

Considering the Sender in Ostensible Ganzfeld Esp Studies to be a Pk Source

Results:

Study 1 compared success rates of 'live' receivers and an RNG analogue. During a 'standard' autoganzfeld sending period, a 'virtual' receiver (an RNG) selected from among 768 statements that described all clips in a pool of 96 videos (8 for each clip). The 8 most frequently selected were given to an independent judge as a 'virtual mentation'. The 'live' receiver correctly identified the target on 14 trials (35% hit rate; MCE = 25%), significantly better than chance (sum of ranks $Z = 1.77$, $p = .038$). Virtual mentations gave an encouraging 13 hits (32.5%; SOR $Z = 1.48$, $p = .069$). Study 2 compared sender and no-sender trials. Receivers scored at chance, slightly better in sender trials than no sender trials (26.1% versus 23.5%). Two independent judges using the virtual mentation produced hit rates of 30.6% and 16.7%; both gave non-significantly higher hit rates for the sender trials than for the no sender trials (42.1% versus 17.6%; 26.3% versus 5.9%), indicative of a sender effect. Study 3 manipulated target lability, comparing a true RNG, the PC's pseudorandom function and a pre-generated set of random numbers. We did not recruit 'live' receivers, but accurately briefed participants about the study and gave immediate feedback. Significant psi hitting was not obtained in any single condition, but there was a predicted interaction effect between target and sender lability, ($F_{4, 74} = 4.959$, $p = .001$); 'stable' senders gave highest psi hitting with the most labile target system, while labile senders showed the reverse. This effect was replicated in Study 4 ($F_{4,74} = 2.747$, $p = .034$), which also found a trend supporting a predicted interaction between feedback and sending strategy ($F =_{(1,36)} = 3.061$, $p = .053$).

Published work:

Journal papers

- Roe, C.A., & Holt, N., (2006). The effects of strategy ('willing' versus absorption) and feedback (immediate versus delayed) on PK performance. *Journal of Parapsychology*, **70**, 49-67.
- Holt, N., & Roe, C.A. (2006). The sender as a PK agent in ESP studies: The Effects of agent and target system lability upon performance at a novel PK task. *Journal of Parapsychology* **70**, 69-90.
- Roe, C.A., & Holt, N. (2005). A further consideration of the sender as a PK agent in ganzfeld ESP studies. *Journal of Parapsychology*, **69**, 113-127.
- Roe, C. A., Holt, N., & Simmonds, C. A. (2003). Considering the sender as a PK agent in ganzfeld ESP studies. *Journal of Parapsychology*, **67**, 129-145.

Published conference Proceedings

- Roe, C.A., & Holt, N., (2006). Assessing the role of the sender as a PK agent in ESP studies: The effects of strategy ('willing' versus absorption) and feedback

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(immediate versus delayed) on psi performance. *Proceedings of Presented Papers: The Parapsychological Association 49th Annual Convention*, 189-204.

Holt, N. J., & Roe, C. A. (2005). The sender as a PK agent in ESP studies: The Effects of agent and target system lability upon performance at a novel PK task. *Proceedings of Presented Papers: The Parapsychological Association 48th Annual Convention*, 57-70.

Roe, C.A., & Holt, N., (2004). A further consideration of the sender as a PK agent in ganzfeld ESP studies. *Proceedings of Presented Papers: The Parapsychological Association 47th Annual Convention*, pp. 197-206.

Conference Presentations

Roe, C.A., & Holt, N., (2006). Assessing the role of the sender as a PK agent in ESP studies: The effects of strategy ('willing' versus absorption) and feedback (immediate versus delayed) on psi performance. *Paper presented at the Society for Psychical Research 30th International Conference*, Liverpool Hope University College, 1-3 Sept.

Holt, N. J., & Roe, C. A. (2005b). The effects of lability and stability upon performance at a novel PK task: Further consideration of the sender as a PK agent in ESP studies.

Roe, C.A., & Holt, N. (2004). *Could the sender in traditional Ganzfeld ESP studies be serving as a PK agent?* Paper presented at the Society for Psychical Research 28th International Conference, West Downs Centre, University College Winchester, 3rd– 5th Sept.

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