Abstract:

The authors contend that standard survey measures of religiosity are inadequate to capture fully the complexity of religion. In response to their proposals to broaden the scope of measurement with respect to doctrine and practice, eight new items were included in the 2006 Pilot Study that were asked of respondents who identified themselves as Christians in the 2004 study. The new items shed light on the catholic dimensions of religiosity that have been previously under-measured in ANES questionnaires. Recommendations include continued use of the items measuring individual piety versus communitarian views of Christianity. The findings reported in this paper suggest the need to continue to refine the measurement of religion in surveys.