

SOME UNPUBLISHED EVIDENCE REGARDING THE OCCURRENCE OF PSYCHOKINESIS

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The primary purpose of the experiment condensed in this report was to give evidence for the occurrence of psychokinetic effects under conditions that would exclude, as far as practicable, all counterhypotheses. Concern was expressed regarding the fact that while telepathy is accepted as fully established, doubt about the reality of psychokinesis is felt in many quarters. But the underlying attitude for an *a priori* belief in telepathy, and doubt about PK, has nothing to do with experimental evidence. Because our ignorance in psychology is vast, it is easy to accept the possibility of a strange mind-to-mind phenomenon (telepathy). There are no pre-conceptions to be broken down, except the pre-conception that telepathy does not occur. Clairvoyance and PK on the other hand are a violation of common sense since they involve matter-to-mind and mind-to-matter relationships clearly related to the province of physics.

Since it is believed that the behavior of a falling solid object such as a die is understood, it is hard for most people to concede the possibility of a new kind of interaction. The author does not share this opinion. The fact of telepathy has been enough to destroy his pre-conceptions, and the firm establishment of clairvoyance rather leads him to expect PK as a converse effect. Even though there may be no reason to doubt the possibility of PK, there is every reason to ask for more rigorous proof of its occurrence. Hence the experiment about the behavior of dice presented in this report.

393 previously untested subjects threw 170,000 die faces,

two at a time, under the supervision of three experimenters. The first third of the throws was made by the subject from a cup and the last two-thirds tumbled within a motor-driven cage while being automatically photographed. The total score for all the throws was less than theoretical expectation by 91, an insignificant deviation from the chance level. The "quarter distribution analysis" method of statistics was used to determine the decline effect. In the manner anticipated from the literature, the average score declined over the data page at a rate that would be exceeded by chance alone on an average of once in 500 such experiments.

Four methods for calculating the chance probability of the observed quadrant difference were used. The first three assumed a binomial situation; the fourth applied the null hypothesis over all pages of the first-last run score difference on the page. These methods and various precautions such as X-raying and secretly marking the dice, and overlapping controls to ensure proper photographic timing were taken to exclude the following counter-hypotheses: recording and arithmetic errors, retroactive choice of target, optional stopping, selection or loss of data, selection of analysis, selection of experiment, dice bias, and "starting effect." Although no unqualified claim concerning the elimination of ESP as a counter-hypothesis was made, it was maintained that the significantly extra-chance results could not readily be explained by this means.