NATIONAL WOMEN'S Law Center ACTION FUND

To:	Interested Parties
Fr:	NWLC Action Fund
Re:	August Childless Cat Lady Survey Summary
Date:	August 8, 2024

NWLC Action Fund designed and Morning Consult administered this survey via online panel. The survey reached 1,766 registered voters nationally and was conducted August 1 to August 2, 2024. The data has been weighted to approximate a target sample of registered Voters based on gender by age, educational attainment, race, marital status, home ownership, race by educational attainment, 2020 presidential vote, and region. The margin of error (MOE) for the overall sample is +/-2.3% and larger for subgroups. (MOE is +/-3.4% for men, +/-3.2% for women, +/-3.1% for parents, +/-5.0% for childless women, +/-8.5% for childless women who have cats, and +/-7.3% for childless women who have dogs.)

Key takeaways

✓ Recent survey data shows that childless women remain in line with parents on the importance of policies that most impact children and families in America.

✓ Our survey finds that voters overall, voters who are parents, and voters who are childless women (including cat owners) are in favor of a robust policy platform supporting children and families, from issues like creating an accepting school environment for students, to paid family and medical leave, to a guaranteed access to child care.

✓ Voters, parents, and childless women all agree that supporting children and families should be a top priority for the government.

✓ A strong majority of voters overall also consider themselves to happy, including parents, childless women, and childless cat owners.

Support for Child and Family Policies

✓ **There is strong support among voters for a robust platform of policies to support children and families. Parents' priorities are in line with the priorities of childless women when it comes to these issues.** Childless women who have cats are also on the same page about the importance of these policies (as are childless women with dogs).[1]

1. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **investing in our schools and ensuring students feel safe and affirmed and can be prepared for the real world** was an important policy.
2. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **creating jobs that enable young people to thrive** was an important policy.
3. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **guaranteeing access to child care for all who need it** was an important policy.

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[1] Question text and data can be found in appendix

4. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **re-expanding the child tax credit** was an important policy.
5. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **making billionaires and corporations pay their fair share to support investments in families** was an important policy.
6. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **passing paid family and medical leave** was an important policy.
7. When compared to parents, a similar percentage of childless women (including childless women with cats) felt that **robust investments for critical programs for families** was an important policy.

Policymaking

✓ **Nearly eight in 10 voters (79%) agree that supporting families and children should be a top priority for the federal government.** Nearly half of parents strongly agree (49%), and another 79% agree. Over half of childless women strongly agree (51%) and 80% say they agree. Childless women with cats and childless women with dogs also view supporting families and children as a top priority, with 80% and 81% saying they agree, respectively.[2]

✓ Over half of all voters, and by a 21-point margin (57% disagree, 36% agree), disagree with the statement that a person running for office who does not have children is not qualified to create policies that impact children. A majority of parents (56%) and childless women (57%) disagree with this statement.

✓ Over half of all voters (53%) also disagree with the statement that only people with children are qualified to address family-related policy. Again, a majority of parents (53%) disagree with this statement, and half (50%) of childless women disagree as well.

Happiness

✓ **Over a quarter of voters (27%) consider themselves to be very happy. Over three-quarters of all voters (85%) say they are very or moderately happy.**
1. **Parents and voters who are childless are almost equally happy**- 28% of parents and 26% of childless voters say they are very happy, and 87% of parents and 82% of childless voters say they are happy.
2. **Cat owners, non-pet owners, and dog owners all report to be similarly happy as well**. Twenty-eight percent of cat owners, 27% of dog owners, and 28% of non-pet owners say they are very happy, and 83% of cat owners, 85% of dog owners, and 87% of non-pet owners say they are happy overall.
3. Thirty-one percent of childless women say they are very happy, and 84% of childless women report being happy. Thirty-two percent of childless women who own cats say they are very happy, but only 25% of childless women who own dogs say they feel the same.

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[2] Question text and data can be found in appendix

Appendix

Next you will read a list of different policies. How important, if at all, are each of the following policies for the federal government to put in place? Very important, somewhat important, not too important, not important at all, don't know/no opinion.

Investing in our schools, and ensuring schools are places where all students feel safe and affirmed, and can become prepared for the real world, including the people and challenges they will meet

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	61%	27%	88%
Men	58%	28%	86%
Women	63%	26%	89%
Parents	61%	27%	88%
Childless women overall	65%	24%	89%
Childless women with cats	68%	20%	88%
Childless women with dogs	67%	24%	91%

Creating jobs that enable our young people to thrive, with fair wages, good benefits, and reasonable work schedules.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	60%	29%	89%
Men	60%	28%	88%
Women	60%	29%	89%
Parents	59%	31%	90%
Childless women overall	61%	27%	88%
Childless women with cats	67%	22%	89%
Childless women with dogs	61%	22%	83%

Guaranteeing access to child care for everyone who needs it.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	51%	30%	81%
Men	48%	31%	79%
Women	54%	30%	84%
Parents	52%	30%	82%
Childless women overall	53%	29%	82%
Childless women with cats	54%	30%	84%

Childless women with dogs	49%	35%	84%

Re-expanding the Child Tax Credit to help low- and middle-income families make ends meet and to help reduce child poverty.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	48%	31%	79%
Men	44%	33%	77%
Women	51%	30%	81%
Parents	51%	31%	82%
Childless women overall	47%	32%	79%
Childless women with cats	57%	25%	82%
Childless women with dogs	43%	36%	79%

Ensuring that billionaires and corporations pay their fair share of taxes to support investments in families, including caregiving priorities.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	58%	24%	82%
Men	54%	25%	79%
Women	61%	22%	83%
Parents	58%	24%	82%
Childless women overall	60%	22%	82%
Childless women with cats	66%	20%	86%
Childless women with dogs	58%	25%	83%

Passing paid family and medical leave that guarantees at least 12 weeks of job-protected paid leave for working people to care for themselves and their loved ones.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	51%	30%	81%
Men	46%	31%	77%
Women	55%	30%	85%
Parents	50%	31%	81%
Childless women overall	54%	29%	83%
Childless women with cats	54%	27%	81%
Childless women with dogs	53%	29%	82%

Robust investments in critical programs for families, including funding free school meals and the early education program Head Start.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Total important
Voters	47%	32%	79%
Men	42%	35%	77%
Women	51%	30%	81%
Parents	48%	33%	81%
Childless women overall	48%	27%	75%
Childless women with cats	55%	26%	81%
Childless women with dogs	54%	27%	81%

And now you will read several value statements. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? Strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree, don't know/no opinion.

Supporting families and children should be a top priority for the federal government.

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Total agree
Voters	47%	32%	79%
Men	44%	34%	78%
Women	50%	30%	80%
Parents	49%	30%	79%
Childless women overall	51%	29%	80%
Childless women with cats	62%	19%	81%
Childless women with dogs	53%	22%	75%

A person running for office, and who does not have children, is not qualified to create policies that impact children.

	Total Agree	Total Disagree
Voters	36%	57%
Men	37%	56%
Women	34%	57%
Parents	38%	56%
Childless women overall	32%	57%
Childless women with cats	28%	65%
Childless women with dogs	40%	49%

Only people with children are qualified to address family-related policy.

	Agree	Disagree
Voters	37%	53%
Men	42%	42%
Women	35%	55%
Parents	40%	53%
Childless women overall	36%	50%
Childless women with cats	39%	52%
Childless women with dogs	43%	42%