

California's "Three Strikes" Law Survey

Survey Instructions

2. **1. Answer each question to the best of your knowledge or ability. To ensure statistical accuracy, please do not skip any questions in the survey.**

Thank you for your participation in CATS (LAW)'s survey of California's "Three Strikes" Law. Upon completion of your survey, please join CATS (LAW) as a contributing member today. Begin your questionnaire.

1. **Age:** 18 to 30 31 to 40 41 to 50
 51 to 64 65 and over Declined
2. **How often do you give donations or volunteer your time for work to better our society?**
 Always Most of the time Rarely Never
3. **How likely are you to study initiative measures and vote in future elections?**
 Very likely Somewhat likely Not likely
4. **Have you participated in any of the following rally activities? If no, leave all boxes blank.**
 Volunteering time at a local rally or charitable fundraiser.
 Making phone calls from a phone bank.
 Organizing an event or fundraiser in my home or community.
 Going door-to-door in my neighborhood.
5. **How closely have you been following California's "Three Strikes" Law?**
 Very closely Closely Somewhat closely Not at all
6. **Did you vote on California's "Three Strikes" Law in 1994?**
 Yes No Unsure
7. **How optimistic are you that California's "Three Strikes" Law will be amended in 2010?**
 Very Optimistic Optimistic Not Very Optimistic
 Pessimistic
8. **Do you believe that California's "Three Strikes" Law is cruel and unusual, unfair, unjust punishment for non-violent, non-serious offenders?**
 Yes No Unsure

9. The state of California’s annual prison budget is 10 billion dollars. California spends as much as \$175,000 to house and medically care for one non-violent, non-serious inmate annually (\$14,583.33 monthly.) The average cost is about \$45,000 annually (\$3,750.00 monthly.) Did you know your California taxpayer dollars support this high cost for prison terms rather than community-based solutions to build sustainable, self-reliant rehabilitation programs for non-violent inmates?

- Yes No Unsure

10. Which issues would you like your tax dollars impacting and focusing on if we are to grow as the great State of California that we are? Please rank the following issues from 1-15 based on their importance to you, with “1” being the most important.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security | <input type="checkbox"/> California Prisons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics in Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Reproductive Rights | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Policy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Rights/liberties | <input type="checkbox"/> Homeland Security | <input type="checkbox"/> Jobs/Economy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration | <input type="checkbox"/> Gay Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Programs |

11. Thinking about California’s growth in 2008-2010, which of the following strategies do you think is key to reforming California's "Three Strikes" Law so that it affects only VIOLENT AND/OR SERIOUS CRIMINALS, saving California taxpayers billions of dollars?

- Supporting grassroots efforts like the initiative process to qualify California’s "Three Strikes" Law for amended reform in 2010.
- Devoting more resources to radio and television ads that reach the most voters with the truth about California's "Three Strikes" Law, and how it benefits prisons with big business profits.
- Ensuring that California voters are informed about the high cost of “Three Strikes” mandated sentencing, billed to taxpayers while imposing injustices on weaker human beings.
- Californians need to invest in all of the above strategies to grow as a state "by the people, for the people," making right what is clearly wrong.

12. Through out California’s 478 cities and 58 counties, CATS (LAW) membership is growing as Californians are being informed and educated about California’s "Three Strikes" Law. What is your opinion of California’s "Three Strikes" Law?

- I support it. However, I believe Californians need to reform the law to apply only to violent, heinous criminals, not petty criminals.
- I oppose it. Let’s get rid of California’s “Three Strikes” Law totally, and allow pre-existing California laws, judges and juries to impose sentencing by California rule of law, not by mandate.
- I oppose it. It’s cruel and unusual punishment, and mismanagement of taxpayer’s dollars. To sentence a petty drug user, and/or petty thief to the same sentence as a murderer, twenty-five years to life, at the minimum term cost to taxpayers of \$1,125,000.00 per inmate is not prudent spending.

13. How likely do you think it is that those gaining big business profits and benefits from California’s “Three Strikes” Law will launch smear campaigns against the proposed “Three Strikes” Reform Act of 2010?

- Very likely Somewhat likely Not likely

14. If you could choose between spending \$1,125,000 (or more) to house a petty criminal for twenty-five years to life, or compel by law that non-violent, non-serious petty

criminals serve a sentence equal to the crime committed, and complete skills training and healthcare rehabilitation programs during their sentence, costing approximately \$25,000, which would you choose?

- Spend whatever it takes to house petty offenders for twenty-five years to life
- Invest \$25,000 in rehabilitation programs, saving billions in tax dollars
- No opinion

15. How concerned are you that California's "Three Strikes" Law enslaves our weaker human beings for the gain of prison's big business profits?

- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Not concerned

16. What is your main source of news and information about initiative measures that could potentially become California law prior to voting for it or against it?

- Television
- Newspapers
- Talk radio
- Internet/blogs
- News magazines
- Other

17. What is your opinion of your source of information about California's "Three Strikes" Law?

- Biased in favor of California's "Three Strikes" Law, and neglected to cover the initial initiative
- Biased against California's "Three Strikes" Law, and adequately exposed the true facts about it
- No bias in favor of California's "Three Strikes" Law, or against it; coverage has been fair
- No opinion/Not sure

18. If you could offer one piece of advice to CATS (LAW)-Californians to Amend Three Strikes Law, what would it be? Please use the space below to write your comments.

19. To help our organization educate Californians sharing information, to save California billions in taxpayers dollars while co-laboring with you to discover information for rehabilitating non-violent petty criminals who are in much more need of healthcare and/or job skills training rather than prison, will you join CATS (LAW) as a contributing member today?

- Yes – go to the next question
- No

20. If you answered "Yes" to question 19, please indicate the membership level at which you will join CATS (LAW) today.

- \$25
- \$35
- \$50
- \$100
- Other: \$_____

Please consider a gift of this amount or greater. Thank you for your support!

20. (a) Payment **Method:**

Check payable to CATS (LAW) enclosed.

I prefer to charge my gift to:

Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Amount: \$ _____ Card #: _____

Exp. Date: _____ Signature: _____

To put your contribution to work immediately, please call

1-877-902-CATS or visit: www.catslaw.org

21. **Are you willing to sign a petition to amend California's "Three Strikes" Law?** Yes
 No Unsure

If you answered "YES" to question number 19 and completed question 20 by joining CATS (LAW)'S Membership, you are eligible to receive \$2000 insurance benefits at no cost to you. Just check the box in 20 (b) and provide your contact information below. Once membership is confirmed, your AIL enrollment card will be mailed to the address you provide below. You are required to fill in your information and mail to AIL Insurance company. AIL will contact you.

If you answered "Yes" to question 21, provide your contact information below and you will be contacted after filing Three Strikes Reform initiative for title and summary with the state. One title is established you will be contacted to sign a petition to amend California's "Three Strikes Law, and/or California Constitution.

To receive information affecting the people of California, fill in your information below:

I prefer United States Mail I prefer email Both

Please Print Your Information legibly. Name: _____

Current address: _____

Telephone No.: _____ Email address: _____

I am a registered voting resident of California in the United States of America ___ (or) I am a legal permanent resident alien of the United States ___ residing in the State of California.

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