

## The Gallup Poll

# 6 in 10 Say Involvement In Vietnam Was Mistake

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The proportion of Americans who think it was a mistake to become in-

volved in Vietnam has reached a new high of 6 in 10 — a complete reversal of opinion from five and one-half years ago.

In the latest nationwide survey, 61 per cent of all persons interviewed believe the U.S. made a mistake sending troops to Vietnam, compared with 28 per cent who say we did not make a mistake and 11 per cent who were undecided.

### Survey

In the first survey on the issue, conducted five and one-half years ago, in August, 1965, the comparable percentages were 24 per cent, 61 per cent and 15 per cent undecided.

Republicans during the last five and one-half years have changed their views about U.S. involvement to almost the same extent as Democrats.

The increasing disillusionment with U.S. involvement in Vietnam is clearly recorded in the following table, which shows a dramatic change in opinions among key groups in the population. (The totals do not add up to 100 per cent because some people had no opinion):

	Per Cent Saying "Yes"	
	Aug. '65	Latest
	%	%
NATIONAL	24	61
Republicans	28	58
Democrats	22	64
Independents	26	60
21-29 years	14	59
30-49 years	22	60
50 & over	29	63
College	24	61
High school	22	61
Grade school	28	63

This question was asked in the latest survey and in 21 previous surveys taken since August, 1965:

In view of the developments since we entered the fighting in Vietnam, do you think the U.S. made a mistake sending troops to fight in Vietnam?

	1971		
	Yes %	No %	No Opin. %
May (latest)	61	28	11
Jan.	59	31	10
1970			
June	56	36	8
April	51	34	15
Jan.	57	33	10
1969			
Sept.	58	32	10
March	52	39	9
1968			
Oct.	54	37	9
Aug.	53	35	12
April	48	40	12
March	49	41	10
Feb.	46	42	12
1967			
Dec.	45	46	9
Oct.	46	44	10
July	41	48	11
May	37	50	13
Feb.	32	52	16
1966			
Nov.	31	51	18
Sept.	35	48	17
May	36	49	15
March	25	59	16
1965			
Aug.	24	61	15