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Measurement Scale Fact Sheet

Index of Parental Attitudes (IPA)

There are three separate scales that were designed to measure the degree, severity, or magnitude of the problem in a parent-child relationship.

The Index of Parental Attitudes (IPA)

The Child's Attitude toward Mother (CAM)

The Child's Attitude towards Father (CAF)

The IPA scale is completed by a parent with respect to the parent's relationship with a specific child. That measures the degree, severity, or magnitude of the problem in a parent-child relationship as seen by the parent. The child may be an infant, young child, adolescent, or an adult.

Score Interpretation

The scale produces scores that range from 0 to 100. For all practical purposes the scores can be regarded as true ratio scale values. Thus, a score of 0 indicates the client has none of the attributes, and a score of 100 represents the highest possible to stress level the scale is capable of measuring.

Cutting Scores

This scale has two clinical cutting scores. The first is a score of 30. Clients who score below 30, assuming accurate and candid responses, can be presumed to be free of a clinically significant problem in this area. Clients who score above 30 can be presumed to have a clinically significant problem in this area.

The second cutting score is 70. Clients who achieve scores this large or larger are nearly always experiencing severe distress. When distress reaches this level, there is a clear possibility that some form of violence could be considered or used as a means of dealing with problems in this area. The therapist or counselor should not assume that violence is in the offing. However, it is a distinct possibility, and it should be investigated by the service provider.

Reliability

This scale consistently achieves an Alpha coefficient of .90 or larger.

Validity

This scale has been investigated with respect to content, construct, factorial, and known groups validity. It nearly always achieves validity coefficients of .60 or greater.

Readability Statistics

Flesch Reading Ease: 90; Gunning's Fog Index: 6; Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 3.

References

The following references provide the currently available research evidence concerning the psychometric characteristics for this measure.

Hudson, Wung & Borges, 1980.



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IPA

INDEX OF PARENTAL ATTITUDES

Name _____

Date _____

SAMPLE

This questionnaire is designed to measure the degree of treatment you have in your relationship with your child. It is not a test; there are no right or wrong answers. Answer each item carefully and as accurately as you can by placing a number beside each item as follows:

- 1 = None of the time
- 2 = Very rarely
- 3 = A little of the time
- 4 = Some of the time
- 5 = A good part of the time
- 6 = Most of the time
- 7 = All of the time

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1. _____ My child gets on my nerves.
 2. _____ I get along well with my child.
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____ My child is well behaved.
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____
 9. _____ I have a hard time controlling my child.
 10. _____
 11. _____
 12. _____
 13. _____ I hate my child.
 14. _____
 15. _____
 16. _____
 17. _____ I feel like I do not love my child.
 18. _____ My child is irritating.
 19. _____
 20. _____
 21. _____ I feel very proud of my child.
 22. _____ I wish my child was more like others I know.
 23. _____
 24. _____
 25. _____ I feel ashamed of my child.