

## **Parent Report of Child Delinquency**

*Grade 12 / Year 13*

Fast Track Project Technical Report

Brenda Heinrichs

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### **Citations**

#### *Instrument*

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1997). *Parent Report of Child's Delinquency*. Unpublished measure, Duke University Fast Track Project.

#### *Reports*

Heinrichs, B. (2004). *Parent Report of Child's Delinquency* (Technical Report) [On-line]. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>

### **Data Sources**

*Raw :*        **P13AG**

*Scored:*     **PCD13**

### **I. Scale Description**

Parent-Report of Child Delinquency asks parents to describe their child's delinquent activities, tapping the areas of property damage, theft, assault, and substance use. For each type of delinquent act, the parent is asked whether their child committed the act never, once, twice, three times, or four or more times. The responses are scored on this Likert scale.

### **II. Report Sample**

Primary analyses were conducted on Cohort 1 year 13 normative (n=387) and Cohort 1 high risk control samples (n=155, overlap is 79). One hundred thirty-three students were missing the entire measure (26% of the sample), including 115 from the normative sample (30% of the sample) and 59 of the control sample (38% of the sample). The non-respondents included 20 students from the Durham site, 45 from Nashville, 30 from Pennsylvania and 38 from the Seattle site.

### III. Scaling

The following delinquency scales were created by summing the individual items (after adjusting the levels to a scale of 0 to 4 rather than 1 to 5):

- 3 offense-specific scales:
  - o substance abuse (pag6, pag7, pag8, pag9)
  - o theft (pag10, pag12)
  - o Interpersonal violence (pag11, pag16)
  
- 1 offense-general category scales:
  - o status offenses(pag13, pag14, pag15)
  
- 1 summary scales
  - o general delinquency (pag6, pag7, pag8, pag9, pag10, pag11, pag12, pag13, pag14, pag15, pag16, pag17)

The last item, pag17 (How often has your child-Purposely set fire to a house, car, or building?), was not included in any scored responses, except general delinquency, as it did not appear to be associated with any of the factors.

The internal consistency of each score was examined by computing the alpha coefficients for the normative and high- risk control samples:

<b>subscale</b>	<b>norm_rawalpha_</b>	<b>controls_rawalpha_</b>
Parent-report delinquency Substance Use	0.62023	0.70712
Parent-report delinquency theft	0.57550	0.55518
Parent-report delinquency assault	0.58406	0.76576
Parent-report delinq Status Offenses	0.59356	0.51387
Parent-report delinq general del	0.76577	0.80553

#### IV. Differences Between Groups

T-tests of equality of means were conducted comparing the normative (non-high-risk) sample to the high-risk control sample. Results are listed below.

Variable	Class	N	Mean	StdErr	Probt
Parent-report delinquency Substance Use	C	94	0.6073	0.0942	0.0039
Parent-report delinquency Substance Use	N	233	0.3451	0.0428	.
Parent-report delinquency theft	C	95	0.2789	0.0721	0.2501
Parent-report delinquency theft	N	233	0.1888	0.0404	.
Parent-report Interpersonal Violence	C	96	0.1563	0.0536	0.0013
Parent-report Interpersonal Violence	N	233	0.03	0.0116	.
Parent-report delinq Status Offenses	C	96	0.7604	0.0895	<.0001
Parent-report delinq Status Offenses	N	234	0.4017	0.045	.
Parent-report delinq general del	C	95	0.463	0.0571	0.0003
Parent-report delinq general del	N	234	0.2546	0.0283	.

#### V. Recommendations for Use

The analyst should be cautioned that the scales are extremely skewed towards the lower part of the scale, because of the low frequency of the occurrence. In addition, it is recommended that the items be dichotomized, except for item p13ag 13 (How often has your child-Been suspended or expelled for bad behavior at school?). This item should be collapsed into three categories (never, once, more than once).

An abbreviated version of the results using this collapsing scheme is presented below.

Variable	Class	N	Mean	StdErr	Probt
Parent-report delinquency Substance Use	C	94	0.2473	0.0297	0.0006
Parent-report delinquency Substance Use	N	233	0.1463	0.0142	.
Parent-report delinquency theft	C	95	0.1211	0.0277	0.2042
Parent-report delinquency theft	N	233	0.0837	0.015	.
Parent-report Interpersonal Violence	C	96	0.0885	0.0267	0.0025
Parent-report Interpersonal Violence	N	233	0.0236	0.0082	.
Parent-report delinq Status Offenses	C	96	0.4514	0.0463	0.0002
Parent-report delinq Status Offenses	N	234	0.2664	0.0247	.
Parent-report delinq general del	C	95	0.2518	0.0251	<.0001
Parent-report delinq general del	N	233	0.1462	0.0128	.

**VI. Item and Scale Means and SD's**

**Control Sample:**

**Items:**

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev
P13AG6	How often has your child-Drank alcohol beyond a few sips?	91	1.341	1.477
P13AG7	How often has your child-Been drunk in a public place?	88	0.250	0.791
P13AG8	How often has your child-Used illegal drugs such as heroin, crack, cocaine, or LSD?	93	0.462	1.221
P13AG9	How often has your child-Sold illegal drugs?	94	0.309	0.916
P13AG10	How often has your child-Stolen or tried to steal something worth more than \$50?	95	0.242	0.847
P13AG11	How often has your child-Attacked someone with a weapon hurting them?	95	0.095	0.414
P13AG12	How often has your child-Taken some money at without asking?	95	0.316	0.841
P13AG13	How often has your child-Been suspended or expelled for bad behavior at school?	94	1.383	1.647
P13AG14	How often has your child-Been in trouble with the police for something he or she did?	96	0.604	1.041
P13AG15	How often has your child-Been in trouble with the police for something he or she did?	96	0.323	0.864
P13AG16	How often has your child-Run away from home?	96	0.219	0.714
P13AG17	How often has your child-Carried a weapon?	96	0.021	0.144
	How often has your child-Purposely set fire to a house, car, or building?			

**Scales:**

Variable	Label	N	Mean	Std Dev	Minimum	Maximum
pcdsub	'Parent-report delinquency Substance Use'	270	0.351	0.662	0	4.000
pcdth	'Parent-report delinquency theft'	271	0.199	0.621	0	4.000
pcdipv	'Parent-report delinquency assault'	271	0.046	0.293	0	3.500
pcdsto	'Parent-report delinq. Status Offenses'	272	0.435	0.708	0	3.333
pcdgen	'Parent-report delinq. general del'	272	0.268	0.443	0	2.417

**Normative Sample:**

**Items:**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Label</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>
P13AG6	How often has your child-Drank alcohol beyond a few sips?	260	0.904	1.319
P13AG7	How often has your child-Been drunk in a public place?	265	0.113	0.524
P13AG8	How often has your child-Used illegal drugs such as heroin, crack, cocaine, or LSD?	266	0.233	0.893
P13AG9	How often has your child-Sold illegal drugs?	267	0.127	0.636
P13AG10	How often has your child-Stolen or tried to steal something worth more than \$50?	270	0.170	0.717
P13AG11	How often has your child-Attacked someone with a weapon hurting them?	271	0.026	0.218
P13AG12	How often has your child-Taken some money at home without asking?	271	0.218	0.731
P13AG13	How often has your child-Been suspended or expelled for bad behavior at school?	272	0.724	1.230
P13AG14	How often has your child-Been in trouble with the police for something he or she did?	272	0.445	0.932
P13AG15	How often has your child-Run away from home?	272	0.136	0.589
P13AG16	How often has your child-Carried a weapon?	270	0.067	0.443
P13AG17	How often has your child-Purposely set fire to a house, car, or building?	272	0.015	0.121

**Scales:**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Label</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>Minimum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
pcdsub	'Parent-report delinquency Substance Use'	270	0.351	0.662	0	4.000
pcdth	'Parent-report delinquency theft'	271	0.199	0.621	0	4.000
pcdipv	'Parent-report delinquency assault'	271	0.046	0.293	0	3.500
pcdsto	'Parent-report delinq. Status Offenses'	272	0.435	0.708	0	3.333
pcdgen	'Parent-report delinq. general del'	272	0.268	0.443	0	2.417

## VII. Item and Scale Correlations

### Full sample:

Pearson Correlation Coefficients Prob >  r  under H0: Rho=0 Number of Observations					
	pcdsub	pcdth	pcdipv	pcdsto	pcdgen
<b>pcdsub</b> 'Parent-report delinquency Substance Use'	1.00000 327	0.48507 <.0001 327	0.22890 <.0001 326	0.54537 <.0001 327	0.85585 <.0001 327
<b>pcdth</b> 'Parent-report delinquency theft'	0.48507 <.0001 327	1.00000 328	0.14077 0.0108 327	0.57047 <.0001 328	0.73096 <.0001 328
<b>pcdipv</b> 'Parent-report delinquency assault'	0.22890 <.0001 326	0.14077 0.0108 327	1.00000 329	0.31443 <.0001 329	0.39751 <.0001 328
<b>pcdsto</b> 'Parent-report delinq. Status Offenses'	0.54537 <.0001 327	0.57047 <.0001 328	0.31443 <.0001 329	1.00000 330	0.85578 <.0001 329
<b>pcdgen</b> 'Parent-report delinq. general del'	0.85585 <.0001 327	0.73096 <.0001 328	0.39751 <.0001 328	0.85578 <.0001 329	1.00000 329