

Social Conscience

Instrument: Positive Youth Development (PYD) Survey

Scale: Social Conscience

Developers: Richard M. Lerner

Year: 2005 (original survey), June 2008 for short version 1.2

Target Audience(s): Middle school youth. The survey is still in the early stages of development and relevance across various target groups has yet to be determined.

Language other than English available: No

Type: Attitudes

Data collected: Quantitative

Data collection format: Self report - Pre/post

Reading Level: Flesch-Kincaid Grade level: 5.7

Existence of test/technical manuals, user guides, supplemental materials: Survey available by request from Richard M. Lerner, Institute for Applied Research in Youth Development, Eliot-Person Department of Child Development, 301 Lincoln Filene Building, Tufts University, Medford, MA 02155. email: richard.lerner@tufts. Short version of the survey includes information on administration and scoring. There is no cost associated with use of the survey or its scales; however, proper citation of developers is necessary and the developers request that any findings that may be relevant to the further development of the survey be shared.

Level of training necessary for administration/scoring/interpretation: None necessary. Paper and pencil scoring by summing the ratings.

Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements: The 5 C's survey has been used between 2005 and present to model pathways of positive youth development and outcomes such as Contribution, Depression, and Risk Behavior. The five C model is currently being endorsed for the development of assets rather than deficit based intervention/prevention programming. Lerner and colleagues are well known and respected for their research in youth development.

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

Description:

- Social Conscience is a subcomponent of the Character factor. [One of the five theoretical "Cs" that are proposed to be related to positive youth development: Caring, Character, Connection, Competence, and Confidence.]
- Items for the Social Conscience scale are drawn from the Search Institute Profiles of Student Life--Attitudes and Behaviors. Copyright 1996; www.search-institute.org.
- 6 items that are focused on the importance of civic engagement.

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: .92 (Lerner et al., 2005); .92 (Jelicic et al., 2007)

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: The development of the 5 C's survey is based upon the Positive Youth Development perspective or model. This particular scale uses pre-existing scale items with their own reliability and validity.

Criterion Validity: Has been shown to be predictive of youth contribution.

Construct Validity: Confirmatory factor analysis indicated fit into the positive youth Development Perspective (5 Cs).

CONSTRUCT: Core Competencies

Scale: Social Conscience

Developers: Richard M. Lerner

Instrument: Student Questionnaire Based upon the 5 C's

Rating Scale:

0	1	2	3
not important			extremely important

Items:

How important is each of the following to you in your life?

1. Helping other people.
2. Helping to make the world a better place to live in.
3. Giving time and money to make life better for other people.
4. Helping to reduce hunger and poverty in the world.
5. Helping to make sure all people are treated fairly.
6. Speaking up for equality (everyone should have the same rights and opportunities).

Scoring:

- Higher ratings indicate strength in social conscience.
- Sum all item ratings together. Range of scores= 0 to 18.
- No items are reverse coded.