Adapted Self-Report Altruism Scale

Instrument: Adapted from the Self-Report Altruism Scale (Rushton, 1981)

Scale/Subscale Name: Adapted Self-Report Altruism Scale

Source: Cited and adapted by the CYFAR Life Skills Project, Youth Development Initiative, Texas A&M University

Developers: P. C. Rushton (original), Peter Witt and Chris Boleman (adapted version)

Year: 1981 (original), 2009 (adapted)

Target Audience(s): Youth

Language other than English available: No

Type: Attitudes

Data collected: Quantitative

Data collection format: Self report – Pre/post

Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade level: 5.4

Existence of test/technical manuals, user guides, supplemental materials: None

Level of training necessary for administration/scoring/interpretation: None

Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements: Recommended by the CYFAR Life Skills Project, Youth Development Initiative, Texas A&M University. The original instrument is widely used with adults and has a reliability of .84.

Cost of Use: No costs associated with the use of this instrument.

Description: This 14-item scale assesses intentions related to altruistic behaviors.
Psychometrics:
Information on reliability and validity are provided below. If information on a particular psychometric was not found, it is indicated as “no information provided.” It should be noted that this is not necessarily an indication of a lack of reliability or validity within a particular scale/instrument, but rather a lack of rigorous testing, for various reasons, by the developers or other researchers.

**Reliability:** A correlation of at least .80 is suggested for at least one type of reliability as evidence; however, standards range from .5 to .9 depending on the intended use and context for the instrument.

- **Internal Consistency:** No information provided
- **Inter-rater reliability:** No information provided
- **Test-Retest:** No information provided

**Validity:** The extent to which a measure captures what it is intended to measure.

- **Content/Face Validity:** No information provided
- **Criterion Validity:** No information provided
- **Construct Validity:** No information provided

**Reference:**
CONSTRUCT: Altruism

Scale Name: Adapted Version of the Self-Report Altruism Scale

Developers: P. C. Rushton (original), Peter Witt and Chris Boleman (adapted version)

Scale:
0=Never
1=Once
2=More than once
3=Often
4=Very often

Instructions: How often would you exhibit the following behaviors?

Items:
1. I would give directions to someone I did not know.
2. I would make change for someone I did not know.
3. I would give money to a charity.
4. I would donate clothes or goods to a charity.
5. I would help carry belongings of someone I did not know.
6. I would delay an elevator and hold the door for someone I did not know.
7. I would allow someone I did not know to go in front of me in line.
8. I would point out a clerk's error in undercharging me for an item.
9. I would let a neighbor I did not know well borrow an item of value to me.
10. I would help a classmate who I did not know well with a homework assignment when my knowledge was greater than his or hers.
11. I would voluntarily look after a neighbor's pet or children without being paid.
12. I would offer to help a handicapped or elderly person across the street.
13. I would offer my seat on a train or bus to someone who was standing.

Scoring:
- Sum all item ratings together.
- A higher score indicates greater altruism.