

YouGov Survey Results

The Kelly Affair

Prepared for The Mail on Sunday

Sample Size: 2071

Fieldwork: 7th - 8th August 2003

		%
Voting Intention	Con	38
	Lab	34
	Lib Dem	21
	Other	7
	SNP / PCY	2
	Geen	2
	UKIP	1
	BNP	2
	Would Not Vote	6
	Don't know	16

Who do you think can most be trusted, Mr Blair, Mr Duncan Smith, Mr Kennedy?	Tony Blair	24
	Iain Duncan Smith	25
	Charles Kennedy	26
	Don't know	25

Do you think the current Labour Government has, on balance, been honest and trustworthy or not?		
	Yes – honest and trustworthy	23
	No – not honest and trustworthy	68
	Don't know	10

Here are some things people are saying about Tony Blair's Government at the moment. Please indicate for each whether you think it is or is not an accurate description of the Government.

'There is a culture of deceit and spin at the heart of the Government'		
	Yes, is accurate	70
	No, is not accurate	19
	Don't know	11

'You cannot believe a word Tony Blair says'		
	Yes, is accurate	47
	No, is not accurate	43
	Don't know	10

'The Government seems to have lost control and be at the mercy of events'		
	Yes, is accurate	64
	No, is not accurate	27
	Don't know	9

The Prime Minister's wife has been pictured in her Downing Street flat having lipstick applied by her lifestyle guru Carole Caplin.

Did you see this picture?		
	Yes	35
	No	65

Do you believe that this photo was good or bad for Mrs Blair's image?

Good	8
Bad	75
Don't know	17

Do you think it right that the Prime Minister's wife should have such a 'high profile' or should she try to remain in the background?

Should be high profile	25
Should remain in the background	64
Don't know	11

Mrs Blair recently sang *When I'm Sixty-Four* in front of a group of Chinese people only days after the death of Government scientist Dr David Kelly. What was your reaction to this?

Found it deeply offensive	17
Mildly offensive	24
Did not care	47
Slightly approved	3
Totally approved	4
Don't know	6

Do you think that Cherie Blair should continue her friendship with Carole Caplin or should she end the relationship?

Should continue her friendship	28
Should end the relationship	36
Don't know	36

Have you heard or seen any reports of the death of Dr David Kelly, the scientist caught up in the row over the Government's claims before the war about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction?

Yes, have heard	93
No, have not	7

As you may have heard, Dr Kelly's name became known when the Government publicly identified him as the probable source of a controversial BBC report about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Do you think the Government was right or wrong to make Dr Kelly's name public?

Yes, was right	18
No, was not	73
Don't know	9

Which of the following do you blame most for Dr Kelly's death?

The BBC for refusing to reveal the name of its prime source	9
The Government for making Dr Kelly's name public and suggesting that he was the BBC's main source	41
The Commons select committee for subjecting Dr Kelly to a public interrogation	32
Don't know	17

Do you know what is meant by a 'Walter Mitty character'?

Yes	80
No	20

One of the Prime Minister's spokesmen, coincidentally named Tom Kelly, referred to the deceased Dr David Kelly as a 'Walter Mitty' character. He made the remarks during what he regarded as off-the-record conversations with journalists.

Do you think it was acceptable for Tom Kelly to such a remark? (Base = All Respondents = 2071)

Acceptable	8
Not acceptable	79
Don't know	13

Do you think it was acceptable for Tom Kelly to such a remark? (Base = All Respondents
Who Know What is Meant by 'Walter Mitty character' = 1566)

Acceptable	8
Not acceptable	88
Don't know	4

Do you think Tom Kelly should continue as spokesman, or should he resign as a result of what he said? (Base = All Respondents = 2071)

Should stay	16
Should resign	62
Don't know	22

Do you think Tom Kelly should continue as spokesman, or should he resign as a result of what he said? (Base = All Respondents Who Know What is Meant by 'Walter Mitty character' = 1566)

Should stay	17
Should resign	69
Don't know	15

Geoff Hoon, the Defence Secretary, was Dr Kelly's boss. Mr Hoon did not attend Dr Kelly's funeral, preferring instead to go on holiday. Which of the following comes closest to your views on Mr Hoon's behaviour?

Geoff Hoon was right to go on holiday	22
Geoff Hoon should have cancelled his holiday and attended the funeral as a mark of respect	66
Don't know	12

Do you think Geoff Hoon should continue as Defence Secretary, or should he resign as a result of the Dr Kelly affair?

Should stay	27
Should resign	51
Don't know	22

Do you think Tony Blair should stay in office as Prime Minister, or should he resign as a result of the Dr Kelly affair?

Should stay	48
Should resign	37
Don't know	15

Do you think Alastair Campbell should continue as Mr Blair's chief communications adviser, or should he resign as a result of the Dr Kelly affair?

Should stay	19
Should resign	62
Don't know	19

'The Kelly affair is the most serious political scandal I have witnessed in my life time'. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Strongly agree	7
Tend to agree	26
Tend to disagree	38
Strongly disagree	21
Don't know	8

Moving on to something else, has the record heatwave affected you in any of the following ways? (please tick all that apply)

Faced delays due to heat affecting rail services	7
Faced delays due to heat affecting the roads	6
Left work early due to high workplace temperatures	8
None of these	83

Have you taken days off 'sick' simply to enjoy the fine weather?			
	Yes		2
	No		98
Have you personally experienced any aggressive behaviour caused by the heatwave? (Tick all that apply)			
	No – none		90
	Yes – have been involved in arguments		8
	Yes – have been physically attacked		0
	Yes – have had to restrain others		2
Do you think that British Summers are. . .?			
	About the same as they ever were – with the odd very hot day		45
	Getting hotter than they used to be		49
	Getting cooler than they used to be		3
	Don't know		3
Do you blame the effects of Global Warming for the current heatwave?			
	Yes		39
	No		44
	Don't know		18
Do you think the British. . .?			
	Handle hot weather better than other Europeans		1
	Handle hot weather worse than other Europeans		80
	Handle hot weather no better or worse than other Europeans		17
	Don't know		2
Do you think that British railways. . .?			
	Handle unusual or adverse weather better than other European railways		1
	Handle unusual or adverse weather worse than other European railways		83
	Handle unusual or adverse weather no better or worse than other European railways		8
	Don't know		8
Do you agree with any of the following statements? (tick all that apply)			
	The British railways should be re-nationalised		57
	British railways are a badly managed shambles		77
	The rail operating companies are offering good value for money		2
	British railways use the weather as an excuse to hide its mistakes		59
	British railways cope very well given high passenger numbers and old infrastructure		14
	None of these		3