

The information you requested is below. Best wishes as you complete your research. Please keep me informed!

The Role of the Father Questionnaire (ROFQ)

The Role of the Father Questionnaire (ROFQ) measures the extent that a parent believes the father's role is important to child development (Palkovitz, 1984). The ROFQ contains 15 items. Subjects indicate their level of agreement or disagreement with each item on a 5-point scale. Total scores on the ROFQ can range from 15 to 75. Higher scores reflect attitudes that fathers are capable and should be involved with and sensitive to their children. A revised version of the ROFQ adapted to preschool-aged children has been used as well (Christiansen, 1997; McBride & Rane, 1996). In the adapted version of the ROFQ, the word infants was changed to young children so the differences in the two measures are slight.

McBride and Rane (1996) have reported good internal consistency of the adapted measure with an alpha of .77 for fathers. Christiansen reported an alpha of .73 in his sample using the adapted version (n= 186).

Construct validity has been indicated through the relationship between fathers' ROFQ scores and their sex role orientation. For example, androgynous fathers' ROFQ scores were higher than undifferentiated and masculine fathers' ROFQ scores (Palkovitz, 1984). Construct validity is also indicated by statistically significant correlations between the ROFQ and fathers' level of involvement in child rearing (McBride & Rane, 1996, Palkovitz, 1984). Christiansen (1997) also found validity in the ROFQ. In his study, the ROFQ had statistically significant correlations with measures of psychosocial identity, psychosocial intimacy, marital intimacy, psychosocial generativity, and involvement in child rearing.

For further information concerning the concurrent validity of the ROFQ in a study of 40 couples with their five-month-old infants, see *Developmental Psychology* (1984), 20 (6), 1054-1060 or Uniers@ Microfilms order number 8105035.

You have my permission to use the ROFQ in scholarly research or in interventions for families. If you alter the measure, please specify what alterations were introduced in any publications or presentations of your findings.

IF YOU USE THE ROFQ IN YOUR RESEARCH, PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF YOUR FINDINGS.

If you have further questions or comments concerning the ROFQ, please contact me:

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SCORING THE ROLE OF THE FATHER
QUESTIONNAIRE

Convert letter responses to numerical values using the following scheme for items to be scored in a "forward direction":

a = 5, b = 4, c = 3, d = 2, e = 1

Convert letter responses to numerical values using the following scheme for items to be scored "backwards":

a = 1, b = 2, c = 3, d = 4, e = 5

The following items are to be scored FORWARD:

1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

The following items are to be scored BACKWARD:

2, 5, 10

Total (sum) the numerical values for all fifteen items.

Total scores can range from 15- 75. Higher scores indicate an attitude that fathers should be involved in child care, and that their involvement and responsiveness make a difference in infant development. Low scores indicate that it is not part of the father's role to be involved, or that paternal involvement does not positively influence infant development.

Role of the Father Questionnaire (ROFQ)

For the following items place the letter that indicates your feelings in the blank. Use the scale below.

- a = agree strongly
- b = agree moderately
- c = neither agree or disagree
- d = disagree moderately
- e = disagree strongly

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1. It is essential for the child's well being that fathers spend time interacting and playing with their children.
 2. It is difficult for men to express tender and affectionate feelings toward babies.
 3. Fathers play a central role 'in the child's personality development.
 4. The responsibilities of fatherhood never overshadow the joys.
 5. Fathers are able to enjoy children more when the children are older and don't require so much care.
 6. Very young babies are generally able to sense an adult's moods and feelings. For example, a baby can tell when you are angry.
 7. Very young babies are affected by adults' moods and feelings. For example, if you are angry with a baby he/she may feel hurt.
 8. The most important thing a man can invest time and energy into his family.

9. A father should be as heavily involved in the care of a baby as the mother is.
10. Mothers are naturally more sensitive caregivers than fathers are.
11. Even when a baby is very young it is important for a father to set a good example for his baby.
12. It is as important for a father to meet a baby's psychological needs as it is for the mother to do so.
13. It is important to respond quickly to a young a baby each time it cries.
14. The way a father treats his baby in the first six months has important life-long effects on the child.
15. All things considered, fatherhood is a highly rewarding experience.