

**About My Parent**  
*Grade 4/Year 5*

**FAST Track Project Technical Report *Addendum***  
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**Citation**

*Instrument*

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group. (1994). About My Parent.

*Report*

McCarty, C.A. & Doyle, S.R. (2001). About My Parent (Technical Report) [On-line]. Available:  
<http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>

**Data Sources**

*Raw:* c5q

*Scored:* amp5

**I. Scale Description**

The **About My Parent** questionnaire, adapted from the Discipline and Positive Parenting measures of the Pittsburgh Youth Study (see Thornberry, Huizinga, & Loeber, 1995), is a 17-item measure which assesses children's perceptions of their primary caregivers' parenting responses when they engage in pleasing and displeasing behavior. The first 8 items are drawn from the Discipline measure, and are used to assess the frequency with which parents use different disciplinary strategies for the infraction of family rules. The last 9 items, drawn from the Positive Parenting measure, provide the youth's report on the frequency with which their parent provides positive praise and reinforcement when they do something that the parent approves of. All items are rated on a 5-point scale ranging from 1 (almost never) to 5 (almost always).

**II. Scaling Results**

This addendum is based upon Year 5, Cohort 1 data, including both High-Risk Control and Normative samples.

Primary scales for this measure were created using information from exploratory factor analyses (EFAs) using an Alpha extraction with a varimax rotation. Separate analyses were conducted on the items pertaining to Discipline (Items 1-4, 6-8) and those pertaining to Parent Praise (Items 10 – 16). Item 5 was excluded from the Discipline factor analysis and Items 9 and 17 were excluded from the Parent Praise factor analysis because preliminary EFAs and examination of alpha coefficients suggested that they were not consistent with the other items.

The number of factors retained was derived by considering the magnitude of the eigenvalues, scree plots, the proportion of variance extracted, communality estimates, item content, and interpretability of the

resulting factors. The items used in each scale were determined by their factor loadings and conceptual consistency with other items.

### 1. Discipline Items.

The results for the Discipline Items indicated two factors. For the Normative sample (n=340), the eigenvalues were 7.39 and 4.08. Community estimates ranged from .14 to .43, with an average of .26. Alpha coefficients prior to the rotation were .94 and .67, respectively.

In the High Risk Control Sample (n=135), the eigenvalues for the two factors were 6.52 and 3.68. Community estimates ranged from .13 to .49, averaging .30. Alpha coefficients prior to the rotation were .91 and .70, respectively.

#### *Results of Exploratory Factor Analyses, Factor Loadings by Sample*

	Normative Sample (n=340)		High Risk Control (n= 135)	
<b>Factor 1 – Harsh Discipline</b>				
C5QP3 Yell or scold	<b><u>0.4117</u></b>	0.0009	<b><u>0.4540</u></b>	0.1582
C5QP6 Spank	<b><u>0.6204</u></b>	0.0920	<b><u>0.6962</u></b>	0.0461
C5QP7 Slap or hit	<b><u>0.5763</u></b>	0.0194	<b><u>0.6120</u></b>	-0.0560
C5QP8 Lock out of home	<b><u>0.3573</u></b>	0.0829	<b><u>0.4512</u></b>	0.1139
<b>Factor 2 – Appropriate Discipline</b>				
C5QP1 Take away privilege	0.1441	<b><u>0.6411</u></b>	0.1982	<b><u>0.4957</u></b>
C5QP2 Send to room/Time out	0.1994	<b><u>0.3304</u></b>	0.1280	<b><u>0.6033</u></b>
C5QP4 Calmly discuss misbehavior	-0.2582	<b><u>0.4251</u></b>	-0.2099	<b><u>0.2914</u></b>

### 2. Parent Praise Items

The results for the Parent Praise Items indicated two factors. For the Normative sample (n=341), the original one-factor solution was forced into two factors. The eigenvalues for these factors were 7.78 and 0.83. Community estimates ranged from .20 to .66, with an average of .43. Alpha coefficients prior to the rotation were .98 and -.16, respectively.

In the High Risk Control Sample (n=136), the two-factor solution naturally emerged from the data. Eigenvalues for the two factors were 6.65 and 1.68. Community estimates ranged from .09 to .79, averaging .48. Alpha coefficients prior to the rotation were .95 and .40, respectively.

#### *Results of Exploratory Factor Analyses, Factor Loadings by Sample*

	Normative Sample (n=341)		High Risk Control (n= 136)	
<b>Factor 1 – Tangible Rewards</b>				
C5QP13 Reward	0.3105	<b><u>0.7489</u></b>	<b><u>0.6667</u></b>	0.2525
C5QP14 Give special privilege	0.2221	<b><u>0.6809</u></b>	<b><u>0.8822</u></b>	0.1242
C5QP15 Do something special	0.3892	<b><u>0.4565</u></b>	<b><u>0.5594</u></b>	0.2421
<b>Factor 2 – Positive Attention</b>				
C5QP10 Smile or wink	<b><u>0.5915</u></b>	0.2494	0.2524	<b><u>0.6745</u></b>
C5QP11 Praise	<b><u>0.6235</u></b>	0.2134	0.1080	<b><u>0.6534</u></b>

C5QP12	Physical affection	<u>0.5809</u>	0.3165	0.2880	<u>0.7689</u>
C5QP16	Tell someone	<u>0.4171</u>	0.1608	0.0847	<u>0.2836</u>