

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

24 October, 2012

Majority of public believe John Terry racially abused Anton Ferdinand, and nearly two-thirds say football has a racism problem

A majority (57%) of the British public think that John Terry racially abused Anton Ferdinand, and nearly two-thirds (65%) believe there is a racism problem in football, according to a YouGov poll.

Less than one in five (18%) people believe that the former England Captain did not racially abuse Anton Ferdinand, whilst a plurality (42%) of Britons say that John Terry's punishment – consisting of a £220,000 fine and a four match ban – was not harsh enough. Of those who believe football has a problem with racism, a majority believe that the FA (51%), UEFA (73%) and FIFA (73%) are not doing enough to tackle the problem.

Football fans

Three quarters (73%) of those who say they are interested in football believe that John Terry racially abused QPR defender Anton Ferdinand, with a majority (53%) saying that his punishment should have been more severe.

- 73% of football fans believe John Terry is guilty of racial abuse, compared with only 18% who reject this claim and 9% who say they don't know
- Over half (53%) of those interested in football think that John Terry's punishment was not harsh enough, while 16% say it was too harsh
- A quarter (25%) of football fans believe the punishment from the FA was about right

Racism in football

The poll also reveals that nearly two-thirds (65%) of the British public think that there is a problem of racism in football. Nearly three quarters (72%) of football fans agree with this view.

- 65% of Britons believe racism in football is a problem, compared with only one in five (19%) who think it is not and 16% who don't know
- 72% of those interested in football believe racism is a problem in the sport, while a quarter (24%) do not accept this view and 4% are uncertain

- ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

Total sample size was 1,637 aged 18+. Fieldwork was undertaken 22nd-23rd October, 2012. The survey was carried out online. All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc.

Enquiries:

Harris MacLeod, PR Executive

T: +44(0) 758 530 0676

E: harris.macleod@yougov.com

About YouGov

YouGov is an international, full service market research agency offering added value consultancy, qualitative research, field and tab services, syndicated products such as the daily brand perception tracker BrandIndex and social media analysis tool SoMA, fast turnaround omnibus and comprehensive SixthSense market intelligence reports. YouGov's sector specialist teams serve financial, media, technology and telecoms, FMCG and public sector markets.

YouGov is considered a pioneer of online market research and has a panel of 2.5 million people worldwide, including over 350,000 people in the UK representing all ages, socio-economic groups and other demographic types.

As the most quoted market research agency in the UK, YouGov has a well-documented and published track record illustrating the accuracy of its survey methods.

For further information visit yougov.co.uk