

# Empathy for Children Scale

L'ECS est fondée sur la Child Molester Empathy Measure (CMEM ; Fernandez et Marshall, 2003 ; Fernandez, Marshall, Lightbody et O'Sullivan, 1999), en ce sens qu'elle utilise les mêmes trois scénarios pour évaluer l'empathie pour les enfants victimes à l'aide de deux sous-échelles (empathie cognitive et empathie émotionnelle) pour chaque scénario. Toutefois, comme l'ECS a été spécialement conçu pour être administré à des non-délinquants pédophiles, le scénario original "propre victime d'abus sexuel d'enfant" a été modifié pour offrir une propre victime fantasmée. Les modifications apportées aux scénarios ont également permis d'améliorer la comparabilité des scénarios. En outre, l'ECS évalue les données concernant l'âge et le sexe de la propre victime (fantasmée) et de la victime imaginée d'un abus sexuel général. Avec 75 items évalués sur des échelles de type Likert à 5 points, l'ECS est moins complexe à évaluer pour les répondants et plus économique à administrer (le CMEM comporte 150 items et utilise des échelles de type Likert à 11 points). Des scores plus élevés indiquent une plus grande empathie. En raison de sa conception, il peut être utilisé dans des contextes médico-légaux et non médico-légaux. Son utilisation n'est donc pas limitée aux personnes dont les victimes sont connues, comme les délinquants sexuels condamnés. L'instrument est disponible en anglais, en français et en allemand (Feelgood & Schaefer, 2005).

## **Mode et délai de réponse**

Pour chaque item, les répondants doivent encrer le chiffre (0-4 ; 0 = pas du tout ; 4 = beaucoup) qui décrit le mieux comment, à leur avis, l'enfant pourrait se sentir (empathie cognitive) et ce qu'ils ressentent lorsqu'ils imaginent ce que l'enfant a vécu (empathie émotionnelle). Il faut généralement 20 à 30 minutes pour remplir l'instrument.

## **Cotation**

Les items de chaque sous-échelle sont additionnés pour former les scores totaux. Les items 4 et 7 sont notés à l'envers pour l'empathie cognitive, et les items 1, 8 et 9 sont notés à l'envers pour l'empathie émotionnelle. Il est possible d'obtenir un score global d'empathie pour chaque scénario en additionnant simplement les scores totaux d'empathie cognitive et émotionnelle pour les scénarios respectifs.

## Empathy for Children Scale

Instructions: In the following you will find three short stories. You will be asked to indicate at first how you believe the child in the story feels, and afterwards how you feel when thinking about the child.

### Story 1:

Imagine a child that was badly injured in road traffic and had to spend some time in hospital. The child is now out of hospital and will live with a permanent disability.

In your opinion, how may the child feel or have felt, what may it experience or have experienced while in hospital and afterwards? For each of the following descriptions, please circle the number that best indicates the child's experience.

The child . . . . Not at all Very Much

1. feels guilty.	0	1	2	3	4
2. feels sad.	0	1	2	3	4
3. feels angry.	0	1	2	3	4
4. is self-confident.	0	1	2	3	4
5. has nightmares.	0	1	2	3	4
6. has suicidal thoughts.	0	1	2	3	4
7. is successful in school.	0	1	2	3	4

8. has sleep disturbances.	0	1	2	3	4
9. feels lonely.	0	1	2	3	4
10. is withdrawn from others.	0	1	2	3	4
11. has psychological problems.	0	1	2	3	4
12. feels helpless.	0	1	2	3	4
13. is suffering.	0	1	2	3	4
14. is tense.	0	1	2	3	4
15. feels ashamed.	0	1	2	3	4

Now please circle the number that best indicates how you feel when imagining what the child experienced.

I feel . . . / I am . . . Not at all Very Much

1. cheerful.	0	1	2	3	4
2. furious.	0	1	2	3	4
3. disturbed.	0	1	2	3	4

4. distraught.	0	1	2	3	4
5. devastated.	0	1	2	3	4
6. helpless.	0	1	2	3	4
7. upset.	0	1	2	3	4
8. good.	0	1	2	3	4
9. stimulated.	0	1	2	3	4
10. shocked.	0	1	2	3	4

How old was the child you imagined? Ca. \_\_years Of what gender was the child you imagined?

female

male

**Story 2:**

Now imagine a child that had sex with an adult male. (THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHILD AS WELL AS THE NATURE AND FREQUENCY OF SEXUAL CONTACT MATCH YOUR OWN SEXUAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN. IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD ANY SEXUAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN, THEN IMAGINE THE STORY MATCHED YOUR USUAL SEXUAL FANTASIES OF CHILDREN.) In your opinion, how may the child feel or have felt, what may it experience or have experienced while this sexual contact was occurring and afterwards?

For each of the following descriptions, please circle the number that best indicates the child's experience.

The child . . .	Not at all				Very Much
1. feels guilty.	0	1	2	3	4
2. feels sad.	0	1	2	3	4
3. feels angry.	0	1	2	3	4
4. is self-confident.	0	1	2	3	4
5. has nightmares.	0	1	2	3	4
6. has suicidal thoughts.	0	1	2	3	4
7. is successful in school.	0	1	2	3	4
8. has sleep disturbances.	0	1	2	3	4
9. feels lonely.	0	1	2	3	4
10. is withdrawn from others.	0	1	2	3	4

11. has psychological problems.	0	1	2	3	4
12. feels helpless.	0	1	2	3	4
13. is suffering.	0	1	2	3	4
14. is tense.	0	1	2	3	4
15. feels ashamed.	0	1	2	3	4

Now please circle the number that best indicates how you feel when imagining what the child experienced.

I feel . . . / I am . . .	Not at all				Very Much
1. cheerful.	0	1	2	3	4
2. furious.	0	1	2	3	4
3. disturbed.	0	1	2	3	4
4. distraught.	0	1	2	3	4
5. devastated.	0	1	2	3	4
6. helpless.	0	1	2	3	4

7. upset.                    0                    1                    2                    3                    4

8. good.                    0                    1                    2                    3                    4

9. stimulated.            0                    1                    2                    3                    4

10. shocked.              0                    1                    2                    3                    4

How old was the child you imagined? Ca. \_\_years Of what gender was the child you imagined?

female

male

**Story 3:**

Now think of a child with whom you have had sexual contact. (IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD ANY SEXUAL CONTACT WITH CHILDREN, PLEASE IMAGINE A CHILD YOU HAD OR HAVE SEX WITH IN YOUR FANTASIES.) In your opinion, how may the child feel or have felt, what may it experience or have experienced while this sexual contact was occurring and afterwards?

For each of the following descriptions, please circle the number that best indicates the child's experience.

IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD ANY SEXUAL CONTACT WITH CHILDREN PLEASE TICK THE BOX TO THE RIGHT.

The child . . . Not at all Very Much

1. feels guilty.            0                    1                    2                    3                    4

2. feels sad.                0                    1                    2                    3                    4

3. feels angry.            0                    1                    2                    3                    4

4. is self-confident.	0	1	2	3	4
5. has nightmares.	0	1	2	3	4
6. has suicidal thoughts.	0	1	2	3	4
7. is successful in school.	0	1	2	3	4
8. has sleep disturbances.	0	1	2	3	4
9. feels lonely.	0	1	2	3	4
10. is withdrawn from others.	0	1	2	3	4
11. has psychological problems.	0	1	2	3	4
12. feels helpless.	0	1	2	3	4
13. is suffering.	0	1	2	3	4
14. is tense.	0	1	2	3	4



15. feels ashamed.            0            1            2            3            4

Now please circle the number that best indicates how you feel when imagining what the child experienced.

IF YOU HAVE NOT HAD ANY SEXUAL CONTACT WITH CHILDREN PLEASE TICK THE BOX TO THE RIGHT.

I feel . . . / I am . . . Not at all Very Much

1. cheerful.            0            1            2            3            4

2. furious.            0            1            2            3            4

3. disturbed.            0            1            2            3            4

4. distraught.            0            1            2            3            4

5. devastated.            0            1            2            3            4

6. helpless.            0            1            2            3            4

7. upset.            0            1            2            3            4

8. good.            0            1            2            3            4

9. stimulated.            0            1            2            3            4

10. shocked.            0            1            2            3            4

How old was the child you imagined? Ca. \_\_years Of what gender was the child you imagined?

female

male