

## YouGov / Daily Telegraph Survey on a) Africa; b) political institutions

YouGov questioned 1673 adults aged 18+ throughout Britain online between 2nd and 3rd June 2005.

There is a lot of talk at the moment about the problem of poverty in Africa. How much do you personally feel you know about Africa and its problems?

	%
A great deal	7
A certain amount	51
Not very much	37
Nothing at all	4
Don't know	2

Have you ever visited or lived in South Africa or one of the other countries in Africa to the south of the Sahara?

Yes, but only the Republic of South Africa	4
Yes, including one or more other sub-Saharan countries	8
No	89

Which THREE of the following factors do you think have contributed most to Africa's problems? [Tick up to three]

HIV / AIDS	53
Corrupt and incompetent African governments	79
Earlier neglect of sub-Saharan Africa by colonial governments	10
Exploitation of Africa by multinational companies and foreign investors	27
Overpopulation	25
Civil wars in Africa and fighting amongst African states	51
The trade and investment policies imposed by bodies such as the World Bank and the European Union	17
Lack of natural resources and a hostile climate	14
Don't know	4

Thinking mainly of Africa, but also of other impoverished parts of the world. Is it, in your view, possible to 'make poverty history'?

Yes, it is possible to make poverty history	39
No, it is not possible and the phrase is really just a slogan	49
Don't know	13

Thinking specifically of Africa, which of these statements do you think comes nearest to the truth?

Africans have it within their power to solve their own problems	30
Africans can solve their problems but only if they receive large-scale financial and other forms of assistance from rich countries	52
Africa's problems are insoluble – they cannot be solved	9
Don't know	9

**Still thinking specifically of Africa, which of these statements do you think comes nearest to the truth?**

It is up to Africans to solve Africa's problems	17
It is up to rich countries to solve Africa's problems	2
It is up to a partnership between Africans and rich countries to solve Africa's problems	70
Africa's problems cannot be solved by anybody	5
Don't know	6

**Do you believe that Africans and African governments are by and large doing enough to help themselves?**

Yes, they are	4
No, they are not	80
Don't know	15

**On balance, which kinds of organisation do you think are better placed to help solve Africa's problems?**

The governments of richer countries	10
International aid agencies and other non-governmental organisations such as War on Want and Oxfam	15
Both of these	53
Neither of these	13
Don't know	9

**How confident are you that, if governments and people in richer countries donate more money to Africa, the money will be spent wisely rather than either being wasted or finding its way into the pockets of criminals and corrupt governments?**

Very confident	1
Fairly confident	10
Not very confident	41
Not at all confident	42
Don't know	7

**Given your own income, how much do you reckon you give to charity?**

A great deal	1
A fair amount	35
Not very much	56
Nothing at all	8

**In response to the various appeals being made at the moment, do you expect to give more than you currently do to charities working in Africa?**

Yes, I expect to give more money	10
No, I don't	51
I am not sure whether I will or not	34
Don't know	5

%

**Suppose you decided, for whatever reason, to give more money to charity during the next few weeks, which kind of organisation would you be most likely to give to?**

Domestic charities, such as Barnardos and Help the Aged	42
Worldwide disaster relief charities, such as the Red Cross / Red Crescent	19
Charities heavily involved in Africa, such as Oxfam and War on Want	15
Don't know	25

**It is suggested that the British government could assist African countries by cancelling all or most of the very large amounts of debt owed by African governments.**

**Do you personally think all or most of these debts should, or should not, be cancelled?**

Yes, they should be	53
No, they should not	28
Don't know	19

**If the debts of African governments were cancelled, do you think reducing in that way their burden of debt and debt interest would, or would not, make a significant contribution towards solving Africa's problems?**

Yes, it would make a significant contribution	47
No, it would not	38
Don't know	15

**It is also suggested that, by protecting their domestic agriculture and subsidising agricultural exports, rich countries, including Britain and others in the European Union, are impoverishing farmers in Africa and making it difficult for them to compete on world markets.**

**Do you think that, in order to assist poorer countries, European agricultural subsidies should be abolished, even if that meant that British farmers would lose out?**

Yes, I do	30
No, I do not	44
Don't know	25

**Do you personally approve or disapprove of the 'Live 8' concerts that Bob Geldof is organising around the world to increase awareness of African problems?**

I approve of them	55
I disapprove of them	13
I don't care	26
Don't know	7

**How much are you personally looking forwards to watching one or more of the concerts on television or listening to one or more of them on the radio?**

A great deal	12
A certain amount	21
Only a little	21
Not at all: I doubt whether I will either watch or listen	44
Don't know	3

%

Whatever your view of them, how successful do you think these concerts and the attending publicity will be in improving the lot of ordinary Africans, whether in the short term or the long term?

Very successful	12
Fairly successful	38
Not very successful	32
Not at all successful	10
Don't know	8

Sir Bob Geldof has suggested that children and young people should take two days off school to attend a large demonstration before the summit meeting of the G8 world leaders in Scotland next month.

Do you think children should, or should not, be encouraged to take time off school to attend the demonstration?

Yes, they should	14
No, they should not	79
Don't know	7

What is your personal view of Bob Geldof?

He is genuine: a good and hard-working man	52
He is a self-publicist	13
He is a patronising bore	17
I have no view	17

On a completely different subject:

The number of people turning out to vote at the last two General Elections here in Britain has been very low – much lower than it used to be.

Here are some reasons people give to explain the decline in voter turnout. Please tick the reasons you think are the most important ones lying behind the decline. [Tick all that apply]

Whatever parties say during election campaigns, it's very hard to predict what will actually happen if they are elected	63
Most politicians have lost touch with ordinary people	59
It makes little difference how people vote: whichever party is in power, not much changes	54
There is no longer much difference between the main political parties	53
Central governments chosen in General Elections nowadays pay little attention to local concerns	48
Elected ministers and MPs have lost control over the things that affect ordinary people's lives	39
People no longer feel they have a duty to vote	38
People no longer feel the need to turn out to 'support their own side' in the way that they used to	32
The authorities nowadays make it hard for people to vote	3
None of these	3

**How much power and influence do you think each of the following has over ordinary people's lives in the UK?**

**The United Nations**

A great deal	<b>3</b>
A fair amount	<b>17</b>
Not much	<b>52</b>
None at all	<b>19</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**The British Government**

A great deal	<b>48</b>
A fair amount	<b>39</b>
Not much	<b>9</b>
None at all	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>4</b>

**Local Councils**

A great deal	<b>25</b>
A fair amount	<b>52</b>
Not much	<b>18</b>
None at all	<b>2</b>
Don't know	<b>4</b>

**The European Council of Ministers and the European Commission**

A great deal	<b>17</b>
A fair amount	<b>35</b>
Not much	<b>30</b>
None at all	<b>6</b>
Don't know	<b>12</b>

**Backbench members of the British House of Commons**

A great deal	<b>2</b>
A fair amount	<b>19</b>
Not much	<b>54</b>
None at all	<b>15</b>
Don't know	<b>10</b>

**Community organisations working in local neighbourhoods**

A great deal	<b>8</b>
A fair amount	<b>31</b>
Not much	<b>44</b>
None at all	<b>11</b>
Don't know	<b>7</b>

**And, regardless of how much influence they have at present, how much power and influence do you think each of the following SHOULD HAVE over ordinary people's lives in the UK?**

**The United Nations**

A great deal	<b>5</b>
A fair amount	<b>24</b>
Not much	<b>40</b>
None at all	<b>23</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**The British Government**

A great deal	<b>42</b>
A fair amount	<b>40</b>
Not much	<b>11</b>
None at all	<b>1</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>

**Local Councils**

A great deal	<b>34</b>
A fair amount	<b>46</b>
Not much	<b>13</b>
None at all	<b>2</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>

**The European Council of Ministers and the European Commission**

A great deal	<b>3</b>
A fair amount	<b>18</b>
Not much	<b>36</b>
None at all	<b>34</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**Backbench members of the British House of Commons**

A great deal	<b>10</b>
A fair amount	<b>39</b>
Not much	<b>31</b>
None at all	<b>11</b>
Don't know	<b>9</b>

**Community organisations working in local neighbourhoods**

A great deal	<b>30</b>
A fair amount	<b>43</b>
Not much	<b>16</b>
None at all	<b>5</b>
Don't know	<b>6</b>