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**Four In 10 (37%) Global Citizens Have Been To
Children's Sports Events and Witnessed Parents
Become Verbally or Physically Abusive Towards the
Coaches or Officials**

***United States (60%) Leads the 22 Countries Surveyed As
Having Witnessed Abuse***

New York, NY— A new Reuters News poll conducted by Ipsos and released today indicates that four in ten (37%) adults surveyed in 22 countries (representing 75% of the world's GDP) have been to children's sports events and witnessed parents become verbally or physically abusive towards the coaches or officials. Two thirds (63%) indicate they have not witnessed this kind of abusive behaviour.

The survey of over 23,000 adults — 1000+ respondents per country -- shows that those residing in the United States (60%) *are the most likely* to have witnessed abusive behaviour by parents at children's sporting events followed by those in India (59%), Italy (55%), Argentina (54%), Canada (53%) and Australia (50%).

Those countries where adults have *least likely* observed this kind of abusive behaviour are in Hungary (16%), Czech Republic (24%), Mexico (25%), Japan (25%) and France (26%).

The following list of findings **begin with** the countries where citizens are *most likely to agree* that they have "been to children's sports events and witnessed parents become verbally or physically abusive towards the coaches or officials" and ascends to those countries where citizens are *least likely to agree* with the proposition:

United States	60% agree/40% disagree
India	59% agree/41% disagree
Italy	55% agree/45% disagree
Argentina	54% agree/46% disagree
Canada	53% agree/47% disagree
Australia	50% agree/50% disagree
Spain	42% agree/58% disagree
Belgium	39% agree/61% disagree
Great Britain	37% agree/63% disagree
Sweden	35% agree/65% disagree
Germany	35% agree/65% disagree

South Korea	34% agree/66% disagree
Poland	32% agree/68% disagree
China	31% agree/69% disagree
Brazil	31% agree/69% disagree
Russia	30% agree/70% disagree
Netherlands	28% agree/72% disagree
France	26% agree/74% disagree
Japan	25% agree/75% disagree
Mexico	25% agree/75% disagree
Czech Republic	24% agree/76% disagree
Hungary	16% agree/84% disagree

Those *most likely* to indicate they've been to children's sports events and witnessed parents become verbally or physically abusive towards the coaches or officials (37%) are more likely to be male (41%) versus female (33%), those in a higher income bracket (42%) compared to low and middle income (both at 36%) and those who are higher educated (39%) compared with those who are middle (37%) and lower (36%) educated. There is no difference in terms of marital status – 38% of those who are married compared with 37% who are of "other" status.

Those *least likely* to indicate they've been to children's sports events and witnessed parents become verbally or physically abusive towards the coaches or officials (63%) are more likely to be female

(67%) than male (59%), lower and middle income (64%) compared to higher income (58%). There is no appreciable difference in age under 35 (62%) compared with those over age of 35 (63%); marital status: married (62%) compared with those who are of "other" marital status (63%); and education: lower (64%) compared with medium (63%) and higher (61%) education.

These are the findings of an Ipsos poll conducted between November 4th, 2009 and January 13th, 2010, on behalf of Thompson Reuters News Service. For this survey an international sample of 23,351 adults aged 18-64 were interviewed in a total of 22 countries representing 75% of the world's GDP. The countries included Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, and South Korea, Spain, Sweden, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Great Britain and the United States. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos online panel. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/-3.1 percentage points 19 times out of 20 per country of what the results would have been had the entire population of adults in that country had been polled. All sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. G@6O3_10.

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