

### Partner Ratings (RRF-Revised; short-form, 1997)

The following are relationship descriptions. You will be asked to respond to these with respect to how characteristic each description is of your current Dating Partner or Romantic Partner, or Friend. **Rating Scale:**

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 = Absolutely uncharacteristic | 5 = Sometimes characteristic  |
| 2 = Strongly uncharacteristic   | 6 = Slightly characteristic   |
| 3 = Mostly uncharacteristic     | 7 = Mostly characteristic     |
| 4 = Slightly uncharacteristic   | 8 = Strongly characteristic   |
|                                 | 9 = Absolutely characteristic |

How characteristic is this description of your relationship with your partner?

1. **Enjoyment:** In some relationships, partners enjoy each other. That is, they enjoy being together - enjoy being in the company of the other. Even though there may be times of conflict, of boredom, or of tension in the relationship, for the most part, the experience of being with each other is an enjoyable one.

1. Enjoyment

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

2. **Exclusiveness:** In some relationships, partners feel as if they have their own way of doing things, and that there are things you would do with only this person. We have feelings toward this person that we couldn't have toward anyone else, and we would feel betrayed or hurt if this person did have the same relationship with someone else that s/he has with you.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3. **Complementarity:** In some relationships, we find that our partners have personal characteristics which, while they are different from our own, help them to balance us off in certain ways (while we in turn balance them off). For example, where we may be more logical, they may be more emotional (or vice versa). Or, where we might be more adventurous and risk-taking, they might be more careful and cautious (or vice versa). Or, where we might be more outgoing, they might be more reserved with other people (or vice versa). In these or other ways, we find that our partners complement or provide a balance for us.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

4. **Mutual Care & Concern about Partner's Well-being:** In some relationships, we have a sense that each of us has a strong personal investment in the well-being of the other. We have a sense that we are "on each other's side," that we are "in each other's corner" in the sense that we are really interested in, and willing to do things to further each other's career or other personal goals. We are willing to make efforts on each others behalf in order to help each other to achieve our personal goals and desires.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

5. **Sexual Desire:** In some relationships, there are strong feelings of sexual desire for each other. Whether the partners actually become sexually intimate or whether they do not, there is still a strong desire to touch and be touched, to hold each other, and to engage in sexual intercourse.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

6. **Mutual Confiding (Intimacy):** In some relationships, we feel free to confide openly in each other. We are able to disclose intimate and personal experiences and feelings to each other. We feel we can "really talk to each other," really "open up to each other" about deeply personal matters.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

7. **Ability to be Ourselves (Authenticity):** In some relationships, we feel free to be ourselves with our partners. We do not feel like we have to play a role, wear a mask, or hold back from being the way we really are. We feel like we can just relax and be the person that we really are when we are with them.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

8. **Mutual Trust:** In some relationships, we have a basic sense that we can trust each other - that we can count on each other not to betray or violate the relationship that we have. We confidently believe, for example, that neither of us will be sexually unfaithful, or lie about important matters, or reveal secrets or other personal information that we may have shared, or use or take advantage of each other.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

9. **Preoccupation (Fascination):** In some relationships, we find ourselves preoccupied with each other. That is, we found ourselves thinking about the other a great deal. He or she is on our mind a lot, perhaps even at times when we should be thinking about other things.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10. **Mutual Support/Assistance:** In some relationships, we have a sense that each of us is genuinely interested in supporting and assisting the other. When one of us is hurt or suffers some misfortune or failure, we have a sense that the other cares about this. We have a sense that we can count on each other to be there, and to be there willingly, in times of need, trouble, or personal distress.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

11. **Mutual Rewardingness:** In some relationships, partners are rewarding of each other. That is they respond to things that the other does, or ways that they are, in rewarding ways. For example, if one of them were to accomplish something, the other is likely to praise or positively acknowledge the accomplishment. Or, if one of them were to do something for the other, the other would be likely to thank him or her sincerely for what he or she has done.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

12. **Mutual Acceptance:** In some relationships, we have the sense that we are accepted by the other just as we are. Even though our partners may at times object to certain actions of ours (e.g., to our smoking or driving too fast or being late), we do not get the sense that they want us to be different persons. Rather, our sense in the relationship is that we are basically accepted as we are.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

13. **Similarity:** In some relationships, we find that we are like or similar to our partners in a lot of ways. For example, we might find that we want similar things out of life, that we have similar values, that we tend to enjoy the same things, that we often have the same reaction to other people and events, or that we have many common interests.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

14. **Mutual Respect:** In some relationships, we have a sense that each of us respects the other. We consider each other worthy of esteem and high regard. This respect might be based on a variety of factors. We might, for example, respect each other's judgment - consider each other to be persons who make some decisions. Or we might respect each other as moral persons who will be honest, who will usually do the right thing even when there are pressures to do otherwise, and who will do things for the right reasons. What ever the particular reasons might be, we find that each of us has a basic respect for the other.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

15. **Understanding:** In some relationships' we *understand* each other. In other words, we know things about the other such as what is important to the other, and why the other does the things that he or she does. We understand the reasoning and the feelings that are behind the other's actions, and are not puzzled or confused by each other. If the other is troubled or moody, we are likely to be able to make a good guess as to what is bothering him or her. We know what "makes each other tick."

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

16. **Attractiveness:** In some relationships, we are attracted to our partner--we have great admiration and respect for this person and desire to have a relationship with them because they are socially desirable (for example, they are well liked by our peers, others regard them as socially desirable individuals, or others find them physically or sexually attractive) and we are also attracted to them for one or more of these reasons.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

## Short Background on the Short form of the RRF

Bretscher, F. & Bergner, R. M. (1991). Relational qualities as factors in mate selection decisions. In M. K. Roberts & Bergner, R. M. (Eds.), *Advances in descriptive psychology*, (Vol. 6, pp. 107-123). Greenwich: CT. JAI Press. They took the several scales that had been involved in the longer RRF and added two dimensions, similarity and complementarity, that had previously been considered relevant in the mate-selection literature. The results appeared to be an improvement in that 16 of the 18 dimensions could easily be conceived of as aspect of Sternberg's (1986) triadic theory of love. These dimensions were passion, intimacy, and care [rather than commitment]. The virtues of the short-form of the RRF seemed to be (1) inclusion of some aspects of love not clearly emphasized by Sternberg, such as exclusiveness as an aspect of passion, and "giving the utmost when the partner was in need" as an aspect of care. The second virtue was its brevity. Fraley & Davis (1997) applied the new, short-form in the context of a test of the quality of best friends and romantic relationships when these relationships were examined with respect to their duration and to whether or not they qualified as attachment relationships. The data from the study showed that all three dimensions contributed to the prediction of the quality of such relationships and that those qualifying as attachment relationships were higher in intimacy and care—but not necessarily in passion.

Scoring of the short form:

Passion: items 2, 5, 9, 16

Care: items 4, 10, 12, 14

Intimacy: items 6, 7, 8, 15

The enjoyment (item #1) and rewardingness (item #11) fluctuate somewhat, sometimes loading more strongly on the passion factor or on the intimacy factor. For the purest measure, I tend to leave them out of the scoring. Similarity and complementarity are NOT directly part of either of the three major aspects of love. For some purposes, it is useful to look at these 16 items as single items, rather than as clusters.

Fraley, R. F. & Davis, K. E. (1997). Attachment formation and transfer in young adults' close friendships and romantic relationships. *Personal Relationships*, 4, 131-144.