Freshmen entering Buffalo State in the fall, 1999 completed a survey on their attitudes towards a variety of social issues. Overall, Buffalo State freshmen are more liberal in their outlook than freshmen entering four-year public colleges across the country. When asked to characterize their political views they responded:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Buffalo State</th>
<th>National</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Far left</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle-of-road</td>
<td>59.8%</td>
<td>57.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>17.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far right</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are significant differences between men and women’s attitudes at Buffalo State so all responses are broken down by gender. Here are some of the highlights:

**Crime/Legal**

- There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals. 70% (men 71%; women 70%)
- The death penalty should be abolished. 28% (men 26%; women 29%)
- The federal government should do more to control the sale of handguns. 86% (men 77%; women 93%)
- Abortion should be legal. 63% (men 60%; women 64%)
Sex, Drugs (and Rock and Roll)

• If two people really like each other, it's all right for them to have sex even if they have known each other for only a very short time. 54% (men 70%; women 42%)

• Just because a man thinks that a woman has "led him on" does not entitle him to have sex with her. 80% (men 70%; women 88%)

• It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relationships. 24% (men 38%; women 15%)

• Marijuana should be legalized. 46% (men 53%; women 42%)

Marriage/Family

• The activities of married women are best confined to the home and family. 32% (men 39%; women 27%)

• Same sex couples should have the right to legal marital status. 66% (men 54%; women 74%)

First Amendment Issues

• Employers should be allowed to require drug testing of employees or job applicants. 68% (men 63%; women 72%)

• Material on the internet should be regulated by government. 50% (men 38%; women 59%)

• Colleges should prohibit racist/sexist speech on campus. 65% (men 59%; women 70%)
Race/Affirmative Action

- Affirmative action in college admission should be abolished. 45% (men 52%; women 41%)
- Racial discrimination is no longer a major problem in America. 23% (men 27%; women 21%)

Miscellaneous

- Realistically, an individual can do little to bring about changes in our society. 37% (men 40%; women 36%)
- Wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now. 61% (men 65%; women 59%)
- People have a right to know about the personal lives of public figures. 26% (men 30%; women 24%)

*All percentages indicate those who agreed somewhat or agreed strongly.

For more information, contact
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