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Interviews: 505 likely voters  
Dates: November 11-12, 2009

**FINAL**

Study #9712b  
Illinois Senate Survey  
November 2009

45 Male  
55 Female  
**[109]**

***Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.***

1a. First, does anyone in this household work for a radio station, a television station, a newspaper, an advertising agency, or a market research firm?

No .....	100	<b>CONTINUE</b>	<b>[138]</b>
Yes.....	-	<b>TERMINATE</b>	
Not sure .....	-		

1b. And does anyone in this household work actively in politics for a political party or as a campaign worker?

No .....	100	<b>CONTINUE</b>	<b>[139]</b>
Yes.....	-	<b>TERMINATE</b>	
Not sure .....	-		

1c. Are you currently registered to vote at this address?

Registered .....	100	<b>CONTINUE</b>	<b>[140]</b>
Not registered .....	-	<b>TERMINATE</b>	
Not sure .....	-		

1d/e. Did you happen to vote in the November 2008 election for president of the United States? **(IF "YES," ASK:)** Did you vote for John McCain, the Republican Party candidate, or Barack Obama, the Democratic Party candidate?

**(IF RESPONDENT DECLINES TO SAY HOW HE OR SHE VOTED, SAY:)** This survey is being done for research purposes only. Your willingness to say how you voted is really important for ensuring the accuracy of our research, and we promise that we will always maintain the privacy and confidentiality of your responses. With that promise in mind, would you be willing to say whether you voted for John McCain or Barack Obama?

Yes, voted—John McCain .....	35		<b>[141/142]</b>
Yes, voted—Barack Obama .....	53	<b>CONTINUE</b>	
Yes, voted—other candidate/refused to answer (VOL).....	12		
No, did not vote .....	-	<b>TERMINATE</b>	
Not sure if voted .....	-		

1f. I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances that you will vote in the November 2010 elections here in Illinois for governor, U.S. senator, and other offices—are you certain to vote, quite likely to vote, only somewhat likely to vote, or not that likely to vote?

Certain to vote .....	83	<b>CONTINUE</b>	<b>[143]</b>
Quite likely to vote .....	17		
Only somewhat likely to vote .....	-		
Not that likely to vote .....	-	<b>TERMINATE</b>	
Not sure .....	-		

2. When you think about the overall direction of the country these days, do you feel that the country is generally headed in the right direction or do you feel that the country is headed off on the wrong track?

Right direction.....	44	<b>[148]</b>
Wrong track .....	44	
Not sure.....	12	

3a/b. All other things being equal, would you prefer to elect a Republican or a Democrat in next year's election for U.S. senator? (IF "DEPENDS" OR "NOT SURE") Well, if all other things were equal, would you lean more to electing a Republican or a Democrat?

Republican .....	32	<b>[151]</b>
Republican (lean) .....	7	
Democrat.....	41	
Democrat (lean).....	5	
Depends (VOL).....	10	
Not sure.....	5	

4. I'm going to name several public figures, and I'd like you to rate your feelings toward each one as either very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative. If you are not familiar with a particular name, feel free to just say so.

	Very Positive	Somewhat Positive	Neutral	Somewhat Negative	Very Negative	Don't Know Name/ Not Sure	
Barack Obama .....	42	18	12	10	18	-	<b>[152]</b>
Alexi Giannoulias.....	6	14	19	8	4	49	<b>[154]</b>
Mark Kirk .....	5	16	17	6	5	51	<b>[155]</b>
David Hoffman .....	2	5	15	3	1	74	<b>[156]</b>
Patrick Hughes.....	1	5	15	-	1	78	<b>[157]</b>

5a/b. Suppose the candidates in next year's election for U.S. senator are Alexi Giannoulias, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican. If the election were being held today, would you vote for Alexi Giannoulias or Mark Kirk? (IF "NOT SURE," ASK:) Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward Alexi Giannoulias or Mark Kirk?

Alexi Giannoulias .....	34	<b>[160]</b>
Alexi Giannoulias (lean).....	3	<b>CONTINUE</b>
Mark Kirk.....	37	
Mark Kirk (lean) .....	3	
Not sure .....	23	<b>Skip to Q.6</b>

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO MAKE A CHOICE IN Q.5a/b.)

5c. And if the choice is between Alexi Giannoulias and Mark Kirk, is your mind pretty made up to vote for (CANDIDATE CHOSEN NAMED IN Q.5a/b), or is there a good chance you could change your mind as you hear more about the candidates?

	Giannoulias Voters	Kirk Voters	
Mind is made up .....	52	46	<b>[162]</b>
Could still change mind .....	45	52	
Not sure.....	3	2	

6a/b. Now suppose the candidates in next year's election for U.S. senator are David Hoffman, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican. If the election were being held today, would you vote for David Hoffman or Mark Kirk? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward David Hoffman or Mark Kirk?

David Hoffman .....	27		[165]
David Hoffman (lean) .....	3	<b>CONTINUE</b>	
Mark Kirk.....	37		
Mark Kirk (lean) .....	3		
Not sure .....	30	<b>Skip to Q.7</b>	

**(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO MAKE A CHOICE IN Q.6a/b.)**

6c. And if the choice is between David Hoffman and Mark Kirk, is your mind pretty made up to vote for **(CANDIDATE CHOSEN NAMED IN Q.6a/b)**, or is there a good chance you could change your mind as you hear more about the candidates?

	Hoffman Voters	Kirk Voters	
Mind is made up .....	57	48	[167]
Could still change mind .....	42	51	
Not sure.....	1	1	

7. Do you approve or disapprove of the job that Barack Obama is doing as president? **(IF "APPROVE" OR "DISAPPROVE," ASK:)** Do you strongly (approve/disapprove) or just somewhat (approve/disapprove) of the job Barack Obama is doing?

Strongly approve .....	33	[168/169]
Just somewhat approve.....	25	
Just somewhat disapprove .....	13	
Strongly disapprove.....	22	
Not sure.....	7	
<b>Total Approve</b>	<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Disapprove</b>	<b>35</b>	

8. Please tell me which one or two of the following considerations, if any, would make you most likely to support the Democratic candidate for U.S. senator next year. **(IF MORE THAN TWO, ASK:)** Well, if you had to choose just two, which would you choose?

*THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE*

The candidate has proven that he has the independence and guts to do what he believes is right for the people.....	26	[170]
The candidate has shown that he will look out for the taxpayers and crack down on waste, fraud, and abuse .....	26	>
The candidate has a strong reputation for integrity, with no hint of scandal .....	23	
The candidate is someone who can stand up to powerful special interest groups on behalf of the average citizen.....	22	
The candidate has a record of protecting jobs and working for the Illinois economy.....	20	
The candidate is a strong supporter of President Obama and the Obama agenda.....	10	
The candidate has experience in holding elected office .....	5	
None of these .....	7	

9. Let me briefly describe several of the candidates for U.S. Senate. After you hear each one, please tell me how much that candidate appeals to you, based on the description--a lot, a fair amount, just some, very little, or not at all.

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY APPEALS A LOT

	Appeals					Not Sure	
	<u>A Lot</u>	<u>A Fair Amount</u>	<u>Just Some</u>	<u>Very Little</u>	<u>Not At All</u>		
Mark Kirk, a Republican who is fifty years old, is serving his fifth term representing Illinois' tenth Congressional District, which is located in the suburbs north of Chicago. Kirk also is a Naval Reserve intelligence officer who served during conflicts with Iraq, Haiti, Bosnia, and he recently became the first member of Congress to serve in a war zone when he was deployed to Afghanistan. In Congress, Kirk works to advance a fiscally responsible agenda that is pro-defense, pro-personal responsibility, pro-environment, and pro-science. He wrote a number of provisions that became law, including funding for commuter rail, improving veteran's health care, ensuring military voting, and boosting aviation security. He has stood up to leaders of both parties by working to end the wasteful spending on congressional earmarks, and consistently votes for lower taxes so people can keep more of what they earn .....	33	27	20	13	6	1	<b>[173]</b>
David Hoffman, a Democrat who is forty-two years old, is a former federal prosecutor who served for the past four years as the independent inspector general for the city of Chicago. As inspector general, Hoffman established a record of rooting out corruption, waste, and mismanagement. He earned a reputation for being fiercely independent and putting accountability ahead of politics, by exposing insider deals and taxpayer rip-offs, including the Chicago parking meter scandal. As a federal prosecutor, he led the fight against gangs in Chicago and helped create innovative programs that led to deep reductions in the homicide rate. Earlier this year, Hoffman was appointed to the Illinois Reform Commission. In that role he met with citizens across Illinois and pushed for extensive reforms to clean up state government, such as banning political contributions from lobbyists and state contractors, and cracking down on no-bid contracts.....	26	29	23	12	7	3	<b>[172]</b>
Alexi Giannoulias, a Democrat who is thirty-three years old, was elected Illinois State Treasurer in 2006. Previously, he was a vice president of the Broadway Bank, which is owned by his family. When Giannoulias took office as state treasurer, his first act was to sign an executive order that prohibits him from accepting any political contributions from banks, treasurer's office employees, or contractors who do business with his office. His record includes launching the Green Rewards program--the nation's largest state-funded rebate program for hybrid vehicles. He used his leverage as treasurer to preserve hundreds of jobs by preventing the closing of two Illinois companies, Republic Windows and Hartmarx. Under his leadership, the Bright Start College Savings Program improved from one of the worst in the nation to the best thanks to its low fees and wide investment options .....	22	25	25	16	9	3	<b>[171]</b>

**(ROTATE ORDER OF Q.10a & Q.10b.)**

10a. Based on these descriptions, for whom would you vote in the election for U.S. senator between Alexi Giannoulias, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward Alexi Giannoulias or Mark Kirk?

Alexi Giannoulias.....	30	<b>[174]</b>
Alexi Giannoulias (lean).....	6	
Mark Kirk .....	38	
Mark Kirk (lean) .....	8	
Not sure.....	18	

10b. Based on these descriptions, for whom would you vote in the election for U.S. senator between David Hoffman, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward David Hoffman or Mark Kirk?

David Hoffman.....	32	<b>[175]</b>
David Hoffman (lean).....	7	
Mark Kirk .....	36	
Mark Kirk (lean) .....	8	
Not sure.....	17	

11. I am going to read you some criticisms that have been made about the three candidates for U.S. senator we've been discussing in this survey. For each criticism I mention, please tell me whether it would give you very major concerns, fairly major concerns, just some concerns, or no real concerns about that candidate.

*THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE ACCORDING TO CANDIDATE*

	Concerns				Not Sure	
	Very	Fairly	Just Some	No Real		
DAVID HOFFMAN's experience has been focused mainly on law enforcement and government accountability. He has had little to do with the major issues that affect people on a day-to-day basis, like unemployment or health care .....	22	20	35	21	2	<b>[177]</b>
DAVID HOFFMAN was a law clerk for William Rehnquist, the chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court who was extremely conservative and opposed a woman's right to choose .....	21	13	22	42	2	<b>[178]</b>
DAVID HOFFMAN is running for U.S. senator with absolutely no previous experience in elected office .....	19	13	26	40	2	<b>[176]</b>
ALEXI GIANNOULIAS's family bank had close financial ties with Tony Rezko, one of Rod Blagojevich's top funders who is now in jail, and Alexi Giannoulias met personally with Rezko. Not only did the bank give eleven million dollars in loans to Rezko and his businesses, but the bank also gave Rezko preferential treatment by allowing him to bounce nine checks (at Las Vegas casinos) worth more than five hundred thousand dollars without closing his account or reporting his actions to the authorities .....	62	13	16	8	1	<b>[211/ 208]</b>
ALEXI GIANNOULIAS's family, which owns the Broadway Bank, took seventy million dollars in dividends out of the bank, just before its bad housing loans put the bank's future at risk. In fact, the FDIC has put the bank on its watch list. (Alexi Giannoulias refuses to release his tax returns to show whether he profited from this situation).....	57	17	18	7	1	<b>[210/ 180]</b>
Questions have been raised about ALEXI GIANNOULIAS's family bank and his own role as a loan officer there. As a loan officer at the bank, Giannoulias made multi-million-dollar loans to convicted Chicago crime figures.....	54	13	20	12	1	<b>[179/ 209]</b>

Q.11 (cont'd)

	Concerns				Not Sure	
	Very	Fairly	Just Some	No Real		
MARK KIRK supported the economic policies of George W. Bush that led to the worst recession in over fifty years—including Bush's tax cuts that went mainly to people with the highest incomes, tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas, and a failure to invest in basic needs here at home—and even now he opposes efforts to change those policies.....	46	15	16	21	2	[212]
Time and again, MARK KIRK has put the corporate special interests before the people. He has taken tens of thousands of dollars from big oil and gas companies, and then voted to give energy companies billions in tax breaks during a time of record deficits. He has taken more than one hundred thousand dollars from drug companies, and voted against allowing the importation of cheaper and safe prescription drugs from Canada.....	45	19	25	10	1	[213]
MARK KIRK has shown no political backbone, and has been criticized for changing his positions on core issues since becoming a Senate candidate. He was one of eight Republicans to vote for the cap-and-trade bill to address climate change, but after conservatives criticized him he announced that he would oppose the bill in the future. As a moderate Republican he expressed doubts about Sarah Palin's selection as the vice presidential candidate last year, but now he is actively seeking Sarah Palin's endorsement for his Senate campaign.....	41	18	25	14	2	[214]

**(ROTATE ORDER OF Q.12a & Q.12b.)**

12a. Based on everything we have discussed, for whom would you vote in the election for U.S. senator between Alexi Giannoulias, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward Alexi Giannoulias or Mark Kirk?

Alexi Giannoulias.....	25	[215]
Alexi Giannoulias (lean).....	5	
Mark Kirk.....	39	
Mark Kirk (lean).....	8	
Not sure.....	23	

12b. Based on everything we have discussed, for whom would you vote in the election for U.S. senator between David Hoffman, the Democrat, and Mark Kirk, the Republican? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, as of right now, do you lean more toward David Hoffman or Mark Kirk?

David Hoffman.....	34	[216]
David Hoffman (lean).....	8	
Mark Kirk.....	30	
Mark Kirk (lean).....	6	
Not sure.....	22	

Some people say it is unfair to criticize Alexi Giannoulias for problems at the Broadway Bank, including its involvement with Tony Rezko, because Alexi Giannoulias has not been involved with the bank for four years, and many other banks also made loans to Rezko before he was exposed as a criminal.

Other people say that Alexi Giannoulias' involvement with the Broadway Bank gives them serious concerns about electing him senator. These people say that Alexi Giannoulias refuses to reveal the details about his dealings with Tony Rezko at the bank, and note that Rezko helped Giannoulias' brother obtain a position in the Blagojevich administration. They also say that Alexi Giannoulias has given conflicting explanations of his involvement in the bank's loans to a convicted mobster.

13. Which comes closer to your own feelings about this—(a) that it is unfair to criticize Alexi Giannoulias for problems at the Broadway Bank, or (b) that Alexi Giannoulias' involvement with the bank gives you serious concerns about electing him senator?

Unfair to criticize Giannoulias.....	18	<b>[217]</b>
Giannoulias' bank involvement gives serious concerns .....	63	
Both equally (VOL).....	8	
Not sure .....	11	

**FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.**

- F1. What is the last grade that you completed in school?

Grade school.....	1	<b>[219-220]</b>
Some high school .....	3	
High school graduate .....	22	
Some college, no degree .....	19	
Vocational training/2-year college .....	11	
4-year college/bachelor's degree .....	24	
Some postgraduate work, no degree .....	3	
2 or 3 years' postgraduate work/master's degree ...	14	
Doctoral/law degree .....	1	
Not sure/refused .....	2	

- F2. How would you describe your overall point of view in terms of the political parties? Would you say that you are mostly Democratic, leaning Democratic, completely independent, leaning Republican, or mostly Republican?

Mostly Democratic.....	36	<b>[221]</b>
Leaning Democratic.....	12	
Completely independent.....	17	
Leaning Republican.....	15	
Mostly Republican .....	18	
Not sure.....	2	

- F3. Thinking about your general approach to issues, do you consider yourself to be very conservative, somewhat conservative, middle of the road, somewhat liberal, or very liberal?

Very conservative.....	18	<b>[222]</b>
Somewhat conservative .....	22	
Middle of the road.....	32	
Somewhat liberal.....	16	
Very liberal.....	8	
Not sure.....	4	

F4. For statistical purposes only, how old are you? (IF "REFUSED," ASK:) Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to?

18-24 .....	4	<b>[144-145]</b>
25-29 .....	9	
30-34 .....	7	
35-39 .....	7	
40-44 .....	9	
45-49 .....	8	
50-54 .....	11	
55-59 .....	11	
60-64 .....	10	
65-69 .....	7	
70-74 .....	8	
75 and over.....	8	
Refused .....	1	

F5. And to ensure that we have a representative sample, would you please tell me whether you are from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background?

Yes, Hispanic.....	5	<b>[146]</b>
No, not Hispanic .....	95	
Not sure/refused .....	-	

F6. And again, for statistical purposes only, what is your race—white, black, Asian, or something else?

White .....	78	<b>[147]</b>
Black.....	15	
Asian .....	1	
Other .....	2	
Hispanic (VOL) .....	4	
Not sure/refused .....	-	