

PG, HI	Family Relationship Scale
DESCRIPTION	The Family Relationships Scale (Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Huesmann, & Zelli, 1996) is a 35 item scale that taps six aspects of family relationship characteristics thought to distinguish risk for serious antisocial behavior: (1) Cohesion; (2) Beliefs about the Family; (3) Deviant Beliefs; (4) Support; (5) Organization; and (6) Communication.
SOURCE	Gorman-Smith, D., Tolan, P. H., Zelli, A., & Huesmann, L. R. (1996). The relation of family functioning to violence among inner-city minority youths. <i>Journal of Family Psychology, 10</i> , 115-129. Tolan, P., Gorman-Smith, D., Huesmann, L. R., & Zelli, A. (1997). Assessment of family relationship characteristics: A measure to explain risk for antisocial behavior and depression among urban youth. <i>Psychological Assessment, 9</i> , 212-223. Tolan, P.H., Gorman-Smith, D., & Henry, D.B. (2001). <u>Chicago Youth Development Study Family Relationship Measure Scale Description</u> . Families and Communities Research Group, Institute for Juvenile Research, Department of Psychiatry, The University of Illinois at Chicago.
RESPONSE FORMAT AND DIRECTION	The Family Relationship Scale uses 5-point Likert scales to assess how a respondent's agreement with items as they describe his or her family. Gathering data from multiple informants allows creation of composite scores. Computerized interview or paper-and-pencil formats are used for administration.
RELIABILITY	Published Alphas range from .54 to .87 and test-retest reliabilities range from .72 to .91.
TARGET GROUP	The measure was developed for use with low-income, urban families; however, as a predictor of psychopathology, relations vary little by age, ethnicity, marital status of parent, or family income. As a predictor of risk, the Family Relationship Measure also relates to child syndromes such as aggressive behavior and depression.
CHANGES FROM THE ORIGINAL	Four items in addition to the published 35 items were administered to parents. These included #37, "When you feel someone is out to get you, it's better to get them first," #s 21 and 22, which ask about family religious observance, and # 10, "I am able to let others in the family know how I really feel." in the Parent version administered in the CDC MVPP study. The child version was identical to the parent version except that parent item 37, "When you feel someone is out to get you, it's better to get them first" was not administered in the child version.
SCORING	Mean values across informants are obtained for responses relating to daily interactions and other behaviors. In consideration of both the average extent of endorsement and the level of informant agreement, products of informants' responses are obtained for responses relating to beliefs and values. The six scales [(1) Cohesion; (2) Beliefs about the Family; (3) Deviant Beliefs; (4) Support; (5) Organization; and (6) Communication] comprise three higher-order factors: Structure, Beliefs, and Cohesion (145). CDC MVPP Items PG1F001-PG1F024 and HI1F001-HI1F024 are scaled as follows: 1 = 'Not true,' 2='Hardly ever true', 3='True a lot,' and 4='Always or almost always true' Items PG1F025-PG1F039 HI1F025-HI1F038 are scaled as follows: 1 = 'Strongly disagree,' 2='Disagree', 3='Agree,' and 4='Strongly agree'
SCALE DEVELOPMENT	This is a published measure. A detailed description of scale development may be found in Gorman-Smith, Tolan, Huesmann, & Zelli, (1996) and Tolan, Gorman-Smith, Huesmann, & Zelli, (1997). The two religious

	<p>involvement items correlate .49 with each other, which is equivalent to an alpha of .66. The single additional communication item, "I am able to let others in my family know how I really feel," correlated acceptably ($r=.33$) with other items on the communication scale. The additional Deviant Beliefs item, "When you feel someone is out to get you, it's better to get them first," correlated well with the other items on the Deviant Beliefs subscale ($r=.47$).</p>
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