

FAMILY ID: _____
INTERVIEWER'S NAME: _____
DATE OF THE INTERVIEW: _____
STUDY WAVE: _____

VO

VALUE ORIENTATION

Control Over Nature

I AM GOING TO READ A SET OF BRIEF STORIES. EACH WILL HAVE TWO POINTS OF VIEW. AFTER EACH POINT OF VIEW, I WILL ASK YOU WHICH OF THE TWO PERSPECTIVES YOU PREFER.

1. Business Loss

One time a man had a small business that did quite well. For many reasons, his business dropped off considerably and he lost much money. People talked about his business failure and said different things.

THIS IS THE FIRST POINT OF VIEW:

- A Some people said you just can't blame the man when things like this happen. One can do almost nothing to prevent such losses when they come. We all have to learn to take the bad with the good. (Subj)

NOW HERE IS THE SECOND VIEW:

- B Some people said that it was probably the man's own fault that his business did poorly. He probably didn't use his head to prevent the losses. (Control)

If you had to choose between these two views, which do you think would be best?

2. Facing Conditions

There are different ways of thinking about how God is related to people and to their natural environment, like the weather. Here are two possible ways.

THIS IS THE FIRST POINT OF VIEW:

- A God does not directly use his power to control all the weather conditions. It is up to the people themselves to figure out the ways weather conditions change and to try hard to find ways of controlling them. (Control)

NOW HERE IS THE SECOND VIEW:

- B** Just how God will use his power over weather conditions cannot be known. It is useless for people to think they can change weather conditions all that much. It is best to take the weather conditions as it comes. (Subj)

If you had to choose between these two ways of looking at things, which would you choose? Which do you think is best?

3. Raising Children

There were two families who had quite different ways of raising their children.

THIS IS THE FIRST POINT OF VIEW:

- A** One set of the parents felt that the way their children turned out largely depended on forces outside their control (e.g., who their friends were and who their teachers were). These parents believed there was not much more they could do for their children except for providing what was necessary. (Subj)

NOW HERE IS THE SECOND VIEW:

- B** One family used the current scientific ideas about childrearing that they could find out about. They frequently attended classes and community lectures on parenting. They felt that they could prevent many of the problems most parents have in raising children. (Control)

If you had to choose, which of these ways do you believe is usually best?

4. Belief in Control

Two men from different areas were talking about happiness. Here is what they each said.

THIS IS THE FIRST POINT OF VIEW:

- A** One man said: My people have never seemed to have much control over the conditions that make us happy and probably never will. There have always been good times and bad times. If you are wise you will take it as it comes and do the best you can. (Subj)

NOW HERE IS THE SECOND VIEW:

- B** The second man said: My people believe that it is a person's job to make sure their life will bring them happiness. We believe that we are happier because of what we make of our lives. (Control)

Which of these men do you think had the best idea?

5. Length of Life

Two women in their late forties were talking about whether they themselves could do anything to live longer. Here is what each said:

THIS IS THE FIRST POINT OF VIEW:

- A** One said: It is true that doctors and scientists are finding ways to add many years to the lives of most people, for example, by making new medicines. If we pay attention to these new ways, we will almost certainly live longer. (Control)

NOW HERE IS THE SECOND VIEW:

- B** The second one said: I really believe that there is not much that we now can do to live longer. What is done is done. We have a set time to live, and when that time comes it just comes. (Subj)

Which of these two ways is the best way to look at life?