Beliefs & Practices

Of the members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church of Mexico

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Engineering School
Montemorelos University
Global Church Member Survey
Inter American Division Seventh Day Adventist Church

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Engineering Student Paola de la Cruz
Survey for members of the Inter American Division Seventh Day Adventist Church 2017

- 50 questions
- Section 1: personal info
- Section 2: demographics home & religion
- Section 3: Religious behavior
- Section 4: Attitudes & religious experiences

- From section 4: we choose questions 28 & 41, for Mexico data
<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sabbath School teachers care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Pastor cares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Other people care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Proud of my church role and reputation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Hurt by leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Church plans activities for family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Local church part worldwide church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Pastor(s) and lay leaders work together well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Church ability to communicate across cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Church training on conflict resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Church training on nurture and disciplining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Church training on Christ's method of evangelism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sexually abused by an authority figure in the church</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Q41: Fundamental beliefs</strong></td>
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<td>The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs are the teaching of Holy Scripture.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Salvation is through Jesus Christ alone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>I believe God created the world in six days of 24 hours each in the relatively recent past.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>The Seventh-day Adventist Church is God’s true last-day church with a message to prepare the world for the Second Coming of Christ.</td>
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<td>In order to reach people for Christ, we need to get to know them and their needs before we preach the Gospel to them.</td>
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<td>The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs as a whole reflect the loving and gracious character of God.</td>
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<td>The Bible teaches that sexual intercourse should be exclusively reserved for marriage.</td>
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Q28: Religious attitude & experiences
Q41: Fundamental beliefs

• Significance level $\alpha = 0.05$
• Statistical software: SPSS 22.0.0.0, RStudio 3.5.2
• Mexican Conferences data, $n = 2351$
• For maps, we use spatial data from Conabio and software QGIS 2.18
  http://www.conabio.gob.mx/informacion/gis/
Q28: Religious attitude & experiences
Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

• 24 items (questions)

• Five points Likert Scale

  1. Strongly disagree, 2. disagree, 3. don’t know, 4. agree, 5. strongly agree

• Reliability – internal consistency: Cronbach alpha = 0.886

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reliability</th>
<th>Cronbach’s Alpha</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.886</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

Exploratory factor analysis (EFA)

• Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
• Rotation method: Varimax with Kaiser normalization

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) test for sampling adequacy: 0.907
Bartlett test of sphericity:
Aprox Chi square 17006.721, d.f. 276, Sig. 0.000
Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Initial Eigenvalues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Component</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.637</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q28: Religious attitude & experiences

**Factor 1: Identity and mission.** “My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”.
Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.

**Factor 2: Biblical foundations.** “I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”.
Items 16, 17, 18.

**Factor 3: Training and communication.** “My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”
Items 20, 21, 22, 23.
Factor 1
Identity and mission
“My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”
Factor 2

Biblical foundations

“I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”
Factor 3
Training and communication

“My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”
Factor 1
Identity and mission
Factor 1: Identity and mission

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 9.793 on 4 and 2249 DF, p-value: 7.473e-08
Residuals Assumptions

**Homoscedasticity**
Assumption of constant variance

*The one-way ANOVA is considered a robust test against the normality assumption*

**Normality**

Non-parametric Anova

Kruskal-Wallis rank sum test data:
chi-squared = 35.733,
df = 4, p-value = 3.283e-07
Q28

Factor 1: Identity and mission. “My local church fulfil its mission, take care of the members and has good leaders”.

Identity & Mission

1: Strongly disagree
2: Disagree
3: Don’t know
4: Agree
5: Strongly agree
Factor 1: Identity and mission

One Way Anova
F=9.801,
p-value = 0.000
Factor 1: Identity and mission

Post Hoc Tukey HSD test
Factor 2
Biblical foundations
Q28: 2\textsuperscript{nd} factor

**Factor 2: Biblical foundations.** “I live according to the teachings of the Bible, Sabbath School and Spirit of Prophecy”.

1: Strongly disagree
2: Disagree
3: Don’t know
4: Agree
5: Strongly agree
Factor 2: Biblical foundations

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 10.84 on 4 and 2200 DF, p-value: 1.058e-08
Factor 2: Biblical foundations

![Graph showing Biblical Foundations across Mex Conferences: Central, Chiapas, Interoceanic, North, Southeast. The graph indicates an increase in Biblical Foundations from Central to Southeast.]
Factor 2: Biblical foundations

95% family-wise confidence level

Differences in mean levels of MexUNION

Post Hoc Tukey HSD
Factor 3
Training and communication
Q28: 3rd factor

**Factor 3: Training and communication.** “My local church has programs for training leaders, sharing the gospel and to establish good relationship with other religious denominations and social groups”
Factor 3: Training and communication

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 1.625 on 4 and 2164 DF, p-value: 0.1652
Q41: Fundamental beliefs

• 32 items

• Five points Likert Scale

  1. Strongly disagree, 2. disagree, 3. don’t know, 4. agree, 5. strongly agree

• Reliability – internal consistency: Cronbach alpha = 0.805

<table>
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Q41: Fundamental beliefs
Q41: Fundamental beliefs

Exploratory factor analysis (EFA)

- Extraction method: Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Rotation method: Varimax with Kaiser normalization

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) test for sampling adequacy: 0.947
Bartlett test of sphericity:
Aprox Chi square 20173.331, d.f. 496, Sig. 0.000
Q41:
Fundamental beliefs

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>10.199</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2.460</td>
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<td>1.531</td>
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Factor 2: No practical interpretation
Factor 1
Fundamental beliefs

“Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.).”
Factor 3

Spiritual implications

“Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.
Q41: Fundamental beliefs

Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs. “Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.).”
Items 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 22, 25, 30, 31, 32.

Factor 2: No interpretation

Factor 3: Spiritual implications. “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.
Items 3, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23.
**Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs.** “Acceptance and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.).”

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<td>The most effective method for reaching people for Christ is to mingle with them, meet their needs, win their confidence, and then bid them to follow Christ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Fulfillment of prophecy and events in the world indicate that Christ’s coming is very near.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>When people die, their bodily remains decay and they have no consciousness or activity until they are resurrected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>God wants me to take care of my body by avoiding alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>The head of the Church is Christ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>The true Sabbath is the seventh day (Saturday).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Ellen White’s writings are the result of the spiritual gift of prophecy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>I believe God created the universe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>All believers are called by God to serve each other without distinction of race, culture, education, nationality, gender, or wealth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Prayer in the name of Jesus is the only way to defeat evil powers and demonic spirits.</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>My body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.</td>
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**Q41: Fundamental beliefs**

**Factor 3: Spiritual implications.** “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.

Items 3, 7, 10, 18, 20, 23.

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<td>I will not get to heaven unless I obey God’s law perfectly.</td>
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<td>Christians may go to witch doctors or spiritual healers for protection or healing.</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>People who have died believing in Christ are in heaven right now.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>If I am to be saved, I need to be baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist church.</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>The dead have powers to communicate with and influence the living.</td>
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The sanctuary doctrine is vital to Adventist theology.

In order to reach people for Christ, we need to get to know them and their needs before we preach the Gospel to them.

The Seventh-day Adventist Fundamental Beliefs as a whole reflect the loving and gracious character of God.

The Bible teaches that sexual intercourse should be exclusively reserved for marriage.

Fundamental beliefs: The Bible teaches that marriage is a union between a man and a woman.

Factor 2: No interpretation
What could this mean?
Factor 1
Fundamental beliefs
Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs. “Acceptation and practice of the fundamental beliefs of the Seventh Day Adventist Church (creation, view of death, body as God temple, salvation, Spirit of Prophecy, marriage, prayer, Jesus second coming, etc.).”

1: Strongly disagree
2: Disagree
3: Don’t know
4: Agree
5: Strongly agree
Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 18.71 on 4 and 2172 DF, p-value: 3.938e-15
Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs

![Diagram showing the distribution of Fundamental Beliefs across different regions in Mexico (Central, Chiapas, Interoceanic, North, Southeast)].
Factor 1: Fundamental beliefs

95% family-wise confidence level

Chiapas-Southeast
Interoceanic-Southeast
Central-Southeast
North-Southeast
Interoceanic-Chiapas
Central-Chiapas
North-Chiapas
Central-Interoceanic
North-Interoceanic
North-Central

Differences in mean levels of MexUNION

Post Hoc
Tukey HSD
Factor 3
Spiritual implications
Factor 3: Spiritual implications. “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”

1: Strongly disagree
2: Disagree
3: Don’t know
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Q41: Fundamental beliefs

Factor 3: Spiritual implications. “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.
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Factor 3: Spiritual implications.

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 19.11 on 4 and 2154 DF, p-value: 1.859e-15
Factor 3: Spiritual implications.
Factor 3: Spiritual implications.

95% family-wise confidence level

Post Hoc
Tukey HSD
Factor 3: Spiritual implications ~ Age groups

One Way Anova

F-statistic: 11.74 on 3 and 2086 DF, p-value: 1.25e-07
Factor 3: Spiritual implications ~ Age groups

Spiritual implications. “Behaviors and beliefs of church members opposite to fundamental beliefs of SDA church”.

95% family-wise confidence level

Differences in mean levels of EdadGrupo
Regression Model

F-statistic: 31.09 on 3 and 2055 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

y: Response: Spiritual implications

Predictors:
• x1: Identity and mission (p-value= 0.0558)
• x2: Biblical foundations (p-value= 8.28e-08)
• x3: Training and communication (p-value= 2e-16)

\[ y = 2.25628 -0.06301 x_1 -0.12742 x_2 + 0.210422 x_3 \]
Thanks