Relational Motivation Hamby, S., Smith, A., Taylor, E., & Blount, Z. (2018)

Relational accountability refers to the desire to feel like important people in your life are proud of you and the decisions that you make. This measure was developed after reviewing our focus group transcripts in which participants mentioned the notion of not wanting to let down the important people in their lives. We reviewed the literature and were unable to find measures that specifically addressed relational accountability as we have defined it. All items were developed by our team and validated for use in youth populations (ages 10-22).

Development and validation of measure: To establish reliability and validity for scale items in a youth sample, we conducted a study with 440 individuals (ages 10-22) from rural areas of the Southeast, recruited through word-of-mouth and local community events. Domain level factor analyses were conducted for all measures of meaning-making; initial factor analyses showed that two of the initial five items on the scale did not load on the same factor and were omitted. All three remaining items included in the scale loaded onto the same factor. In the current study, both internal consistency (alpha coefficient = .70) and validity were established; validity was determined through moderate to strong correlations of Relational Accountability with other strengths in the Meaning-Making domain, including Mattering (r = .48), Purpose (r = .429), and Future Orientation (r = .418).

Scoring: The total score can be a sum or mean of all the items. Participant's raw scores on each item were standardized into z-scores. The scale-level mean was calculated from the item-level z-scores for participants who responded to at least half of the items on the scale, with higher scores indicate higher relational accountability.

Citation:

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Directions: For the next questions, think about the most important people in your life. These could be parents, family members, teachers, coaches, religious leaders, friends or any other people who care for you.

1. I want the people in my life	to be proud of me.	
	Mostly true about me	4
	Somewhat true about me	3
	A little true about me	2
	Not true about me.	1
2. I care if I let people in my life down.		
1 1	Mostly true about me	4
	Somewhat true about me	3
	A little true about me.	2
	Not true about me.	1

Youth measure

3. I want to be a good example:	for other people.
-	Mostly true about me
	Somewhat true about me
	A little true about me.
	Not true about me.