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Russians Unfazed by Nudists But Outraged by Transsexuals, Poll Shows

By The Moscow Times

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Most Russians could not care less about nudists.

While a majority of Russians feel a sense of outrage toward transsexuals, most could not care less about nudists, a ccording to a recent poll.

Independent research group Levada Center published the results of a poll aimed at determining the attitudes held by Russians toward the two “non-traditional groups” on Saturday, though the center's press service told the Moscow Times there had been no specific reason for choosing to focus exclusively on nudists and transsexuals.

The results showed that 36 percent of respondents claimed to harbor indignation toward transsexuals, while 33 percent claimed to feel indifferent toward nudists.

A small portion of respondents said they were sympathetic to both groups, with 4 percent saying they were affable toward nudists and 2 percent saying so about transsexuals. A slightly

larger number expressed a general sentiment of tolerance, with 8 percent saying they were completely tolerant toward nudists and 6 percent of transsexuals.

Those between the ages of 18 and 24 and those with a higher education proved to be more tolerant of both groups, with respondents 55 or older making up the bulk of those who rejected both nudists and transsexuals.

Older Russians also represented the voice of indignation toward transsexuals, with two age groups — 40-54 years of age and 55 years and older — comprising the majority of those who expressed a negative attitude.

Men and women were mostly on the same page in their responses, though more women expressed a sense of outrage toward transsexuals compared to men.

The poll was conducted from May 23-26 among 1,600 people aged 18 and over in 130 cities across 45 regions of the country. The margin of error did not exceed 3.4 percent.

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