

The Gallup Poll

FBI Image Has Dulled Since 1965

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By George Gallup

PRINCETON, N.J.—The FBI has declined in public esteem since 1965, particularly among younger adults, Easterners and persons with a college background.

During this five-year period the FBI has frequently come under fire from liberal groups as a bulwark of the "Establishment."

But despite the decline in public esteem, the FBI still commands the broad respect of the population as a whole, with seven persons in ten (71 per cent) giving this organization a "highly favorable" rating. The comparable rating in the 1965 survey was 84 per cent.

The FBI is more highly regarded than another governmental organization, the Pentagon, which is also generally associated with the Establishment and has been under heavy fire from anti-war groups. Approximately three persons in ten (28 per cent) in the latest survey give the Pentagon a "highly favorable" rating. No earlier data were available.

The ratings in this report were obtained by a sensitive attitude scale called the stapel scalometer, which consists of ten squares or boxes. The person being tested was given a card showing the squares and told the top square represents the highest degree of liking, the lowest square, the lowest degree. He was then asked to indicate how far up or down the scale he would place the organization he was asked to rate.

Highly favorable attitudes are considered to be the responses in the top two scale positions.

Following is the comparison of the "highly favorable" ratings for the FBI from the latest survey and the 1965 survey:

	Dec., '65	Latest	Point Change
NATIONAL	84	71	-13
21-29 years	85	62	-23
30-49 years	84	73	-11
50 & over	84	73	-11
East	88	63	-25
Midwest	83	74	-9
South	82	76	-6
West	85	69	-16
College background	78	57	-21
High school	88	75	-13
Grade school	82	75	-7

The scale ratings given the Pentagon, in contrast to those given the FBI, show little difference by age, region or educational background.

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Public Opinion

Black Police Urge Roles Be Upgraded

The National Black Caucus on Police-Community Relations demanded yesterday that the Justice Department withhold federal funds from local police forces until the upgrade the role of black officers and improve relations between police and minority groups.

Sgt. Harvey Adams of the Pittsburgh, Pa., police force, president of the year-old organization which claims 3,000 to 5,000 members nationally, told a press conference that federal funds should be cut off until police departments:

- Bring the percentage of black policemen up to the same level as the Negro proportion in the general population and provide for better promotion opportunities.

- Provide for citizen participation in all police agencies handling public complaints against policeman.

- Provide human relations training for police recruits and veterans, with citizen participation in this too, in order to reduce community polarization in this too, in order to reduce community polarization and avert the kind of "insane murders" of blacks by police that had occurred in some areas.

- Set up rules reserving any federal funds received for human relations and scientific crime-solving devices, with none of the funds to be used for armaments and "hardware."

Adams, flanked by Ruth Bates Harris, the organization's national chairman, Dean Paul Miller of Howard Law School, Frank Reeves, the Rev. Michael Burton and other officers or members of the group, said the D.C. crime bill would "in all certainty widen the gulf" between police and citizens and called for "speedy reversal of this obnoxious law in the courts."

William Johnson, chairman of the organization's 250-member District of Columbia chapter, said it was preparing a plan for citizen participation in D.C. police trial and training procedures that would soon be presented to heads of the District police.