

**TABLE 6.1** Three Ways to Measure Attitudes Toward Religion Using Self-Report Scales

| <b>THURSTONE SCALE</b>  |                              |  |   |              |                           |
|---|------------------------------|--|---|--------------|---------------------------|
| Please place a checkmark next to all statements with which you agree.                                     |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| <b>Scale Value</b>  |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| 0.2   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I believe the church is the greatest institution in America today.                                     |   |              |                           |
| 2.0   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I believe the church provides most of the leaders for every movement for social welfare.               |   |              |                           |
| 3.8   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I like our church for it gives young people a change to have some fun and yet it is religious.         |   |              |                           |
| 5.3   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I don't believe church-going will do anyone any harm.  |   |              |                           |
| 8.6   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I feel the church is petty, always quarreling over matters that have no interest or importance.        |   |              |                           |
| 9.4   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I feel the church is bound hand and foot by money interests and cannot practice the religion of Jesus. |   |              |                           |
| 11.0  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | I think the church is a parasite on society.   |   |              |                           |
| <i>Source: R. C. Peterson and Thurstone (1933/1970), pp. 22–23.</i>                                       |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| <b>LIKERT SCALE</b>   |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| Please circle one number next to each item to indicate your level of agreement with that item.            |                              |  |   |              |                           |
|   | <b>Strongly<br/>Disagree</b> | <b>Disagree</b>  | <b>Neither<br/>Agree<br/>nor<br/>Disagree</b> | <b>Agree</b> | <b>Strongly<br/>Agree</b> |
| 1.  | 1                            | 2  | 3   | 4            | 5                         |
| My religious beliefs are what really lie behind my whole approach to life.                                |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| 2.  | 1                            | 2  | 3   | 4            | 5                         |
| I try hard to carry my religion over into all my dealings in life.  |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| 3.  | 1                            | 2  | 3   | 4            | 5                         |
| Although I am a religious person, I refuse to let religious considerations influence my everyday affairs. |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| 4.  | 1                            | 2  | 3   | 4            | 5                         |
| Although I believe in my religion, I feel there are many more important things in my life.                |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| <i>Source: Batson and Ventis (1982).</i>  |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| <b>SEMANTIC DIFFERENTIAL SCALE</b>  |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| Place an X above each line to indicate your attitude toward <b>Americans</b> .                            |                              |  |   |              |                           |
| —<br>bad  | —                            | —  | —   | —            | —<br>good                 |
| —<br>undesirable  | —                            | —  | —   | —            | —<br>desirable            |
| —<br>unpleasant   | —                            | —  | —   | —            | —<br>pleasant             |
| —<br>foolish  | —                            | —  | —   | —            | —<br>wise                 |
| <i>Source: Osgood, Suci, and Tannenbaum (1957).</i>   |                              |  |   |              |                           |