

Monday, 2 March 2015

Australians think Andrew Chan & Myuran Sukumaran should be executed

A special snap SMS Morgan Poll today shows a small majority of Australians (52%, down 1% since August 2009) say that Australians convicted of drug trafficking in another country and sentenced to death should be executed while 48% (up 1%) don't. Of Australians, a larger majority (62%) said the Australian Government should not do more to stop the execution of Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan while 38% say the Australian Government should do more to stop the execution. Today's special SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a cross-section of 2,123 Australians over the last few days, January 23-27, 2015.

Death Penalty

Analysis by Voting Preference

Analysing the results by voting preference shows Liberal voters strongly in favour of the executions being carried out (63% cf. 37%), as are National voters (69% cf. 31%), however both ALP voters (55% cf. 45%) and Greens voters (68% cf. 32%) are against the executions being carried out.

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by gender shows a gender split with men in favour of the death penalty and women against the death penalty:

- Men: Favour executions being carried out (60%) cf. against executions being carried out (40%);
- Women: Favour executions being carried out (46%) cf. against executions being carried out (54%).

Analysis by Age

Analysing by age shows younger Australians (under 35) are against the executions being carried out while Australians aged 35-49 are the most in favour of the executions being carried out:

- 18-24yr olds: Favour executions being carried out (36%) cf. against executions being carried out (64%);
- 25-34yr olds: Favour executions being carried out (48%) cf. against executions being carried out (52%);
- 35-49yr olds: Favour executions being carried out (63%) cf. against executions being carried out (37%);
- 50-64yr olds: Favour executions being carried out (52%) cf. against executions being carried out (48%);
- 65+yr olds: Favour executions being carried out (50%) cf. against executions being carried out (50%).

Analysis by State

Analysing by State shows all States except Victoria in favour of the executions being carried out for Australians convicted of drug trafficking in another country:

Western Australia (62% in favour of executions being carried out cf. 38% against), Tasmania (60% cf. 40%), South Australia (55% cf. 45%), Queensland (53% cf. 47%), NSW (52% cf. 48%) and Victoria (49% cf. 51% against).

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Should the Australian Government do more to stop the execution of Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan?

Analysis by Voting Preference

Analysing the results by voting preference shows Liberal voters strongly of the opinion that the Australian Government should not do more to stop the execution of Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan, (74% cf. 26%), as are National voters (88% cf. 12%), however both ALP voters (53% cf. 47%) and Greens voters (54% cf. 46%) believe the Government should be doing more.

Analysis by Gender

Analysis by gender shows both men and women say the Australian Government should not do more to stop the executions of Sukumaran and Chan being carried out:

- Men: Government should not do more (71%) cf. Government should do more (29%);
- Women: Government should not do more (53%) cf. Government should do more (47%);

Analysis by Age

Analysing by age shows a majority of all age groups say the Australian Government should not do more for Sukumaran and Chan:

- 18-24yr olds: should not do more (63%) cf. do more (37%);
- 25-34yr olds: should not do more (61%) cf. do more (39%);
- 35-49yr olds: should not do more (66%) cf. do more (34%);
- 50-64yr olds: should not do more (59%) cf. do more (41%);
- 65+yr olds: should not do more (59%) cf. do more (41%);

Analysis by State

- Analysing by State shows all States say the Australian Government should not do more for Sukumaran and Chan:
- South Australia (66% should not do more cf. 34% should do more), Tasmania (66% cf. 34%), Queensland (65% cf. 35%), Western Australia (62% cf. 38%), Victoria (61% cf. 39%) and New South Wales (57% cf. 43%).

Gary Morgan says:

“A slight majority of Australians (52%) say that Australians convicted of drug trafficking in another country and sentenced to death should be executed. However, there is a clear gender split with men (60%) in favour of the death penalty being carried out while only 46% of women believe that convicted drug traffickers overseas should be executed.

“Australians across five States (NSW, QLD, WA, SA and Tasmania) are in favour of convicted Australian drug traffickers having the death penalty while only in Victoria are slightly more respondents opposed (51%) to the death penalty being carried out compared to 49% in favour.

“However, when asked whether the Australian Government should do more to stop the execution of Andrew Chan & Myuran Sukumaran a clear majority of Australians (62%) say the Australian Government should not do more compared to only 38% that say the Australian Government should do more.

“Looking at key demographics shows that a majority of Australians in each age group, both genders and through all six States agree that the Australian Government should not do more to stop the executions of Chan & Sukumaran. However, amongst both ALP supporters (53% cf. 47%) and Greens supporters (54% cf. 46%) a slight majority say the Australian Government should do more to stop the executions.”

Finding No. 6044 – This special snap SMS Morgan Poll was conducted with a representative cross-section of 2,123 Australians over the weekend of January 23-27, 2015.

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Margin of Error

The margin of error to be allowed for in any estimate depends mainly on the number of interviews on which it is based. The following table gives indications of the likely range within which estimates would be 95% likely to fall, expressed as the number of percentage points above or below the actual estimate. The figures are approximate and for general guidance only, and assume a simple random sample. Allowance for design effects (such as stratification and weighting) should be made as appropriate.

Sample Size	Percentage Estimate			
	40%-60%	25% or 75%	10% or 90%	5% or 95%
1,000	±3.2	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4

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Questions: Death Penalty for Drug Trafficking?

Respondents were asked: "In your opinion if an Australian is convicted of drug trafficking in another country & sentenced to death, should the penalty be carried out? Y=Yes N=No"

On previous telephone polls respondents were asked: "In Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Singapore and some other countries, the penalty for **drug trafficking** is **death**. If an Australian is convicted of trafficking drugs in another country and sentenced to death, in your opinion, should the penalty be **carried out** or **not**?"*

All Australians 14+

	Jan '86	Jul '86	Jul '87	Feb '89	Jun '90	May '92	May '93	Aug '95	Nov '05	Dec '05	Aug '09	Aug '09#	Jan '15#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Death Penalty should be carried out	73	80	80	79	75	76	70	66	57	61	50	53	52
Death Penalty should not be carried out	21	16	17	17	21	19	26	29	36	35	44	47	48
Can't say	6	4	3	4	4	5	4	5	7	4	6	-	-
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

* This question initially referred to Malaysia only. Sri Lanka was added in 1989 and Indonesia and Singapore were added in 2005. #August 2009 results re-percentaged without 'can't say'. Can't say was not offered as an option for this special SMS Morgan Poll conducted over the weekend with Australians aged 18+.

Voting Preference

	Total	Electors	Liberal	National#	ALP	Greens	Other#	Can't say#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Death Penalty should be carried out	52	52	63	69	45	32	55	49
Death Penalty should not be carried out	48	48	37	31	55	68	45	51
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

Age & Gender

	Total	Gender		Age				
		Men	Women	18-24#	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Death Penalty should be carried out	52	60	46	36	48	63	52	50
Death Penalty should not be carried out	48	40	54	64	52	37	48	50
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

State

	Total	State					
		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Death Penalty should be carried out	52	52	49	53	62	55	60
Death Penalty should not be carried out	48	48	51	47	38	45	40
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

Question: Should the Australian Government do more for Andrew Chan & Myuran Sukumaran?

Respondents were asked: "Do you think the Australian government should do more to stop the execution of Bali Nine members Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan? Y=Yes N=No"

Voting Preference

	Total	Electors	Liberal	National#	ALP	Greens	Other#	Can't say#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Govt. should do more	38	31	26	12	53	54	35	40
Australian Govt. should not do more	62	69	74	88	47	46	65	60
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

Age & Gender

	Total	Gender		Age				
		Men	Women	18-24#	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Govt. should do more	38	29	47	37	39	34	41	41
Australian Govt. should not do more	62	71	53	63	61	66	59	59
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

State

	Total	State					
		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS#
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Australian Govt. should do more	38	43	39	35	38	34	34
Australian Govt. should not do more	62	57	61	65	62	66	66
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

#Small sample sizes (Under 100) should be treated with caution.

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Morgan Poll Accuracy — Recent Elections State & Federal (2006 – 2014)

The Morgan Poll has proven to be consistently the most accurate regular poll in recent Australian Elections — including the 2013 Federal Election, 2010 Federal Election, 2007 Federal Election, 2010 Victorian State Election & 2012 Queensland State Election.

The Morgan Poll was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2013 Federal Election](#) for the two-party preferred vote (L-NP: 53.5% cf. ALP 46.5%) (sample 4,937 electors).

The Morgan Poll was the most accurate of all polling companies at [the 2007 Federal Election](#) for both primary vote and two-party preferred predictions (sample 2,115 electors).

The Morgan Poll accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Queensland Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 604 electors).

The Morgan Poll accurately predicted [that the ALP would win the 2006 Victorian Election with a reduced majority](#) (sample 956 electors). The Morgan Poll was also the most accurate on the primary vote of the major parties for the Victorian election.

Note: The [discussion on Possum Pollytics](#) regarding Morgan and Newspoll is well worth reading.

The following included comment says it all: “I find it interesting that for the only poll in the last five years for which there is any ‘real’ figure with which to compare, i.e. the polls immediately before the 2004 election, Morgan (45.5%) was closer to the actual Coalition Primary (46.7%) than Newspoll (45%) or Nielsen (49%), and Morgan (38.5%) was also closer to the ALP actual primary (37.6%) than Newspoll (39%), and only marginally further away than Nielsen (37%). Since we have no idea of how far away the ongoing polls are from ‘reality’ (whatever that means), surely we should just go with what we know, that in the most recent testable case, Morgan was better at forecasting the actual primary vote than Newspoll. On what possible basis should we decide that the Newspoll or Nielsen primary vote estimate is ‘better’ than Morgan’s.”

[View Federal Voting Intention Trend](#)