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LSSAW/MR

Life Satisfaction Scale
for Apostolic
Women/Men Religious

Congregational Character

Individual Well-Being

Membership Viability

Holistic Growth &
Commitment

Inter-Relationships

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The Life Satisfaction Scale for Apostolic Women/Men Religious (LSSAW/MR)

History & Purpose:

Maria Clara Kreis, CDP, Ph.D., L.P. and Duquesne University have been awarded a generous grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to create a manual for the “Life Satisfaction Scale for Apostolic Women Religious (LSSAWR; Kreis, 2012).” The grant was used to support the translation of the LSSAWR and its manual into Spanish & German, and to extend to younger generations in religious congregations. With the support of Catholic Theological Union and a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. the LSSAWR will be extended to a gender neutral version, and thus accessible for women and men religious worldwide and across generations.

Benefits:

The LSSAW/MR assesses satisfaction levels of Roman Catholic Apostolic women/men religious individually and communally as they discern their on-going commitment to religious life.

Areas of Assessment:

The LSSAW/MR assesses the satisfaction levels of women religious regarding the following five areas and also provides a **Total Score** that reflects one’s overall level of satisfaction:

Congregational Character:

Viability of the Congregation moving forward.

Individual Well-Being:

Personal sense of wellbeing with this life choice.

Membership Viability:

Personal and communal efforts to sustain and increase membership.

Holistic Growth & Commitment:

Personal and professional growth and commitment to this life choice.

Inter-Relationships:

Relationships within the Congregation and external to it.

An individual member could make use of the LSSAW/MR while on retreat or during times of transition (e.g., ministry/community living situation). Women/men in various stages of formation can use it to assess their personal satisfaction with religious life and to facilitate conversations with their mentors/leadership. After a sufficient number of members have completed the LSSAW/MR, Congregational leaders could use the results to assess the state of their Congregation and its viability across generations of their membership.