From 2008 to 2011, the UK saw a 47% increase in litigation costs. The U.S. has the highest liability costs as a percentage of GDP of the countries surveyed, with liability costs at 2.6 times the average level of the Eurozone economies.

**UK Consumer Views on Lawsuits**

Key Highlights from a 2013 National Survey of UK Consumers*

### UK Consumers Reluctant to Follow U.S. Model

- British consumers are less inclined to follow the US model when told...
  - Lawyers receive half of the money awarded in lawsuit.
  - Frivolous lawsuits mean people with serious injuries wait longer for compensation.

- Lawsuits cost small businesses billions of dollars each year.
  - More Inclined: 18%
  - No Difference: 18%
  - Less Inclined: 61%

### Unacceptable Third Party Financing

By large margins, British consumers continue to say that third party financing of lawsuits is not acceptable.

- More Inclined: 9%
- No Difference: 16%
- Less Inclined: 72%

### British Consumers Want to Avoid U.S. Legal System Model

By a three-and-a-half to one margin, British consumers want to avoid a U.S. legal system model.

- 57% Believe that the US system has more problems and the UK should NOT make changes to be more like it.
- 16% Believe that the US system has more advantages and the UK SHOULD make changes to be more like it.

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* Ipsos-MORI, Public Opinion Strategies and Penn Schoen Berland, May 3-5, 2013. Survey of 1,036 adults (18+) throughout the United Kingdom. The margin of error is ± 3.1%. To view a complete set of the data, please visit: www.slideshare.net/instituteforlegalreform/london-deck-final-14052013.

www.instituteforlegalreform.com
U.S. Consumer Views on Lawsuits

Key Highlights from a 2013 National Survey of U.S. Consumers

**LAWSUIT ABUSE INCREASES**

Consumers say there has been increased abuse of the legal system in the last decade.

- **69%** Abuse has increased
- **25%** Abuse has stayed about the same
- **2%** Abuse has decreased

**PROFITS FOR LAWYERS**

More than three-fourths of consumers say lawyers benefit more than the people on whose behalf class action lawsuits are filed.

- **14%** Plaintiffs benefit
- **76%** Lawyers benefit

**CONSUMERS VIEW LAWSUITS AS A SERIOUS PROBLEM**

- **87%** Serious problem
- **11%** Not serious problem

**WHO BENEFITS FROM CLASS ACTIONS?**

- **60%** of consumers acknowledge that they have been included in a class action lawsuit.
- **14%** report receiving something of meaningful value as a result.

**NO TO THIRD PARTY FINANCING**

By large margins, consumers think that third party financing of lawsuits is not acceptable.

- **19%** Acceptable
- **71%** Not acceptable

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