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**Internal Consistency of the Coopersmith  
Self-Esteem Inventory (Form B)**

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This study examined the interitem consistency (G. F. Kuder & M. W. Richardson, 1937) of the newly developed short version (Form B; Self-Esteem Institute, 1974) of Coopersmith's (1967) Self-Esteem Inventory. Whereas the original inventory was developed for use with children, Form B is designed for use with all ages. In the present study, the inventory was administered to 172 male and 85 female college students enrolled in a major southeastern university. It was scored following the standard procedure developed by Coopersmith (Self-Esteem Institute, 1974). Based upon the study's results, Form B of the inventory was judged to show internal consistency for both male ( $r_{11} = .73$ ) and female ( $r_{11} = .72$ ) respondents.

Internal Consistency of  
The Coopersmith Self-Esteem Inventory (Form B)

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As the popularity of Coopersmith's Self-Esteem Inventory (1967) has increased, data supporting its reliability and validity have become increasingly available (Self-Esteem Institute, 1974). Originally devised for use with children, Coopersmith has more recently developed a shorter version (Form B) of the Self-Esteem Inventory for use with all ages. Consisting of 25 items, Form B takes about 10 minutes for administration, as compared to the 20-25 minutes normally allowed for the completion of the original 58-item instrument (Form A). The correlation of the shorter with the original longer questionnaire is reported to be .86 (Self-Esteem Institute, 1974). To date, information pertaining to the reliability of Form B has not been available. The present study reports the internal consistency reliability for a sample of male and female college students using Form B of the Self-Esteem Inventory.

Method and Results

The sample consisted of 172 male and 85 female students enrolled in a large southeastern university. The subjects were distributed among four undergraduate classes, the distribution including 3 freshmen, 105 sophomores, 90 juniors, and 59 seniors. Their ages ranged from 18 to 32, but there were only two subjects older than 28. The mean and median age of the sample was 21. The sample included students enrolled in over 40 curricula offered by the university.

The Self-Esteem Inventory was administered to the subjects as part of a larger research project. All subjects remained completely anonymous having been randomly assigned numbers. The Self-Esteem Inventory was scored following the standard procedure developed by Coopersmith (Self-Esteem Institute, 1974).

Kuder-Richardson (1937) KR-20 reliability coefficients were computed separately for male and female respondents. These results are presented in Table 1. Form B of the Self-Esteem Inventory shows internal consistency for both the male and female college students sampled.

Table 1  
Kuder-Richardson KR-20 Coefficients, Means  
and SD's on the Self-Esteem Inventory

Sex	<u>N</u>	Mean	<u>SD</u>	KR-20
Male	172	73.76	14.44	.73
Female	85	71.80	14.48	.72

References

Coopersmith, S. The antecedents of self-esteem. San Francisco: W. H. Freeman, 1967.

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