Bibliography of References to the
Multidimensional Self-Esteem Inventory (MSEI)
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This bibliography lists references that have cited the Multidimensional Self-Esteem Inventory (MSEI). The bibliography is based on the results of Social Science Citation Abstracts, PsychINFO, Web of Science, Dissertation Abstracts, and other internet searches (e.g., Google Scholar) that identified journal articles, book chapters, dissertations, theses, conference presentations, a patent application, and other manuscripts that have referenced the MSEI. The bibliography includes sources that cite any of the MSEI manuscripts listed below, including the original dissertation (O’Brien, 1980), a prepublication version of the MSEI manual (O’Brien & Epstein, 1983), and the final published version of the MSEI (O’Brien & Epstein, 1987, 1988). References cited in the O’Brien & Epstein (1988) manual for the MSEI that used the MSEI are included in this bibliography and have been updated as needed (e.g., where unpublished manuscripts cited in the MSEI manual were later published). Most of the references in this bibliography have used the MSEI in empirical research. The MSEI has been used in 37 different countries and has been translated into eight different languages (Bulgarian, Dutch, German, Indonesian, Norwegian, Polish, Spanish, and Swedish). The index at the end of this document shows how the MSEI has been used to investigate a wide range of topics, including: abuse, adjustment, attachment, body image, close relationships, cognitive-experiential theory, competence, cross-cultural issues, eating disorders, health psychology, mood disorders, parenting, positive psychology, psychotherapy, schizophrenia, self-determination theory, spirituality, and substance abuse.

MSEI Manuscripts


References Citing the MSEI (with Index) ¹


¹ Links for internet-based references were verified as active on June 20, 2018. An index of topics studied that reference the MSEI can be found on pages 32-36 of this document.


International Applications of the MSEI

The MSEI has been satisfactorily translated into eight different languages: Bulgarian (reference number 87), Dutch (159, 223, 278), German (50), Indonesian (246), Norwegian (301), Polish (116, 279), Spanish (170, 344), and Swedish (117). The MSEI has been cited in 107 studies in 37 different countries, including Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Mexico, New South Wales, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, The Netherlands, Turkey, and Wales. References to cross-cultural applications of the MSEI will be described in the following index for cultural sub-groups in the United States and for research conducted in these other countries.

Applications of the MSEI

The index below links MSEI references (identified by numbers from the above bibliography) to different topics of study or different cultural groups.

Abuse, assault, harassment (33, 66, 74, 82, 143, 174, 180, 188, 259, 311, 335, 338, 358, 377, 390, 415-416, 418)

Academic achievement (see Competence)


African American, black samples (see Cross-cultural issues)

Alcohol abuse (see Substance abuse)


Antisocial behavior (see Forensic issues)

Anxiety (see Stress and coping)

Asian American samples (see Cross-cultural issues)

Assault (see Abuse)

Athletic behavior (see Physical fitness)


Body appearance, body image, body functioning (6, 28, 39-40, 45, 49, 51, 73, 81, 83-85, 129, 135, 139-140, 150, 154, 158, 179, 182-183, 185, 217, 219, 241-242, 244, 273, 277, 293, 298, 310, 315, 327-328, 330-333, 342, 349, 357-358, 364, 369, 374-377, 380, 384, 392-393, 398, 403, 412, 422)

Childhood (see Adolescence)


Cognitive-experiential theory (2, 8, 63, 102-112, 181, 221-222, 263, 284)


Conduct disorder (see Forensic issues)

Conflict (see Anger)

Coping (see Stress and coping)

Creativity (26, 124, 143-144, 259, 394, 416)


Cross-cultural issues, specific group samples in the United States

African American (4, 51, 65, 74, 96, 236-240, 274, 277, 356, 387, 419, 422); Asian American (14, 205, 215-216); Latino/Hispanic American (156, 285, 344-345); Native American (77)

Cross-cultural issues and samples, outside the United States

Argentina (170); Australia (3, 84-85, 114, 308, 395); Austria (212, 424); Belgium (223-224, 278-279); Brazil (213); Bulgaria (87, 245); Canada (7, 48, 56-59, 72, 81, 97, 139-
140, 155, 162, 182-183, 201, 247, 309, 337, 357-358, 403, 413, 431-432; Chile (28);
China (420); Denmark (282); England (11, 55, 62, 73, 76, 125, 147, 392, 425); France
(89); Germany (50, 194, 391); Hong Kong (438); India (173, 184); Indonesia (246);
Ireland (61); Israel (100); Italy (25, 275); Mexico (344-345); Netherlands (5, 90, 159,
408); New Zealand (83); Northern Ireland (397); Norway (301); Pakistan (307); Poland
(91, 116, 124, 141-142, 154, 197, 234, 268, 279, 293, 298, 302-306, 313-314, 381, 388,
405); Portugal (136, 149, 339); Scotland (176, 255, 310); Singapore (67); South Africa
(96); Spain (9, 244, 320, 410-411); Sweden (117-118); Taiwan (69); Thailand (252-253);
Turkey (101); Wales (10, 218, 312)

Defensiveness, unstable self-esteem (3, 8, 15-16, 92, 111-112, 119, 145-146, 148, 181-182, 190,
193, 206, 221, 230, 233, 238, 254, 260, 263-269, 271-272, 287, 304, 307, 322-324, 335,
343, 347-349, 353, 366-368, 374-376, 383, 396-398, 404, 406, 413, 417, 423, 425-426,
428-432, 437)

Depression (see Mood)

Eating disorders (39-40, 49, 55, 73, 81, 129, 150, 158, 176-177, 185-186, 188, 197, 213, 217,
392, 403)

Egocentrism (see Narcissism)

Emotional awareness, expression, reactivity, regulation (66, 78, 92, 98, 102, 106, 109, 111-112,
137, 181, 184, 202, 210-211, 223-224, 227, 233, 253, 300, 309, 335, 346, 351, 384)

Emotional intelligence (see Adjustment)

Explicit vs. implicit self-esteem (5, 10, 27, 90, 110-112, 190-191, 194, 206, 311-312, 362, 405)

Family relationships (see Close relationships)

Forensic issues, conduct disorder, antisocial behavior (10-11, 17, 131, 147-148, 153, 163, 218,
220, 252-253, 255, 312, 401, 433)

Gender (6, 26, 32, 39, 41, 44, 49, 51, 54, 65-66, 72, 74, 77, 81, 92, 99, 120, 128-129, 132, 138-
139, 166, 168, 182, 186, 214, 217, 236, 239-242, 244, 249, 253, 260, 263, 273-274, 277,
284-285, 289, 292-293, 299-301, 310, 314-316, 319, 327-328, 330-331, 339, 344, 350-
352, 354-358, 360, 364, 368, 377, 392, 412, 419-420, 426, 428)

Goal attainment (see Competence)

Harassment (see Abuse)

Health psychology, physical well-being and illness (6, 20, 31, 39, 46, 50, 87, 98, 111, 127, 132,
154, 165, 179, 181-182, 185-186, 197, 200, 202-203, 217, 219, 234, 241-242, 273, 281,
424-426, 435)

Hispanic/Latino samples (see Cross-cultural Issues)

Identity (6, 56, 59, 77, 121, 124, 132, 141-142, 145, 156, 162, 166, 186-187, 190, 201, 214, 217,
223-224, 238, 243, 245, 247, 254, 260, 274, 278-279, 308-309, 313, 318, 328, 332, 340,

Implicit self-esteem (see Explicit vs. implicit self-esteem)
Leadership, leadership development (54, 166, 168, 261, 359-360, 412, 419)

Measurement (see Assessment)

Mental health (see Adjustment)

Methodology (see Assessment)

Mindfulness, meditation (46-47, 72, 94, 192, 212, 343, 386, 394, 417, 425, 436)


Narcissism, egocentrism (52-53, 190, 253, 258, 287, 290, 320, 323-324, 350, 383-384, 399-400, 405, 430)

Native American samples (see Cross-cultural issues)

Non-verbal behavior (68, 93, 169, 204, 257, 276, 325, 357, 425)


Physical fitness, athletic behavior (12, 40, 69, 83, 94, 96, 120, 128, 130, 154, 200, 248, 273, 293, 337, 341, 349, 351, 356, 409)

Physical well-being and illness (see Health psychology)

Positive psychology (see Adjustment)

Prevention (see Treatment)


Psychotherapy (see Treatment)

Religious experience (see Spirituality)

Romantic relationships (see Close relationships)

Schizophrenia (25, 111, 137, 194, 210-211, 225-233, 275, 335, 397, 406, 411, 418)

School performance (see Competence)


Self-help (see Treatment)
**Sexual behavior, sexual functioning, sexual satisfaction, sexual identity** (1, 69, 84, 143, 174, 218, 311, 358, 366, 390, 396, 416)


**Stigma** (148, 226, 228-229, 232-233, 236-237, 275, 335, 366, 406, 434)

**Substance abuse, alcohol abuse** (72, 97, 113-114, 142, 144, 256, 259, 261, 362, 389, 404)

**Trauma (see Stress and coping)**


**Unstable self-esteem** (see Defensiveness)

**Work performance (see Competence)**