

**Ethnic Identity- Phinney**  
**Grade 8/ Year 9**  
**Fast Track Project Technical Report**  
**Melba Nicholson**  
**October 24, 2002**

**Table of Contents**

- I. Scale Description**
- II. Report Sample**
- III. Scaling**
- IV. Differences Between Groups**
- V. Recommendations for Use**
- VI. Item and Scale Means and SDs**
- VII. Scale Correlations**

**Citation**

*Instrument*

Phinney, J.S. (1992). The multigroup ethnic identity measure: A new scale for use with diverse groups. *Journal of Adolescent Research*, 7(2), 156-176.

Adolescent Pathways Project (1994). Pennsylvania State University.

*Report*

Nicholson, M.J. (2002). *Ethnic Identity-Phinney (Technical Report) [On-line]*. Available: <http://www.fasttrackproject.org/>.

**I. Scale Description**

Ethnic Identity-Phinney (Adolescent Pathways Project, 1994) is a 9-item scale adapted from a measure developed by Jean S. Phinney (1992). It assesses participants' feelings about the ethnic identity group with which they identify. The scale includes three factors: exploration, group-esteem, and ambivalent (confusion or discontent regarding ethnicity) ethnic attitudes.

**II. Report Sample**

Primary analyses were conducted with the participants in Cohort1 year 9 (8<sup>th</sup> grade) including both the normative (n=339) and high-risk control (n=63, overlap is 33) samples. Total N=369, treatment youth were not included. The racial composition for the sample was as follows: 182 (normative = 152) African American, 4 Hispanic, 1 Native American, 9 Other, and 175 (Normative only) Caucasian. 39 participants were missing responses for the entire scale, including 20 African American, 1 Other, and 18 White participants. Fourteen were from the normative sample and 8 were high-risk

participants. The non-respondents included 4 participants from the Durham site, 9 participants from Nashville, 0 participants from Pennsylvania, and 9 participants from Seattle.

### III. Scaling

See tech report on Cohort 1, Year 8 for detailed scaling information.

### IV. Differences Between Groups

Comparative differences between the high-risk control sample and the non-high-risk normative sample (groups were formed by kindergarten data) were assessed for African American youth.

Normative African American youth were significantly less likely than their high-risk counterparts to have a preference for belonging to another racial/ethnic group. They were marginally more likely to feel good about being in their own racial/ethnic group.

No significant differences were found for the total scale, subscales and remaining item analyses.

#### African American Youth

|   | Normative Mean | Normative Std. Dev. | High Risk Control Mean | High Risk Control Std. Dev. | DF  | T-Value | Sig. (2-tailed) |
|---|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----|---------|-----------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture                  | 3.58           | .77                 | 3.47                   | .88                         | 160 | 0.80    | .43             |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group                 | 3.82           | .53                 | 3.64                   | .68                         | 160 | 1.92    | .06             |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives                | 2.63           | 1.11                | 2.38                   | 1.06                        | 160 | 1.34    | .18             |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me                  | 1.67           | 1.02                | 1.73                   | .91                         | 160 | -0.33   | .74             |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other                 | 3.28           | 1.00                | 3.22                   | .96                         | 160 | 0.38    | .70             |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Membe                | 2.59           | 1.18                | 2.76                   | 1.12                        | 160 | -0.91   | .37             |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals                   | 2.37           | 1.17                | 2.51                   | 1.10                        | 160 | -0.71   | .48             |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background                | 3.25           | .95                 | 3.04                   | 1.04                        | 159 | 1.34    | .18             |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group                   | 1.22           | .25                 | 1.51                   | .92                         | 160 | -2.48   | .01             |
| Phinney- Exploration of Ethnic Attitudes, Items 3,6,7,8 | 2.71           | .83                 | 2.67                   | .83                         | 159 | 0.30    | .76             |
| Phinney- Group Esteem, Items 1,2,5                      | 3.56           | .57                 | 3.44                   | .70                         | 160 | 1.16    | .25             |
| Phinney- Ambivalence Items 4,9                          | 1.44           | .64                 | 1.62                   | .80                         | 160 | -1.51   | .13             |
| Phinney- Total Scale                                    | 2.71           | .53                 | 2.69                   | .58                         | 159 | 0.21    | .84             |

### V. Recommendations for Use

Only the normative sample of White youth completed this measure in this year. Moreover, the sample size of other ethnic groups is too small for meaningful analysis. Therefore within-group analyses are only available for African American participants.

**VI. Item and Scale Means and SD  
African American Normative Sample**

|  | <b>N</b> | <b>Minimum</b> | <b>Maximum</b> | <b>Mean</b> | <b>Std. Deviation</b> |
|--|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture   | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.58        | .77                   |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group  | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.82        | .53                   |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.62        | 1.11                  |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me   | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 1.67        | 1.02                  |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other  | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.28        | 1.00                  |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Membe | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.59        | 1.18                  |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals    | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.37        | 1.17                  |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background | 106      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.25        | .95                   |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group    | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 1.22        | .58                   |
| EXPLORE                                  | 106      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.71        | .83                   |
| ESTEEM                                   | 107      | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.56        | .57                   |
| AMBIVAL                                  | 107      | 1.00           | 3.50           | 1.44        | .64                   |
| TOTAL                                    | 106      | 1.33           | 3.78           | 2.71        | .53                   |

**African American High-Risk Control**

|  | <b>N</b> | <b>Minimum</b> | <b>Maximum</b> | <b>Mean</b> | <b>Std. Deviation</b> |
|--|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture   | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.48        | .88                   |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group  | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.64        | .68                   |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.38        | 1.06                  |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me   | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 1.73        | .91                   |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other  | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.22        | .96                   |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Membe | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.76        | 1.12                  |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals    | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.51        | 1.10                  |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.04        | 1.04                  |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group    | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 1.51        | .92                   |
| EXPLORE                                  | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 2.67        | .83                   |
| ESTEEM                                   | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 3.44        | .70                   |
| AMBIVAL                                  | 55       | 1.00           | 4.00           | 1.62        | .80                   |
| TOTAL                                    | 55       | 1.22           | 4.00           | 2.69        | .58                   |

## Hispanic Normative Sample

### Descriptive Statistics

|   | N | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|---|---|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture    | 4 | 3.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .58            |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group   | 4 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | 1.00           |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives  | 4 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.50 | 1.29           |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me    | 4 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.00 | 1.41           |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other   | 4 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.25 | 1.50           |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Member | 4 | 1.00    | 3.00    | 1.75 | .96            |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals     | 4 | 1.00    | 2.00    | 1.50 | .58            |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background  | 4 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.00 | .82            |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group     | 4 | 1.00    | 2.00    | 1.25 | .50            |
| EXPLORE                                   | 4 | 1.75    | 2.50    | 2.19 | .38            |
| ESTEEM                                    | 4 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.08 | .83            |
| AMBIVAL                                   | 4 | 1.00    | 2.50    | 1.63 | .63            |
| TOTAL                                     | 4 | 1.78    | 2.67    | 2.36 | .42            |

## Native American Normative

### Descriptive Statistics

|  | N | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|--|---|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture     | 1 | 4.00    | 4.00    | 4.00 | .              |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group    | 1 | 3.00    | 3.00    | 3.00 | .              |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives   | 1 | 2.00    | 2.00    | 2.00 | .              |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me     | 1 | 2.00    | 2.00    | 2.00 | .              |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other    | 1 | 3.00    | 3.00    | 3.00 | .              |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Members | 1 | 2.00    | 2.00    | 2.00 | .              |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals      | 1 | 3.00    | 3.00    | 3.00 | .              |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background   | 1 | 3.00    | 3.00    | 3.00 | .              |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group      | 1 | 2.00    | 2.00    | 2.00 | .              |
| EXPLORE                                    | 1 | 2.50    | 2.50    | 2.50 | .              |
| ESTEEM                                     | 1 | 3.33    | 3.33    | 3.33 | .              |
| AMBIVAL                                    | 1 | 2.00    | 2.00    | 2.00 | .              |
| TOTAL                                      | 1 | 2.67    | 2.67    | 2.67 | .              |

## Other Normative

### Descriptive Statistics

|  | N | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|--|---|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture   | 6 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .84            |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group  | 6 | 3.00    | 4.00    | 3.83 | .41            |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives | 6 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 3.17 | 1.17           |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me   | 6 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.33 | 1.37           |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other  | 6 | 3.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .55            |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Membe | 6 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .84            |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals    | 6 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .84            |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background | 6 | 2.00    | 4.00    | 3.50 | .84            |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group    | 6 | 1.00    | 2.00    | 1.17 | .41            |
| EXPLORE                                  | 6 | 1.75    | 4.00    | 3.42 | .86            |
| ESTEEM                                   | 6 | 2.67    | 4.00    | 3.61 | .53            |
| AMBIVAL                                  | 6 | 1.00    | 2.50    | 1.75 | .69            |
| TOTAL                                    | 6 | 2.22    | 3.67    | 3.11 | .50            |

## White Normative

### Descriptive Statistics

|   | N   | Minimum | Maximum | Mean | Std. Deviation |
|---|-----|---------|---------|------|----------------|
| Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture    | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 3.24 | .80            |
| I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group   | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 3.44 | .69            |
| Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives  | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.06 | .96            |
| Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me    | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 1.83 | .86            |
| Comfortable Among Own Group & One Other   | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 3.28 | .95            |
| Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Member | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.23 | .99            |
| How Being Member Affects Future Goals     | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.17 | 1.03           |
| Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background  | 156 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.65 | 1.04           |
| Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group     | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 1.32 | .62            |
| EXPLORE                                   | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 2.28 | .78            |
| ESTEEM                                    | 157 | 1.00    | 4.00    | 3.32 | .61            |
| AMBIVAL                                   | 157 | 1.00    | 3.50    | 1.58 | .56            |
| TOTAL                                     | 156 | 1.22    | 3.56    | 2.47 | .49            |

## VII. Total Sample Scale and Item Correlations

### Correlations

|                             | EXPLORE | ESTEEM | AMBIVAL | TOTAL |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|-------|
| EXPLORE Pearson Correlation | 1.00    | .51    | .13     | .93   |
| Sig. (2-tailed)             | .       | .00    | .02     | .00   |
| ESTEEM Pearson Correlation  | .51     | 1.00   | -.12    | .71   |
| Sig. (2-tailed)             | .00     | .      | .03     | .00   |
| AMBIVAL Pearson Correlation | .13     | -.12   | 1.00    | .31   |
| Sig. (2-tailed)             | .02     | .03    | .       | .00   |
| TOTAL Pearson Correlation   | .93     | .71    | .31     | 1.00  |
| Sig. (2-tailed)             | .00     | .00    | .00     | .     |

### Item Correlations

| Variables                                   |                     | 1.   | 2.   | 3.   | 4.   | 5.   | 6.  | 7.  | 8.  | 9.   |
|---|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1. Raise Child to be Aware of Own Culture   | Pearson Correlation | 1.00 | .52  | .32  | -.05 | .28  | .39 | .23 | .34 | -.18 |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .    | .00  | .00  | .33  | .00  | .00 | .00 | .00 | .00  |
| 2. I Feel Good About Being in My R/E Group  | Pearson Correlation | .52  | 1.00 | .31  | -.08 | .30  | .35 | .13 | .37 | -.19 |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00  | .    | .00  | .13  | .00  | .00 | .01 | .00 | .00  |
| 3. Talk About R/E Group & Affects Our Lives | Pearson Correlation | .32  | .31  | 1.00 | .09  | .28  | .52 | .48 | .44 | .03  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00  | .00  | .    | .11  | .00  | .00 | .00 | .00 | .54  |
| 4. Confused Abt R/E Group & Meaning to Me   | Pearson Correlation | -.05 | -.08 | .09  | 1.00 | -.04 | .07 | .16 | .05 | .23  |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .33  | .13  | .11  | .    | .48  | .18 | .00 | .33 | .00  |

| <b>Variables</b>                                      |                     | <b>1.</b> | <b>2.</b> | <b>3.</b> | <b>4.</b> | <b>5.</b> | <b>6.</b> | <b>7.</b> | <b>8.</b> | <b>9.</b> |
|---|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>5. Comfortable Among Own Group &amp; One Other</b> | Pearson Correlation | .28       | .30       | .28       | -.04      | 1.00      | .33       | .22       | .28       | .04       |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00       | .00       | .00       | .48       | .         | .00       | .00       | .00       | .46       |
| <b>6. Talk w Elders-Meaning of Being R/E Membe</b>    | Pearson Correlation | .39       | .35       | .52       | .07       | .33       | 1.00      | .50       | .51       | .00       |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00       | .00       | .00       | .18       | .00       | .         | .00       | .00       | .96       |
| <b>7. How Being Member Affects Future Goals</b>       | Pearson Correlation | .23       | .13       | .48       | .16       | .22       | .50       | 1.00      | .32       | .18       |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00       | .01       | .00       | .00       | .00       | .00       | .         | .00       | .00       |
| <b>8. Elders Taught Me About My R/E Background</b>    | Pearson Correlation | .34       | .37       | .44       | .05       | .28       | .51       | .32       | 1.00      | .02       |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00       | .00       | .00       | .33       | .00       | .00       | .00       | .         | .75       |
| <b>9. Prefer to Belong to Another R/E Group</b>       | Pearson Correlation | -.18      | -.19      | .03       | .23       | .04       | .00       | .18       | .02       | 1.00      |
|   | Sig. (2-tailed)     | .00       | .00       | .54       | .00       | .46       | .96       | .00       | .75       | .         |