

## Loneliness Study Code Book

This code book includes the subset of variables from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (AddHealth) used to study adolescent loneliness for Assignment 1 in the class Data Management and Visualization. There are also several new variables derived from the existing data. These variables expand on the ideas of social connectedness in different areas of friendship, family, and romance.

### Dataset Variables:

#### AID:

Respondent identifier number

#### Friends-H1DA7

Response to "During the past week, how many times did you just hang out with friends?"

# responses, code, and answer

635	0	not at all
1515	1	1 or 2 times
1753	2	3 or 4 times
2595	3	5 or more times
2	6	refused
4	8	don't know

#### Friends-Flag

Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they spend more or less time with friends

F = 3 and 2 (5 or more times, 3 or 4 times)

N = 1 and 0 (1 or 2 times, not at all)

- = 8 and 6 (refused, don't know)

#### Friends-Flag-Numeric

A binary numeric code of 1 or 0 used to determine whether the respondent spent more or less time with friends. It is based on the Friends-Flag and used to calculate the SumOfFive variable.

#### Mother-H1WP9

Response to "How close do you feel to your {MOTHER/ADOPTIVE MOTHER/STEPMOTHER/FOSTER MOTHER/etc.}?"

# responses, code, and answer

25	1	not at all
156	2	very little
480	3	somewhat
1229	4	quite a bit
4239	5	very much
2	6	refused
370	7	legitimate skip [ <i>no MOM</i> ]
3	8	don't know

### **Mother-Flag**

Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they feel close to their mother

M = 5 and 4 (very much, quite a bit)

N = 1, 2, 3, 7 (not at all, very little, somewhat, legitimate skip [no MOM])

- = 6, 8 (refused, don't know)

### **Mother-Flag-Numeric**

A binary numeric code of 1 or 0 used to determine whether the respondent feels close to their mom.  
Based on the Mother-Flag and used to calculate the SumOfFive variable.

### **Father-H1WP13**

Response to "How close do you feel to your {FATHER/ADOPTIVE FATHER/FATHER/STEPFATHER/FOSTER FATHER/etc.}?"

# responses, code, and answer

75	1	not at all
184	2	very little
610	3	somewhat
1211	4	quite a bit
2467	5	very much
4	6	refused
1952	7	legitimate skip [ <i>no DAD</i> ]
1	8	don't know

### **Father-Flag**

Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they feel close to their father

D = 5 and 4 (very much, quite a bit)

N = 1, 2, 3, 7 (not at all, very little, somewhat, legitimate skip [no DAD])

- = 6, 8 (refused, don't know)

### **Father-Flag-Numeric**

A binary numeric code of 1 or 0 used to determine whether the respondent feels close to their father. Based on the Father-Flag and used to calculate the SumOfFive variable.

### **Romantic-H1RR1**

Response to “In the last 18 months—since {MONTH, YEAR}—have you had a special romantic relationship with any one?”

# responses, code, and answer

2878	0	no
3582	1	yes
22	6	refused
20	8	don't know
2	9	not applicable

### **Romantic-Flag**

Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they had a special romantic relationship in the last 18 months

R = 1 (yes)

N = 0 (no)

- = 6, 8, 9 (refused, don't know, not applicable)

### **Romantic-Flag-Numeric**

A binary numeric code of 1 or 0 used to determine whether the respondent was in a special romantic relationship in the last 18 months. Based on the Romantic-Flag and used to calculate the SumOfFive variable.

### **Sibling-Best**

In Relations with Siblings, the most connected response to “How much time do you and {NAME} spend together?” out of the 7 variables H1WS1A, H1WS1B, H1WS1C, H1WS1D, H1WS1E, H1WS1F, H1WS1G.

# responses, code, and answer

458	1	a lot
406	2	some
218	3	little
60	4	none
10	6	refused
5346	7	legitimate skip <i>[not a study sib or no household member between ages 12 and 18]</i>
4	8	don't know
1	9	not applicable

**Sibling-Flag**

Looks at the sibling with whom they spent the most time. Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they spent at least some time with that sibling (versus little or none).

S = 1 and 2

N = 3, 4, 7

- = 6, 8, 9

**Sibling-Flag-Numeric**

A binary numeric code of 1 or 0 used to determine whether the respondent spends at least some time with siblings. Based on the Sibling-Flag and used to calculate the SumOfFive variable.

**SumOfFive**

A sum of the five variables Friend-Flag-Numeric, Mother-Flag-Numeric, Father-Flag-Numeric, Romantic-Flag-Numeric, and Sibling-Flag-Numeric. Indicates how many of the five categories they scored with stronger relationship connections.

**Combinations**

Code up to five digits indicating which combination of the relationship categories they scored with stronger relationship connections. For example, if someone has a code of FMR, then that person spends lots of time with friends (F), is close with their mother (M), and has had a romantic partner (R) in the last 18 months, but is not close to their dad, and doesn't spend much time (or doesn't have) a sibling.

F = Friends

M = Mother

D = Dad

R = Romantic Partner

S = Sibling

**Loneliness-H1FS13**

Response to "How often was each of the following true during the last week? - You felt lonely"

# responses, code, and answer

4157	0	never or rarely
1787	1	sometimes
401	2	a lot of the time
140	3	most of the time or all of the time
7	6	refused
12	8	don't know

**Loneliness-Flag**

Essentially a Yes No flag indicating whether they were more frequently lonely in the last week

L = 3, 2, 1 (most of the time or all of the time, a lot of the time, sometimes)

N = 0 (never or rarely)

- = 6, 8 (refused, don't know)