

Handbook of Family Measurement Techniques

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*To Paula and Kara, to Maryanne and the kids,
and to William Sewell*

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- Most, R. K., & Guernsey, B. G., Jr. (1983). An empirical evaluation for training leaders for premarital Relationship Enhancement. *Fam Relat*, 32, 239-251.

I-4/c

67. HANNUM, J. W., & CASALNUOVO, J. Family Interaction Coding System (FICS)*Avail:* NAPS-3*Variables Measured:* Family styles of interaction*Type of Instrument:* Behavior coding system

Instrument Description: The FICS is a system for coding family interactions in 13 behavioral categories: agreement (AG), disagreement (DI), support (SU), nonsupport (NS), constructive problem solving (CP), nonconstructive problem solving (NP), noninvolvement (NI), democratic process control (DC), authoritarian process control (AC), passive process control (PC), neutral (NU), compliance (CM), and noncompliance (NC). The system was designed along the lines of the Marital Interaction Coding System (Hops, Wills, Patterson, & Weiss, 1971). The FICS is used to code audio- or videotaped family interactions. Situations may be structured or unstructured. Each statement made by a member of the family during the interaction is coded. In the situation used by the authors (1984), families were asked to discuss an area of unresolved conflict. However, the authors note that this task failed to generate sufficient negative behavior, and that other instructions for interactions might prove more worthwhile. A total of 13 categories were classified in Hannum and Mayer (1984). However, 23 categories are fully described in the 1980 manual deposited with NAPS-3. It is suggested that users interested in the FICS obtain the manual, using its detailed examples in developing definitions for the categories mentioned in the article referenced below.

Sample Items: Not applicable.

Comments: The authors indicate that interrater reliability across all variables was .97 for three university undergraduate coders. Perfect agreement between the three raters was reported for 42% of the observations. According to Hannum and Mayer (1984, p. 743): "The discrepancy between the two methods of assessing reliability is due partly to the wide range in frequency of occurrence of the coded behaviors across categories."

Reference:

- Hannum, J. W., & Mayer, J. M. (1984). Validation of two family assessment approaches. *J Mar Fam*, 46, 741-748.

I-4/II-2/a

68. HATFIELD, E., TRAUPMANN-PILLEMER, J., & O'BRIEN, M. U. Global and Detailed Measures of Equity/Inequity*Avail:* NAPS-3

Sharing Inventory. In P. A. Keller & A source book (Vol 4). Sarasota, FL:

ical evaluation for training leaders for lat. 32, 239-251.

J. Family Interaction Coding

coding family interactions in 13 behav- (S), support (SU), nonsupport (NS), con- flict solving (NP), noninvolvement (NI), process control (AC), passive process control (NC). The system was designed by Hops, Wills, Patterson, & Weiss. coded family interactions. Situations may be coded by a member of the family during the coding (1984), families were asked to discuss coding. Raters note that this task failed to generate coding for interactions might prove more useful in Hannum and Mayer (1984). However, coding is deposited with NAPS-3. It is suggested coding using its detailed examples in developing coding be referenced below.

reliability across all variables was .97 for agreement between the three raters was reported in Hannum and Mayer (1984, p. 743): "The reliability is due partly to the wide range in coding across categories."

Comparison of two family assessment approaches. J

PILLEMER, J., & O'BRIEN, M. Equity/Inequity

Variables Measured: Men's and women's perceptions of how fair and equitable their dating and marital relationships are

Type of Instrument: Self-report questionnaire

Instrument Description: The instrument comprises two separate scales. The first, the global measure of equity/inequity, contains only one item. This item asks respondents to consider what each partner puts into and receives from the relationship, and to indicate how their relationships "stack up." The second scale, the detailed measure of equity/inequity, consists of 25 items and takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. Items from both scales are evaluated using a 7-point response format ranging from +3 (*I am getting a much better deal than my partner*) to -3 (*my partner is getting a much better deal than I am*). This second scale evaluates the areas of personal, emotional, and day-to-day concern, as well as opportunities gained or lost. The 25 items from the detailed measure scale are averaged in order to arrive at a total index score. Respondents receiving an average score of +3 to +1.50 are classified as overbenefited; those scoring -1.49 to +1.49, as equitably treated; and those scoring -3 to -1.50, as underbenefited.

Sample Items:

- (A) Social Grace: Some people are sociable, friendly, relaxed in social settings. Others are not.
- (B) Understanding and Concern: Some people know their partner's personal concerns and emotional needs and respond to them.
- (C) Day-to-Day Maintenance: Some people contribute time and effort to household responsibilities such as grocery shopping, making dinner, cleaning, and car maintenance. Others do not.

Comments: Detailed information on the construction of the scales, as well as reliability and validity information, can be found in the 1981 reference listed below. The authors report that reliability and validity were assessed in two studies. Cronbach's alpha is reported to vary from .87 to .90 for the detailed measure scale. Validity was assessed by evaluating the relationship of these scales to overall affect, as measured by Austin's Mood Scale (see 1975 reference for a description of the Mood Scale).

References:

Austin, W. G., Hatfield, E., & Walster, G. W. (1975). Equity with the world: An investigation of the trans-relational effects of equity and inequity. *Sociometry*, 38, 474-496.
 Traupmann, J., Petersen, R., Utne, M., & Hatfield, E. (1981). Measuring equity in intimate relations. *Appl Psych Meas*, 5, 467-480.

1-4.b

69. HOLDEN, G. W. Parent-Child Observation Form for Public Settings

Avail: 1983 Ref.

Variables Measured: Elements of interactions between parents and their children in public settings

Type of Instrument: Coding of observed behaviors

Instrument Description: This instrument provides a system for recording ongoing dyadic interactions between parents and their children in public settings such as supermarkets and malls. Equipment consists of a clipboard with a sweep second hand stopwatch attached.