

Contents of ISSP 2008 module

(modified table 1 taken from the German ISSP 2008 technical report)

2008			Abbreviated Version of Question	1991		1998	
Question Number	Variable	No. of Items		Question Number	Variable	Question Number	Variable
Secular Aspects (8 items)							
1	V6	1	How happy or unhappy is R?	1	V4	1	V4
2-4		3	Wrong or not wrong?				
2	V7		Premarital relations	4	V9	3	V7
3	V8		Extramarital relations	5	V10	4	V8
4	V9		Same sex relations	6	V11	5	V9
5		2	Is abortion wrong or not wrong?	7		6	
a	V10		...if chance of serious defect	a	V12	a	V10
b	V11		...if family has low income	b	V13	b	V11
6	V12	1	Gender roles: Husband's job is to earn, wife's to look after home and family	9a	V16	7a	V12
7	V13	1	General trust in people			11	V19
Religion in Comparison to Other Aspects (9 items)							
8		5	Confidence in institutions	11		12	
a	V14		National legislature	a	V20	a	V20
b	V15		Business and industry	b	V21	b	V21
c	V16		Churches and religious organisations	d	V23	c	V22
d	V17		Courts and legal systems	e	V24	d	V23
e	V18		Schools and educational system	f	V25	e	V24
11		4	Religion and Science			14	
a	V22		Science does more harm than good			a	V27
b	V23		We trust science too much, faith not enough			b	V28
c	V24		Religions bring more conflict than peace			15a	V29
d	V25		People with strong religious beliefs are too intolerant			15b	V30
Non-Religious Item (1 item)							
9	V19	1	Mobility – lived in different places or not				
Religion and Governmental Connections (3 items)							
10		2	Religious leaders should not try to			13	
a	V20		...influence votes	12b	V27	a	V25
b	V21		...influence government decisions	12d	V29	b	V26
12	V26	1	Churches have too much/little power	13	V30	17	V36
Religious Tolerance and Extremism (6 items)							
13		2	Agree/Disagree				
a	V27		All religious groups should have equal rights				
b	V28		We must respect all religions				
14		2	Accept a person from different religion				
a	V29		...marrying a relative of R				
b	V30		...being a candidate of R's preferred political party				
15		2	Religious extremists allowed to				
a	V31		...hold public meetings				
b	V32		...publish books				

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Religious Beliefs (16 items)							
16	V33	1	Beliefs about God: extent	14	V31	18	V37
17	V34	1	Beliefs about God: past and now	16	V33	19	V38
18		7	Believe in	17		20	
a	V35		...afterlife	a	V34	a	V39
b	V36		...heaven	c	V36	b	V40
c	V37		...hell	d	V37	c	V41
d	V38		...miracles	e	V38	d	V42
e	V39		...reincarnation				
f	V40		...nirvana				
g	V41		...supernatural powers of deceased ancestors				
19		6	Agree/Disagree	19		22	
a	V42		God concerns himself with everybody personally	a	V40	a	V44
b	V43		People can do little to change their lives	b	V41	b	V45
c	V44		God gives the meaning to life	c	V42	c	V46
d	V45		Life does not serve any purpose	d	V43	d	V47
e	V46		People give the meaning to life	f	V45	e	V48
f	V47		Own way of connecting with god				
33	V65	1	'Truth' of different religions			34	V61
Religious Socialisation/Past Religious Practices (7 items)							
20-22		4	Religion when R was child				
20	V48		Mother's religion	22	V50	24	V51
	V49		Mother's religion grouped (derived from V48)				
21	V50		Father's religion	23	V51	25	V52
	V51		Father's religion grouped (derived from V50)				
22	V52		What religion R raised in?	24a	V53	26	V53
	V53		Religion R raised in grouped (derived from V52)				
23	V54		Spouse's religion	24	V52	27	V54
	V55		Spouse's religion grouped (derived from V54)				
24-26		3	Church attendance when R was child				
24	V56		Mother	25	V54	28	V55
25	V57		Father	26	V55	29	V56
26	V58		R	27	V56	30	V57
Current Religious Practices (2 items)							
27	V59	2	How often R prays?	28	V57	31	V58
28	V60		How often R takes part in other activities of a church?	29	V58	32	V59
Culture-Specific Behaviours (2 items)							
29	V61	2	Does R have religious object in at home?				
30	V62		How often visit a holy place for religious reasons?				
Religious Experience and Feelings (1 item)							
31	V63	1	R's religiosity (self-assessed)	30	V59	33	V60
Spirituality and Religiosity (5 items)							
32	V64	1	Religion versus spirituality				
34		4	Practicing a religion helps people to...				
a	V66		...find inner peace and happiness				
b	V67		...make friends				
c	V68		...gain comfort in times of trouble and sorrow				
d	V69		...meet the right kind of people				

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Optional Items							
1	V70	1	R's experience on being born again?	Optional	V70	Optional 1	V64
2	V71	1	What comes closest to R's beliefs about the Bible?	18	V39	21	V43
3	V72	1	Ever made new commitment to religion	21	V49	23	V50
4	V73	1	Personal sacrifice as an expression of faith during last year?				
5		4	Image of God	38		Optional 2	
a	V74		Mother vs. Father	a	V71	b	V65
b	V75		Master vs. Spouse	b	V72	c	V66
c	V76		Judge vs. Lover	c	V73	d	V67
d	V77		Friend vs. King	d	V74	e	V68
6		4	Superstition	Optional		Optional 3	
a	V78		Good luck charms bring luck	a	V66	a	V69
b	V79		Fortune tellers can foresee future	b	V67	b	V70
c	V80		Faith-healers do have healing powers	c	V68	c	V71
d	V81		People's star sign can affect course of their future			d	V72
7	V82	1	R's behaviour if a law conflicts with religious principles			Optional 5	V75
8		6	Attitude towards members of religious groups				
a	V83		Christians				
b	V84		Muslims				
c	V85		Hindus				
d	V86		Buddhists				
e	V87		Jews				
f	V88		Atheists and non-believers				