



LPI

Life Perspective Inventory

Interpreting your LPI Profile

Profile Information

Life Perspective Inventory (LPI)

The **Life Perspective Inventory** measures an individual's point of view. Perspective is the context upon which a person views their opinions, attitudes, and experiences in life. Since perspective is subjective it reflects the individual's perception and may have varying degrees of accuracy when compared with objective (or externally validated) perception. The items on this inventory gather input data from the individual's self report on various aspects of intrapersonal (individual) and interpersonal (social) aspects of life at this point in time. Each item of the inventory allows the person to choose between contrasting descriptors utilizing a five-point scale from a more negative viewpoint to a more positive position for each item.

Interpretation

This inventory summarizes individual responses about one's perspective toward various actions, interactions, decisions, and outcomes at the point in time when the inventory was taken. The responses are then reported in a profile of mean (averaged) scores on two scales and one experimental scale. Explanations of these scales are provided below. All scale scores reflect the point where one falls on the negative to positive continuum for that individual. Normative information to compare the individual with a criterion group has not been established. These results should not be used as an interpretive measure to determine "right" or "wrong" thinking, as a predictor of future success, or an index of perceptual accuracy. However, research has shown that perspective will have some impact toward enhancing or inhibiting behavior, emotions, and potential outcomes. For example, the metaphor of viewing the glass as "half empty" or "half full" may impact a person's willingness to act or to not act when facing a decision. The LPI is an experimental instrument in that group data collected in various studies will help the researchers learn more about how life perspective may have an impact upon decisions, emotions, actions, and outcomes. It is also useful to stimulate reflection and discussion on personal life perspective.

Scores on Personal Effectiveness and Social Support

Scores on the LPI are reflected through two validated scales and one experimental scale that have been factor analyzed to discriminate differences between types of items.

- **PE Scale** – measures perception of **Personal Effectiveness** (intrapersonal including attitudes, behaviors, and anticipatory outcomes)
- **SS scale** – measures **Social Support** (interpersonal including relationships and outside support).
- **RSB (Religious and Spiritual Beliefs) Score** – summarizes responses about Religious and Spiritual Outlook. At this point **RSB** is an experimental score without empirical validation as a scale score.

Scale Interpretations

1. **Personal Effectiveness Scale** (Alpha=.805) Personal Effectiveness includes items that feature personal perspectives such as attitudes, behaviors and anticipated outcomes for self. Mean scores on this scale derive from seven intrapersonal items. The mean score of the seven items could vary from very low (1.0) to very high (5.0). The score of 3.0 would be considered a neutral point on the continuum. Anything above 3.1 would be more positive than negative and anything below 2.9 would be on the negative side of the continuum.
2. **Social Support Scale** (Alpha=.756) Social Support is composed of five items which summarize relationship with other peoples or resources outside of oneself. Scores on this scale reflect the individual's perspective on the quality of external support available. Again utilizing the 5 point scale with lowest scores equal 1.0 and highest scores equaling 5.0, the neutral or middle score would be a 3.0.
3. **Religious/Spiritual Beliefs** (experimental items) These items presently do not qualify as a scale but are included to determine if convictions about purpose and meaning deriving from a higher order or an established religious conviction are factors in a person's perspective and action upon life. Future research will determine how this can be interpreted.