

Exploring extrasensory perception under hypnosis stimulation: personality, imagery, creativity dimension using emotional/neutral targets and relax-tension/hypnosis condition

Results:

We conducted two trials of a free-response ESP test. The aim was to determine if two groups, 'low'- and 'high'-scorers on a measure of hypnotic susceptibility, would score differently on a psi-hitting task. We used the *Harvard Group Scale of Hypnotic Susceptibility* which assesses the hypnotisability of subjects when tested in groups. The sample ($N = 101$ psi-believing participants; 69 females and 32 males) was split into 'High HS' ($n = 20$) and 'Low HS' groups ($n = 81$) based on HS scores. There was a significant difference between the two groups on Hypnotic Susceptibility and psi scores (i.e., number of hits), $t(99) = 2.31, p = .012$. A second study was carried out. A number of papers have investigated the idea of rational versus intuitive thinking and how this might relate to paranormal beliefs. Those who possess *both* intuitive and rational thinking styles are more likely to report paranormal experiences and subjective paranormal ability than those who express *either* intuitive or rational thinking. The purpose of the present study was to investigate the differences between psychic claimants ($N = 49$) and non-psychic claimants ($N = 45$) on such personality factors as Global Constructive Thinking, Emotional Coping, Behavioural Coping, and Esoteric Thinking. The sample consisted of 94 participants, all of whom believed in psi. Participants completed the *Constructive Thinking Inventory* and the *Anomalous Experiences Inventory*. The psychic claimants group had significantly higher scores on 12 out of 23 factors/facets which could not all be explained by chance. Compared to non-psychic claimants, the psychic claimants tend to have more positive attitudes; their thinking is action-oriented; they are good behavioural copers; they think in ways that promote effective action; and they are more accepting of others. At the same time, they are more rigid in their thinking than non-psychic claimants.

Published works:

PEER-REVIEW ARTICLES

Parra, A. & Argibay, J.C. (2013). A free-response ESP test in two hypnotic susceptibility groups: A pilot study. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 13(1), 27-35.

Parra, A. & Argibay, J.C. (2011). Thinking styles of psychic claimants. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 11(1), 61-71.

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Areas of interest:

Parapsychology

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