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Self Disclosure Instrument: Instrument Standardization through Rasch Model

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Abstract

The understanding of the extent to which humans can express themselves can be one of the efforts in overcoming various problems that humans face that requires a well-standardized tool. The purpose of this study is to standardize the self-disclosure instrument through the Rasch model. Data collection for this study involved 53 research participants from a high school in Bandung City, West Java. The collected data was then processed and analyzed using the Rasch model with the Winstep application. It was found that out of the 24 initial statement items, 4 did not meet the Rasch model testing criteria. The remaining 20 items could be further utilized in the research. This instrument can then be further utilized in tracing and understanding individual self-disclosure that supports the intervention process to increase self-disclosure.

Keywords: Self-Disclosure; Instrument; Standardization; Rasch; Winstep

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Introduction

Self-disclosure is an ability that every human being has. In simple terms, self-disclosure is a condition of allowing one's self to be known by others around them (Farber, 2006). Self- disclosure can also be understood as any message conveyed about oneself by a person to others (Wheeless & Grotz, 1976; Putra & Mudjiran, 2023). The development of self-disclosure instruments can basically be done in several ways, one of which is through the Rasch model.

The standardization of self-disclosure instruments using the Rasch model offers a promising framework that enhances the psychometric qualities associated with such scales. The Rasch model, grounded in item response theory, provides systematic methods for assessing the validity and reliability of measurement instruments by focusing on the interaction between person abilities and item difficulties (Latifah et al., 2024; Tian et al., 2020). Self-disclosure is inherently linked with various psychological constructs (Schug et al., 2010). Utilizing the Rasch model not only enhances the rigor of assessments but also provides a nuanced understanding of how individuals engage in

self-disclosure across different contexts (Dini et al., 2023). Crucially, the Rasch model allows researchers to derive a linear metric from ordinal data, enabling more robust statistical analyses that can inform both theoretical and practical considerations in self-disclosure research (Tian et al., 2020).

Studies emphasizing the efficacy of the Rasch model highlight its capability in ensuring instruments are calibrated correctly to reflect the underlying latent constructs they aim to measure (Yan, 2020; Yan et al., 2020). For instance, the model checks for dimensionality, ensuring that instruments intended to measure self-disclosure are indeed unidimensional, thus fulfilling a critical requirement for valid measurement (Wahyuningsih, 2021; Yasin et al., 2015). When developing self-disclosure instruments, adherence to the methodological standards set forth by the Rasch model aids in addressing potential biases that could arise from traditional methods. For example, while classical test theory often relies on summative scores and can overlook nuances in data, the Rasch model identifies item fit and differential item functioning (DIF), uncovering disparities in how different groups respond to self-disclosure prompts (Aryadoust et al., 2019; Yasin et al., 2015). This is particularly pertinent in culturally diverse contexts, where relational mobility and variations in social norms can significantly shape self-disclosure behaviors (Mohamed et al., 2021; Schug et al., 2010; Sung et al., 2021; Xie, 2023).

Moreover, the versatility of the Rasch model allows it to be employed in various contexts, evident by its successful applications in psychology, education, health sciences, and social research (Li et al., 2016). Its utility in evaluating educational assessments demonstrates its capability to adapt to diverse measurement needs, much like those found in self-disclosure studies.

Previous research shows that the development and standardization of self-disclosure instruments mostly refer to Jourad's theoretical constructs that are less adaptable to western culture (Bayne, 1977; Hurley & Hurley, 1969; Pedersen & Breglio, 1968). The development of these instruments is also generally developed massively on respondents from abroad with an adult age range (Ferguson et al., 2013; Laban, 2024; Rains et al., 2014). Therefore, this research will be conducted by utilizing other theoretical constructs. The statement items are also then adjusted to the needs of psychological services in the scope of education, especially secondary education in Indonesia.

Standardization of the self-disclosure instrument is then carried out by utilizing the theory of Wheeless & Grotz (1976) which has several dimensions such as Intent, amount, polarity, honesty, and depth that culture-free and adaptable to a wide range of studies and participants (Wheeless, 1976; Wheeless & Grotz, 1976, 1977). The Intent dimension discusses a person's awareness in making self-disclosure related to the conditions experienced to others. The indicator of this dimension is conscious willingness or having a conscious desire to tell oneself to others (Nabity-Grover et al., 2022). The Amount dimension relates to the intensity of how often a person reveals himself and how long it takes a person when revealing himself. This dimension has indicators, namely breadth of information shared or being able to disclose information widely is time spent to share or being able to tell stories for a long duration (Cozby, 1973).

The Polarity dimension deals with a person's polarity tendency in expressing himself. The indicator of this dimension is positive or negative nature or being able to tell about positive or negative things that happen to oneself (Nabity-Grover et al., 2022). The Honesty dimension discusses the suitability and accuracy of the information disclosed regarding the conditions experienced with the conditions that actually occur. The indicator of this dimension is truthful

representation or being able to provide a true picture of oneself (Nabity-Grover et al., 2022). And the last dimension is Depth which discusses how deep a person's self-disclosure is from the topics disclosed to others around. The indicator of this dimension is intimate information or being able to provide in-depth information to others (Nabity-Grover et al., 2022).

Method

This study is a standardization of a self-disclosure instrument based on the theory of Wheeless & Grotz (1976). In their theory, Wheeless & Grotz (1976) explain that self-disclosure is any message conveyed about oneself that is communicated by a person to another person. A Likert scale-based measurement tool was used and developed to assess self-disclosure in this study. Data were collected using a questionnaire. The Likert scale has proven to be effective in measuring the level of self-disclosure (Leung, 2002). Data collection was conducted among students at a school in Bandung, West Java. This study involved 53 students who voluntarily and willingly provided data and information about themselves. Of the 53 students, 20 were female and 33 were male. All students were in the 11th grade of high school. 31 students were from science majors and 22 students were from social studies majors. 21 students were 16 years old while 32 were 17 years old. The research instrument then went through a series of processes before being analyzed in the Rasch model. This instrument has then gone through a readability test and also expert judgment. After obtaining input from the process, data collection was carried out and analyzed empirically using the Rasch model through the Winstep application. Several tests were involved in this study, such as scale accuracy testing, item validity testing, reliability testing, and unidimensionality testing (Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015). The tests conducted can be seen in the following section.

Results and Discussion

The measuring instrument to assess self-disclosure in this study was developed based on the theory proposed by Wheeless & Grotz (1976), which identifies various important dimensions, such as quantity, honesty, polarity, depth, and encouragement. This instrument is designed to measure various aspects of self-disclosure in the context of interactions between individuals.

No.	Dimensions	Dimensions Indicator		Item No.		
			Fav	Unfav	IN	
1.	Intent	Conscious Willingness				
	(Encouragement to	Having a conscious desire to tell	1,2,	3,4	4	
	Open Up)	others about oneself				
2.		Breadth of Information Shared				
	Amount	Able to express information	5,6	7,8	4	
	(Quantity of	widely				
	Openness)	Time Spent to Share	0.10	11 10	4	
		Able to tell stories of long duration	9,10	11,12	4	
3.	Polarity	Positive or Negative Nature	12.14 15.16		4	
rolarity		Able to tell about positive or	13,14	13, 16	4	

Table 1. Instrument Lattice of Self-Disclosure based on Theory Constructs

		negative things that happen to				
		yourself				
4.		Truthful Representation			4	
	Honesty	Able to give a true picture of	17, 18	19, 20		
		oneself				
5.		Intimate Information			4	
	Depth	Able to provide in-depth	21, 22	23, 24		
		information to others.				
Total	Total 12 12 2					

. In this study, the scale was applied to formulate the statements included in the instrument, which can be seen in the following items.

|--|

Scoring	Value	
	Favorable	Unfavorable
Very Appropriate	5	1
Appropriate	4	2
Less Appropriate	3	3
Not Appropriate	2	4
Very Inappropriate	1	5

The instrument then went through a series of tests. The first test carried out is the analysis of scale accuracy using the Rasch model with the help of Winsteps software. The results of this scale accuracy analysis can be seen in the following diagram

CATEG	ORY (OBSER	VED	OBSVD S	SAMPLE	INFIT O	UTFIT	ANDRICH	CATEGORY	
LABEL	SCORE	COUN	T %	AVRGE	EXPECT	MNSQ	MNSQ	THRESHOLD	MEASURE	
			+	+	+		+-	+	+	
1	1	135	11	-1.00	-1.15	1.13	1.08	NONE	(-3.23)	1
2	2	395	31	85	73	.77	.78	-2.02	-1.31	2
3	3	295	23	10	14	.86	.85	15	04	3
4	4	349	27	.68	.56	.84	.83	.04	1.29	4
5	5	98	8	.90	1.16	1.37	1.34	2.14	(3.32)	5

Figure 1: Scale Accuracy Test



The main assessment of scale fidelity focused on the mean observed value and the Andrich threshold index. Ideally, these two indicators show an increase in the logit value, indicating that participants can understand the answer options well in the self-disclosure instrument. In addition, an additional criterion that needs to be considered is the range of changes in the Andrich threshold value, which does not exceed 5.0 and then not less than 1.4. If the value moves and changes beyond 5.0, then the answer category needs to be combined(Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015)

In this analysis, the change from category 1 to 2 amounts to 2.02. The change from category 2 to 3 is 1.87. The change from category 3 to 4 is 0.19. And the change from category 4 to 5 amounts to 2.10. All category changes are sufficient for the range of 1.4-5.0. However, the change from category 3 to 4 does not fit the range of 1.4-5.0 (0.19 < 1.4). This can also be seen in Figure 2. Where answer choice 3 does not form a peak while other answer choices have peaks. Based on this condition, the scale options in the self-disclosure instrument were changed to four answer choices. After making changes, the results of the scale accuracy test can be seen as follows.

										-
CATEGO	ORY (DBSER	/ED	OBSVD S	SAMPLE	INFIT O	UTFIT	ANDRICH	CATEGORY	
LABEL	SCORE	COUNT	r %	AVRGE E	EXPECT	MNSQ	MNSQ	THRESHOLD	MEASURE	
1	1	135	11	-1.28	-1.43	1.13	1.15	NONE	(-3.44)	1
2	2	395	31	94	76	.77	.73	-2.20	-1.46	2
3	3	644	51	.56	.43	.84	.85	69	1.14	3
4	4	98	8	1.19	1.51	1.26	1.18	2.89	(4.01)	4

Figure 3: Re-test of Scale Appropriateness



The scale fit diagram after the retest looks as follows.



Figure 3 and Figure 4 show that each answer choice forms its own peak and has met the logit criteria of 1.4-5.0, indicating an appropriate distribution of respondents to each category. This finding indicates that the answer categories have been arranged appropriately and proportionally. Based on the results of the scale suitability test, the choice of answer categories and the scoring system used in the new self-disclosure instrument are known as follows.

Answer Options	V	alue
	Favorable	Unfavorable
Very Appropriate	4	1
Appropriate	3	2
Not Appropriate	2	3
Very Inappropriate	1	4

Table 4. Choice of Answer Categories and Scoring Guidelines for the Self-Disclosure Instrument after the Scale Suitability Test

After the items on the self-disclosure instrument pass the scale suitability test, the next step is to test the validity of the items. This test is carried out using the Rasch model with the help of the Winsteps application. In the validity test process, there are a number of criteria that must be met so that an item in the instrument can then be declared valid. The criteria are as follows(Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015)

- 1. Accepted MNSQ values fall within the range of 0.5 < MNSQ < 1.5.
- 2. The accepted ZSTD value falls within the range -2.0 < ZSTD < +2.0.
- 3. Accepted Pt Measure Corr values are within the range of 0.4 < Pt Measure Corr < 0.85.

An item is considered valid if it meets at least one to two of the three criteria (Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015). In addition, if the MNSQ value is within the appropriate range, then the item

can generally be accepted as valid, even without having to meet the other two criteria (Boone et al., 2014). The results of the item validity test on the self-disclosure instrument can be seen in the following figure.

ENTRY	TOTAL	TOTAL		MODEL IN		TEIT PT-MEA	SURE [E	XACT MATCH	
NUMBER	SCORE	COUNT	MEASURE	S.E. [MNSQ	ZSTDIMNSQ	ZSTD CORR.	EXP. 0	OBS% EXP%	I TLEW I
	433						+-		+
1 19	133	53	.28	.22 1.75	3.4 1.66	2.9 A .39	.32	43.4 55.5	119
4	113	53	1.13	.2011.53	2.911.58	3.2 813	.34 4	43.4 49.0	14
16	124	53	.67	.21 1.49	2.6 1.55	2.8 C3/	.33	32.1 50.3	116
2	163	53	-1.4/	.26 1.44	1./[1.3/	1.5 0.20	.26	69.8 /1.3	12
6	158	53	-1.13	.26 1.38	1.5 1.30	1.2 E .34	.26	67.9 /1.9	16
22	111	53	1.21	.201.18	1.2 1.18	1.2 F .55	.34	34.0 49.1	122
20	136	53	.13	.22 1.02	.21.04	.2 G .64	.31	62.3 57.1	120
14	147	53	45	.24 .99	.0 .94	2 H .47	.28	67.9 66.6	I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
24	107	53	1.37	.20 .93	4 .95	3 I .27	.34	50.9 48.6	124
17	171	53	-2.03	.26 .95	2 .95	2 J .09	.26	73.6 66.2	I17
5	140	53	07	.23 .94	2 .92	3 K .43	.30	67.9 59.6	15
9	151	53	68	.25 .93	2 .93	2 L .11	.27	79.2 69.3	19
12	110	53	1.25	.20 .85	9 .86	9 1 .67	.34 4	47.2 48.7	I12
15	110	53	1.25	.20 .85	9 .86	9 k .67	.34 4	47.2 48.7	I15
23	125	53	.63	.21 .86	8 .86	8 j .19	.33	62.3 50.2	I23
13	160	53	-1.27	.26 .82	7 .81	8 i .28	.26	75.5 71.9	I13
10	164	53	-1.54	.26 .81	8 .81	8 h .26	.26	75.5 70.9	I10
18	169	53	-1.89	.26 .78	-1.1 .78	-1.1 g .26	.26	73.6 67.8	I18
8	109	53	1.29	.20 .78	-1.5 .78	-1.5 f .57	.34	52.8 48.7	18
1 7	133	53	.28	.22 .74	-1.5 .73	-1.5 e .65	.32	73.6 55.5	17
j 11	101	53	1.61	.20 .73	-1.9 .74	-1.8 d01	.34	69.8 48.5	I I I I
i 21	145	53	33	.24 .72	-1.4 .64	-1.8 c .46	.29	83.0 64.2	i 121 i
i 3	101	53	1.61	.20 .63	-2.7 .65	-2.5 b .03	.34	73.6 48.5	і із і
1 1	168	53	-1.82	.26 .62	-2.0 .62	-2.0 a07	.26	83.0 68.6	I I I
·									+
MEAN	135.4	53.0	.00	.23 .99	298	2	i i	62.9 58.6	ı i
S.D.	23.4	.0	1.20	.03 .30	1.6 .30	1.5		14.9 9.3	i i

Figure 5. Item Validity Test with Rach Model

Based on the results of the item validity test that has been carried out, there are a number of items that meet the validity criteria and a number of items that are rejected or invalid so that they are discarded in the self-disclosure instrument. The details of the items are presented as follows.

No.	Description	Item Number	Total
1.	Valid Items	1,2,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,17,18,20,21,22,2	20
		3,24	
2.	Invalid Items	19,4,16,3	4
Total			24

Table 5. Results of Validity Test of Self-Identification Instrument Items

The validity test results illustrate that there are 20 items that are then acceptable and four items that are not acceptable. The four items are invalid because based on the Rasch model analysis they are only able to meet one criterion of the three criteria that have been set previously. so that these items cannot follow the further analysis process in the Rasch model. After passing the validity test, the self-disclosure instrument was then tested for reliability. The reliability test was conducted using the Rasch model through the help of the Winsteps application. Through this approach, the reliability test results include three main aspects, namely person reliability, item reliability, and Cronbach's alpha. The data of the test results are presented as follows.

S.E. OF ITEM MEAN = .31

_										_
		TOTAL SCORE	COUNT	MEASURE	MODEL ERROR	MN	INFIT SQ ZSTD	OUTF: MNSQ	IT ZSTD	
	MEAN S.D. MAX.	54.3 4.9 64.0	21.0 .0 21.0	.07 .71 1.53	.38 .01 .41	2.	993 54 1.8 70 4.0	.98 .55 2.45	3 1.8 3.4	ļ
	MIN. REAL MODEL S.E.	42.0 RMSE .42 RMSE .38 OF PERSON M	21.0 TRUE SD TRUE SD EAN = .10	-1.64 .57 SEP4 .60 SEP4	.37 ARATION ARATION	1.36 1.57	23 -3.7 PERSON REI PERSON REI	.23 LIABILITY LIABILITY	-3.5 .65 .71	
F	PERSON RAW SCORE-TO-MEASURE CORRELATION = 1.00 CRONBACH ALPHA (KR-20) PERSON RAW SCORE "TEST" RELIABILITY = .70 SUMMARY OF 21 MEASURED ITEM									
		TOTAL SCORE	COUNT	MEASURE	MODEL ERROR	MN:	INFIT SQ ZSTD	OUTF: MNSQ	IT ZSTD	
	MEAN S.D. MAX. MIN.	137.1 24.4 171.0 101.0	53.0 .0 53.0 53.0	.00 1.40 1.92 -2.14	.24 .03 .28 .21	1.	991 20 .9 49 1.9 69 -1.6	.98 .18 1.39 .70	1 .9 1.5 -1.4	
	REAL MODEL	RMSE .25 RMSE .24	TRUE SD TRUE SD	1.37 SEP/ 1.38 SEP/	ARATION ARATION	5.42 5.63	ITEM REI	LIABILITY LIABILITY	.97 .97	

Figure 6. Reliability Test of Self-Disclosure Instrument in Rasch Model

Based on the results of reliability testing and reliability criteria that have been carried out, the reliability test results show an alpha Cronbach value of 0.70, which indicates a good category. The reliability of the items obtained is 0.97, which is in the very good category. Furthermore, the unidimensionality test was carried out. This test is used to ascertain whether the instrument that has been prepared can measure the self-disclosure of the research respondents appropriately (Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015) . The results of the unidimensionality test on the instrument are shown in the following figure.

Table of STANDARDIZED RESIDUAL va	riance (i	in Eigen	value u	nits)	
		Em	pirical		Modeled
Total raw variance in observations	=	38.5	100.0%		100.0%
Raw variance explained by measures	=	17.5	45.4%		44.8%
Raw variance explained by persons	=	3.2	8.4%		8.2%
Raw Variance explained by items	=	14.3	37.1%		36.6%
Raw unexplained variance (total)	=	21.0	54.6%	100.0%	55.2%
Unexplned variance in 1st contrast	=	3.3	8.7%	15.9%	
Unexplned variance in 2nd contrast	: =	2.7	6.9%	12.6%	
Unexplned variance in 3rd contrast	=	2.3	5.9%	10.9%	
Unexplned variance in 4th contrast	: =	1.9	5.0%	9.1%	
Unexplned variance in 5th contrast	=	1.5	4.0%	7.3%	

Figure 7. Results of Unidimensionality Test through Rach Model

The results show that in the raw variance explained by measured section, the value obtained is 45.4%. This shows that the self-disclosure instrument has met the minimum requirements for the unidimensionality test, which is 20% (Sumintono & Widhiarso,2015) . In addition, the unexplained variance in 1st contrast section, the recorded value is 8.7%, which has also met the minimum requirement, which is below 15% (x < 15%). Based on these results, it can be concluded that the developed self-disclosure instrument successfully describes the respondents' self-disclosure (Sumintono & Widhiarso, 2015) . So that the final results of the lattice of self-disclosure instruments that have gone through empirical testing look as follows.

http://bk.ppj.unp.ac.id/index.php/ijacss/index

No.	Dimensions	Indicator	Item No.		N
			Fav	Unfav	IN
1.	Intent	Conscious Willingness			
	(Encourageme	Having a conscious desire to tell	1,2	-	2
	nt to Open Up)	others about oneself			
2.	<i>Amount</i> (Quantity of Openness)	<i>Breadth of Information Shared</i> Able to express information widely	5,6	7,8	4
		<i>Time Spent to Share</i> Able to tell stories of long duration	9,10	11,12	4
3.	Polarity	<i>Positive or Negative Nature</i> Able to tell about positive or negative things that happen to yourself	13,14	15	3
4.	Honesty	<i>Truthful Representation</i> Able to give a true picture of oneself	17,18	20	3
5.		Intimate Information			
	Depth	Able to provide in-depth information to others.	21, 22	23,24	4
Total	1	_ · · · · · ·	12	8	20

Table 6. Self- Disclosure Instrument Lattice after Empirical Test

Based on table 6, it is known that four out of twenty-four items do not meet the criteria for standardizing instruments with the Rasch model through the Winstep application. While the remaining 20 have met the criteria in the Rasch model and can be used further in the research process and data collection. Each part of the indicator has then been represented by certain items. The 20 items based on the Rasch model have the ability to reveal self-disclosure, especially in high school students in accordance with the research participants who have been determined in the study.

Conclusion

The standardization of the self-disclosure instrument shows that most items in the instrument meet the Rasch model criteria and can be used in the further studies. Several processes that have been carried out, such as scale accuracy testing, item validity testing, reliability testing, and unidimensionality testing, help researchers understand each item well and check the suitability of the instrument in the Rasch model.

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