Measuring Police Attitudes toward Persons with Mental Illness
To Inform First Responder Training: The Development of the MHASP

Comparisons Among MHASP Subscales & Vignette Attitude Subscales

Table 1: Correlations Between MHASP Subscales and Vignette Attitude Subscales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MHASP Subscale</th>
<th>Vignette Subscale</th>
<th>r</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Attitude Toward EDPs in the Community</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>-0.143***</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Attitude Toward EDPs in the Community</td>
<td>-0.126*</td>
<td>.001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>0.486**</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>-0.300**</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs</td>
<td>-0.315***</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
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<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
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<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>0.268</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
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<tr>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs</td>
<td>0.300</td>
<td>&lt;.0005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Subscale scores are adjusted alpha values.

MHASP Subscale: Attitude Toward EDPs in the Community
- High disagreement scores indicate that EDPs are perceived as potentially violent.
- Low disagreement scores indicate that EDPs are perceived as nonviolent.

MHASP Subscale: Adequately Prepared to Deal with EDPs
- High disagreement scores indicate that officers feel unprepared to deal with EDPs.
- Low disagreement scores indicate that officers feel adequately prepared to deal with EDPs.

MHASP Subscale: Socialize with EDPs
- High disagreement scores indicate that officers feel uncomfortable socializing with EDPs.
- Low disagreement scores indicate that officers feel comfortable socializing with EDPs.

Survey Items From MHASP

1. How willing would you be to move next door to a person described as having a mental health problem? (definitely willing, probably willing, probably unwilling, definitely unwilling)
2. How willing would you be to make friends with that person? (definitely willing, probably willing, probably unwilling, definitely unwilling)
3. She has been living this way for six months.
4. Mary was hearing voices even though no one else was around. These voices told her what to do and what to think.
5. She stopped bathing regularly. At night, when everyone else was sleeping, she was walking back and forth in her room.
6. Most of her day in her room. Mary became so preoccupied with what she was thinking that she skipped meals and
7. Mary is a woman who has completed high school. Up until a year ago, life was pretty okay for Mary. But then things
8. Please read the following vignette and answer the questions that follow.

Vignette

It is frightening to think of emotionally disturbed persons in our society. "More tax money should be spent on the care and treatment of emotionally disturbed persons in our society."

As soon as a person shows signs of mental disturbance, he/she should be hospitalized."

I would not want to live next door to someone who has been living in residential neighborhoods."

It is best to avoid anyone who is emotionally disturbed."