

Poll reveals dissatisfaction with both parties

November 3, 2006

Posted: 11/03/06

Poll reveals dissatisfaction with both parties

By Daniel Burke

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)— An increasing percentage of Americans believe neither Democrats nor Republicans share their attitudes about the role of religion in politics, a new poll revealed.

The poll also showed a drop in the portion of Americans who say the parties represent their values, with the GOP losing more ground than the Democrats.

About 41 percent of Americans believe the Republican Party shares their views on religion in politics “moderately well” or “very well”—an overall drop of 12 percentage points from one year ago.

For Democrats, who have tried to woo religious voters since the 2004 elections, the figure is 48 percent, an overall drop of 5 percentage points from October 2005.

The *USA Today*/Gallup Poll, based on a sample of 1,002 adults, has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

On the question of values, 51 percent of Americans in general said the Republicans represent their values “very well” or “moderately well,” a drop from 57 percent one year ago.

For Democrats, the comparable figure was 56 percent, down from 58 percent a year ago.

While both parties saw an eight-point increase among actual voters who say their values are reflected “moderately well,” the Republicans are down 14 percentage points among voters who see their values reflected “very well,” compared to a 10-point drop for Democrats.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.