Instrument Title: Perceived Parental Acculturation Behaviors Scale (PPABS)

Instrument Author: Henry, Biran, & Stiles

Perceived Parental Acculturation Behaviors Scale

Many immigrants and children of immigrants who come to the US throughout the year experience certain feelings regarding America. Also they react in a unique fashion to this new culture.

The following questions inquire about the interactions of your parents with you and others in the context of the American culture. Please choose the answer that most accurately expresses your perception about your parents’ actions.

1. Do your parents urge you to learn American values, traditions or habits?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
2. Do your parents urge you to identify yourself as Arab first and American second?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
3. Do your parents talk about any political affiliation with a local party?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
4. Do your parents get involved in community meetings?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
5. Do your parents speak English with you?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
6. Do your parents urge you to adapt an American life style?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
7. Do your parents visit their countries of birth?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
8. Do your parents eat American food?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
9. Do your parents celebrate major American holidays (e.g. Fourth of July, Labor day, Thanksgiving?)
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
10. Do your parents invite non-Arabs to their home?
    0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
11. Do your parents make new non-Arab friends?
    0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
12. Do your parents talk about plans to go to their country of birth for good?
    0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
13. Do your parents watch American TV?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

14. Do your parents make efforts to get access to Arabic TV channels?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

15. Do your parents urge you to marry a person from your own cultural background?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

16. Do your parents subscribe to an American newspaper?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

17. Do your parents subscribe to an Arabic newspaper?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

18. Do your parents try to prevent you from dating the opposite sex?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

19. Do your parents urge you to dress differently from your American peers?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always

20. Do your parents urge you to be politically active?
   0=Never  1=Rarely  2=Occasionally  3=Frequently  4=Always
Scoring of the Perceived Parental Acculturation Behaviors Scale (PPABS)

The PPABS yields scores on two subscales, as described by Henry et al. (2006, 2008).

1. Perceived Parental Openness (PP Openness) describes the degree to which Arab-American parents are perceived to be open to the American culture. The items describe parental activities that sought exposure to American culture for themselves and their children.
2. Perceived Parental Preservation (PP Preservation) describes the degree to which Arab-American parents are perceived to seek to preserve their native Arab culture. Items describe parental activities that promote continuing exposure to Arabic culture for themselves and their children.

PPABS items were worded to describe perceptions of Arab parents who had immigrated to America, but they could be adapted for immigrants from or to other countries.

Each item is rated 0 to 4. Subscale scores are computed as the mean of the ratings on the constituent items and thus can also range from 0 to 4.

PP Openness subscale: items 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 16.

PP Preservation/retention subscale: items 2, 7, 12, 14, 15, 19.

Note: items 1, 3, 4, 18 17, 20 are not used on these subscales.

References


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