

ISSP 1998 – Religion II

- Questionnaire -

U.S.A.

A

RED

Use with
Versions 1-3

CONFIDENTIAL

SELF-ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE

General Social Survey

NORC

University of Chicago

This questionnaire is in two parts. When you finish answering, please place this questionnaire in the confidentiality envelope and seal the envelope.

CASE ID: _____

GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEY

CONFIDENTIAL

PLEASE READ EACH QUESTION CAREFULLY, REMEMBER THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS--WE JUST WANT TO KNOW YOUR OWN PERSONAL OPINION.

We would like you to fill out this questionnaire on your own using a pencil. When you are finished please return the questionnaire to our interviewer (sealed in the envelope provided). If no interviewer is present, please mail using the envelope provided.

HOW TO FILL OUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

To answer most questions you need only circle a number. Here are two examples:

Example A:

Do you think the government is doing a good job or a poor job?

- A very good job 1
A fairly good job ②
A poor job 3
A very poor job 4

(IF YOU THINK THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING A "FAIRLY GOOD JOB, CIRCLE NUMBER "2." CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ONLY).

Example B:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE).

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Choose
It is difficult to raise children.	①	2	3	4	5	8
A woman should devote almost all her time to her family.	1	2	3	④	5	8

(YOU WOULD CIRCLE "1" IF YOU STRONGLY AGREE WITH THE FIRST STATEMENT, AND "4" IF YOU "DISAGREE" WITH THE SECOND STATEMENT).

In this part of the survey we are interested in your opinions about politics, social issues and other things that affect our way of life in America.

SELF-ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE (IS-A)

General Social Survey

Part 1

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

- 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...

a. provide a job for everyone who wants one?

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

b. reduce income differences between the rich and poor?

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

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

- 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...

- 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...

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 ...

a. if there is a strong chance of serious defect in the baby?

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

b. if the family has a very low income and cannot afford any more children?

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

7. Do you agree or disagree...

a. A husband's job is to earn money; a wife's job is to look after the home and family.

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

b. All in all, family life suffers when the woman has a full-time job.

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

8. Do you agree or disagree...

a. It is alright for a couple to live together without intending to get married.

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

b. It's a good idea for a couple who intend to get married to live together first.

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

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

a. a taxpayer does not report all of his or her income in order to pay less income taxes?

Not wrong	1
A bit wrong	2
Wrong	3
Seriously wrong	4
Can't choose	8

b. a person gives the government incorrect information about himself/herself to get government benefits that he or she is not entitled to?

Not wrong	1
A bit wrong	2
Wrong	3
Seriously wrong	4
Can't choose	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?

- 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?

- 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 ...

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Complete confidence	A great deal of confidence	Some confidence	Very little confidence	No confidence at all	Can't choose
a. U.S. Congress	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. Business and industry	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. Churches and religious organizations	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. Courts and the legal system	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. Schools and the educational organizations	1	2	3	4	5	8

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

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Choose
a. Religious leaders should not try to influence how people vote in elections	1	2	3	4	5	8
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...

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Choose
a. Overall, modern science does more harm than good	1	2	3	4	5	8
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?

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Choose
a. Looking around the world, religions bring more conflict than peace	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. People with very strong religious beliefs are often too intolerant of others	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. The U.S. 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:

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	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?

- 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.

- 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?

- I don't believe in God now and I never have 1
- 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 ...

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Yes, Definitely	Yes, Probably	No, Probably Not	No, Definitely Not	Can't Choose
a. Life after death	1	2	3	4	8
b. Heaven	1	2	3	4	8
c. Hell	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?

- 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...

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE NUMBER ON EACH LINE

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't Choose
a. There is a God who concerns Himself with every human being personally.	1	2	3	4	5	8
b. There is little that people can do to change the course of their lives.	1	2	3	4	5	8
c. To me, life is meaningful only because God exists.	1	2	3	4	5	8
d. In my opinion, life does not serve any purpose.	1	2	3	4	5	8
e. Life is only meaningful if you provide the meaning yourself.	1	2	3	4	5	8
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?

- 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?

- 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:

What specific denomination was that?

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

- 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:

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?

- 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:

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?

- 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:

What specific denomination was that?

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

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?

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

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

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

Now thinking about the present...

31. About how often do you pray?

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?

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

33. Would you describe yourself as ...

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:

- 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

End of Section 1

Please pause for interviewer to read introduction to Part 2 of SAQ. If no interviewer is present, please proceed with Part 2.

SELF-ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE (S-A)

General Social Survey

Part 2

There is a great deal of concern today about the AIDS epidemic and how to deal with it. Because of the grave nature of this problem, we are going to ask you some personal questions and we need your frank and honest responses. Your answers are confidential and will be used only for statistical reports.

The Past 12 Months

1. How many sex partners have you had in the last 12 months?

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER

- No partners (Skip to Question 5) 0
 - 1 partner 1
 - 2 partners 2
 - 3 partners 3
 - 4 partners 4
 - 5 - 10 partners 5
 - 11 - 20 partners 6
 - 21 - 100 partners 7
 - More than 100 partners 8
-

2. Was one of the partners your husband or wife or regular sexual partner?

- Yes 1
 - No 2
-

3. If you had **NO** other partners beside your husband or wife or regular sexual partner, **PLEASE GO TO QUESTION 4.**

If you had other partners, please indicate all categories that apply to them.

CIRCLE ALL THE ANSWERS THAT APPLY.

- Close personal friend 1
 - Neighbor, co-worker, or long-term acquaintance 2
 - Casual date or pick-up 3
 - Person you paid or paid you for sex 4
 - Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) 5
-

4. Have your sex partners in the last 12 months been . . .

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER.

- Exclusively male 1
 - Both male and female 2
 - Exclusively female 3
-

5. About how often did you have sex during the past 12 months?

- Not at all 0
 - Once or twice 1
 - About once a month 2
 - Two or three times a month 3
 - About once a week 4
 - Two or three times a week 5
 - Four or more times a week 6
-

The Past 5 Years

6. Now thinking about the past five years--the time since February/March 1993, and including the past 12 months. How many sex partners have you had in that five year period?

- No partners (Skip to Question 8) 0
- 1 partner 1
- 2 partners 2
- 3 partners 3
- 4 partners 4
- 5 - 10 partners 5
- 11 - 20 partners 6
- 21 - 100 partners 7
- More than 100 partners 8

7. Have your sex partners in the last five years been ...

PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ANSWER.

- Exclusively male 1
 - Both male and female 2
 - Exclusively female 3
-

Since Your 18th Birthday

8. Now thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, (again, including the recent past that you have already told us about) how many **female** partners have you ever had sex with?

_____ Female Partners.

9. Again, thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, (including the recent past that you have already told us about) how many **male** partners have you ever had sex with?

_____ Male Partners.

10. Thinking about the time since your 18th birthday, have you ever had sex with a person you paid or who paid you for sex?

- Yes 1
- No 2

While Married

11. Have you ever had sex with someone other than your husband or wife while you were married?

- Yes 1
 - No 2
 - Never Married 3
-

Most Recent Sexual Experience

12. The last time you had sex, was a condom used? By "sex" we mean vaginal, oral, or anal sex.

- Yes, the last time I had sex,
a condom was used 1
 - No, the last time I had sex,
a condom was not used 2
-

13. The last time you had sex, was it with someone you were in an on-going relationship with, or was it with someone else? Remember that by "sex" we mean only vaginal, oral, or anal sex.

- Yes, the last time I had sex,
it was with someone I was in
an on-going relationship with. 1
- No, the last time I had sex,
it was not with someone I was
in an on-going relationship with. 2

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION. PLEASE PLACE FORM IN ENVELOPE, SEAL IT, AND GIVE IT TO THE INTERVIEWER. IF NO INTERVIEWER IS PRESENT, PLEASE DROP SEALED ENVELOPE IN A MAILBOX.