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THE DISGUST SENSITIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE [CUESTIONARIO DE SENSIBILIDAD AL ASCO, CSA]: A NEW SELF-REPORT MEASURE OF DISGUST

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Introduction and aims: Some theory and empirical-driven classification systems of disgust have stimulated the creation of several self-report instruments for the assessment of disgust sensitivity [e.g., the Disgust Scale-Reviesed (DS-R,Haidt et al., 1994) and the Disgust Propensity and Sensitivity Scale-Revised (DPSS-R; van Overveld et al., 2006;Sandín et al., 2008)]. Two main problems of current self-report scales of disgust are that

(a) there is not a consensus about the domains of disgust to be assessed, and

(b) all self-report scales were developed in the Anglo-Saxon culture.

Given the particular relationship of disgust to the individual's culture, it is desirable to construct self-report instruments based in other cultures.The aim of this work was to develop a new self-report instrument based in a Spanish-speaking population.

Method: The 11 domains (see Sandín et al.) in which Spanish people experience disgust served to define a broad range of disgust elicitors in our Cuestionario de Sensibilidad al Asco (CSA) [Disgust Sensitivity Questionnaire]. The initial questionnaire (92 items) was given to a sample of undergraduates at Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia. Based on factor and item analysis, sixty-two items were finally retained.

Results: Exploratory factor analysis of the 62 CSA items revealed a robust eleven-factor structure, describing the following 9 dimensions of disgust: hygiene, socio-moral, sex, envelop violations/death,animals, disease,atypical food, animal decomposition, and unacceptable food. Internal consistency (alpha coeffients and corrected item-total correlations) was excellent.

Conclusions: Findings suggest that the CSA is a promising new measure of disgust. The CSA demonstrated excellent factorial validity and reliability.