

# The Fundamental Social Motives Inventory

## Instructions

We are interested in whether the following statements are true of you at this point in your life. Please answer how well the questions apply to you in general now, not whether these have been true of you in the past or may be true in the future. For each question, think about the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement. (1 = *strongly disagree*, 7 = *strongly agree*)  
(Note: Mate Retention scales are only administered to those in a relationship; Kin Care [Child] is only administered to parents. Order of all items is randomized uniquely for each participant.)

## Self-Protection

1. I think a lot about how to stay safe from dangerous people.
2. I am motivated to keep myself safe from others.
3. I do not worry about keeping myself safe from others. (R)
4. I worry about dangerous people.
5. I think about how to protect myself from dangerous people.
6. I am motivated to protect myself from dangerous others.

## Disease Avoidance

7. I avoid places and people that might carry diseases.
8. I avoid people who might have a contagious illness.
9. I worry about catching colds and flu from too much contact with other people.
10. I do not worry very much about getting germs from others. (R)
11. When someone near me is sick, it doesn't bother me very much. (R)
12. I don't mind being around people who are sick. (R)

## Affiliation (Group)

13. Being part of a group is important to me.
14. I enjoy working with a group to accomplish a goal.
15. I like being part of a team.
16. Working in a group is usually more trouble than it's worth. (R)
17. When I'm in a group, I do things to help the group stay together.
18. Getting along with the people around me is a high priority.

## Affiliation (Exclusion Concern)

19. I would be extremely hurt if a friend excluded me.
20. It would be a big deal to me if a group excluded me.
21. It bothers me when groups of people I know do things without me.
22. I worry about being rejected.
23. I often wonder whether I am being excluded.
24. I often think about whether other people accept me.

## Affiliation (Independence)

25. I would prefer to spend time alone than to be surrounded by other people.
26. I like to be alone even if I might lose some friends because of it.
27. Being apart from my friends for long periods of time does not bother me.
28. I don't mind being by myself for long periods of time.
29. Having time alone is extremely important to me.
30. I like to be by myself.

## Status

31. It's important to me that other people look up to me.
32. I want to be in a position of leadership.
33. It's important to me that others respect my rank or position.
34. I do things to ensure that I don't lose the status I have.
35. I do not like being at the bottom of a hierarchy.
36. I do not worry very much about losing status. (R)

## Mate Seeking

37. I spend a lot of time thinking about ways to meet possible dating partners.
38. I am interested in finding a new romantic/sexual partner.
39. I am not interested in meeting people to flirt with or date. (R)
40. Starting a new romantic/sexual relationship is not a high priority for me. (R)
41. I rarely think about finding a romantic or sexual partner. (R)
42. I would like to find a new romantic/sexual partner soon.

## Mate Retention (General)

43. It is important to me that my partner is sexually loyal to me.
44. It is important to me that my partner is emotionally loyal to me.
45. I do not spend much time and energy doing things to keep my partner invested in our relationship. (R)
46. It would not be that big a deal to me if my partner and I broke up. (R)
47. If others were romantically interested in my partner, it would not bother me very much. (R)
48. If my partner were to have romantic or sexual relationships with others, that would be OK with me. (R)

## Mate Retention (Breakup Concern)

49. I often think about whether my partner will leave me.
50. I worry about others stealing my romantic/sexual partner.
51. I worry that my romantic/sexual partner might leave me.
52. I wonder if my partner will leave me for someone else.
53. I worry that other people are interested in my romantic/sexual partner.
54. I am worried that my partner and I might break up.

## Kin Care (Family)

55. Caring for family members is important to me.
56. Having close ties to my family is not very important to me. (R)
57. I am not very interested in helping my family members. (R)
58. I would rather not spend time with family members. (R)
59. Being close to my family members is extremely important to me.
60. It is extremely important to me to have good relationships with my family members.

## Kin Care (Children)

61. I help take care of my children.
62. I like to spend time with my children.
63. Taking care of my children is not a high priority for me right now. (R)
64. I often think about how I could stop bad things from happening to my children.
65. I rarely think about protecting my children. (R)
66. Providing for my children is important to me.