

# BRINGING CANADIANS HOME: THE EVACUATION FROM LEBANON, PART II

*Canadians Split Over P.M.'s Stance On Israel*



Ipsos Reid

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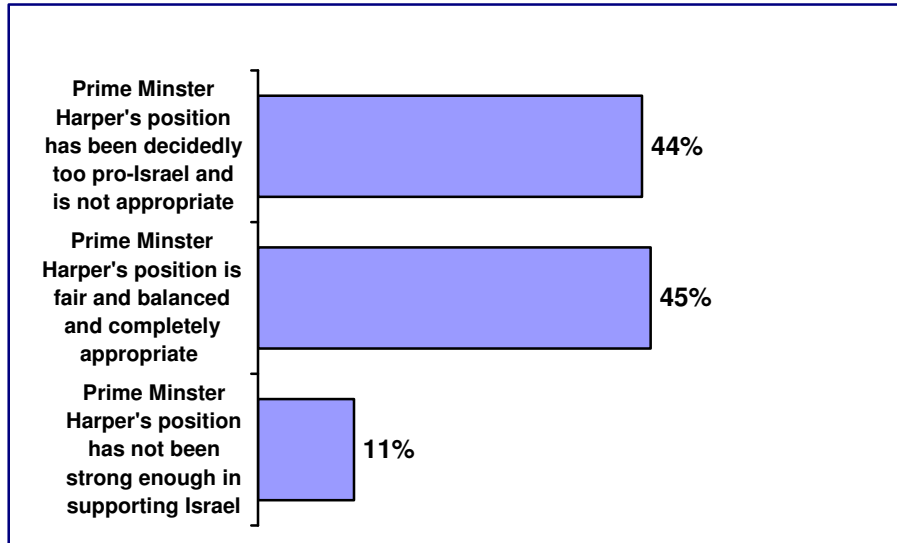
**Toronto, ON**– In the wake of Prime Minister Stephen Harper's recent public statements in which at the outset of combat he, among other things, described Israel's actions in Southern Lebanon as a "measured response", a new Ipsos Reid survey conducted on behalf of CanWest Global reveals that Canadians are divided when it comes to his position.

Forty-four percent of Canadians feel that "Prime Minister Harper's position has been decidedly too pro-Israel and is not appropriate" versus 45% who feel his position has been "fair and balanced and completely appropriate". The remaining 11% of Canadians think "Mr. Harper's position has not been strong enough in supporting Israel".

*These are the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted on the evening of July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 for CanWest/Global News. For the survey, a representative randomly selected sample of 1023 adult Canadians were interviewed via an on-line survey. With a sample of this size, the results are considered accurate to within  $\pm 3.1$  percentage points, 19 times out of 20, of what they would have been had the entire adult Canadian population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population. These data were weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to the 2001 Census data.*

## Country Split Over P.M.'s Stance On Israel..

*In recent days, Prime Minister Stephen Harper has made official statements that firmly lend the support of the Canadian government to Israel in this conflict – in fact, at the outset, he described the actions of the Israeli military as a “measured response” to what triggered the conflict. Below are three statements, please choose which one you most agree with...*



- Residents of Quebec (62%) and Atlantic Canada (54%) are the most likely to feel the P.M.'s position has been decidedly too pro-Israel.

## Nine In Ten Canadians (92%) Aware Of Events In The Middle East...

Ninety-two percent of Canadians are aware of what has been happening in Israel and Lebanon during the past few days –8% are not aware.

## Of Those Who Are Aware Of Events In Middle East – 29% Have Been Following Them “Very Closely”...

Of those who are aware of what is happening in the Middle East, 29% say they have been following the events “very closely” – translating into approximately 26% of all Canadians. Fifty-seven percent have been following these events “somewhat closely”, and 15% have been following it “not really closely at all”.



- Residents of Quebec are the most likely to be following the events “very closely”.

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