

# FAMILY ASSESSMENT DEVICE



BROWN/BUTLER FAMILY RESEARCH PROGRAM

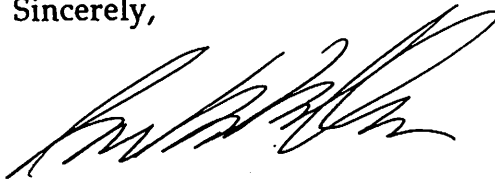
BROWN UNIVERSITY  
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02912

Department of Counseling

Enclosed please find the FAD packet that you ordered. You have permission to duplicate the copyrighted Family Assessment Device, the manual scoring sheet and instructions, and the Family Information Form. We may contact you in the future to receive your feedback on the instrument.

Thank you for your interest and good luck in your future project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan W. Miller', written in a cursive style.

Ivan W. Miller, Ph.D.  
Director, Brown University  
Family Research Program  
Rhode Island Hospital  
593 Eddy Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903



**FAMILY  
ASSESSMENT  
DEVICE**

Version 3

Nathan B. Epstein, M.D.

Lawrence M. Baldwin, Ph.D.

Duane S. Bishop, M.D.

The Brown University/Butler Hospital Family Research Program

Butler Hospital

345 Blackstone Boulevard

Providence, Rhode Island 02906

Date of Administration: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Identification Number or Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS:

This booklet contains a number of statements about families. Please read each statement carefully, and decide how well it describes your own family. You should answer according to how you see your family.

For each statement there are four (4) possible responses:

Strongly Agree (SA)

Check SA if you feel that the statement describes your family very accurately.

Agree (A)

Check A if you feel that the statement describes your family for the most part.

Disagree (D)

Check D if you feel that the statement does not describe your family for the most part.

Strongly Disagree (SD)

Check SD if you feel that the statement does not describe your family at all.

These four responses will appear below each statement like this:

41. We are not satisfied with anything short of perfection.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

The answer spaces for statement 41 would look like this. For each statement in the booklet, there is an answer space below. Do not pay attention to the blanks at the far right-hand side of each answer space. They are for office use only.

Try not to spend too much time thinking about each statement, but respond as quickly and as honestly as you can. If you have trouble with one, answer with your first reaction. Please be sure to answer every statement and mark all your answers in the space provided below each statement.

1. Planning family activities is difficult because we misunderstand each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

2. We resolve most everyday problems around the house:

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

3. When someone is upset the others know why.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

4. When you ask someone to do something, you have to check that they did it.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

5. If someone is in trouble, the others become too involved.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

6. In times of crisis we can turn to each other for support.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

7. We don't know what to do when an emergency comes up.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

8. We sometimes run out of things that we need.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

9. We are reluctant to show our affection for each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

10. We make sure members meet their family responsibilities.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

11. We cannot talk to each other about the sadness we feel.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

12. We usually act on our decisions regarding problems.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

13. You only get the interest of others when something is important to them.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

14. You can't tell how a person is feeling from what they are saying.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

15. Family tasks don't get spread around enough.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

16. Individuals are accepted for what they are.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

17. You can easily get away with breaking the rules.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

18. People come right out and say things instead of hinting at them.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

19. Some of us just don't respond emotionally.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

20. We know what to do in an emergency.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

21. We avoid discussing our fears and concerns.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

22. It is difficult to talk to each other about tender feelings.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

23. We have trouble meeting our bills.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

24. After our family tries to solve a problem, we usually discuss whether it worked or not.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

25. We are too self-centered.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

26. We can express feelings to each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

27. We have no clear expectations about toilet habits.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

28. We do not show our love for each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

29. We talk to people directly rather than through go-betweens.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

30. Each of us has particular duties and responsibilities.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

31. There are lots of bad feelings in the family.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

32. We have rules about hitting people.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

33. We get involved with each other only when something interests us.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

34. There's little time to explore personal interests.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

35. We often don't say what we mean.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

36. We feel accepted for what we are.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

37. We show interest in each other when we can get something out of it personally.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

38. We resolve most emotional upsets that come up.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

39. Tenderness takes second place to other things in our family.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

40. We discuss who is to do household jobs.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

41. Making decisions is a problem for our family.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

42. Our family shows interest in each other only when they can get something out of it.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

43. We are frank with each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

44. We don't hold to any rules or standards.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

45. If people are asked to do something, they need reminding.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

46. We are able to make decisions about how to solve problems.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

47. If the rules are broken, we don't know what to expect.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

48. Anything goes in our family.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

49. We express tenderness.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

50. We confront problems involving feelings.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

51. We don't get along well together.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

52. We don't talk to each other when we are angry.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

53. We are generally dissatisfied with the family duties assigned to us.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

54. Even though we mean well, we intrude too much into each others lives.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

55. There are rules about dangerous situations.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

56. We confide in each other.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

57. We cry openly.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

58. We don't have reasonable transport.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

59. When we don't like what someone has done, we tell them.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_

60. We try to think of different ways to solve problems.

\_\_\_\_\_ SA \_\_\_\_\_ A \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_ SD \_\_\_\_\_



BROWN UNIVERSITY *Providence, Rhode Island • 02912*

Division of Biology and Medicine

### BROWN/BUTLER FAMILY RESEARCH PROGRAM

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FAMILY ASSESSMENT DEVICE

1. Each member of your family, over the age of 12, should complete a FAD.
2. Please respond to the items in terms of how you feel your family has been functioning in the past two months.
3. Complete the FAD privately; away from other family members.
4. Do not discuss your responses with your family members.
5. We are interested in your personal view of your family.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FAMILY INFORMATION FORM

1. We also require general information about your family. To help us with this, we ask that either the Husband/Father or Wife/Mother complete the Family Information Form.

When you have completed the Family Assessment Device (FAD) and the Family Information Form, please return to \_\_\_\_\_.



**FAMILY  
ASSESSMENT  
DEVICE**

## **FAMILY INFORMATION FORM**

Only one family member should complete this form.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
day/month/year

For each person ***living in your household***, please list the following information, indicating the nature of each person's role in the house (e.g., husband, wife, son, daughter, sister, friend, grandmother, etc.).

	<b>Family Role</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Religion</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Education Total # of Years In School</b>	<b>Medical/ Psychiatric Problems</b>
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							
5.							
6.							

For each family member or significant other ***not living in the home***, list the following:

	<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Relationship</b>	<b>Religion</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Education Total # of Years In School</b>	<b>Medical/ Psychiatric Problems</b>
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							

**FAMILY INFORMATION FORM**  
**Brown/Butler Family Research Program**

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Present marital status of heads of household: (check all that apply)

	Male	Female
Married only once	( )	( )
Remarried	( )	( )
Single	( )	( )
Never married	( )	( )
Divorced	( )	( )
Separated	( )	( )
Widowed	( )	( )

Number of years in present marital status

Number of previous marriages - (male)

- (female)

Total **family** income (all sources) during past year:

\$ 0 - 9,999 ( )	\$ 50,000 - 59,999 ( )
\$10,000 - 19,999 ( )	\$ 60,000 - 69,999 ( )
\$20,000 - 29,999 ( )	\$ 70,000 - 99,999 ( )
\$30,000 - 39,999 ( )	\$100,000 + ( )
\$40,000 - 49,999 ( )	

Do you identify with any specific ethnic group? If yes, check below the **primary** ethnic group.

Western European (British, French, German, etc.)	( )
Eastern European (Russian, Polish, etc.)	( )
Mediterranean (Italian, Middle Eastern, North African, Greek, Cyprian, etc.)	( )
North American (U.S. American, Canadian)	( )
South American (Central and South American)	( )
African (South African)	( )
Asian or Pacific Islander	( )
Australian/New Zealander	( )

What is your race?

American Indian or Alaskan native	( )
Oriental	( )
Black	( )
Hispanic	( )
White	( )

**The remaining questions are to be answered for the heads of the household.**

As briefly as possible, please describe:

- a) What kind of work you are (or were) engaged in:  
(e.g., electronics engineer, nursing, stock-clerk, farming, etc.)

Male: \_\_\_\_\_

Female: \_\_\_\_\_

- b) Your major or most important activities/duties at work:  
(e.g., keeping the accounts, selling cars, operating printing press, caring for patients, etc.)

Male: \_\_\_\_\_

Female: \_\_\_\_\_

- c) The kind of industry or organization this work is (or was) in:  
(e.g., Radio-TV, manufacturing firm, retail shoe store, general hospital, etc.)

Male: \_\_\_\_\_

Female: \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions on How to Score the FAD

The McMaster Family Assessment Device (FAD) is designed to measure family functioning as described in the McMaster Model of Family Functioning. It is made up of seven scales, one measuring overall family functioning and one for each of the six dimensions of the McMaster Model. Each of the items on the FAD belongs to only one of the seven scales. Some items describe healthy functioning while others describe unhealthy functioning. Table 1 (below) indicates the items for each scale, classified according to whether they describe healthy or unhealthy functioning.

TABLE 1

### Assignment of Items to Scales

	Problem Solving	Communi- cation	Roles	Affective Respon- siveness	Affective Involve- ment	Behavior Control	General Func- tioning
Healthy	2*	3	10	49		20	6
Functioning	12	18	30*	57		32	16
Items	24	29*	40			55	26
	38	43					36
	50	59					46
	60						56
Unhealthy		14	4	9	5	7	1
Functioning		22*	8*	19	13	17	11
Items		35*	15	28	25	27	21
		52	23	39	33	44	31
			34		37	47	41
			45		42	48	51
			53		54		
			58*				

It is important to note the items that are marked in Table 1 with an asterisk. These are the seven items added after the original report which increase the reliability of the three scales while not affecting their intercorrelation with other scales. We have used the 60-item version in all subsequent research and recommend others use this version.

To score the FAD, all responses are coded as follows:

Strongly Agree	=1
Agree	=2
Disagree	=3
Strongly Disagree	=4

Then the score for items describing unhealthy functioning are transformed by subtracting them from 5. This inverts the response scales on the unhealthy items and has the effect of equating a Strongly Agree response to an unhealthy item with a Strongly Disagree response to a healthy item, etc. As a result of this transformation, 1 represents a healthy response and 4 represents an unhealthy response for all items. These scored responses to the items of each scale are averaged to provide seven scale scores each having a possible range from 1.00 (healthy) to 4.00 (unhealthy).\*

The manual FAD scoring sheet we have developed is included. It can be used to score an individual's responses if a computer scoring system is not used. The first step is to score all the answers in the column to the extreme left. The negative items (with an asterisk) are then transformed by subtracting them from 5 and entering them in the second column headed 'transformed score'.

On the right-hand side of the scoring sheet are seven columns of boxes, one column for each of the seven scales. The scale to which an item belongs is indicated by the column in which the box aligned with the item falls. The item scores (transformed scores for unhealthy items) are next transferred to their appropriate boxes. To calculate a scale score, simply add the scores in each column and divide the sum by the number of items in the column that were answered. Scale scores will range from 1.00 (healthy) to 4.00 (unhealthy).

We have also developed a computer program for scoring the FAD. This program provides individual scores and a family mean score, as well as item analyses. It can also be used to administer the FAD to subjects interactively. This scoring program is available for the Macintosh microcomputer, and is designed to be used with Microsoft Basic, which you must own. The cost of our program is \$10.

If you prefer, the Brown/Butler Family Research Program has computer programs to score the FAD for you. These programs generate the seven dimension scale scores for individuals and some family measure scores. The family measure scores are experimental and we have not explored them in detail as of yet. They include median scores for the father, mother, patient, parent, non-parent, and non-patient family members along with maximum, median, and minimum scores for the family. We will score a family and provide a printout of the individual and family scores for a cost of \$5.00 per family. We ask that you send the Family Information Form with the FAD data if you wish to have the data scored by us.

\*If more than 40% of the items for a scale are missing, a scale score is not calculated, it is designated missing.



**FAMILY  
ASSESSMENT  
DEVICE**

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Role: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY ASSESSMENT DEVICE V3 SCORING SHEET**

McMaster Model Dimensions

Response	Transformed Score	Problem Solving	Communi- cation	Roles	Affective Respon- siveness	Affective Involve- ment	Behavior Control	General Functioning
----------	----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------	------------------------

*1	5 - =							
2								
3								
*4	5 - =							
*5	5 - =							
6								
*7	5 - =							
*8	5 - =							
*9	5 - =							
10								
*11	5 - =							
12								
*13	5 - =							
*14	5 - =							
*15	5 - =							
16								
*17	5 - =							
18								
*19	5 - =							
20								
*21	5 - =							
*22	5 - =							
*23	5 - =							
24								
*25	5 - =							
26								
*27	5 - =							
*28	5 - =							
29								
30								

\*1 to health items which are subtracted from 5.

		McMaster Model Dimensions						
Response	Transformed Score	Problem Solving	Communication	Roles	Affective Responsiveness	Affective Involvement	Behavior Control	General Functioning
*31	5 - =							
32								
*33	5 - =							
*34	5 - =							
*35	5 - =							
36								
*37	5 - =							
38								
*39	5 - =							
40								
*41	5 - =							
*42	5 - =							
43								
*44	5 - =							
*45	5 - =							
46								
*47	5 - =							
*48	5 - =							
49								
50								
*51	5 - =							
*52	5 - =							
*53	5 - =							
*54	5 - =							
55								
56								
57								
*58	5 - =							
59								
60								
Sum of the Responses		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Questions Answered		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scale Score		PS	CM	RL	AR	AI	BC	GF