

CMHSR Measures Collection

The Network of Relationship Inventory (NRI)

Location: O9

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VARIABLES MEASURED:

Ten qualities of respondents' relationships with mothers, fathers, siblings, relatives, boy/girl friends, same-sex friends, other-sex friends, and one other extra person.

Those ten qualities of relationships include companionship, conflict, instrumental aid, antagonism, intimacy, nurturance, affection, admiration, relative power, and reliable alliance. In addition, the author also used the scales for support, criticism, and dominance in those relationships. Finally, the earlier versions of NRI include the scales measuring satisfaction and punishment.

PURPOSE: To measure the characteristics of different kinds of relationships in one's social networks

DESCRIPTION/DEVELOPMENT:

The most common version of the NRI consists of 10 sets of scales, each of which measures one of the 10 qualities of relationships listed above.

In turn, each scale includes three questions. Those questions are asked for each of the eight different types of relationships that are identified in the first 8 questions of the NRI.

Ratings are done on standard five-point Likert scales. Except in the case of relative power (question 17, 27, and 37), the points are the same for all cases; 1=little or none, 2=somewhat, 3=very much, 4=extremely much, and 5=the most. For relative power, the anchors represent; 1=S/he always does, 2=S/he often does, 3=about the same, 4=I often do, and 5=I always do.

SUBJECTS:

In Furman & Buhrmester (1985), 103 boys and 96 girls enrolled in the fifth and sixth grades, age from 11 to 13 years old were studied.

In Furman & Buhrmester (1992), 107 fourth-grade (53 males), 119 seventh-grade (67 males), 112 tenth-grade (51 males), and 216 college students participated the study.

ADMINISTRATION: self-administered

SCORING:

Scale scores stem from averaging three items under each scale. If one item is missing, the other two items can be used to get the average score.

RELIABILITY:

In Furman & Buhrmester (1985), M Cronbach's Alpha = .80. Alphas of the 90 scales (10 qualities * 9 types of relationships) scores were all greater than .60 except in two instances (companionship with teacher Alpha=.47; conflict with grandparents Alpha=.57)

VALIDITY: not available from the references.

COMMENTS: in file

REFERENCES:

- Furman, W., & Buhrmester, D. (1992). Age and sex differences in perceptions of networks of personal relationships. *Child Development*, 63, 103-115.
- Furman, W., & Buhrmester, D. (1985). Children's perceptions of the personal relationships in their social networks. *Developmental Psychology*, 21(6), 1016-1024.

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