Expressions of Life Meaning

Item content was taken predominantly from recent prominent philosophical writings (Almond, 999; Ames, 999; Flew, 999; Ivey & Ivey, 999; Kirkham, 999; Sharpe, 999; Smart, 999; Taylor, 999; Klemke, 000; Hill, 00).

The differing views of the theorists were each summed in statements rated by participants on a Likert-like scale, with anchors for the items being 'Not at all-Very', 'Low priority-High priority', or 'Disagree-Agree'. The use of differing scale expressions has no relevance to the analysis and only becomes relevant when interpreting the meaning of individual items.

How religious/spiritual would you say you are?

To have trustworthy and intimate friends.

To have a fulfilling career.

To be closely connected to family.

To share values/beliefs with others in your close circle or community.

To have and raise children.

To continually set short-and long-term, achievable goals for yourself.

To feel satisfied with yourself (feel good about yourself).

To live up to the expectations of family and close friends.

To contribute to world peace.

To be involved in an intimate relationship with a significant person.

To give of yourself to others.

To be able to plan and take time for leisure.

To act on your own personal beliefs, despite outside pressure.

To be seen as physically attractive.

To feel confident in choosing new experiences to better yourself.

To care about the state of the physical/natural environment.

To take responsibility for your mistakes.

To make restitution for your mistakes, if necessary.

To be involved with social or political causes.

To keep up with media and popular-culture trends.

To adhere to religious practices based on tradition or rituals.

To use your own creativity in a way that you believe is worthwhile.

The meaning of life is found in understanding one’s ultimate purpose for life.

The meaning of life can be discovered through intentionally living a life that glorifies a Spiritual being

There is a reason for everything that happens.

Obtaining things in life that are material and tangible is only part of discovering the meaning life.

People unearth the same basic values when attempting to find the meaning of life.

It is more important to cultivate character than to be consumed with outward rewards or awards.

Some aims or goals in life are more valuable than other goals.

The purpose of life lies in promoting the ends of truth, beauty, and goodness.

A meaningful life is one that contributes to the well-being of others.

The meaning of life is the same as a happy life.

The meaning of life is found in realizing my potential.

Life has purpose only in the everyday details of living.

There is no one universal way of obtaining a meaningful life of all people.

People passionately desire different things. Obtaining these things contributes to making life more meaningful for them.

What contributes to a meaningful life varies according to each person (or group).

Lives can be meaningful even without the existence of a God or spiritual realm.

Our lives have no significance, but we must life as if they do.