Measure of Adolescent Relationship Harassment and Abuse (MARSHA)

Victimization and Perpetration version

**Instructions**: Think about all of the people you were *dating, hooking up with or in a romantic relationship within the past year.* Answer the following questions thinking about these people. How many times did the following things happen, *not for fun or as a joke*? Your best guess about the number of times is OK.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | 0 times | 1-3 times | 4-10 times | More than 10 times |
| 1. | They looked through my phone or other device at my texts, social media, or apps, when I did not want them to do that. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 2. | I looked through their phone or other device at their texts, social media, or apps, when they did not know I was doing that or they did not want me to do that. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3. | They used social media or other apps to keep track of me or monitor where I was going or where I had been. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4. | I used social media or other apps to keep track of them and monitor where they were going or where they had been. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 5. | They asked me to show them things on my phone or other device, such as texts or social media | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 6. | I asked them to show me things on their phone or other device, such as texts or social media. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 7. | They asked me to give them one or more of my passwords. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 8. | I asked them to give me one or more of their passwords. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 9. | They messaged me constantly and I felt like they were keeping track of me or monitoring what I was doing. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 10. | I messaged them constantly in order to keep track of them or monitor what they were doing. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 11. | They changed my passwords in order to lock me out of my own phone, computer, other device, social media, or other online accounts. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 12. | I changed their passwords in order to lock them out of their own phone, computer, other device, social media or other online accounts | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 13. | They tried to stop me from spending time with my family or friends. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 14. | I tried to stop them from spending time with their family or friends | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 15. | They tried to go with me when I was doing something with my family or friends, even when I didn’t want them to join | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 16. | I tried to go with them when they were doing something with their friends or family, even when they might not have wanted me to join. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 17. | They made me feel like I could not break up with them or get out of the relationship | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 18. | I tried to make them feel like they could not break up with me or get out of the relationship. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 19. | They followed me or spied on me or stalked me in real life (not online). | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 20. | I followed them or spied on them, or stalked them in real life (not online). | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 21. | I sent them scary or threatening messages via text, social media, or another app. \*\* | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 22. | They demanded that I spend money on them even if I didn’t want to. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 23. | I demanded that they spend money on me even if they didn’t want to. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 24. | I made them give me money. \*\* | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 25. | They spread rumors, gossip, or secrets about me using texts, social media or apps. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 26. | I spread rumors, gossip, or secrets about them using texts, social media or apps. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 27. | They threatened to, or actually, spread rumors about me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 28. | I threatened to, or actually spread rumors about them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 29. | They tried to get their friends to stop talking to me or stop being friends with me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 30. | I tried to get their friends to stop talking to them or stop being friends with them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 31. | They insulted my family, culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, or religion, and it made me feel bad, embarrassed, or insecure. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 32. | I insulted their family, culture, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or religion, to make them feel bad, embarrassed, or insecure. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 33. | They insulted my looks, clothes, or appearance, and it made me feel bad, embarrassed, or insecure. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 34. | I insulted their looks, clothes, or appearance, to make them feel bad, embarrassed, or insecure. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 35. | They used technology in some other way that made me feel scared, humiliated, embarrassed, threatened, or harassed.\* | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 36. | They used a stick, bat, or some other weapon on me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 37. | I used a stick, bat, or some other weapon on them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 38. | They used a gun or knife on me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 39. | I used a gun or knife on them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 40. | I damaged their property or belongings on purpose. \*\* | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 41. | They slapped, pushed, shoved, or shook me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 42. | I slapped, pushed, shoved, or shook them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 43. | They hit, punched, kicked, or choked me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 44. | I hit, punched, kicked, or choked them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 45. | They got other people to hit me or beat me up. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 46. | I got other people to hit them or beat them up. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 47. | They did something to cause me a bruise, cut, scratch, burn, sprain, or other injury. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 48. | I did something to them to cause a bruise, cut, scratch, burn, sprain, or other injury. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 49. | They threatened to, or actually hurt, someone I care about. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 50. | I threatened to, or actually hurt, someone they care about. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 51. | They pressured me to do something sexual. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 52. | I pressured them to do something sexual. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 53. | They asked or pressured me for a nude or almost nude photo or video of me, when I did not want to give them one. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 54. | I asked, or pressured them, for a nude or almost nude photo or video of themselves, when they might not have wanted to give me one. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 55. | They forced or pressured me to take nude or almost nude photos or videos. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 56. | I forced or pressured them to take nude or almost nude photos or videos. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 57. | They forced me to do something sexual. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 58. | I forced them to do something sexual. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 59. | They gave me alcohol or drugs in order to get sexual with me when I did not want to get sexual. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 60. | I gave them alcohol or drugs in order to get sexual with them because they might not have wanted to get sexual | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 61. | They showed or sent other people nude, or almost nude, photos or videos of me and I did not want them to do that. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 62. | I showed or sent other people nude or almost nude photos or videos of them that they didn’t know about or might not have wanted me to do. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 63. | They yelled, screamed, or swore at me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 64. | I yelled, screamed, or swore at them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 65. | They punched the wall, slammed the door, or threw something. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 66. | I punched the wall, slammed the door, or threw something. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 67. | They threatened to hit me, which scared or worried me. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 68. | I threatened to hit them to scare or worry them. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 69. | They stopped talking to me and I felt punished, hurt, or scared.  | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 70. | I stopped talking to them to punish, hurt, or scare them |  |  |  |  |
| 71. | I told them that I was cheating on them, even if I wasn’t, just to make them feel bad.\*\* | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Supplemental Questions (ages 16 – 21) |
| S1v | They didn’t let me use birth control or use condoms in the way we agreed on (such as, didn’t use a condom, messed with birth control pills). | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| S1p | I didn’t use birth control or use condoms in the way we agreed on (such as, didn’t use a condom, messed with birth control pills). | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| S2v | They tried to make me pregnant, or pressured me to get pregnant. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| S2p | I tried to get them pregnant, or pressured them to get pregnant. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| S3v | They locked me out of my house or apartment. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| S3p | I locked them out of their house or apartment. | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |

**Source:** Rothman, E.F., Paruk, J., Cuevas, C.A., Temple, J., Gonzales, K. (2020). The development of the Measure of Adolescent Relationship Harassment and Abuse (MARSHA): Input from Black and Multiracial, Latinx, Native American, and LGBTQ+ youth. Journal of Interpersonal Violence. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520936367>

Rothman, E.F., Cuevas, C.A., Mumford, E., Bahrami, E., Taylor, B. (2021). The Psychometric properties of the Measure of Adolescent Relationship Harassment and Abuse (MARSHA) with a nationally representative sample of U.S. Youth. Journal of Interpersonal Violence <https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520985480>

**Subscales:**

Victimization, Privacy control: Questions 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19

Victimization, Social control: Questions 22, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35

Victimization, Physical abuse: Questions 36, 38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49

Victimization, Sexual abuse: Questions 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61

Victimization, Intimidation: Questions 63, 65, 67, 69

Perpetration, Social control: Questions 23, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 50, 71

Perpetration, Physical abuse: Questions 37, 39, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48

Perpetration, Sexual abuse: Questions 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62

Perpetration, Isolation: Questions 10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21

Perpetration, Cyber Control: Questions 2, 4, 6, 8, 12

Perpetration, Intimidation: Questions 64, 66, 68, 70

\* Only asked for victimization, no perpetration version

\*\*Only asked for perpetration, no victimization version

**Scoring**: Add points for each item (0 to 3) to create a total scale score for victimization and perpetration as well as the score for each subscale. If a respondent skipped two more items for any of the subscales, that subscale should not be scored and considered incomplete. If a total of 10 or more questions are skipped in the victimization or perpetration questions then the full MARSHA for victimization or perpetration should be considered incomplete. A score of 0 means no dating abuse or unhealthy relationship behavior. A score of 1 and higher indicates the presence of unhealthy relationship behavior experience. Higher scores indicate greater frequency of unhealthy relationship behavior experiences. Supplemental questions are added only on participants ages 16-21, however they should not be included in the final score if comparing to younger participant scores.