

# Regular talks/Posters



# “Come sta la mia Università?”: A Pattern Language Tool to Assess and Promote the Well-Being of University Students

Barbara Agueli, Immacolata Di Napoli, Caterina Arcidiacono

Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Napoli

Correspondence: barbara.agueli@unina.it

**Abstract:** There is increasing research interest in studying the well-being of the university community (Flett, 2018; 2022; Esposito et al., 2022), particularly in students' well-being, especially in the aftermath of the COVID-19 outbreak. University can be considered a place in which to promote growth, that considers the conditions and existential challenges of the people who live in it (Sherman, 2020), and it is essential to recognize the growing malaise that students live within the university. We propose “Come sta la mia università?” pattern language, a participatory tool for the assessment of university students' well-being and the achievement of a shared map of their needs. Pattern language is a participatory assessment tool for identifying and describing community health problems and interventions to improve it. It can be considered a tool to help a community to maintain a broad, strategic view of its population's health status and the risk factors that can influence it (Myers & Stoto, 2006). The tool consists of 17 cards, 16 describing situations of university life, relating to the relationship with teachers or colleagues, the achievement of educational objectives and 1 card with a question mark, allowing participants to describe a situation not considered before. The first applications of the pattern language card in the academic context will be discussed and presented.

**Keywords:** well-being; university students; participatory tools; pattern language

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# An Organimetric, Rather than Psychometric, Approach to Organisational Change

Nigel Evans<sup>1</sup>, John Mervyn-Smith<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> NEC, UK

<sup>2</sup> GC Index, UK

Correspondence: nigel@nigel-evans.com

**Background:** Economic growth requires effective transformation, particularly identifying people who think differently. Many traditional psychometric tests do not make themselves accessible for OD practitioners and their business clients to facilitate change. Responding to a funded corporate client request, researchers were able to investigate what makes a ‘game changer’ through an Organimetric approach. **Methods:** Three years of research followed in 3 main phases: Phase 1 was an initial exploration of the characteristics of ‘Game Changers’ using Repertory Grid interviews which yielded 180 observations. Phase 2 built on phase 1 suggesting defining characteristics for Game Changers under 2 broad constructs: Imagination and Obsession. Phase 3 expanded in Game Changer self-perception data. A factor analysis of 1000 questions was completed to explore the meaning of different responses to the questionnaire. **Results:** Game changers do exist, so do four other distinct proclivities. The three phases of research yielded reliable and valid measures of five different proclivities when it came to making an impact - represented as an Organimetric. **Implications:** Effective collaboration with colleagues of different proclivities is needed for transformation. Case studies show the Index provides an inclusive language and OD framework that can be used to inform key transformative business decisions.

**Keywords:** Organimetric, Change, Transformation

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Assessing Psychological Flexibility at Work: Psychometric Properties of the Work-Related Acceptance and Action Questionnaire in Italy

Angela Russo<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Zammiti<sup>2</sup>, Rita Zarbo<sup>3</sup>, Paola Magnano<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Educational Sciences, University of Catania

<sup>2</sup> Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology, University of Padova

<sup>3</sup> Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, University Kore of Enna

Correspondence: [angela.russo@phd.unict.it](mailto:angela.russo@phd.unict.it)

**Abstract:** Psychological flexibility refers to “the ability to contact the present moment more fully as a conscious human being, and to change or persist in behavior when doing so serves valued ends” (Hayes et al., 2006, p. 7). The value of psychological flexibility has been demonstrated in work settings because it can improve well-being and performance (i.e., Flaxman et al., 2013; Moran et al., 2015; Bond et al., 2016). The acceptance and Commitment Therapy framework (Hayes et al., 1999, 2006) suggests that the process of psychological flexibility is contextually controlled. Therefore, contextually measuring psychological flexibility can help to evaluate workers' resources more accurately. The present research examined the psychometric properties of the Work-related Acceptance and Action Questionnaire (W-AAQ; Bond et al., 2013) in the Italian context. Five studies were conducted: (1) the exploratory factor analysis, which confirmed one-factor structure of W-AAQ; (2) the confirmatory factor analysis, to test the fit of the W-AAQ; (3) concurrent validity, to test the associations of the W-AAQ to various criteria; (4) the stability of W-AAQ using the test-retest method; and (5) the gender invariance, confirming configural, metric, scalar and residual invariance. In conclusion, the W-AAQ was demonstrated to reliably evaluate work-related psychological flexibility in Italy.

**Keywords:** psychological flexibility; work-related psychological flexibility; well-being at work; psychological tests; assessment

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Assessing Psychological Well-Being: A Key Component for Tailored Counseling Interventions

Claudia Mazzeschi, Livia Buratta, Laura Muzi, Elisa Delvecchio

Department of Philosophy, Social Sciences and Education, University of Perugia, Italy

Correspondence: claudia.mazzeschi@unipg.it

**Abstract:** Psychological health is not solely defined by the absence of symptoms. Then, psychological assessment should acknowledge the overall individuals' functioning by taking into account both healthy and psychopathological features, as well as should be related more directly to intervention planning. In this perspective, the multifaced concept of "psychological well-being" (PWB) comprises subjective, psychological, and social dimensions of healthy psychological functioning, and has been extensively studied in relation with psychological symptoms. This study aimed at investigating the mediating role of six PWB dimensions measured by Ryff' PWB Scale on the relationship between depressive symptoms, measured by the depression clinical scale of the PAI and overall symptom severity, measured by SCL-90-R, also controlling the moderating effect of assigned sex, in 235 students (cisgender; 72% female; Mn age 22.5, SD = 2.89) attending the Psychological Counseling Service at the University of Perugia. The results showed that self-acceptance, positive relationship, and autonomy dimensions mediate the link between depressive symptoms and overall symptomatology, with non-significant effect of assigned sex. Assessing PWB dimensions along with symptomatic features may help clinicians to have reliable and reasonable recommendations on intervention targets and to plan tailored counseling interventions in university counseling settings, especially when depressive symptoms are present.

**Keywords:** Psychological assessment, Psychological wellbeing, Psychological health

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Bibliotherapy to Overcome Fear of the Dark in Children: A Pilot Study

Mireia Orgilés, Àngela Belzunegui, José Pedro Espada, Marina Serrano, Víctor Amorós

Miguel Hernández University, Spain

Correspondence: jpespada@umh.es

**Abstract:** Fear of the dark is a common problem in children, interfering negatively with the well-being of the child and the family. The aim of this study was to analyze the effectiveness of a bibliotherapy-based program in 10 families with children aged 4-8 years old with fear of the dark. First, the experimental and control group answered a questionnaire (EMN-21). During the 5 weeks that lasted the program, parents had to read the book to their children and play games that taught them coping skills. Finally, the experimental and control group answered the post-test. When comparing the results of the experimental group in both evaluations, statistically significant differences were found in the subscale “Fear of nighttime features and distressing experiences” and in the subscale “Fear of imaginary stimuli”. No changes were found in the waiting-list control group. Results indicate that this bibliotherapy program is effective in reducing fear of the dark in children aged 4-8 years old, since it teaches them coping skills to reduce their fear. Moreover, results show that parents are an important figure in helping their children overcome their fear of the dark.

**Keywords:** dark phobia, bibliotherapy, children

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Broken Ring Envision Search Test (BReViS): A Clinical Test of Attention Aimed at Assessing the Effect of Layout and Crowding on Visual Search

Alessio Facchin<sup>1</sup>, Maura Simioni<sup>2</sup>, Silvio Maffioletti<sup>3</sup>, Roberta Daini<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Milano Bicocca; Institute of Research and Studies in Optics and Optometry, Vinci, Italy

<sup>2</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Milano Bicocca; Department of Brain and Behavioral Sciences, University of Pavia

<sup>3</sup> Institute of Research and Studies in Optics and Optometry, Vinci, Italy

<sup>4</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Milano Bicocca

Correspondence: [alessio.facchin@unimib.it](mailto:alessio.facchin@unimib.it)

**Abstract:** Visual search tests can be easily employed to assess attention in brain-damaged patients. The Broken Rings enVision Search test (i.e., BReViS) here proposed is a novel open-access test in which layout and crowding are varied among four cards. Through these manipulations, different components of attention are assessed: a selective component, driven by target-similar distractors, the visuo-spatial orientation of attention, driven by different exploratory behaviour strategies, and focal attention, involved in the crowding phenomenon. We described BReViS characteristics, provided specific normative data, and examined these components across the lifespan. BReViS was administered to a sample of 550 participants aged between 20 and 79 years old and to a group of patients. Combining execution times and accuracy, three indexes targeting different components of visuo-spatial attention (selective attention, strategic orientation of visual attention, focal attention) were obtained together with overall accuracy. Age, education, and gender had a different impact on the four indexes. Regression-based norms were provided in percentiles and equivalent scores. All patients showed pathological scores and specific attentional deficits when compared to healthy individuals. The BReViS test is a free, easy-to-use tool that can be used in the clinical environment to evaluate deficits in specific components of attention.

**Keywords:** visual search; attention; neuropsychological tests

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023



# Changes in Attitudes of Lithuanian Psychologists: Are we Seeing New Horizons?

Dalia Nasvytienė, Gražina Gintilienė, Dalia Bagdžiūnienė

Vilnius University, Institute of Psychology

Correspondence: [dalia.nasvytiene@fsf.vu.lt](mailto:dalia.nasvytiene@fsf.vu.lt)

**Abstract:** Our talk stems from reflecting on the results of the EFPA Survey about tests and testing, collected among Lithuanian test users in 2021 (n=138). Comparative review with the results of previous Survey in 2009 revealed mixed trends in the changes in attitudes. On the one hand, tests are seen as a very valuable source of information and the awareness of the necessity of the professional knowledge has increased. From the other side, there is no favor for the regulation agreed by the professional community. Open question remains - what are the ways toward new horizons?

**Keywords:** attitudes, test users, survey, tests and testing, professional regulation

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Cognitive-Emotion Regulation Strategies in Meditators and Non-Meditators: A Multi-Method Psychological Assessment

Lorenzo Brienza, Angelica Ferraris, Agata Andò

Department of Psychology, University of Turin

Correspondence: agatamariaclaudia.ando@unito.it

**Abstract:** This study aims to investigate the associations between rumination and thought suppression strategies in the context of meditation by conducting a multimethod assessment. Seventy participants (35 meditators) were administered a multi-method psychological assessment, including self-reports [i.e., Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale (DERS-16), Rumination and Reflection Questionnaire (RRQ); Emotion Regulation Questionnaire (ERQ); Mindful Attention Awareness Scale (MAAS)] and a behavioral task [i.e., a modified version of the original White Bear Paradigm (Wegner, 1994)]. The non-meditators were characterized by higher impaired emotion regulation strategies - as self-reported - than the meditators (DERS,  $t(68)=4.99$ ;  $p \leq .001$ ; (Cohen's)  $d=1.81$ ; RRQ\_Rumination,  $t(68)=4.63$ ;  $p \leq .001$ ;  $d=1.10$ ). Indeed, meditators were more able to think differently about a situation, to change its meaning in order to modify their emotional experience (ERQ\_Reappraisal,  $t(68)=4.63$ ;  $p \leq .001$ ;  $d=0.90$ ); RRQ\_Reflection,  $t(68)=4.63$ ;  $p \leq .001$ ;  $d=0.78$ ). On the behavioral level, meditators were also able to disengage from intrusive and negative thoughts after induced stress ( $F(1,68)=7.954$ ;  $p \leq .001$ ;  $\eta^2=.10$ ). Meditation seems to have contributed to an improvement in emotional state in relation to the motivations that prompted subjects to meditate. Through an assessment that gathered information from different perspectives using multiple test methods, it was possible to understand the psychological functioning of the two groups.

**Keywords:** multimethod assessment; emotion dysregulation; meditation; psychological functioning.

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Collaborative Scoring Method (COSMO): Unveiling the Dynamics of Interpersonal Relationships through the Picture Frustration Study

Rachele Del Guerra<sup>1</sup>, Maria Laura Rosadini<sup>1</sup>, Emanuela Brusadelli<sup>2</sup>,  
Giulia Bassi<sup>1</sup>, Carlo Vetere<sup>3</sup>

1 Department of Developmental and Socialization Psychology, University of Padova, Padova,  
Italy

2 Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, School of Psychology, Wollongong,  
Australia

3 Istituto Veneto di Terapia Familiare, Marcon (Ve), Italy

Correspondence: rachele.delguerra@studenti.unipd.it

**Abstract:** Recent studies have focused on assessing personality dimensions in line with the DSM-5-TR AMPD, emphasizing Self and Interpersonal functioning. Interpersonal experiences are influenced by Agency and Communion. The Picture Frustration Study (PFS) is a projective measure composed of vignettes depicting mildly frustrating interpersonal situations. The original coding system is time-consuming and limited to an intrapsychic perspective. Thus, we aim to validate a Collaborative and simplified Scoring Method for the PFS (COSMO), which allows the evaluation of Agency and Communion variables turning the PFS into a performance-based test of interpersonal relationships. N=101 male participants (35 inpatients, 36 outpatients and 30 nonclinical), aged between 14 and 18 (M=15.8 years, SD=1.56) completed the 24 vignettes of PFS. Participants' responses will be scored into 4 COSMO categories (Q1-4): active friendly, passive friendly, passive hostile, and active hostile. Dimensionally, participants' responses were scored through a 4-point ordered scale (from 1=Adaptive to 4=Disordered). Results revealed that the nonclinical group demonstrated higher levels of Personality Functioning (LPF) across all quadrants compared to the inpatient and outpatient groups. Additionally, LPF's ROC curves exhibited high levels of sensitivity and specificity. This research aims to deepen our understanding of personality functioning and provide valuable insights for collaborative assessment interventions.

**Keywords:** picture frustration study (PFS); personality; adolescent; collaborative assessment

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Conflict Management: Development of a Conflict Style Management Questionnaire

Ugo Merlone<sup>1</sup>, Daniele Malaguti<sup>2</sup>, Massimiliano Pastore<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Università di Padova

<sup>2</sup> Università di Trento

Correspondence: daniele.malaguti@unitn.it

**Abstract:** In organizations and life, conflicts play a significant role (Rahim 2001), considering that the conflict management style can have effects on organizational life (Friedman et al. 2000), it is therefore important to have a greater awareness of one's conflict management style. This particular study refers to the model proposed by Rahim (1983), which considers two main variables in an orthogonal relationship within the conflict context: on one hand, the goals that each party wants to achieve, and on the other hand, the level of trust between the parties, referred to as the relationship. These two dimensions allow for the operationalization of five different conflict management styles. The aim of this research is to construct a tool that allows for the definition and measurement of these five styles, overcoming the limitations of currently used instrument.

**Keywords:** conflict, conflict management style, organizational relationships

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Daily Assessment of State Workaholism: The Psychometric Qualities of the State Version of the Dutch Work Addiction Scale

Luca Menghini<sup>1</sup>, Cristian Balducci<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Psychology and Cognitive Science, University of Trento, Italy

<sup>2</sup> Department of Quality of Life, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy

Correspondence: luca.menghini-1@unitn.it

**Abstract:** Workaholism is a psychological construct characterized by the tendency to work excessively and compulsively, often resulting in negative well-being outcomes. So far, workaholism has been mainly considered as a stable trait to be assessed with retrospective self-reports. Only recently, a number of studies have investigated daily states of workaholism by adapting retrospective measures to anchor item wording at the daily level, and by analyzing within-individual fluctuations in workaholism levels. While opening to new lines of research and intervention, this emerging field has poorly considered the psychometric challenges implied by the measurement of a multilevel construct. In this study, we evaluated the measurement qualities of the six-item state version of the Dutch Work Addiction Scale (DUWAS). By analyzing data from 114 workers that participated in a 10-day diary study, we found satisfactory level-specific reliability, validity, and sensitivity to change. Specifically, multilevel confirmatory factor analysis supported the two-factor solution (i.e., working excessively and working compulsively) at both levels, consistently with the original DUWAS version and the underlying theory. Moreover, we found evidence of (partial) cross-level isomorphism, a critical requirement for conceptualizing and measuring multilevel constructs. The opportunities and challenges implied by the intensive longitudinal assessment of workaholism and similar constructs are discussed.

**Keywords:** state workaholism, daily diary, intensive longitudinal assessment, multilevel confirmatory factor analysis, cross-level invariance

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Development of a Multidimensional Scale for Identifying the Risk of Dropping Out of School

Terriot Katia

Cnam Inetop CRTD

katia.terriot@lecnam.net

**Abstract:** As part of a European project (PRIMO), we have developed a multidimensional scale for identifying students at risk of dropping out of school. These are young people who attend school but have a very high probability of leaving the education system prematurely and/or without a diploma (Fortin et al., 2004 cited by Blaya & Fortin, 2014). Recent research (Ensminger & Slusarcick, 1992; Rumberger, 1995; Stearns, Moller, Blau, & Potochnick, 2007 cited by Galand & Hospel, 2015) shows that multiple factors, whether individual, social, familial, cultural, socio-economic or institutional, can play a role in this dropout risk. These studies show that a single factor approach is not very relevant and that a complex approach analyzing the combination of factors is more appropriate to explain the dropout risk. The aim of this paper is to present the content of the scale, its psychometric qualities and the risk factors which, in their interaction, help to explain the risk of dropping out.

**Keywords:** school dropout, multidimensional, risk factors

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Digital and Online Testing: A Good Idea?

Mark Schittekatte<sup>1</sup>, Veerle Briers<sup>2</sup>

1 Ghent University

2 Catholic University of Louvain

Correspondence: mark.schittekatte@ugent.be

**Abstract:** With digital and online testing professionals are supported by technological and digital means. What variants exist and what are possible advantages and disadvantages, dangers and challenges of these? We focus on the (creative) solutions we have come in contact with, in part through the Corona measures, especially in clinical and school settings. E.g. in recent years, test publishers also offered options of digital and online takings of and for various instruments common within the school guidance centers. What are the possibilities and limitations of digital (test) administration, of online scoring or of digitizing paper questionnaires? We recommend in this context especially caution and skepticism based on a scientific angle.

**Keywords:** digital testing, online assessment, quality of tests

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Evaluating Non-Commercial Tests through Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis: Improving Test Review Models and the Reviewing Process

Paula Elosua<sup>1</sup>, Francisco J. Abad<sup>2</sup>, Ana Hernández<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Basque Country

<sup>2</sup> Autonomous University of Madrid

<sup>3</sup> University of Valencia

Correspondence: Ana.Hernandez@uv.es

**Abstract:** To enhance psychological tests and testing practices different Psychological Associations are promoting test reviews with the dissemination of test review reports that can help professionals to select the appropriate test. However, the existing test review models are designed to assess the quality of commercial tests, that typically come with a manual. Thus, there is a need for a specific repository or project dedicated to reviewing non-commercial tests that are also used to make decisions on individuals. This study proposes that test reviews can be improved by incorporating systematic reviews and meta-analysis in the review process of non-commercial tests which psychometric properties are disseminated through scientific journals and other media. Specifically, we exemplify how systematic reviews and meta-analysis are useful when applying a test review model (particularly the Spanish model: Cuestionario de Evaluación de Test Revisado -CET-R) to a non-commercial test (particularly the Generalized Problematic Internet Use Scale -GPIUS2). In addition, we suggest improvements in the test review model and its implementation to fit the particularities of non-commercial tests. The paper also addresses certain issues and offers recommendations regarding the need for a standard protocol, the importance of local norms, the management of the review process, and its associated costs.

**Keywords:** test review, CET-R, systematic review, meta-analysis, GPIUS-2

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023



# Executive Functions and Addictions: Italian Validation of the Adult Executive Functioning Inventory (ADEXI)

Marina Baroni<sup>1</sup>, Luca Bastiani<sup>2</sup>, Marco Scalese Urciuoli<sup>2</sup>, Roberta Potente<sup>2</sup>,  
Sabrina Molinaro<sup>2</sup>

1 Institute of Clinical Physiology, National Research Council of Italy, Rome, Italy and Department of Surgical, Medical and Molecular Pathology and Critical Care Medicine, University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy

2 Institute of Clinical Physiology, National Research Council of Italy, Rome, Italy

Correspondence: [sabrina.molinaro@cnr.it](mailto:sabrina.molinaro@cnr.it)

**Introduction:** the work aims to validate the Italian version of the ADEXI scale and observe the link between psychoactive substance use and behavioral addiction and working memory (WM) and inhibition (IN). **Methods:** data were collected through a representative cross-sectional study among 5,160 people (18-84 years old) called IPSAD® (Italian Population Study on Alcohol and other Drugs). Principal Component and Cronbach  $\alpha$  have been performed to investigate the ADEXI scale psychometric properties. Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was performed to explore the associations between ADEXI and other behaviours measured with standardized questionnaires. **Results:** Factor analysis confirmed that the questionnaire had two dimensions: WM (eigenvalue=5.200) and IN (eigenvalue=1.256). Both explained 46.1% of the observed total variance. Cronbach  $\alpha$  for all items of the ADEXI Italian version was strong (0.862; CI 0.856-0.868). Cronbach  $\alpha$  for the WI subscale was 0.833 (CI 0.826-0.840), while for IN was 0.694 (CI 0.680-0.708). SEM showed that both WI and IN were correlated with cannabis use (WM 0.112; IN 0.251) and gambling (WM 0.101; IN 0.168), while problem alcohol use was only correlated with IN (IN 0.233). **Conclusion:** the ADEXI scale could be considered a valuable tool for general population surveys to detect working memory and inhibition characteristics.

**Keywords:** working memory, inhibition, substance use, gambling

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Exploring the Effects of Specific Resume Cues on Readers' Perceptions of Applicants' Personality Traits

Alberto Casciano, Lorenzo Avanzi

Università di Trento

Correspondence: alberto.casciano@unitn.it

**Abstract:** Previous evidence, drawing from Signaling Theory, has demonstrated that certain specific cues within applicants' Curriculum Vitae (CV) are associated with self-reported personality traits. Including volunteer activities or teamwork skills has shown positive relations with agreeableness scores. Our study aims to investigate whether the presence of the same two cues within applicants' CV can also affect recruiters' perceptions of applicants' personality. In Study 1, we created four CV versions, experimentally manipulating only the presence of agreeableness related cues. We randomly administered them to 327 students, asking them to read and rate them using an other-reported personality questionnaire (Big Five Inventory). Study 2 aimed to examine the same relationships in a real selection context. We collaborated with four recruiters from two organizations, using real CVs (120 for every organization). According to study 1 manipulation, we divided archives' CVs into four groups and asked the recruiters to rate them using a shorten version of the BFI. As hypothesized the presence of teamwork skills or volunteering activities within a CV had an impact on the recruiters' perception of applicants' agreeableness. However, their presence influenced also recruiters' perceptions of applicants' openness and extraversion, which does not support the trait-specificity of these two cues.

**Keywords:** I/O Psychology, personnel selection, curriculum Vitae, personality traits assessment

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Implicit Measurement of Reverse Sexism: Development and First Conceptualisations

Martina Morando<sup>1</sup>, Vittorio Edoardo Scuderi<sup>2</sup>, Silvia Platania<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Disfor, Unict

<sup>2</sup> Kingston University London

Correspondence: [martina.morando@phd.unict.it](mailto:martina.morando@phd.unict.it)

**Abstract:** To date, more advanced research on sexism (e.g. reverse sexism, Morando et al., 2023), focused scarcely on implicit aspects despite its prejudicial nature. Reverse sexism or belief in sexism shift (BSS) centers around the victimisation of men. As its name suggests, those who endorse BSS perceive a shift or transition from anti-female to anti-male sexism. Men are not seen as additional victims of rigid gender norms alongside women, but as the primary target. BSS entails that anti-male discrimination is pervasive manifesting in multiple settings (e.g. workplace) through multiple perpetrators and ways. BSS does not only obscure discrimination and bias against women; it also uses the narrative of male victimhood to provide an unprecedented rationale for prioritising men's rights over women's rights. In this study, we propose the development of the Single Category IAT for the implicit measurement of the Reverse Sexism construct. Forty-eight vignettes depicting sexist incidents were developed from focus groups and the use of a panel of experts in gender discrimination and sexism. Words with the meaning 1) positive/negative; 2) threatening/non-threatening; 3) fair/unfair were used as categories. An implicit tool like this is of great importance for better understanding the evolution of sexism and its possible impact on everyday life.

**Keywords:** gender, inclusion, sexism, implicit measurement, IAT

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# NOPSYM: Normative and Experimental Data for Psychological Assessment Methods

Cato Grønnerød

University of Oslo

Correspondence: [cato.gronnerod@psykomatikk.no](mailto:cato.gronnerod@psykomatikk.no)

**Abstract:** Clinicians need high-quality, scientifically based assessment methods backed by international and national validity research and local norms. This is often lacking both in scope and quality, and efforts are scattered and uncoordinated. I present Norwegian efforts to establish an organizational network and technical infrastructure to support efficient and coordinated participant access, data gathering, and general cooperation around assessment method research. National and international implications are discussed.

**Keywords:** test use, test quality, normative data, research infrastructure

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Pretend Play in the Assessment of Children with Learning Disorders

Maria Mirandi, Elisa Delvecchio, Antonio Cosenza, Claudia Mazzeschi

University of Perugia

Correspondence: maria.mirandi@studenti.unipg.it

**Abstract:** Pretend play in the assessment process is considered an indispensable tool for understanding the inner world of children, who transfer their emotions into play, allowing the clinician to investigate them. The emotional dimension seems to be more impaired in children with Learning Disorders (LDs) because of the difficulties encountered in achieving goals that appear simple to others. Few studies have investigated through pretend play the affective abilities of children with LDs. This study aimed to investigate the affective abilities of children with LDs by comparing them with a community-based (CB) sample. The Affect in Play Scale Preschool-Extended Version was administered to assess positive and negative affective abilities. 60 Italian children aged 6-10 years ( $M = 8.73 \pm 1.19$ ; 63.3% male; 50% diagnosed with LDs) participated in the study. Results of the independent-sample t-test showed differences between the two groups in negative affective abilities ( $t = -2.76, p < .01$ ), particularly in oral aggression ( $t = -4.05, p < .001$ ) expressed more by children with LDs. The CB group expressed positive affective abilities more frequently ( $t = 2.05, p < .05$ ), particularly in happiness ( $t = -3.48, p < .001$ ). The results highlight the importance of investigating at the assessment stage the affective abilities of children with LDs to promote their emotional development.

**Keywords:** assessment in developmental age, pretend play, learning disorders

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Reducing Screening Effort: A Network Approach to Sub-Scales Selection

Elisa Mancinelli<sup>1</sup>, Vinay Jagdish Sukhija<sup>2</sup>, Silvia Salcuni<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Padova, Padova, Italy, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento, Italy

<sup>2</sup> University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Correspondence: elisa.mancinelli@phd.unipd.it

**Abstract:** The current study arises from the LOOK@ME research-intervention project active in secondary schools. This project first identifies at-risk adolescents and then proposed ad hoc focus groups to support youth adjustment capacities. This study thus aims to illustrate a process to streamline the screening process by identifying the most relevant questionnaires' sub-scales for assessing at-risk youth, thereby reducing redundancy and effort. After a literature review, a network analysis was performed to supplement the knowledge gained from the literature. This analysis allows us to define complex patterns of interrelationships between variables and identify variables that have the greatest impact on the broader network. Data from N=713 adolescents (Mage=13.25±1.5; 53.2% female) were randomly extracted from the project's broader dataset. The subscales of the Smartphone Addiction Inventory, Strengths and Difficulties questionnaire and Difficulties in emotion regulation–short form were considered. The network analysis results are consistent with the literature; the most influential variables were: conduct problems, PSU-related sleep problems, smartphone use craving, reduced emotional awareness, impulse control and trust in regulation capacities. Overall, this study served to present an approach used for subscales selection, and is of significance in bringing together the power of clinical research and clinical practice.

**Keywords:** screening, network analysis, method

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Relationship Between Self-Concept, Depression, Anxiety and Social Worries in Children: A Network Analysis

José P. Espada, Víctor Amorós, Àngela Belzunegui, Marina Serrano, Mireia Orgilés

Miguel Hernández University, Spain

Correspondence: jpespada@umh.es

**Abstract:** According to scientific literature, self-concept plays an important role in the development of emotional problems – encompassing depression and anxiety symptoms, as well as, more specifically, social anxiety –. The objective of this study was to analyze the relationship of these variables and their network structure. The sample was composed of 218 Spanish children aged 8 to 12 years (45.9% girls). Participants were assessed using the AF-5 (self-concept), SMFQ (depression) and SCAS-C-8 (anxiety) and SWQ (social worries) and were recruited using snowball sampling directed to their parents. Data was analyzed using R, through Spearman’s correlations. A poorer emotional self-concept showed weak correlations with the other self-concept dimensions, but strong with emotional problems. According to network analysis, depression shows the strongest relationship to the other nodes. Emotional self-concept is the most connected variable to others – i.e., appears between two other variables most frequently –, as well as the highest predictor of the other nodes, followed by physical self-concept, family self-concept and anxiety. Results show the importance of depression in self-concept and anxiety problems. Moreover, they highlight the role of emotional self-image, regarding the perceived skills to regulate anxiety and fear, in the connection of other psychological variables in children.

**Keywords:** self-concept, depression, anxiety, social anxiety, children

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# Relationship Between Self-Control and Problematic Social Media Use (PSMU) in Italian Adolescents: The Important Role of Assessment

Giorgio Ghizzoni, Giulia Gizzi, Luciana Pagano Salmi, Irene Severi, Carlo Garofalo

University of Perugia

Correspondence: giorgio.ghizzoni@studenti.unipg.it

**Abstract:** Problematic social media use (PSMU) is a public health problem among adolescents today. Few studies investigate PSMU in the psychological assessment phase, which as reported in the literature is an aspect correlated with self-control. It is therefore important to carry out a PSMU assessment with a focus on self-control, which is the ability to override or modify one's internal responses and interrupt unwanted behavioral tendencies and refrain from acting on them, thus an important element in relation to PSMU. The present study aimed to analyse the relationship between self-control and PSMU in 208 Italian adolescents (age range: 14–17 years old; M age = 15.42 years old, SD = 1.055, 38.9 % boys). They filled in the Bergen Social Media Addiction Scale (BSMAS) and the Brief Self-Control Scale (BSCS). Analyses were performed using SPSS software. Significant results were found in the correlation between self-control and PSMU, but only in females ( $r = -.43$ ,  $p < .001$ ). It is necessary to implement prevention and training programs within school and family contexts to promote the development of good self-control and to increase the use of instruments that assess PSMU and self-control to prevent possible psychological problems in adolescents.

**Keywords:** Problematic social media use (PSMU), self-control, adolescents

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023



# Test Usage And Quality Awareness among Norwegian Psychologists: The EFPA Test Use Survey 2020

Cato Grønnerød<sup>1</sup>, Mikael Sømhovd<sup>2</sup>, Rudi Myrvang<sup>3</sup>, Tanya Ryder<sup>4</sup>

1 University of Oslo

2 Norwegian Health Directorate

3 Norwegian Psychological Association

4 Vestfold Hospital Trust

Correspondence: [cato.gronnerod@psykomatikk.no](mailto:cato.gronnerod@psykomatikk.no)

**Abstract:** We report results from the Norwegian part of The European Federation for Psychologists' Associations (EFPA) 2020 decennial survey of psychologists' attitudes towards tests and test use. The results from 1523 respondents show that they were generally satisfied with student training, and they valued tests as a source of information, but they were unsatisfied with information about test quality. Regulation of tests and test use was a major concern, both regarding general regulatory frameworks, and restrictions of test use depending on test user qualifications. Test use showed that cognitive measures were the most widespread, although the respondents listed a large variety of tests they were using.

**Keywords:** testing, test use, psychological assessment, personality assessment, clinical assessment

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# The Factor Structure of the Croatian Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale - Fourth Edition (WAIS-IV-HR)

Krunoslav Matešić<sup>1</sup>, Valentina Ružić<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Catholic University of Croatia, Croatia

<sup>2</sup> Naklada Slap, Croatia

Correspondence: krunoslavml@gmail.com

**Abstract:** The Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-IV (WAIS-IV) is an intelligence test that has undergone significant revisions compared to its predecessor, the WAIS-III. The WAIS-IV consists of 15 subtests, with 10 core subtests required to compute the Full Scale IQ (FSIQ), and four Index Scores that measure specific domains of cognitive functioning. These four Index Scores are Verbal Comprehension (VC), Perceptual Reasoning (PR), Working Memory (WM), and Processing Speed (PS). The WAIS-IV Technical Manual outlines a four-factor structure, with strong construct validity support for these four indexes. Each index contributes to a composite score that represents overall general intellectual ability, known as the Full Scale IQ. This research aimed to investigate whether the four factor model is a good fit for the Croatian sample. The data analysis was conducted on a normative sample of 700 participants, 343 males and 357 females. Participants were adults aged 16 to 74, with average age 39,74 (SD = 19,24). We conducted an exploratory factor analysis and used CFI, RMSEA and TLI indices of goodness of fit. The model was tested using Principal Component Analysis, and the Varimax rotation method was used with Kaiser normalization. The factor loadings were clear and supported the existing factor structure. The model also explained a large proportion of the variance (75,42%). Results showed that the proposed four-factor structure was a good fit for the Croatian sample.

**Keywords:** Intelligence, WAIS-IV, factor analysis

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# The Fourth Period of Test Development and Testing Practices in the Republic of Croatia

Krunoslav Matešić

University of Zagreb

Correspondence: kmatesic@ffzg.hr

**Abstract:** The first translation of the Binet-Simon Intelligence Scale for children was published in Zagreb in 1912. This marked the beginning of our first period of tests and testing. Several translations of the Binet-Simon scale appeared in the next 20 years. The Counselling centre for career choice in Zagreb began work on the 2nd January 1932, following a decision made in 1931. This marked the beginning of systematic development of applied psychology in the Republic of Croatia. Several more translations of the Binet-Simon scale were completed, the Army Alpha and Beta series were adapted and intelligence tests by local authors were published until it was disbanded in December 1948, due to ideological reasons. This marked the end of the second period of tests and testing in the Republic of Croatia. The third period began in 1953. Demands by the International Labour Office were met, and ex-Yugoslavia saw the introduction of professional orientation. In the newly organized offices of the Employment service, tests from the previous period were administered, after which the service was responsible for the development of ability tests and some personality questionnaires. This period ended in 1991. Following independence on 15th January 1992, the fourth period of tests and testing begins. Changes in the political and economic system facilitated the establishment of private publishers, including those who published tests. Following the 2003 Act on psychological practices and the establishment of the Croatian Psychological Chamber, a series of policy decisions were made regarding psychological tests, intended to advance the quality of psychodiagnostic practice in the Republic of Croatia.

**Keywords:** psychological tests, test development in the Republic of Croatia, history of psychology

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# The Implicit Measurement of Personality

Richard Gucek, Katia Terriot, Even Loarer

National Institute for research on work and vocational guidance (INETOP, CRTD – EA4132),  
Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, Paris, France

Correspondence: richard.gucek@lecnam.net

**Abstract:** Personality is a field that is widely investigated in recruitment and competitive examinations. However, self-report personality inventories pose a number of problems, particularly in these high-stakes situations. The biases associated with this type of test are well known: social desirability, acquiescence bias, poor self-knowledge, difficulty in understanding items, etc. An interesting avenue lies in implicit measures of personality. An implicit measure is an evaluation process in which the measurement processes are not (or very little) identifiable by the people being evaluated. This makes it difficult, if not impossible, for them to implement effective strategies to falsify their answers. There are several such models: projective methods, implicit association tasks (IATs) and situational judgment tests (SJTs). Depending on the type of responses proposed (ipsative or quasi-ipsative) and by combining several different investigative methods, it is possible to increase the reliability of the measures and their predictivity concerning professional performance. We present a study we are carrying out as part of a doctoral thesis (R. Gucek, under the supervision of E. Loarer & K. Terriot) on the development and validation of a personality assessment system (big five model (Costa & McCrae, 1992) and Cloninger model (1987)) including implicit measures.

**Keywords:** indirect measures, implicit measurement, personality, job performance

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# The Polish Adaptation of Self-Perceived Employability Scale

Piotr Mamcarz<sup>1</sup>, Ewa Domagała-Zyśk<sup>1</sup>, Klaudia Martynowska<sup>1</sup>,  
Angieszka Fundali-Czyż<sup>2</sup>, Andrew Rothwell<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Katolicki Uniwersytet Lubelski Jana Pawła II

<sup>2</sup> Uniwersytet Pedagogiczny w Krakowie

<sup>3</sup> Loughborough University

Correspondence: pmamcarz@kul.pl

**Abstract:** The concept of employability has evolved from a traditional view focused on short-term employment outcomes to a more appropriate approach of facilitating skill development for sustaining careers. In recent times, employability is understood as the ability to attain sustainable employment appropriate to one's qualification level, perceived on four different levels. This study aimed to assess self-perceived employability among 1200 first-year students at a Polish University using a survey instrument including the Self Perceived Employability Scale and socio-demographic questionnaire. Results indicated a two-factor structure explaining 47.6% of the variance with lower internal consistency compared to the original version. The stability of the scale assessed at an interval of 4 weeks was satisfactory, with good model fit indices. Limitations included reliance on self-report measurement and a single university sample. The study underscores the importance of perceived employability as an economic, educational, and individual variable. However, it highlights a gap in students' employability perception and reality after graduation, calling for university study programs to incorporate courses on developing students' managerial, communication, and career development skills. Further research should consider possible socio-economic changes resulting from the global situation.

**Keywords:** employability; personal development; career guidance; confirmatory factor analysis

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# University Students' Sense of Community Assessment in the Italian Context

Rita Zarbo<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Zammitti<sup>2</sup>, Angela Russo<sup>3</sup>, Paola Magnano<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University Kore of Enna

<sup>2</sup> University of Padova

<sup>3</sup> University of Catania

Correspondence: rita.zarbo@unikore.it

**Abstract:** A sense of community is defined as the feeling that members of a group are important to each other and to the group itself, and as the shared belief that the needs of group members will be met through their being together (McMillan & Chavis, 1986). Schools and universities are often considered small towns; they are communities in which students stay for a period of time and develop not only disciplinary skills but also personal networking and relationships with the institution. In this sense, students are part of a community that they help to create and by which at the same time they are influenced. However, how much students are more or less strongly and extensively embedded in the student and university community can make a difference in promoting or hindering university students' well-being and academic achievements. The scale we are presenting is an adaptation for face-to-face university courses of the scale of sense of community previously created for online courses (SSCC; Balboni et al., 2018). To date, 390 Italian university students have been involved. Preliminary results of the validation study of the "University students' sense of community scale" (SCC-Un) will be presented.

**Keywords:** sense of community, university students, well-being

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Validation of a New Inventory to Measure Personality in Adolescence: The HEXACO Medium Inventory Extended (MSI-E)

Francesca Mottola<sup>1</sup>, Lucia Abbamonte<sup>1</sup>, Lucia Ariemma<sup>1</sup>, Augusto Gnisci<sup>1</sup>, Roberto Marcone<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Millefiorini<sup>1</sup>, Marco Perugini<sup>2</sup>, Vincenzo Paolo Senese<sup>1</sup>, Ida Sergi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”

<sup>2</sup> Department of Psychology, University of Milan “Bicocca”

Correspondence: francesca.mottola@unicampania.it

**Abstract:** We aimed at developing and validating a novel instrument to measure personality in adolescence. In Study 1, we administered a large pool of items (384 items) to 714 adolescents. Using principal component analysis and extension factor analysis, we selected the best 32 items for each factor (8 for each facet), except for Openness to Experience. The resulting 190-item HEXACO-MSI had good psychometric properties, but it failed to select 8 items for each facet and to balance normal and reversed items. Therefore, in a second study we added items to the scale and verified its psychometric properties again. In Study 2, we administered a 219-item version of HEXACO-MSI, some items about adolescents’ behaviors and the Big Five Questionnaire Children (BFQ-C) to 1175 adolescents, and the observer’s version of the first two (i.e., except BFQ-C) to 854 parents. Using principal component analysis, we selected the best 32 items for each factor balanced between normal and reversed. Confirmatory factor analysis confirmed the six-factor structure. The HEXACO-MSI-E was reliable and stable across one year. Construct validity was successfully established with a parent-compiled version of the scale and with BFQ-C, despite some apparent anomalies. Criterion validity was established with respect to four groups of criteria.

**Keywords:** HEXACO-Middle School Inventory Extended, personality inventory, traits, adolescence, validation

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Validation Study of the Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale - Short Form in Italian Adolescents

Elisa Mancinelli<sup>1</sup>, Silvia Salcuni<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Padova, Padova, Italy, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento, Italy

<sup>2</sup> University of Padova, Padova, Italy

Correspondence: elisa.mancinelli@phd.unipd.it

**Abstract:** Emotion-regulation is the processes by which individuals manage their emotional experiences and expressions. Emotion-regulation during adolescence is crucial given the multi-level changes occurring during this period, and difficulties in emotion-regulation have been associated with various mental health issues. The objective of this study is to validate the short form of the Difficulties in Emotion Regulation Scale (DERS-SF) in Italian adolescents, providing a reliable and valid tool to assess their emotion regulation difficulties. The study involved N=704 adolescents aged 11-17 years ( $M=13.38$ ,  $SD=1.37$ , 50%Females). Concurrent validity was examined by also administering the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire and the Smartphone Addiction Inventory. The results of the study demonstrated that the six-factor solution of the DERS-SF exhibited similar psychometric properties to the original version validated in adult populations, as well as the short form version validated in a general population sample. Notwithstanding, the one-factor model was not fully supported. Measurement invariance was established as regards sex. The validation of the DERS-SF offers a useful and brief tool for researchers, clinicians, and educators working with adolescents. Findings can contribute to a better understanding of the emotional challenges they face and support the development of targeted interventions aimed at promoting healthy emotion-regulation skills during adolescence.

**Keywords:** emotion-regulation; validation study; adolescence

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023



# Wearing Face Masks When no more Mandatory: Network Analysis of Dispositional, Psychological and Emotional Factors in a Large Italian Sample

Silvia Spaggiari, Giulia Calignano, Marina Miscioscia, Paola Rigo, Daniela Di Riso

Department of Developmental Psychology and Socialization, University of Padua, Padua, Italy

Correspondence: [silvia.spaggiari@phd.unipd.it](mailto:silvia.spaggiari@phd.unipd.it)

**Abstract:** During the Covid-19 pandemic, face masks were recommended as an effective measure to control the spread of the virus. The literature studied the positive and negative attitudes toward mask-wearing when mandatory, while we specifically concentrated on the time frame when masks were not required. We aimed to explore the associations between demographic, dispositional, psychological, and emotional factors, in generating the behavior of wearing a mask, through network analysis. Moreover, we hypothesized that emotional experience, negative affectivity, fear of Covid-19, and anxiety may be significant predictors of mask-wearing. 1151 Italian participants, aged 18-64, were involved in the study. An online survey was used for the psychological assessment: sociodemographic information, Covid-19-related fears (MAC-RF), personality traits (PID-5-BF), generalized anxiety (GAD-7), and depression (PHQ-9) were assessed. Covid-19-related fears seem to connect personality traits, depression, and anxiety, with mask-wearing. Greater mask use corresponds to more positive emotional experiences, which in turn are connected to less negative feelings. The regression model showed that feeling weak and caring while wearing a mask, and fear of Covid-19 were significant predictors of mask-wearing. Designing a framework for the main attitudes involved in compliance with healthy behaviors helps to reach a deeper understanding of those mechanisms and guides future health interventions.

**Keywords:** network analysis, Covid-19 pandemic, facemasks, personality, emotional experience

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# EPICOS: A Semi-Structured Interview Protocol for Exploring the Operator's Perspective on Collaborating with Cobots and their Impact on Well-Being in Industry 5.0

Giulia Bassi<sup>1</sup>, Valeria Orso<sup>2</sup>, Luciano Gamberini<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Developmental Psychology and Socialization, University of Padova, Italy

<sup>2</sup> Department of General Psychology, University of Padova, and Human Inspired Technology Research Center, University of Padova, Italy

Correspondence: giulia.bassi@unipd.it

**Abstract:** Industry 5.0 represents a paradigm shift needed to overcome the shortcomings of Industry 4.0, mainly entailing the lack of involvement of end-users. This novel perspective brings to the foreground operators' psycho-physical well-being. The present study aims to develop and validate a novel protocol of a semi-structured interview designed to understand the operator's well-being in the use of collaborative robots (i.e., cobots) in manufacturing 5.0. To respond to the peculiarities of this context, e.g., time-constraints, EPICOS integrates open-ended questions, dichotomous and multiple choice scales, with the aim to build a comprehensive understanding of the respondents' lived experiences. By adopting a multi-disciplinary approach that blends knowledge and competencies from clinical and organizational psychology, we have devised a holistic and contextually relevant tool. EPICOS is meant to reveal operators' lived experiences regarding the introduction of cobots in the workplace, human factors, task and degree of collaboration, physical and mental workload, trust, acceptance, usability, risk and benefits, and colleagues' perspectives. We expect that this new format of interview protocol can help disseminate the idea of human centrality in Industry 5.0, by being extended also to other industrial sectors.

**Keywords:** Industry 5.0, well-being, human-centric perspective, collaborative robots, semi-structured interview

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# Measuring Successful and Healthy Aging Aspects - New Tool for Polish Older Adults

Magdalena Zadworna

Department of Health Psychology, Institute of Psychology University of Lodz

**Abstract:** Pursuing healthy aging is a critical societal objective in the face of global aging populations. This presentation centers on measurement tools designed to assess diverse aspects of healthy and successful aging in older adults. The specificity of measuring such aspects in Poland will be explored, utilizing selected tools. Development and cultural adaptation of tests for older individuals will be discussed. Three instruments for individuals above 60 years will be characterized, with two originating from Poland and one adapted to the Polish cultural context. The Developmental Tasks Questionnaire for Seniors (Zadworna-Cieślak, 2020) assesses the successful accomplishment of age-related challenges. The Health-Related Behavior Questionnaire for Seniors (Zadworna-Cieślak, 2017) investigates healthy lifestyles in old age. The Polish version of the Attitudes to Ageing Questionnaire (Zadworna, Brudek, Laidlaw, in press) measures older adults' perception of their aging. Through an examination of distinct psychological assessment tools for older adults, their development, strengths, and applications will be described. Theoretical and practical aspects of these instruments will be discussed to advance the understanding of healthy aging and its determinants. Utilizing specialized measurement tools to assess healthy aging could lead to evidence-based interventions, promoting quality of life for older adults.

**Keywords:** older adults, measurement, healthy aging, Poland

Accepted: 1st September 2023  
Online: 12th September 2023

# A Cultural Point of View on Work-Life Balance Assessment: An Exploratory Structural Equation Modelling (ESEM) Approach

Rossella Bottaro<sup>1</sup>, Palmira Faraci<sup>1</sup>, Katya De Giovanni<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Human and Social Sciences - University of Enna "Kore"

<sup>2</sup> Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Wellbeing – University of Malta

Correspondence: rossella.bottaro@unikorestudent.it

**Abstract:** The Exploratory Structural Equation Modelling (ESEM; Asparouhov & Muthén, 2009; Marsh et al., 2014) is a challenging approach to study the dimensionality of the psychometric tools. It supported more defined factors using less restrictive assumption than Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA). Simultaneously, including an exploratory point of view, it could be useful for instruments which many evidences are not yet available such as the Work-Life Balance Self-Assessment Scale (WLBS; Hayman, 2005). A sample of 362 employees (50% Maltese; 50% Italian), with a mean age of 43.36 (SD = 11.51) complete an online survey. Our results showed that: a) ESEM fits data better ( $\chi^2 = 127.609$ ,  $df = 63$ ,  $CFI = 0.963$ ,  $TLI = 0.939$ ,  $RMSEA = .053$  [.040–.066]) and results in less correlated latent factors than CFA b) tests of cultural invariance between two south European countries (i.e., Malta and Italy) with the 13-model ESEM taxonomy of full measurement invariance of factor loadings, factor variances– covariances, item uniquenesses, correlated uniquenesses, item intercepts, differential item functioning, and latent means supported a weak invariance (i.e., factor loadings and item uniqueness or factor variance/covariance matrix) across countries. In conclusion, using ESEM we provided new evidences about the WLBS theoretical framework and supported its generalizability in two different European countries.

**Keywords:** Exploratory Structural Equation Modelling; Work-Life Balance; Cultural Invariance.

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023

# The Italian Version of the Parent Experience of Assessment Scale: Understanding Parents' Perceptions of their Child's Assessment

Sara Brasili<sup>1</sup>, Giulia Cera<sup>1</sup>, Anna Cavallini<sup>2</sup>, Elisabetta Fiorelli<sup>2</sup>, Filippo Aschieri<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milano

<sup>2</sup> Dipartimento di Neuropsichiatria Infantile, Fondazione Don Gnocchi, Milano

Correspondence: [filippo.aschieri@unicatt.it](mailto:filippo.aschieri@unicatt.it)

**Abstract:** This research project explores parents' experiences of their child's assessment using the Italian version of the Parent Experience of Assessment Scale and employing a mixed-method approach that integrates both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Overall, 185 participants participated in the study. Confirmatory factor analysis replicated the original five factors structure of the scale (Parent-Assessor Relationship and Collaboration; New Understanding of the Child; Child-Assessor Relationship; Systemic Awareness; Negative Feelings). Full scale and individual factors' reliability ranged from high to excellent. Structural equation modeling showed that Parent-Assessor Relationship and Collaboration and New Understanding of the Child factors had the strongest direct effects on parents' General Satisfaction, measured by the Client Satisfaction Questionnaire. A multivariate analysis of variance showed that the type of assessment, the children's age and the way the scale was completed impacted on the outcomes of the QUEVA-G. Results suggest that the Italian version of the Parent Experience of Assessment Scale is a valid and reliable tool for assessing parents' experience of their child's assessment. Furthermore, twenty parents, who voluntarily agreed to be contacted after completing the questionnaire, participated in qualitative interviews to gain deeper insights into their assessment experiences. A structured thematic analysis was conducted on the interview transcriptions, highlighting three primary domains of parental experience: 1) parental perceptions of the assessment process; 2) effects of the assessment; and 3) parental perceptions of their relationship with their children's teachers. The findings indicate that QUEVA-G accurately captures most areas of interest, while also revealing unexplored aspects.

**Keywords:** Experience of assessment, validation, parents

Accepted: 1st September 2023

Online: 12th September 2023