

Newborn Predictors of Reactivity at 4 Months

Results:

A large group of healthy newborns were filmed while being administered a Brazelton examination and these infants were seen again at 4 months when they were shown a battery of visual, auditory and olfactory stimuli.

The newborns who cried intensely and were difficult to console were most likely to display at 4 months of age vigorous activity of limbs and crying to the stimuli. This result suggests that this group was born with a temperament that rendered them easily aroused to stimulation. These infants are biased to become inhibited children.

Published work:

Kagan, J., Snidman, N., Kahn, V., Towsley, S., Steinberg, L., & Fox, N. (2007). The preservation of two infant temperaments into adolescence. *Monographs of the Society for Research in Child Development*, 72(2), vii, 1-95.

Kagan, J. (2005). Human morality and temperament, in edited by G. Carlo, & C. P. Edwards, C. (Eds.), Moral motivation through the lifespan. *Nebraska Symposium on Motivation* (Vol. 51, pp. 1-32). Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska Press.

Kagan, J. (2002). Childhood predictors of states of anxiety. *Dialogues in Clinical Neuroscience*, 4(3), 197-202.

Kagan, J. (2001). Unmet needs in diagnosis and treatment of mood disorders in children and adolescents. *Biological Psychiatry*, 49(12), 973-979. doi: 10.1016/S0006-3223(01)01180-5

Kagan, J., Snidman, N., McManis, M., & Woodward, S. (2001). Temperamental contributions to the affect family of anxiety. *The Psychiatric Clinics of North America*, 24(4), 677-688. doi: 10.1016/S0193-953X(05)70257-4

Researcher's contacts:

Professor Jerome Kagan,
Department of Psychology,
Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone 617 495 3870
FAX 617
495 3278
E- mail: jk@wjh.harvard.edu