Self-Report of Close Friends-Version III

Year 14

Fast Track Project Technical Report

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### July 21, 2011

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### Citation

# Instrument

O’Donnell, J., Hawkins, J.D., & Abbott, R.D. (1995). Predicting serious delinquency and substance use among aggressive boys. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 63, 529-537.

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1998). *Self-Report of Close Friends.* Available from the Fast Track Project website, [http://www.fasttrackproject.org](http://www.fasttrackproject.org/)

Conduct Problems Prevention Research Group (CPPRG). (1999). *Self-Report of Close Friends-Revised.* Available from the Fast Track Project website, [http://www.fasttrackproject.org](http://www.fasttrackproject.org/)

# Report

Sandoval, J.M. (2011). *Self-Report of Close Friends-Version III* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project website, [http://www.fasttrackproject.org](http://www.fasttrackproject.org/)

Rains, C. (2004). *Self-Report of Close Friends-Revised* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project website, [http://www.fasttrackproject.org](http://www.fasttrackproject.org/)

Schimmel, K. (2001). *Self-Report of Close Friends* (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project website, [http://www.fasttrackproject.org](http://www.fasttrackproject.org/)

#### Data Sources

*Unscored: C14BN*

*Scored: CCV14*

**I. Scale Description**

The Self Report of Close Friends-Version III measure was adapted from an instrument developed for the Seattle Social Development Project (O’Donnell, Hawkins, & Abbott, 1995). The Fast Track Project original version of this measure was added to the child instrument battery in study year 8. The measure assesses characteristics of students’ best friends’ relationships. In year 8 of the Fast Track Project, students were asked to identify two best friends and answer questions regarding thoughts and feelings about the friend, commitment to the friend, and behaviors by the friend including delinquency, substance use, school motivation and parental attitudes toward the friend. Students were also asked to answer questions about these characteristics for their peer group in general.

In year 9 of the Fast Track Project, the measure was revised and used in all years thereafter. Instead of asking about the characteristics for the child’s peer group, the child is now asked about his/her third best friend. The revised version contains a total of 84 questions. The child is asked to answer 28 questions about each best friend, such as “How do you know your best friend,” “Do you enjoy spending time with this person,” and “”Have the two of you ever sold drugs.” The same questions are repeated for each friend.

In year 14, the questionnaire was modified in order to remove questions related to school and relations with Police. Also, questions regarding marijuana and drug use were split, resulting in individual items. Consequently, the scales created in year 14 are fundamentally different than those used in years 13 and before. Longitudinal analyses of these scales are not possible beyond year 13, although scales for years 13 and 14, are comparable.

**II. Report Sample**

This report contains analyses on data collected on cohort one of the high-risk Control sample (n=155) and the Normative sample (n=387, N=463 with overlap) from the fourteenth year of the study.

Of these, 122 are missing all data, including 69 from the Normative group (11 from Durham, 23 from Nashville, 20 from Pennsylvania, and 15 from Washington), and 52 from the Control group (8 from Durham, 19 from Nashville, 9 from Pennsylvania, and 16 from Washington), with overlap between the Normative and Control groups. None of the missing data were used in the analyses.

**III. Scaling**

The items in this instrument can be grouped to assess four different constructs of children’s friendships for their first, second, and third best friends (Bonding, Deviance and Substance Abuse, Substance Abuse, and Deviant Activities). In addition, each of these constructs is also assessed across all three friendships for four total scores: Total Bonding, Total Deviance and Substance Abuse, Total Substance Abuse, and Total Deviant Activities.

The individual scales for the items vary; a number of questions use yes/no responses, while other questions use scales such as 1 (“Very Much”) to 4 (“Not at All). Because of this variation in scaling, items used in the scales were standardized; these items have a “z” added to the item name to indicate that they were standardized. In addition, a number of items were reversed-scored in order to indicate high scores for the scales; these items have an “R” added to the item name to indicate that the item was reversed-scored.

Three new dichotomous variables (CCVxGN1, CCVxGN2, and CCVxGN3) were created to be able to examine whether the students’ best friends were of the same sex or of the opposite sex. These variables were not included in any of the scales. Additionally a final question in the instrument assesses whether the nominated best friend is also a romantic partner.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Scale Name | Items in Scale |
| **Bonding-1st Best Friend (CCV14BONDING1)** | C14BN2\_1Rz C14BN3\_1Rz C14BN4\_1Rz C14BN5\_1Rz C14BN6\_1Rz |
| **Bonding-2nd Best Friend (CCV14BONDING2)** | C14BN2\_2Rz C14BN3\_2Rz C14BN4\_2Rz C14BN5\_2Rz C14BN6\_2Rz |
| **Bonding-3rd Best Friend (CCV14BONDING3)** | C14BN2\_3Rz C14BN3\_3Rz C14BN4\_3Rz C14BN5\_3Rz C14BN6\_3Rz |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -1st Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB1)** | C14BN7\_1Rz C14BN8a\_1Rz C14BN8b\_1Rz C14BN8c\_1Rz C14BN8d\_1Rz C14BN8e\_1Rz  C14BN8f\_1Rz C14BN8g\_1Rz C14BN8h\_1Rz C14BN8i\_1Rz C14BN8j\_1Rz C14BN8k\_1Rz  C14BN9a\_1Rz C14BN9b\_1Rz C14BN9c\_1Rz C14BN9d\_1Rz C14BN9e\_1Rz C14BN9f\_1Rz C14BN9g\_1Rz C14BN9h\_1Rz C14BN9i\_1Rz C14BN9j\_1Rz C14BN9k\_1Rz |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -2nd Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB2)** | C14BN7\_2Rz C14BN8a\_2Rz C14BN8b\_2Rz C14BN8c\_2Rz C14BN8d\_2Rz C14BN8e\_2Rz  C14BN8f\_2Rz C14BN8g\_2Rz C14BN8h\_2Rz C14BN8i\_2Rz C14BN8j\_2Rz C14BN8k\_2Rz  C14BN9a\_2Rz C14BN9b\_2Rz C14BN9c\_2Rz C14BN9d\_2Rz C14BN9e\_2Rz C14BN9f\_2Rz C14BN9g\_2Rz C14BN9h\_2Rz C14BN9i\_2Rz C14BN9j\_2Rz C14BN9k\_2Rz |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -3rd Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB3)** | C14BN7\_3Rz C14BN8a\_3Rz C14BN8b\_3Rz C14BN8c\_3Rz C14BN8d\_3Rz C14BN8e\_3Rz  C14BN8f\_3Rz C14BN8g\_3Rz C14BN8h\_3Rz C14BN8i\_3Rz C14BN8j\_3Rz C14BN8k\_3Rz  C14BN9a\_3Rz C14BN9b\_3Rz C14BN9c\_3Rz C14BN9d\_3Rz C14BN9e\_3Rz C14BN9f\_3Rz C14BN9g\_3Rz C14BN9h\_3Rz C14BN9i\_3Rz C14BN9j\_3Rz C14BN9k\_3Rz |
| **Substance Abuse-1st Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE1)** | C14BN8a\_1Rz C14BN8b\_1Rz C14BN8c\_1Rz C14BN8d\_1Rz C14BN9a\_1Rz C14BN9b\_1Rz C14BN9c\_1Rz C14BN9d\_1Rz |
| **Substance Abuse-2nd Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE2)** | C14BN8a\_2Rz C14BN8b\_2Rz C14BN8c\_2Rz C14BN8d\_2Rz C14BN9a\_2Rz C14BN9b\_2Rz C14BN9c\_2Rz C14BN9d\_2Rz |
| **Substance Abuse-3rd Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE3)** | C14BN8a\_3Rz C14BN8b\_3Rz C14BN8c\_3Rz C14BN8d\_3Rz C14BN9a\_3Rz C14BN9b\_3Rz C14BN9c\_3Rz C14BN9d\_3Rz |
| **Deviant Activity-1st Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE1)** | C14BN7\_1Rz C14BN8e\_1Rz C14BN8f\_1Rz C14BN8g\_1Rz C14BN8h\_1Rz C14BN8i\_1Rz C14BN8j\_1Rz C14BN8k\_1Rz C14BN9e\_1Rz  C14BN9f\_1Rz C14BN9g\_1Rz C14BN9h\_1Rz C14BN9i\_1Rz C14BN9j\_1Rz C14BN9k\_1Rz |
| **Deviant Activity-2nd Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE2)** | C14BN7\_2Rz C14BN8e\_2Rz C14BN8f\_2Rz C14BN8g\_2Rz C14BN8h\_2Rz C14BN8i\_2Rz C14BN8j\_2Rz C14BN8k\_2Rz C14BN9e\_2Rz  C14BN9f\_2Rz C14BN9g\_2Rz C14BN9h\_2Rz C14BN9i\_2Rz C14BN9j\_2Rz C14BN9k\_2Rz |
| **Deviant Activity-3rd Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE3)** | C14BN7\_3Rz C14BN8e\_3Rz C14BN8f\_3Rz C14BN8g\_3Rz C14BN8h\_3Rz C14BN8i\_3Rz C14BN8j\_3Rz C14BN8k\_3Rz C14BN9e\_3Rz  C14BN9f\_3Rz C14BN9g\_3Rz C14BN9h\_3Rz C14BN9i\_3Rz C14BN9j\_3Rz C14BN9k\_3Rz |

The four other scales that measure the student’s relationships across all of his/her friends are as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total Scale Name | Items in Scale |
| **Total Bonding Across Friends (CCV14BONDING)** | C14BN2\_1Rz C14BN3\_1Rz C14BN4\_1Rz C14BN5\_1Rz C14BN6\_1Rz C14BN2\_2Rz C14BN3\_2Rz C14BN4\_2Rz C14BN5\_2Rz C14BN6\_2Rz C14BN2\_3Rz C14BN3\_3Rz C14BN4\_3Rz C14BN5\_3Rz C14BN6\_3Rz |
| **Total Deviance and Substance Abuse Across Friends (CCV14DEV\_SUB)** | C14BN7\_1Rz C14BN8a\_1Rz C14BN8b\_1Rz C14BN8c\_1Rz C14BN8d\_1Rz C14BN8e\_1Rz  C14BN8f\_1Rz C14BN8g\_1Rz C14BN8h\_1Rz C14BN8i\_1Rz C14BN8j\_1Rz C14BN8k\_1Rz  C14BN9a\_1Rz C14BN9b\_1Rz C14BN9c\_1Rz C14BN9d\_1Rz C14BN9e\_1Rz C14BN9f\_1Rz C14BN9g\_1Rz C14BN9h\_1Rz C14BN9i\_1Rz C14BN9j\_1Rz C14BN9k\_1Rz C14BN7\_2Rz C14BN8a\_2Rz C14BN8b\_2Rz C14BN8c\_2Rz C14BN8d\_2Rz C14BN8e\_2Rz C14BN8f\_2Rz C14BN8g\_2Rz C14BN8h\_2Rz C14BN8i\_2Rz C14BN8j\_2Rz C14BN8k\_2Rz C14BN9a\_2Rz C14BN9b\_2Rz C14BN9c\_2Rz C14BN9d\_2Rz C14BN9e\_2Rz C14BN9f\_2Rz C14BN9g\_2Rz C14BN9h\_2Rz C14BN9i\_2Rz C14BN9j\_2Rz C14BN9k\_2Rz C14BN7\_3Rz C14BN8a\_3Rz C14BN8b\_3Rz C14BN8c\_3Rz C14BN8d\_3Rz C14BN8e\_3Rz C14BN8f\_3Rz C14BN8g\_3Rz C14BN8h\_3Rz C14BN8i\_3Rz C14BN8j\_3Rz C14BN8k\_3Rz C14BN9a\_3Rz C14BN9b\_3Rz C14BN9c\_3Rz C14BN9d\_3Rz C14BN9e\_3Rz C14BN9f\_3Rz C14BN9g\_3Rz C14BN9h\_3Rz C14BN9i\_3Rz C14BN9j\_3Rz C14BN9k\_3Rz |
| **Total Substance Abuse Across Friends (CCV14SUBSTANCE)** | C14BN8a\_1Rz C14BN8b\_1Rz C14BN8c\_1Rz C14BN8d\_1Rz C14BN9a\_1Rz C14BN9b\_1Rz C14BN9c\_1Rz C14BN9d\_1Rz C14BN8a\_2Rz C14BN8b\_2Rz C14BN8c\_2Rz C14BN8d\_2Rz C14BN9a\_2Rz C14BN9b\_2Rz C14BN9c\_2Rz C14BN9d\_2Rz C14BN8a\_3Rz C14BN8b\_3Rz C14BN8c\_3Rz C14BN8d\_3Rz C14BN9a\_3Rz C14BN9b\_3Rz C14BN9c\_3Rz C14BN9d\_3Rz |
| **Total Deviant Activity-Across Friends (CCV14DEVIANCE)** | C14BN7\_1Rz C14BN8e\_1Rz C14BN8f\_1Rz C14BN8g\_1Rz C14BN8h\_1Rz C14BN8i\_1Rz C14BN8j\_1Rz C14BN8k\_1Rz C14BN9e\_1Rz  C14BN9f\_1Rz C14BN9g\_1Rz C14BN9h\_1Rz C14BN9i\_1Rz C14BN9j\_1Rz C14BN9k\_1Rz C14BN7\_2Rz C14BN8e\_2Rz C14BN8f\_2Rz C14BN8g\_2Rz C14BN8h\_2Rz C14BN8i\_2Rz C14BN8j\_2Rz C14BN8k\_2Rz C14BN9e\_2Rz  C14BN9f\_2Rz C14BN9g\_2Rz C14BN9h\_2Rz C14BN9i\_2Rz C14BN9j\_2Rz C14BN9k\_2Rz C14BN7\_3Rz C14BN8e\_3Rz C14BN8f\_3Rz C14BN8g\_3Rz C14BN8h\_3Rz C14BN8i\_3Rz C14BN8j\_3Rz C14BN8k\_3Rz C14BN9e\_3Rz  C14BN9f\_3Rz C14BN9g\_3Rz C14BN9h\_3Rz C14BN9i\_3Rz C14BN9j\_3Rz C14BN9k\_3Rz |

Cronbach’s alphas were calculated for all of the scales and are reported in the following table:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Scale Name | Cronbach’s Alphas | |
|  | Normative | Control |
| **Bonding-1st Best Friend (CCV14BONDING1)** | .79 | .76 |
| **Bonding-2nd Best Friend (CCV14BONDING2)** | .78 | .88 |
| **Bonding-3rd Best Friend (CCV14BONDING3)** | .86 | .91 |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -1st Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB1)** | .88 | .92 |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -2nd Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB2)** | .91 | .94 |
| **Deviance and Substance Abuse -3rd Best Friend (CCV14DEV\_SUB3)** | .93 | .96 |
| **Substance Abuse-1st Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE1** | .82 | .86 |
| **Substance Abuse-2nd Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE2)** | .95 | .94 |
| **Substance Abuse-3rd Best Friend (CCV14SUBSTANCE3** | .84 | .88 |
| **Deviant Activity-1st Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE1)** | .85 | .90 |
| **Deviant Activity-2nd Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE2)** | .90 | .93 |
| **Deviant Activity-3rd Best Friend (CCV14DEVIANCE3)** | .89 | .91 |
| **Total Bonding Across Friends (CCV14BONDING** | .92 | .95 |
| **Total Deviance and Substance Abuse Across Friends (CCV14DEV\_SUB)** | .95 | .97 |
| **Total Substance Abuse Across Friends (CCV14SUBSTANCE)** | .91 | .92 |
| **Total Deviant Activity-Across Friends (CCV14DEVIANCE)** | .95 | .96 |

Most of the scales showed a level of internal reliability.**IV.**  **Item and Scale Means and SD's**

None of the items were tested to measure differences in means between the Normative and Control samples.

Self-Report of Close Friends—Normative vs. Control Scales

| High or low risk sample | Variable | Label | N | Mean | Std Dev | Min | Max |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| HI | CCV14BONDING1 CCV14BONDING2 CCV14BONDING3 CCV14BONDING CCV14DEV\_SUB1 CCV14DEV\_SUB2 CCV14DEV\_SUB3 CCV14DEV\_SUB CCV14SUBSTANCE1 CCV14SUBSTANCE2 CCV14SUBSTANCE3 CCV14SUBSTANCE CCV14DEVIANCE1 CCV14DEVIANCE2 CCV14DEVIANCE3 CCV14DEVIANCE | Bonding - 1st BF Bonding - 2nd BF Bonding - 3rd BF Total Bonding Across Friends Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 1st BF Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 2nd BF Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 3rd BF Total Deviant Act plus Substance Abuse Across Frnds Substance Abuse- 1st BF Substance Abuse- 2nd BF Substance Abuse- 3rd BF Total Substance Abuse Across Frnds Deviant Activity - 1st BF Deviant Activity - 2nd BF Deviant Activity - 3rd BF Total Deviant Activity Across Frnds | 99 95 87 95 98 95 87 94 98 95 87 94 99 95 87 95 | -0.0199 0.0329 -0.0442 -0.0073 0.1570 0.0002 0.0750 0.0867 0.1464 -0.0615 0.0682 0.0625 0.2059 0.0331 0.0786 0.1259 | 0.7859 0.8503 0.9428 0.6677 0.7318 0.6959 0.7900 0.6399 0.8085 0.7097 0.8293 0.6603 0.9205 0.7917 0.8968 0.7738 | -3.7129 -2.6904 -2.1407 -2.6047 -0.3965 -0.3581 -0.3378 -0.3641 -0.6057 -0.5550 -0.5224 -0.5610 -0.2849 -0.2531 -0.2394 -0.2690 | 0.7000 0.8591 0.9802 0.8464 3.1373 5.3699 5.2941 4.1508 3.3125 3.5563 3.8575 2.8958 4.4359 6.3372 6.0603 4.8202 |
| LO | CCV14BONDING1 CCV14BONDING2 CCV14BONDING3 CCV14BONDING CCV14DEV\_SUB1 CCV14DEV\_SUB2 CCV14DEV\_SUB3 CCV14DEV\_SUB CCV14SUBSTANCE1 CCV14SUBSTANCE2 CCV14SUBSTANCE3 CCV14SUBSTANCE CCV14DEVIANCE1 CCV14DEVIANCE2 CCV14DEVIANCE3 CCV14DEVIANCE | Bonding - 1st BF Bonding - 2nd BF Bonding - 3rd BF Total Bonding Across Friends Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 1st BF Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 2nd BF Deviant Activity plus Substance Abuse - 3rd BF Total Deviant Act plus Substance Abuse Across Frnds Substance Abuse- 1st BF Substance Abuse- 2nd BF Substance Abuse- 3rd BF Total Substance Abuse Across Frnds Deviant Activity - 1st BF Deviant Activity - 2nd BF Deviant Activity - 3rd BF Total Deviant Activity Across Frnds | 235 225 213 225 235 225 213 225 235 225 213 225 235 225 213 225 | 0.0595 0.1006 0.0287 0.0659 -0.1029 -0.0344 -0.0347 -0.0564 -0.0599 0.0096 -0.0289 -0.0246 -0.1256 -0.0578 -0.0378 -0.0733 | 0.6804 0.6421 0.7384 0.5542 0.4022 0.5192 0.5820 0.4237 0.6060 0.6594 0.6550 0.5258 0.3918 0.5615 0.6505 0.4678 | -2.5613 -2.6904 -2.1407 -2.3009 -0.3965 -0.3581 -0.3378 -0.3773 -0.6057 -0.5550 -0.5224 -0.5803 -0.2849 -0.2531 -0.2394 -0.2690 | 0.7000 0.8591 0.9802 0.8464 2.7388 3.4961 4.0188 3.1612 2.9770 2.7057 2.9941 2.1243 3.1293 4.7284 5.1229 4.2280 |

Note: Values No Answer is coded “N” and Skipped is coded as “S”.

|  | High or low risk sample | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| HI | LO |
| **First Best Friend. Is this friend a boy or a girl?** | 2 | 2 |
| N |
| S | 2 | 1 |
| Boy | 55 | 106 |
| Girl | 44 | 130 |
| **Second Best Friend. Is this friend a boy or a girl?** | 4 | 11 |
| N |
| S | 4 | 3 |
| Boy | 45 | 120 |
| Girl | 50 | 105 |
| **Third Best Friend. Is this friend a boy or a girl?** | 8 | 12 |
| N |
| S | 8 | 14 |
| Boy | 56 | 97 |
| Girl | 31 | 116 |
| **Are any of these three close friends that you described your current romantic partner (boyfriend/girlfriend, husband, or wife)?** | 1 | 2 |
| N |
| S | 2 | 1 |
| No | 57 | 135 |
| Yes | 43 | 101 |

**V. Recommendations for Use**

Bonding scales as wells as Total Bonding Across Friends are skewed to high values. The rest of the scales Deviance and Substance Abuse, Deviant Activities and Substance Abuse and their respective Totals Across Friends were negatively skewed.

A number of scales showed floor effects. The user is encouraged to examine all scales with care. In general, the scales collapsed across friends have higher internal consistency estimates, at least in part as a result of the greater number of items. Most items are straightforward in use and interpretation. The scale can be used in two ways. The first is to use the factors identified in this report. The second is to use individual items or create other scales.