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Some millennials say they would rather have the world end than a President Clinton or Trump

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CESARE ABBATE/ANSA/AP

Statuettes depicting presidential candidates Donald Trump (left) and Hillary Clinton were displayed in a shop in Naples, Italy.

By Steve Annear and Matt Rocheleau

GLOBE STAFF OCTOBER 18, 2016

More than half of millennials would rather that a giant meteor hit the earth, a lottery be held for president, or have President Obama serve for life, than have Democrat Hillary Clinton or Republican Donald Trump be elected, according to a new poll.

The [poll](#), conducted by the University of Massachusetts Lowell and social media platform, Odyssey, asked respondents to pick from a series of hypothetical scenarios, including humorous ones.

Twelve percent listed a giant meteor ahead of all other choices, 12 percent a random lottery for president, and 27 percent picked Obama for life.

“We do not take our respondents at their word that they are earnestly interested in seeing the world end,” said Prof. Joshua Dyck, co-director of UMass Lowell’s Center for Public Opinion, in a statement. “But we do take their willingness to rank two constitutional crises and a giant meteor ahead of these two candidates with startling frequency as a sign of displeasure.”

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The wide-ranging poll had a number of other, serious findings about millennials’ views, including:

— The majority of likely voters among former supporters of Bernie Sanders are voting for Clinton.

— Trust in government institutions is low.

— 58 percent support the legalization and recreational use

of marijuana.

The national survey asked 1,247 American adults between the ages of 18 to 35 about their opinions on the candidates and the election. The poll was conducted over three days in October.

The idea of a meteor being a better option than the current candidates is not entirely random.

A software engineer from Nashville — and others — have been selling bumper stickers that read, [“Giant Meteor 2016. Just End it Already”](#) for months.

The depressing yet bipartisan sticker resonated with young voters after it was shared widely by comedian Chris Rock on Twitter. For some, it has become a running joke.

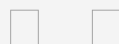
Below are the highlights of the poll:

[Highlights Millennials Tcm18 263896](#) by [Steve](#) on Scribd




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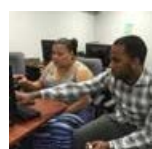
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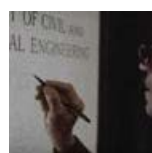
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10 things that happened at Trump’s press conference

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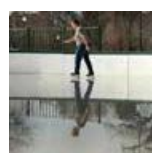
In the halls of high-tech MIT, he still paints professors’ names on doors

If a name appears written in black letters on a professor’s office door at MIT, it’s more likely than not that Glenn Silva put it there. [MORE...](#)



With too few nurses for kids’ home care, parents push for action

The parents of severely ill children are hoping Beacon Hill will raise reimbursement rates for nurses who care for kids in their homes. [MORE...](#)



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Worcester District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. declined to say how Walter Armstrong, 83, was killed. [MORE...](#)



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Once a refugee, she welcomes newcomers at an uncertain time

Mary Truong, executive director of the state's Office for Refugees and Immigrants, hopes her example will help others like her. [MORE...](#)



In Trump's middle America, a sense of optimism

"I'm feeling good about America," a small-business owner in Bellevue, Ohio, said. [MORE...](#)



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