Extrasensory Perception, Dissociation, and Motor Automatisms

Results:

80 volunteers completed Watson's Dissociative Processes Scale (DPS) prior to an ESP task preceded by a taped progressive relaxation exercise. Pasted on a computer writing tablet was a 4x4 grid of 16 1-inch squares each with a number 1-4. For 36 trials, participants (Ps) explored the grid with a computer pen, indicating their guess of the randomly selected target by stopping for 1 sec. There were 4 cells in a 2x2 design with the IVs being hand used for the ESP task (right vs. left) and an additional dissociation facilitator (simultaneously blanking the mind with eyes closed while moving the pen vs. reading quotations on a screen). The DV was "location hits," an unweighted combination of square and quadrant hits. The ANOVA revealed significant psi-missing in the quotations/left condition (QL) and significant psi-hitting elsewhere (EQR). A prediction that Ps experiencing the hand being moved by an outside force (OF) during some of the task would score higher than other Ps was suggestively confirmed, significantly in the EQR condition. OF responses were significantly predicted by the DPS Detachment (DET) subscale. Location hits correlated significantly with DPS Imagination (IMA) and suggestively with DET. IMA and DET correlated significantly with number hits across all conditions. The data were interpreted as reflecting psi mediation on different trials by (a) a motor process restricted to location hits in the EQR condition and predicted by the OF item and the independent variance of DET re IMA, and (b) by a cognition process operative in all conditions, predicted by the joint variance of DET and IMA and mediating number as well as location hits.

Published Works:

Area(s) of Interest:

Parapsychology, psychology, neurophysiology

Researchers' Contacts:

John Palmer, Ph.D.
500 Dupont Dr., #52, Durham, NC 27705, USA
Phone: 1-919-308-8292
Email: john@rhine.org