

Name of Measure: The Revised Attitudes toward Wife Abuse Scale (Yoshioka & DiNoia, 2000)

Purpose of Measure: To assess the extent to which a respondent endorses attitudes that support the use of violence against a woman by an intimate male partner

Author(s) of Abstract:

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Reference: Yoshioka, M., & DiNoia, J. (2000). The Revised Attitudes toward Wife Abuse Scale: A examination of Asian immigrant and Asian American adults. Manuscript under review.

Description of measure: The RAWA is a 14-item measure that assesses marital violence attitudes. It was developed by combining the Attitudes toward Wife Abuse scale (Briere, 1987) and the Likelihood of Battering Scale (Briere, 1987). Based on the suggestions of domestic violence service providers working with Asian battered women, an additional item regarding the justified use of violence was added. Respondents rate the 8 items of the Male Privilege and Perceived Lack of Alternatives sub-scales on a 6 point scale (1.very true, 2. somewhat true, 3. true, 4. false, 5. somewhat false, 6. very false). All items on the Male Privilege sub-scale should be reversed scored before summing. Scores on these two sub-scales are a sum of the responses. They range from 4-24. The 6 items of the Situational Approval of Violence sub-scale are rated on a 4 point scale (1.Very likely, 2. somewhat likely, 3. slightly likely, 4. not at all likely). All items on this sub-scale should be reversed scored before summing. The score on this sub-scale is a sum of the responses and range from 6-24.

The RAWA has shown promise as a measure of marital violence attitudes. In the future, it may be helpful to alter the response categories to be more uniform (i.e., answer all 14 items on a 4 scale). Using a six-point scale is somewhat problematic unless the instrument is administered in English. Also, future research should include convergent and discriminatory variables to facilitate assessment of validity.

Description of Asian Population: Six hundred and eighty adults (i.e., Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, mixed Asian heritage, and Other) completed the RAWA. The Other category included Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, Japanese, Thai, and those of undisclosed ethnicity. As a group, the sample was 58% female with an average of 35.2 years old ( $SD = 15.2$ ). Sixty-eight percent of the total sample was under the age of 40 years. Sixty-five percent immigrated to the United States and those who immigrated have lived in the U.S. an average of 14 years ( $SD = 8.3$ ). Finally, the sample was relatively well educated with 63% having received some college education.

Language Availability: English, Mandarin, Khmer, Vietnamese, Korean

Translation Comment: The survey was translated and back translated into each language. Each translated version of the measure was pilot tested with groups of Chinese, Cambodian,

Vietnamese, and Korean adults that who volunteered at a local Asian domestic violence agency. This procedure provided a high degree of assurance that the integrity of each question was preserved following translation.

Norms: A factor analysis of the scale based resulted in the development of three sub-scales. They are Male Privilege (Items 3,4,6,8), Situation Specific Approval of Violence (Items 9-14), and Perceived Lack of Alternatives for Battered Women (Items 1,2,5,7).

### Factor Structure and Loading of Scale Items

| Factor Items                                                                   | Cron.<br>Alpha | Factor Loadings |            |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
|                                                                                |                | Factor 1        | Factor 2   | Factor 3   |
| <b>Factor 1 Situation- Specific Approval of Violence</b>                       | <b>.89</b>     |                 |            |            |
| A husband/man has the right to hit his wife/girlfriend if she:                 |                |                 |            |            |
| 18. had sex with another man                                                   |                | <b>.69</b>      | .31        | .02        |
| 19. refused to cook and keep the house clean                                   |                | <b>.81</b>      | .18        | .12        |
| 20. refused to have sex with him                                               |                | <b>.78</b>      | .01        | .01        |
| 21. made fun of him at a party                                                 |                | <b>.88</b>      | .16        | .01        |
| 22. told friends that he was sexually pathetic                                 |                | <b>.84</b>      | .16        | .06        |
| 23. nags him too much                                                          |                | <b>.84</b>      | .13        | .13        |
| <b>Factor 2 Endorsement of Male Privilege</b>                                  | <b>.70</b>     |                 |            |            |
| 8. A husband should have the right to discipline his wife                      |                | .10             | <b>.79</b> | .07        |
| 9. A man is the ruler of his home                                              |                | .16             | <b>.75</b> | .15        |
| 11. A husband is entitled to have sex with his wife<br>whenever he<br>wants it |                | .21             | <b>.70</b> | .07        |
| 13. Some wives seem to ask for beatings from their<br>husbands                 |                | .25             | <b>.50</b> | .07        |
| <b>Factor 3 Perceived Lack of Alternatives</b>                                 | <b>.66</b>     |                 |            |            |
| 6. A wife should move out of the house if her husband<br>hits her              |                | .17             | .003       | <b>.67</b> |
| 7. A husband is never justified in hitting his wife                            |                | -.01            | .28        | <b>.51</b> |
| 10. A husband should be arrested if he hits his wife                           |                | .02             | .02        | <b>.77</b> |
| 12. Wife beating is grounds for divorce                                        |                | .08             | .16        | <b>.71</b> |

Means (Standard Deviations) of RAWA Sub-scales and Sub-scale Items, by Ethnicity

|                                                        | Cambod<br>N = 61 | Chinese<br>N = 230 | Indian<br>N = 58 | Korean<br>N = 100 | Vietnam<br>N = 64 | Mixed<br>N = 16 | Other<br>N = 74 | Total<br>N = 598 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>Situation-specific approval of viol<sup>a</sup></b> | 9.8<br>(4.7)     | 9.0<br>(4.0)       | 7.1<br>(2.4)     | 6.9<br>(2.1)      | 10.3<br>(4.6)     | 10.5<br>(6.0)   | 7.1<br>(3.3)    | 8.5<br>(4.0)     |
| 18. Had sex                                            | 1.7<br>(1.1)     | 1.7<br>(1.0)       | 1.4<br>(.83)     | 1.4<br>(.76)      | 2.2<br>(1.2)      | 1.8<br>(1.2)    | 1.3<br>(.77)    | 1.6<br>(1.0)     |
| 19. Refused to cook and keep house                     | 1.7<br>(.97)     | 1.4<br>(.72)       | 1.1<br>(.33)     | 1.0<br>(.21)      | 1.6<br>(.94)      | 1.5<br>(.92)    | 1.2<br>(.70)    | 1.3<br>(.73)     |
| 20. Refused to have sex with him                       | 1.5<br>(.87)     | 1.5<br>(.83)       | 1.2<br>(.64)     | 1.1<br>(.29)      | 1.4<br>(.87)      | 1.7<br>(1.2)    | 1.2<br>(.68)    | 1.4<br>(.77)     |
| 21. Made fun of him at a party                         | 1.7<br>(.96)     | 1.5<br>(.85)       | 1.2<br>(.41)     | 1.1<br>(.40)      | 1.9<br>(1.1)      | 1.7<br>(1.2)    | 1.2<br>(.55)    | 1.4<br>(.82)     |
| 22. He was sexually pathetic                           | 1.6<br>(.88)     | 1.5<br>(.82)       | 1.2<br>(.47)     | 1.2<br>(.62)      | 1.6<br>(.98)      | 2.1<br>(1.3)    | 1.2<br>(.62)    | 1.4<br>(.80)     |
| 23. Nags him too much                                  | 1.5<br>(.79)     | 1.5<br>(.84)       | 1.1<br>(.43)     | 1.1<br>(.41)      | 1.8<br>(1.0)      | 1.7<br>(1.1)    | 1.2<br>(.61)    | 1.4<br>(.79)     |
| <b>Endorsement of male privilege<sup>a</sup></b>       | 9.1<br>(4.5)     | 7.8<br>(3.9)       | 7.2<br>(3.2)     | 8.1<br>(3.6)      | 12.0<br>(5.6)     | 7.6<br>(4.5)    | 6.3<br>(3.9)    | 8.2<br>(4.3)     |
| 8. Right to discipline his wife                        | 2.1<br>(1.6)     | 1.9<br>(1.5)       | 2.1<br>(1.4)     | 2.3<br>(1.4)      | 3.3<br>(2.1)      | 1.9<br>(1.4)    | 1.7<br>(1.4)    | 2.1<br>(1.6)     |
| 9. A man is the ruler of his home                      | 2.3<br>(1.6)     | 1.9<br>(1.4)       | 1.8<br>(1.1)     | 2.4<br>(1.5)      | 3.8<br>(2.2)      | 2.3<br>(2.1)    | 1.7<br>(1.4)    | 2.2<br>(1.6)     |
| 11. Entitled to have sex                               | 2.3<br>(1.8)     | 1.7<br>(1.2)       | 1.8<br>(1.2)     | 1.6<br>(.95)      | 1.9<br>(1.7)      | 1.4<br>(.81)    | 1.4<br>(.90)    | 1.8<br>(1.3)     |
| 13. Some wives seem ask for beatings                   | 2.3<br>(1.6)     | 2.3<br>(1.5)       | 1.7<br>(1.1)     | 1.7<br>(1.1)      | 3.3<br>(1.9)      | 2.0<br>(1.4)    | 1.6<br>(1.2)    | 2.1<br>(1.5)     |
| <b>Perceived lack of alternatives<sup>b</sup></b>      | 11.6<br>(5.5)    | 7.9<br>(3.8)       | 8.4<br>(4.0)     | 8.0<br>(3.7)      | 10.7<br>(4.7)     | 8.4<br>(3.8)    | 6.3<br>(3.4)    | 8.5<br>(4.3)     |
| 6. A wife should move out                              | 2.4<br>(1.8)     | 2.3<br>(1.5)       | 2.1<br>(1.3)     | 2.0<br>(1.3)      | 2.9<br>(1.8)      | 1.9<br>(1.5)    | 1.8<br>(1.4)    | 2.2<br>(1.5)     |
| 7. A husband is never justified                        | 3.2<br>(1.9)     | 1.7<br>(1.2)       | 1.7<br>(1.2)     | 1.5<br>(1.1)      | 1.7<br>(1.3)      | 1.6<br>(1.1)    | 1.5<br>(1.3)    | 1.8<br>(1.4)     |
| 10. A husband should be arrested                       | 2.8<br>(2.0)     | 2.1<br>(1.4)       | 2.7<br>(1.8)     | 2.6<br>(1.6)      | 2.4<br>(1.8)      | 2.4<br>(1.5)    | 1.8<br>(1.3)    | 2.3<br>(1.7)     |
| 12. Grounds for divorce                                | 3.2<br>(1.9)     | 2.1<br>(1.4)       | 2.1<br>(1.5)     | 2.0<br>(1.5)      | 3.7<br>(2.1)      | 2.6<br>(1.8)    | 1.5<br>(1.2)    | 2.3<br>(1.7)     |

NOTE: <sup>a</sup> Higher scores indicate greater agreement. <sup>b</sup> Higher scores indicate greater disagreement.

Reliability: See table

Validity: Items were developed by Briere based upon clinical experience.

Original Reference: Briere, J. (1987). Predicting self-reported likelihood of battering: Attitudes and childhood experiences. Journal of Research in Personality, 21, 61-69.

How to obtain a copy of the instrument: Contact Marianne Yoshioka, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work, 622 West 113<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10025 (212)-854-5669.  
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RAWA  
Yoshioka & DiNoia, 2000

We would like to know how true or false you find the following statements. Circle the number that best fits how you feel.

|                                                                | Very True | Somewhat True | True | False | Somewhat False | False |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 1. A wife should move out of the house if her husband hits her | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 2. A man is never justified in hitting his wife                | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 3. A husband should have the right to discipline his wife      | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 4. A man is ruler of his home                                  | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 5. A man should be arrested if he hits his wife                | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 6. A man is entitled to sex with his wife whenever he wants it | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 7. Wife beating is grounds for divorce                         | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |
| 8. Some women seem to ask for beatings from their husbands     | 1         | 2             | 3    | 4     | 5              | 6     |

Now we would like to know under what circumstances you believe a husband would be justified in hitting his wife. Circle the number that best fits how you feel.

|                                                          | Very Likely | Somewhat Likely | Slightly Likely | Not at all likely |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 9. If my wife had sex with another man                   | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |
| 10. If my wife refused to cook and keep the house clean  | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |
| 11. If my wife refused to have sex with me               | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |
| 12. If my wife made fun of me at a party                 | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |
| 13. If my wife told friends that I was sexually pathetic | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |
| 14. If my wife nags me too much                          | 1           | 2               | 3               | 4                 |