

For release October 17, 2007

ZOGBY POLL: ATLAS SHRUGGED BY AYN RAND READ BY 8.1%

A Freestar Media/Zogby poll found that 8.1 percent of American adults have read the book Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand. The poll of 1,239 adults was conducted by Zogby International between October 10 and October 14, 2007 at the request of Freestar Media, LLC. Among the poll's 80 questions was "Have you ever read the book Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand?". The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 2.8 percentage points.

Atlas Shrugged chronicles an America where government has taken control of nearly all aspects of the economy. As society collapses the heroine follows a trail of clues surrounding the disappearance of innovators and the rise of a mysterious phrase "Who is John Galt?" Last week Ayn Rand fans celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first publishing of Atlas Shrugged.

It's influence is rising. A 1991 poll by the Library of Congress and Book of the Month Club found that Atlas Shrugged was the second most influential book after the Bible. 2008 Presidential candidate Ron Paul often quotes the author and even named his son "Rand". Next year a movie version of Atlas Shrugged will be produced with Angelina Jolie in the lead role.

Could reading Atlas Shrugged promote financial success? The poll found that 14% of those earning \$100,000 a year or more have read Atlas Shrugged while only 2% percent of those earning less than \$35,000 a year have read it.

About the same percentage of men and women have read Atlas Shrugged, 48.2% men vs. 51.8% women. However, respondents living in the east (11%), west (10%), and south (9%) are about twice as likely as those living in the central/Great Lakes region (5%) to say they have read the book. Among the poll's other findings: 38.7% of passport holders have read it, as have 10.8% of people who visit YouTube.com a few times a month.

Freestar Media, LLC was created by Logan Darrow Clements to produce media applying Ayn Rand's philosophy of reason, individual rights and laissez-faire capitalism to current events. The company's most popular project was The Lost Liberty Hotel, a rebellion against eminent domain abuse that involved applying the Supreme Court's Kelo vs. City of New London ruling to one of the justices who voted in favor of it. Mr. Clements is currently producing two documentary films, one about socialized medicine, the other about eminent domain abuse.

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