QUESTIONNAIRE MEASURE OF EMOTIONAL EMPATHY (QMEE)

Reference:


Description of Measure:

Defines empathy as “a vicarious emotional response to the perceived emotional experiences of others (Mehrabian & Epstein, 1972).”

33-items that measure affective role-taking empathy. Items are completed using a 4-point Likert scale from strongly disagree to strongly agree.

Abstracts of Selected Related Articles:


This article reviews measures of empathy with a focus on the two most recent and widely used measures, the Hogan Empathy Scale and the Questionnaire Measure of Emotional Empathy (QMEE). The development and validity of each scale is discussed as well as the scales' relation to measures of personality and moral conduct and character. Although both the Hogan Empathy Scale and QMEE have adequate validity, they seem to measure different aspects of empathy.


Uncertainty reduction theory argues that certain trait variables influence the process of information gathering. This article examines the validity of scales designed to tap three such trait variables. First-order and second-order confirmatory factor analyses were conducted to assess the psychometric adequacy of the Emotional Empathy Scale, the Self-Consciousness Scales, and the Self-Monitoring Scale. The Emotional Empathy Scale was shown to be construct invalid in that it was multidimensional at both the first- and second-order factor levels. The subscales may be useful, but the composite score is meaningless. The data also showed that the two Self-Consciousness Scales could be reduced to a single second-order factor. This raises some questions about how the scales should be treated, but does not pose any problems for interpreting earlier research. Finally, the Self-Monitoring Scale yielded four primary factors and two second-order factors.

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