

# Death Attitude Profile-Revised (DAP-R)

Wong, P.T.P., Reker, G.T., & Gesser, G.

This questionnaire contains a number of statements related to different attitudes toward death. Read each statement carefully, and then decide the extent to which you agree or disagree. For example, an item might read: "Death is a friend." Indicate how well you agree or disagree by circling one of the following: **SA** = strongly agree; **A**= agree; **MA**= moderately agree; **U**= undecided; **MD**= moderately disagree; **D**=disagree; **SD**= strongly disagree. Note that the scales run both from *strongly agree* to *strongly disagree* and from *strongly disagree* to *strongly agree*.

If you strongly agreed with the statement, you would circle **SA**. If you strongly disagreed you would circle **SD**. If you are undecided, circle **U**. However, try to use the undecided category sparingly.

It is important that you work through the statements and answer each one. Many of the statements will seem alike, but all are necessary to show slight differences in attitudes.

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|---|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Death is no doubt a grim experience.                                       | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 2. The prospects of my own death<br>arouses anxiety in me.                    | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 3. I avoid death thoughts at all costs.                                       | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 4. I believe that I will be in heaven after<br>I die.                         | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 5. Death will bring an end to all my<br>troubles.                             | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 6. Death should be viewed as a natural,<br>undeniable, and unavoidable event. | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 7. I am disturbed by the finality of death.                                   | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |

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|--|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 8. Death is an entrance to a place of ultimate satisfaction.             | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 9. Death provides an escape from this terrible world.                    | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 10. Whenever the thought of death enters my mind, I try to push it away. | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 11. Death is deliverance from pain and suffering.                        | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 12. I always try not to think about death.                               | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 13. I believe that heaven will be a much better place than this world.   | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 14. Death is a natural aspect of life.                                   | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 15. Death is a union with God and eternal bliss.                         | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 16. Death brings a promise of a new and glorious life.                   | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 17. I would neither fear death nor welcome it.                           | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |
| 18. I have an intense fear of death.                                     | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 19. I avoid thinking about death altogether.                             | <b>SD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>SA</b> |
| 20. The subject of life after death troubles me greatly.                 | <b>SA</b> | <b>A</b> | <b>MA</b> | <b>U</b> | <b>MD</b> | <b>D</b> | <b>SD</b> |

21. The fact that death will mean the end of everything as I know it frightens me. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
22. I look forward to a reunion with my loved ones after I die. **SD D MD U MA A SA**
23. I view death as a relief from earthly suffering. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
24. Death is simply a part of the process of life. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
25. I see death as a passage to an eternal and blessed place. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
26. I try to have nothing to do with the subject of death. **SD D MD U MA A SA**
27. Death offers a wonderful release of the soul. **SD D MD U MA A SA**
28. One thing that gives me comfort in facing death is my belief in the afterlife. **SD D MD U MA A SA**
29. I see death as a relief from the burden of this life. **SD D MD U MA A SA**
30. Death is neither good nor bad. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
31. I look forward to life after death. **SA A MA U MD D SD**
32. The uncertainty of not knowing what happens after death worries me. **SD D MD U MA A SA**

### **Scoring Key for the Death Attitude Profile-Revised**

Dimension	Items
Fear of Death (7 items)	1,2,7,18,20,21,32
Death Avoidance (5 items)	3,10,12,19,26
Neutral Acceptance (5 items)	6,14,17,24,30
Approach Acceptance (10 items)	4,8,13,15,16,22,25,27,28,31
Escape Acceptance (5 items)	5,9,11,23,29

Scores for all items are from 1 to 7 in the direction of *strongly disagree (1)* to *strongly agree (7)*. For each dimension, a mean scale score can be computed by dividing the total scale score by the number of items forming each scale.

For further information on the theoretical rationale and the psychometric properties of the scale consult the following source:

Wong, P.T.P., Reker, G.T., & Gesser, G. (1994). Death Attitude Profile-Revised: A multidimensional measure of attitudes toward death. In R.A. Neimeyer (Ed.), *Death anxiety handbook: Research, instrumentation, and application*. (pp. 121-148). Washington, DC: Taylor & Francis.

For information on the original DAP, consult the following source:

Gesser, G., Wong, P.T.P., & Reker, G.T. (1987-88). Death attitudes across the life span: The development and validation of the Death Attitude Profile (DAP). *Omega*, 18, 113-128.