

ISSP 1998 – Religion II

Basic Questionnaire

1998 Religion Questionnaire • Final

June, 1997

1. If you were to consider your life in general these days, how happy or unhappy would you say you are, on the whole...

HAPUNHAP

Very happy.....1
Fairly happy.....2
Not very happy...3
Not at all happy...4
Can't choose.....8

-
2. On the whole, do you think it should or should not be the government's responsibility to...

1. Definitely should be
2. Probably should be
3. Probably should not be
4. Definitely should not be
8. Can't choose

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

JOBSALL

a. Provide a job for everyone
who wants one.....1 2 3 4 8

EQUALIZE

b. Reduce income differences
between the rich and poor.....1 2 3 4 8

<"PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER" is American style. British style is usually something like "Please tick one box only." Countries may use a suitable equivalent style for these instructions and headings.>

-
3. Do you think it is wrong or not wrong if a man and a woman have sexual relations before marriage?

PREMARS1

Always wrong.....1
Almost always wrong.....2
Wrong only sometimes.....3
Not wrong at all.....4
Can't choose.....8

4. What about a married person having sexual relations with someone other than his or her husband or wife, is it...

XMARSEX1

Always wrong.....1
 Almost always wrong.....2
 Wrong only sometimes.....3
 Not wrong at all.....4
 Can't choose.....8

5. And what about sexual relations between two adults of the same sex, is it...

HOMOSEX1

Always wrong.....1
 Almost always wrong.....2
 Wrong only sometimes.....3
 Not wrong at all.....4
 Can't choose.....8

6. Do you personally think it is wrong or not wrong for a woman to have an abortion . . .

| | Always Wrong | Almost Always Wrong | Wrong Only Sometimes | Not Wrong at All | Can't Choose |
|--|-----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| ABDEFCTW | | | | | |
| a. If there is a strong chance of serious defect in the baby1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| ABPOORW | | | | | |
| b. If the family has a very low income and cannot afford any more children1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |

7. Do you agree or disagree...

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Dis- agree | Strongly Disagree | Can't Choose |
|---|-------------------|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| HUBBYWRK | | | | | | |
| a. A husband's job is to earn money; a wife's job is to look after the home and family1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 8 |

FAMSUFFR

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| b. All in all, family life suffers when the woman has a full-time job.....1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

8. Do you agree or disagree...

| | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|
| | Strongly Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Can't Choose |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------|

ISSP94

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| a. It is alright for a couple to live together without intending to get married....1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|

ISSP94

| | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| b. It's a good idea for a couple who intend to get married to live together first....1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|

9. Consider the situations listed below. Do you feel it is wrong or not wrong if...

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| | Not Wrong | A Bit Wrong | Wrong | Seriously Wrong | Can't Choose |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------|-----------------|--------------|

TAXCHEAT

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| a. A taxpayer does not report all of [his/her] income in order to pay less income taxes.....1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

GOVCHEAT

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| b. A person gives the government incorrect information about [himself/herself] to get government benefits that [he/she] is not entitled to.....1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
|--|---|---|---|---|

10. How often do you think that people would try to take advantage of you if they got the chance and how often would they try to be fair?

NEW

| | |
|--|---|
| Try to take advantage almost all of the time | 1 |
| Try to take advantage most of the time | 2 |
| Try to be fair most of the time | 3 |
| Try to be fair almost all of the time | 4 |
| Can't choose | 8 |

11. Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

NEW

| | |
|---|---|
| People can almost always be trusted | 1 |
| People can usually be trusted | 2 |
| You usually can't be too careful in dealing with people | 3 |
| You almost always can't be too careful in dealing with people | 4 |
| Can't choose | 8 |

12. How much confidence do you have in . . .

1. Complete confidence
2. A great deal of confidence
3. Some confidence
4. Very little confidence
5. No confidence at all
8. Can't choose

| | | <u>PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER</u> | | | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| CONCONG | a. [Parliament]..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | | <use national legislature, e.g. U.S. Congress> | | | | | |
| CONBIZ | b. Business and industry..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| CONCHURH | c. Churches and religious organizations..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| CONCOURT | d. Courts and the legal system..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| CONSCHLS | e. Schools and the educational system | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

13. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following...

- Strongly agree 1
- Agree 2
- Neither agree nor disagree ... 3
- Disagree 4
- Strongly disagree 5
- Can't choose 8

| | | <u>PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER</u> | | | | | |
|-----------|---|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| CLERGVOTE | a. Religious leaders should not try to influence how people vote in elections.... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| CLERGGOV | b. Religious leaders should not try to influence government decisions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

14. Please consider the following statements and tell me whether you agree or disagree...

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Dis- agree | Strongly Disagree | Can't Choose |
|---|-------------------|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| NEW | | | | | | |
| a. Overall, modern science does more harm than good.....1 | | 2 | | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| NEW | | | | | | |
| b. We trust too much in science and not enough in religious faith.....1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

15. And do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither Agree nor Disagree | Dis- agree | Strongly Disagree | Can't Choose |
|---|-------------------|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| NEW | | | | | | |
| a. Looking around the world, religions bring more conflict than peace.....1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| NEW | | | | | | |
| b. People with very strong religious beliefs are often too intolerant of others.....1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| NEW | | | | | | |
| c. [Britain] would be a better country if religion had less influence.....1 | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

16. Have you done any voluntary activity in the past 12 months in any of the following areas? Voluntary activity is unpaid work, not just belonging to an organization or group. It should be of service or benefit to other people or the community and not only to one's family or personal friends.

During the last 12 months did you do volunteer work in any of the following areas:

| NEW | No | Yes, Once or Twice | Yes, 3-5 Times | Yes, 6 or More Times |
|---|----|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Political activities (helping political parties, political movements, election campaigns, etc.) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| b. Charitable activities (helping the sick, elderly, poor, etc.) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| c. Religious and church- related activities (helping churches and religious groups) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| d. Any other kind of voluntary activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

If the same voluntary activity falls under two or more of the categories listed above, please report it only once under whichever relevant category appears first. For example, if you were involved in political campaigning for candidate endorsed **by** a church or religious group, you would report it under **a. Political activities** not under **c. Religious and church-related activities**.

17. Do you think that churches and religious organizations in this country have too much power or too little power?

CHURHPOW

Far too much power.....1
Too much power.....2
About the right amount of power...3
Too little power.....4
Far too little power.....5
Can't choose.....8

18. Please indicate which statement below comes closest to expressing what you believe about God.

GODSURE

I don't believe in God.....1

I don't know whether there is a God and
I don't believe there is any way
to find out..... 2

I don't believe in a personal God, but
I do believe in a Higher Power of
some kind..... 3

I find myself believing in God some of
the time, but not at others.....4

While I have doubts, I feel that I do
believe in God.....5

I know God really exists and I have no
doubts about it.....6

19. Which best describes your beliefs about God?

GODCHNGE

- I don't believe in God now and I never have1
- I don't believe in God now, but I used to 2
- I believe in God now, but I didn't used to 3
- I believe in God now and I always have 4
- Can't choose 8

20. Do you believe in . . .

| | Yes, Definitely | Yes, Probably | No, Probably Not | No, Definitely Not | Can't Choose |
|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| AFTERLIF | | | | | |
| a. Life after death | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| HEAVEN | | | | | |
| b. Heaven | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| HELL | | | | | |
| MIRACLES | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| d. Religious miracles | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |

21. Which of these statements comes closest to describing you feelings about the Bible?

BIBLE1

- a. The Bible is the actual word of God and it is to be taken literally, word for word 1
- b. The Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything should be taken literally, word for word 2
- c. The Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by man 3
- d. This does not apply to me 4
- e. Can't choose 8

22. Do you agree or disagree with the following...

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly disagree
8. Can't choose

PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER

THEISM

a. There is a God who concerns Himself with every human being personally.....1 2 3 4 5 8

FATALISM

b. There is little that people can do to change the course of their lives.....1 2 3 4 5 8

GODMEANNG

c. To me, life is meaningful only because God **exists**.....1 2 3 4 5 8

NIHILISM

d. In my opinion, life does not serve any purpose.....1 2 3 4 5 8

EGOMEANNG

e. Life is only meaningful if you provide the meaning yourself.....1 2 3 4 5 8

OWNFATE

f. We each make our own fate.....1 2 3 4 5 8

23. Has there ever been a turning point in your life when you made a new and personal commitment to religion?

RELEXP

Yes.....1
No.....2

24. What was your mother's religious preference when you were a child? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?

MARELKID

Protestant.....1
Catholic.....2
Jewish.....3
Orthodox (such as Greek
or Russian Orthodox)...4
Moslem.....5
Other (Please Specify) 6

No religion.....7
Don't know.....8

If Protestant:

MADENKID

What specific denomination was that?

<List in Qs. 24-26 may be modified to include all major religions in each country.>

25. What was your father's religious preference when you were a child? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?

PARELKID

Protestant.....1
Catholic.....2
Jewish.....3
Orthodox (such as Greek
or Russian Orthodox)...4
Moslem.....5
Other (Please Specify) 6

No religion.....7
Don't know.....8

If Protestant:

PADENKID

What specific denomination was that?

26. What religion, if any, were you raised in? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?

RELIGKID

Protestant.....1
Catholic.....2
Jewish.....3
Orthodox (such as Greek
or Russian Orthodox)...4
Moslem.....5
Other (Please Specify) 6
No religion.....7
Don't know.....8

If Protestant:

DENKID

What specific denomination was that?

If you are currently married or living as married, answer Q. 27:
If you are not currently married or living as married,
go to Q. 28:

27. What is your husband/s/wife's religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?

RELIGSP

- Protestant.....1
- Catholic.....2
- Jewish.....3
- Orthodox (such as Greek
or Russian Orthodox)...4
- Moslem.....5
- Other (Please Specify).....6
- No** religion.....7
- Don't know.....8

If Protestant:

DENSP

What specific denomination is that?

28. When you were a child, how often did your mother attend religious services?

ATTENDMA

Never.....1
Less than once a year.....2
About once or twice a year....3
Several times a year.....4
About once a month.....5
2-3 times a month.....6
Nearly every week.....7
Every week.....8
Several times a week.....9
No mother/mother not present..10
Can't say/Can't remember.....98

29. When you were a child, how often did your father attend religious services?

ATTENDPA

Never.....1
Less than once a year.....2
About once or twice a year....3
Several times a year.....4
About once a month.....5
2-3 times a month.....6
Nearly every week.....7
Every week.....8
Several times a week.....9
No father/father not present..10
Can't say/Can't remember.....98

30. And what about when you were around 11 or 12, how often did you attend religious services then?

ATTEND12

Never.....1
Less than once a year.....2
About once or twice a year....3
Several times a year.....4
About once a month.....5
2-3 times a month.....6
Nearly every week.....7
Every week.....8
Several times a week.....9
Can't say/Can't remember.....98

<It is strongly recommended that the item on respondent's church attendance in the demographics use the same response categories as above.>

Now thinking about the present...

31. About how often do you pray?

P R A Y P R E Q

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Never | 1 |
| Less than once a year..... | 2 |
| About once or twice a year..... | 3 |
| Several times a year..... | 4 |
| About once a month..... | 5 |
| 2-3 times a month..... | 6 |
| Nearly every week..... | 7 |
| Every week..... | 8 |
| Several times a week..... | 9 |
| Once a day..... | 10 |
| Several times a day..... | 11 |

32. How often do you take part in the activities or organizations of a church or place of worship other than attending services?

RELACTIV

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Never..... | 1 |
| Less than once a year..... | 2 |
| About once or twice a year..... | 3 |
| Several times a year..... | 4 |
| About once a month..... | 5 |
| 2-3 times a month..... | 6 |
| Nearly every week..... | 7 |
| Every week..... | 8 |
| Several times a week..... | 9 |

33. Would you describe yourself as ...

FEELREL

| | |
|--|---|
| Extremely religious | 1 |
| Very religious | 2 |
| Somewhat religious | 3 |
| Neither religious nor non-religious | 4 |
| Somewhat non-religious | 5 |
| Very non-religious | 6 |
| Extremely non-religious | 7 |
| Can't choose | 8 |

34. Which of the following statements come closest to your own views:

NEW

| | |
|---|---|
| There is very little truth in any religion. | 1 |
| There are basic truths in many religions. | 2 |
| There is truth only in one religion. | 3 |
| Can't choose | 8 |

35. Suppose you were riding in a car driven by a close friend. You know he is going too fast. He hits a pedestrian. He asks you to tell the police that he was obeying the speed limit.

a. Which statement comes closest to your belief about what your friend has a right to expect from you?

My friend has a DEFINITE right as a friend to expect me to testify that he was obeying the speed limit.....1

My friend has SOME right as a friend to expect me to testify that he was obeying the speed limit.....2

My friend has NO right as a friend to expect me to testify that he was obeying the speed limit.....3

Can't choose.....8

b. What would you do in this situation?

Definitely tell the police that your friend WAS going faster than the speed limit.....1

Probably tell the police that your friend WAS going faster than the speed limit.....2

Probably tell the police that your friend WAS NOT going faster than the speed limit.....3

Definitely tell the police that your friend WAS NOT going faster than the speed limit.....4

Can't choose.....8

Optional

1. Would you say that you have been "born again" or have had a "born again" experience -- that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Christ?

REBORN

Yes.....1
 No.....2

2. There are many different ways of picturing God. We'd like to know the kinds of images you are most likely to associate with God.

Below are sets of contrasting images. On a scale of 1-7 where would you place your images of God between the two contrasting images?

The first set of contrasting images shows Mother at 1 on the scale and Father at 7. If you imagine God as a Mother, you would place yourself at 1. If you imagine God as a Father, you would place yourself at 7. If you imagine God as somewhere between Mother and Father, you would place yourself at 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6.

Where would you place your image of God on the scale for each set of images?

MAPA

A. Mother Father
 |-----|
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07

MASTERSP

B. Master Spouse
 |-----|
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07

JUDGELW

C. Judge Lover
 |-----|
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07

FRNDKING

D. Friend King
 |-----|
 01 02 03 04 05 06 07

3. Now please think about something different. Please check one box on each line below to show whether you think each statement is true or false.

| | Definitely True | Probably True | Probably False | Definitely False | Can't Choose |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| ISSP91A | | | | | |
| a. Good luck charms sometimes do bring good luck. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| ISSP91B | | | | | |
| b. Some fortune tel- lers really can fore- see the future | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| ISSP91C | | | | | |
| c. Some faithhealers do have God-given healing powers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| ISSP91D | | | | | |
| d. A person's star sign at birth, or horoscope, can af- fect the course of their future | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |

Notes on Question Wordings

In the above text "()" are parenthetical statements that will appear in the version administered to respondents. "[]" are used to show where appropriate, country-specific words will be inserted and the punctuations will be removed from the final text. "< >" are special notes or instructions to follow. The punctuations and the statements themselves will be removed from the final text.

Qs. 3-5 - "sexual relations" means "sexual intercourse".

Qs. Required: **14A, 18, 19, 21, 22A, 22C**

Optionals: **2A-D, 3C, 4A**: "God" refers to a supreme being. The term should refer to an entity rather than a non-sentient force. An encompassing, non-sectarian term is desirable if possible.

Q. 9 Addition of he/she and himself/herself is a departure from 1991 ISSP wording. The brackets indicate that one should follow the following guidelines. If your language is gender inclusive (referring to both men and women) or neutral (no gender reference), then you can adopt your standard usage. If like English you have to specify gender in the singular case (e.g. he or she), then try to be inclusive by using he/she or some equivalent formulation. If he/she and any other similar formulation would be very awkward and unusual, you may use the standard formulation even if it refers only to one gender.

Q. 12 - "confidence" takes on several meanings, but having trust in is the main dimension.

Q 12B - "Business and industry" - refers to large-scale businesses, but don't use an adjective like "big" in the translation.

Q. 16 - The note at the end of this question is part of the wording. It is obligatory.

"Religious and church-related activities" is not restricted to strictly spiritual or sacred activities. If a church sponsored a sports team or headed a drive to restore an historical building and a person helped out the church with these projects, this would be reported under "c".

Q. 17 - "churches and religious organizations" refers to the power of organized or institutional religions collectively. The question is whether overall religious organizations (e.g. the Catholic and Lutheran churches) have too much/too little power.

Q. 18 - "personal God" - a supreme being who cares about and is involved with individuals.

Q. 21 - "Bible" should be used in all countries with predominantly Judeo-Christian heritage. This would cover all current countries except for Japan.

Japan may either exercise it's option of dropping the item as not applying or has special permission to include an item about acceptance of traditional Shinto beliefs (to be designed by them). It is our

understanding that a more closely parallel "holy book" item based on Japanese religions would not be possible. A predominately Moslem country could rephrase the item in terms of the Koran.

"This does not apply to me." This code is largely for members of religions outside the Judeo-Christian tradition, but we want it to be flexible enough for other respondents to use it, if it seems appropriate to them.

Q. 22F - "fate" - destiny, question refers to determining our own outcome in life.

Q. 23 - "turning point" - a time or event in one's life when a change occurred resulting in a gaining of faith, becoming a believer, a rededication to one's religion or similar.

Qs 24-27 - "preference" refers to the religion that a person favors or identifies with. If a person was born a member of one religion, but then preferred or identified with another religion, this question asks about the latter.

"religions" refers to major faiths or organized theological systems as opposed to "denominations" which are sub-divisions within a religion. What is important is that these questions distinguish all relevant faiths, religions, denominations, sects, etc. that exist in each country.

Qs. 28-30 - "religious services" generally refers to organized, group worship activities like Moslems going to the mosque on Fridays, Catholic mass, attending church on Sundays for Protestants, etc. Private prayers at home would not normally count.

Q. 35 - "cars" are motor vehicles that exclude trucks/lorries and motor bikes/motorcycles. If the more inclusive phrase "motor vehicle" would be both applicable and a standard term suitable for use in this question, it may be substituted.

Optional Q. 1 - "born-again" - this refers to a specific type of spiritual experience in which people accept Christ as their personal Savior and are "born-again" as a Christian on the path to salvation. If your country has Baptist or Pentecostal sects, find what they use in your language(s) for this. It does not refer to "rebirth" in the sense of reincarnation.

Optional Q. 2 - "Master" is technically masculine in English, but is probably not seen in a highly gendered sense in this comparison. Carries the ideas of "master and servants" or a overlord. Someone who is in a position of social, economic, and political superiority.