

OMAR KHADR

More Canadians Say Omar Khadr Should Face Trial in Guantanamo

But two-in-five respondents think the Canadian inmate would not get a fair trial at the detention facility.

[VANCOUVER – May 13, 2010] – The proportion of Canadians who think that Omar Khadr should remain in the Guantanamo Bay detention facility to face trial has increased, a new Angus Reid Public Opinion poll has found.

Canadians were first introduced to Khadr's story in 2002, when he was arrested for allegedly killing an American serviceman in Khost, Afghanistan.

A Canadian citizen born in Toronto—who was 15 when the incident took place—Khadr has spent more than seven years imprisoned at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.

In the online survey of a representative national sample of 1,005 Canadian adults, 46 per cent of respondents say Khadr should be left to face trial by military commission in Guantanamo Bay.

Just over a third of Canadians (36%) think that the government should demand Khadr's repatriation and allow him to be tried in Canada.

Since February, the proportion of respondents who believe Khadr should be left to face trial by military commission in Guantanamo Bay has increased by six points.

KEY FINDINGS

- **46% of Canadians say Omar Khadr should face trial by military commission at the Guantanamo Bay detention facility**
- **36% want Ottawa to demand Omar Khadr's repatriation so he can face justice in Canada**
- **37% "feel sympathy" for Omar Khadr's plight; 50% do not**

Full topline results are at the end of this release.

From May 7 to May 8, 2010, Angus Reid Public Opinion conducted an online survey among 1,005 randomly selected Canadian adults who are Angus Reid Forum panelists. The margin of error—which measures sampling variability—is +/- 3.1%. The results have been statistically weighted according to the most current education, age, gender and region Census data to ensure samples representative of the entire adult population of Canada. Discrepancies in or between totals are due to rounding.

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Views on Guantanamo and Khadr

Although many respondents have no problem with having Khadr face justice in the form of a military commission at Guantanamo, a large proportion of Canadians (42%) think that the inmate would not get a fair trial there.

Over a third of Canadians (37%) express sympathy for Khadr's plight, whereas half of them do not. In the February poll, 33 per cent of Canadians had said they sympathized with Khadr's situation.

Supreme Court Decision

In 2009, two courts called on the federal government to secure Khadr's repatriation. The federal government challenged their decision before the Supreme Court of Canada. In January 2010, the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government cannot be forced to repatriate Khadr.

Almost half of Canadians (49%) agree with the Supreme Court ruling, while 26 per cent disagree with it. These results are practically unchanged since February.

Related releases:

02.03.2010 [**Canadians Remain Staunchly Divided over Omar Khadr's Fate**](#)

09.02.2009 [**Canadians Evenly Divided on How to Deal with Omar Khadr**](#)

01.13.2009 [**Canadians Split on Omar Khadr's Fate, But Obama Decision Changes Views**](#)

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/AngusReidGlobal>

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Omar Khadr

As you may know, Canadian citizen Omar Khadr has spent more than seven years in the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, charged with throwing a grenade that killed a U.S. soldier in a July 2002 firefight in Afghanistan. Khadr, the son of al-Qaeda fighter Ahmed Said Khadr, was 15 when the alleged incident took place. Which of these policy options would you prefer in this case?

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Leaving Khadr to face trial by military commission in Guantanamo Bay	46%	50%	56%	42%	48%	39%	41%
Demanding Khadr's repatriation to face due process under Canadian law	36%	32%	31%	28%	36%	40%	37%
Not sure	19%	18%	12%	30%	16%	21%	22%

Omar Khadr

As you may know, Canadian citizen Omar Khadr has spent more than seven years in the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, charged with throwing a grenade that killed a U.S. soldier in a July 2002 firefight in Afghanistan. Khadr, the son of al-Qaeda fighter Ahmed Said Khadr, was 15 when the alleged incident took place. Which of these policy options would you prefer in this case?

	May 2010	Feb. 2010	Aug. 2009
Leaving Khadr to face trial by military commission in Guantanamo Bay	46%	40%	42%
Demanding Khadr's repatriation to face due process under Canadian law	36%	40%	40%
Not sure	19%	20%	22%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Omar Khadr							
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – “If he faces justice in Guantanamo, Omar Khadr will get a fair trial.”							
	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Agree	39%	39%	48%	36%	40%	36%	44%
Disagree	42%	44%	38%	45%	38%	47%	40%
Not sure	19%	17%	14%	20%	22%	17%	17%

Omar Khadr			
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – “If he faces justice in Guantanamo, Omar Khadr will get a fair trial.”			
	May 2010	Feb. 2010	Aug. 2009
Agree	39%	39%	40%
Disagree	42%	47%	45%
Not sure	19%	14%	15%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Omar Khadr							
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – “I feel sympathy for Omar Khadr’s plight.”							
	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Agree	37%	39%	31%	40%	34%	41%	36%
Disagree	50%	53%	59%	43%	53%	43%	44%
Not sure	13%	8%	10%	18%	12%	15%	20%

Omar Khadr			
Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? – “I feel sympathy for Omar Khadr’s plight.”			
	May 2010	Feb. 2010	Aug. 2009
Agree	37%	33%	38%
Disagree	50%	54%	52%
Not sure	13%	13%	18%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Omar Khadr

As you may know, the Supreme Court of Canada recently ruled that the federal government cannot be forced to repatriate Khadr. From what you have seen, read or heard, do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court's decision?

	Region						
	Total	BC	AB	MB/SK	ON	PQ	ATL
Agree	49%	54%	61%	38%	49%	48%	38%
Disagree	26%	24%	19%	26%	24%	33%	22%
Not sure	25%	21%	20%	36%	28%	19%	41%

Omar Khadr

As you may know, the Supreme Court of Canada recently ruled that the federal government cannot be forced to repatriate Khadr. From what you have seen, read or heard, do you agree or disagree with the Supreme Court's decision?

	May 2010	Feb. 2010
Agree	49%	48%
Disagree	26%	28%
Not sure	25%	24%

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com

Angus Reid Public Opinion is a practice of Vision Critical—a global research and technology company specializing in custom online panels, private communities, and innovative online methods. Vision Critical is a leader in the use of the Internet and rich media technology to collect high-quality, in-depth insights for a wide array of clients. Dr. Angus Reid and the Angus Reid Public Opinion team are pioneers in online research methodologies, and have been conducting online surveys since 1995

Vision Critical is now one of the largest market research enterprises in the world. In addition to its five offices in Canada—located in Vancouver, Calgary, Regina, Toronto, and Montreal—the firm also has offices in San Francisco, Chicago, New York, London, Paris and Sydney. Its team of specialists provides solutions across every type and sector of research, and currently serves over 200 international clients.

Angus Reid Public Opinion polls are conducted using the Angus Reid Forum (www.angusreidforum.com), Springboard America (www.springboardamerica.com) and Springboard UK (www.springboarduk.com) online panels, which are carefully recruited to ensure representation across all demographic and psychographic segments of these populations. Panel members pass through rigorous screening and a double opt-in process ensuring highly motivated and responsive members. These premier online survey platforms present respondents with highly visual, interactive, and engaging surveys, ensuring that panel members provide thoughtful and reliable responses. Each survey is actively sampled and weighted to model that characteristics of the universe required and employs the latest in quality control techniques to ensure data validity.

Since 2006, Angus Reid has covered eight provincial elections in Canada—more than any other pollster in the country—and the results have accurately predicted the outcome of each of these democratic processes.

Angus Reid, the only public opinion firm to exclusively use online methods to follow the views of the electorate during the 2008 federal campaign, offered the most accurate prediction of the results of Canada's 40th election. More information on our electoral record can be found at:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/record-of-accuracy>

More information on the way Angus Reid conducts public opinion research can be found at
<http://www.visioncritical.com/what-we-do/practices/angus-reid-public-opinion/>

- 30 -

**For more information, please contact
our spokesperson listed in the footnote.**

Copies of this poll are available on our website:
<http://www.visioncritical.com/category/global-opinions-and-trends>

CONTACT:

Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs, 604-647-3570, mario.canseco@angus-reid.com