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LARGE-SCALE ONLINE TESTING OF PSI ABILITIES TO IDENTIFY AND TEST TALENTED INDIVIDUALS

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Background: Identifying psi talent may be critical in producing robust, statistically significant results in psi research. To achieve this aim, we need to test a large number of participants and test them again to assess if the results are reproducible.

Aims: The project has three aims:

- 1) develop and integrate various psi tasks into a single online platform;
- 2) develop sophisticated ways of analyzing the data to identify talents;
- 3) assess test-retest scores of talents to ensure exceptional performance is consistent.

Methods: We collected a large sample online to increase robustness by aggregating psi data over large groups of participants by finding psi talent, a method that was successfully used in the 1970s. We tested participants on 8 online games: a quick remote viewing game, a long remote viewing game, a dowsing game, three card games, a telekinesis bubble game, and a lottery game. We also assessed test-retest reliability.

Results: We successfully collected data on more than 1000 participants in the first phase of the project and tested again 50 participants in the top 200 participants of phase 1. During the retests, we observed some significant results for the quick remote viewing game (p=0.02) and bubble games (p=0.03), although these results did not survive correction for multiple comparisons.

Conclusion: Although after correction for multiple comparisons, none of the retests was significant, a significant trend suggests some of the psi tasks could identify psi talents that have stable performance in a test and retest protocol. Perhaps with more subjects, this trend would reach significance. A journal article is in preparation.

Keywords: Psi, Extrasensory perception, Paranormal belief, Online

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