

Name of Measure: Piers-Harris Children's Self-Concept Scale (Piers, 1986)

Purpose of Measure: To determine psychosocial functioning and perceived social support.

Author(s) of Abstract:
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Reference: Lorenzo, M. K., Bilge, P., Reinherz, H. Z., & Frost, A. (1995). Emotional and behavioral problems of Asian American adolescents: A comparative study. *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal*, 12(3), 197-212.

Description of measure: The Piers-Harris Children's Self-Concept Scale (Piers, 1986) is an 80-item self-report instrument designed to assess how children and adolescents feel about themselves in areas of physical appearance, popularity, happiness, anxiety and intellectual status.

Language availability: English

Translation comment: Not applicable

Description of Asian population: The subjects for this study were recruited from Northeastern United States. The sample included 99 Asian American students, 59 females and 40 males. The mean age was 14.5 years old. One third of the adolescents were born in the United States, the remainder were divided evenly between groups that were in this country for less than 5 years, less than 10 years and 11 years or over. The parents of all but one were immigrants. Seventy percent of these parents were born in China or Hong Kong while 21 percent were born in Vietnam.

The subjects lived in a lower-middle class community. Most of the parents were employed in service industries such as restaurants or factories. Eighty-three percent of the adolescents in the sample lived in households with both of their natural parents, compared to 70% in the Caucasian household. Thirteen households had only single mothers and four households were managed by adults not identified as parents.

The research was supported by an NIMH grant #MH41569-07.

Norms:

Means and Standard Deviations of Pier-Harris Self-Concept Scales for Asian and Caucasian Children

Subscales	Asian (n=99)		Caucasian (n=375)	
	Mean	S.D.	Mean	S.D.
Physical Appearance	6.46	2.99	9.33	2.99
Lack of Anxiety	8.87	3.22	10.58	3.28
Popularity	7.87	2.28	9.66	2.23
Happiness	7.66	2.15	8.59	1.84
Intellect Status	11.88	3.20	12.36	3.52
Total Score	55.26	10.24	61.16	11.04

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Reliability: The alpha reliability coefficient for the Piers-Harris Children's Self-Concept Scale ranges from .88 to .93.

Validity: Not available

Original reference to instrument: Piers, E.V. (1986). *The Piers-Harris Children's Self-Concept Scale, Revised Manual*. Los Angeles, CA: Western Psychological Services.

How to obtain a copy of the instrument: Contact Western Psychological Services
www.wpspublish.com