

Affirmative Socialization for Asian American Men Measure

INSTRUCTIONS: Think about your experience growing up, from your early childhood as an Asian boy to who you are now as an Asian man. The items below describe experiences you may have had interacting with your social world (e.g., family, close relatives, friends, schools, community). Please rate how much you agree with each statement.

Please respond to each statement using the rating scale below.

- Strongly Disagree (1)
- Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Somewhat Agree
- Agree
- Strongly Agree (6)

Affirmative Media Representation

I have had access to media (e.g., art, films, literature, music, theatre, TV) that...

1. Depicts Asian men as attractive and desirable.
2. Depicts Asian men as likeable and relatable.
3. Depicts Asian men as assertive and confident.
4. Depicts Asian men in nuanced and affirming ways.
5. Showcases Asian men in leadership roles in society.

Critical Education

I have had educational opportunities to learn about...

1. The romantic and sexual discrimination faced by Asian men.
2. How Asian men are negatively represented in mass media and popular culture.
3. How Asian men are negatively stereotyped in social interactions.
4. How Asian men are stereotyped as generally inferior to white men.
5. How my gender and racial identities inform who I am as an Asian man.

Community Representation

As an Asian boy/man, I have had opportunities to spend time in...

1. Communities where I can meet people of my ethnic/racial group.
2. Communities where my ethnic/racial group is predominant.
3. Communities where I can visit establishments (e.g., restaurants, stores) that cater to my ethnic/racial group.
4. Communities where I can participate in activities (e.g., events, sports) that cater to my ethnic/racial group.
5. Communities where there is visible representation of my race/ethnic group (e.g., architecture, public art).

Asian American Men's Community Engagement

I have had opportunities to...

1. Mentor boys/men of other ethnic/racial backgrounds.
2. Participate in social groups/communities catering to men.
3. Mentor Asian boys/men.
4. Participate in social groups/communities catering to Asian men.
5. Participate in activism/initiatives addressing the needs of Asian boys/men.

Asian American Men Mentors

I have personally known Asian men who...

1. Role-modeled confidence and charisma.
2. Mentored me in my career or profession.
3. Supported my personal growth as an Asian male.
4. Helped me address cultural difficulties that come with being an Asian male.
5. Affirmed my strengths and virtues as an Asian male.

Positive Regard and Identity Validation

My family (e.g., parents, guardians, siblings) ...

1. Discussed the discrimination Asian men face.
2. Discussed the cultural difficulties Asian men face.
3. Discussed the negative stereotypes Asian men face.
4. Discussed how Asian people have resisted oppression.
5. Asked about the struggles I experienced as an Asian boy/man in American society.

Body Positivity

As an Asian man...

1. I have received positive feedback about my physical appearance.
2. People have made me feel physically attractive (e.g., physical features, body image).
3. I have heard people talk positively about how I look (e.g., physical features, body image).
4. People have complimented my physical appearance.
5. People have made me feel confident about how I look (e.g., physical features, body image).

Positive Intimacy

As an Asian man...

1. People have said they liked dating me.
2. I have had satisfying romantic experiences with others.
3. In my interaction with prospective partners, I have felt sexually desired.
4. I have received positive feedback about my ability as a romantic partner.
5. I have received positive feedback about my ability as a sexual partner.

Asian American Men's Emotional Connection

I have had Asian male friends/peers...

1. Who supported me emotionally.
2. Who affirmed my strengths and virtues as an Asian man.
3. Who understands the struggles I experience as an Asian man in American society.
4. From whom I seek emotional support.
5. With whom I have emotionally meaningful interactions.

Cross-racial Friendships and Asian Male Solidarity

I have had male friends of other ethnic/racial backgrounds who...

1. Understand the discrimination Asian men experience.
2. Intervene when Asian men are negatively stereotyped.
3. Appreciate similarities and differences in our experiences of masculinity.
4. Validate my lived experience as an Asian man.
5. Affirm my strengths and virtues as an Asian man.

Using the scales

Each of the ten scales can be used to assess the unique affirmative socialization defined by each domain. Researchers may choose whichever scale(s) fit best with their research questions. For scoring, add up the scores of all the items in the respective scale and calculate the mean score.

The 10 socialization domains can be organized from macro- to micro-levels of social action.

Cultural and Ideological

Affirmative Media Representation. This domain addressed AAM's humanized and nuanced representation across all forms of mass media and popular culture and discourse, including depictions of AAM as charismatic, desirable, relatable, and confident leaders.

Critical Education. This domain addressed formal and informal avenues for critical education (e.g., ethnic studies) germane to validating AAM's experiences, such as the role of white supremacist and hegemonic masculinity ideals in their discrimination and oppression.

Community and Institutional

Community Representation. This domain addressed AAM's extent of access to their ethnocultural community, including the preponderance of establishments, programs, and spaces that visibly represented and responsively catered to their identity-specific needs.

AAM Community Engagement. This domain addressed active participation in communal activities and programmatic initiatives to meet the unique lifespan needs of Asian boys and men in their broader community.

AAM Mentors. This domain addressed the accessibility of AAM mentors who offered affirmative guidance relevant to AAM's gendered racial social reality, such as positive role modeling and managing sociocultural challenges to their personal and professional development.

Family and Parental

Positive Regard and Identity Validation. This domain addressed unconditional valuation by parents and family members outside stereotypic expectations ascribed to AAM and the provision of critically conscious validation for sociocultural challenges specific to AAM.

Interpersonal

Cross-Racial Friendships and Male Solidarity. This domain addressed crossracial male friendships and experiences of affirmative and mutual recognition as men of color, including receiving allyship and bystander intervention during instances of gendered racism.

AAM Emotional Connection. This domain addressed emotionally authentic and uplifting friendships with other AAM, including the relational cultivation of belonging and an affirmative and mutual understanding of shared sociocultural challenges.

Positive Intimacy. This domain addressed positive sexual and romantic experiences and the relational cultivation of worthiness and self-efficacy as prospective partners, which counters the prevailing and dehumanizing narrative of AAM as incapable and undesirable partners.

Body Positivity. This domain addressed positive experiences regarding body image and physicality and the relational cultivation of affirmative self-perceptions of desirability, which counters hegemonic attractiveness ideals based on white supremacist heteropatriarchy.

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