



UNIVERZA V MARIBORU
PEDAGOŠKA FAKULTETA, 2000 Maribor, Koroška c. 160
SLOVENIA



RELIGIOSITY IN A CROSS-CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS

Along with about 2.500 students from six different countries around the world, you have been chosen to participate in a survey about students, with an emphasis on religiosity in a cross-cultural perspective. We kindly ask you to frankly and openly answer the following questions. The survey is completely anonymous. Please work quickly and don't spend too much time on any question; we are looking for your first reaction, not a long though-out reply.

Chief researcher,

Dr. Sergej Flere

**A. FIRST WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS
ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDES ABOUT RELIGION**

Please rate the following questions by marking a number from 1 to 5.

	Not at all			Absolutely	
1. Do you believe in God?	1	2	3	4	5
2. Do you believe that people have a soul?	1	2	3	4	5
3. Do you believe in life after death?	1	2	3	4	5
4. Do you believe in heaven?	1	2	3	4	5
5. Do you believe in hell?	1	2	3	4	5

Please rate the following statements by marking a number from 1 to 5. Use the following scale: 1 = “Strongly Disagree” to 5 = “Strongly Agree”. If you are undecided or not sure how to answer, simply mark ‘3’.

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree	
6. I enjoy reading about my religion.	1	2	3	4	5
7. I go to church because it helps me to make friends.	1	2	3	4	5
8. It doesn't much matter what I believe as long as I am good.	1	2	3	4	5
9. It is important to me to spend time in private thought and prayer.	1	2	3	4	5
10. I have often had a strong sense of a Divine presence.	1	2	3	4	5
11. I pray mainly to gain relief and to receive protection.	1	2	3	4	5
12. I try hard to live all my life according to my religious beliefs.	1	2	3	4	5
13. What religion offers me most is comfort in times of trouble and sorrow.	1	2	3	4	5
14. Prayer is for peace and happiness.	1	2	3	4	5
15. Although I am religious, I don't let it affect my daily life.	1	2	3	4	5
16. My whole approach to life is based on my religion.	1	2	3	4	5
17. I go to church mainly because I enjoy seeing people I know there.	1	2	3	4	5
18. Although I believe in my religion, many other things are more important in life.	1	2	3	4	5
19. I go to church mostly to spend time with my friends.	1	2	3	4	5

Please continue to use the same response scale as in the previous table:

	Strongly Disagree Strongly Agree				
20. Questions are more central to my religious experience than are answers.	1	2	3	4	5
21. God wasn't very important to me until I began to ask questions about the meaning of my own life.	1	2	3	4	5
22. I often talk about religious issues with my friends.	1	2	3	4	5
23. Religious matters are often discussed in my family.	1	2	3	4	5
24. It might be said that I value my religious doubts and uncertainties.	1	2	3	4	5
25. Sometimes I feel that God is angry at me.	1	2	3	4	5
26. There are many religious issues on which my views are still changing.	1	2	3	4	5
27. The fires of Hell are waiting for adulterers, murderers and other persons who violate God's laws.	1	2	3	4	5
28. My life experiences have led me to rethink my religious convictions.	1	2	3	4	5
29. As I grow and change, I expect my religion to also grow and change.	1	2	3	4	5
30. What happens to me in this life is not really important compared to what awaits me in my afterlife.	1	2	3	4	5
31. I am constantly questioning my religious beliefs.	1	2	3	4	5
32. I often feel that I deserve God's punishment.	1	2	3	4	5
33. I expect my religious convictions to change in the next few years.	1	2	3	4	5
34. I do not find religious doubts upsetting.	1	2	3	4	5
35. Heaven is my home, and so, I do not worry much about this world.	1	2	3	4	5
36. For me, doubting is an important part of what it means to be religious.	1	2	3	4	5
37. True believers shall be rewarded in the afterlife.	1	2	3	4	5
38. I have been driven to ask religious questions out of a growing awareness of the tensions in my world and in my relations to my world.	1	2	3	4	5
39. I was not very interested in religion until I began to ask questions about the meaning and purpose of my life.	1	2	3	4	5

40. What is your religious affiliation?

1. Catholic
2. Eastern (Serbian or other) Orthodox Christian
3. Other Christian: _____ (inscribe which one)
4. Islamic
5. Buddhist
6. Shinto
7. Other _____
8. I don't know.
9. None

INSTRUCTION: Please think of this religion, when we ask you additional questions about 'religion' later in the survey.

41. Would you say you are:

1. A very religious person
2. A predominantly religious person
3. A moderately religious person
4. A predominantly nonreligious person
5. A nonreligious person ⇒ SKIP TO QUESTION No. 75

Circle the number that best describes your position:

42. My knowledge about the teachings, stories and principles of my religion is very poor.	1	2	3	4	5	6	My knowledge about the teachings, stories and principles of my religion is extensive.
43. I have strong doubts about the truth of the stories and teachings of my religion.	1	2	3	4	5	6	I have no doubts about the truth of the stories and teachings of my religion.

Would you do some of the following things for the sake of your religion?

	Not at all			Absolutely	
44. Wear certain religious symbols or clothing even at occasions where it might embarrass you.	1	2	3	4	5
45. Not consume certain foods or drinks for a longer period of time.	1	2	3	4	5
46. Restrain from sexual relations	1	2	3	4	5
47. Refuse specific medical interventions.	1	2	3	4	5
48. Renounce the use of certain achievements of modern technology.	1	2	3	4	5
49. Renounce all of most of your property.	1	2	3	4	5
50. Sacrifice your own life.	1	2	3	4	5

51. Think of the religious institution that you are most closely affiliated with. Would you please tell us the name of that institution or group?

1. Roman Catholic Church
2. Eastern (Serbian or other) Orthodox Church
3. Other Christian Church: _____ (inscribe which one)
4. Islamic community
5. Buddhist community
6. Shinto community
7. Other _____
8. None, I don't attend.

INSTRUCTION: Please think of this institution, when we refer to 'your religious institution' later in the survey.

Would you characterize your religious institution as?

	MY RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION						
52. Useless institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	Beneficial institution
53. Out-of-date institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	Up-to-date institution
54. Immoral institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	Morally pure institution
55. Dishonest institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	Honest institution
56. Dull institution	1	2	3	4	5	6	Inspiring institution

How would you characterize religious services performed by your religious institution?

	RELIGIOUS SERVICES						
57. Dull	1	2	3	4	5	6	Interesting
58. Not comforting	1	2	3	4	5	6	Comforting
59. Useless as to daily life	1	2	3	4	5	6	Useful in daily life
60. Not well planned	1	2	3	4	5	6	Well planned
61. Difficult to understand	1	2	3	4	5	6	Easy to understand

Would you prefer to have your religious institution to conduct:

	Not at all					Absolutely
62. Your wedding?	1	2	3	4	5	
63. Your funeral?	1	2	3	4	5	
64. Upbringing of your children?	1	2	3	4	5	

65. How often do you attend religious services performed by your religious institution?

1. Every or almost every day
2. At least once every week
3. At least once monthly
4. Occasionally
5. Only on very rare special occasions
6. Never

66. How often do you pray or meditate outside of religious service?

1. Every or almost every day
2. At least once every week
3. At least once monthly
4. Occasionally
5. Only on very rare special occasions
6. Never

Do you ever spend any of your money on:

	Never			Very often	
67. Religious literature?	1	2	3	4	5
68. Religious objects (statues, symbols, jewellery...)?	1	2	3	4	5
69. Religiously inspired travel (pilgrimage)?	1	2	3	4	5

**What do you suppose it would cost you if you dropped your religion and became an agnostic or an atheist?
How much of the below do you think you would experience:**

	Not at all			A great deal	
70. Disappointment, disapproval of parents.	1	2	3	4	5
71. Disappointment, disapproval of close friends.	1	2	3	4	5
72. Disappointment, disapproval of ministers, priests etc.	1	2	3	4	5
73. It would threaten a romantic love relationship.	1	2	3	4	5
74. I would feel I'm betraying my national identity.	1	2	3	4	5

Please rate the following statements by marking the response that best reflects your attitudes:

	Disagree			Agree	
75. Each individual has a higher spiritual self which can be awoken and lead to personal enlightenment.	1	2	3	4	5
76. The entire Universe is an expression of a unified spiritual energy.	1	2	3	4	5
77. We are facing times of rapid spiritual growth of human consciousness.	1	2	3	4	5
78. Some people can communicate with the dead.	1	2	3	4	5
79. It is possible to harm people by magic spells.	1	2	3	4	5
80. Some fortune tellers can correctly predict the future.	1	2	3	4	5

**B. NOW WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW
QUESTIONS CONCERNING YOUR LIFE EXPERIENCES IN GENERAL.**

1. Did you attend any religious instruction or Sunday school during your childhood?

1. Yes, regularly
2. Yes, often
3. Infrequently
4. No, not at all

Please rate the following statements by marking the response that best reflects your attitudes:

Note: When speaking of mother and father in the following items, we mean of the person who played this role during the majority of your upbringing. If there was no such person, do not answer that question.

	Disagree				Agree
2. My mother is (was) a very religious woman.	1	2	3	4	5
3. My father is (was) a very religious man.	1	2	3	4	5
4. During my childhood, religiosity permeated in our family.	1	2	3	4	5
5. When I was in elementary school, everybody in class liked me.	1	2	3	4	5
6. During elementary school, my peers often teased me.	1	2	3	4	5
7. I am attractive to the opposite sex.	1	2	3	4	5
8. I make friends easily.	1	2	3	4	5
9. Generally I am in excellent health.	1	2	3	4	5

Please rate how you think of yourself in each of the following items, on a scale from 1 = never or almost never true to 7 = almost always true.

	Never true					Always true	
10. I am an affectionate person	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. I am willing to take a risk	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12. I am willing to take a stand	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13. I am a tender person	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14. I have a strong personality	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15. I am a warm person	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16. I am eager to soothe hurt feelings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17. I defend my own beliefs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18. I am a compassionate person	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
19. I have good leadership abilities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

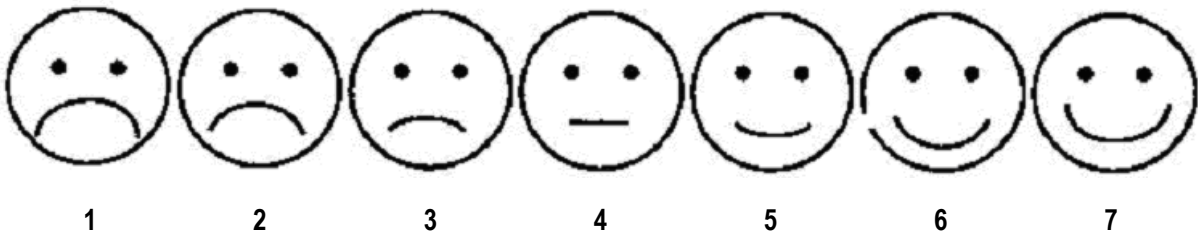
Please read carefully each of the following statements and indicate how you generally feel:

	Never	Rarely	Some- times	Often	Very often
20. I feel good.	1	2	3	4	5
21. I get tired easily.	1	2	3	4	5
22. I feel like crying.	1	2	3	4	5
23. I wish I could be as happy as other people seem to be.	1	2	3	4	5
24. I miss many opportunities because I can not make up my mind on time.	1	2	3	4	5
25. I feel relaxed.	1	2	3	4	5
26. I am calm and concentrated.	1	2	3	4	5
27. My problems accumulate so much that I can no longer manage them.	1	2	3	4	5
28. I worry too much about things that aren't really important.	1	2	3	4	5
29. I am happy and satisfied.	1	2	3	4	5
30. I tend to anticipate the worst.	1	2	3	4	5
31. I lack self-confidence.	1	2	3	4	5
32. I feel safe.	1	2	3	4	5
33. I try to avoid confronting crises or problems.	1	2	3	4	5
34. I am melancholic.	1	2	3	4	5
35. I am satisfied with my life.	1	2	3	4	5
36. Insignificant thoughts fill my mind and bother me.	1	2	3	4	5
37. Disappointments hurt me so much that I can not stop thinking about them.	1	2	3	4	5
38. I have a stable, firm personality.	1	2	3	4	5
39. When I think about my recent interests and actions, I become tense and restless.	1	2	3	4	5

How true are the following statements of you?

	False					True				
40. During my childhood, I was told that a girl should be more careful than a boy.	1	2	3	4	5					
41. At our house, it was always clear what was right for boys and what for girls.	1	2	3	4	5					
42. My parents explained to me which toys are meant for a girl and which ones are meant for a boy.	1	2	3	4	5					
43. I expect to be involved in the day-to-day matters of rearing children of my own to a greater extent than my partner.	1	2	3	4	5					
44. I expect my job/career to give me more satisfaction than anything else I do.	1	2	3	4	5					
45. After I finish my studies, I'm ready to temporarily give up my professional career and completely devote myself to my children.	1	2	3	4	5					
46. For me personally, doing only house work would be just as fulfilling as working for pay.	1	2	3	4	5					
47. I expect to devote whatever time and energy it takes to move up in my job/career.	1	2	3	4	5					

48. Which face comes closest to expressing how you feel about your life as a whole? (Circle one number)



Please rate the following statements by marking the response that best reflects your attitudes towards school and your parents. When asked about your relations with your parents, think of the person or persons that perform that role in your life. If there is no such person, do not answer that question (leave it blank).

	Untypical of me			Typical of me	
49. I like school.	1	2	3	4	5
50. Being successful at school is important to me.	1	2	3	4	5
51. It is important to me what my teachers think of me.	1	2	3	4	5
52. I am closer to my mother than are most people my age.	1	2	3	4	5
53. My mother trusts me.	1	2	3	4	5
54. My mother gives me the right amount of affection.	1	2	3	4	5
55. When I am not at home, my mother knows my whereabouts.	1	2	3	4	5
56. My mother wants me to tell her where I am if I don't come home right after school.	1	2	3	4	5
57. In my free time away from home, my mother knows who I'm with and where I am.	1	2	3	4	5
58. I am closer to my father than are most people my age.	1	2	3	4	5
59. My father trusts me.	1	2	3	4	5
60. My father gives me the right amount of affection.	1	2	3	4	5
61. When I am not at home, my father knows my whereabouts.	1	2	3	4	5
62. My father wants me to tell him where I am if I don't come home right after school.	1	2	3	4	5
63. In my free time away from home, my father knows who I'm with and where I am.	1	2	3	4	5

Now please think back to the time when you were about 14-years old and then rate the following statements in the same way as you did the ones in the previous table. When asked about your relations with your parents, think of the person or persons that perform that role in your life. If there was no such person, do not answer that question (leave it blank).

	Untypical of me			Typical of me	
64. I liked school.	1	2	3	4	5
65. Being successful at school was important to me.	1	2	3	4	5
66. It was important to me what my teachers thought of me.	1	2	3	4	5
67. I was closer to my mother than are most of kids my age.	1	2	3	4	5
68. My mother trusted me.	1	2	3	4	5
69. My mother gave me the right amount of affection.	1	2	3	4	5
70. When I was not at home, my mother knew my whereabouts.	1	2	3	4	5
71. My mother wanted me to tell her where I was if I didn't come home right after school.	1	2	3	4	5
72. In my free time away from home, my mother knew who I was with and where I was.	1	2	3	4	5
73. I was closer to my father than are most of kids my age.	1	2	3	4	5
74. My father trusted me.	1	2	3	4	5
75. My father gave me the right amount of affection.	1	2	3	4	5
76. When I was not at home, my father knew my whereabouts.	1	2	3	4	5
77. My father wanted me to tell him where I was if I didn't come home right after school.	1	2	3	4	5
78. In my free time away from home, my father knew who I was with and where I was.	1	2	3	4	5

Please rate the following statements and how they apply to you.

	Uncharacteristic			Characteristic	
79. I often do whatever brings me pleasure here and now, even at the cost of some distant goal.	1	2	3	4	5
80. I frequently try to avoid projects that I know will be difficult	1	2	3	4	5
81. When I'm really angry, other people should stay away from me.	1	2	3	4	5
82. Excitement and adventure are more important to me than security.	1	2	3	4	5
83. I dislike really hard tasks that stretch my ability to the limit.	1	2	3	4	5
84. I almost always feel better when I am on the move than when I am sitting and thinking.	1	2	3	4	5
85. I will sometimes take a risk just for the fun of it.	1	2	3	4	5
86. If I had a choice, I would almost always rather do something physical than something mental.	1	2	3	4	5
87. I try to look out for myself first, even if it means making things difficult for other people.	1	2	3	4	5

How often have you done any of the following behaviors?

	Never			Many times	
88. Intentionally damaged or destroyed property that did not belong to you?	1	2	3	4	5
89. Used "soft" drugs such as marijuana (grass, pot)?	1	2	3	4	5
90. Used "hard" drugs such as crack, cocaine, or heroin?	1	2	3	4	5
91. Gone to school when you were drunk or high on drugs?	1	2	3	4	5
92. Cheated on school/college/university tests?	1	2	3	4	5
93. Stayed away from school/classes when your parent(s) thought you were there?	1	2	3	4	5
94. Failed to return extra change that you knew a cashier gave you by mistake?	1	2	3	4	5
95. Stolen, taken, or tried to take something worth \$10 or less?	1	2	3	4	5
96. Stolen, taken, or tried to take something worth more than \$10?	1	2	3	4	5
97. Hit or threatened to hit a person?	1	2	3	4	5
98. Bought, sold, or held stolen goods or tried to do any of these things?	1	2	3	4	5

**C. IN THE NEXT FEW QUESTIONS, WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK ABOUT SOME OF
YOUR GENERAL ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS**

Rate the degree to which you agree with the following statements:

	Disagree				Agree
1. What young people need most of all is strict discipline by their parents.	1	2	3	4	5
2. Most people who don't get ahead just don't have enough will power.	1	2	3	4	5
3. I am prepared to die for the good of my nation.	1	2	3	4	5
4. Our country would never have emerged or survived without the help of God.	1	2	3	4	5
5. Our country has a special covenant with God.	1	2	3	4	5
6. It is not really possible to be a good patriot without being a true follower of my religion.	1	2	3	4	5
7. A few strong leaders could make this country better than all the laws and talk.	1	2	3	4	5
8. It might be said, that our country does not comply with all of its religious duties.	1	2	3	4	5
9. Each individual of my nationality should belong to my religion.	1	2	3	4	5
10. My church has been very important for the survival of my nation through history.	1	2	3	4	5
11. God has intervened in the history of my nation by testing its true faith.	1	2	3	4	5
12. Tradition is a major guidance at the crossroads in my life.	1	2	3	4	5
13. Our ancestors may have been less knowledgeable in science, but they were wiser than most contemporaries.	1	2	3	4	5
14. Customs observed by our ancestors should be practiced even when it's difficult for me to grasp their meaning.	1	2	3	4	5
15. Every girl should enter marriage as a virgin, as that guarantees marital harmony.	1	2	3	4	5
16. I can never truly trust members of other nationalities.	1	2	3	4	5

17. People sometimes say that an insult to your honor should not be forgotten. What do you think about that?

1. I strongly agree
2. I predominantly agree
3. I'm somewhere in the middle / not so sure
4. I predominantly disagree
5. I strongly disagree

Please rate the degree to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Disagree					Agree				
18. <u>In my country</u> , most people would prefer that everyone had a similar standard of living.	1	2	3	4	5					
19. <u>I personally</u> believe that everyone should have a similar standard of living.	1	2	3	4	5					
20. <u>In my country</u> , those successful at starting a new business have a high level of status and respect.	1	2	3	4	5					
21. <u>I personally</u> have high respect for those successful at starting a new business.	1	2	3	4	5					
22. Economic success of an individual should be the result of his hard work and nothing else.	1	2	3	4	5					
23. I see a lot of hatred towards young people in this society.	1	2	3	4	5					
24. Our society does quite a lot for young people.	1	2	3	4	5					
25. I'm grateful for many things my parents have done for me.	1	2	3	4	5					
26. I try to understand my parents, even though it is sometimes hard.	1	2	3	4	5					
27. I don't care a lot for the experiences of adults.	1	2	3	4	5					
28. Parents constantly interfere with matters which don't concern them.	1	2	3	4	5					
29. I learn more from people of my age than from my parents.	1	2	3	4	5					

<p>D. FINALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO PROVIDE SOME DEMOGRAPHIC DATA THAT WILL BE USED FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES ONLY</p>

Please circle ONE answer in each question on this page:

1. Gender

1. Male
2. Female

2. How old are you (in years)?

- | | |
|-------|----------------|
| 1. 18 | 6. 23 |
| 2. 19 | 7. 24 |
| 3. 20 | 8. 25 |
| 4. 21 | 9. 26 |
| 5. 22 | 10. 27 or more |

3. Father's education (even if he is deceased):

1. Less than elementary school
2. Elementary school
3. Any kind of secondary education or high school
4. Completed high school (about 12 years of education)
5. College or University education (4 years or less)
6. Advanced university degree (more than 4 years)

4. Mother's education (even if she is deceased):

1. Less than elementary school
2. Elementary school
3. Any kind of secondary education or high school
4. Completed high school (about 12 years of education)
5. College or University education (4 years or less)
6. Advanced university degree (more than 4 years)

5. You have spent the majority of your life living in:

1. A large city (over 50.000 inhabitants)
2. A medium sized city (up to 50.000 inhabitants)
3. In a small town (between 1.000 and 10.000 inhabitants)
4. In the countryside / in a village

6. Mark all members of your family that you presently live with at your permanent home adress:

1. Mother
2. Father
3. Partner
4. Sibling(s) (Brother(s) or sister(s))
5. Stepfather
6. Stepmother
7. Grandmother and/or grandfather
8. Other relatives
9. Other_____

7. How would you describe your family economic situation?

1. We are doing very well
2. We are doing quite well
3. We're about average
4. We tend to live modestly
5. We are barely getting through

Thank you very much for participating in this survey. Results of this study will be available at your University library in 2006.