

Richard W. Murray, Ph.D.

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Richard Murray is a native of Louisiana with B.A. and M.A. degrees in Government from Louisiana State University (1962, 1963) and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Minnesota (1967). Dr. Murray has taught at the University of Houston since 1966, and is the Bob Lanier Chair in Urban Public Policy. After serving as the Director of the University of Houston Center for Public Policy for over nine years, he is now concentrating on the Center's polling operations as the Director of the Survey Research Institute.

His academic interests are in Houston and Texas politics, focusing on campaigns and elections, political parties and interest groups, and public opinion. Professor Murray has written extensively in these areas including co-authoring *Texas Politics: An Introduction* (6 Editions, 1972-1992), and *Progrowth Politics: Change and Governance in Houston* (1991), while teaching courses ranging from graduate seminars to introductory American Government.

Professor Murray has previously consulted in more than 200 political campaigns. He conducts polls for *The Houston Chronicle*, other media, and local governments, and is the political commentator for the local ABC affiliate, KTRK-TV, Channel 13. In addition, his analyses and commentary are carried by television and radio, as well as print media such as *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *L.A. Times*, and *The Houston Chronicle*.

Professor Murray is married to Deborah Hartman, public relations consultant, and has three sons and one grandson.