

Gender Equitable Men Scale (GEM Scale)

Name: _____ Gender: _____

Date of birth: _____ Date of assessment: _____

Instructions

Respond to each statement based on their level of agreement using the following scale:

- 1: Agree
- 2: Partially agree
- 3: Do not agree

Statements	1	2	3
1. There are times a woman deserves to be beaten.			
2. A woman should tolerate violence in order to keep her family together.			
3. If someone insults a man he should defend his reputation with force if he has to.			
4. It is okay for a man to hit his wife if she won't have sex with him.			
5. A man using violence against his wife is a private matter that shouldn't be discussed outside the couple.			
6. It is alright for a man to beat his wife if she is unfaithful.			
7. It is a woman's responsibility to avoid getting pregnant.			
8. A man should be outraged if his wife asks him to use a condom.			
9. Women who carry condoms on them are easy.			
10. Only when a woman has a child is a real woman.			
11. A real man produces a male child.			
12. It disgusts me when I see a man acting like a woman.			
13. A woman should not initiate sex.			
14. You don't talk about sex, you just do it.			
15. A woman who has sex before she marries does not deserve respect.			
16. Men need sex more than women do.			
17. Men are always ready to have sex.			
18. A man needs other women, even if things with his wife are fine.			
19. It is the man who decides what type of sex to have.			
20. Giving the kids a bath and feeding the kids are the mother's responsibility.			

Statements	1	2	3
21. A woman's most important role is to take care of home and cook for her family.			
22. A man should have the final word on decisions in his home.			
23. The husband should decide what major household items to buy.			
24. A woman should obey her husband in all things.			
Total score:			

Scoring and interpretation

Sum the score for each item equivalent to the value of their responses: 1 point for agree, 2 points for partially agree, and 3 points for do not agree.

Higher values indicate more gender-equitable beliefs. Items on each subscale are cumulatively summed. A total score combines the scores from the subscales. The cumulative sum can be continuous or categorized as low, medium, or high support of gender-equitable norms.

The four subscales include:

- **Violence:** Items 1-6
- **Reproductive health and disease prevention:** Items 7-11
- **Sexuality:** Items 12-19
- **Domestic life and childcare:** Items 20-24

The range of total scores is 24 to 72.

The range indicates:

- **Low equity:** 24-39 points
- **Medium equity:** 40 to 55 points
- **High equity:** 56 to 72 points

Reference

Vu, L., Pulerwitz, J., Burnett-Zieman, B., Banura, C., Okal, J., & Yam, E. (2017). Inequitable gender norms from early adolescence to young adulthood in Uganda: Tool validation and differences across age groups. *The Journal of Adolescent Health, 60*(2S2), S15–S21.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2016.09.027>