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Code Number \_\_\_\_\_

# SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY



## PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

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THE SURVEY IS DOUBLE-SIDED

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# SOCIAL ATTITUDES SURVEY

**Directions.** Below is a set of questions that deal with social issues in the United States (U.S.). Using the 6-point scale below, please give your honest rating about the degree to which you personally agree or disagree with each statement. Please be as open and honest as you can; there are no right or wrong answers. Please circle the appropriate number corresponding to your response.

	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree
1. Everyone who works hard, no matter what race they are, has an equal chance to become rich.	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Race plays a major role in the type of social services (such as type of health care or day care) that people receive in the U.S.	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. It is important that people begin to think of themselves as American and not African American, Mexican American or Italian American.	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Racism may have been a problem in the past, but it is not an important problem today.	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Racial and ethnic minorities do not have the same opportunities as White people in the U.S.	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. White people in the U.S. are discriminated against because of the color of their skin.	1	2	3	4	5	6
7. White people in the U.S. have certain advantages because of the color of their skin.	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. Immigrants should try to fit into the culture and adopt the values of the U.S.	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. White people are more to blame for racial discrimination in the U.S. than racial and ethnic minorities.	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. Social policies, such as affirmative action, discriminate unfairly against White people.	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. It is important for public schools to teach about the history and contributions of racial and ethnic minorities.	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S. have certain advantages because of the color of their skin.	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Racial problems in the U.S. are rare, isolated situations.	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Race plays an important role in who gets sent to prison.	1	2	3	4	5	6

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**Directions.** These questions ask you to think about experiences that some people have as they go about their daily lives. Using the **6-point scale**, please determine how often you have each experience because of your race or racism.

	Never	Less Than Once a Year	A Few Times a Year	About Once a Month	A Few Times a Month	Once a Week or More
1. Being ignored, overlooked, or not given service (in a restaurant, store, etc.).	0	1	2	3	4	5
2. Being treated rudely or disrespectfully.	0	1	2	3	4	5
3. Being accused of something or treated suspiciously.	0	1	2	3	4	5
4. Others reacting to you as if they were afraid or intimidated.	0	1	2	3	4	5
5. Being observed or followed while in public places.	0	1	2	3	4	5
6. Being treated as if you were "stupid", being "talked down to."	0	1	2	3	4	5
7. Your ideas or opinions being minimized, ignored, or devalued.	0	1	2	3	4	5
8. Overhearing or being told an offensive joke or comment.	0	1	2	3	4	5
9. Being insulted, called a name, or harassed.	0	1	2	3	4	5
10. Others expecting your work to be inferior.	0	1	2	3	4	5
11. Not being taken seriously.	0	1	2	3	4	5
12. Being left out of conversations or activities.	0	1	2	3	4	5
13. Being treated in an "overly" friendly or superficial way.	0	1	2	3	4	5
14. Being avoided, others moving away from you physically.	0	1	2	3	4	5
15. Being mistaken for someone who serves others (i.e., janitor, bellboy, maid).	0	1	2	3	4	5
16. Being stared at by strangers.	0	1	2	3	4	5
17. Being laughed at, made fun of, or taunted.	0	1	2	3	4	5
18. Being mistaken for someone else of your same race (who may not look like you at all).	0	1	2	3	4	5

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	Never	Less Than Once a Year	A Few Times a Year	About Once a Month	A Few Times a Month	Once a Week or More
19. Being asked to speak for or represent your entire racial/ethnic group (e.g., "What do _____ people think?").	0	1	2	3	4	5
20. Being considered fascinating or exotic by others.	0	1	2	3	4	5

**Directions.** Please answer the following questions.

1. As you were growing up, how much were things related to race or racism talked about by the people or in the settings listed below? Please circle the appropriate number.

	Not at All	A Little	Some	A Lot	Extremely So
a) Your parents	0	1	2	3	4
b) Other family	0	1	2	3	4
c) Your friends	0	1	2	3	4
d) Your teachers	0	1	2	3	4
e) At your place of worship	0	1	2	3	4

2. **Directions.** Use the scale below to indicate the racial composition of each of the categories listed. Write the appropriate number on each of the blank lines.

- 0 = Does Not Apply to Me  
 1 = Entirely People of My Race  
 2 = Mostly People of My Race (A Few People from Other Races)  
 3 = Racially Integrated to a Large Degree  
 4 = Mostly People of Different Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups than Mine  
 5 = Mostly or Entirely White (No Not Use This Response if You are White)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| _____ a) your neighborhood growing up       | _____ f) your place of worship growing up |
| _____ b) your current neighborhood          | _____ g) your place of worship now        |
| _____ c) your current job                   | _____ h) your close friends growing up    |
| _____ d) your elementary & jr. high schools | _____ i) your close friends now           |
| _____ e) your high school                   | _____ j) your intimate relationships      |

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**Directions.** The statements below are intended to represent some of the ways people cope with stressful situations in their daily lives. In order to respond to the statements below you will need to think of a specific stressful situation that you may have encountered THAT SPECIFICALLY RELATES TO RACE. Think about a "stressful situation" related to race that you found troubling or otherwise caused you to worry. Such race related stressful situations might have been related to your family, friends, school, job, romantic relationship, or other things you consider important in your life. If you have never experienced a stressful situation related to race, please write about a stressful situation related to another social identity like gender, class, etc.

To help us better understand the exact nature of the stressful situation you are thinking of when responding to the statements in this questionnaire, please take a moment to write a brief description of the situation in the space provided below.

Use this space to describe your stressful situation; describe the setting, what happened, who was involved, how the situation made you feel

*DID YOU REMEMBER TO DESCRIBE YOUR STRESSFUL SITUATION?*

Now, keeping in mind the (race related) situation you just described in the previous page and similar situations, please indicate the extent to which you used each of the strategies described on the following pages to help you cope with the stress you experienced.

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	Does Not Apply or Did Not Use	Used a Little	1	Used a Lot	Used a Great Deal
1. Prayed that things would work themselves out.	0	1		2	3
2. Got a group of family or friends together to help with the problem.	0	1		2	3
3. Shared my feelings with a friend or family member.	0	1		2	3
4. Remembered what a parent (or other relative) once said about dealing with these kinds of situations.	0	1		2	3
5. Tried to forget about the situation.	0	1		2	3
6. Went to church (or other religious meeting) to get help from the group.	0	1		2	3
7. Thought of all the struggles Black people have had to endure and this gave me strength to deal with the situation.	0	1		2	3
8. To keep from thinking about the situation I found other things to keep me busy.	0	1		2	3
9. Sought advice about how to handle the situation from an older person in my family or community.	0	1		2	3
10. Read a scripture from the Bible (or similar book) for comfort and/or guidance.	0	1		2	3
11. Asked for suggestions on how to deal with the situation during a meeting of my organization or club.	0	1		2	3
12. Tried to convince myself that it wasn't that bad.	0	1		2	3
13. Asked someone to pray for me.	0	1		2	3
14. Spent more time than usual doing group activities.	0	1		2	3
15. Hoped that things would get better with time.	0	1		2	3
16. Read passage from a daily meditation book.	0	1		2	3
17. Spent more time than usual doing things with friends and family.	0	1		2	3
18. Tried to remove myself from the situation.	0	1		2	3
19. Sought out people I thought would make me laugh.	0	1		2	3
20. Got dressed up in my best clothing.	0	1		2	3
21. Asked for blessings from a spiritual or religious person.	0	1		2	3
22. Helped others with their problems.	0	1		2	3
23. Lit a candle for strength or guidance in dealing with the problem.	0	1		2	3
	Does Not Apply or Did Not Use	Used a Little	2	Used a Lot	Used a Great Deal
24. Sought emotional support from family and friends.	0	1		2	3

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26. Attended a social event (dance, party, movie) to reduce stress caused by the situation.	0	1	2	3
27. Sung a song to myself to help reduce the stress.	0	1	2	3
28. Used a cross or other object for its special powers in dealing with the problem.	0	1	2	3
29. Found myself watching more comedy shows on TV.	0	1	2	3
30. Left matters in God's hands.	0	1	2	3

**Directions.** Using the **6-point scale**, please indicate how much of the time you felt in the specified way during the past month; please circle the appropriate number corresponding to your response.

How much of the time, during the past month, have you...	All of the Time	Most of the Time	A Good Bit of the Time	Some of the Time	A Little More of the Time	None of the Time
1. Been a very nervous person.	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Felt calm and peaceful.	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Felt downhearted and blue.	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Been a happy person.	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Felt so down in the dumps that nothing could cheer you up.	1	2	3	4	5	6

**Directions.** - Everybody gets angry from time to time. A number of statements that people have used to describe the times that they get angry are included below. Using the **5-point scale** below, read each statement and circle the number to the right of the statement that best describes you. There are no right or wrong answers. Please answer every item.

	Completely Undescriptive	Mostly Undescriptive	Partly Undescriptive	Mostly Descriptive	Completely Descriptive
1. I have met people who are supposed to be experts who are no better than I.	1	2	3	4	5
2. Some of my friends have habits that annoy and bother me very much.	1	2	3	4	5
3. At times, I feel angry for no specific reason.	1	2	3	4	5
4. I can make myself angry about something in the past just by thinking about it.	1	2	3	4	5
5. People can bother me just by being around.	1	2	3	4	5
6. When I get angry, I stay angry for hours.	1	2	3	4	5
7. I am on my guard with people who are	1	2	3	4	5

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friendlier than I expected.

8. I get angry when someone lets me down.	1	2	3	4	5
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9. I get angry when people are unfair.	1	2	3	4	5
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10. I get angry when I have to take orders from someone less capable than I.	1	2	3	4	5
--	---	---	---	---	---

11. I get angry when I have to work with incompetent people.	1	2	3	4	5
--	---	---	---	---	---

12. I get angry when I am not given credit for something I have done.	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

**Thinking about a time in which you experienced racism, please respond to the following items:**

13. I harbor grudges that I don't tell anyone about.	1	2	3	4	5
--	---	---	---	---	---

14. I try to get even when I am angry with someone.	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

15. I feel guilty about expressing my anger.	1	2	3	4	5
--	---	---	---	---	---

16. Even after I have expressed my anger, I have trouble forgetting about it.	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

17. When I hide my anger from others, I think about it for a long time.	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

18. If I let people see the way I feel, I'd be considered person to get along with.	1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

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**Directions.** Please tell us about yourself by filling in or circling the following information as completely as possible.

1. Age: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Gender:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female

3. What is your racial group (e.g., Black, Latino, White, Asian)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What is your ethnic group (e.g., African American, Mexican, Italian, Chinese)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

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5. What's the highest level of education you have completed?

- a. Elementary school (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- b. Some high school
- c. High school diploma or equivalent
- d. Some college
- e. Associate or two-year degree
- f. Bachelor's or four-year degree
- g. Some graduate or professional school
- h. Business or trade school
- i. Graduate or professional degree

6. Currently, how religious or spiritual are you?

- a. Not at all religious/spiritual
- b. A little religious/spiritual
- c. Somewhat religious/spiritual
- d. Very religious/spiritual

7. Which religion or spiritual beliefs do you identify with?

- a. Christian/Catholic
- b. Protestant
- c. Muslim
- d. Hindu
- e. Jewish
- f. Buddhism
- g. Agnostic or Atheist
- h. Other (Specify \_\_\_\_\_)

8. What political party did you most strongly identify with in the recent election?

- a. Democrat
- b. Republican
- c. Green
- d. Independent
- e. Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

9. What is your current occupation?

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10. Are you employed:

☐ Full-time    ☐ Part-time    ☐ Unemployed

11. How would you describe your current physical health?

Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

12. How would you describe your current mental health?

Very Poor    Poor    Fair    Good    Very Good

13. Think of this ladder as representing where people stand in our society. At the top of the ladder are the people who are the best off – those who have the most money, most education and best jobs. At the bottom are the people who are the worst off – who have the least money, least education, and the worst jobs or no jobs. The higher up you are on this ladder, the closer you are to the people at the very top and the lower you are, the closer you are to the people at the very bottom. Please mark an "X" on the rung on the ladder where you would place yourself; you can mark the "X" anywhere on the line below that best describes your current social position

PEOPLE WHO ARE THE BEST OFF

A vertical ladder diagram consisting of 11 horizontal rungs. The rungs are evenly spaced and extend from a central vertical line. The top rung is aligned with the text 'PEOPLE WHO ARE THE BEST OFF' and the bottom rung is aligned with the text 'PEOPLE WHO ARE THE WORST OFF'.

PEOPLE WHO ARE THE WORST OFF

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14. What is your current address AND/OR the closest cross streets to your home, including city/state, zip code, and how long you have lived at this address? **PLEASE NOTE WE WILL DETACH THIS SHEET FROM THE REST OF THE SURVEY.**

Street Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

City/State:

\_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:

\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived at this address? \_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ month



*THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PARTICIPATION!*