



The Centre For Male Psychology

Gender Scripts (male and female)

(Seager, Sullivan & Barry, 2014)

The Gender Script Questionnaire (Seager et al, 2014) measures four traditional male and five traditional female subscales of attitude to various aspects of gender typicality.

The male script consists of consists of 15 items measuring the subscales Fight & Win (e.g. 'When the team I support lose it really hurts'), Protect (e.g. 'Women and children should come first'), Mastery & Control (e.g. 'if you need help you are weak') and Racing (e.g. 'I don't like being overtaken on the roads'). The stimulus questions were answered 6-point Likert scale from 1 = Strongly Disagree, to 6 = Strongly Agree. Higher scores on the likert scale indicated more agreement with the item.

The Cronbach's alpha reliability for the 15 items is 0.862. The female script consists of 18 items measuring the subscales Looks (e.g. 'I feel more alive when I look attractive'), Family Harmony (e.g. 'I won't be truly happy until I have produced a child'), Fertility, Parenting and Family Pressure. The Cronbach's alpha reliability for the 19 items is 0.788.

There is only one published study so far using these scales (Seager et al, 2014), though there are three other papers to be published around late 2019. In the published study of 348 women and 170 men, it was found that, after controlling for other variables using hierarchical multiple regression, suicidality was predicted by two male gender subscales (Fight & Win, $P < .001$; Mastery & Control, $P < .042$), and one female gender subscale predicted reduced risk of suicidality (Family Harmony, $P < .003$). Although the initial interpretation – based on the deficit model of masculinity that was unchallenged at the time – was that some aspects of masculinity cause suicidality, after further discussion with clinical and forensic psychologists this interpretation has since become open to revision. Correlation does not prove causation, and it could be, for example, that a third variable is responsible for the apparent correlation between masculinity and suicidality. This possibility is the subject of further investigation by the Male Psychology Network.



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The 15 items and their factor loadings for the **Male Gender Script Questionnaire**.

Subscale	Item	Factor loading
<i>Fight & Win</i>	It's important to get promotion or the best salary	.732
	In life it's important to keep ahead of the competition	.660
	The salary is the most important thing about a job	.628
	It's dog eat dog, so you have to be top dog	.589
	A big house or a big car shows that you're a winner	.522
	Being a breadwinner makes me what I am	.484
<i>Mastery & Control</i>	If you need help you are weak	.824
	You should be able to cope with problems on your own	.765
	It's important to be seen to be in control of your feelings	.616
	If you don't know the answer to a question you look foolish	.509
	Life is what you make it – if it goes wrong you've only yourself to blame	.480

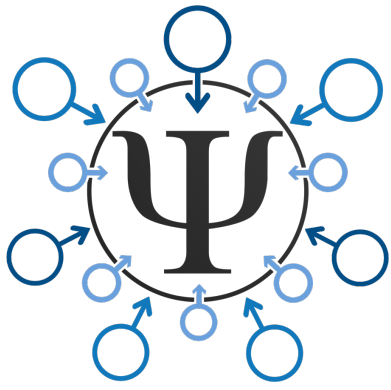


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<i>Racing</i>	If I pull up next to another car at a set of traffic lights I feel an urge to race	.986
	I don't like being overtaken on the roads	.410
<i>Protect</i>	Women and children should come first	.653
	If a burglar comes into our house it's me that should take responsibility for protecting the household	.455

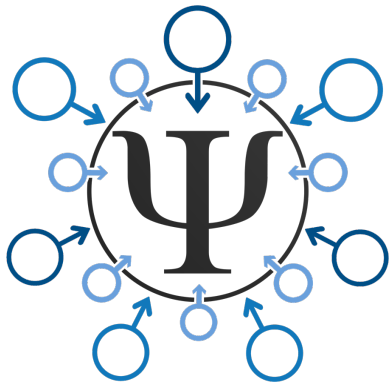
The 18 items and their factor loadings for the **Female Gender Script Questionnaire**.

Subscale	Item	Factor loading
<i>Looks</i>	I feel more alive when I look attractive	.710
	People should do whatever it takes to enhance or preserve their looks	.558
	I feel annoyed if I see someone who is more attractive than I am	.561
	I don't like to leave the house unless I have made sure that I look good	.556
	I feel that there is too much pressure on me to be attractive	.512
	People who are attractive have more advantages in life	.421



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<i>Fertility</i>	No matter how successful you are at work, if you don't have children you will never really be happy	.752
	It is a law of nature that people should produce at least one child	.704
	An infertile person can't reach their full potential as a human being	.615
<i>Family Harmony</i>	Raising a happy family is my true goal in life	.683
	There is no greater joy than holding your own new born baby	.663
	I won't be truly happy until I have produced a child	.571
<i>Parenting</i>	Nobody can care for their children like the biological parent can	.627
	The mother and child have a special bond that can't exist between father and child	.489
	Children suffer by being put into day care	.442
	The importance of traditional family roles is overrated	.383
<i>Family pressure</i>	I feel that society unfairly pressures me to have children	.846



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	Family members annoy me by putting pressure on me to have children	.607
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Citation

Seager, M., Sullivan, L., & Barry, J. (2014). [Gender-Related Schemas and Suicidality: Validation of the Male and Female Traditional Gender Scripts Questionnaires.](#) *New Male Studies*, 3(3), 34-54.

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