

## THE EXPLORATION OF ESP AND HUMAN PERSONALITY

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The purpose of the research abridged in this report was to explore the connection between the functioning of ESP and a wide range of personality factors. Questionnaires devised by Guilford, by Guilford and Martin, by R. B. Cattell and by Cason were used for the personality assessment. For the ESP side of the study, two types of clairvoyance tests were used for each subject: (1) "Unknown" Runs in which the subject was informed of his success or failure only at the end of each test, and (2) "Known" Runs, in which the subject was shown the actual target card after each guess.

Taken as a whole, the pooled results showed no evidence of ESP. However, when ESP was correlated to personality characteristics, there was evidence that ESP ability was significantly related to at least 8 factors. The most striking of these was Guilford and Martin's Factor I, Self-Confidence. The confident subjects tended to score at a higher level in the ESP tests than the non-confident. The non-confident people began almost as successfully as the confident ones, but their success was short-lived and these subjects declined in their scores.

A second factor was Cattell's factor of Emotional Stability. It was also significantly correlated with the total ESP scores. In general, the more stable a subject's emotions, the higher his ESP score tended to be.

The two factors of Self-Confidence and Emotional Stability were also treated in conjunction with each other, using the technique of multiple correlation. It was found that the group of subjects who were both confident and stable gave higher

ESP averages than those given by either the stable or confident groups alone. Similarly, those subjects who were both unconfident and "unstable" gave a lower ESP average than that of either the unconfident or "unstable" groups alone.

These results add evidence to previous research that the mere absence of a high or low total score does not permit the conclusion that ESP is not functioning. In fact, the authors believe in the likelihood that ESP is always present.

The remainder of the paper discussed the advantages of further experimentation along the lines of this research. It was pointed out that short experimental sessions with few ESP runs are of little use, that better results come from working with subjects singly rather than in groups and that the present type of experimentation has great promise.