

Revised Technical Report on:
Being A Parent
(to take the place of the Being a Parent TR by McMahon & Lengua, 1996)
Kindergarten/Year 1

Fast Track Project Technical Report
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Citation

Instrument

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group. (1990). Being A Parent.

Report

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

Data Sources

Raw: p1h

Scored: bpr1

I. Scale Description

The **Being A Parent** scale is an adaptation of the Parenting Sense of Competence Scale (Gibaud-Wallston & Wandersman, 1978), which assesses parenting self-esteem. The 12 items assess Parenting Satisfaction, an affective dimension reflecting parenting frustration, anxiety, and motivation, and Parenting Efficacy, an instrumental dimension reflecting competence, problem-solving ability, and capability in the parenting role (Johnston & Mash, 1989). Parents are asked to respond to a series of statements about parenting, indicating their agreement or disagreement. Each item is measured on a 7-point Likert scale, ranging from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree).

II. Report Sample

This technical report is based upon Year 1, Cohort 1 data, including both High-Risk Control and Normative samples. With missing cases excluded, the total N (including overlap of 79 respondents) was 462, with 386 parents of normative and 155 parents of high-risk control youth. The Normative sample consisted of 195 (50.52%) males, with an ethnic breakdown of 169 (43.78%) Black, 199 (51.55%) White, and 18 (4.66%) Other. The High Risk Control sample consisted of 112 (72.26%) males, with an ethnic breakdown of 70 (45.16%) Black, 81 (52.26%) White and 4 (2.58%) Other races. The total sample

included 125 (27.06%) parents from Durham, 105 (22.73%) parents from Nashville, 124 (26.84%) parents from Pennsylvania, and 108 (23.38%) parents from Seattle.

Only one respondent (0.2% of cohort) was missing an observation for the entire measure. This youth was in the Normative sample, and was a White female from the Washington site.

III. Scaling

Exploratory factor analyses were conducted using the Normative and High Risk Control samples to inform scaling (see Addendum). The factor analysis yielded two factors that corresponded with those obtained from principal component analysis of the original measure (see Johnston & Mash, 1989). These two scale scores were calculated by taking an average of the items comprising the scales. None of the observations were missing 50% or more data. The resulting scales, items that compose them, and internal consistencies (Cronbach's coefficient Alpha) are provided below.

	<u>Normative (n=386)</u>	<u>HRC (n =155)</u>
Parenting Efficacy (Items 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9)	.77	.75
Parenting Satisfaction (Items 1r, 5r, 7r, 10r, 11r, 12r)	.77	.70

IV. Differences Between Groups

Two independent t-tests were conducted to assess differences between the Low Risk respondents (Normative sample excluding the overlapping High Risk Subjects, n = 307) and the High Risk Control sample (including 79 overlapping Normative youth, n = 155). Results indicated that parents of low risk youth reported more efficacy and more satisfaction in the parenting role.

<u>BAP Scale</u>	<u>DF</u>	<u>t Value</u>	<u>Pr > t </u>	<u>Low-Risk Mean (n=279)</u>	<u>High-Risk Mean (n=141)</u>
Parenting Efficacy	266	-5.24*	<.0001	5.78	5.37
Parenting Satisfaction	460	-6.28	<.0001	4.40	3.66

*T-test with Satterthwaite correction for degrees of freedom (df) given statistical inequality of variances.

V. Recommendations for Use

Factor analyses suggest that this measure yields two scales that are very similar to those obtained from the original measure (Johnston & Mash, 1989). The efficacy scale indicates an instrumental dimension of parenting, whereas the satisfaction scale indicates an affective dimension of parenting. Previous studies suggest that parents who report more child behavior problems also report lower levels of satisfaction (Mash & Johnston, 1983). The scaling structure presented here should supercede that presented in a previous technical report (McMahon & Lengua, 1996).

VI. Item and Scale Means and SDs

Being A Parent Items - Normative Sample

Variable	Label	Mean	Std Dev	N
P1HBP2	Good model for new parent	4.89	1.39	386
P1HBP3	Feel doing a good job as parent	5.68	0.98	386
P1HBP4	Figure out what is troubling child	5.54	1.13	386
P1HBP6	Know what to do to be good parent	5.50	1.32	386
P1HBP8	Parenting satisfying as expected	5.43	1.41	386
P1HBP9	Have the skills to be a good parent	5.14	1.39	386
P1HBP1r R-	Hard to know if doing a good job	2.86	1.42	386
P1HBP5r R-	Talents in other areas not parenting	5.20	1.69	386
P1HBP7r R-	Parenting draining/exhausting	3.21	1.76	384
P1HBP10r	R- Being a parent makes you tense/anxious	3.74	1.75	385
P1HBP11r	R- Difficult to decide how to parent	3.58	1.81	386
P1HBP12r	R- So busy/parent never gets things done	3.34	1.87	386

Being A Parent Items - High-Risk Control Sample

Variable	Label	Mean	Std Dev	N
P1HBP2	Good model for new parent	5.20	1.28	155
P1HBP3	Feel doing a good job as parent	5.99	0.82	155
P1HBP4	Figure out what is troubling child	5.78	0.93	155
P1HBP6	Know what to do to be good parent	5.50	1.02	155
P1HBP8	Parenting satisfying as expected	5.83	1.14	155
P1HBP9	Have the skills to be a good parent	5.91	1.34	155
P1HBP1r R-	Hard to know if doing a good job	3.16	1.77	155
P1HBP5r R-	Talents in other areas not parenting	5.58	1.48	155
P1HBP7r R-	Parenting draining/exhausting	3.93	1.96	155
P1HBP10r	R- Being a parent makes you tense/anxious	4.43	1.86	155
P1HBP11r	R- Difficult to decide how to parent	4.30	1.89	155
P1HBP12r	R- So busy/parent never gets things done	4.15	1.99	155

Scale Means

Scale	Normative Sample (n=386)		High Risk Control (n=155)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Parenting Satisfaction	4.26	1.26	3.66	1.10
Parenting Efficacy	5.70	0.74	5.37	0.85

VII. Scale Correlations

Pearson Correlation Coefficients, Normative Sample above Diagonal (n=386), High Risk Controls below diagonal (n=155).

	Efficacy	Satisfaction
Parenting Efficacy	1.00	0.19
Parenting Satisfaction	-0.001	1.00

VIII. References

Gibaud-Wallston, J. & Wandersman, L. P. (1978, August). Development and utility of the Parenting Sense of Competence Scale. Paper presented at the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Toronto.

Johnston, C. & Mash, E.J. (1989). A measure of parenting satisfaction and efficacy. Journal of Clinical Child Psychology, 18, 167-175.

Mash, E. J. & Johnston, C. (1983). Parental perceptions of child behavior problems, parenting self-esteem, and mothers' reported stress in younger and older hyperactive and normal children. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 51, 86-99.

McMahon, R. J. & Lengua, L. (1996). Being A Parent (Technical Report) [On-line]. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>