



Technical Report

Parent Wave 2

Social Desirability Scale

Source/Developer	z-proso Project Team
Description	An exploratory scale aimed at detecting tendencies toward socially desired answers. Given the focus of the interview on parenting issues and on child problem behaviour it consists in a series of statements related to these domains that need to be answered with yes or no. Items are worded in such a way that the socially desirable answer option is most unlikely.
Measured Concepts/ Subdimensions	Preliminary EFA and tests of convergent validity suggest that 6 out of the 8 substantial items work as measures of social desirability.
Number of Items	12 (8 substantial + 4 filler items)
Response Categories	Yes/No
Item Example	"When your child was about 3 to 5 years old, he/she always obeyed you."
Administration History	Wave 2

Social Desirability Scale – Extraction of Relevant Dimensions Based on Exploratory Factor Analysis

- Method**
- PCA with VARIMAX rotation
 - Extraction criterion: Eigenvalues > 1
 - Only loadings > .447 (20% of shared variance) are displayed

Component Matrix

	Component
	1
P2_13020 He/she always obeyed me	.747
P2_13030 He/she was always friendly even if he/she did not get get what he/she wanted	.744
P2_13050 He/she always liked to share his/her toys with other children	
P2_13080 I never lost my poise, even if he/she cried or had a tantrum	.654
P2_13120 It sometimes happened that he/she really annoyed me	-.644
P2_13060 After playing, he/she always cleared up his/her toys	.550
P2_13090 He/she always went straight away to bed when he/she was told to	.480
P2_13110 He/she always ate what was dished up to him/her	

- Component Labels**
- Social Desirability

- Notes**
- P2_13050 and P2_13110 have been excluded from the scale.

Social Desirability Scale

Variable Values
 1- yes
 2- no

 7- Does not apply (MISSING)
 8- Don't know/ Can't remember (MISSING)
 9- No answer/ Answer refused (MISSING)

 11, 12 Erroneous coding of the interviewer 722 (P2_13080)

Variable Wording & Case Summary

Variable Name	Label	Wording	Missings (%)
Please try to remember the time when <?> was about 3 to 5 years old and answer the following statements with yes or no:			
P2_13020	Social desirability 1	He/she always obeyed me	8 (0.7%)
P2_13030	Social desirability 2	He/she was always friendly even if he/she did not get what he/she wanted	11 (0.9%)
P2_13060	Social desirability 3	After playing, he/she always cleared up his/her toys	7 (0.6%)
P2_13080	Social desirability 4	I never lost my poise, even if he/she cried or had a tantrum	48 (4.0%)
P2_13090	Social desirability 5	He/she always went straight away to bed when he/she was told to	9 (0.8%)
P2_13120	Social desirability 6	It sometimes happened that he/she really annoyed me	8 (0.7%)

Total N = 1191

Descriptive Statistics

Variable Name	Label	Mean	Standard Deviation	Min.	Max.	Skewness	Kurtosis	Item-Scale Correlation	α If Item Removed ($\alpha = .731$)
P2_13020r	Social desirability 1	1.50	.500	1	2	-.015	-2.00	.565	.663
P2_13030r	Social desirability 2	1.43	.495	1	2	.292	-1.92	.559	.665
P2_13060r	Social desirability 3	1.30	.457	1	2	.888	-1.21	.394	.713
P2_13080r	Social desirability 4	1.38	.486	1	2	.486	-1.77	.478	.690
P2_13090r	Social desirability 5	1.44	.497	1	2	.232	-1.95	.334	.732
P2_13120	Social desirability 6	1.27	.446	1	2	1.02	-.961	.472	.693

Comments: The variables, P2_13020, P2_13030, P2_13060, P2_13080, and P2_13090- have been reverse-scored.

Sum Index Descriptive Statistics

Social Desirability Scale (P2_socialdes)

Group	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	Min.	Max.	Skewness	Kurtosis	ANOVA		
								df	F	p
Full sample	1,188	.390	.314	.000	1.00	.394	-1.04			
Gender								1	3.92	.048
Girls	567	.408	.320	.000	1.00	.276	-1.15			
Boys	621	.372	.307	.000	1.00	.506	-.892			
Treatment								3	4.28	.005
Control	317	.390	.319	.000	1.00	.370	-1.12			
Triple P	283	.388	.315	.000	1.00	.412	-.991			
PATHS	334	.350	.300	.000	1.00	.577	-.819			
Combination	254	.443	.317	.000	1.00	.183	-1.10			
Language								8	50.07	.000
German	797	.284	.270	.000	1.00	.810	-.257			
Albanian	69	.672	.290	.000	1.00	-.665	-.633			
Bos./Cro./ Serb.	85	.620	.297	.000	1.00	-.489	-.856			
English	18	.370	.295	.000	1.00	.628	-.386			
Italian	17	.586	.249	.170	1.00	-.318	-.877			
Portuguese	70	.569	.262	.000	1.00	-.285	-.797			
Spanish	45	.530	.287	.000	1.00	-.037	-.788			
Tamil	48	.733	.245	.170	1.00	-.591	-.562			
Turkish	39	.567	.259	.000	1.00	-.591	-.039			

Comments:

1) The variables, P2_13020, P2_13030, P2_13060, P2_13080, and P2_13090- have been reverse-scored and then the scale has been constructed by taking the average of all the variables. The maximum number of missing values allowed was 2. For the purpose of rescaling, 1 has been subtracted from the total scale.

2) The results of the ANOVA are moderately significant for the gender groups ($F(1,1186) = 3.92, p < .05$) and the treatment groups ($F(3,1184) = 4.28, p < .01$). and highly significant for the language groups ($F(8,1179) = 50.07, p < .001$).

Correlations with Subscales & DVs *Social Desirability Scale* (P2_socialdes)

Variable	Full Sample			Girls			Boys		
	r	P2	N	r	P2	N	r	P2	N
Parent SBQ									
<i>Aggression</i>	-.381	***	1186	-.371	***	566	-.385	***	621
<i>Prosociality</i>	.284	***	1184	.262	***	563	.296	***	621
Teacher SBQ									
<i>Aggression</i>	-.065	*	1157	-.044	ns	553	-.068	ns	604
<i>Prosociality</i>	.076	*	1157	.087	*	554	.038	ns	604
Child SBQ									
<i>Aggression</i>	-.152	***	1172	-.169	***	558	-.130	**	614
<i>Prosociality</i>	.003	ns	1172	-.062	ns	558	.032	ns	614
Interviewer-assessed sincerity of the interviewee	-.346	***	1175	-.297	***	561	-.393	***	614
Parent-Teacher SBQ difference (score -pt)									
<i>Aggression</i>	-.244	***	1165	-.256	***	558	-.237	***	607
<i>Prosociality</i>	.155	***	1165	.141	***	558	.179	***	607
Parent-Child SBQ difference (score -pk)									
<i>Aggression</i>	-.176	***	1172	-.169	***	558	-.183	***	614
<i>Prosociality</i>	.172	***	1172	.214	***	558	.137	***	614

1 *** $p < .001$, ** $p < .01$, * $p < .05$, ns $p > .05$

Comments : The Social Desirability Scale is highly and significantly correlated with the parent reported child aggression/prosociality measures and the correlations have the expected sign. For the teacher- and child- aggression/prosociality measures, the correlations are weak and sometimes insignificant for the gender groups separately, pointing to good divergent validity. Further, the moderate and highly significant correlations between the social desirability scale and the parent-teacher and parent-child difference scores in child aggression, together with the moderate and negative correlations between the social desirability scores and interviewer-assessed sincerity of the parents point to the good convergent validity of the social desirability scale.