Studying the Shared and Unique Realities of Families Handling Triads and More

"Family systems and subsystems may appropriately be described...in terms of the balance between shared and individual perceptions of reality" (1993).



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# Study 1: Divergent Realities (Dyer, Day, Harper, 2013)

- Fathers, adolescents, and mothers each perceive father involvement (FI) uniquely.
  - Measurement invariance: FI items don't mean the same thing across reporters.
- Predictive validity differs across reporters
  - Father reports of FI have the least predictive validity
  - Child reports had the most predictive validity



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## Study 2: Examining the Shared and Unique

- > To what degree do fathers, mothers, and adolescents share a view of FI?
- > To what degree to they have unique views?
- >What influences the shared and unique views of fathers, mothers, and adolescents?

#### Latent Variables

> They identify what is shared and unique among items.



#### Measuring Shared and Unique: Bifactor

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# Example: Father Engagement and Warmth

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	Engagement		Warmth	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Loadings	β	$R^2$	β	$R^2$
Dad Report	.74	.55	.67	.45
Child Report	.68	.46	.56	.31
Mom Report	.90	.81	.76	.58

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# Predicting Shared and Unique Views

- > Father unique view
  - More involvement predicted by *poorer* marital quality and higher maternal depression (compensatory model?)
- > Child unique view
  - Involvement predicted by father anti-social behaviors (sentiment override?)
- > Mother unique view
  - The fewer the father's work hours, the less he's perceived as involved. The more mother's work hours, the more he is perceived as involved.

## But what about Broderick?

- > The *degree* to which they share is central.
- What we have done does not get at variance amount of shared.
- > Could...
  - Difference scores
  - Multiple group analysis

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#### Or... Study 3: Factor Mixture Modeling

- > Identifies groups of shared.
- > Assumption: You sample is a combination of different factor structures.
  - Common FA just gives you the *average* factor loadings.
- > Questions:
  - What "kinds" of sharing exist?
  - What influences the kind of shared?
  - What are the outcomes of the kind of shared?



# And more...(Study 4???)

