The Rorschach Factor Structure and Personality Assessment of Normal Indian Adults

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Exploratory factor analysis method was used to examine the factor structure of Rorschach variables in a sample of 530 normal Indian adults (265 male and female each) aged 20-30 years. Five factors clearly identified as ‘Affective sphere’ (defined by C sum, C CF and FC), ‘Intellectual sphere’ (defined by M, W, P, EA and H), ‘Productivity’ (defined by D, R and F%), ‘Adaptive sphere’ (defined by A+ and A) and ‘Striving for independence’ (defined by DS, Ds and Dd). Variables on the affective sphere, productivity and striving for independence were exhibit mixed type of correlation, however intellectual sphere shows positive correlation and adaptive sphere illustrates negative correlation with IQ of the respondents. We also discussed personality characteristics of the respondents in the light of five identified factor components. The persons of different age groups like children, older population and illiterate people should make a draw for further consideration.

Keywords: Rorschach, Personality, PCA, WAIS, IQ.

“It is hard to understand human action without having acquaintance and analysis of actions of personality unit as a whole seeking to preserve it and its comfort” (Beck, 1952). Personality assessment procedures have evolved centuries ago; however, they were formally developed and became popular in the early 19th century (Rabin, 1981). The available supply of personality assessment procedures is large and diversified with respect to structure and content. Two separate approaches have been used in psychology to assess the personality: performance based (or the clinical approach) and self-reporting inventories (or the academic approach) (Meyer, 1992). The Rorschach test is one of the best projective techniques that is widely used in both clinical and academic research (Bagadia, Anand, Saraf, & Shah, 1971). Evidence of validity and reliability of Rorschach test has been reported previously (Bornstein & Masling, 2005; Exner & Erdberg, 2005; Meyer & Archer, 2001; Viglione, 1999).

The Rorschach inkblot test is also very useful on measurement of intellectual functioning of an individual, appraisal and understanding of how an individual directs his natural competence in his life objectives (Shweta, Bajpai, Sengar, Singh, & Singh, 2012). Intellectual level depends on the knowledge assimilated in one’s life experience. It is supposed that the whole perception with ambiguity reflects relatively low level of capacity, however, clear and organized perception indicates high level of intellectual ability. Rorschach Inkblot escorts the hypothesis that the intelligence quotient reflects the performance of the subject. On the other hand, various researchers have uncovered the correlation between Rorschach variables and different intelligence scales (Shweta et al., 2012; Joanna, Adrian, & Loannis, 2006; Wood, Krishnamurthy, & Archer, 2003; Joseph & Roopa, 2001; Wanger, Young, & Wanger, 1992; Hathaway, 1982; Smith, 1981). Moreover, Rorschach test has been used to examine the factor structure of personality of an individual over the last many years (Wood et al., 2003 and Meyer, 1992). The earlier research on factor structure of Rorschach showed only one, but occasionally two R factors in all data set along with D, Dd, F and another identified factor was defined as W, CF, +C, Zf, sum C and T (Meyer, 1992). Wood et al. (2003) attempted to integrate personality structure; three factors identified productivity, synthesized complexity, and form