

HANDOUT 4

Just World Scale

Indicate your degree of agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements in the blank space next to each item. Respond to every statement by using the following code.

5 = strongly agree
4 = moderately agree
3 = slightly agree
2 = slightly disagree
1 = moderately disagree
0 = strongly disagree

- ___ 1. I've found that a person rarely deserves the reputation he has.
- ___ 2. Basically, the world is a just place.
- ___ 3. People who get "lucky breaks" have usually earned their good fortune.
- ___ 4. Careful drivers are just as likely to get hurt in traffic accidents as careless ones.
- ___ 5. It is a common occurrence for a guilty person to get off free in American courts.
- ___ 6. Students almost always deserve the grades they receive in school.
- ___ 7. Men who keep in shape have little chance of suffering a heart attack.
- ___ 8. The political candidate who sticks up for his principles rarely gets elected.
- ___ 9. It is rare for an innocent man to be wrongly sent to jail.
- ___ 10. In professional sports, many fouls and infractions never get called by the referee.
- ___ 11. By and large, people deserve what they get.
- ___ 12. When parents punish their children, it is almost always for good reasons.
- ___ 13. Good deeds often go unnoticed and unrewarded.
- ___ 14. Although evil men may hold political power for a while, in the general course of history, good wins out.
- ___ 15. In almost any business or profession, people who do their job well rise to the top.
- ___ 16. American parents tend to overlook the things most to be admired in their children.
- ___ 17. It is often impossible for a person to receive a fair trial in the USA.
- ___ 18. People who meet with misfortune have often brought it on themselves.
- ___ 19. Crime doesn't pay.
- ___ 20. Many people suffer through absolutely no fault of their own.

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