## ICEM Spring 2013 Results

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# nfpSynergy 

helping non-profits thrive

## Last time: examining advocacy's image problem and potential

- Using the right language to address it

Lobbying is potentially annoying
Advocacy is potentially ambiguous
Campaigning is potentially both
How do you talk about this area of work, simply and without putting people off?
And ensure advocacy is perceived as part of your cause, not a distraction from it?

- Convince the public you can live up to their expectations

The public thinks highly of charities and want you to lobby
But is thinking that you have no clout putting them off from joining you?
Is there a " $£ 5$ buys 20 mosquito nets" equivalent in campaigning?

- Start picking any 'low hanging fruit'

There is scope for charities to ask the public to campaign more, given their support for charities playing a campaigning role.
Can make use of donor databases to find campaigners, as existing donors are more likely to be interested in taking campaigning action?
It will be important to target types of campaigning at certain groups: older groups are more willing to participate in writing and emailing campaigns.

## This time: How much is too much?

- How happy are the public with spending money on campaigning?
- What effect might taking part in campaigning have on donors?
- Do they recognise it when they see it?
- What are the publics priorities when it comes to protecting rights?


## The public think it is important for charities to lobby government

$\square$ Not at all important $\square$ Not very important $\square$ Not Sure $\quad$ Somewhat important $\square$ Very important


"How important is it to you that the charity you support campaigns publicly and lobbies government for better social outcomes?"

## Many recognize it as part of your "cause"



## Bust must be balanced

Charities or nonprofit groups spend too much time lobbying and not enough directly helping people


Which of the following are true or false?

# Donors would like to see the majority of a donation being spent on service provision 


€
€20
"If you gave $€ 100$ to your favourite charity or non-profit group how would you like them to divide the money between the following activities"

## Donating to change the law by demographic


"If you gave $€ 100$ to your favourite charity or non-profit group how would you like them to divide the money between the following activities"

## Donating to change the law by charities supported


"If you gave $€ 100$ to your favourite charity or non-profit group how would you like them to divide the money between the following activities"

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## Very few are put off from donating by campaigning activity


"If charity or non-profit group that you gave money to asked you to participate in a campaigning activity such as signing a petition, which of the following statements do you think would match you the most closely:"

## Increasing donations by supporters


"If charity or non-profit group that you gave money to asked you to participate in a campaigning activity such as signing a petition, which of the following statements do you think would match you the most closely:'

## This time: How much is too much?

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# Public find it difficult to distinguish between awareness raising and campaigning 


"Looking at each of these billboards, what do you think its main purpose is?"

## Supporters aren't much better


"Looking at each of these billboards, what do you think its main purpose is?"

## This time: How much is too much?

- How happy are the public with spending money on campaigning?
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- What are the publics priorities when it comes to protecting rights?


## The public believe too much is done to protect asylum seekers and refugees, religious groups and migrants


"Please indicate whether you think Ireland does too much, too little, or just enough to protect the rights of the following groups"

## Most people think that too little is done to help those with mental health problems


"Please indicate whether you think Ireland does too much, too little, or just enough to protect the rights of the following groups"

## Balance of priorities compared to UK


"Please indicate whether you think Ireland does too much, too little, or just enough to protect the rights of the following groups"

## Participating in campaigning often follows the same ranking in the UK...


"Have you taken any campaigning actions in the last year on behalf of charities working in the following areas?"

## Attitudes to immigration across Europe

$100 \%$



Islamic textbook in Finnish schools

## Attitudes to homosexuality internationally




TechNet Blogs > The Official Microsoft Blog - News and Perspectives from Microsoft >Marriage Equality in Washington State Would Be Good for Business

Marriage Equality in Washington State Would Be Good for Business

"This important legislation is aligned with
Starbucks
business practices and upholds our
belief in the equal treatment of partners. It is core to who we are and what we value as a company... We look forward to seeing this legislation enacted into law".
"Gay men and lesbians should be free to live their own life as they wish" | \% who agree or strongly agree

## Public concerns by sector - summary table

| Sector | Issue of greatest <br> Concern | \% "Extremely <br> Concerned" |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Children and Young People | Youth Suicide | $55 \%$ |
| Homelessness and Social Welfare | Cost of energy and budgeting for <br> fuel consumption | $41 \%$ |
| Health or Disability/Sensory <br> Impairment | Support services for terminal <br> illness | $37 \%$ |
| Charities | How your donation is spent | $36 \%$ |
| Overseas Aid and Development | Not enough accountability for <br> money spent overseas | $35 \%$ |

## Public concerns

## Children and Young People

■ Extremely concerned

- Very concerned



## Public concerns

## Overseas Aid and Development

■ Extremely concerned
35\%
$35 \% \quad 25 \%$
$35 \% \quad 24 \%$
$30 \% \quad 25 \%$
$27 \% \quad 26 \%$ in poor countries to help those countries lift themselves out of poverty

Inequality of wealth distribution
Lack of access to education
 impact of changing weather patterns on food production in developing

Emergencies overseas (e.g. famines, floods, earthquakes etc.


Ongoing cuts by the Government to the Overseas Aid budget
"Thinking about the following issues related to $\qquad$ , please state how concerned you are about them."

## Public concerns

## Homelessness and Social Welfare

■ Extremely concerned

41\%
fuel consumption

"Thinking about the following issues related to $\qquad$ , please state how concerned you are about them."

## Public concerns

## Health or Disability/Sensory Impairment

■ Extremely concerned

"Thinking about the following issues related to ___ , please state how concerned you are about them."

## Conclusions

- The public think it is ok to spend money on campaigning about 10\%
- Stark differences exist between rights that the public think are being adequately protected
- Some charities are likely to have a head start

。 Others look to be positively disadvantaged

- Target carefully - including your supporters
- With issues that resonate and avoid the risk of alienating
- Test language carefully


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