

Gilani Research Foundation is a not for profit public service project to provide social science research to students, academia, policy makers and concerned citizens in Pakistan and across the globe.

Gilani Research Foundation is headed by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani who pioneered the field of opinion polling in Pakistan and established Gallup Pakistan in 1980. Currently Dr. Gilani, who holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.

Views on French Parliament's Decision to Ban Muslim Women from Covering their Face: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN

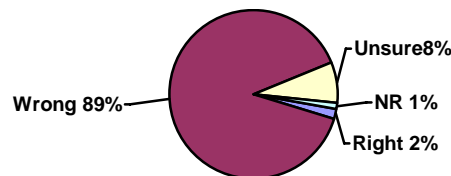
Islamabad, February 19, 2010

In the recent past covering face in France for Muslim women has become problematic and now French parliament has finally passed an order to ban face covering. To find out how Pakistanis feel about this decision a Gilani Research Foundation survey was carried out by Gallup Pakistan. The results show that more than 3 out of 4 Pakistanis (89%) oppose this decision while only 2% feel that it is okay for the French government to pass such a law. The remaining 9% were unsure or gave no response.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “*French parliament has imposed restriction over wearing veil for Muslim women. Do you think this decision of the government of France was right or wrong?*” Eighty nine percent (89%) believe the decision was wrong while only 2% support the government of France in banning face-covering. The remaining 9% were unsure or gave no response.

The findings of the survey reveal no significant difference in opinion of people from across various demographics.

*“French parliament has imposed restriction over wearing veil for Muslim women.
Do you think this decision of the government of France was right or wrong?”*



Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2761 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during February 2010. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm 2-3$ per cent at 95% confidence level.

Gallup Pakistan proposes that its poll results be attributed as Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. This is to distinguish our polls from polls on Pakistan sometimes released by other organizations not part of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website (www.gallup.com.pk). Gallup Pakistan takes responsibility for only its own polls on Pakistan.

For more survey data on social and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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