Moral Injury and Distress Scale

People sometimes experience, witness, or learn about situations that go against their deeply held moral beliefs and values. They may: 1) act against their morals and values by doing something, 2) fail to do something, or 3) witness others commit highly unethical acts.

For example, healthcare workers or first responders may have to make decisions that affect the wellbeing or survival of others or cannot do enough to save someone, parents may make ethically-challenging decisions that end up hurting their children, military service members may cause harm or fail to protect others during war, drivers may get in an accident where others are hurt, border patrol or police may receive orders that contradict their morals/values (e.g., hurting others based on race or immigration status), people may witness others or even their leaders take part in acts that get others hurt or killed.

Please think about whether you have ever done something, failed to do something, or witnessed an event that went against your own deeply held morals or values. We are focused here on major events that significantly impacted your life rather than smaller scale experiences, such as hurting someone by telling a white lie. Indicate below how much the following statements are true for you.

Moderately

2

Quite a bit

3

Extremely

4

Rating

Not at all

0

A little

1

1.) I acted in ways that violated my own morals or values.

1a) I am bothered by what I did.

Exposure

low long ago did the ave	nt(s) occur? Years	N.4	
a) 1 time	b) A few times	c) Often	d) Very often
How often did this event	or series of events occur?		
(c) What do you wish you	would have done differently?		
b) What is most upsettin	g about it to you?		
	, 		
	es of events (#1–3 above) that is most tences to briefly describe the ever		
	D, skip the rest of this question		
3a) I am bothered by w	hat I saw.		
3.) I saw things that violat	ed my own morals or values.		
2a) I am bothered by v	vhat I did not do.		
		ing i should have done.	
2) Lyiolatad my awn mar	als or values by failing to do someth	ing I should have done	

Keeping the most distressing event(s) and their impact on your life in mind, indicate how true each of the following statements was for you over the last month:

Not at all	A little	Moderately	Quite a bit	Extremely
0	1	2	3	4

Because of what I did, failed to do, or witnessed that went against my morals and values			
1. I think about how I should have been able to do more.			
2. I have withdrawn from others more often.			
3. I feel guilty.			
4. I doubt my own judgement.			
5. I do not feel like I deserve to be happy.			
6. I self-sabatoge things in my life more often (relationships, things at work).			
7. I feel helpless.			
8. My life feels like it has less purpose.			
9. I am worried that bad things will happen to me or my loved ones			
10. I have punished myself.			
11. I feel disgusted.			
12. I do not seek support because I feel like I do not deserve it.			
13. I do not seek support because I worry others would not understand.			
14. I feel betrayed by leaders or institutions.			
15. I feel powerless.			
16. I should not be forgiven.			
17. My spirituality/faith is no longer a source of comfort.			
18. I do not take good care of myself.			