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THE NEGLECTED SENDER

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A small group (33) of students with no knowledge of parapsychology was also tested and the results were very different. Thirty-three per cent claimed to have had an OBE and of these, most (82 per cent) claimed more than one. This is similar to the findings of previous surveys and further highlights the difference between the different types of respondent. Further comparisons of this kind are planned.

ESP AND PERCEPTUAL DEFENSIVENESS: A REPLICATION

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(University of Utrecht)

The Defense Mechanism Test (DMT) developed by Kragh in Sweden, which seems to have been reasonably well validated to measure psychological defensiveness in perception, has offered a rather unusual opportunity for testing the distortive-defensive concept of the bidirectionality of ESP. Detailed descriptions of the DMT have been given at earlier conventions and in the November 1979 issue of the EJP.

Several experiments have tested the relationship between subjects' ESP scores and characteristics in their DMT-protocols. In the majority of these experiments statistically significant relationships have been found. Subjects showing a high level of defensive organization in their DMT-protocols have tended as a group to obtain ESP scores at or below MCE, whereas a low level of certain types of "defensiveness" tends to go together with positive scoring.

Procedure

Each subject participated in three sessions. Session I: 178 male students at various faculties at the University of Iceland completed an 18-item questionnaire dealing with dream recall and sleeping habits. At the end of the questionnaire was a 40-trial forced-choice precognition test ($p = 1/4$) with four different letters as targets, to be randomly selected for each subject by the university computer after all subjects had written their calls. From this pool of subjects, extreme groups were selected on the basis of high or low dream recall. In a study in 1970, Johnson had found a positive correlation between freedom from certain types of defensive structures in the DMT and ability to recall dreams. In another study he'd been able to show a positive correlation between ability to recall dreams and ESP-scoring. In this way, we hoped to obtain more extreme DMT-scorers than by the use of unselected subjects on the dream-recall variable.

Session II: 65 male subjects were administered the DMT.

Sixty provided usable protocols which M. J. scored during his stay in Iceland. Most of these subjects were drawn from the groups of high or low dream-recallers. Seven subjects were selected for DMT-testing based on extreme scores on the paper and pencil test; three based on low; four, on high scores.

Session III: A day or two after the DMT-testing, each subject participated in a 40-trial ($p = 1/5$) precognition computer game. Four psychology students served as experimenters, testing two subjects at one time. Continuous feedback of hits and misses was given. Emphasis was put on trying to create a playful but at the same time competitive spirit among the subjects. If a subject obtained a score of 12 or higher (MCE = 8), he or she received a book as a reward. Fifty-four subjects participated in this part of the experiment. Calls and targets and number of hits were automatically recorded by the computer. Tests of randomness of the RNG were carried out before and after each ESP computer game. The DMT-protocols were scored according to a stannine scale.

Results

When the total ESP scores (from the precognition test of paper and pencil type, and from the computer game) were correlated with DMT-ratings, a marginally significant correlation of $r_s = .26$ ($p = .03$, one-tailed) was obtained. For the precognition test alone, the correlation is .21, and .14 for the computer game. Both are non-significant.

As in previous studies, experimenters conducting the ESP-test were kept ignorant of the outcome of the DMT-testing, which was in the hands of M. J. only. M. J., in turn, was not informed of the outcome of the ESP-test. The procedure as such was double-blind. However, toward the end of the experiment an accident occurred. A list of ten names of subjects who had scored with extreme ESP-scores in the paper and pencil precognition test had been left by one of the student-experimenters in a lab room where M. J. was working. He couldn't help noticing and identifying some of the names and the ESP-scores. This could have affected his scoring of the protocols. It is therefore imperative that these protocols be independently evaluated. The help of Dr. Kragh has been secured. His evaluation will be crucial for the assessment of the whole study.

THE NEGLECTED SENDER: PRELIMINARY INDICATION THAT MULTIPLE SENDERS MAY ENHANCE PSI PERFORMANCE

Charles T. Tart,[†] Paul Chambers, and Melody Creel (University of California, Davis)

When "mental telepathy" was a dominant model for psi, the

role of the sender or agent seemed intuitively obvious: as well as the receiver being "receptive," someone needed to generate a strong psi signal and "send" it, if success was to be likely. When Rhine and his associates at Duke University found that clairvoyance experiments, with no real-time "sender" present, frequently seemed to work about as well as telepathy or GESP experiments, the role of the sender seemed less important, if indeed he really mattered at all. In parapsychological research today, the sender receives little, if any, attention. Is the sender really unimportant, or has he become unfortunately neglected for extraneous reasons? Personal observations by many experimenters in our laboratory, working with percipients on various versions of the ten-choice training devices, suggest that the sender is, at least occasionally, quite important, and that a group of senders (as when visitors are being shown the laboratory) may be especially effective. The following pilot study was carried out to see if these impressions would receive any objective support.

Data were collected on the Apple/ADEPT (A/ADEPT) ESP testing and feedback training device. Briefly, this consists of a circle of ten unlit lamps, numbered one to ten, with a push-button beside each. The percipient indicated her call by pushing the button beside the target she thought had been selected on each trial. The correct target lamp then came on for immediate feedback. A closed-circuit television camera displayed the percipient's hand movements over the response console on a TV screen mounted beside the experimenter/sender's console in another room. For group-sending sessions, the TV signal was also sent to either of two auditoriums in distant (more than one thousand feet) buildings on the UC Davis campus.

M. C. was the percipient in all eight sessions. She was chosen on the basis of availability and interest, and the fact that she had worked the previous fall with C. T. T. and P. C. as an experimenter in a small class dealing with psi experimentation. While it would have been desirable to have a percipient who had previously demonstrated psi abilities in this type of test, time limitations did not allow this. Thus, using M. C. as a percipient made the possible role of multiple sender even more important.

Four of the planned eight sessions were to involve only P. C. as the experimenter operating the equipment and the sole sender. The other four were to involve a group of students from C. T. T.'s ongoing class on Altered States of Consciousness acting as a group in one or the other of the distant auditoriums, as well as P. C. continuing to act as experimenter and sender. Time considerations determined that C. T. T. would lead the group-sending process on two occasions and his teaching assistant, Paul Hardy (P. H.), would lead them on the other two. Attendance in each group session ranged from 12 to 31. The experimenter and percipient, P. C. and M. C., were kept ignorant of which sessions were group and which were single-sender.

As the random scheduling turned out, C. T. T. led the first and third sending groups, P. H. the second and fourth. C. T. T. was the class instructor and thus much better known to the student senders, and C. T. T. is a known psi-favorable experimenter, while P. H., his teaching assistant, has no particular interest in psi: thus it seemed reasonable to look at C. T. T.'s and P. H.'s group-sending data separately.

Time constraints on running the experiment forced us to settle for a total of eight planned sessions, which is too small for a sensitive between-groups analysis, but could suggest differences if they were pronounced. Each session consisted of 22 trials. One single-sender session was aborted for extraneous reasons.

As a whole, the experiment produced 19 hits in 154 trials, a non-significant result. In analyzing the two multiple-sender conditions and the single-sender conditions, however, we find that C. T. T.'s group sessions yielded ten hits in 44 trials ($p = .01$, one-tailed, exact binomial), P. H.'s group sessions yielded an insignificant three hits in 44 trials, and the three single-sender sessions yielded an insignificant six hits in 66 trials. One of the group-sending sessions led by C. T. T. was also remarkable in having an apparently sustained period of psi functioning, consisting of a hit, followed by a miss, followed by three hits in a row, followed by a near hit (-1 spatial displacement).

The group-sending sessions led by C. T. T. attracted twice as many student senders as those led by P. H., and both of C. T. T.'s sessions were in mid-afternoon (3 p. m.) as compared to the morning sessions (9 a. m.) of P. H. Such possible confounding factors should be taken into account in future research.

This brief pilot experiment suggests that the neglect of the sender, common in modern psi research, may be deleterious. Perhaps multiple senders who can coordinate a simple burst of strong emotion in a tight time-slot create a psi signal that is easier for a percipient to respond to. A similar effect might hold for multiple agents in PK.

PSI-INFLUENCED MOVEMENT OF CHICKS AND MICE ONTO A VISUAL CLIFF

Carroll B. Nash[†] and Catherine S. Nash (St. Joseph's University)

Nine chicks and ten mice were tested in 65 and 45 trials, respectively each by three agents to determine whether they could be paranormally influenced in a two-choice situation to move onto a visual cliff (a sheet of glass over an empty space) more frequently when they were willed to do so than when they were willed to move