

Psi Related Experiences and Spatialization: the use of geographic information systems to investigate spontaneous Psi Phenomena and experient profiling

Results:

Questions relating to five forms of paranormal experience (telepathy, precognition, extra sensory perception, contact with the dead, and mystical/transcendent experiences) were included in two face-to-face IPSOS/Mori omnibus surveys conducted in January and February 2009. In total, a weighted, representative sample of 4, 096 adults (16 years+) was collected from 203 sample points in the UK.

11% of the respondents reported at least one telepathic experience; 24% of the respondents reported at least one experience of precognition; 13% of respondents reported at least one experience of extra sensory perception; 10% of respondents reported at least one experience of after after-death communication; and 12% of respondents reported at least on mystical/transcendent experience. Over a third of all respondents reported one or more of these five experiences (36.8 %). This is lower than other existing results but in the middle of *estimates* suggesting that between 25-45 % of the population is likely to report having had a paranormal experience. With very few exceptions, there was little evidence of significant correlations between reports of experiences and traditional sociological or geodemographic variables (perhaps the most notable exception being the confirmation of the finding from previous studies that women overwhelmingly report more experiences than men). Spatial analysis showed a statistically significant regional skew towards the south west of England. By contrast, the north of England and London showed a statistically significant low level of reports of these psi related/anomalous phenomena.

Published Works:

Full papers

Castro. M., Burrows, R., and Wooffitt, R. 'The paranormal is (still) normal: anomalous experience in the UK' (in preparation, to be submitted to *Sociology*).

Castro. M., Burrows, R., and Wooffitt, R. 'Some socio structural aspects of the incidence of paranormal experiences in the UK' (in preparation, to be submitted to the *European Journal of Parapsychology*).

Contributions to books

Wooffitt, R. (2010) 'Towards a sociological parapsychology' in M. Smith (ed.) *anomalous Experiences: Essays from Parapsychological and Psychological Perspectives*. North Carolina and London: McFarland, 72-91.

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Areas of interest:

Psi-related experiences, survey analysis, spatial analysis.

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