Perceptions of American Immigrants Scales

Your survey contains 5 scales. A scale is a grouping of questions that are designed to collectively measure an attitude, behavior, or trait. You will need to “create” these scales as described below. Important! Have a look at the survey itself. With the exception of the “familiarity with immigrants” scale – the remaining scales are boxed in green.

**Familiarity with immigrants scale:** tell SPSS to add up the responses to the following 3 questions: PARENTS\_GRANDPAR\_IMMIGRANTS, OTHER\_FAMILY\_IMMIGRANTS, and FRIENDS\_IMMIGRANTS. Name this new variable “FWIscale”. This “sum” becomes everyone’s score on the familiarity with immigrants scale.

**Personal experience with discrimination scale:** tell SPSS to add up the responses to the 7 questions that make up this scale. Name this new variable “PEDscale”. This “sum” becomes everyone’s score on the personal experience with discrimination scale.

**Negative beliefs scale:** tell SPSS to take the MEAN of the 7 questions that make up this scale. Name this new variable “NBscale”. This “mean” becomes everyone’s score on the negative beliefs scale.

**Positive belief scale:** tell SPSS to take the MEAN of the 3 questions that make up this scale. Name this new variable “PBscale”. This “mean” becomes everyone’s score on the positive beliefs scale. Do not include “validate” in the calculation of this mean!

**Social concern scale**: tell SPSS to take the MEAN of the 9 questions that make up this scale. Call this new variable “SCscale”. This “mean” becomes everyone’s score on the social concern scale.

Lab lectures 1 and 2 run through examples of how to create a new variable in SPSS by finding the mean (or sum) of existing variables in the data set.