

## French Spiritual Well-Being Scale

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Two French-language translations of the SWBS have been completed -- one by Velasco and Rioux (2009) and one by Mutima (2013). Here we provide some comments about each one. Although both of them do a satisfactory job of conveying in French the basic ideas and meanings of the original English SWBS and the items therein, some items in each translation can be taken to convey a slightly different intonation than the other, or than one might expect. On most items the two translations concur on the meaning of the item, but the few on which they differ may lead a researcher to regard one or the other as more appropriate for use in his or her research project. We leave it to future research to fine-tune these differences, if and as needed.

Velasco and Rioux (2009) used a sophisticated back-translation approach. A group of theologians conducted the initial translation; a second group performed the back translation and agreed on final wording. A group then completed the French SWBS and evaluated the items, which led Velasco and Rioux to change the number of response alternatives to five rather than six, and item 6 was revised for clarity. They performed two studies. Their first study employed exploratory factor analysis with oblique rotation. Three factors were extracted, an outcome similar to that of Scott et al. (1998), and that included 17 items in all. Factor 1 included positively worded RWB items, Factor 2 included seven EWB items, and Factor 3 included the negatively-worded RWB items. Items 2 and 17 did not load well, and item 4 showed weak internal consistency, thus these items were eliminated. Correlations among the factors three factors ranged between .52 and .65. Alphas were .89, .82, and .86 respectively for the three factors. Their second study employed confirmatory factor analysis and found that a three-factor solution was best at meeting the criteria for goodness of fit. In their words, “la version Velasco & Rioux (2009) comporte 17 items. Trois items (N° 2, 18 et 20 en rouge) n'ont pas été retenus, selon des critères statistiques.”

Mutima (2013) explored the role of spiritual well-being as a mediator between the experience of combat-inflicted rape and PTSD among a sample of adult women in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Data for 117 participants (ages 18-64,  $M = 36.4$  years) were analyzed. Results showed tendency for EWB to be lower among those with more severe PTSD symptoms. No relationship was found for RWB and PTSD symptoms. A French translation of the SWBS was used but details of its translation were not located (Mutima, 2013, Appendix E; this translation includes all 20 items). That said, the behavior of the French RWB and EWB subscales seemed to parallel that for their original English counterparts, as did the behavior of the relationships between the RWBS, EWBS, and total SWBS and various other social, interpersonal, and PTSD-related variables in studies conducted in English and other languages.

### References

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