

## **FIELD DEPENDENCE AND PERSONALITY: COMMENTS ON GHUMAN'S ARTICLE**

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*It is suggested that Ghuman (1977) ignored studies which found significant, although only moderate, relationships between field dependence and personality variables. Secondly, it is suggested that his measures may have been insensitive in detecting relationships between field dependence and personality variables.*

Ghuman (1977) reported significant relationships between field dependence and social class and cognitive variables but nonsignificant relationships between field dependence and personality variables. It is suggested that Ghuman ignored much literature which has shown significant although moderate relationships between field dependence and personality variables. In fairness to Ghuman, it must be noted that some studies were not available at the time of his publication. Secondly, it is suggested that Ghuman's measures may have been relatively insensitive in detecting relationships between field dependence and personality variables.

Ghuman acknowledged Evan's (1967) finding of a relationship between field dependence and extraversion, a relationship extended by the present author (Loo, 1976; Loo and Townsend, 1977). However, he failed to acknowledge the interesting interaction between field dependence and extraversion in relation to neuroticism as first demonstrated by Fine (1972). Essentially, Fine noted that field-dependent introverts tended to be higher in neuroticism than any of the three other possible field dependence and extraversion categories. This finding was later confirmed in other studies (*e.g.*, Doyle, 1976; Loo, 1978a). Furthermore, Loo's (1978b) re-examination of the relationship between field dependence and neuroticism suggested that field dependence may be related to components of neuroticism rather than to overall scale scores.

There may be two possible alternative reasons for the low correlations Ghuman obtained between field dependence and the personality variables. First, only one form of the Children's Personality Questionnaire was administered, so that only five scores were recorded for each of the 14 scales. Clearly, the range of scores for each scale was very small and would serve to greatly restrict the magnitude of correlations. Secondly, the reported mean for the Children's Embedded Figures Test was significantly higher and the standard deviation smaller than those reported in the manual; thus, his sample was perhaps atypical. In addition, the small standard deviation might also have the effect of restricting the magnitude of correlations.

## REFERENCES

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