	10

**All police information about a defendant's pattern of behaviour**

Should be made available to juries	65
Should not	25
Don't know	10