

# TCU CTS 3

## Criminal Thinking Scales

### *Scales and Item Scoring Guide*

**Scoring Instructions.** Items shown below from this assessment are *re-grouped by scales*, and response categories are 1=Strongly Disagree to 5=Strongly Agree. Scores for *each scale* are calculated as follows (and no more than half of the items for any scale can be missing).

1. Find and reverse the scoring for reflected items (i.e., those designated with ®) by subtracting the response value (1 to 5) for this item from “6”, (e.g., if the response is “2”, the *revised* score is “4” [i.e., 6-2=4])
2. Sum the response values of all non-missing items for each scale,
3. Divide the sum of item responses by the number of items included (yielding an average),
4. Multiply this average by 10 (in order to *rescale* the score so it ranges from 10 to 50) (e.g., an average response of “2.6” for a scale therefore becomes a score of “26”).

**A. Insensitivity to Impact of Crime Scale (IN)**

1. It is okay to commit crime to pay for the things you want
8. It is okay to lie and manipulate others to get what you want
15. Breaking the law is no big deal if you do not physically harm someone
22. It is okay to commit a crime to live the life you deserve
27. You justify the crimes you commit by telling yourself that if you had not done it, someone else would have
32. The victims of some of your crimes were asking for it

**B. Response Disinhibition Scale (RD)**

3. When you are upset, you act without thinking
9. When you feel rejected, you say things that you later regret
16. It is hard for you to resist acting on your emotions
21. When you are upset, you make matters worse because you act without thinking
23. When you feel overwhelmed, you have a difficult time making good decisions
25. When you are angry, you do things that have negative or bad consequences
36. When you are angry, you do not think of the consequences of your actions

**C. Justification Scale (JU)**

- 4. When you are arrested or locked-up, it's because you had a run of bad luck
- 11. When asked about your motives for engaging in crime, you point out how hard your life has been
- 17. You find yourself blaming the victims of some of your crimes
- 28. You are not to blame for everything you have done
- 33. You find yourself blaming society and external circumstances for your problems with the justice system

**D. Power Orientation Scale (PO)**

- 6. If someone disrespects you, then you have to straighten them out
- 13. You must get back at people who mess with you
- 18. You are willing to take advantage of others to get what you want
- 24. The only way to protect yourself is to be ready to fight
- 31. You feel the need to get back at someone who disrespects you

**E. Grandiosity Scale (GR)**

- 7. You should not be held responsible for the crimes you have committed
- 14. You expect to be treated better than the people around you
- 19. Your thoughts and ideas are better than the people around you
- 30. You deserve to live a better life than the people around you
- 34. You become upset when people do not do what you tell them to do

**F. Social Desirability Scale (SD)\***

- 5. You have never deliberately said something that hurt someone's feelings
- 10. You are sometimes irritated by people who ask favors of you ®
- 12. When you do not know something, you do not at all mind admitting it
- 20. You are always willing to admit it when you make a mistake
- 26. You can remember "playing sick" to get out of something ®
- 29. No matter who you are talking to, you are always a good listener
- 35. You sometimes get mad when you do not get your way ®

\* Selected items from Crowne, D. P., & Marlowe, D. (1960). A new scale of social desirability independent of psychopathology. *Journal of Consulting Psychology*, 24(4), 349.

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