

Appendix A

Identity Status Interview: Early and Middle Adolescent Form

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General Opening

How old are you?

And you are in what grade?

Where are you from?

How do you feel about living in _____?

Are both of your parents living?

[If not:] At what age were you when your (father) (mother) died?

Have your parents ever been separated or divorced?

[If yes:] At what age were you when your parents separated?

[If appropriate:] Whom have you lived with?

[If appropriate:] Has either of your parents remarried?

[If yes:] What age were you at that time?

Can you tell me something about your father's educational background?

And what type of work does he do?

And your mother, what was her educational background?

And has she been employed outside of the home?

[If appropriate:] Doing what?

Do you have any brothers or sisters? How many? Which are older and which are younger than you?

[If not already provided:] And your age is?

Vocational Plans—Opening

What grade are you in now?

[If High School:] What school program are you enrolled in here at _____?

Do you have any ideas about what you'd like to do after graduation from high school in terms of work, school, and/or marriage?

[Proceed to the appropriate block(s) of questions: college or other education, work, and/or marriage.]

[If "don't know," ask: Do you think it is more likely that you will continue with your education after high school or that you will seek employment?

Proceed to the appropriate block(s) of questions.]

[If the answer is again "don't know," proceed to the closing block of questions on vocational plans.]

Vocational Plans—Further Education

[If appropriate:] Do you have any plans for a college major at this time?

What type of work would you like to do?

How did you come to decide on _____? [Ask about future plans, if known; otherwise about major field].

If no definite interests are mentioned then omit this question and ask: [What do you hope to gain by attending college? [Then skip to the closing block of questions on vocational plans.]

When did you first become interested in _____?

What do you find attractive about _____?

Is there anything not so attractive about this field?

[If several fields mentioned spontaneously, ask about each in turn.]

Have you ever considered any other fields besides _____?

[List all the fields that were previously mentioned.]

[If yes, repeat questions about when interested and nature of attraction.]

How seriously were (are) you considering each of the fields you mentioned?

[For students who have specified a decision:] Did you ever feel that you were actively deciding between _____ and _____?

Was this a difficult decision to make?

What may have helped you make your choice here?

[For students who have not specified a decision:] Do you feel that choosing a career is something that you're trying to work out now, or do you feel that this is where you can let time take its course and just see what happens?

Do you have any ideas as to when you'd like to have this decision made?

How are you going about getting the information you'd like to have to make a decision?

Do you feel that this is an important decision for you to make now, or are you more concerned with other things right now?

[Proceed to the closing block of questions on vocational plans.]

Vocational Plans—Employment

What type of employment would you like to find?

How did you come to decide on _____?

When did you first become interested in that type of work?

What do you find attractive about _____?

What do you find not so attractive about this field?

[If several alternative possibilities are spontaneously mentioned, ask about each in turn.]

Have you ever considered any type of work besides _____?

[List all the fields previously mentioned.]

Repeat cycle of questions above for each field mentioned that has not been previously discussed.]

How seriously were (are) you considering each of the plans you mentioned?

[For students who have specified a decision:] Do you feel that you were ever actively deciding between _____ and _____?

Was this a difficult decision for you to make?

What may have helped you to make your decision here?

[For students who have not specified a decision:] Do you feel that choosing a career is something that you're trying to work out now, or do you feel that this is something where you can let time take its course and just see what happens?

Do you have any idea as to when you'd like to have this decision made?

How are you going about getting the information you'd like to have to make a decision?

Do you feel that this is an important decision for you to make now or are you more concerned with other things right now?

Have you ever seriously considered continuing your education after high school?

[If yes:] Could you describe your thinking at that time?

[If appropriate:] Why did you decide not to go on with school?

[Proceed to the closing block of questions on vocational plans.]

Vocational Plans—Marriage

How did you come to decide on marriage as the best plan for you?

Do you plan to have children?

[If yes:] Do you plan to work or remain at home until you have children?

[If appropriate:] After you have children, would you continue to work?

When did you first become interested in these plans?

What do you find attractive about marriage (and work)?

What do you find unattractive about marriage (and work)?

Have you ever considered any other type of plan?

[If yes, repeat questions about when interested and nature of attraction.]

How seriously were you considering each of the plans you mentioned?

Have you ever seriously considered continuing your education (or going to work) after high school?

[If yes:] Could you describe your thinking at that time?

Why did you decide not to go on with school (work)?

Vocational Plans—Closing

Most parents have plans for their (sons) (daughters), things they'd like to see them go into, things they'd like to see them do. Did your folks have any plans like that for you?

Do you think your parents may have had a preference for one plan over another, although they would never have tried to pressure you about it?

[If yes:] Did you ever consider _____?

[If appropriate:] How do your parents feel about your plans to go into _____?

As you think about your activities in your coursework in school and any part-time work or hobbies you have had in the field(s) you might like to go into, what would you say is most satisfying or rewarding for you (for each of them)?

Is there anything about these activities that you would consider to be not so good?

How would you describe your feelings while you are engaged in these activities?

Why do you think you feel that way?

How willing do you think you'd be to change your plans from _____ [the strongest one or two plans mentioned], if something better came along?

[If asked: "What do you mean by better? Respond: "Whatever might be better by your standards."]

[If Respondent indicates the possibility of change:]

What might you change to?

What might cause you to make such a change?

How likely do you think it is that you will make some change?

[Repeat for all the possibilities mentioned.]

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see your vocation as being to you in your life, where 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important"?

Marriage and the Role of Spouse

[For those who were interviewed on the *Marriage—Vocational Plans*, use this beginning to the marriage domain:] I'd like to ask you more specific questions about marriage and parenting now. [Go first to "Why do you plan to marry," and so on within the marriage domain, and then on the parenting domain begin with, "Why do you plan to become a parent," and so on.]

[For all others, begin:] Do you plan to marry some day?

[If yes:] Why do you plan to marry?

When do you think would be a good time for you to marry?

Why then?

What kind of a person would you want to marry?

How do you picture what marriage might be like for you?

What do you see as your role as a (husband) (wife)?

[If no:] Have you ever thought about the idea of marriage?

Why do you think you would prefer not to marry?

What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of being single versus being married? [If only one side is asked about, ask about the other position.]

Has your decision about (marrying) (not marrying) come easily to you or has it been a difficult decision to make?

Why ?

Who may have influenced your decision?

[If not already evident:] Have you ever gone through an important change in your thinking about marriage for yourself?

[If yes:] Please describe that change.

What started you thinking about these questions?

Who may have influenced your thinking?

How would you compare your ideas about marriage with those of your (father) (mother)? [Make comparison with the parent of the same gender as the Respondent.]

What is your parents' marriage like? How do you feel about the kind of marriage your parents (have) (had)?

Would you like your marriage to be similar to theirs?

How do your parents feel about your ideas on marriage? [If parents do not know:] How do you think they would feel about them if they did know?

Are you currently in a romantic relationship with someone?

[If yes:] How does your (boy) (girl) friend feel about your ideas about marriage?

How do your ideas about marriage compare with (his) (hers)?

What do you think are the best and worst things about marriage in terms of what you would be doing in the marriage in your role as a (husband) (wife)?

How willing would you be to change your plans about marriage?

[If appropriate:] What would it take to change your ideas about marriage?

Do you think you might think again about your decision at some time in the future?

[If yes:] When? Why then?

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see marriage and your having the role of (husband) (wife) as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."

The Role of Parent

[Remember, for people who answered vocational plans in terms of marriage and parenting, to begin with "Why do you plan to become a parent."]

[For all others, begin:] Do you plan to become a parent some day?

[If yes:] Why do you plan to become a parent?

When do you think would be a good time in your life to start parenting?

How do you picture your role in parenting?

What type of behavior in your child would give you pleasure?

If you ever did become a parent, what role do you think your (husband) (wife) **should** have in parenting with you?

What role do you think your (husband) (wife) **will** have in parenting with you?

[If any difference is mentioned:] Why do you think that would be?

[If no:] Is this because you have never thought about the role of parent for you yourself or that you definitely do not want to be a parent?

How did you figure out that decision?

What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of parenting?

[If only one side is presented, ask about the other.]

Has your decision about parenting come easily to you, or has it been a difficult decision to make?

Why?

Who or what has had a part in helping you to make your decision about this?

Have you ever gone through an important change in your thinking about parenting?

[If yes:] When was that in your life?

Please describe the changes.

What started you thinking about these questions?

How did you go about working out your ideas?

Who may have influenced your decision about this?

How would you compare your ideas about parenting with those of your parents?

How would you describe your parents' thinking about parenting?

What do you think of the parenting you have had?

Would you like your parenting to be like theirs?

Would your parents like to see you be a parent some day?

How do you feel about that?

How do your parents feel about your ideas on parenting? [If parents don't know:] How do you think they would feel about them if they did know?

[If presently in a romantic relationship:] How does your (boy) (girl) friend feel about what you think about parenting?

How do your ideas about parenting compare with (his) (hers)?

Do you believe your ideas about parenting are now fairly well worked out, or do you feel that you are still working out your thinking about parenting?

[If still working out ideas:] What questions are you still thinking about?

What are you doing now to work out your thinking about these questions?

As you think about being a parent yourself, what would you like best and least about your role of parent?

How willing would you be to change your plans about parenting?

[If appropriate:] What would it take to change your ideas about parenting?

Do you think you might reconsider your decision at some time in the future?

[If yes:] When?

Why then?

What do you think might influence your decision about whether to be a parent or not?

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see the role of parent as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."

Family and Career Priorities

Looking over the numbers you gave from 1 to 7 for each of the areas we have talked about so far, I notice that you rated career _____, in importance, marriage _____ and parenting _____, which seems to suggest that you value (_____ more) (each area about equally). How do you feel about that?

I would like you to share with me the types of problems you feel could develop because you have a career and a marriage, specifically with your being a (husband) (wife).

Now I would like you to tell me about possible problems you feel could happen because you have a career and are a parent.

I'd like you to give me a time line for how you plan to fit your education, employment, marriage, and parenting into your life relative to one another.

I'd like you to examine your time line about career and children more closely. If you were to have children, when would you want to fit them in with your education, career, and marriage?

How many children would you like to have?

How many years between them?

Would you plan to take time off from work to have children?

[If yes:] For how long?

Would you go back to work after having each child?

So the approximate total time off from work would amount to _____ years?

[If this is a considerable length of time:] Do you think it would be necessary for you to develop new or extra skills in your profession to get a similar job back?

What might some additional problems be for you that could arise about (marriage and career) (parenting and career) [in that order] as you look into your future?

How would you try to solve each of the problems you have mentioned?

How much have you thought about *marriage* and career conflicts before?

Have you ever gone through an important change in your thinking about marriage and career conflicts for yourself?

[If yes:] Please describe that change.

What started you thinking about such questions?

Who may have influenced your thinking about this question?

How are your thoughts about marriage and career problems like and not like those of your parents?

How do your parents handle such problems?

How does the way they do it make you think about how you would want to do it?

[If in a romantic relationship:] How does your (boy) (girl) friend feel about handling marriage and career conflicts?

How are your ideas similar and different?

How does your (friend) (partner) feel about your ideas on what the problems might be and how to handle them?

How much concern do you have now about this question? [If little or none:] Do you think it will become a serious question for you in the future?

[If yes:] At what time in your life?

[If no:] Why not?

[If not previously addressed concretely:] If you were confronted with a conflict between your work responsibilities and your responsibilities as a (husband) (wife), which would you give priority to? Why?

How much have you thought about *parenting* and career conflicts before?

Have you ever gone through an important change in your thinking about parenting and career conflicts for yourself?

[If yes:] Please describe that change.

What started you thinking about these questions?

Who or what helped you to make your decisions about this question?

How are your ideas like and not like those of your parents about how to handle problems or conflicts between doing things for your career and doing things for your children?

How do your parents handle such conflicts with you (and your brothers and sisters)?

Does the way they deal with it influence how you might deal with it? How so?

Would you like your handling of parenting and career conflicts to be like theirs?

[If in a romantic partnership:] How are your ideas about handling parenting and career conflicts like and not like those of your (boy) (girl) friend?

How does your (boy) (girl) friend feel about your ideas on the handling of parenting and career conflicts?

How much concern do you have now about this question?

[If little or none:] Do you think it may become a serious question for you in the future?

[If yes:] At what time in your life?

[If no:] Why not?

[If not previously addressed concretely:] If you were confronted with a conflict between your work responsibilities and your responsibilities as a parent, which would you give priority to? Why?

Religious Beliefs

Do you have any religious preference? [I.e., Do you belong to a religion?]

How about your parents: do they have any religious preference?

Were both of your parents reared _____?

How important would you say religion is to your parents?

Have you ever been active in church or church groups? [Adapt for Jews and others.]

[If not already evident:] Do you go to religious services now?

[If yes:] What are your reasons for going?

How do you feel while you are doing things (in) (for) your (church) (temple)?

Why do you think you feel that way?

[If no:] Did you ever attend religious services fairly regularly?

[If appropriate:] What led to your attendance at services falling off?

Do you talk about religion with other people?

[If yes:] What kinds of things do you talk about? Do you get into arguments or discussions?

[If appropriate:] What do you argue for and against?

I'd like to find out something about your ideas in the area of religion, for example on such questions as the existence of God, and the importance

of (organized religion) (having actual churches/temples to worship in and to go to school in to learn about your religion). What are your ideas?

[If Roman Catholic:] How about on the matter of the infallibility of the Pope? (I.e., Can the Pope ever make wrong decisions?)

[Ask about other religious questions as these appear appropriate.]

Was there ever a time when you came to question, to doubt, or perhaps to change your religious beliefs?

[If yes:] What types of things did you question or change?

What started you thinking about these questions?

[If not already in evidence:] How old were you at the time?

How serious were these questions for you?

Do you feel that you've solved these questions for yourself, or are you still working on them?

[If resolved:] What has helped you to answer these questions?

[If not resolved:] How are you going about trying to answer these questions?

How do your parents feel about your religious beliefs?

[If parents don't know:] How do you think they would feel about them if they did know?

Are there any important differences between your beliefs and those of your parents?

At this time, how well worked out do you think your ideas in the area of religion are?

Do you think your ideas in the area are likely to remain the same, or do you believe they may very well change in the future?

[If they may change:] In what direction do you think your beliefs might change?

What might bring about such a change?

How likely is it that such a change might occur?

[If you see evidence of continued thought being given to religious questions:] How important is it to you to work out your ideas in the area of religion?

Are you actively trying to work out your beliefs now, or are you more concerned with other things?

How would you like to see your own children reared with respect to religion?

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see your religious beliefs as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."

[For agnostics and atheists, the last question in this domain should be phrased thus:]

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see your ideas about (agnosticism) (atheism) as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."]

Political Beliefs

Do you have any political preference? [If asked "What do you mean by political preference?" Respond: Either party preference or a position on the liberal to conservative scale. For example, do you consider yourself a Democrat or a Republican? Do you consider yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?]

[If appropriate:] Have you heard of these terms before?

[If yes:] Can you tell me which terms you have heard about, and how?

Do your parents have any political preferences?

[If appropriate:] Do they belong to any political party?

[If appropriate:] Where would they fall on a scale from liberal through moderate to conservative?

[Ask the questions above separately for both father and mother.]

How important would you say political questions are to your parents?

Are there any political or social issues that you feel pretty strongly about?

[If asked, "Such as?" Respond: "Whatever might be important issues for you." If asked again, suggest such issues as the economy, how much weaponry is needed for defense, foreign policy, the environment, and so on.]

What would you like to see done about _____?

[Repeat for each issue raised.]

Are there other issues that you have views about?

What would you like to see done about _____?

[Repeat for each issue mentioned.]

Have you ever taken any political actions, like joining groups, participating in election campaigns, writing letters to government or other political leaders, signing petitions, participating in demonstrations?

[If yes, elicit a description of each if necessary.]

How did you get involved in these activities?

[Repeat for several of the activities mentioned.]

[If no issues or activities were discussed:] Do you feel that you are actively trying to arrive at a set of political beliefs, or do you feel that the area of politics isn't very important to you at present?

[If trying to work out ideas:] Can you tell me something about the types of things you are thinking about?

How are you going about getting the information you need to make a decision?

How important is it for you to work out these ideas?

Was there ever a time when you found your political ideas undergoing change, when you believed one thing on an issue and then, months or years later, you found you had very different ideas on the same issue?

[If yes:] Please describe the circumstances.

What led you to make that type of change?

Was there anyone or anything that may have influenced your thinking at the time?

How do you feel while you are engaged in activities related to your political beliefs?

Why do you think you feel that way?

How do your parents feel about your political ideas?

[If parents don't know:] How do you think they would feel about them if they did know?

Are there any important differences between your views and those of your parents?

At this time do you believe that your political beliefs are likely to remain

the same for some time, or do you feel they may very well change in the future?

[If they may change:] In what direction do you think your beliefs might change?

What might bring about such a change?

How likely is it that such a change will occur?

[If appropriate:] Do you feel these changes would occur just on specific issues, or might there be a change in your general political attitude?

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see your political beliefs as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."

Sex-Role Attitudes

Changing topics again, I'd like to talk with you about your ideas of men's (boys') and women's (girls') roles in society today.

What advantages and disadvantages do you see associated with the roles of men and women in today's society?

[Ask advantages **and** disadvantages for **both** genders.]

[Or for the younger ones, ask:] What do you think is good and bad about being a boy versus a girl in our society today?

How do you think things **should** be in terms of what women and girls are supposed to be like and what men and boys are supposed to be like?

If you could have chosen to be a man (boy) or a woman (girl) in today's society, which would you be?

Why?

[If appropriate:] What is best and worst for you yourself about being a (male/boy) (female/girl)?

How do you feel while you are doing things that go with your being a (male) (boy)/(female) (girl)?

Why do you think you feel that way?

How did you come to learn what it means to be a (man/boy) (woman/girl) in today's society?

Do you feel this is something that came rather naturally for you, or were there times when you were uncertain how you should act?

[If there were uncertainties:] Can you describe the circumstances for me?

How did you go about working out what you should do?

Who or what may have helped you with your thinking at the time?

Was there ever a time when you came to question, to doubt, or perhaps to change your ideas, your expectations, and/or how you acted in terms of your (male/boy) (female/girl) roles in this society?

[If yes:] What types of things did you question or change?

What started you thinking about these questions?

[If not already evident:] How old were you at the time?

How serious were these questions for you?

Do you feel you've solved these questions for yourself, or are you still working on them?

[If resolved:] What has helped you to answer these questions?

[If not resolved:] How are you going about trying to answer these questions?

How have your mother and father expressed their female and male roles, respectively?

How were your ideas, expectations, and behaviors in this area influenced by your parents?

Are there any important similarities and differences between the ideas, expectations, and behaviors you and your (father) (mother) have in expressing your role as a (male/boy) (female/girl) in today's society?

[If appropriate:] How about the effects your brothers or sisters may have had? [Adapt as appropriate for the gender of the sibs.]

Are there any important differences between their ideas, expectations, and behaviors and yours about men's and women's roles in society?

[If currently in a romantic relationship:] What are your dating partner's ideas, expectations, and behaviors about men's and women's roles in society today?

How are they similar to and different from yours?

How does (he) (she) feel about your ideas, expectations, and behaviors about your role as a (male/boy) (female/girl) in today's society?

How has (his)(her) perspective influenced yours?

How do your parents feel about your views on this area?

[If parents don't know:] How do you think they would feel about them if they did know?

Do you see your ideas about the roles of men and women in today's society remaining stable or do you see your ideas possibly changing in the future?

[If ideas may change:] In what direction might your ideas change?

What do you think might cause such a change?

How likely is it that such a change might occur?

[If you see evidence of continued thought being given to these questions:]
How important is it to you to work out your ideas in this area?

Are you actively trying to work out your beliefs, expectations, and/or behaviors now, or are you more concerned with other things?

On a 7-point scale, how important do you see your role as a (male/boy) (female/girl) as being to you in your life? Again, 7 means "extremely important" and 1 means "not at all important."