



## THE VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY OF TURKISH VERSION OF THE RELATIONAL SELF-ESTEEM SCALE

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### Abstract

The aim of this study is to examine validity and reliability of the Turkish version of the Relational Self-esteem Scale (Du, King, & Chi 2012). The sample of this study consisted of 335 undergraduate students. The results of confirmatory factor analysis indicated that the uni-dimensional relational self-esteem model (7 items) was well fit ( $\chi^2= 21.01$ ,  $df= 12$ ,  $p= .05028$ ,  $RMSEA= .047$ ,  $CFI= .98$ ,  $IFI= .98$ ,  $GFI= .98$ ,  $AGFI= .96$ , and  $SRMR= .031$ ). The internal consistency reliability coefficient of the scale was .77. The corrected item-total correlations ranged from .41 to .63. Overall findings demonstrated that this scale had high validity and reliability scores.

**Key Words:** Relational self-esteem, validity, reliability, factor analysis.

### INTRODUCTION

According to the Brewer and Gardners' (1996) three-dimensional model of the self, the self consists of three aspects: personal, relational, and collective. The first dimension, personal self, indicates the differentiated and individuated self-concept which emphasizes one's uniqueness. While the second dimension, relational self, refers to self-concept which is formed in connection with significant others (e.g. family and best friends), the third dimension, the collective self, represents to self-concept that is built on relationships with social groups (e.g. nationality and ethnicity) (Du, King & Chi, 2012).

Although a plethora of research on self-esteem have been constructed, most of them have focused on personal self-esteem which stemmed from Rosenberg' studies. These research demonstrated that self-esteem is positively associated with mental health, happiness, and one's capacity for creative and productive work (Bolognini, Plancherel, Bettschart, & Halfon, 1996; Furnham & Cheng, 2000; Zuckerman, 1989).



Furthermore, nowadays studies on self-esteem, have also underlined the importance of collective self-esteem (Crocker & Luhtanen, 1990; Luhtanen & Crocker, 1992) which means to how people perceive themselves with respect to the value they place on their social group. Research generally indicated that collective self-esteem associated positively with psychological well-being (Crocker, Luhtanen, Blaine, & Broadnax, 1994).

Recently, Du, King, and Chi (2012) have attempted to distinguish the function of relational self-esteem from personal self-esteem and suggested that relational self-esteem has a different function from personal self-esteem. In this context they developed a measure of relational self-esteem which assesses individuals' membership in the circle of family and best friends would be helpful in advancing theory and research on the motivational aspects of the self. This scale consists of two basic dimensions: (1) association with family and best friends as significant others and (2) one's value in relationships with significant others and the value of significant others.

The purpose of this study is to adapt into Turkish and to examine the validity and reliability of Relational Self-Esteem Scale (Du et al., 2012).

## METHOD

### Participants

Participants were 335 university students (137 were male, 198 were female) who were enrolled in mid-size state University, in Turkey.

### Measures

*Relational Self-Esteem Scale.* The Relational Self-Esteem Scale (Du et al., 2012) is a self-report questionnaire with 7 items rated on a 4-point scale. The possible range of scores is from 7 to 28. High scores indicate higher levels of relational self-esteem. Results of confirmatory factor analysis indicated that the uni-dimensional model was well fit ( $\chi^2= 29.73$ ,  $df= 19$ ,  $p= .006$ ,  $RMSEA= .06$ ,  $CFI= .94$ ,  $IFI= .95$ ,  $GFI= .96$ ,  $AGFI= .92$ ). The internal consistency reliability coefficient of the scale was .69. The corrected item-total correlations ranged from .45 to .78.

### Procedure

Translation of the Relational Self-esteem Scale into Turkish was based on the recommendations of Hambleton and Kanjee (1995). As the first step two specialists who were a native Turkish speaker fluent in English translated English version into Turkish. Discrepancies in initial translations were addressed with the assistance of a third independent translator. The Turkish version of the Relational Self-esteem Scale was then translated back into English by two English-speaking language specialists who were blinded to the original scale and the objective of the study. The differences between translated versions were evaluated and a satisfactory compliance with the original scale was achieved by consensus of the translators. The completed Turkish version was evaluated for cultural appropriateness by three academicians from department of English Language and Literature, controversial items were determined and necessary modifications were done. The updated version was reevaluated by the original group of expert reviewers, to finalize the Turkish version used in this study.

Permission for participation of students was obtained from related chief departments and students voluntarily participated in research. Completion of the scales was anonymous and there was a guarantee of confidentiality. The scales were administered to the students in groups in the classrooms. Prior to administration of scales, all participants were told about purposes of the study. In this study confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) was executed to confirm the original scale's structure in Turkish culture and Cronbach' Alpha reliability coefficient was calculated to examine the reliability. Data were analyzed using LISREL 8.54 and SPSS 15 package programs.

## RESULTS

### Construct Validity

Confirmatory factor analysis demonstrated that the model was well fit ( $\chi^2= 21.01$ ,  $df= 12$ ,  $p= .05028$ ,  $RMSEA= .047$ ,  $CFI= .98$ ,  $IFI= .98$ ,  $GFI= .98$ ,  $AGFI= .96$ ,  $SRMR= .031$ ). Factor loads of items belonging Turkish version of Relational Self-Esteem Scale are presented in Figure 1.

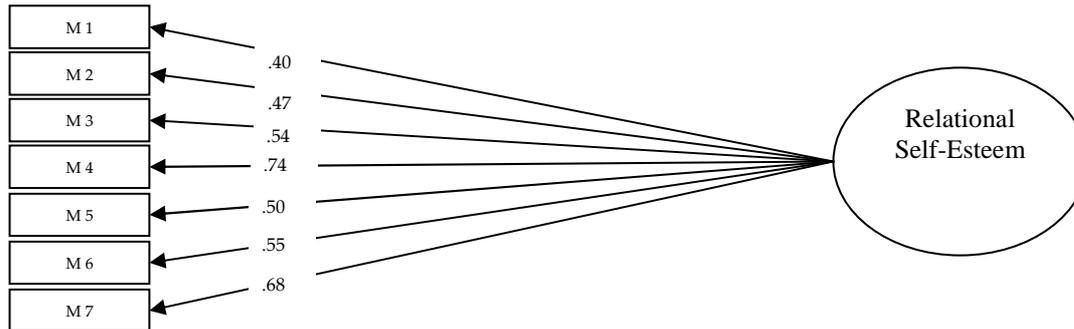


Figure 1: Factor loading for the Turkish version of the Relational Self-Esteem Scale

### Item Analysis and Reliability

The internal consistency reliability coefficient of the scale was .77. Findings demonstrated that item-total correlations ranged from .41 to .63.

## DISCUSSION

The purpose of this study was to translate Relational Self-esteem Scale into Turkish and to examine its psychometric properties. Overall findings demonstrated that this scale had acceptable validity and reliability scores. Further studies that will examine the convergent validity of the Relational Self-esteem Scale are important for its measurement force. Also the temporal stability of the Relational Self-esteem Scale may be calculated using test re-test method.

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