

MARIAN SURVEY: MARY AND YOUTH
INTERNATIONAL MARIAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: The questions in this survey focus on Mary, the mother of Jesus, and your own thoughts, beliefs, feelings and experiences of her. Your answers are very important for they will help the International Marian Research Institute to understand what young men and women around the world think about Mary. Please take the time to read the questions carefully and to answer them honestly and in the order that they appear. This is not a test, and your responses are anonymous, so if you do not know the answer to a question, simply check the response that says "I do not know" and proceed to the next question.

Thank you very much.

Please provide the following background information:

1. What is the religion in which you have been raised?

- Roman Catholicism
- Non-Roman Catholic Christianity (for example, Anglican, Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist, Pentecostal, Presbyterian)
- Non-Christian (for example, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Shintoism)
- No Religion

2. In general, how would you characterize your association with the religion in which you have been raised?

- Very strong
- Strong
- Average
- Weak
- Very weak
- I reject the religion in which I have been raised.
- I do not know how I would rate my association with the religion in which I have been raised.

3. In general, how would you characterize your father's association with the religion in which you have been brought up.

- Very strong
- Strong
- Average
- Weak
- Very weak
- My father rejects the religion in which I have been brought up.
- My father does not associate with the religion I have been brought up in.

- I do not know how to characterize my father's association with religion.

4. In general, how would you characterize your mother's association with the religion in which you have been brought up?

- Very strong
- Strong
- Average
- Weak
- Very weak
- My mother rejects the religion in which I have been raised.
- My mother does not associate with the religion in which I have been raised.
- I do not know how to characterize my mother's association with religion.

5. What is your age?

- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- Other (Please specify) _____

6. What is your sex?

- Female
- Male

7. In what city and country do you live?

- City (village, town)
- Country

8. What is the name of your school?

I. LEARNING ABOUT MARY

9. Have you ever heard about Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ?

- Yes
- No

10. If you answered yes to Question 9, from whom did you first hear about Mary? (Please check the one response that is most appropriate.)

- Mother
- Father
- Parish Priest, Minister, Sunday School Teacher
- School Teacher
- Other (Please specify) _____
- I do not remember from whom I first heard about Mary.

11. In the last three years at your school have you ever been taught about Mary?

- Yes
- No
- I do not remember if in the last three years at my school I have ever been taught about Mary.

12. If you answered yes to Question 11, how were you taught about Mary in your school in the last three years? (Please place a check by all responses that apply.)

- I was taught about Mary in a course that was specifically about her.
- I was taught about Mary as part of a religion course (taught in one or several lessons of a religion course).
- I was taught about Mary through a special event at school (for example, a movie or lecture).
- I was taught about Mary in my school in another way. (Please specify how.)

II. MARIAN DEVOTIONS

13. At your church, do you participate in special Marian devotions? (For example, Mass on Marian feast days, Marian prayers, rosary, special local Marian customs)

- Yes, I often participate in such devotions at my church.
- Yes, I sometimes participate in such devotions at my church.

- No, I never participate in such devotions at my church.

14. If you are aware of any Marian devotions practiced by your school, please indicate which ones are practiced:

- To my knowledge, my school does not practice Marian devotions.
- Rosary
- Mass on Marian feast days
- Special local Marian celebrations (for example, May crownings, Marian processions)
- Recitation of other Marian prayers
- Marian pilgrimages
- Other (Please specify)

15. If your school does practice such Marian devotions as those listed in Question 14, do you participate?

- Yes, I often participate in such devotions at my school.
- Yes, I sometimes participate in such devotions at my school.
- No, I never participate in such devotions at my school.

16. If your family practices any Marian devotions, which ones are practiced?

- My family does not practice Marian devotions.
- Rosary
- Recitation of the "Angelus"
- Recitation of the "Hail Mary"
- Recitation of other Marian prayers
- Other (Please specify)

17. The following statements concern how you perceive Marian apparitions, such as Guadalupe, Lourdes and Fatima. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK):

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. I am interested in Marian apparitions.					
b. Apparitions are a sign of exaggerated importance given to Mary by the Catholic Church.					

c. Apparitions are a sign of God's grace operating in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. So-called Marian apparitions can be explained by psychology.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. We do have to believe in Marian apparitions.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Through apparitions, we see that God reveals himself to whomever he wants through Mary.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. Marian apparitions contribute greatly to the conversion of many to God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

18. Do Marian prayers have a place in your life?

- Yes
- No
- I do not pray.

19. If you say any Marian prayers, please number in order of preference those that you say.

- "Hail, Mary"
- "Angelus"
- "Magnificat"
- Rosary
- Other (Please specify)

20. The following statements concern how you perceive Marian prayer. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK):

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. I do think Marian prayer is important.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Marian prayer is important because Mary is a model of prayer and faith.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Marian prayer is important because Mary is a powerful intercessor.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Marian prayer distracts me from praying directly to God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. One can pray only to God, not to Mary.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

21. If you were ever taught to pray the rosary, do you ever pray it?
(Please place a check by the appropriate response.)

- I was never taught to pray the rosary.
- I was taught to pray the rosary, and I pray it often.
- I was taught to pray the rosary, and sometimes I pray it.
- I was taught the rosary, but I never pray it.

22. Are you a member of any Marian prayer or social organizations? (For example, Legion of Mary, Sodality)

- Yes (Please write the name of the organization or organizations.)
- No

III. MARY AND SCRIPTURE

23. Other than reading in church or required reading for school, do you ever read the Bible?

- Yes
- No

24. The following statements concern Mary and Scripture. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK):

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. Scripture tells us that Mary was always a virgin.					
b. Scripture tells us that Mary was sinless.					
c. Scripture tells us that Mary was the handmaid of the Lord.					
d. Scripture tells us that Mary was the wife of Joseph.					
e. Scripture tells us that Mary conceived Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.					
f. Scripture tells us that Mary is the mother of God.					
g. Scripture tells us that Mary became the mother of John the apostle at the foot of the cross.					
h. Scripture tells us that Mary was concerned for human problems					
i. Scripture tells us that Mary was Jewish.					

IV. MAY, CHURCH TEACHING, AND YOU

25. The Roman Catholic dogma (official and binding teaching) of the Immaculate Conception says essentially (Please place a check by the appropriate response.)

- Mary was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Mary conceived Jesus without sin.
- Mary conceived Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Mary was conceived without the stain of original sin.
- I do not know what the dogma says.

26. The Roman Catholic dogma of the Assumption says (Please place a check by the appropriate response):

- Mary died and was taken, body and soul, into heaven.
- Mary fell asleep and was taken into heaven.
- Mary was taken, body and soul, into heaven after finishing the course of her life on earth.
- Mary will be the first raised to life on the last day.
- I do not know what the dogma says.

27. Besides the Assumption and the Immaculate Conception, can you think of other Roman Catholic Marian dogmas?

- Yes (Please specify)
- No

28. Does the Roman Catholic Church teach that Mary is divine like God, or does the Church teach that Mary is human like us? (Please place a check by the appropriate response.)

- The Church teaches that Mary is like God.
- The Church teaches that Mary is more like God than like us.
- The Church teaches that Mary is more like us than like God.
- The Church teaches that Mary is truly like us.
- I do not know what the Church teaches about Mary being like God or like us.

29. What is your own perception of Mary being divine like God or human like us? (Please place a check by the appropriate response.)

- I see Mary as a woman who is like God.
- I see Mary as a woman who is more like God than like us.
- I see Mary as a woman who is more like us than like God.
- I see Mary as a woman who is truly like us.
- I do not know what I think about Mary being like God or like us.

30. What is your own perception about how Mary became the mother of God's son, Jesus? (Please place a check by the appropriate response.)

- I believe that Mary had no choice; she was simply an instrument used by God to bring his son into the world.
- I believe that Mary chose freely to accept God's invitation to bear his son.
- I do not know what I believe about this.

31. The Roman Catholic Church teaches that Mary was a virgin before, during and after she gave birth to Jesus. The following statements concern some viewpoints about the virgin birth. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK):

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. The doctrine of the virgin birth is important because it safeguards the divinity of Jesus Christ.					
b. The doctrine of the virgin birth is important because it stresses the special grace that Mary received from God for bearing his son.					
c. I don't understand the doctrine of the virgin birth, but I believe it because the Church teaches it.					
d. The virgin birth has only symbolic value, it is a way of expressing Mary's total dedication to God.					
e. It is important for Roman Catholics to believe in the virgin birth as biological (physical) reality.					

32. Do you believe that Mary is the mother of God, meaning the mother of Jesus Christ, true God and true man?

- Yes

- No
- I do not know what I believe about this.

33. The following statements concern different views or opinions about Mary. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know (DK) whether the statement is an accurate presentation of Roman Catholic teaching about Mary:

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. Mary is the mediator between God the Father and humanity.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. Mary protects humanity from the wrath of Jesus, the son of God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. Mary is the co-redeemer of humanity with Jesus Christ.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. Mary leads the faithful to Jesus Christ.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. Mary is the woman who will defeat Satan.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. Mary is the Catholic goddess to be worshipped by the faithful.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. Mary prayed and prays that the world will reject communism.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. Mary is the symbol of traditional, conservative Catholicism.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

34. The following list of statements are descriptions that people have used to describe Mary. Beside each statement, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK)

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. I see Mary as a caring mother of the Church and of humanity.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b. I see Mary as the mother of God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c. I see Mary as one who sympathizes with the poor.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d. I see Mary as our sister in faith.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e. I see Mary as the handmaid of God	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f. I see Mary as the feminine dimension of God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g. I see Mary as the highest expression of human beauty.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h. I see Mary as the Queen of Heaven.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
i. I see Mary as a powerful intercessor who presents our prayers to God.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j. I see Mary as the co-redeemer of humanity with Jesus Christ.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

k. I see Mary as the ideal woman.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
l. I see Mary as a chaste virgin.	<input type="checkbox"/>				

35. Do you view Mary in other ways?

- Yes (Please specify)
- No, I do not have any personal view about Mary.

36. Does Mary have a place in your life?

- Yes
- No
- I do not know.

37. If you answered Yes to Question 36, how does Mary have a place in your life? (For example, is Mary a model of faith and discipleship; is Mary one who helps you to pray?) (Please write your response.)

38. Is Mary important to the Roman Catholic Church?

- Yes (Please specify why.)
- No (Please specify why not.)
- I do not know if Mary is important to the Roman Catholic Church.

39. In your opinion, how important is knowledge about and devotion to Mary to faith in Jesus Christ?

- Very important (Please specify why.)
- Important (Please specify why.)
- Not very important (Please specify why not.)
- I do not know what I think about this.

40. In your opinion, is Roman Catholic teaching about Mary an obstacle to Christian unity?

- Yes (Please specify why.)

- No (Please specify why not.)
- I do not know what I think about this.

41. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the Roman Catholic Church's teachings on the following issues. Beside each item, please indicate whether you strongly agree (SA), agree (A), disagree (D), strongly disagree (SD), or don't know how you feel (DK):

	SA	A	D	SD	DK
a. The Pope has the authority to speak with infallibility.					
b. It is a serious sin to miss Mass on Sunday, except for serious reasons (such as ill health, etc.)					
c. Living together before marriage is wrong.					
d. Abortions should be illegal.					
e. Christians are obliged to get involved in social-political issues (e.g., social justice).					

42. How close would you describe your relationship towards:

	very close	somewhat close	not close at all	don't know
a. God				
b. Jesus				
c. Mary				
d. saint				
e. home parish				
f. church groups				

43. Here are some words that people sometimes use to describe the ideal woman. How likely is each one of them to come to your mind as you would describe the characteristics of the ideal woman? Circle one number for each word:

	extremely likely	somewhat likely	not too likely	not likely at all
BOLD				
TIMID				
PROUD				

HUMBLE				
SINCERE				
DECEITFUL				
JUDGMENTAL				
OPEN-MINDED				
CHALLENGING				
COMFORTING				
WARM				
DISTANT				
RELIABLE				
INCONSISTENT				
FRIENDLY				
AGGRESSIVE				
ACCOMMODATING				
STUBBORN				
GENTLE				
STERN				
STRONG				
WEAK				
PATIENT				
DEMANDING				

44. How likely are you to use any of these words in describing your mother? Circle one number for each word:

	extremely likely	somewhat likely	not too likely	not likely at all
BOLD				
TIMID				
PROUD				
HUMBLE				
SINCERE				
DECEITFUL				
JUDGMENTAL				
OPEN-MINDED				
CHALLENGING				

COMFORTING				
WARM				
DISTANT				
RELIABLE				
INCONSISTENT				
FRIENDLY				
AGGRESSIVE				
ACCOMMODATING				
STUBBORN				
GENTLE				
STERN				
STRONG				
WEAK				
PATIENT				
DEMANDING				

45. How likely are any of these words to come to your mind as describing the way the Church presents Mary in its teaching? Circle one number for each word:

	extremely likely	somewhat likely	not too likely	not likely at all
BOLD				
TIMID				
PROUD				
HUMBLE				
SINCERE				
DECEITFUL				
JUDGMENTAL				
OPEN-MINDED				
CHALLENGING				
COMFORTING				
WARM				
DISTANT				
RELIABLE				
INCONSISTENT				
FRIENDLY				

AGGRESSIVE				
ACCOMMODATING				
STUBBORN				
GENTLE				
STERN				
STRONG				
WEAK				
PATIENT				
DEMANDING				

46. How likely is each of these words to come to your mind when you think of Mary? Circle one number for each word:

	extremely likely	somewhat likely	not too likely	not likely at all
BOLD				
TIMID				
PROUD				
HUMBLE				
SINCERE				
DECEITFUL				
JUDGMENTAL				
OPEN-MINDED				
CHALLENGING				
COMFORTING				
WARM				
DISTANT				
RELIABLE				
INCONSISTENT				
FRIENDLY				
AGGRESSIVE				
ACCOMMODATING				
STUBBORN				
GENTLE				
STERN				
STRONG				

WEAK				
PATIENT				
DEMANDING				