

## Gallup Report

# Americans See Conspiracies Assassinations

By **GEORGE GALLUP**

PRINCETON, N.J. — As the House Select Committee on Assassinations begins its investigations, the overwhelming majority of Americans believe that others besides Lee Harvey Oswald were involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas, November 22, 1963.

In the latest survey, just completed, 80% think others were involved in the assassination, while only 11% think Oswald acted alone. Nine per cent do not express an opinion.

Persons with a college background, while overwhelmingly of the opinion that some form of conspiracy was involved, are less inclined to hold this view than are persons with less than a college background.

APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF of the survey respondents who believe others were involved did not name a specific group. Among those who did, however, Cuba and Castro were mentioned most often. Other responses frequently given are "the Mafia," "Communists," and the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

The same survey also shows that few Americans believe James Earl Ray acted on his own in the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Memphis.

MEMPHIS, April 4, 1968. Only 18% hold this view, while 69% think others were involved and 13% do not express an opinion.

An investigation into the assassinations of Kennedy and King was recently launched by the newly-established House Select Committee on Assassinations — the sixth to be conducted on a large scale by government officials since Kennedy was assassinated.

Richard A. Sprague, chief counsel of the House committee, recently told Congress that the reinvestigation of the deaths of Kennedy and King would cost more than \$13 million.

ONE WEEK after the Kennedy Assassination, a large majority of Americans expressed doubts that Oswald had acted alone. A survey taken three years later (in January 1967) indicated that these doubts had not been resolved. It was, therefore, evident that the report of the Warren Commission had failed to convince many Americans that Oswald alone was responsible.

The public, at the time, however, was opposed to a new investigation.

Here is the question asked in the three surveys:

"Do you think one man was responsible for the assassination of President Kennedy, or do you think others were involved?"

Here is the trend:

### KENNEDY ASSASSINATION:

One man — or others  
Responsible?

	One Man	Others Involved	No Opinion
November 1963	29%	52%	19%
January 1967	26%	50%	14%
December 1976	11%	80%	9%

This question also was asked:

"Here is a question about the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King. Do you think one man was responsible for the assassination of Martin Luther King, or do you think others were involved?"

Here are the results:

### KING ASSASSINATION:

One man — or others  
responsible?

	One Man	Others Involved	No Opinion
December 1976	18%	69%	13%

The survey results reported today are based on in-home, in-person interviews with 1520 adults, 18 and older, interviewed in more than 300 scientifically selected localities across the nation during the period December 10-13.

Read the Gallup Poll in Thursday's *Enquirer*.