

*Presentations of the Symposium***Factor structure of the Portuguese version of the “Me as a Parent” scale****Teresa Marques, Ana Isabel Pereira, Luisa Barros**

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This study aimed to examine the factor structure of the Portuguese version of the “Me as a Parent” Scale, which is a brief measure of parents’ perceptions of their self-regulation related to parenting. The scale measures global beliefs about self-efficacy, personal agency, self-management, and self-sufficiency, thought to constitute parent self-regulation. A confirmatory factor analysis was conducted with an online convenience sample of 429 parents (370 mothers and 59 fathers) of children between the ages of 3 and 15 years. Results showed that in our sample the original structure of the MaaP was not confirmed. As the inspection of this model structure indicated that the factors of Self-Sufficiency and Self-Management were highly overlapping, we decided to re-specify the model by collapsing this dimensions into a single factor. The revised, second order model, with 3 first order factors showed very good fit indices. Total score and factors of MaaP showed acceptable internal consistency, with the exception of Personal Agency, which revealed poor reliability. The instrument showed good test–retest reliability. To our knowledge this is the second study that examines the MaaP structure, therefore more studies using different samples are needed to reach a better understanding of its factorial structure. Nevertheless, this study is an important step in the validation of the Maap as a reliable measure for the assessment of parental self-regulation. Despite the assumed importance of parental self-regulation and the attention this construct receives in clinical intervention, this is still an area of research that strongly needs improved quantitative assessment.

Coping with Children’s Negative Emotions Scale (CCNES) –validity and reliability data of the Portuguese version**Orlanda Cruz, Diana Alves, Joana Soares, Maria Barbosa-Ducharne**

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In the last two decades there has been an increasing body of research about the socialization role of parents regarding children’s emotions and emotion-related behaviors. Parental responses to children experience and expression of negative emotions are an excellent context to study emotion-related socialization practices (Eisenberg, Cumberland & Spinrad, 1998). Parents may react in a more or less (un)supported way to child’s negative emotions and it is important to examine the direct and indirect effects of these reactions on children’s emotion and social competence. The objective of this paper is to present the Portuguese version of the Coping with Children’s Negative Emotions Scale (CCNES) which comprises three parental positive reactions (Expressive encouragement, Emotion-focused and Problem-focused) and three parental negative reactions (Distress, Punitive and Minimization). Three studies using the CCNES will be presented to illustrate psychometric properties and external validation of this scale. The first study was conducted with 200 mothers of school-aged children and included measures of emotion and social competence in children. The second study was conducted with 33 parents and 16 grandparents and included a measure of meta-emotion styles. The third study was conducted with 99 adoptive mothers and 89 adoptive fathers and included a measure of children’s social competence. Globally, the results of these studies show that the internal consistency of subscales is very good. The analysis of external validation criteria provides initial support to CCNES as a valid measure of parental reactions to children’s negative emotions. However, more research using Portuguese samples is needed.