Handbook of Sexuality-Related Measures

Terri D. Fisher, Clive M. Davis, William L. Yarber, Sandra L. Davis

Cross-Gender Fetishism Scale

Publication details
Ray Blanchard
Published online on: 12 Aug 2010

How to cite :- Ray Blanchard. 12 Aug 2010, Cross-Gender Fetishism Scale from: Handbook of Sexuality-Related Measures Routledge
Accessed on: 31 Aug 2023

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR DOCUMENT

Full terms and conditions of use: https://www.routledgehandbooks.com/legal-notices/terms

This Document PDF may be used for research, teaching and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproductions, re-distribution, re-selling, loan or sub-licensing, systematic supply or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden.

The publisher does not give any warranty express or implied or make any representation that the contents will be complete or accurate or up to date. The publisher shall not be liable for an loss, actions, claims, proceedings, demand or costs or damages whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with or arising out of the use of this material.
Cross-Gender Fetishism Scale

RAY BLANCHARD, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health

The Cross-Gender Fetishism Scale (CGFS; Blanchard, 1985) is a measure (for males) of the erotic arousal value of putting on women’s clothes, perfume, and make-up, and shaving the legs. The term cross-gender fetishism was coined by Freund, Steiner, and Chan (1982) to designate fetishistic activity that is accompanied by fantasies of being female and carried out with objects symbolic of femininity. It is therefore roughly equivalent to the term transvestism as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (American Psychiatric Association, 1980).

Description

The CGFS is primarily intended to discriminate fetishistic from nonfetishistic cross-dressers (e.g., gender dysphorics, transsexuals, “drag queens,” self-labeled transvestites). All items, however, contain one response option appropriate for non-cross-dressing males, so that it may be administered to control samples as well.

The scale is a self-administered, multiple-choice questionnaire. It contains 11 items: 6 with three response options and 5 with two options. Scoring weights for these response options were determined with the optimal scaling procedure for multiple-choice items outlined by Nishisato (1980). This procedure directly determines the set of scoring weights that optimizes the alpha reliability of a scale for a given population. This analysis, as well as others yielding psychometric information reported below, was carried out on 99 adult male patients of the behavioral sexology department or gender identity clinic of a psychiatric teaching hospital. All had reported that they felt like females at least when cross-dressed, if not more generally.

Response Mode and Timing

Examinees may check or circle the response option of their choice. They are instructed to endorse one and only one response option per item. Examinees are permitted to ask for clarification on the meaning of an item. The CGFS was intended to round out a larger battery of erotic preference and gender identity measures (see the paper by Freund and Blanchard elsewhere in this volume) and should not, by itself, take longer than 1 or 2 minutes to complete.

Scoring

The scoring weight for each response option is shown in parentheses in the accompanying exhibit. Because empirically derived scoring weights can vary from sample to sample, users might wish to substitute the scoring weights given here with a simple dichotomous scheme: 1 for each positive response and 0 for each negative one.

The total score is simply the (algebraic) sum of scores on the 11 individual items. Higher (i.e., more positive) scores indicate a more extensive history of cross-gender fetishism.

Reliability

Blanchard (1985), using the scoring weight presented here, found an alpha reliability coefficient of .95.

Validity

Blanchard (1985) found that two factors with eigenvalues greater than 1.0 emerged from principal components analysis, accounting for 68% and 9% of the total variance. The part-remainder correlations ranged from .56 to .89.

Blanchard (1985) demonstrated the expected strong association (within the clinical population previously described) between high scores on the CGFS and heterosexual partner preference. Blanchard, Clemmensen, and Steiner (1985), predicting that heterosexual male gender patients motivated to create a favorable impression at clinical assessment would tend to minimize their history of fetishistic arousal in their self-reports, found a high significant correlation of −.48 between the CGFS and the Crowne-Marlowe (1964) Social Desirability Scale. The correlation between these two measures among homosexual gender patients—who rarely or never have fetishistic histories—was virtually zero.

Other Information

No permission or fee is required to use the CGFS.

References


1Address correspondence to Ray Blanchard, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, 250 College Street, Toronto, Ontario M5T 1R8, Canada; e-mail: Ray_Blanchard@camh.net
Exhibit

**Cross-Gender Fetishism Scale**

Instructions to Subjects

The following questions ask about your experiences in dressing or making up as the opposite sex. These questions are meant to include experiences you may have had during puberty or early adolescence as well as more recent experiences.

Please circle one and only one answer to each question. If you are not sure of the meaning of a question, you may ask the person giving the questionnaire to explain it to you. There is no time limit for answering these questions.

1. Have you ever felt sexually aroused when putting on women's underwear, stockings, or a nightgown?
   a. Yes (1.0)
   b. No (–1.1)
   c. Have never put on any of these (–1.1)

2. Have you ever felt sexually aroused when putting on women's shoes or boots?
   a. Yes (1.5)
   b. No (–.7)
   c. Have never put on either of these (–.7)

3. Have you ever felt sexually aroused when putting on women's jewelry or outer garments (blouse, skirt, dress, etc.)?
   a. Yes (1.2)
   b. No (–1.0)
   c. Have never put on any of these (–1.0)

4. Have you ever felt sexually aroused when putting on women's perfume or make-up, or when shaving your legs?
   a. Yes (1.3)
   b. No (–.8)
   c. Have never done any of these (–.8)

5. Have you ever masturbated while thinking of yourself putting on (or wearing) women's underwear, stockings, or a nightgown?
   a. Yes (1.1)
   b. No (–1.0)

6. Have you ever masturbated while thinking of yourself putting on (or wearing) women's shoes or boots?
   a. Yes (1.7)
   b. No (–.4)

7. Have you ever masturbated while thinking of yourself putting on (or wearing) women's jewelry or outer garments?
   a. Yes (1.4)
   b. No (–.8)

8. Have you ever masturbated while thinking of yourself putting on (or wearing) women's perfume or make-up, or while thinking of yourself shaving your legs (or having shaved legs)?
   a. Yes (1.5)
   b. No (–.7)

9. Has there ever been a period in your life of one year (or longer) during which you always or usually felt sexually aroused when putting on female underwear or clothing?
   a. Yes (1.1)
   b. No (–1.0)
   c. Have never put on female underwear or clothing (–1.0)
10. Has there ever been a period in your life of one year (or longer) during which you always or usually masturbated if you put on female underwear or clothing?
   a. Yes (1.2)
   b. No (−0.8)
   c. Have never put on female underwear or clothing (−0.8)

11. Have you ever put on women’s clothes or make-up for the main purpose of becoming sexually excited and masturbating?
   a. Yes (1.3)
   b. No (−0.4)

Attitudes About Sadomasochism Scale
MEGAN R. YOST, Dickinson College

The Attitudes About Sadomasochism Scale (ASMS; Yost, 2010) assesses stereotypical and prejudicial attitudes about individuals involved in consensual, sexual sadomasochism. Sadomasochism (SM), in this context, refers to the safe and consensual sexual activities of an adult subculture that practices bondage, discipline, domination, submission, sadism, and masochism as part of their sexual interactions (Scott, 1980; Weinberg, Williams, & Moser, 1984). Many SM activists claim that identifying as a sadomasochist is similar to identifying as a lesbian, gay man, or bisexual, in that SM is an identity that defines their sexuality and their preferred manner of sexual interaction (Taylor & Ussher, 2001). Others argue that SM is best conceptualized as a set of sexual practices or activities, with no implication for identity (Langdridge, 2006). In either case, prejudicial attitudes about such individuals have begun to be documented (Wright, 2006), just as prejudice and discrimination against individuals based on sexual orientation have been well documented over the past few decades (Herek & Capitanio, 1996).

Psychotherapists reporting discomfort working with clients who engage in SM (Ford & Hendrick, 2003), and reports of therapist bias from SM practitioners seeking therapy (Kolmes, Stock, & Moser, 2006), indicate a need for greater understanding about SM within the mental health professions. Furthermore, recent custody cases in which a parent’s involvement in SM is used as evidence of unfit parenting (Klein & Moser, 2006), and raids in which police charge consenting adults with lewd behavior, nudity, and assault for engaging in SM in semiprivate settings (Ridinger, 2006), demonstrate anti-SM bias in the legal system.

The ASMS is a multidimensional measure of prejudicial attitudes about sadomasochism, which provides a reliable and valid means of assessing such prejudice. It is a useful tool to examine the prevalence of anti-SM attitudes, particularly among populations that come into contact with SM practitioners in settings where discriminatory attitudes could have serious consequences. By using the ASMS to survey these attitudes, educational programs could specifically address the anti-SM bias held by psychotherapists, lawyers, judges, and the police. More broadly, this measure is a useful tool for sex researchers and social scientists interested in discrimination against sexual minorities.

Description

The ASMS is a 23-item measure that was developed using a sample of 213 participants and validated using a sample of 258 participants. In the first sample, 58 items were administered and explored through factor analysis. After deleting items that lacked variance or loaded highly on multiple factors, an exploratory factor analysis yielded four subscales: Socially Wrong (the belief that SM behavior is morally wrong and socially undesirable); Violence (linking SM activity to violence against an unwilling partner); Lack of Tolerance (suggesting that SM can be an acceptable form of sexuality among willing partners [reverse scored]); and Real Life (the belief that SM practitioners carry their SM interests into their daily lives). Confirmatory factor analysis using a second sample further supported the structure of the ASMS, with fit indices above .90 indicating that the four-structure model adequately fit the data.

1Address correspondence to Megan R. Yost, Department of Psychology, Dickinson College, P. O. Box 1773, Carlisle, PA 17013; e-mail: yostm@dickinson.edu