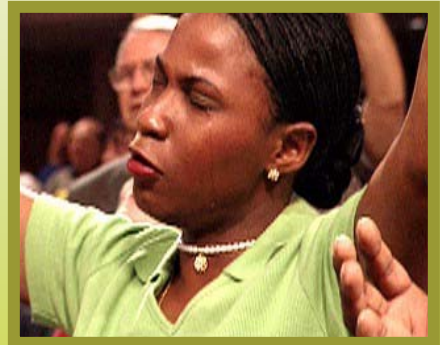


September 2008

# Religion & ETHICS NEWSWEEKLY

A Production of Thirteen/WNET New York  
The Award-Winning Television Newsmagazine for PBS



**Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly** will partner with the UN Foundation and Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research on a major national survey about how people of faith view America's role in the world. The survey, which will pay special attention to the views of young evangelicals, is scheduled to be released this October in conjunction with a special series of broadcast reports.

The new survey follows on three previous national polls done by the program: "Exploring Religious America," [www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week534/cover.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week534/cover.html), a 2002 survey of religious tolerance and diversity in the United States, looked at the importance of religious beliefs and spiritual experience and measured attitudes toward Islam after Sept. 11. It was featured on the cover of *U.S. News & World Report*.

In 2004, the program presented a survey and accompanying series on "America's Evangelicals," [www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week733/release.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week733/release.html), designed to examine evangelical identity, politics, culture, and evangelism as well as the important differences among black, white, and Hispanic evangelicals on political and moral questions.

And in 2005, **Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly** probed the changing structures and situations in traditional and non-traditional families and what those changes have meant for religion in "Faith and Family in America," [www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week908/cover.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/week908/cover.html). It received the Council on Contemporary Families Media Award for Video Coverage of American Families.

Major Funding is Provided by Lilly Endowment, Inc.  
Additional Support is Provided by Mutual of America Life Insurance Company,  
The Henry Luce Foundation, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and Individual Supporters.



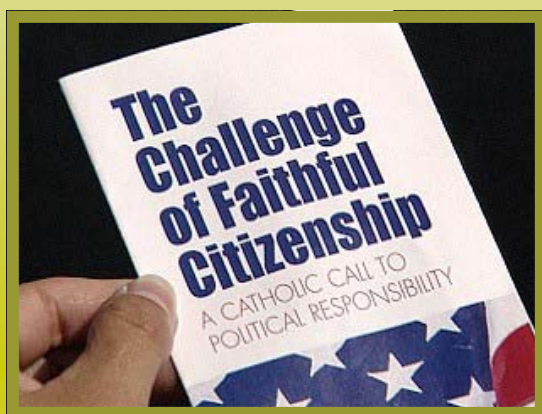
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**MUTUAL OF AMERICA**

## 2008 Campaign: Faith's Footsteps

Religion continues to be one important factor in how people vote. A majority of Americans say they want a president who is religious. But there is deep ambivalence about how much the President should talk about — and be guided by — religious beliefs. In a recent August poll conducted by Pew Research Center for the People & the Press and the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, 46 percent of respondents say are uncomfortable when they hear politicians talk about how religious they are, up from 40 percent in 2004. There are also other signs in the survey that point to potential change in the climate of opinion about mixing religion and politics. A majority of Americans — 52 percent — say that churches and other houses of worship should keep out of politics, as compared to only 44 percent four years earlier.



Over the past several months, “One Nation: Religion and Politics 2008 Blog” has been tracking the complex interaction of religion and politics — and that coverage continues through November 4. Kim Lawton will provide video reports of Democratic and Republican efforts to reach out to religious voters, plus interviews with key party strategists as the November election approaches. She’ll also look at different religious voting blocs - Hispanic, Catholic, Muslim and evangelicals, and solicit commentary by a panel of experts on the prominent role religion is playing in the presidential campaigns. In addition, the blog will feature excerpts from candidates' speeches and additional news related to the election.

For more, go to: [www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/blog.html](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics/blog.html)

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