Handbook of Sexuality-Related Measures

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Hurlbert Index of Sexual Narcissism

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The Hurlbert Index of Sexual Narcissism (HISN) is described by Hurlbert, Apt, Gasar, Wilson, and Murphy (1994).

### Exhibit

**Hurlbert Index of Sexual Narcissism**

1. In sex, I like to be the one in charge.
2. My partner has difficulty understanding my sexual needs.
3. In general, most people take sex too seriously.
4. When it comes to sex, I consider myself a knowledgeable person.
5. In a close relationship, sex is an entitlement.
6. I believe I have a special style of making love.
7. I think people have the right to do anything they please in sex.
8. My partner tends to place too many emotional demands on me.
9. Pleasing yourself in sex is most important because it is hard to please someone sexually if you do not know how to please yourself first.
10. A relationship can keep one from engaging in a lot of fulfilling sexual activities.
11. Not enough people have sex for fun anymore.
12. I have no sexual inhibitions.
13. Too much relationship closeness can interfere with sexual pleasure.
14. In certain situations, sexually cheating on a partner is justifiable.
15. I think I am better at sex than most people my age.
16. In a close relationship, I would expect my partner to fulfill my sexual wishes.
17. My partner seldom gives me the sexual praise I deserve.
18. In a relationship where I commit myself, sex is a right.
19. In order to have a good sexual relationship, at least one partner needs to take charge.
20. Relationships that are too close are often too demanding.
21. When it comes to sex, not enough people live for the moment.
22. I know some pretty unique sexual techniques.
23. Emotional closeness can easily get in the way of sexual pleasure.
24. Couples should leave a relationship when they find sex to no longer be enjoyable.
25. In a close relationship, if a sexual act feels good, it is right.

**Note.** Respondents are asked to write in their choices. Scoring is based on the following choices: SA = I strongly agree (+4); A = I agree (+3); U = I am undecided (+2); D = I disagree (+1); SD = I strongly disagree (+0). Scores range from 0 to 100, with higher scores corresponding to greater sexual narcissism.

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