

Orthodox Jewish Stigma Mental Illness (OJSS)

Note: This scale is designed to refer to a vignette describing an individual with mental illness.

The following nine questions ask you to imagine how Binyamin feels. Answering these questions accurately requires honest reflection on you think he would act and feel in these situations.

- 1 - No
- 2 - Uncertain
- 3 - Possibly
- 4 – Yes

1. If they knew about it, do you think Binyamin's neighbors, colleagues or others in his community think less of him because of his problem?
2. Do you feel others would avoid Binyamin because of his problem?
3. Would some people refuse to visit his home because of this condition?
4. If they knew about it, would Binyamin's neighbors, colleagues or others in his community think less of his family because of his problem?
5. If others were to find out about Binyamin's problem, might it cause any problems for his family?
6. Would Binyamin's family prefer to keep others from finding out about his condition?
7. If people knew about it, might his problem make it more difficult for Binyamin to marry?
8. Might his condition cause problems in Binyamin's marriage?
9. Could his problem make it more difficult for someone in Binyamin's family to marry?

Source: Pirutinsky, S., Rosmarin, D.H., & Pargament, K.I. (2009, August). *Preliminary Validation of a Scale to Measure Stigma towards Mental Illness among Orthodox Jews*. Poster to be presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Ont.

Note: This is a self-report instrument. No special skills are required to administer this measure; however interpretation should only be carried out by individuals with appropriate training in psychological assessment. Provided that the scales are not modified or sold for profit, and complete and accurate references to relevant published works are provided in all print copies and cited in academic work, no permission is required to use or distribute these instruments when used for research or healthcare purposes. Steven Pirutinsky, stevenpirutinsky@gmail.com.