

ABSTRACT

Title (up to 35 words):

Developing a father resources questionnaire designed for use with mothers and fathers from diverse ethnicities and research on maternal health and child well being

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Description of Research (up to 250 words):

Introduction:

A father's psycho-social resources may benefit or harm the health and well being of his pregnant partner or child. Developing a brief *Father Resources Questionnaire* may offer the NCS a means to investigate how father's resources affect maternal health and child well being.

Methods:

A *Father Resources Questionnaire* was developed through a systematic research process starting with an extensive review of literature and national surveys to identify existing relevant scales. After identifying scales that are ready for use, three additional scales (Empathy, Masculinity, and Family Leave) were revised through qualitative research (focus groups; cognitive interviews) to shorten them and assure their clarity and relevance. The full questionnaire was pilot tested. Study participants in the qualitative and pilot studies were mothers and fathers from diverse racial-ethnic and socio-economic statuses.

Results:

- A brief [26]-item *Father Resources Questionnaire* was developed for use with diverse mothers and fathers.
- The multidimensional questionnaire measures a range of father resources, including living arrangements at age 14, empathy, personal control, relationship quality/communication, masculinity, perceived social support, parental role strain/conflict, stress, and Family Leave.
- The final survey questions were identified by study participants as important to pregnant women or parenting and were rephrased for clarity based on their input.

Conclusions:

Using a well-defined, logical measure development process, with input from mothers and fathers of diverse backgrounds, and being mindful of time constraints within the NCS, investigators developed a multi-dimensional *Father Resource Questionnaire* which is relevant to maternal and child well-being and allows comparisons across groups.

Possible Tables With Examples of Text:

Table 1: Study Participants' Input Regarding Importance and Relevance of Potential Questions for Empathy, Masculinity, and Family Leave Scales

Table in Poster will include quotes such as:
Regarding Empathy: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>...it's how you feel as a parent, protective toward family unit; as father, husband, it's a role I have – partly the protector in many ways – financially, physically.</i>○ <i>When I think about raising my son I want him to stand up for someone being treated unfairly, and is aware of his privilege but not in a condescending way.</i>
Regarding Masculinity: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>I didn't too much care about, I'm with my woman, she's pregnant, couldn't care less about if you're going to get any respect back or not. If you're going to be a man be a man, if you're not you're not.</i>○ <i>...doesn't matter to pregnant woman if you're big and tough, because she knows that you're helping her out during the pregnancy, if strong or not, doesn't matter.</i>

Table 2: Full Set of Questions in Final Father Resources Questionnaire

Table in Poster will include questions from final questionnaire covering each of the father resources domains noted in the Results section above.

Among Possible Graphics:

For Empathy:



For Masculinity:



For Family Leave:

