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POLL FINDS KENNEDY IS LOSING ESTEEM

Since the findings of the Chappaquiddick inquest into the death of Mary Jo Kopechne were made public, opinion nationwide has grown more critical of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, the Louis Harris survey reported Monday, according to The Associated Press.

Of 1,287 households queried between May 8 and 10, the survey said, a majority—53 to 23 per cent—agreed with the judge's final opinion, "doubting that Senator Edward Kennedy turned on the dirt road by mistake on his way back to the mainland" and that "the Senator's driving probably contributed" to Miss Kopechne's death.

The number who say they "respect Ted Kennedy less," the survey states, has increased from 28 per cent right after the accident to 43 per cent nine months later. The range of loss of respect goes from 9 per cent among blacks to 34 per cent among Roman Catholics to 55 per cent of the college-educated group, according to the survey.

BOSTON, June 15 (UPI) — More than three-quarters of Massachusetts' residents approve of the job Senator Kennedy is doing in the Senate, according to a private poll pub-

lished Monday in The Boston Globe.

Of the 786 persons interviewed by the Becker Research Corporation in April and May, 76 per cent approved of Mr. Kennedy's handling of his Senate duties. Seventeen per cent disapproved and 7 per cent had no opinion.