

## THE ATTACHMENT SCALE FOR ONE-TO-THREE YEAR OLD CHILDREN

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of the present research was to develop an attachment scale. In study 1, the Attachment Scale was developed with items which are composed of interactive activities between mother and children in daily life. The subjects were 329 mothers who had one to three years old children, and who took care of their own children during the day by themselves for more than 5 hours everyday. Three factors were obtained by principal component analysis, and the total variance explained was about 26.4%. The Cronbach's  $\alpha$ s were .80-.91. The 1 month test-retest reliabilities were .65-.73. The stabilities of 1 year was .48-.51. All of these coefficients were statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ). Study 2 was designed to investigate the construct validity of the Attachment Scale. The subjects were 41 dyads of mother and child, and all of the children were 1 year old. These dyads were tested by the Ainsworth's strange-situation procedure. We got 3 factors: *secure factor*—young children approach to their mother; *avoidant factor*—young children avoid from their mother; and, *ambivalent factor*—young children approach to their mother under stress situation (i. e. stranger, unfamiliar place, separation etc.), and the lower the ambivalent score, the stronger the secure base effect. Study 3 was to investigate the relationship between attachment and the situation or type of mother and children. Subjects were the same as study 1. The findings were that, the mothers' separation anxiety was in proportion to her child's attachment to her; and that, concerning the temperament, the secure factor was associated with easy child (approach, adapt, good mood etc.); the avoidant factor was associated with difficult child (irregularity, avoidant, maladapt, negative mood etc.); and, the ambivalent factor wasn't associated with the temperament type. Furthermore, the future researches with the Attachment Scale were discussed.