

Afterlife questionnaire

Please answer each question on a scale from 1 (highly inappropriate) to 10 (highly appropriate) or NA for "not applicable." The questions address a number of themes but their order has been randomized, so the themes are not grouped. This is a new questionnaire so we welcome feedback on the questions or suggestions for new questions.

Your system:

Your Name:

#	Question	Score
1	In this system's afterlife beliefs, bad deeds in this life are punished somehow in the next one	
2	This system has a founding document	
3	A believer in this system would be comfortable or willing to provoke, curse, or threaten someone who has recently died	
4	This conception of the afterlife is intuitively understandable to children.	
5	There has been a diaspora associated with this system's history.	
6	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to be psychologically beneficial (e.g., alleviating anxiety).	
7	Expectation of reward and other positive emotions play an important role in motivating this systems's afterlife belief.	
8	There is only one God in this system	
9	Beliefs in the afterlife become especially salient in this religion under threatening conditions (such as social conflict or natural disasters).	
10	This system accepts converts but demands a large commitment to join	
11	Only the soul (and not the body) is assumed to persist after death in this system	
12	This system believes in resurrection	
13	This conception of the afterlife appears neutral with respect to psychological and behavioral consequences, compared to alternative beliefs within the same culture.	
14	Beliefs in the afterlife are commonly invoked to explain altruistic behaviors in this system.	
15	The society in which the afterlife belief exists is very stratified socio-economically or socio-politically	
16	In this system's afterlife beliefs, good deeds in this life are rewarded somehow in the next one	
17	Written texts are important in this system	
18	Ancestor worship is important in this system	
19	In this system, beliefs in the afterlife have important effects on behavior	
20	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to enhance the material welfare of some members of the system (such as the leaders) at the expense of others (such as the rank and file).	
21	The afterlife beliefs of this system are acquired by explicit rituals	
22	In this system's afterlife beliefs, one's fate in the afterlife is strongly determined by one's actions in this life	
23	In this system, "bad deeds" include behaviors that don't necessarily harm others (such as dancing, smoking, drinking, swearing)	
24	In this system, "bad deeds" include behaviors that harm other individuals.	
25	In this system, a person's reputation usually changes upon their death (e.g., people don't feel ill-will toward the dead).	
26	The society in which this afterlife belief exists is very stratified, but movement within one's lifetime either up or down the strata is relatively easy	
27	The afterlife beliefs of this system were deliberately created by specific people at a specific time	
28	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to be psychologically stressful (e.g., inducing anxiety).	
29	If one does not adhere to official doctrines regarding the afterlife, one jeopardizes ones acceptance as a member of the system	
30	Members of this system believe that individuals are collectively admitted to the afterlife upon a single "judgment day"	
31	Most people are born into this system, as opposed to joining later in life	
32	A person who rejects the afterlife beliefs of this system would likely be punished as a deviant by members of the system.	
33	This system emphasizes supernatural punishments in <i>this</i> life (misfortune, accidents, illness etc.)	
34	There is a tolerant attitude toward non-believers in this system,	
35	This conception of the afterlife appears designed to facilitate between-group tolerance and/or cooperation	
36	Lay practitioners of this system usually read its main texts	
37	This conception of the afterlife appears designed to distinguish between members of the system and members of other systems.	
38	In this system, "bad deeds" include behaviors that harm the existing social order.	
39	Members of this system believe that individuals are admitted to the afterlife immediately upon their own death	
40	This conception of the afterlife requires considerable sophistication and is not easily grasped by a child.	
41	This system's proselytizing efforts frequently involve its afterlife beliefs	
42	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to enhance trust between members of the system.	
43	Forced conversion was an important part of this system's spread	
44	There is a close correspondence between official doctrine and folk belief regarding the afterlife	
45	This system is tolerant of other faiths	
46	This system was spread through proselytizing that followed conquest or colonization for other purposes (e.g. economic or geopolitical).	
47	This system accepts converts and is easy to join	
48	This conception of the afterlife appears designed to benefit members of other groups in addition to members of the system.	
49	Fear and other negative emotions play an important role in motivating this system's afterlife belief.	
50	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to enhance the material welfare of everyone in the system.	
51	The organizational structure associated with this afterlife belief is closely tied to a specific political structure	
52	This conception of the afterlife appears designed to facilitate between-group conflict.	
53	The system that maintains this afterlife belief was spread primarily through conquest.	
54	This conception of the afterlife is widely shared by members of the system.	
55	Afterlife beliefs in this system place a heavy emphasis upon ritual.	

56	This afterlife belief is maintained by a centralized organizational structure	
57	This conception of the afterlife makes little sense by itself but can clearly be related to beliefs that function in other contexts.	
58	This conception of the afterlife is shared by common members the system, but not by elites or the official dogma of the system.	
59	Animals in addition to humans have an afterlife in this system	
60	"Ghosts" or "spirits" feature prominently in this system, either formally or through folk beliefs.	
61	In this system, the dead are envisaged as having special powers beyond that of the living	
62	This system as a specific founder	
63	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to reinforce behaviors that conform to the norms of the system.,	
64	This conception of the afterlife might have provided material benefits earlier in its history but not in the present.	
65	There is a strict official doctrine regarding the afterlife	
66	If taken at face value, this conception of the afterlife is likely to facilitate cooperation between members of the system.	
67	This conception of the afterlife does not appear to enhance the material welfare of either the individual believer or the system.	
68	This system has a concept of a "soul" separate from the body.	
69	The system that maintains this afterlife belief considers it important to proselytize	
70	There are martyrs in this system.	
71	This system includes beliefs in spirits or other supernatural forces	
72	The afterlife beliefs of this system are acquired at an early age.	
73	This conception of the afterlife is restricted to elite members of the system, such as priests, philosophers, kings.	