Modifications on the Revised Paranormal Belief Scale (RPBS)

**Information:**

For theoretical reasons (Lindeman & Svedholm, 2012) and based on participant feedback (Svedholm & Lindeman, 2013) we have made the following modifications to the original 26-item RPBS

**References:**

Lindeman, M., & Svedholm, A. M. (2012). What’s in a term? Paranormal, superstitious, magical and supernatural beliefs by any other name would mean the same. Review of General Psychology, 16(3), 241-255. doi: 10.1037/a0027158

Svedholm, A. M., & Lindeman, M. (2013). The separate roles of the reflective mind and involuntary inhibitory control in gatekeeping paranormal beliefs and the underlying intuitive confusions. British Journal of Psychology, 104(3), 303-319. doi: 10.1111/j.2044-8295.2012.02118.x

Tobacyk, J. (2004). A revised paranormal belief scale. International Journal of Transpersonal Studies, 23, 94-98.

**Instruction and scale:**

The participants are asked to indicate whether they agree with the statements (1 = strongly disagree, 5 = strongly agree)

**Items** *(modifications in italics):*

1. The soul continues to exist though the body may die

2. Some individuals are able to levitate (lift) objects through mental forces

3. Black magic really exists

4. *Some omens, such as a black cat crossing, can bring bad luck Black cats* (original: A black cat crossing brings bad luck)

5. Your mind or soul can leave your body and travel (astral projection)

*(6. Excluded: The abominable snowman of Tibet exists)*

7. Astrology is a way to accurately predict the future

8. There is a devil

9. Psychokinesis, the movement of objects through psychic powers, does exist

10. *Witches who have supernatural powers exist* (original: Witches do exist)

11. If you break a mirror, you will have bad luck

12. During altered states, such as sleep or trances, the spirit can leave the body

*(13. Excluded: The Loch Ness monster of Scotland exists*)

14. The horoscope accurately tells a person’s future

15. I believe in God

16. A person’s thoughts can influence the movement of a physical object

17. Through the use of formulas and incantations, it is possible to cast spells on persons

18. *Some numbers, for example 13, are unlucky* (original: The number “13” is unlucky)

19. Reincarnation does occur

*(20. Excluded: There is life on other planets*)

21. Some psychics can accurately predict the future

22. There is a heaven and a hell

23. *Telepathic mind reading is not possible* (original: Mind reading is not possible)

24. There are actual cases of witchcraft.

25. *Dead people can send messages to their loved ones* (original: It is possible to communicate with the dead)

26. Some people have an unexplained ability to predict the future.

*Note.* Item 23 is reverse scored. In the original version, the subscales include the following items: Traditional Religious Belief = Mean of Items (1, 8, 15, 22); Psi = Mean of Items (2, 9, 16, 23); Witchcraft = Mean of Items (3, 10, 17, 24); Superstition = Mean of Items (4, 11, 18); Spiritualism = Mean of Items (5, 12, 19, 25) Extraordinary Life Forms = Mean of Items (6, 13, 20); Precognition = Mean of Items (7, 14, 21, 26).