

Coding Sheet: Indirect aggression (saying nasty things behind someone's back)

(I) indicates an instrumental response

(E) indicates an expressive response

Score 1 for each expressive response, 0 for each instrumental response. A high score indicates a more expressive representation, a low score a more instrumental representation.

1. If I said nasty things about someone behind their back it would probably be because.....

(E) the other person made me so mad I couldn't help it

(I) the other person deserved it

2. If I was about to say something really nasty about someone behind their back I would probably.....

(E) feel really upset and shaky

(I) feel like I was really going to teach them a lesson

3. If I was saying nasty things about someone behind their back I would probably.....

(E) not know what I was saying

(I) know exactly what I was saying

4. If there were lots of people around.....

(I) I'd be more likely to say nasty things about someone behind their back

(E) I'd be less likely to say nasty things about someone behind their back

5. If someone said nasty things about me behind my back I would be more likely to

(E) cry

(I) say something nasty about them behind their back

6. If I said something nasty about someone behind their back and hurt them I would probably feel.....

(I) that they were asking for it

- (E) bad about myself
7. If I said something nasty about someone behind their back I would like them to.....
- (E) realise how upset they'd made me feel and how unhappy I was
- (I) make sure they never annoy me again
8. If I said some nasty things about someone behind their back, afterwards I would probably.....
- (I) remember everything I'd said
- (E) not remember exactly what I'd said
9. After saying nasty things about someone behind their back I would probably feel.....
- (E) upset and bad about myself
- (I) happy or unhappy depending on whether people had believed me
10. If I was to tell my friends about some nasty things I'd said behind someone's back I would probably.....
- (E) try to make them see why I'd said the things
- (I) make it sound more exciting than it was
11. I think that saying nasty things about someone behind their back is.....
- (E) always wrong
- (I) needed to make people know what I want
12. If I said nasty things about someone behind their back I would feel.....
- (I) that I had a right to hurt the other person
- (E) upset and bad about myself