

Women Rule?

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Toronto, ON – Many in Britain argue that the rules of succession to the British monarchy – which is Canada's monarchy too – should change. The current rule says that the monarch is succeeded first in line by his or her sons in order of age, even if the monarch has a daughter who is older than his or her sons. Some in Britain argue that daughters should have equal rights to ascend the throne – that is, if the monarch's first-born child is a girl, she should be first-in-line for the throne.

Four in ten (42%) Canadians agree with this position of reform, believing that 'the succession practices of the monarchy should be changed to allow a monarch's first-born child, regardless of gender, to be the first-in-line for the throne'. Perhaps not surprisingly, women (49%) are considerably more likely than men (35%) to believe the practices should be changed in this way.

Just one in ten (14%) believe that 'the monarchy and its succession practices should stay as they are, meaning that the first-born son remains first-in-line for the throne'.



The argument of succession practices appears to be a moot point for many Canadians. In fact, four in ten (43%) believe that we should get rid of the monarchy all together, a view that is more popular among men (48%) than women (39%).

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Reid poll conducted between January 24 to 27, 2011, on behalf of Postmedia News and Global Television. For this survey, a sample of 1,006 adults from Ipsos' Canadian online panel was interviewed online. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to 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, of what the results would have been had the entire population of adults who drive and have a car in Canada 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.

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