

Fear of Crime Questionnaire
Grade 11/Year 12
Fast Track Project Technical Report
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Citation

Instrument

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group. (2000). *Fear of Crime Questionnaire*. Available from the Fast Track Project website: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Report

Godwin, J. and J. Klaric. (2006). *Fear of Crime Questionnaire, Grade11/Year12* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project website: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>

Data Sources

Raw: C12AU

Scored: FCQ12

I. Scale Description

The *Fear of Crime Questionnaire* is an 8-item measure developed at Fast Track seeking specific information from children about fears of criminal activity against their persons. The questionnaire also asks if these fears resulted in behavioral changes.

II. Report Sample

These exploratory analyses were conducted with the control sample (n=155) and the normative sample (n=387, N=463 with overlap) from the first cohort in the twelfth year of the study. Overall, 120 children were missing the whole measure. Forty-four respondents were missing from the control sample (6 from Durham, 17 from Nashville, 9 from Pennsylvania, and 12 from Washington) and 106 respondents were missing from the normative sample (15 from Durham, 39 from Nashville, 23 from Pennsylvania, and 29 from Washington).

III. Scaling

A total scale score was developed from the 8 items. Responses to the first 4 items were measured on a 4-point rating scale (1=Not Fearful, 2=A little fearful, 3=Somewhat fearful, 4=Very fearful); responses to the remaining items were measured dichotomously (0=No, 1=Yes). All responses were standardized ($M=0.0$, $SD=1.0$). Item z-scores were averaged to yield a total score for the *Fear of Crime Questionnaire*.

The internal consistency of the *Fear of Crime Questionnaire* was assessed with Cronbach's coefficient alpha.

Cronbach's Alpha for Scales			
Variable	Label	Normative	High Risk Control
FCQ12TOT	Fear of Crime-FCQ-Year 12	0.76	0.75

The *Fear of Crime Questionnaire* shows adequate internal consistency across both control and normative samples.

IV. Differences between Groups

A folded *F* test indicates scale variances of the high-risk control and the normative samples are homogenous. Scores on the *Fear of Crime Questionnaire* do not differ significantly between these groups ($t(341)=-1.36, p=0.1750$).

Comparison of Means for Normative and Control for Continuous Scales and Items								
Variable	Label	Normative		Control		DF	t Value	Pr > t
		Mean	Std Dev	Mean	Std Dev			
FCQ12TOT	Fear of Crime-FCQ-Year 12	0.08	0.63	-0.01	0.60	341	-1.36	0.1750

V. Recommendations for Use

Results indicate a fairly marked positive skew in both normative and control samples. The *Fear of Crime Questionnaire* has adequate internal consistency, and scale scores do not differ between normative and control groups.

VI. Item Means and Standard Deviations

Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample							
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum	
C12AU5	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-at home in your house or apartment?	281	1.47	0.85	1.00	4.00	
C12AU6	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-on the streets of your neighborhood during the day?	281	1.42	0.76	1.00	4.00	
C12AU7	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-out alone at night in your neighborhood?	281	1.88	0.95	1.00	4.00	
C12AU8	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-out with other people at night in your neighborhood?	281	1.49	0.78	1.00	4.00	
C12AU9	Has fear of crime caused-you to limit the places you will go by yourself?	281	0.31	0.46	0.00	1.00	
C12AU10	Has fear of crime caused-you to get a gun or weapon for self-protection?	281	0.08	0.27	0.00	1.00	

Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
C12AU11	Has fear of crime caused-your family to install a home security system or car alarm?	281	0.14	0.35	0.00	1.00
C12AU12	Has fear of crime caused-your family to move to a different place to live?	281	0.08	0.27	0.00	1.00
FCQ12TOT	Fear of Crime-FCQ-Year 12	281	0.08	0.63	-0.48	2.55

Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample						
Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
C12AU5	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-at home in your house or apartment?	111	1.40	0.83	1.00	4.00
C12AU6	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-on the streets of your neighborhood during the day?	111	1.29	0.62	1.00	4.00
C12AU7	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-out alone at night in your neighborhood?	111	1.74	1.00	1.00	4.00
C12AU8	How afraid are you of being attacked or robbed-out with other people at night in your neighborhood?	111	1.37	0.71	1.00	4.00
C12AU9	Has fear of crime caused-you to limit the places you will go by yourself?	111	0.23	0.42	0.00	1.00
C12AU10	Has fear of crime caused-you to get a gun or weapon for self-protection?	111	0.12	0.32	0.00	1.00
C12AU11	Has fear of crime caused-your family to install a home security system or car alarm?	111	0.12	0.32	0.00	1.00
C12AU12	Has fear of crime caused-your family to move to a different place to live?	111	0.07	0.26	0.00	1.00
FCQ12TOT	Fear of Crime-FCQ-Year 12	111	-0.01	0.60	-0.48	2.02