Believers' Death Anxiety Scale

Following are some statements related to death and dying. Please respond to these statements in accordance with the degree you agree or disagree. Please avoid "Don't know" as much as possible. You must check only one box under each statement.

1. I get sad while thinking of death.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

2. I am afraid of dying.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

3. Thoughts of death make me worried.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

4. I am afraid of being punished after death.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

5. I feel worried when I think of the punishment I may receive in my grave.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

6. The life of grave can be terrifying for me.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

7. I don't consider myself eligible for the mercy of God.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

8. I have not spent my life in a way which could lead me to the heaven.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

9. Punishments and rewards from God are predetermined.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

10. I avoid life-threatening situations.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

11. I am afraid of having a chronic disease.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

12. I am afraid of dying a slow and painful death.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

13. I don't want to think of death.
   Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

14. I usually avoid thoughts of death.

Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

15. I become confused while I think of death.

Extremely False ☐   Slightly false ☐   Don't know ☐   Slightly True ☐   Extremely True ☐

Psychometric Properties

Scale: Believers' Death Anxiety Scale

Description: The scale measures death anxiety among believers of any religion. Its uniqueness is its incorporation of religious dimensions into the measurement of death anxiety.

Language: English

Items: 15

Sub-scales:
Worry (items 1-3), Terror (items 4-6), Despair (items 7-9), Avoidance (items 10-12), Thoughts (items 13-15)

Reverse coded items: Nil

Response sheet: extremely false (scored 1), slightly false (scored 2), don't know (scored 3), slightly true (scored 4), extremely true (scored 5)

Participants: 2250 men=1094; women=1258; age=18-59 (M=26)
EFA: n=552; men=271; women=281; age=18-46 (M=22)
CFA: n=732; men=284; women=448; age=18-59 (M=26)
CV: n=643; men=246; women=397; age=18-59 (M=26)
DV: n=323; men=129; women=194; age=18-59 (M=28)

Reliability:
Cronbach's alpha: Believers' Death Anxiety Scale=0.857; Worry=0.847; Terror=0.895; Despair=0.746; Avoidance=0.911; Thoughts=0.902
Item-total correlations range from 0.308 to 0.682 with $p<0.01$ (mean=0.578)
Item-scale correlations range from 0.792 to 0.941 with $p<0.01$ (mean=0.887)

Construct Validity: Chi-square test: Baseline model: $\chi^2 = 3702.541$, df = 105, Factor model: $\chi^2 = 231.570$, df = 80, $p < 0.001$; Additional Fit Measures: Comparative Fit Index (CFI): 0.958; Tucker-Lewis Index (TLI): 0.945; Bentler-Bonett Non-normed Fit Index (NNFI): 0.945; Bentler-Bonett Normed Fit Index (NFI): 0.937; Parsimony Normed Fit Index (PNFI): 0.714; Bollen's Relative Fit Index (RFI): 0.918; Bollen's Incremental Fit Index (IFI): 0.958; Relative Noncentrality Index (RNI): 0.958; Information Criteria: Log-likelihood: -14623.554, Number of free parameters: 55, Akaike (AIC): 29357.108, Bayesian (BIC): 29609.876, Sample-size adjusted Bayesian (SSABIC): 29435.233; Root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA): 0.051; RMSEA 90% CI lower bound: 0.043; RMSEA 90% CI upper bound: 0.059; RMSEA p-value: 0.412; Standardized root mean square residual (SRMR): 0.046; Hoelter's critical N ($\alpha = .05$): 323.044; Hoelter's critical N ($\alpha = .01$): 356.075; Goodness of fit index (GFI): 0.996; McDonald fit index (MFI): 0.902; Expected cross-validation index (ECVI): 0.467; Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Test: Overall KMO: 0.768; KMO for individual indicators ranged from 0.700 to 0.865; Bartlett's Test of Sphericity: $\chi^2 = 3668.597$, df = 105, $p < 0.001$; R-Squared: Explained variance (R^2) for each factor ranged from 0.431 to 0.726

Convergent Validity: Significant positive correlation with Depression (r=0.363, $p<0.01$), Anxiety (r=0.409, $p<0.01$), and Stress (r=0.353, $p<0.01$)

Discriminant Validity: Significant inverse correlation with life satisfaction (r= -0.953, $p<0.01$)

Interpretation of Results:
1 to 15 = Absence of death anxiety
16 to 30 = Slight presence of death anxiety
31 to 60 = Moderate presence of death anxiety
61 to 75 = Severe presence of death anxiety

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