

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

The original research on this curriculum was completed from 2001-2003 in a small school in North Carolina. Fourteen years later, with more than 1,800 middle, high and alternative schools currently using the curriculum, this has become one of the largest studies in America on character education at the secondary level.

Survey Variables: Almost all schools are data driven and want to know how their various programs are working. We made that easy by putting the pre-tests and the post-tests online for easy student access. At the end of the year, we provide research reports to those schools that ordered the research package and have completed the surveys. There are 84 variables that are grouped into the following nine scales:

5 “Desirable Attribute” Scales

Optimism/Future Expectations
Mainstream Prosocial Values
Resilience
Socio-emotional Intelligence
Honesty in Pursuit of Goals

4 “Undesirable Attribute” Scales

Antisocial Behavior in School
Lack of Character Strength
School Climate
Critical, Yet Rare, Items

Cost: It is unethical for me, the author, to conduct a research study on my own curriculum, so I have contracted with Dr. Robert E. Lee to analyze the data and produce the reports for each participating school. He charges \$300 to produce each report, which is exactly what each school is charged. If a school wants reports in subsequent years, this will be an annual fee.

Directions: This is fairly simple and requires the students to go to www.characterandleadership.com and click in the “Members Section,” and then again on the ‘Student Surveys’ icon. Schools that have ordered the research package will receive a password that students will use to access the survey. Students can take the survey at home or in school.

Annual Research Reports: The research reports are emailed to each school in the month of July. It documents the changes in the 84 variables within the nine scales. Teachers will also be able to see classroom evaluations and read anonymous yet individual responses from students to guide future teaching of this program.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me. I am happy to provide you with a password that will allow you to view the entire survey before ordering the research package.

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