

# YouGov / Sunday Times Survey Results

## The Butler Report and the Iraq war

Prepared for Sunday Times

Sample Size: 1717

Fieldwork: 16-17 July 2004

Looking back, do you think the United States and Britain were right or wrong to take military action against Iraq? %

Right	38%
Wrong	49%
Don't know	13%

Do you think that Iraq did or did not have weapons of mass destruction at the beginning of the war?

Did have	26%
Did not have	52%
Don't know	21%

Do you think that, before the war, Britain's intelligence services genuinely believed what they told Tony Blair about Saddam's 'weapons of mass destruction', or did they deliberately distort the evidence in order to exaggerate the threat posed by Iraq?

Genuinely believed what they said	39%
Distorted the evidence	43%
Don't know	18%

And do you think at the time, Tony Blair genuinely believed what he told the public about Saddam's 'weapons of mass destruction', or did he deliberately distort the evidence in order to exaggerate the threat posed by Iraq?

Genuinely believed what he said	43%
Distorted the evidence	46%
Don't know	11%

Which of the following statements comes closest to your attitude to the Butler report into intelligence and the Iraq war?

'The Butler Report was fair'	23%
'The Butler Report was an establishment cover-up'	35%
Neither	16%
Don't know	27%

At the time the Iraq war took place, did you think it was justified or not justified?

Justified	49%
Not justified	42%
Don't know	9%

Looking back at the Iraq war, do you now think it was justified or not justified?

Justified	37%
Not justified	50%
Don't know	13%

Should John Scarlett, the former head of the Joint Intelligence Committee, resign from his new post as head of MI6, as a result of the flawed intelligence leading up to the war?

He should resign	42%
He should not resign	30%
Don't know	28%

<b>Do you think Tony Blair made the decision to go to war in Iraq regardless of the intelligence, or not?</b>		
	Went to war regardless of the intelligence	<b>56%</b>
	Took account of the intelligence and then went to war	<b>36%</b>
	Don't know	<b>8%</b>

<b>What do you think has been the effect on Tony Blair of the Iraq war and its aftermath?</b>		
	It has damaged him a great deal	<b>59%</b>
	It has damaged him, but only slightly	<b>31%</b>
	It has had little effect on him	<b>5%</b>
	It has improved his standing	<b>1%</b>
	Don't know	<b>4%</b>

<b>Should Tony Blair apologise to the country for taking Britain to war under flawed intelligence, or not?</b>		
	Yes, should apologise	<b>61%</b>
	No, should not apologise	<b>28%</b>
	Don't know	<b>11%</b>

<b>Which best sums up your trust in the prime minister?</b>		
	I trust him all of the time	<b>10%</b>
	I trust him some of the time	<b>39%</b>
	I don't trust him at all	<b>48%</b>
	Don't know	<b>4%</b>

<b>Even if what we now know was different from what was said at the time, do you think that Tony Blair sought to act honestly when making the case for war in Iraq, or not?</b>		
	Yes – honest	<b>44%</b>
	No – not honest	<b>39%</b>
	Don't know	<b>17%</b>

<b>Would you trust Tony Blair to make the right decision in the future on taking the country to war again, or not?</b>		
	Yes, would trust him again	<b>31%</b>
	No, I trusted him over Iraq but would not trust him next time	<b>16%</b>
	No, I did not trust him over Iraq, and would not trust him next time	<b>41%</b>
	Don't know	<b>12%</b>

<b>Which of these statements do you most agree with?</b>		
	Tony Blair should resign over Iraq	<b>14%</b>
	Tony Blair should resign because of his general performance as Prime Minister	<b>34%</b>
	Tony Blair should not resign	<b>41%</b>
	Don't know	<b>11%</b>

<b>Has the Butler report changed the way you view Tony Blair on other issues, for example when he says he will improve public services?</b>		
	I still trust him on public services	<b>29%</b>
	I do not now trust him on public services	<b>15%</b>
	I never trusted him on public services	<b>39%</b>
	Don't know	<b>18%</b>

<b>Which party's policy on Iraq comes closest to your own view?</b>		
	Labour's policy on Iraq	<b>19%</b>
	The Conservatives' policy	<b>15%</b>
	The Liberal Democrats' policy	<b>21%</b>
	Don't know	<b>44%</b>

**Who would you trust more...?**

A government led by Gordon Brown	<b>16%</b>
A government led by Tony Blair	<b>17%</b>
Trust both equally	<b>15%</b>
Trust neither	<b>41%</b>
Don't know	<b>12%</b>

**Who do you think would make the better prime minister: Tony Blair or Gordon Brown?**

Tony Blair	<b>31%</b>
Gordon Brown	<b>27%</b>
Don't know	<b>43%</b>

**America has its presidential election in November. George Bush, a republican, is being challenged by John Kerry, a democrat. Who would you prefer to see as the next President of the United States?**

George Bush	<b>10%</b>
John Kerry	<b>47%</b>
Don't care	<b>30%</b>
Don't know	<b>13%</b>

**Is Tony Blair...?**

Too close to George Bush	<b>65%</b>
Not close enough	<b>2%</b>
He has the balance about right	<b>23%</b>
Don't know	<b>10%</b>

**Regardless of how you intend to vote in the next election in Britain, which of the two main parties do you think is more likely to win?**

Labour	<b>58%</b>
Conservatives	<b>23%</b>
Don't know	<b>19%</b>

**Thinking about the leader of the Conservative Party, do you think Michael Howard is...?**

A strong leader	<b>31%</b>
A weak leader	<b>26%</b>
Neither	<b>28%</b>
Don't know	<b>15%</b>

**If Michael Howard stood down as leader of the Conservative Party, would you be more or less likely to vote Conservative, or does it make no difference?**

More likely to vote Conservative	<b>5%</b>
Less likely to vote Conservative	<b>6%</b>
It makes no difference – I would vote Conservative anyway	<b>25%</b>
It makes no difference – I would NOT vote Conservative anyway	<b>51%</b>
Don't know	<b>13%</b>

**Do you think the Conservatives can win the next general election with Michael Howard as leader?**

Yes, they can	<b>32%</b>
No, they cannot	<b>44%</b>
Don't know	<b>23%</b>

**Following the recent by-elections in Leicester and Birmingham, do you think Tony Blair is an asset or a liability to Labour?**

An asset	<b>21%</b>
A liability	<b>45%</b>
Neither	<b>23%</b>
Don't know	<b>12%</b>