

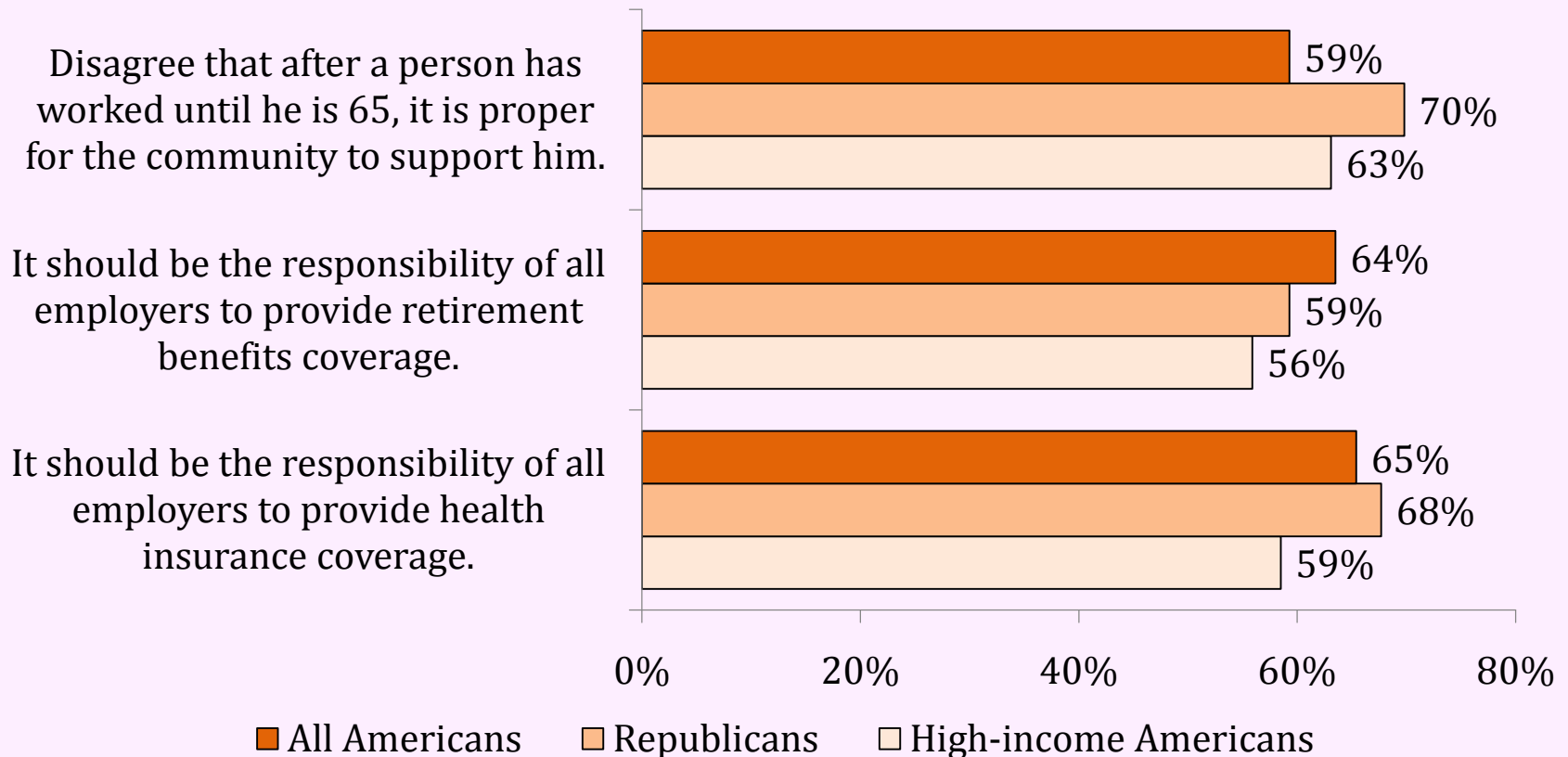
THE SOCIAL PROTECTION STATE

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Social Protection State

- Wide Public Assumption of Organized Social Protections Against Threats to Opportunity and Basic Economic Security
- Unstated Bi-partisan Support evident during Bush presidency by
 - Passage of largest expansion of Medicare in 4 decades
 - Expansion of Department of Education

Neither Individualism nor Collectivism: Community and Business Roles



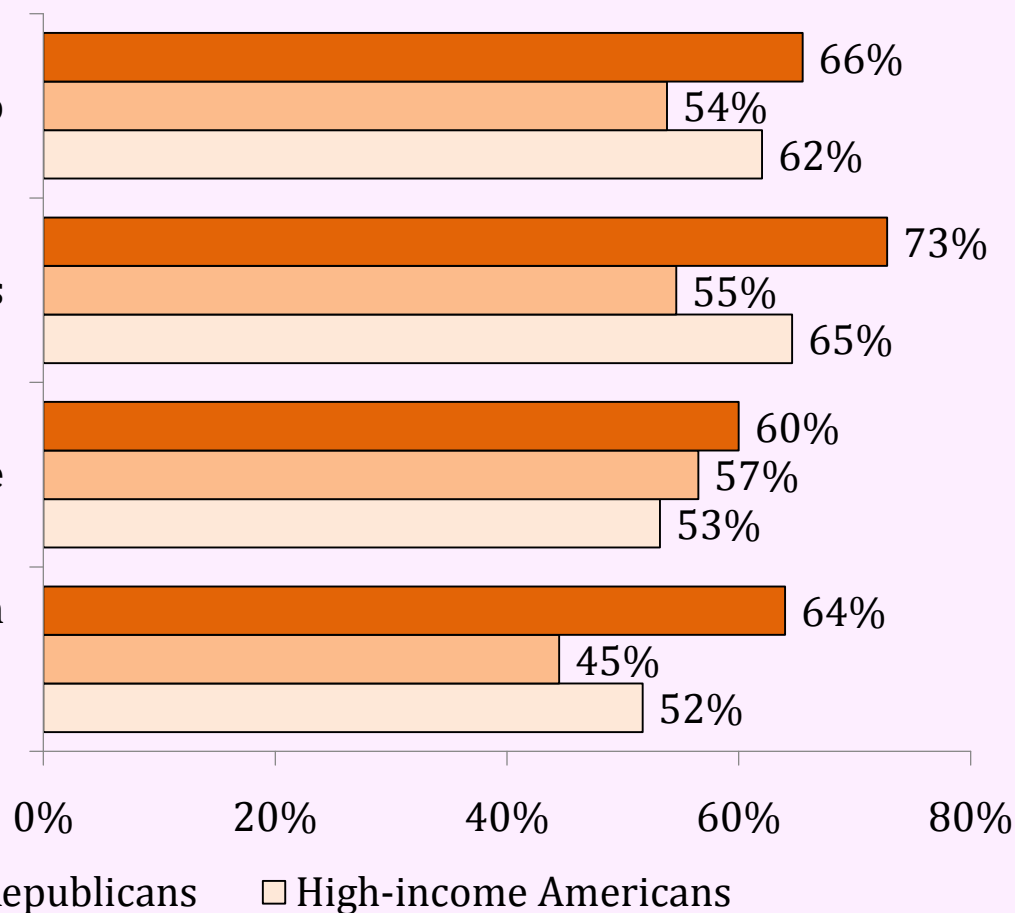
Support for Concrete Government Protections

The Social Security system should ensure a minimum standard of living to all contributors.

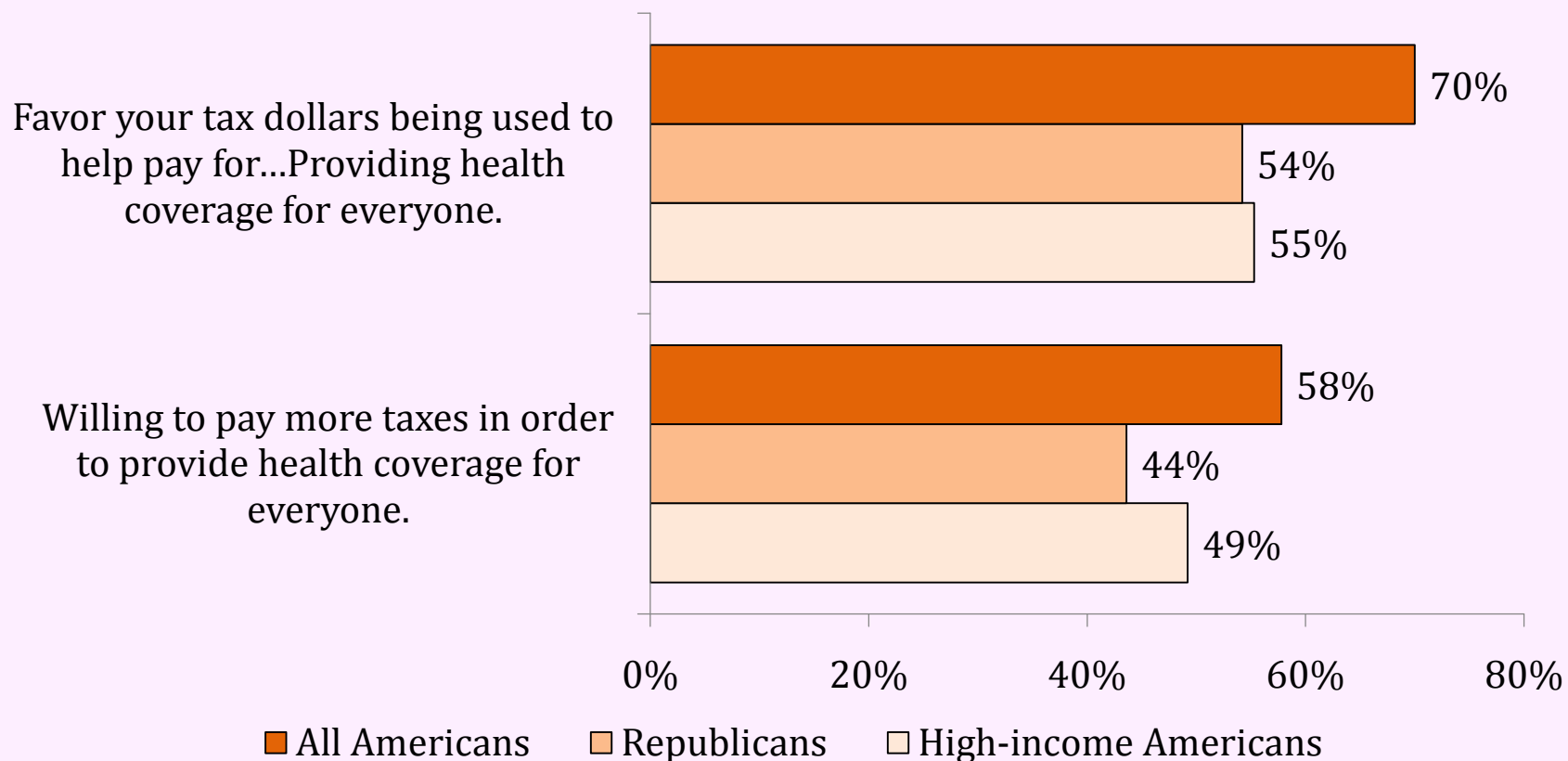
It is the responsibility of the federal government to make sure all Americans have health care coverage.

Favor expanding Medicare to cover people under age 65 who do not have health insurance.

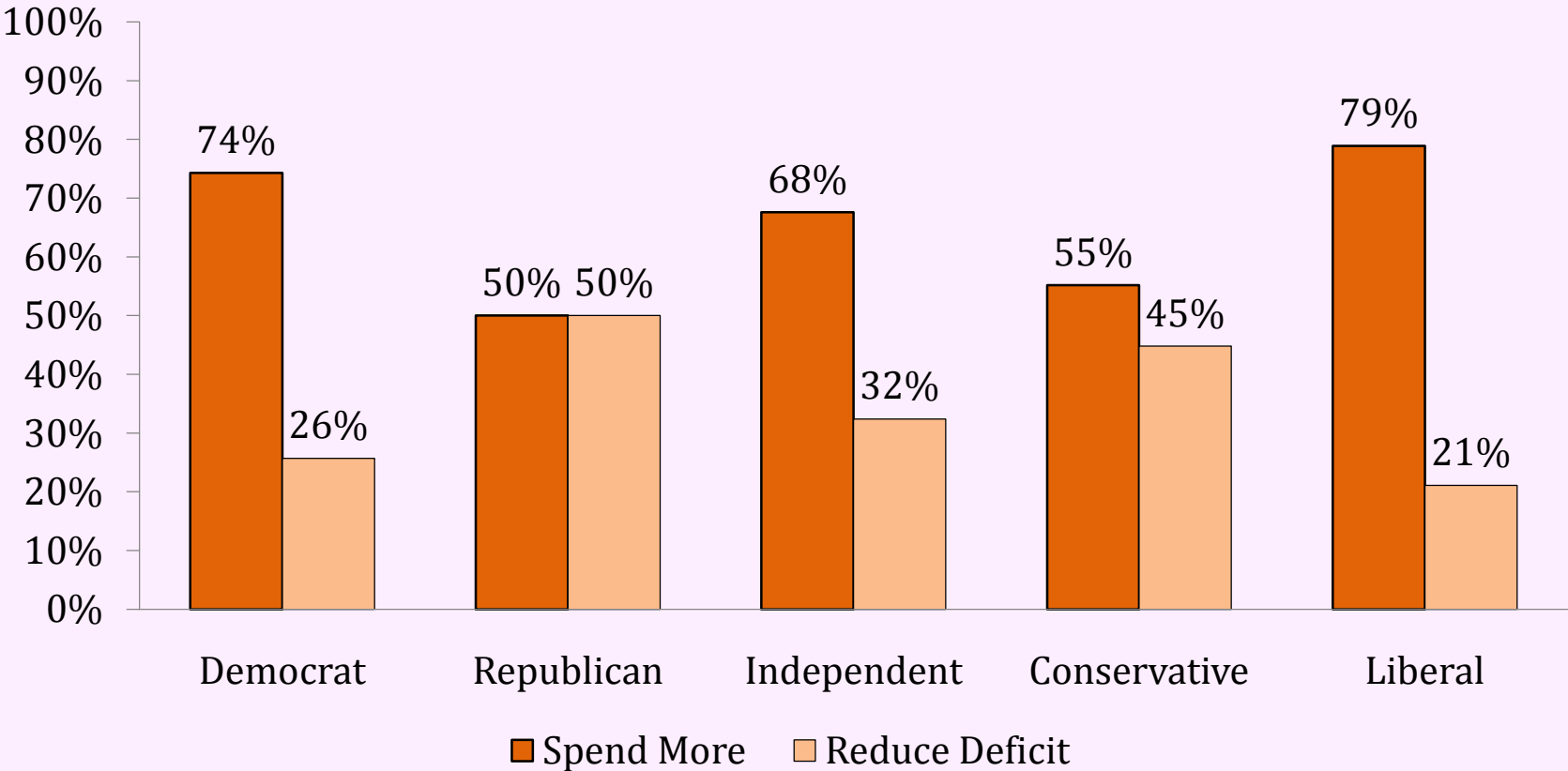
Favor national health insurance, which would be financed by tax money, paying for most forms of health care.



Agree to Taxes for Concrete Government Protections

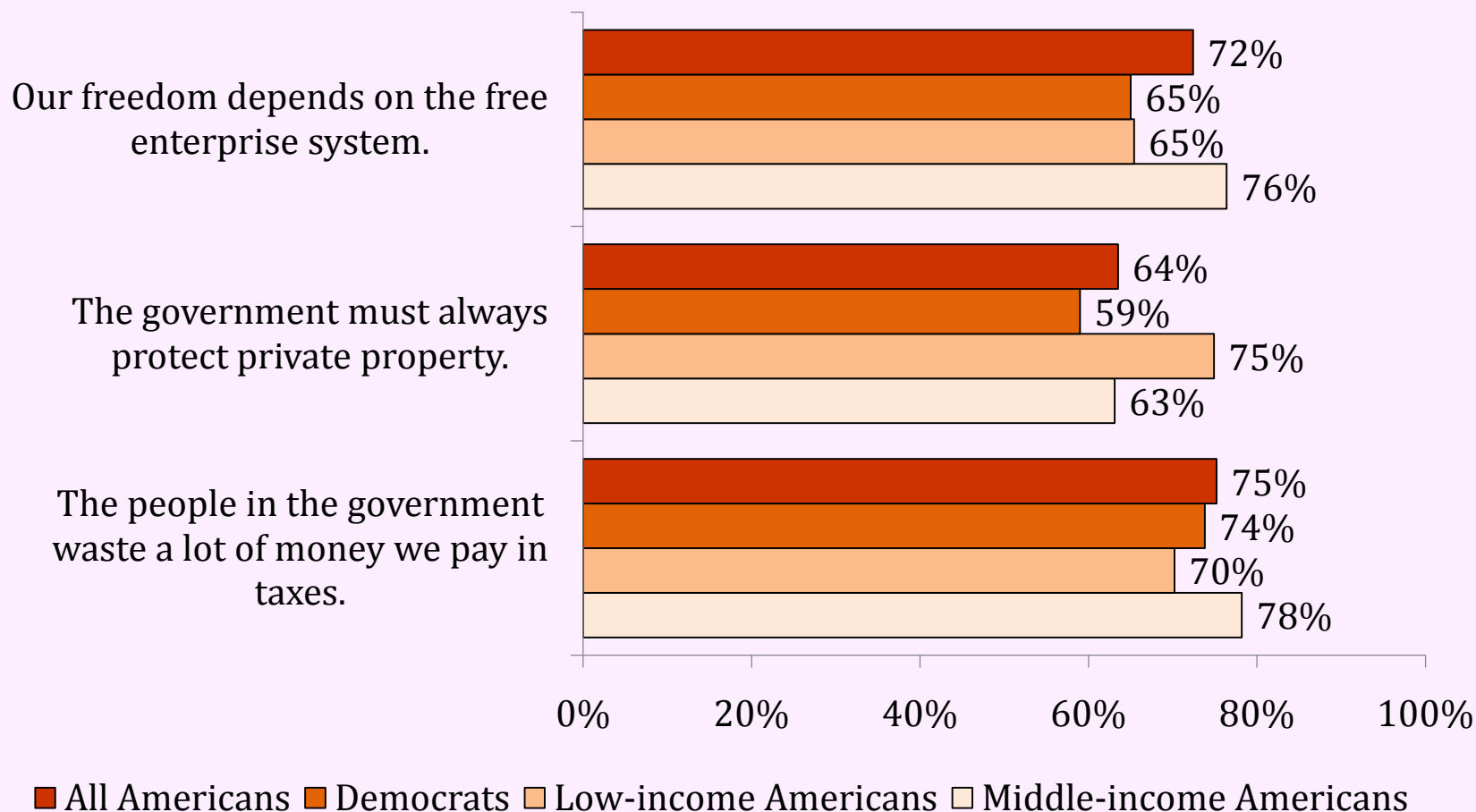


Americans Prioritize Programs over Deficit Reduction



Source: Pew Research Center, April 2009. Question wording: "If you were setting priorities these days, would you place a higher priority on spending more to improve the education system or reducing the budget deficit?"

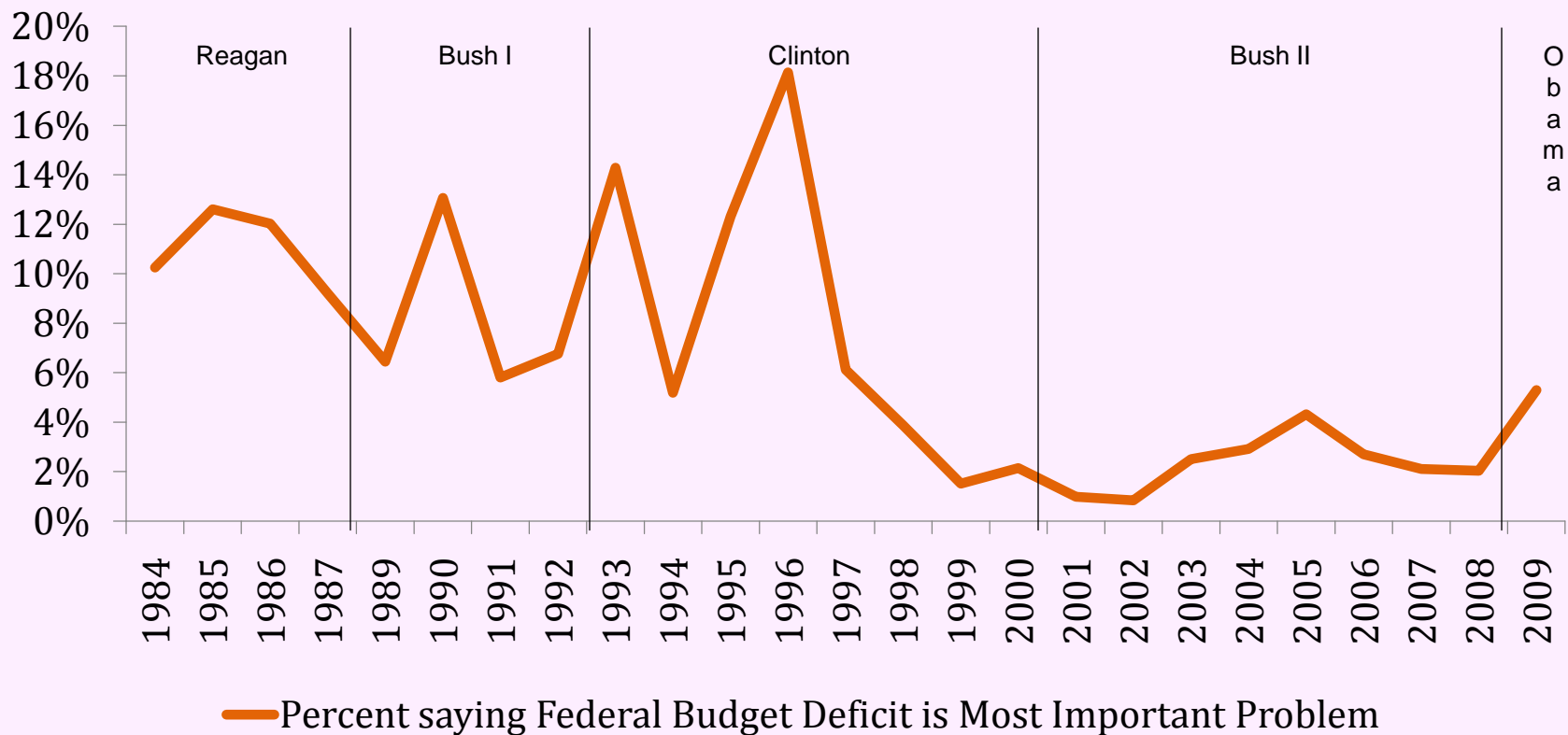
The Social Insurance Culture War: Philosophical Conservatism



Source: Inequality Survey, July 2007

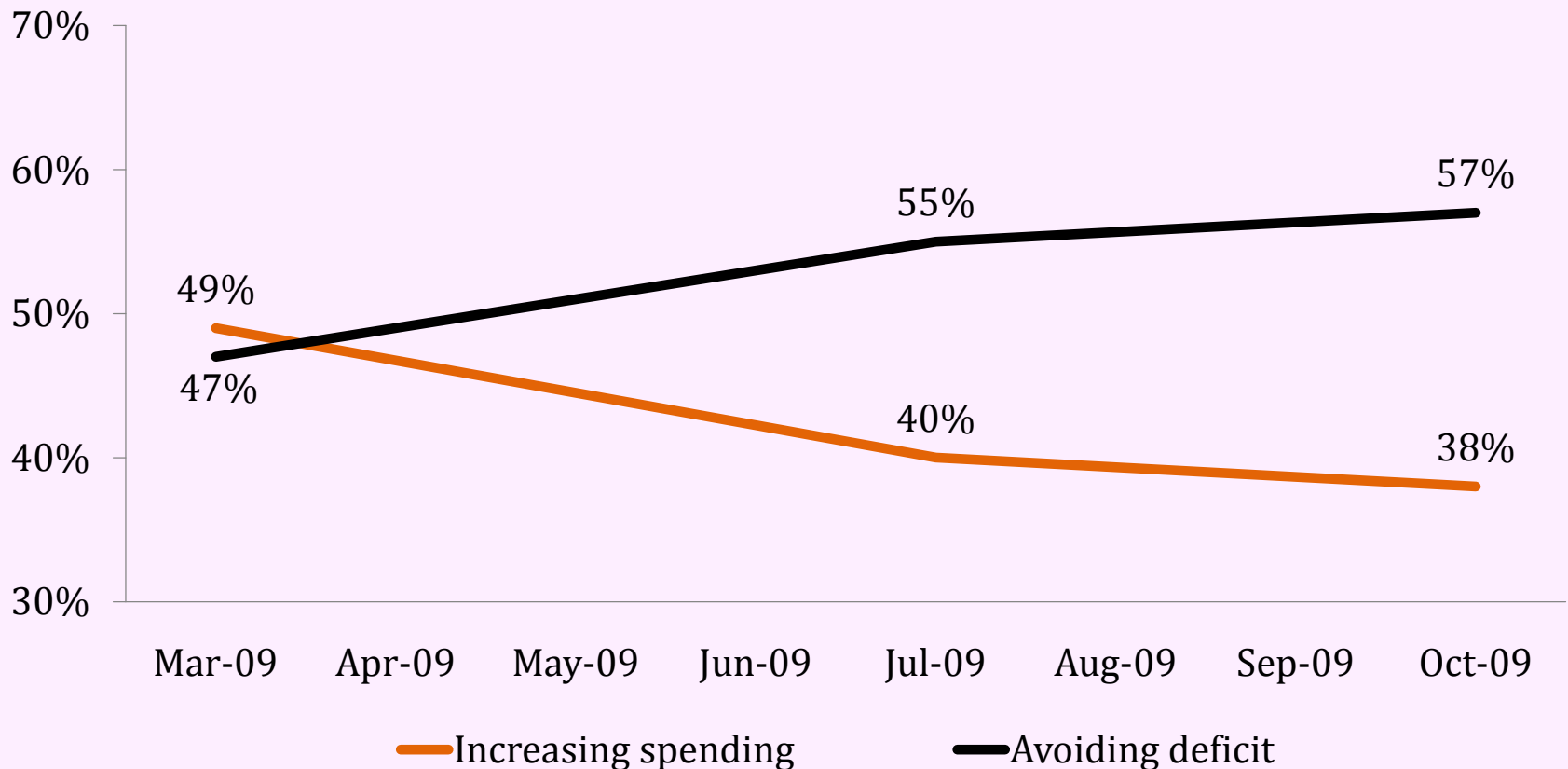
The Fiscal Trigger and the Presumption of Government Mismanagement

- Public Concern About Federal Budget Deficit (annual average)



Source: Gallup. Question wording: "What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?"

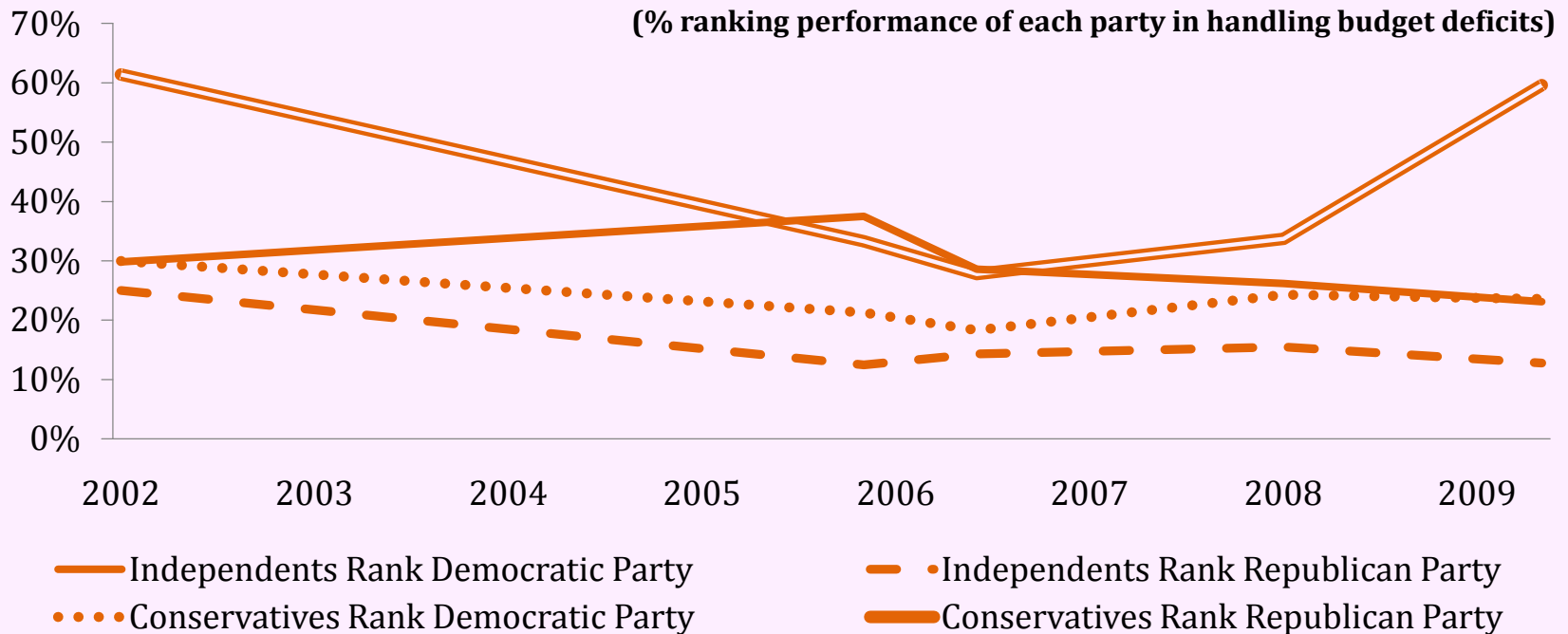
Voila – the Massachusetts Massacre



Source: ABC News/Washington Post Poll; Question wording: “Which of these do you think is more important right now--increasing federal spending to try to improve the economy, even if it sharply increases the federal budget deficit, or avoiding a big increase in the federal budget deficit, even if it means not increasing federal spending to try to improve the economy?”

Keys for the future America's Social Protection State

- The Battle of America's Two Cultures – Operational Liberalism & Philosophical Conservatism
- Mitigating Presumption of Government Mismanagement



2002, 2009 = Gallup/CNN/USA Today Poll ; “(Do you think the Republican Party or the Democratic Party would do a better job of dealing with each of the following issues and problems?) How about...the federal budget deficit?”; 2005, 2006, 2008 = NBC News/Wall Street Journal Poll; “When it comes to...reducing the federal deficit, which party do you think would do a better job--the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, both about the same, or neither?”