Dimensionality of the Temperament in Spanish Children: Negative Affectivity, Effortful Control, and Extraversion

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This article analyzes the structure and reliability of the Children's Behavior Questionnaire (CBQ; Rothbart, Ahadi, Hersey, & Fisher, 2001) in Spanish on children from 3 to 8 years old (N = 424). The CBQ is a caregiver report measure designed to provide a detailed assessment of children's temperament based on three central constructs of temperament such as emotional reactivity, arousability and self-regulation. Exploratory factor analysis of CBQ scales recovered a four-factor solution, as we expected, including three broad dimensions (Negative affectivity, Effortful control, and Extraversion) and unexpectedly two facets for the broad dimension of Extraversion (Extraversion / activation, and Extraversion / inhibition). According to confirmatory factors analysis, the two extraversion factors were grouped into a general second order factor of Extraversion. The final factor solution was consistent with previous studies. The CBQ scales demonstrate adequate internal consistency. Similarities and differences between the Spanish structure of CBQ and American factorial solution are discussed.

Keywords: children, temperament, Children's Behavior Questionnaire-Spanish version