# Faith & Belief at Rock Canyon



## Agenda

- Why This Matters
- Current State
- Our Recommendations
- Risks & Mitigations
- Next Steps

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### The Importance of Internal Diversity

Of Americans describe themselves as affiliated with a religion

#### **Internal Diversity**

Different backgrounds and thought processes bring unique viewpoints to the organization that provide optimal results

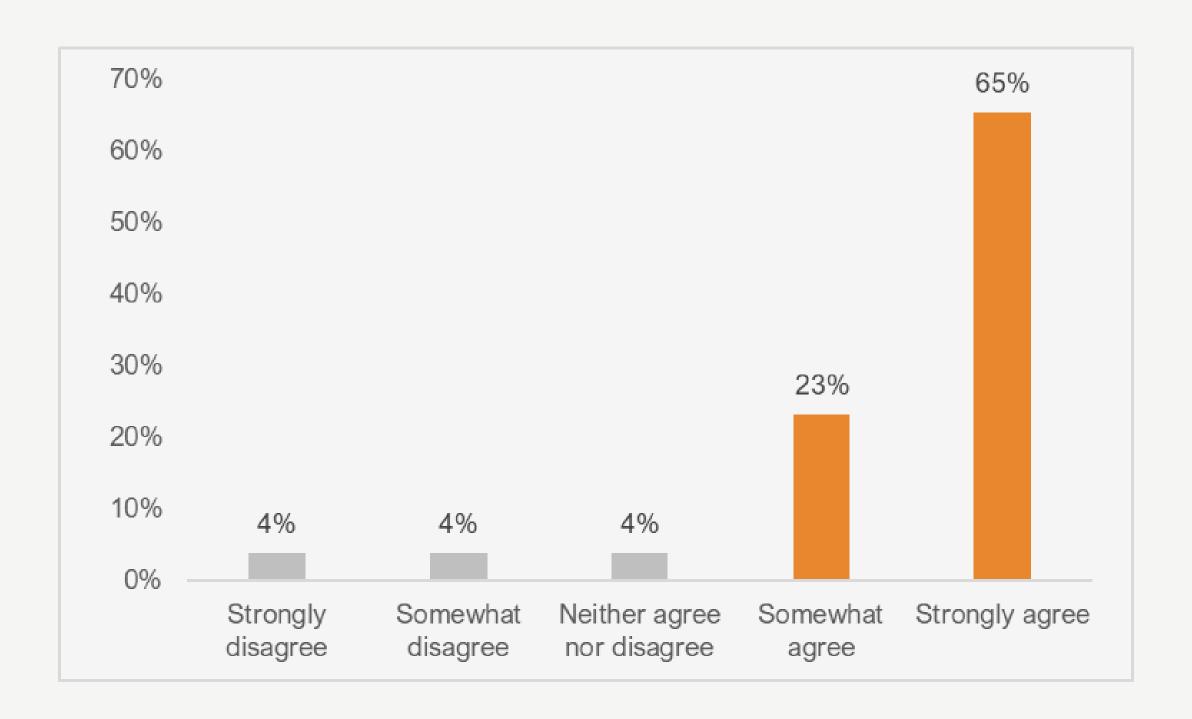
#### **Church and State**

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits workplace discrimination based on religion, unless doing so causes more than a minimal burden on the employer

Still, many people feel they may be judged for discussing their religion at work

Sources: see Appendix D

# Percentage of People Who Feel Their Faith Positively Impacts the Way They Work



#### Faith Positively Impacts the Way People Work



My religion grounds me to what is important in life. Focusing on that helps me navigate bumpy work relationships or stressful problems.

My morality and work ethic are intrinsically related to my religiousity.

[...] The way I interact with people, my honesty and integrity on projects, and [my] empathy stems from those values which I believe make me a stronger employee and team player.

I feel like I hold myself to higher work ethic and standards of integrity.

My faith in God positively impacts every aspect of my life.



**Next Steps** 

### A Need for Belonging

In a 2020 global study of 11,800 participants, belonging was the strongest driver of employee engagement



#### **BELONGING**

91%

Of employees who feel they belong are engaged at work vs. only 20% of employees who lack belonging are engaged at work



#### **PROFITABILITY**

23%

Difference in profitability for companies with engaged employees



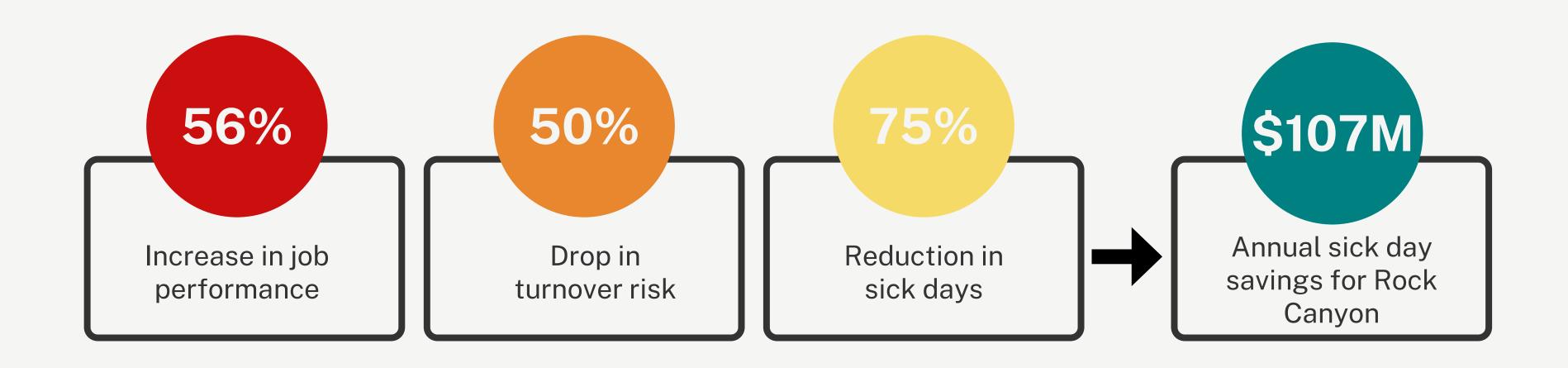
#### **TURNOVER**

43%

Less employee turnover, 34% higher intent to stay

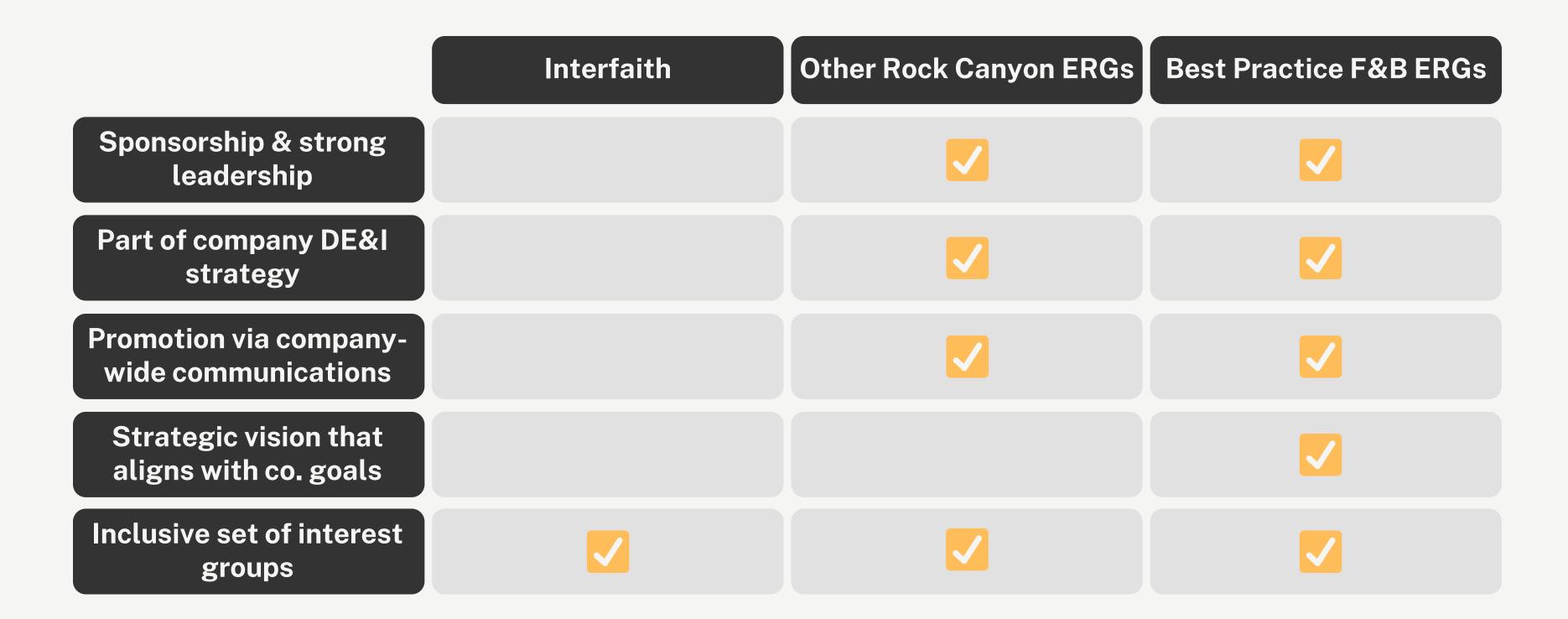
Sources: see Appendix A

#### The Financial Impact of Faith at Work



Sources: see Appendix A & H

#### **Current State**



### A Vision for the Future of Rock Canyon

#### **VISION**

Foster respect for all individuals through empathy and increased belonging to create a unified team with a common goal.

#### GOAL

Officially recognize Interfaith as an ERG that supports and contributes to Rock Canyon's DE&I initiatives.



#### Make It Happen

#### Establish Ownership

- Identify stakeholders-Chief DE&I officers
- Engage an executive sponsor
- Support from current group members

2

### **Create a Vision**

- Create an ERG vision& mission statement
- Promote company values through ERG
- Create leadership playbook with guidelines and structure

3

### Remove Barriers

- Securing financial and executive support for Interfaith ERG
- Unite various interest belief groups under ERG and reduce cost through increased coordination

4

#### Quick Wins

- Two faith-based events in year 1
- Community outreach project in year 1
- Highlighting faithbased holidays on internal co. intranet

5

### Long-Term Change

- Track and measure success
- Scale events as ERG grows
- Create partnerships with companies, communities, and universities

### Assess & Track

Employee retention, productivity, promotions, recruitment



Hours donated, employee participation, community reponse

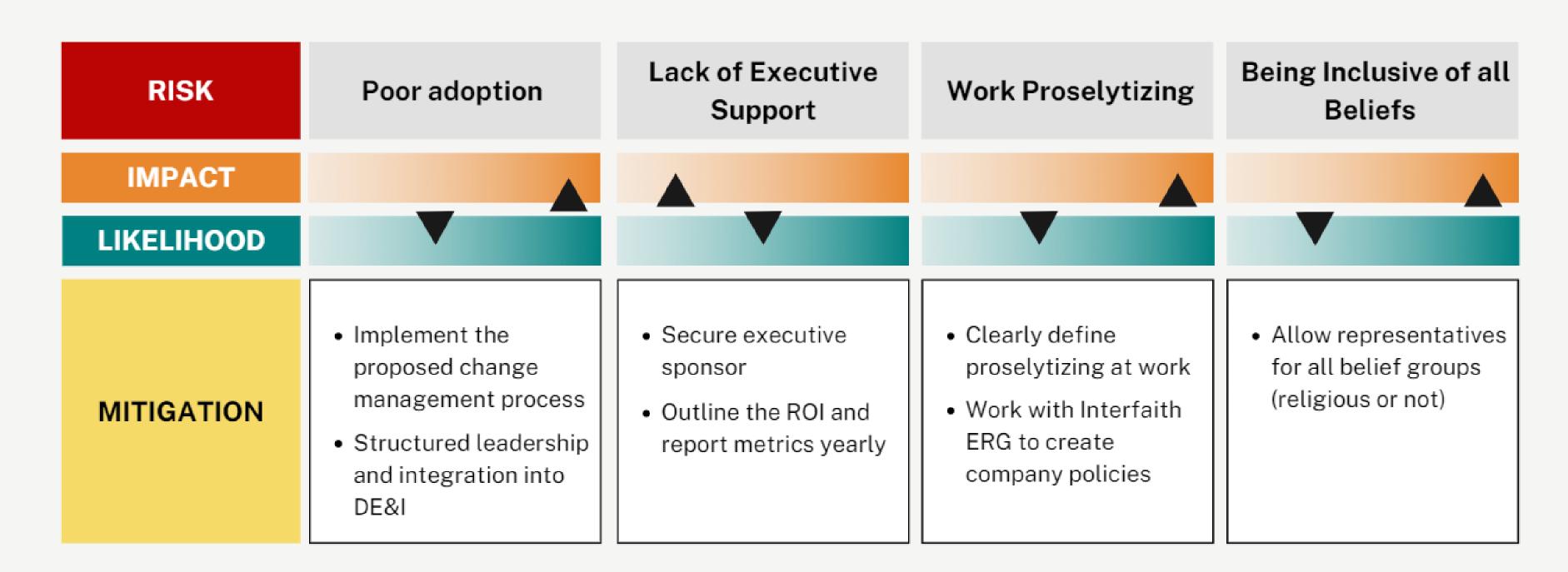


Enrollment, event attendance



**ERG Group Metrics** 

### Risks & Mitigations



#### Timeline & Next Steps

#### **MONTHS 1-2**

Establish Interfaith oversight by Chief DE&I
Officer and create playbook

#### **MONTHS 7-8**

Interfaith Community Outreach event with the inclusion of Senior Level Executives

#### **MONTH 24+**

Establish a standard for faith and belief at work to be used by other organization

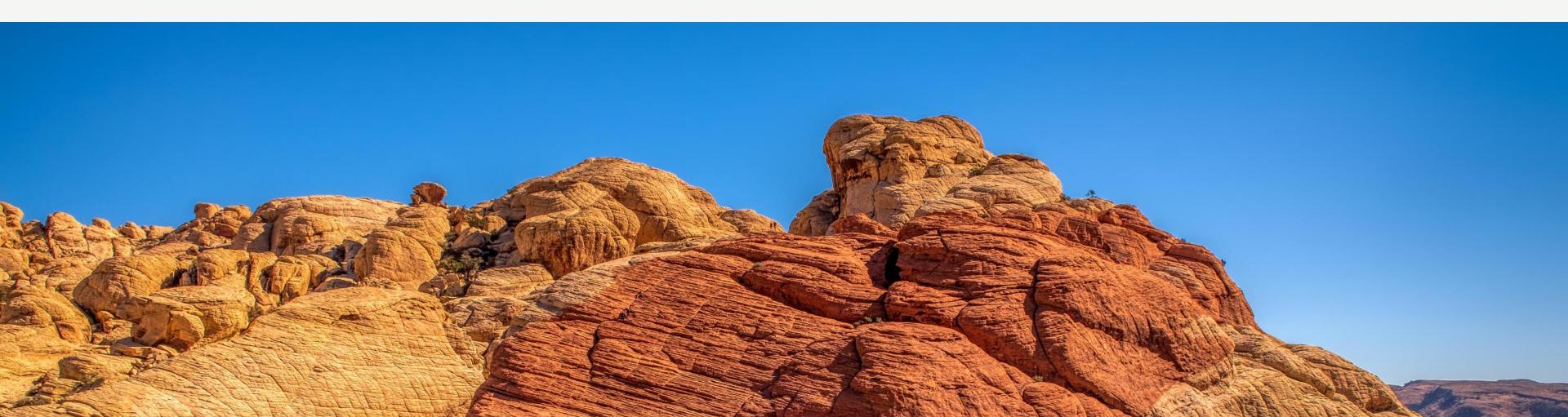


Begin tracking Interfaith participation, unite fragmented groups



Review established metrics to evaluate success of Interfaith ERG

# Faith & Belief at Rock Canyon



### Thank You

## Appendix

#### Team



Maggie Jensen Washington



**Curtis Adams** Utah



**Ben Nzojibwami**Canada



**Eden Peterson**Wisconsin

#### Appendix A-Belonging Research

**Qualtrics:** (https://www.qualtrics.com/blog/belonging-at-work/)

- In a global study of 11,800 participants, belonging emerged as the strongest driver of employee engagement
- Only 20% of employees who lack belonging are engaged at work vs. 91% of those who feel they do belong are engaged
- Research shows that engaged employees: work harder, solve problems, willing to take on new responsibilities, get along better with others, grow and develop faster

Companies with high employee engagement:

- Increased performance companies are more likely to achieve its goals
- Higher productivity belonging leads to 56% increase in job performance
- Greater retention 34% higher intent to stay (average employer spends around \$4000 and 42 days to hire a new worker)

**Gallup:** (https://www.gallup.com/workplace/236366/right-culture-not-employee-satisfaction.aspx)
Increased revenue - engaged teams show 23% difference in profitability, teams who score in the top 20% for engagement have an 81% in absenteeism and 43% less turnover
Better customer experience - engaged workplaces deliver 10% increased customer ratings and 18% increase in sales

### Appendix B-Workplace & Religion Research

Impact of faith and diversity in the workplace

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/job.2626

https://www.greatplacetowork.com/resources/blog/what-are-employee-resource-groups-ergs

https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/jmsr/rmsr20/2015/00000012/0000004/art00004;jsessionid=7i4rp1cq5c3c0.x-ic-live-01

Navigating Religious Beliefs in the Workplace

https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/tools-and-samples/toolkits/pages/accommodating-religion,-belief-and-spirituality-in-the-workplace.aspx

https://phys.org/news/2019-05-role-religion-workplace-behavior.html https://gbr.pepperdine.edu/2017/12/religious-beliefs-influence-financial-decision-making/

DEI Definitions (Gateway to Learning at The Ohio State University)

https://gatewaytolearning.osu.edu/diversity-and-

inclusion/#:~:text=Ohio%20State%20values%20diversity%20in,sexual%20orientation%2C%20and%20gender%20identity

#### Appendix C-ERG Research

Establishing a Successful Faith-Based ERG

religiousfreedomandbusiness.org/2/post/2022/08/establishing-a-successful-faith-based-erg.html

Best Practices for ERGs

https://teambuilding.com/blog/employee-resource-

groups#:~:text=ERGs%20are%20most%20beneficial%20to%20employees,structure%2C%20and%20goals%20give%20groups%20structure.&text=ERGs%20are%20most%20beneficial,goals%20give%20groups%20structure.&text=most%20beneficial%20to%20employees,structure%2C%20and%20goals%20give 30give 30gi

Best Practices for ERGS

https://nextpivotpoint.com/7-best-practices-for-successful-employee-resource-groups-ergs/https://www.affirmity.com/blog/7-best-practices-maximize-value-employee-resource-groups-ergs/#:~:text=7%20Best%20Practices%20for%20a%20Successful%20ERG%20Program,7%207.%20Align%20ERGs%20on%20Business%20Initiatives%20

### Appendix D-Survey Data on Internal Diversity

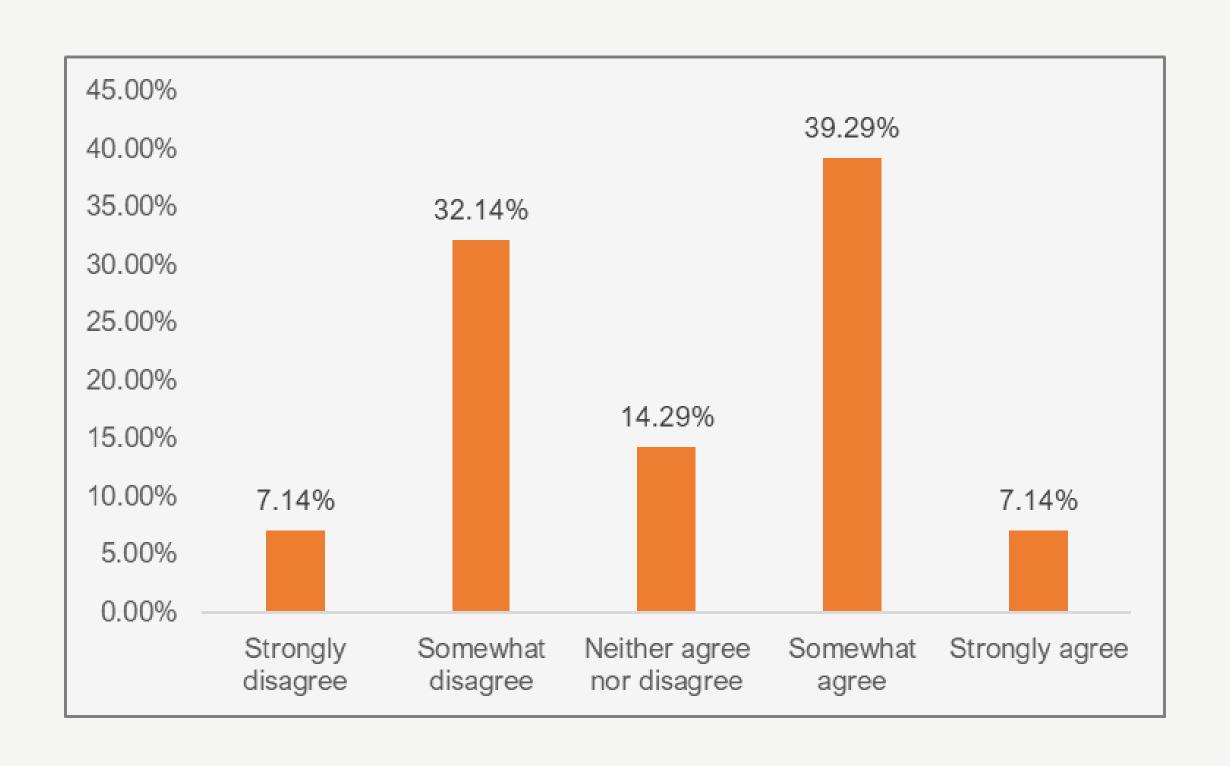
Gallup: (https://news.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/405656/adults-split-companies-taking-political-social-stances.aspx)

- Americans are divided about whether businesses should take a public stance on political and social issues, with 48% believing they should and 52% saying they should not.
- Younger adults are more likely than older adults to believe businesses should take a stance: 59% of those aged 18 to 29 think as much, compared with 51% of those aged 30 to 44, 41% of those aged 45 to 59, and 43% of those aged 60 and older.

Pew Research Center: (https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2015/11/03/u-s-public-becoming-less-religious/)

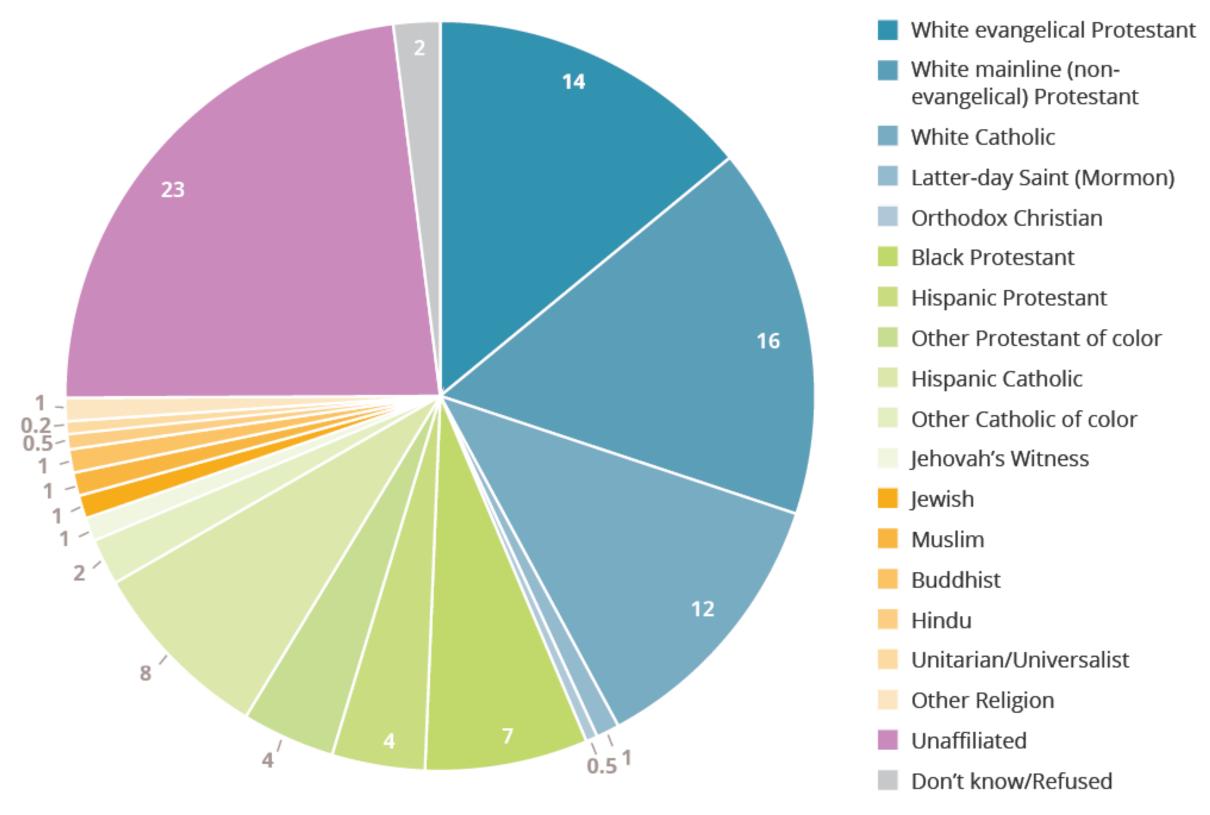
• In a national study of 35,000 participants, 77% of American adults described themselves as religiously affiliated.

## Percentage of People Who Feel Comfortable discussing their Faith At Work



### Appendix E

FIGURE 1. The American Religious Landscape in 2020 Percent who identify as:



Source: PRRI 2020 American Values Atlas.

#### Appendix G

They find that there are fewer observed financial reporting irregularities for firms headquartered in strongly religious counties: there are fewer shareholder lawsuits and fewer earnings restatements. Whilst such firms are found to use fewer abnormal accruals, a proxy for potential earnings management, they are associated with high levels of "real earnings management" (i.e. managing earnings by deviating from the firm's regular operating, investing, and financing practices). Interestingly, they conclude that "religious social norms represent a mechanism for reducing costly agency conflicts, particularly when other external monitoring is low." In other words, they suggest that when there is concern that managers might not always make decisions in the best interests of shareholders, religious social norms may act as an alternative to costly and intrusive oversight.

#### Appendix H

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Salary at a typical large consulting firm: 175K
Cost of a sick day (249 workdays): $703/day
# of Employees: 612K
# of Employees associated with religion @ 49%: 299,880
# of Employees @ 8.5%: 25,490
```