

Meanings of Adolescent Masculinity Scale © 2009 Oransky & Fisher

Oransky, M., & Fisher, C. B. (2009). The development and validation of the Meanings of Adolescent Masculinity Scale. *Psychology of Men & Masculinity*, 10, 57–72.

Abstract

Although conformity with traditional male gender role norms has been linked to psychological and social adjustment in adolescent boys, most studies have relied on either qualitative research or measures of male role norms developed for adults. This study sought to develop and conduct preliminary validation of a multidimensional scale assessing endorsement of male role norms among adolescent boys. The content validity, clarity, and format of scale items for the Meanings of Adolescent Masculinity Scale (MAMS) were generated from interview data and through focus group discussions with adolescent boys. The resulting questionnaire, along with convergent validity scales, was completed by a diverse group of 193 7th- through 10th-grade boys. Factor analysis supported a 4-factor model: Constant Effort, Emotional Restriction, Heterosexism, and Social Teasing. Subscales derived from this analysis yielded good internal reliability. Convergent validity was supported by significant correlations between MAMS subscales and existing measures of male role norms and psychological adjustment. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2016 APA, all rights reserved)

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Directions Below are statements about masculinity that boys generally agree or disagree with. Using the scale below, please check the box that indicates how much you disagree or agree with the statements. There are NO WRONG answers. Please read each statement carefully and remember that NO ONE will know your answers.

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. It is normal for guys to make fun of their friends.				
2. A guy should be embarrassed to “run like a girl.”				
3. If a guy is upset about something, he should hold it in.				
4. A guy should never back down from a challenge in public				
5. A good way to seem manly is to avoid acting gay.				
6. When a guy has a fear, he should keep it to himself.				
7. A guy who wears nail polish is hard to take seriously.				
8. Guys should try to appear manly in almost all situations.				
9. Guys do NOT pick on each other to be mean.				
10. It is weird for a guy to talk about his feelings with other guys.				
11. In order to fit in, guys must be able to tease other guys.				
12. It is NOT important for guys to listen to each other’s problems.				
13. No matter what happens, a guy should seem strong to others				
14. Being thought of as gay makes a guy seem like less of a man.				
15. A guy must always appear confident even if he isn’t				

Statement	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
16. There is something wrong if a guy wants to do activities usually done by girls.				
17. A guy should be able to take teasing from his friends.				
18. It is NOT a guy's job to comfort a friend who is upset.				
19. Acting manly should be the most important goal for guys.				
20. Getting made fun of helps guys become tough.				
21. A guy should always seem as manly as other guys that he knows				
22. It would be embarrassing for a guy to admit he is interested in being a hair dresser.				
23. It is hard to respect a guy who shows his feelings.				
24. It is embarrassing to have a lot of gay friends.				
25. There is nothing wrong with a guy who picks on his friends				
26. Guys should not talk about their worries with each other.				
27. "Real" guys never act like a girl.				

Subscales:

Constant Effort – 4, 8, 13, 15, 19, 20, 21,

Emotional Restriction – 3, 6, 10, 12, 18, 23, 26

Heterosexism – 2, 5, 7, 14, 16, 22, 24, 27

Social Teasing – 1, 9, 11, 17, 25