

Independent Review of the Flourishing Faith Model (FFM) & the Flourishing Faith Index (FFI)

Similar to the prior independent review of FSCI, ACSI contracted Cardus, a North American non-partisan think tank, to conduct an independent review of the Flourishing Faith Model (FFM) and the Flourishing Faith Index (FFI). This independent review is a rigorous and thorough process in which qualified and impartial scholar(s) do a comprehensive examination of the model and the instrument to ensure their conceptual and technical soundness by analyzing the conceptual framework, development process, and how well it measures what it is intended to measure (psychometrics).

This independent review covered several essential aspects of the model and the instrument, such as:

- 1. The FFM's conceptual framework, including defining terminologies and identifying constructs based on relevant literature;
- 2. The FFI's development process including the item-writing process, the items themselves, and the pilot study of the initial list of items;
- 3. The FFI's psychometric analyses and properties of the instrument items that provide empirical evidence of the reliability and validity of the instrument; and
- 4. Recommendations for future development that aim to enhance the value that FFI can deliver to end users, including additional analyses from various backgrounds of schools.

The reviewer concluded the independent review by providing an endorsement of the FFM and FFI instrument:

"The FFM was developed based upon a comprehensive literature review and discussion with an expert panel. The accompanying FFI was drafted and piloted with fidelity. That work has led to an instrument with ample evidence of validity and reliability.... I commend ACSI for developing the FFM and FFI and am eager to see how Christian schools will benefit from what they offer... My general assessment is that the FFM and FFI are, respectively, a conceptually robust framework and psychometrically sound instrument. I give my endorsement of the FFM and FFI for use by Christian schools if they wish to formally assess and put forth focused effort in their students' spiritual formation and biblical worldview development."

Questions regarding the independent review and the FFM and FFI instrument should be directed to research@acsi.org.

More information about the FSCI and the Flourishing Schools research can be found at https://www.acsi.org/thought-leadership.