

# THE JACOBSON MARITAL ROLES SCALE

## Egalitarian Versus Traditional Marriages

Fill in the appropriate response before each of the following statements to indicate what you believe is correct.

The responses are to be marked as follows:

SA=Strongly Agree

U=Uncertain

SD=Strongly Disagree

A=Agree

D=Disagree

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The husband should help with the housework.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The wife should take a job if she wants to.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The husband should help wash the dishes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. If a husband cheats on his wife, she can cheat on him.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Wives are too independent these days.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. If the husband wants children, his wife should agree.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The husband should decide how to spend any extra money.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Husbands should be more strict with their wives.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. What a husband does in his spare time is his own business.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The husband should decide where to live.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The wife should fit her life to her husband's.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The husband's wishes should come first in most things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. Marriage is the best career for a woman.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The husband should be the boss of the family.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. If the husband is running around with another woman, the wife should put up with it until he comes to his senses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. It's okay for the wife to earn as much as her husband.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. A wife should let her husband decide most things.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. Almost all money matters should be decided by the husband.

My Score \_\_\_\_\_ I am \_\_\_\_\_

\*Refined by R.L. Hamblin and R.O. Blood using scalogram analysis techniques from Jacobson's original list of 28 items.

(For Discussion, see Alver H. Jacobson, "Conflict of Attitudes Toward the Roles of the Husband and Wife in Marriage," American Sociological Review, April, 1952, pp. 146-150.)

## SCORING FOR JACOBSON MARITAL ROLES

Instructions: Give yourself one point each time your answer matches the response listed by the corresponding number below. Example - on question number 1, if you responded A, give yourself one point. If you responded SD, do not give yourself a point. Total your score and circle your rating at the bottom.

1. S., A.

7. S.D.

13. S.D., D., U.

2. S.A., A.

8. S.D.

14. S.D., D., U.

3. S.A., A.

9. S.D., D.

15. S.D., D., U.

4. S.A., A., U.

10. S.D., D., U.

16. S.A., A.

5. S.D., D

11. S.D., D.

17. S.D., D.

6. S.D., D.

12. S.D., D.

18. S.D., D., U.

### METHOD OF RATING

15-18 = extremely equalitarian

11-14 = equalitarian

6-10 = traditional

1-5 = extremely traditional