

Homosexuality Attitude Scale

The Homosexuality Attitude Scale (HAS) is a Likert scale that assesses people's stereotypes, misconceptions, and anxieties about homosexuals. The measure contains a unidimensional factor representing a favorable or unfavorable evaluation of homosexuals.

Reliability: The scale has excellent internal consistency (alphas $>.92$). The scale has a good test-retest reliability ($r = .71$). It is equally reliable for gay male and for lesbian targets. Attitude scores for "gay male", "lesbian", and "homosexual" targets do not differ significantly. However, researchers are best served by selection of a specific target and avoiding "homosexual" as an attitude object.

Convergent Validity: The scale correlates ($r_s = .50$) with the FEM Scale (Smith, Ferree, & Miller, 1975) and the Attitude Toward Women Scale (Spence & Helmreich, 1978). It is unrelated to the agency/communion scales of the Personal Attributes Questionnaire (Spence, Helmreich, & Stapp, 1974) and is unrelated to the M and F Scale of the Bem Sex Role Inventory (Bem, 1974). It is also unrelated to the Self-monitoring Scale (Snyder, 1974), the Marlowe-Crown Social Desirability Scale (Crowne & Marlowe, 1960), and the Rosenberg Self-esteem Scale (Rosenberg, 1965).

The measure is on the following page.

Homosexuality Attitude Scale

Source: Kite, M.E., & Deaux, K. (1986). Attitudes toward homosexuality: Assessment and behavioral consequences. *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, 7, 137-162.

Please indicate your level of agreement with the items below using the following scale:

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|----------------|-------|---------|----------|-------------------|
| Strongly Agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |

1. I would not mind having a homosexual friend.
2. Finding out that an artist was gay would have no effect on my appreciation of his/her work.
3. I won't associate with known homosexuals if I can help it.
4. I would look for a new place to live if I found out my roommate was gay.
5. Homosexuality is a mental illness.
6. I would not be afraid for my child to have a homosexual teacher.
7. Gays dislike members of the opposite sex.
8. I do not really find the thought of homosexual acts disgusting.
9. Homosexuals are more likely to commit deviant sexual acts, such as child molestation, rape, and voyeurism (Peeping Toms), than are heterosexuals.
10. Homosexuals should be kept separate from the rest of society (i.e., separate housing, restricted employment).
11. Two individual of the same sex holding hands or displaying affection in public is revolting.
12. The love between two males or two females is quite different from the love between two persons of the opposite sex.
13. I see the gay movement as a positive thing.
14. Homosexuality, as far as I'm concerned, is not sinful.
15. I would not mind being employed by a homosexual.
16. Homosexuals should be forced to have psychological treatment.

17. The increasing acceptance of homosexuality in our society is aiding in the deterioration of morals.

18. I would not decline membership in an organization just because it had homosexual members.

19. I would vote for a homosexual in an election for public office.

20. If I knew someone were gay, I would still go ahead and form a friendship with that individual.

21. If I were a parent, I could accept my son or daughter being gay.

Note: Items 1,2, 6, 8, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, and 21 are reverse scored.