

**Malawi
ISSP 2018 – Religion IV
Questionnaire
(English)**

2018 Religion Questionnaire - Final Draft

See Question Notes at the end of Microsoft Word Version.

Compulsory Items

| QN # | QUESTION | RESPONSE | Code |
|-------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | If you were to consider your life in general these days, how happy or unhappy would you say you are, on the whole... | Very happy..... Fairly happy..... Not very happy..... Not at all happy..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 2 | All things considered, how satisfied are you with your relationships with family members? | Completely satisfied..... Very satisfied..... Fairly satisfied..... Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied Fairly dissatisfied..... Very dissatisfied..... Completely dissatisfied.... Can't Choose..... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 |
| 3 | Do you think it is wrong or not wrong if a <u>married</u> person has sexual relations with someone <u>other</u> than his or her husband or wife, is it | Always wrong..... Almost always wrong..... Wrong only sometimes..... Not wrong at all..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 4 | And what about sexual relations between two adults of the same sex, is it... | Always wrong..... Almost always wrong..... Wrong only sometimes..... Not wrong at all..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 5 | Do you personally think it is wrong or not wrong for a woman to have an abortion if the family has a very low income and cannot afford any more children. | Always wrong..... Almost always wrong..... Wrong only sometimes..... Not wrong at all..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 6 | Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? A husband's job is to earn money; a wife's job is to look after the home and family | Srongly Agree..... Agree..... Neither agree nor Disagree. Disagree..... Strongly Disagree..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 5 8 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------|---------|------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | How much confidence do you have in... | 1 Complete confidence 2 A great deal of confidence 3 Some confidence 4 Very little confidence 5 No confidence at all 8 Can't choose PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | a. Paliament b. Business & industry c. Churches & religious organizations d. Courts & the legal system e. Schools & the educational system | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td> </tr> </table> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Religious leaders should not try to influence how people vote in elections. | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Strongly Agree.....</td><td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agree.....</td><td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neither agree nor Disagree.</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disagree.....</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strongly Disagree.....</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Can't choose.....</td><td>8</td> </tr> </table> | Strongly Agree..... | 1 | Agree..... | 2 | Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | Disagree..... | 4 | Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly Agree..... | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Agree..... | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disagree..... | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | Please consider the following statements and tell me whether you agree or disagree. a. We trust too much in science and no enough in religious faith b. Looking around the world, religions bring more conflict than peace c. People with very strong religious beliefs are often too intolerant of others | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 Strongly Agree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Agree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Neither agree nor Disagree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 Disagree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Strongly Disagree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8 Can't choose</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER</td> </tr> </table> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>8</td> </tr> </table> | 1 Strongly Agree | 2 Agree | 3 Neither agree nor Disagree | 4 Disagree | 5 Strongly Disagree | 8 Can't choose | PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | |
| 1 Strongly Agree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 Agree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 Neither agree nor Disagree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 Disagree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 Strongly Disagree | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 Can't choose | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Do you think that churches and religious organizations in this country have too much power or too little power? | <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Far too much power.....</td><td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Too much power.....</td><td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>About the right amount of power</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Too little power.....</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Far too little power.....</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Can't choose.....</td><td>8</td> </tr> </table> | Far too much power..... | 1 | Too much power..... | 2 | About the right amount of power | 3 | Too little power..... | 4 | Far too little power..... | 5 | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Far too much power..... | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Too much power..... | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| About the right amount of power | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Too little power..... | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Far too little power..... | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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|--|---|---|-----------------------|
| 11 | People have different religions and different religious views. Would you accept a person from a different religion or with a very different religious view from yours marrying a relative of yours. | Definitely accept..... Probably accept..... Probably not accept..... Definitely not accept..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 12 | There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority. Consider <u>religious extremists</u> , that is people who believe that their religion is the only true faith and all other religions should be considered as enemies. Do you think such people should be allowed to... 1 Definitely 2 Probably 3 Probably not 4 Definitely not 8 Can't choose PLEASE TICK ONE BOX ON EACH LINE. | | |
| Hold public meetings to express their views? | | 1 2 3 4 8 | |
| Publish their views on the Internet or social media? | | 1 2 3 4 8 | |
| 13 | Please indicate which statement below comes closest to expressing what you believe about God. I don't believe in God I don't know whether there is a God and I don't believe there is any way to find out I don't believe in a personal God, but I do believe in a Higher Power of some kind I find myself believing in God some of the time, but not at others While I have doubts, I feel that I do believe in God I know God really exists and I have no doubts about it | | |
| | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 | |
| 14 | Which best describes your beliefs about God? I don't believe in God now and I never have..... I don't believe in God now, but I used to..... I believe in God now, but I didn't used to..... I believe in God now and I always have..... Can't choose..... | | |
| | | 1 2 3 4 8 | |
| 15 | Do you believe in 1 Yes Definitely 2 Yes Probably 3 No Probably not 4 No Definitely not 8 Can't choose a. Life after death 1 2 3 4 5 8 b. Heaven 1 2 3 4 5 8 c. Hell 1 2 3 4 5 8 d. Religious miracles 1 2 3 4 5 8 e. The supernatural powers of deceased ancestors 1 2 3 4 5 8 | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| | Do you agree or disagree with the following? | 1 Strongly Agree 2 Agree 3 Neither agree nor Disagree 4 Disagree 5 Strongly Disagree 8 Can't choose PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | | | | | |
| 16 | a. There is a God who concerns Himself with every human being personally | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | b. There is little that people can do to change the course of their lives | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | c. To me, life is meaningful only because God exists | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | d. In my opinion, life does not serve any purpose | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | e. Life is only meaningful if you provide the meaning yourself | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | f. I have my own way of connecting with God without churches or religious services. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| 17 | In your opinion, does your religion treat men and women equally, treat men better than women, or treat women better than men? | | | | | | |
| | I don't belong to or follow any religion | | | | | | 1 |
| | Treats men and women equally | | | | | | 2 |
| | Treats men better than women | | | | | | 3 |
| | Treats women better than men | | | | | | 4 |
| Can't choose | | | | | | 8 | |
| 18 | What was your mother's religious preference when you were a child? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, Hindu, some other religion, or no religion? | Protestant Catholic Muslim Other Specify Please Specify: _____ No Religion Don't Know | | | | | 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| | If Protestant: What specific denomination was that? _____ | | | | | | |

| | | | |
|----|--|--|---|
| 19 | <p>What was your father's religious preference when you were a child? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Islam, Hindu, some other religion, or no religion?</p> <p>If Protestant: What specific denomination was that?</p> <hr/> | Protestant Catholic Muslim Other Specify Please Specify: <hr/> No Religion Don't Know | 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| 20 | <p>What religion, if any, were you raised in? Was it Protestant, Catholic, Hindu, some other religion, or no religion?</p> <p>If Protestant: What specific denomination was that?</p> <hr/> | Protestant Catholic Muslim Other Specify Please Specify: <hr/> No Religion Don't Know | 1 2 3 4 5 6 |
| 21 | <p>When you were a child, how often did your mother attend religious services?</p> | Never..... Less than once a year..... About once or twice a year. Several times a year..... About once a month..... 2-3 times a month..... Nearly every week..... Every week..... Several times a week..... No mother/mother not present.. Can't say/Can't remember... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 98 |
| 22 | <p>When you were a child, how often did your father attend religious services?</p> | Never..... Less than once a year..... About once or twice a year. Several times a year..... About once a month..... 2-3 times a month..... Nearly every week..... Every week..... Several times a week..... No father/father not present.. Can't say/Can't remember... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 98 |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|---|
| 23 | And what about when you were around 11 or 12, how often did you attend religious services then? | Never..... Less than once a year..... About once or twice a year. Several times a year..... About once a month..... 2-3 times a month..... Nearly every week..... Every week..... Several times a week..... Can't say/Can't remember... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 98 |
| 24 | Now thinking about the present... About how often do you pray? | Never..... Less than once a year..... About once or twice a year. Several times a year..... About once a month..... 2-3 times a month..... Nearly every week..... Every week..... Several times a week..... Once a day..... Several times a day..... Can't say/Can't remember... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 98 |
| 25 | How often do you take part in the activities or organizations of a church or place of worship other than attending services? | Never..... Less than once a year..... About once or twice a year. Several times a year..... About once a month..... 2-3 times a month..... Nearly every week..... Every week..... Several times a week..... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 |
| 26 | During the last 12 months, have you read or listened to the reading of any holy scripture such as the Bible, Buddhist sutra, Koran, Sruti, Torah, or other religious scripture, not counting any reading that happened during a worship service? | Yes..... No..... | 1 2 |
| 27 | For religious reasons do you have in your home a shrine, altar, or a religious object on display such as a (COUNTRY-SPECIFIC LIST icon, retablo, mezuzah, Ayat, menorah, Candle or crucifix)? | Yes..... No..... | 1 2 |
| 28 | How often do you visit a holy place for religious reasons such as going to [shrine/ temple/ church/mosque]? Please do not count attending regular religious services at your usual place of worship, if you have one | Never Less than once a year About once or twice a year.... Several times a year About once a month or more.... | 1 2 3 4 5 |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| 29 | Would you describe yourself as | Extremely religious..... Very religious..... Somewhat religious..... Neither religious nor non-religious..... Somewhat non-religious..... Very non-religious..... Extremely non-religious..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 |
| 30 | What best describes you: I follow a religion and consider myself to be a spiritual person interested in the sacred or the supernatural. I follow a religion, but don't consider myself to be a spiritual person interested in the sacred or the supernatural. I don't follow a religion, but consider myself to be a spiritual person interested in the sacred or the supernatural. I don't follow a religion and don't consider myself to be a spiritual person interested in the sacred or the supernatural. Can't choose | | 1 2 3 4 8 |
| 31 | Do you agree or disagree that practicing a religion helps people to... a. make friends? b. gain comfort in times of trouble or sorrow? | 1 Strongly Agree 2 Agree 3 Neither agree nor Disagree 4 Disagree 5 Strongly Disagree 8 Can't choose PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER 1 2 3 4 5 8 1 2 3 4 5 8 | |
| 32 | Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Religions are usually a barrier to equality between women and men. | Strongly Agree..... Agree..... Neither agree nor Disagree. Disagree..... Strongly Disagree..... Can't choose..... | 1 2 3 4 5 8 |
| | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 33 | Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? | | | | | | |
| a | Governments should not interfere with the attempts of any religion to spread its faith. | Strongly Agree..... | 1 | | | | |
| | | Agree..... | 2 | | | | |
| | | Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | | | | |
| | | Disagree..... | 4 | | | | |
| | | Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | | | | |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | |
| b | All things considered, people belonging to different religions cannot get along with each other when living close together. | Strongly Agree..... | 1 | | | | |
| | | Agree..... | 2 | | | | |
| | | Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | | | | |
| | | Disagree..... | 4 | | | | |
| | | Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | | | | |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | |
| 34 | Do you agree or disagree with the following? | | | | | | |
| a. | In [Malawi], religion represents the past and not the future | Strongly Agree..... | 1 | | | | |
| | | Agree..... | 2 | | | | |
| | | Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | | | | |
| | | Disagree..... | 4 | | | | |
| | | Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | | | | |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | |
| b. | In [Malawi], religion is just as relevant to life today as it was in the past | Strongly Agree..... | 1 | | | | |
| | | Agree..... | 2 | | | | |
| | | Neither agree nor Disagree. | 3 | | | | |
| | | Disagree..... | 4 | | | | |
| | | Strongly Disagree..... | 5 | | | | |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | |
| 35 | What is your personal attitude towards members of the following religious groups? | Very positive..... | 1 | | | | |
| | | Somewhat positive..... | 2 | | | | |
| | | Neither positive nor negative. | 3 | | | | |
| | | Somewhat negative..... | 4 | | | | |
| | | Very negative | 5 | | | | |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | |
| | PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | | | | | | |
| | a. Christians | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | b. Muslims | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | c. Hindus | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | d. Budhists | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | e. Jews | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| | f. Atheist of Non Believers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 8 |

Compulsory Background Variable:

| | | | |
|----|---|-------------------|---|
| 36 | In general, would you say your health is... | Excellent..... | 1 |
| | | Very good..... | 2 |
| | | Good..... | 3 |
| | | Fair..... | 4 |
| | | Poor..... | 5 |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 |

Optional Items

| | | | |
|----|--|----------|---|
| 37 | Would you say that you have been "born again" or have had a "born again" experience -- that is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Christ? For Muslims: Have you made Tauba? | Yes..... | 1 |
| | | No..... | 2 |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 38 | Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible/Quran? a. The Bible/Quran is the actual word of God and it is to be taken literally, word for word b. The Bible/Quran is the inspired word of God but not everything should be taken literally, word for word c. The Bible/Quran is an ancient book of fables, legends, history, and moral precepts recorded by d. This does not apply to me e. Can't choose | 1 |
| | | 2 |
| | | 3 |
| | | 4 |
| | | 8 |

| | | | |
|----|---|----------|---|
| 39 | Has there ever been a turning point in your life when you made a new and personal commitment to religion? | Yes..... | 1 |
| | | No..... | 2 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|--|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 40 | Now please think about something different. | Please check one box on each line below to show whether you think each statement is true or false. | | | | | |
| | | Definitely True | Probably True | Probably false | Definitely False | Can't Choose | |
| | | a. Good luck charms sometimes do bring good luck. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | | b. Some fortune tellers really can fore-see the future | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | | c. Some faith healers do have God-given healing powers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | | d. A person's star sign at birth, or horoscope, can affect the course of their future | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |

| | | | |
|----|--|--|---|
| 41 | Suppose a law was passed which conflicted with your religious principles and teachings. Would you... | Definitely follow the law..... | 1 |
| | | Probably follow the law..... | 2 |
| | | Probably follow your religious principles..... | 3 |
| | | Definitely follow your religious principles..... | 4 |
| | | I have no religious principles..... | 5 |
| | | Can't choose..... | 8 |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 42 | Do you consider those belonging to the following groups as threatening or not threatening? | 1 Very threatening 2 Somewhat threatening 3 Not very threatening 4 Not at all threatening 8 Can't choose PLEASE CIRCLE A NUMBER | | | | |
| | a. Christians | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | b. Muslims..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | c. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | d. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | e. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | F. Non-Believers..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 43 | Generally speaking, would you say that people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people? | | | | | |
| | People can almost always be trusted..... | 1 | | | | |
| | People can usually be trusted..... | 2 | | | | |
| | You usually can't be too careful in dealing with people.. | 3 | | | | |
| | You almost always can't be too careful in dealing with people. | 4 | | | | |
| | I have no religious principles..... | 5 | | | | |
| Can't choose..... | 8 | | | | | |
| 44 | Do you believe in.... | Yes Definitely | Yes Probably | Probably Not | No Definitely Not | Can't Choose |
| | a. Reincarnation - being reborn in this world again and again | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| | b. Nirvana- A transcendent state: no suffering, desire, sense of self | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 45 | Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? | Strongly Agree..... | | | | 1 |
| | A country's laws should not be based on any religion. | Agree..... | | | | 2 |
| | | Neither agree nor Disagree. | | | | 3 |
| | | Disagree..... | | | | 4 |
| | | Strongly Disagree..... | | | | 5 |
| | | Can't choose..... | | | | 8 |