Monte

- > During a 10-day period in late August of this year, AIM interviewers talked to:
  - 1,745 random individuals on the phone who agreed to an interview
  - 234 of these hung up on the interviewers at some point, usually when church or religions was mentioned
  - 1,511 completed interviews form the basis for this report
  - This is the same size of sample used in all major polls today -- the error factor is 2 or 3 percentage points, plus or minus, at the 95 percentile of reliability.



- > When asked, "What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the name Seventh-day Adventist? most people say "nothing".
- > Of those who did comment, the three most frequent responses have remained constant throughout all three decades.
  - \* They know that Adventists observe Saturday as their Sabbath. (21% of those interviewed in the 1990 study).
  - \* They know that Adventism is a religion and type of faith.
  - \* They perceive that Adventists have strict, dietary laws with members vegetarians who don't eat pork.

2+3 times as many RESPONSIES ABOVE CHRIST CENTIONER CHRISTIAN CHUNCH!

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Report

Re

# Image of Seventh-day Adventists

(Based on Aware Group)

QUESTION: What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the name "Seventh-day Adventist?"

1970s

Observe Sat. as the Sabbath

Religious group/church/religion

Have specific beliefs or customs (vegetarianism, no diets/smoking/drinking; they don't salute the flag; the girls don't wear make-up)

Very strict in their teachings/ devout people

Specific religion or religious personality

They try hard to convert people to their faith

Medical beliefs.
(Don't believe in medicine; against blood transfusions)

General negative remarks. (They are confused; have funny ideas)

Other responses

1980s

Observe Sat. as the Sabbath

Religious group/church/religion

Different eating habits

Misguided doctrines

They are good people

Religious zealots

Mormons/live in Salt Lake City

Door-to-door solicitation

General negative remarks

Cult

Highly religious

A different type of church/ organization

Other responses

1990s

Observe Sat. as the Sabbath

Religious

group/church/religion

Strict dietary laws/vegetarians

Mormons/LDS

Not happy with SDA church/not interested /resent it

Names an SDA friend or relative

Cult/sect/David Koresh

Christian church and people

Door-to-door sales

Don't work/do business on Saturday

Far-fetched religion/ fanatics

Other response

(Ranked from most to least frequent comment)

# **Multiple Comments**

(Ranked in order from most to least frequent mention)

They observe Sabbath/go to church on Saturday (117)

They are a religious group/church/faith/religion (111)

They have strict dietary laws/don't eat pork/are vegetarians (27)

Mormons/Church of Latter Day Saints (28)

People who named a close relative, friend or work associate (27)

Resent it, not interested/ happy with it (22)

Good people (13)

Cult/sect/David Koresh (10)

Christ/Christian/Christian church and people (9)

Come door-to-door (8)

They don't work or do business on Saturday (7)

They are fanatics/farfetched religion (5) Jehovah's Witnesses (6)

Hospitals/doctors (5)

They are fundamentalists (3)

A fine people/a nice group of people (2)

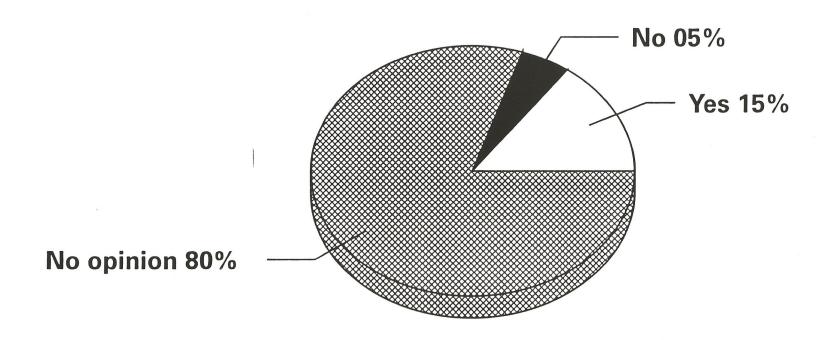
Missionaries (2)

God (2)

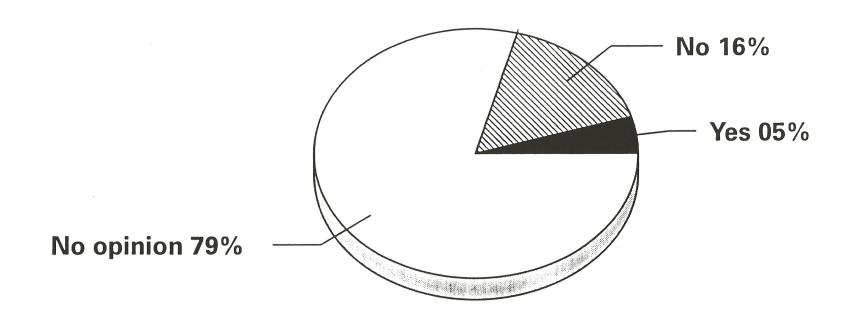
Don't believe in Christmas (2)

Church down the street/a church not far away (2)

#### **Do Adventists Preserve the Environment?**



## **Adventist Longevity**



> We asked a Yes or No question: "Do Seventh-day
Adventist church members live longer than the general
population?"

Only one in 20 correctly answered this question with a Yes.

Three times as many disagree with this claim. (16%)

Four out of five simply have no idea.

> We decided to test at least one current, popular concern in terms of how the public sees the Adventist Church relative to this need. We asked (yes or no), "Are Seventh-day Adventist Church members supportive of preserving the environment?"

One in seven, said "yes." (15%)

One in 20, said "no." (5%)

Again, four out of five simply have no idea.

# **Aware of Adventist Magazines**

Signs of the Times       13%       15%       24%         These Times       4%       6%          Listen       4%       6%       9%         Message       3%       5%       8%         Liberty       4%       5%       11%         Life & Health / Vibrant Life       6%       8%       4%		1970s	1980s	1990s
Listen       4%       6%       9%         Message       3%       5%       8%         Liberty       4%       5%       11%	Signs of the Times	13%	15%	24%
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Liberty 4% 5% 11%	Listen	4%	6%	9%
	Message	3%	5%	8%
Life & Health / Vibrant Life 6% 8% 4%	Liberty	4%	5%	11%
	Life & Health / Vibrant Life	6%	8%	4%

# **Aware of Adventist Activities**

	1970s	1980s	1990s
ADRA / World mission program	10%	16%	6%
Voice of Prophecy	12%	14%	21%
Adventist Hospitals/Medical School	5%	13%	7%
Health education programs	10%	12%	11%
It Is Written	5%	11%	18%
Faith For Today	11%	10%	18%
Breath of Life			10%

Paul

\* "Signs" magazine is the most recognized of all the out-reach magazines, With 21% of the public aware of the journal, it has a 13 percent greater recognition rate than Liberty, Listen, Message or Vibrant Life magazines.

# CANNOA

The 1990 report is the first of the 3 decadal reports to include Canada. In general, the findings parallel that of the United States with these exceptions:

\* There are more Canadians aware of the "It Is Written" telecast than Americans. people from the states.

- \* There are more Canadians (22%) than Americans (8%) who know a member of the Adventist church in their work place or neighborhood.
- > Only 7% of the aware group said that they or a loved one have stayed in an Adventist hospital. Portland Adventist on was the hospital mentioned most frequently. The public is also aware of Adventist hospitals outside of North America--Paraguay and Ethiopia were named by respondents.
- > In general, the <u>public has little idea</u>
  of our church's name--what programming
  it provides, what electronic and print
  materials it produces, how involved its

ETC.

> We asked the public about the Adventist electronic and print medias.

\* The "Voice of Prophecy" Radio program has penetrated 21% of the public's awareness.

\* "Lifestyle Magazine" and "It is Written" are tied with 18% aware of

both programs.

\* 10% of those interviewed had heard of the "Breath of Life" telecast. Of those, one in four are 29 years of age or younger.

PARENTHOES EXCEVENT BELAUSE:

MEDIA PROGRAMS AWARENESS UP

ANDIENCE SEZMENTATION HEUFFUL TO SURVIVAZ + GALVOTT

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- > Of those who have visited and Adventist Church, 44% are black or African American and 19% are Hispanic. Only 9% of those who said they had visited an Adventist congregation are caucasian.
- > 81% of the Asian/Pacific Islanders contacted have never heard or read about Seventh-day Adventists. Not one of the 11% who were aware had ever visited.
- > Interviewers asked the public if they knew Adventists who were active in supporting local community causes. 82% of the 793 individuals aware of the church say they have no idea whether Adventists are involved in their communities or not.
- > Of those interviewed 89% are not aware of Adventist community health education programs. Of those aware of health programming, the majority are 50 years of age or more.
- > Only 6% of the respondents recognize the name Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA).
- > Just 15% of those who are aware of Adventists know that Adventists are concerned about preserving the environment.

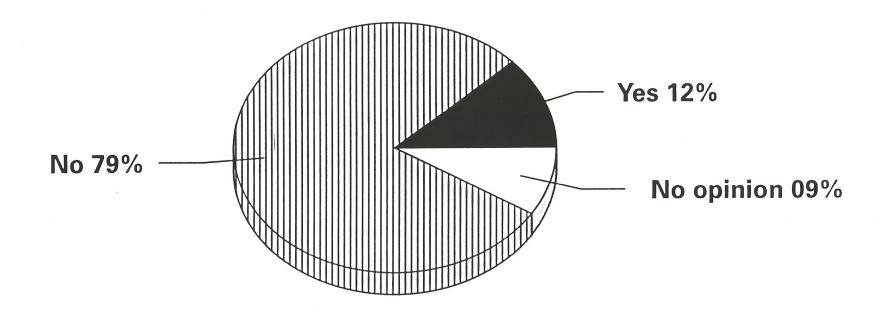
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The beliefs and practices of Mormons/ Latter Day Saints (LDS), and Jehovah's Witnesses are frequently confused in the minds of the public with the beliefs and practices of Adventists.

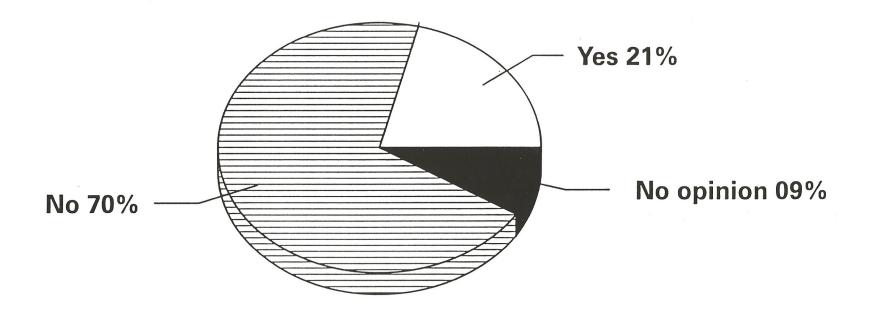
This trend has increased significant Witnesses are frequently confused in This trend has increased significantly during the last decade.

- Less than one-fourth (21%) of the aware group report that they know an Adventist at work or in their neighborhood.
- More female respondents report having > an Adventists acquaintance at work or in their neighborhood than do the male respondents.
- The majority of those who have heard or > read about the Adventist Church have never visited one.
- Of the 12% of those who have visited the majority are females, above age 50.
- It was particularly noteworthy that > nearly 10% of the respondents reported that they had no idea whether they had visited an Adventist Church or not!
- The majority of those who are aware > of the Adventist Church have annual incomes greater than \$75,000.

#### Visited an Adventist Church



## Do you know an Adventist?

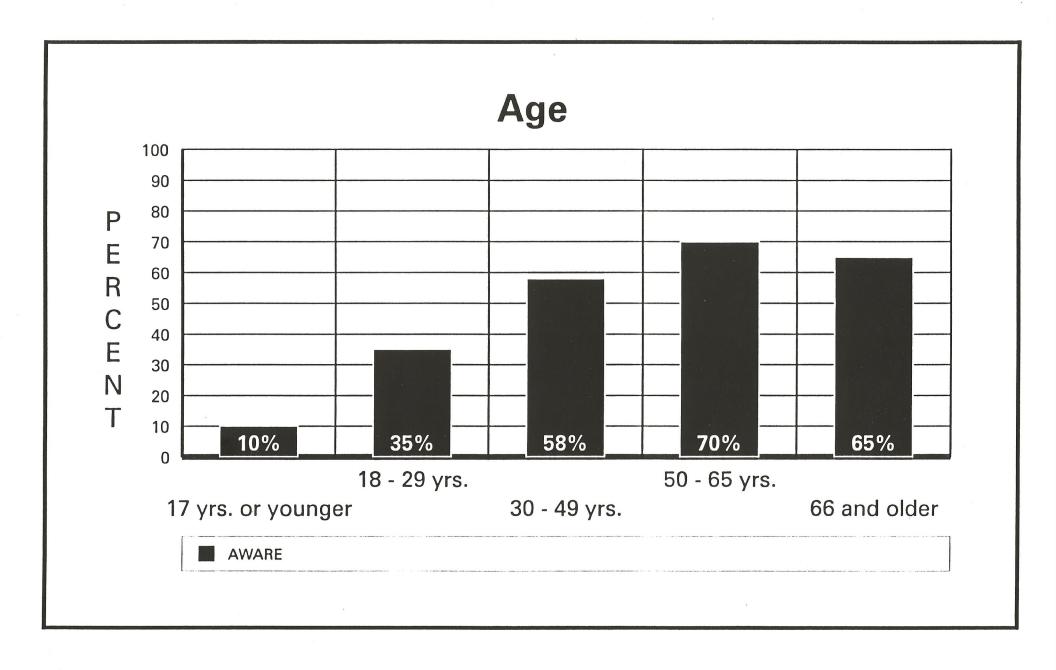


GOMPHINANS 47% have not.

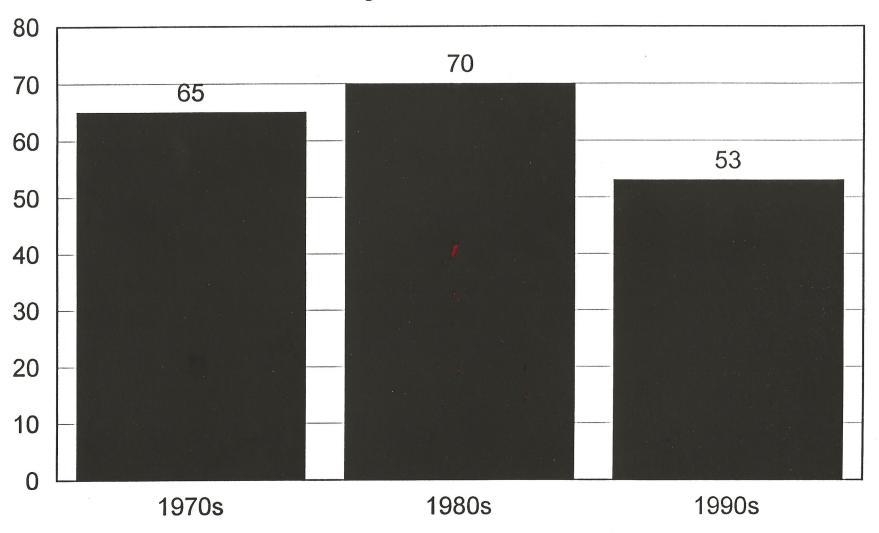
) aul 53% have heard or read about the Adventist Church and ( MUDDLE OF WELDING!)

- This is a significant decrease from the results of the surveys conducted in the 1970s and the 1980s; we are losing ground in terms of public recognition of the name Seventh-day Adventist.
- The loss in public awareness is largely among younger > people. Those 29 years of age and below in Canada and the U.S. have little name recognition of the Adventist Church. Those 50 years of age and above have the greatest name recognition.

NOW REFURE WHITEN REPORT
AVAILABLE SONA!



# Have you ever heard or read about the Seventh-day Adventist Church?



NAD Office of Information & Research

#### **Aware and Not Aware Group**

