

CHILD ADJUSTMENT SCALE

Reference

Santrock, J. W., & Warshak, R. A. (1979). Father custody and social development in boys and girls. *Journal of Social Issues, 35*, 112-125.

Secondary Reference

Vandell, D. L., & Corasaniti, M. A. (1990). Variations in early child care: Do they predict subsequent social, emotional, and cognitive differences? *Early Childhood Research Quarterly, 5*, 555-572.

Description

The *Child Adjustment Scale* (Santrock & Warshak, 1979), identified as *Your Child's Behavior* in the site-specific questionnaire battery, is a 32-item measure of the child's social, emotional, and academic functioning. Parent and teacher versions are available. Each item is rated on a 5-point scale ranging from 1 = *hardly ever* to 5 = *almost always*.

Vandell & Corasaniti (1990) used the measure with both parents and teachers in a study of 8-year-old children. These authors grouped the items to form four conceptual scales: Peer Relationships, Work Habits, Emotional Health, and Compliance. For the parent ratings, internal consistency estimates (Cronbach's coefficient alpha) were .77 for Peer Relationships .78 for Work Habits, .71 for Emotional Health, and .80 for Compliance.

Modifications: We used a 35-item version of the measure that was revised by Jill Posner for use in the Ecological Study of After-School Care; three items were added and many items were reworded.

Administration: Grade 1

This measure was administered to mothers ($n = 99$) and fathers/partners ($n = 74$) during a site-specific home visit at Grade 1.

Scoring: Vandell & Corasaniti (1990)

We scored the *Child Adjustment Scale* using the conceptual scales described by Vandell & Corasaniti.

Peer Relationships

Mean of 13 items: -1, 2, 4, 7, -8, 10, 12, -15, -16, 19, 22, -23, -25. A higher score indicates better social skills with peers.

Mother report = **MG1CASPR**

$N = 99$, $M = 4.02$, $SD = 0.43$, range = 2.31-4.92, $\alpha = .80$

Father/partner report = **FG1CASPR**

$N = 74$, $M = 3.95$, $SD = 0.42$, range = 2.92-4.77, $\alpha = .80$

Work Habits

Mean of 9 items: -3, 9, 11, 20, -27, -28, -29, 33, 35. A higher score indicates better work-study skills.

Mother report = **MG1CASWH**

$N = 99, M = 3.80, SD = 0.50, \text{range} = 2.00-4.78, \alpha = .76$

Father/partner report = **FG1CASWH**

$N = 74, M = 3.73, SD = 0.56, \text{range} = 1.89-4.89, \alpha = .87$

Emotional Health

Mean of 6 items: 6, -13, 14, -21, 24, -26. A higher score indicates greater emotional well-being.

Mother report = **MG1CASEH**

$N = 99, M = 4.03, SD = 0.55, \text{range} = 2.17-5, \alpha = .70$

Father/partner report = **FG1CASEH**

$N = 74, M = 3.93, SD = 0.53, \text{range} = 3.00-5, \alpha = .71$

Compliance

Mean of 3 items: -5, -32, -34. A higher score reflects more cooperation and compliance.

Mother report = **MG1CASCO**

$N = 99, M = 3.84, SD = 0.87, \text{range} = 1.00-5, \alpha = .76$

Father/partner report = **FG1CASCO**

$N = 74, M = 3.83, SD = 0.72, \text{range} = 1.33-5, \alpha = .72$

Analysis Data Set

SSG1

Raw Data Sets

Mother report: M1GCB

Father/partner report: F1GCB