Parental Aspirations Recode

The SPSS syntax below codes parental aspirations from question s049 and s050 on the student survey. First, the code converts those items into a categorical variable corresponding with values corresponding to "don't know or no parent," "high school or less," "less than BA/BS," "BA/BS" or "greater than a BA/BS."

```
*** mother and father aspirations ***.

if s049 eq 8               fathasp eq 1.
if s049 eq 9               fathasp eq 1.
if s049 ge 1 and s049 le 2 fathasp eq 2.
if s049 gt 2 and s049 lt 5 fathasp eq 3.
if s049 eq 5               fathasp eq 4.
if s049 ge 6 and s049 le 7 fathasp eq 5.
if missing(fathasp) fathasp = s049 .
variable label fathasp 'maternal edu asp for student'.

if s050 eq 8               mothasp eq 1.
if s050 eq 9               mothasp eq 1.
if s050 ge 1 and s050 le 2 mothasp eq 2.
if s050 gt 2 and s050 lt 5 mothasp eq 3.
if s050 eq 5               mothasp eq 4.
if s050 ge 6 and s050 le 7 mothasp eq 5.
if missing(mothasp ) mothasp = s050 .
variable label mothasp 'maternal edu asp for student'.

** Maximum of mother and father aspirations
* -- reduces number of missing .

compute         parntasp =max(fathasp, mothasp).
variable label parntasp
'max parental aspirations--max of mother/s50 & father/s49'.

value labels mothasp fathasp parntasp
 1 'dk, no parent'
 2 'hs or less'
 3 'lt BA/BS'
 4 'BA/BS'
 5 'gt BA/BS'
 -99797  'No more valid answers (possibly incomplete student survey)'
   -999  'Missing for some other reason (DK/Refused/Skipped Question)'.
```