

Neighborhood Questionnaire

Grade 8 /Year 9

Fast Track Project Technical Report

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November 17, 2002

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Citation

Instrument

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1991). Neighborhood Questionnaire. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Report

Corrigan, A. (2002). *Neighborhood Questionnaire, Grade 8 /Year 9* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Greenberg, M. & Lengua, L. (1995). *Scale Construction for the Neighborhood Questionnaire* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Seattle, WA: University of Washington.

Data Sources

Unscored: P9P

Scored: NHQ9

I. Scale Description

The Neighborhood Questionnaire is a 16-item measure that assesses a parent's satisfaction with the family's neighborhood.

The questionnaire explores sociability in the neighborhood, the neighborhood's stability, the quality of public services (police, schools, transportation, garbage collection), neighborhood safety, the incidence of violent crime, drug traffic in the neighborhood, the parent's involvement with neighbors, and the parent's participation in neighborhood organizations. Responses include three-point, four-point, five-point, six-point, and dichotomous scales. One item has nine response choices. Items ask about satisfaction level, quality, duration, quantity, level of involvement, and frequency. Three items are yes/no questions. On the Year 8 scale, these questions have the response codes: yes = 1 and no = 0. (The opposite yes/no codes are used in previous years' Neighborhood Questionnaires.)

II. Report Sample

This report contains data collected on Cohort 1, Year 9. The data include a high-risk control sample (n=155) and a normative sample (n = 387) for a total n = 463, including overlap. Ninety-five of the 463 are missing responses for the entire Neighborhood Questionnaire, including 82 from the normative group (15 from Durham, 20 from Washington, 17 from Pennsylvania, and 30 from Nashville), and 29 from the control group (5 from Durham, 9 from Nashville, 7 from Pennsylvania, and 8 from Washington).

III. Scaling

The Neighborhood Questionnaire has three subscales: the Neighborhood Safety Subscale (items 1, 6, 10, 11, and 12), the Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale (items 3, 4, 5, and 13), and the Public Services Subscale (items 8 and 9). A previous analysis determined that items 2, 7, and 15 should not be included on any subscale, and that items 14 and 16, which are dichotomous, should also be excluded from the subscales.

The ordering of responses in items 10 and 11 was reversed before scoring. Raw scores for items 1 to 13 were converted to a ten-point scale. All subscales were scored by taking the mean of non-missing item responses and multiplying by the number of items on the scale. Subscales with more than 50 percent of their responses missing were not scored. Using a ten-point response scale, Neighborhood Safety has a possible maximum score of 50 points, Neighborhood Social Involvement has a maximum of 40, and Public Services has a maximum of 20.

The alpha coefficients for the normative sample and control sample are:

| | Normative Sample | Control Sample |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| Neighborhood Safety | 0.75 | 0.78 |
| Neighborhood Social Involvement | 0.71 | 0.66 |
| Public Services | 0.33 | 0.36 |

The following table shows the frequency of responses to Item 14 (Does your neighborhood have clubs/groups?) and Item 15 (How many groups do you belong to?). Item 14 was recoded such that Yes equals 1 and No equals 0, while item 15 was recoded such that, among parents in neighborhoods without clubs/organizations, item 15 is coded as 0 rather than missing.

| p9pnq14r(Recoded-Any groups in neighborhood) | p9pnq15r(Recoded-Involved in how many groups) | | | | | | | | Total |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 9 | |
| 0 | 238 66.11 100.00 78.81 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 238 66.11 |
| 1 | 64 17.78 52.46 21.19 | 41 11.39 33.61 100.00 | 9 2.50 7.38 100.00 | 3 0.83 2.46 100.00 | 2 0.56 1.64 100.00 | 1 0.28 0.82 100.00 | 1 0.28 0.82 100.00 | 1 0.28 0.82 100.00 | 122 33.89 |
| Total | 302 83.89 | 41 11.39 | 9 2.50 | 3 0.83 | 2 0.56 | 1 0.28 | 1 0.28 | 1 0.28 | 360 100.00 |
| Frequency Missing = 8 | | | | | | | | | |

The next table shows the frequency of responses to Item 16 (Do you hold an office or post in any neighborhood group?) and Item 15 (How many groups do you belong to?). Among parents in neighborhoods without clubs/organizations, the items were recoded as 0 rather than missing.

| Table of p9pnq16r by p9pnq15r | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| p9pnq16r(Recoded-Hold an official position in groups) | p9pnq15r(Recoded-Involved in how many groups) | | | | | | | | Total |
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 9 | |
| Frequency Percent Row Pct Col Pct | | | | | | | | | |
| 0 | 310 84.24 87.57 100.00 | 36 9.78 10.17 87.80 | 5 1.36 1.41 55.56 | 2 0.54 0.56 66.67 | 1 0.27 0.28 50.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 354 96.20 |
| 1 | 0 0.00 0.00 0.00 | 5 1.36 35.71 12.20 | 4 1.09 28.57 44.44 | 1 0.27 7.14 33.33 | 1 0.27 7.14 50.00 | 1 0.27 7.14 100.00 | 1 0.27 7.14 100.00 | 1 0.27 7.14 100.00 | 14 3.80 |
| Total | 310 84.24 | 41 11.14 | 9 2.45 | 3 0.82 | 2 0.54 | 1 0.27 | 1 0.27 | 1 0.27 | 368 100.00 |

IV. Differences Between Groups

T-tests of means for the normative sample and the high-risk control sample yielded the following results:

| | Normative Sample | | Control Sample | | DF | t Value | Pr > t |
|---|------------------|-------|----------------|-------|-----|---------|---------|
| | Mean | SD | Mean | SD | | | |
| Neighborhood Safety Subscale | 35.39 | 10.05 | 35.18 | 10.48 | 363 | -0.19 | 0.8512 |
| Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale | 16.99 | 9.64 | 14.98 | 9.21 | 366 | -1.93 | 0.0545 |
| Public Services Subscale | 14.50 | 4.64 | 13.76 | 5.20 | 364 | -1.38 | 0.1688 |
| Length of time in neighborhood | 6.67 | 3.36 | 6.28 | 3.38 | 351 | -1.03 | 0.3049 |
| Garbage collection satisfaction | 8.34 | 2.62 | 8.58 | 2.13 | 363 | 0.86 | 0.3890 |

V. Recommendations for Use

Analysts should be aware that items on the Neighborhood Questionnaire contain several different response scales and response metrics, and that correlations among the subscales are low (e.g., for the Neighborhood Safety subscale and Neighborhood Social Involvement subscale, $r = 0.06878$ with $p = .20$). The Public Services subscale shows low alpha values for both the normative group ($\alpha = .33$) and the control group ($\alpha = .36$). These low values suggest that the Public Services subscale does not effectively measure the intended construct.

VI. Item and Scale Means and SDs

Item Means and Standard Deviations – Neighborhood Questionnaire

| Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample | | | | | | |
|--|---|----------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Variable | Label | N | Mean | Std Dev | Minimum | Maximum |
| p9pnq1r | Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood | 126 | 7.62 | 2.49 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq2r | Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents | 120 | 6.28 | 3.38 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq3r | Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting | 126 | 4.40 | 3.50 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq4r | Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well | 126 | 4.21 | 3.10 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq5r | Rescaled-How often do you get together | 126 | 2.63 | 3.19 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq6r | Rescaled-Local police protection | 126 | 7.33 | 2.86 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq7r | Rescaled-Local garbage collection | 124 | 8.58 | 2.13 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq8r | Rescaled-Local schools | 123 | 6.88 | 3.19 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq9r | Rescaled-Public transportation | 119 | 6.97 | 3.22 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq10r | Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary | 125 | 6.44 | 2.84 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq11r | Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs | 121 | 6.25 | 3.46 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq12r | Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship | 120 | 7.47 | 2.66 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq13r | Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood | 126 | 3.73 | 3.34 | 0.00 | 10.00 |

| Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample | | | | | | |
|--|---|----------|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Variable | Label | N | Mean | Std Dev | Minimum | Maximum |
| p9pnq1r | Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood | 304 | 7.76 | 2.59 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq2r | Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents | 292 | 6.54 | 3.39 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq3r | Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting | 303 | 4.93 | 3.43 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq4r | Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well | 305 | 4.92 | 3.28 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq5r | Rescaled-How often do you get together | 305 | 3.06 | 3.25 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq6r | Rescaled-Local police protection | 302 | 7.27 | 2.80 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq7r | Rescaled-Local garbage collection | 303 | 8.45 | 2.45 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq8r | Rescaled-Local schools | 293 | 7.34 | 2.77 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq9r | Rescaled-Public transportation | 289 | 7.05 | 3.25 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq10r | Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary | 300 | 6.54 | 2.56 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq11r | Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs | 293 | 5.97 | 3.67 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq12r | Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship | 292 | 7.76 | 2.55 | 0.00 | 10.00 |
| p9pnq13r | Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood | 304 | 3.83 | 3.22 | 0.00 | 10.00 |

Subscale Means and Standard Deviations – Neighborhood Questionnaire

| Descriptive Statistics - High Risk Control Sample | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| Variable | Label | N | Mean | Std Dev | Minimum | Maximum |
| NHQ9saf | Y9 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale | 126 | 35.18 | 10.48 | 3.33 | 50.00 |
| NHQ9soc | Y9 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale | 126 | 14.98 | 9.21 | 0.00 | 38.00 |
| NHQ9pub | Y9 NQ Public Service Subscale | 125 | 13.76 | 5.20 | 0.00 | 20.00 |

| Descriptive Statistics - Normative Sample | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----|-------|---------|---------|---------|
| Variable | Label | N | Mean | Std Dev | Minimum | Maximum |
| NHQ9saf | Y9 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale | 302 | 35.33 | 10.10 | 3.33 | 50.00 |
| NHQ9soc | Y9 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale | 305 | 16.71 | 9.67 | 0.00 | 40.00 |
| NHQ9pub | Y9 NQ Public Service Subscale | 303 | 14.33 | 4.79 | 0.00 | 20.00 |

VII. Item and Scale Correlations

**All Subscales
Combined Normative and Control Samples**

| Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | NHQ9saf | NHQ9soc | NHQ9pub | p9pnq2r | p9pnq7r |
| NHQ9saf Y9 NQ Neighborhood Safety Subscale | 1.000 365 | 0.050 0.336 365 | 0.176 0.001 363 | 0.058 0.281 351 | 0.352 0.000 362 |
| NHQ9soc Y9 NQ Neighborhood Social Involvement Subscale | 0.050 0.336 365 | 1.000 368 | 0.091 0.081 366 | 0.248 0.000 353 | 0.070 0.184 365 |
| NHQ9pub Y9 NQ Public Service Subscale | 0.176 0.001 363 | 0.091 0.081 366 | 1.000 366 | 0.123 0.021 352 | 0.182 0.000 363 |
| p9pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents | 0.058 0.281 351 | 0.248 0.000 353 | 0.123 0.021 352 | 1.000 353 | 0.078 0.143 350 |
| p9pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection | 0.352 0.000 362 | 0.070 0.184 365 | 0.182 0.000 363 | 0.078 0.143 350 | 1.000 365 |

Item Correlations
Combined Normative and Control Samples

| Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | p9pnq1r | p9pnq2r | p9pnq3r | p9pnq4r | p9pnq5r | p9pnq6r | p9pnq7r |
| p9pnq1r Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood | 1.000 367 | 0.177 0.001 353 | 0.002 0.964 365 | 0.243 0.000 367 | 0.049 0.344 367 | 0.323 0.000 365 | 0.316 0.000 364 |
| p9pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents | 0.177 0.001 353 | 1.000 353 | 0.103 0.055 351 | 0.300 0.000 353 | 0.117 0.028 353 | 0.002 0.972 351 | 0.078 0.143 350 |
| p9pnq3r Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting | 0.002 0.964 365 | 0.103 0.055 351 | 1.000 366 | 0.376 0.000 366 | 0.272 0.000 366 | -0.019 0.719 364 | 0.002 0.965 363 |
| p9pnq4r Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well | 0.243 0.000 367 | 0.300 0.000 353 | 0.376 0.000 366 | 1.000 368 | 0.371 0.000 368 | 0.032 0.545 365 | 0.096 0.067 365 |
| p9pnq5r Rescaled-How often do you get together | 0.049 0.344 367 | 0.117 0.028 353 | 0.272 0.000 366 | 0.371 0.000 368 | 1.000 368 | 0.048 0.356 365 | 0.015 0.776 365 |
| p9pnq6r Rescaled-Local police protection | 0.323 0.000 365 | 0.002 0.972 351 | -0.019 0.719 364 | 0.032 0.545 365 | 0.048 0.356 365 | 1.000 365 | 0.324 0.000 362 |
| p9pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection | 0.316 0.000 364 | 0.078 0.143 350 | 0.002 0.965 363 | 0.096 0.067 365 | 0.015 0.776 365 | 0.324 0.000 362 | 1.000 365 |
| p9pnq8r Rescaled-Local schools | 0.155 0.003 355 | 0.022 0.680 345 | 0.102 0.056 354 | 0.057 0.280 355 | 0.001 0.984 355 | 0.214 0.000 353 | 0.195 0.000 352 |
| p9pnq9r Rescaled-Public transportation | 0.007 0.889 350 | 0.170 0.002 337 | 0.067 0.209 349 | 0.041 0.444 351 | -0.023 0.669 351 | 0.104 0.054 348 | 0.128 0.017 349 |
| p9pnq10r Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary | 0.483 0.000 361 | -0.009 0.860 348 | 0.031 0.554 361 | 0.075 0.153 362 | -0.033 0.533 362 | 0.274 0.000 359 | 0.209 0.000 359 |
| p9pnq11r Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs | 0.403 0.000 354 | -0.052 0.338 342 | -0.015 0.779 353 | -0.015 0.781 354 | -0.142 0.008 354 | 0.342 0.000 353 | 0.237 0.000 351 |
| p9pnq12r Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship | 0.422 0.000 353 | 0.148 0.006 340 | -0.064 0.233 352 | 0.111 0.037 353 | 0.016 0.769 353 | 0.463 0.000 351 | 0.200 0.000 350 |
| p9pnq13r Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood | 0.114 0.030 367 | 0.199 0.000 353 | 0.367 0.000 365 | 0.486 0.000 367 | 0.362 0.000 367 | 0.114 0.029 365 | 0.093 0.076 364 |

Item Correlations (continued)
Combined Normative and Control Samples

| Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob > r under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | p9pnq8r | p9pnq9r | p9pnq10r | p9pnq11r | p9pnq12r | p9pnq13r |
| p9pnq1r Rescaled-How feel about neighborhood | 0.155 0.003 355 | 0.007 0.889 350 | 0.483 0.000 361 | 0.403 0.000 354 | 0.422 0.000 353 | 0.114 0.030 367 |
| p9pnq2r Rescaled-Length of stay for most residents | 0.022 0.680 345 | 0.170 0.002 337 | -0.009 0.860 348 | -0.052 0.338 342 | 0.148 0.006 340 | 0.199 0.000 353 |
| p9pnq3r Rescaled-Amount of neighborly talking or visiting | 0.102 0.056 354 | 0.067 0.209 349 | 0.031 0.554 361 | -0.015 0.779 353 | -0.064 0.233 352 | 0.367 0.000 365 |
| p9pnq4r Rescaled-How many neighbors do you know well | 0.057 0.280 355 | 0.041 0.444 351 | 0.075 0.153 362 | -0.015 0.781 354 | 0.111 0.037 353 | 0.486 0.000 367 |
| p9pnq5r Rescaled-How often do you get together | 0.001 0.984 355 | -0.023 0.669 351 | -0.033 0.533 362 | -0.142 0.008 354 | 0.016 0.769 353 | 0.362 0.000 367 |
| p9pnq6r Rescaled-Local police protection | 0.214 0.000 353 | 0.104 0.054 348 | 0.274 0.000 359 | 0.342 0.000 353 | 0.463 0.000 351 | 0.114 0.029 365 |
| p9pnq7r Rescaled-Local garbage collection | 0.195 0.000 352 | 0.128 0.017 349 | 0.209 0.000 359 | 0.237 0.000 351 | 0.200 0.000 350 | 0.093 0.076 364 |
| p9pnq8r Rescaled-Local schools | 1.000 355 | 0.208 0.000 340 | 0.127 0.018 351 | 0.084 0.120 345 | 0.195 0.000 343 | 0.094 0.079 355 |
| p9pnq9r Rescaled-Public transportation | 0.208 0.000 340 | 1.000 351 | 0.030 0.581 345 | 0.027 0.616 340 | 0.102 0.060 339 | 0.051 0.343 350 |
| p9pnq10r Rescaled-Frequency of mugging/burglary | 0.127 0.018 351 | 0.030 0.581 345 | 1.000 362 | 0.492 0.000 352 | 0.362 0.000 349 | 0.054 0.309 361 |
| p9pnq11r Rescaled-Local selling/using of drugs | 0.084 0.120 345 | 0.027 0.616 340 | 0.492 0.000 352 | 1.000 354 | 0.358 0.000 344 | -0.023 0.663 354 |
| p9pnq12r Rescaled-Police and neighborhood relationship | 0.195 0.000 343 | 0.102 0.060 339 | 0.362 0.000 349 | 0.358 0.000 344 | 1.000 353 | 0.114 0.032 353 |
| p9pnq13r Rescaled-Involvement in neighborhood | 0.094 0.079 355 | 0.051 0.343 350 | 0.054 0.309 361 | -0.023 0.663 354 | 0.114 0.032 353 | 1.000 367 |