An Analysis of Adolescent Family Interactions: Measurement and Typology.

Tsung-Chain Huang¹ Yeu-Sheng Hsieh², and Yuh-Huey Jou³

¹Tamkang University, Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling.

²National Taiwan University, Department of Agricultunal Extension.

³Institute of Ethnology & Research Center for Humanities and Social Sciences, Academia Sinica.

From a family system perspective, the present study aimed to explore the dynamic patterns of family systems level. In view of the research deficiencies stated in the literature, the authors suggest that a more sophisticated statistic method, namely, Latent Structure Model can be used to analyze the data. Three hundred and sixty-two high school students as well as their parents and one sibling answered the "Family System Questionnaire" developed from a grounded theory base. The measurements include specific concepts of cognitive interchange, emotional

expression and problem solving. Results indicated that cohesive family and disengaged family are two major and significant patterns of family systems. In addition, sixteen family interaction patterns were also defined to illustrate the dynamic processes between fathers, mothers, adolescent children and their siblings. The effects of indigenous psychology and practical implications were also discussed.

Keywords: adolescent, family system, family measurement, family typology, Latent Structure Model

