

Poll: Investigate interrogation tactics

by UPI

PRINCETON, N.J. -- Slightly more than half of Americans favor an inquiry into the use of harsh interrogation tactics on terror suspects, a Gallup Poll indicated Tuesday.

Fifty-one percent of those polled favored an investigation of the interrogation methods employed during the George W. Bush administration, while 42 percent opposed an investigation, results indicated.

Simultaneously, 55 percent of those polled said they believe that, in retrospect, the use of the harsh techniques was justified while 36 said it was not, the Princeton, N.J., polling agency said.

The Obama administration recently released documents revealing the Bush administration's legal justification for using "enhanced interrogation techniques," such as sleep deprivation and waterboarding -- which simulate drowning -- that many consider forms of torture. Congress followed the memos' release by issuing a report saying Bush administration officials authorized the techniques' use.

Results are based on nationwide telephone interviews with 1,044 adults conducted Friday and Saturday as part of the Gallup Poll Daily tracking. The margin of error is 3 percentage points.

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