



THE
FOSTER CARE
ALUMNI STUDIES
STORIES FROM THE PAST TO SHAPE THE FUTURE

Foster Care Alumni Studies Final Production Copy Interview¹

Introduction

In order to build on and compare to previous work, the Alumni Studies interview was largely composed of measures and items from earlier projects in child welfare, psychology, and epidemiology. For specific sources, please see the variables list available at www.casey.org/research/alumni_studies/methods.htm

The interview was developed by the project team to assess current psychological, health, financial, and social functioning, education and employment, birth and foster family history, services received, recent stressors, and perceptions of the foster care agency staff and foster parents. Average administration time was two to two and a half hours. Interviewing was conducted by trained interviewers from the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan. A respondent booklet, containing response scales and options, was used with many questions to provide visual reference for participants.

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SECTION E

E1. (RB, P. 8) Next I will read a list of statements dealing with your general feelings about yourself. Please tell me if you **agree strongly, agree somewhat, disagree somewhat, or disagree strongly** with each.¹

	AGREE STRONGLY	AGREE SOMEWHAT	DISAGREE SOMEWHAT	DISAGREE STRONGLY
a On the whole, I am satisfied with myself.	1	2	3	4
b At times I think I am no good at all.	1	2	3	4
c I feel that I have a number of good qualities.	1	2	3	4
d I am able to do things as well as most other people.	1	2	3	4
e I certainly feel useless at times.	1	2	3	4
f I feel that I'm a person of worth, at least on an equal plane with others.	1	2	3	4
g I wish I could have more respect for myself.	1	2	3	4
h All in all, I am inclined to feel that I am a failure.	1	2	3	4
i I take a positive attitude toward myself.	1	2	3	4

E2. What kinds of things do you do for recreation?

¹ Item 5 from the original Rosenberg Self-Esteem scale (Rosenberg, 1965; "I feel I do not have much to be proud of.") was inadvertently left out of the interview.

E3. In the past 12 months did you have an **accident, injury, or poisoning** that required medical attention?

YES..... 1

NO..... 5

E4. (RB, P. 9) During the past 30 days, how many times did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife or club?

ZERO..... 0...(GO TO E5)

ONE..... 1

TWO-THREE..... 2

FOUR-FIVE..... 3

MORE THAN FIVE..... 4

E4a. Do you carry a weapon as part of your job?

YES.....1

NO.....5

E5. (RB, P. 9) During the past 12 months, how many times have you been in a physical fight in which you or someone else was injured and had to be treated by a doctor or a nurse?

ZERO.....0

ONE.....1

TWO-THREE.....2

FOUR-FIVE.....3

MORE THAN FIVE.....4

E6. The next questions are about your overall health, including both your physical health and your mental health. In general, would you say your overall health is **excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?**

- EXCELLENT..... 1
- VERY GOOD 2
- GOOD..... 3
- FAIR 4
- POOR 5

E7. Do you have a disability or chronic health condition?

- YES 1
- NO 5..... **(GO TO E8)**

E7a. What is that disability or condition?

E8. Compared to one year ago, would you rate your health in general **now** as **much better** than one year ago, **somewhat better**, **somewhat worse**, or **much worse** now than one year ago?

- MUCH BETTER NOW..... 1
- SOMEWHAT BETTER NOW2
- (IF VOL) ABOUT THE SAME.....3
- SOMEWHAT WORSE NOW4
- MUCH WORSE NOW5

		YES (1)	NO (5)
E9.	During the past four weeks , did you accomplish less than you would like at your work or other regular daily activities as a result of your physical health?	1	5
E10.	During the past four weeks , were you limited in the <u>kind</u> of work or other activities you could do as a result of your physical health?	1	5
E11.	During the past four weeks , did you accomplish less than you would like at work or other regular daily activities as a result of any emotional problems, such as feeling depressed or anxious?	1	5
E12.	During the past four weeks , did you do work or other activities less carefully than usual as a result of any emotional problems, such as feeling depressed or anxious?	1	5

E13. During the **past four weeks**, how much did pain interfere with your normal work, including both work outside the home and housework – **not at all**, **a little bit**, **moderately**, **quite a bit**, or **extremely**?

- NOT AT ALL..... 1
- A LITTLE BIT2
- MODERATELY3
- QUITE A BIT4
- EXTREMELY.....5

E14. How much does your health limit you **now** in moderate activities, such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf – **a lot, a little, or not at all?**

- A LOT..... 1
- A LITTLE..... 2
- NOT AT ALL..... 3

E15. How much does your health limit you **now** in climbing several flights of stairs – **a lot, a little, or not at all?**

- A LOT..... 1
- A LITTLE..... 2
- NOT AT ALL..... 3

E16. (RB, P. 10)	(All of the time, most of the time, a good bit of time, some of the time, a little of the time, or none of the time?)					
	ALL (1)	MOST (2)	GOOD BIT (2)	SOME (4)	LITTLE (5)	NONE (6)
E16a. How much of the time during the past four weeks have you felt calm and peaceful: All of the time, most of the time, a good bit of the time, some of the time, a little of the time, or none of the time?	1	2	3	4	5	6
E16b. How much of the time during the past four weeks did you have a lot of energy?	1	2	3	4	5	6
E16c. How much of the time during the past four weeks have you felt downhearted and blue?	1	2	3	4	5	6

E17. During the **past four weeks**, how much of the time has your physical health or emotional problems interfered with your social activities, like visiting friends or relatives – **all** of the time, **most** of the time, **some** of the time, **a little** of the time, or **none** of the time?

- ALL 1
- MOST 2
- SOME 3
- A LITTLE 4
- NONE 5

INTERVIEWER: READ FOLLOWING QUESTIONS SLOWLY	YES (1)	NO (5)
E18. Have you ever in your life had an attack of fear or panic when all of the sudden you felt very frightened, anxious, or uneasy?	1 MARK E18 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E19	5
E18a. Have you ever had an attack when all of a sudden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you became very uncomfortable, • you either became short of breath, dizzy, nauseous, or your heart pounded, • or you thought that you might lose control, die, or go crazy? 	1 MARK E18a ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E19	5
E19. Have you ever in your life had a period lasting several days or longer when most of the day you felt sad, empty or depressed ?	1 MARK E19 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E19a	5 GO TO E20
E19a. Have you ever had a period lasting two years or longer when most days you felt either sad or depressed about how things were going in your life?	1 MARK E19a ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E22	5 GO TO E22

<p>E20. Have you ever had a period lasting several days or longer when most of the day you were very discouraged about how things were going in your life?</p>	<p>1 MARK E20 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E21</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>E21. Have you ever had a period lasting several days or longer when you lost interest in most things you usually enjoy like work, hobbies, and personal relationships?</p>	<p>1 MARK E21 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E22</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>E22. Have you ever had a period lasting several days or longer when most of the time you were very irritable, grumpy, or in a bad mood?</p>	<p>1 MARK E22 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E23a</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>E23. Did you ever have a time in your life when you were a “worrier” – that is, when you worried a lot more about things than other people with the same problems as you?</p>	<p>1 MARK E23 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E24</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>E23a. Did you ever have a time in your life when you were much more nervous or anxious than most other people with the same problems as you?</p>	<p>1 MARK E23a ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E24</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>E23b. Did you ever have a period lasting six months or longer when you were anxious and worried most days?</p>	<p>1 MARK E23b ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E24</p>	<p>5</p>

INTERVIEWER: READ FOLLOWING QUESTIONS SLOWLY		YES (1)	NO (5)
E24	(RB, P. 11) Was there ever a time in your life when you had a strong fear of social or performance situations like giving a speech, meeting new people, going to parties, speaking up at a meeting, being in a dating situation, or using a public bathroom?	1 MARK E24 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E25	5
E25	(RB, P. 12) Was there ever a time in your life when you had a strong fear of either being in crowds, going to public places, traveling alone, or traveling away from home?	1 MARK E25 ON REF CARD THEN GO TO E26	5

E26 The next few questions are about problems that usually start in childhood or adolescence. During your first years at school -- say between the ages of 6 and 10 -- was there ever a period lasting **six months or longer** when you had **a lot more trouble** than most children with concentration or attention -- such as **not being able to concentrate or keep your mind on what you were doing, losing interest very quickly in games or work, trouble finishing what you started without being distracted, or not listening when people spoke to you?**

YES 1
NO 5

E27. Some children are very restless and fidgety and so impatient that they often interrupt people and have trouble waiting their turn. Was there ever a period lasting **six months or longer** in your childhood when you were like that?

YES 1
NO 5

E28. Did you ever have a period lasting **six months or longer** during your childhood or adolescence when you frequently did things that made other people angry with you such as **losing your temper, arguing or talking back to adults, refusing to do what your teachers or parents asked you to do, annoying people on purpose, or being touchy or irritable?**

YES 1

NO 5

E29. Some children have difficulty with separation from their parents or other family members. Examples include **getting very upset when they are away from these people, worrying a lot that something bad will happen to separate these people from them, or wanting to stay home from school or not go other places without them**. Did you ever have problems like this for **a month or longer** during your childhood?

YES 1

NO 5

E30. INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT: FOLLOW SKIP FOR FIRST ENDORSED ITEM.

IF E19 = YES	1	GO TO F1, NEXT SECTION
IF E20 = YES	2	GO TO F2, NEXT SECTION
IF E21 = YES	3	GO TO F9, NEXT SECTION
IF E18 OR E18a = YES	7	GO TO SECTION G (PAGE 73)
IF E24 = YES	9	GO TO SECTION H (PAGE 82)
IF E23 = YES	11	GO TO J1 INTRO 1 (PAGE 86)
IF E23a = YES	12	GO TO J1 INTRO 2 (PAGE 86)
IF E23b = YES	13	GO TO J1 INTRO 3 (PAGE 86)
ALL OTHERS	14	GO TO SECTION K (PAGE 94)
