



Abstract

Exploring perceptual discrepancies and how they affect family life may be particularly relevant when household dynamics have broken down to the point that a child runs away or is forced to leave the home. This study explored the sources of differences between parents' and youths' reports of family functioning and, more generally, illustrates how to perform confirmatory factor analysis methods to purge error due to measurement error.

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Keywords: Runaway adolescents, family functioning, measurement invariance, confirmatory factor analysis, perceptual discrepancies

Introduction: Runaway adolescents are a significant public health concern. They are often victims of family dysfunction and may be at risk for mental health problems, substance use, and involvement in the criminal justice system.

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