

Instrument Title: Mate Retention Inventory (Male, Self-Reported)

MRI-MSR

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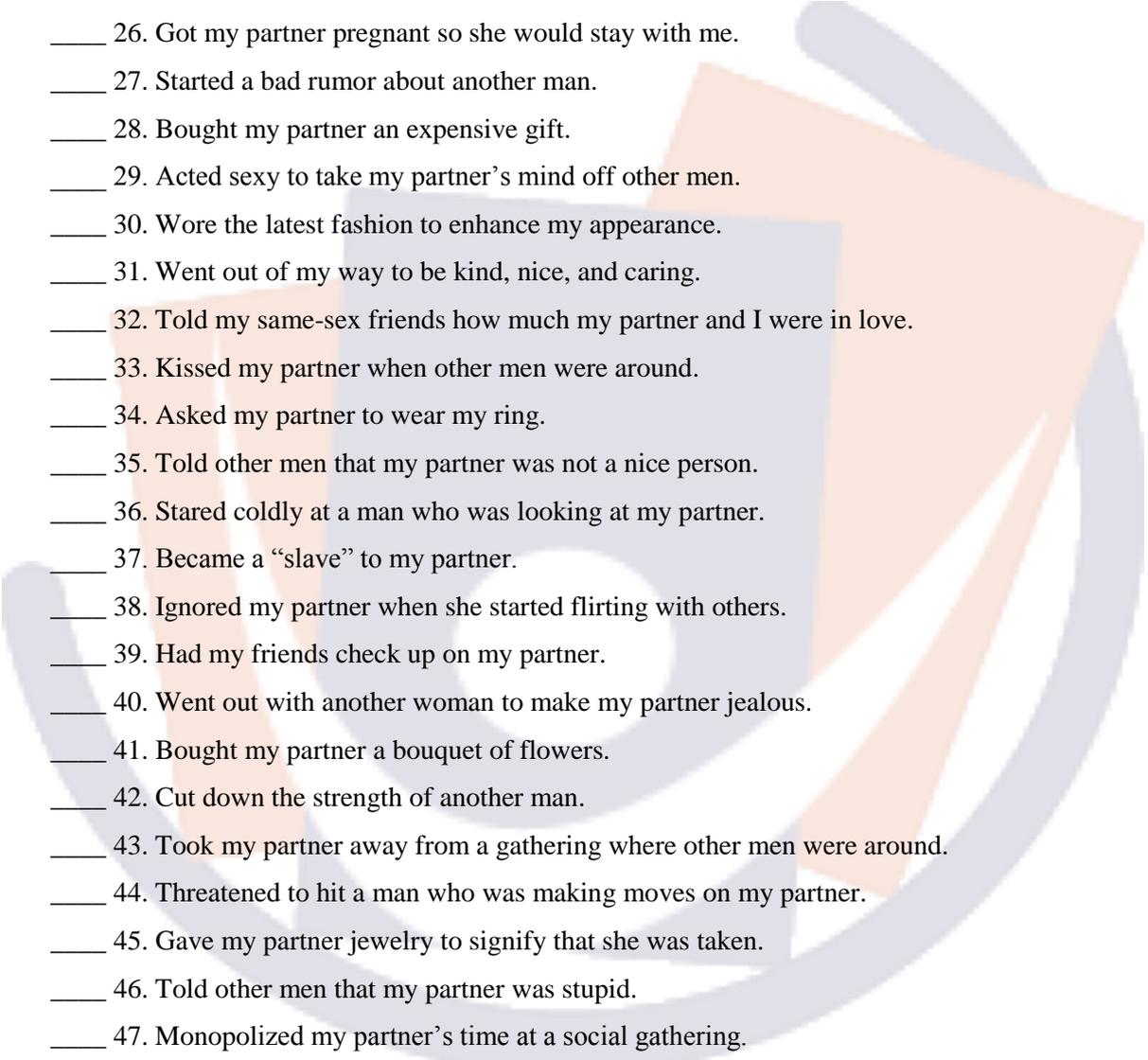
MRI-MSR

Instructions: On the following pages are listed a series of acts or behaviors. In this study, we are interested in the acts that people perform in the context of their relationship with their romantic partner. For each act, use the following scale to indicate how frequently you performed the act within the past ONE year:

- 0 = Never performed this act
1 = Rarely performed this act
2 = Sometimes performed this act
3 = Often performed this act

Please write in the blank to the left of each item the number that best represents how frequently you performed the act within the past ONE year. For example, if you never performed the act within the past one year, write a "0" in the blank to the left of the item.

- ___ 1. Called at unexpected times to see who my partner was with.
- ___ 2. Did not take my partner to a party where other men would be present.
- ___ 3. Flirted with someone in front of my partner.
- ___ 4. Spent all my free time with my partner so that she could not meet anyone else.
- ___ 5. Became angry when my partner flirted too much.
- ___ 6. Cried when my partner said she might go out with someone else.
- ___ 7. Asked my partner to marry me.
- ___ 8. Cut down the appearance of other men.
- ___ 9. Spent a lot of money on my partner.
- ___ 10. Gave in to my partner's sexual requests.
- ___ 11. Dressed nicely to maintain my partner's interest.
- ___ 12. Told my partner "I love you."
- ___ 13. Told my partner that I would change in order to please her.
- ___ 14. Introduced my partner as my spouse or romantic partner.
- ___ 15. Held my partner's hand when other men were around.
- ___ 16. Asked my partner to wear my jacket.
- ___ 17. Told other men terrible things about my partner so that they wouldn't like her.
- ___ 18. Yelled at a man who looked at my partner.
- ___ 19. Hit a man who made a pass at my partner.
- ___ 20. Called to make sure my partner was where she said she would be.
- ___ 21. Refused to introduce my partner to my same-sex friends.

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- ___ 22. Insisted that my partner stay at home rather than going out.
 - ___ 23. Picked a fight with a man who was interested in my partner.
 - ___ 24. Made my partner feel guilty about talking to another man.
 - ___ 25. Made up my face to look nice.
 - ___ 26. Got my partner pregnant so she would stay with me.
 - ___ 27. Started a bad rumor about another man.
 - ___ 28. Bought my partner an expensive gift.
 - ___ 29. Acted sexy to take my partner's mind off other men.
 - ___ 30. Wore the latest fashion to enhance my appearance.
 - ___ 31. Went out of my way to be kind, nice, and caring.
 - ___ 32. Told my same-sex friends how much my partner and I were in love.
 - ___ 33. Kissed my partner when other men were around.
 - ___ 34. Asked my partner to wear my ring.
 - ___ 35. Told other men that my partner was not a nice person.
 - ___ 36. Stared coldly at a man who was looking at my partner.
 - ___ 37. Became a "slave" to my partner.
 - ___ 38. Ignored my partner when she started flirting with others.
 - ___ 39. Had my friends check up on my partner.
 - ___ 40. Went out with another woman to make my partner jealous.
 - ___ 41. Bought my partner a bouquet of flowers.
 - ___ 42. Cut down the strength of another man.
 - ___ 43. Took my partner away from a gathering where other men were around.
 - ___ 44. Threatened to hit a man who was making moves on my partner.
 - ___ 45. Gave my partner jewelry to signify that she was taken.
 - ___ 46. Told other men that my partner was stupid.
 - ___ 47. Monopolized my partner's time at a social gathering.
 - ___ 48. Threatened to break-up if my partner ever cheated on me.
 - ___ 49. Bragged about my partner to other men.
 - ___ 50. Gave in to my partner's every wish.
 - ___ 51. Got my friends to beat up someone who was interested in my partner.
 - ___ 52. Held my partner closer when another man walked into the room.
 - ___ 53. Snooped through my partner's personal belongings.
 - ___ 54. Pointed out to my partner the flaws of another man.
 - ___ 55. Performed sexual favors to keep my partner around.

- ___ 56. Wore my partner's clothes in front of others.
- ___ 57. Told other men that my partner might have a sexually transmitted disease.
- ___ 58. Complimented my partner on her appearance.
- ___ 59. Questioned my partner about what she did when we were apart.
- ___ 60. Told my partner that we needed a total commitment to each other.
- ___ 61. Took my partner out to a nice restaurant.
- ___ 62. Mentioned to other men that my partner was taken.
- ___ 63. Told my partner that the other person she is interested in has slept with nearly everyone.
- ___ 64. Dropped by unexpectedly to see what my partner was doing.
- ___ 65. Yelled at my partner after she showed interest in another man.
- ___ 66. Told my partner that I was dependent on my partner.
- ___ 67. Made sure that I looked nice for my partner.
- ___ 68. Gave a man a dirty look when he looked at my partner.
- ___ 69. Pretended to be mad so that my partner would feel guilty.
- ___ 70. At a party, did not let my partner out of my sight.
- ___ 71. Hit my partner when I caught her flirting with someone else.
- ___ 72. Went along with everything my partner said.
- ___ 73. Told other men to stay away from my partner.
- ___ 74. Bought my partner some jewelry (for example, ring, necklace).
- ___ 75. Told my partner I would "die" if she ever left me.
- ___ 76. Read my partner's personal mail.
- ___ 77. Insisted that my partner spend all her free time with me.
- ___ 78. Cried in order to keep my partner with me.
- ___ 79. Told my partner that another man was stupid.
- ___ 80. Was helpful when my partner really needed it.
- ___ 81. Vandalized the property of a man who made a pass at my partner.
- ___ 82. Said that I would never talk to my partner again if I saw her with someone else.
- ___ 83. Had a physical relationship with my partner to deepen our bond.
- ___ 84. Put my arm around my partner in front of others.
- ___ 85. Threatened to harm myself if my partner ever left me.
- ___ 86. Displayed greater affection for my partner.
- ___ 87. Confronted someone who had made a pass at my partner.
- ___ 88. Told others the intimate things we had done together.
- ___ 89. Stayed close to my partner while we were at a party.

- ___ 90. Talked to another woman at a party to make my partner jealous.
 - ___ 91. Bought my partner a small gift.
 - ___ 92. Told others my partner was a pain.
 - ___ 93. Sat next to my partner when others were around.
 - ___ 94. Made myself “extra attractive” for my partner.
 - ___ 95. Told my partner that another man was out to use her.
 - ___ 96. Did not let my partner talk to other men.
 - ___ 97. Gave in to sexual pressure to keep my partner.
 - ___ 98. Hung up a picture of my partner so others would know she was taken.
 - ___ 99. Became jealous when my partner went out without me.
 - ___ 100. Slapped a man who made a pass at my partner.
 - ___ 101. Pleaded that I could not live without my partner.
 - ___ 102. Would not let my partner go out without me.
 - ___ 103. Acted against my will to let my partner have her way.
 - ___ 104. Showed interest in another woman to make my partner angry.
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Thank you very much.

The above instrument was developed by David M. Buss, and first published in:

Buss, D. M. (1988). From vigilance to violence: Tactics of mate retention in American undergraduates. Ethology and Sociobiology, 9, 291-317.

Buss, D.M., & Shackelford, T.K. (1997). From vigilance to violence: Mate retention tactics in married couples. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 72, 346-361.

For additional psychometric evidence on the inventory, see:

Shackelford, T.K., Goetz, A.T., & Buss, D.M. (2005). Mate retention and marriage: Further evidence of the reliability of the Mate Retention Inventory. Personality and Individual Differences, 39, 415-426.

Note. The instrument can be modified to the female form by changing the relevant pronouns. For example, the item “I yelled at the man who made a pass at my partner” could be changed to “I yelled at the woman who made a pass at my partner.” The instrument can also be modified to be used in third-person reports (e.g., “He yelled a the

man who made a pass at his partner” or “She yelled at the woman who made a pass at her partner”).

