

THE RORSCHACH, ASSESSMENT OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (WILEY SERIES ON PERSONALITY PROCESSES) pdf

1: The Rorschach (edition) | Open Library

, Volume 3 ONLY, John Wiley, NY, hardcover, pages. Tables / examples / cases / references throughout. This particular volume, number 3, deals exclusively with the assessment of children and adolescents, through the use of the Rorschach.

The Rorschach technique is the most widely used projective psychological test. The Rorschach is used to help assess personality structure and identify emotional problems and mental disorders. Like other projective techniques, it is based on the principle that subjects viewing neutral, ambiguous stimuli will project their own personalities onto them, thereby revealing a variety of unconscious conflicts and motivations. Administered to both adolescents and adults, the Rorschach can also be used with children as young as three years old, although the commonly used Exner scoring system discussed below is appropriate only for test taker five years or older. The Rorschach technique can also be used for specific diagnostic purposes. Some scoring methods for the Rorschach elicit information on symptoms related to depression, schizophrenia, and anxiety disorders. Also, the test can be used to screen for coping deficits related to developmental problems in children and adolescents. Precautions The Rorschach is generally used as part of a battery of tests and must be administered by a trained psychologist. Also, scoring the Rorschach test requires training in and knowledge of a comprehensive scoring system. There is some disagreement concerning the reliability, validity, and clinical utility of the test and its scoring systems. Diagnoses for clinical disorders should not generally be based solely on the Rorschach test. Description The Rorschach technique is named for its developer, Swiss psychiatrist Hermann Rorschach. Rorschach, whose primary interest was in the psychoanalytic work of Carl Jung, began experimenting with inkblots as early as as a means of assessing introversion and extroversion. The Rorschach technique is administered using 10 cards, each containing a complicated inkblot pattern, five in black and gray, two in black and red, and three in various pastel colors. Subjects look at the cards one at a time and describe what each inkblot resembles. They are instructed to look at the shape, shading, and color of the inkblots. After the subject has viewed all 10 cards, the examiner usually goes back over the responses for additional information. The subject may be asked to clarify some responses or to describe which features of each inkblot prompted the responses. Actually, there is no one correct response to any inkblot card, although there are certain common responses to some cards. The test taker is given a lot of flexibility with how to respond to the inkblots. If a test taker asks if he or she is allowed to turn the card upside-down, the test administrator Example of a Rorschach inkblot test. A response like this from the test administrator is consistent with the projective nature of the Rorschach technique in that the test taker is projecting his or her personality onto the test stimuli. Results Rorschach, who pioneered the test in, did not provide a comprehensive scoring system. In response to complaints about validity, scoring methods have been devised that aim at providing greater objectivity by clearly specifying certain personality variables and relating them to clinical diagnoses. Originally published in the s, the Exner Comprehensive Rorschach System used today the updated version is a computer-based scoring system that provides score summaries and lists likely personality and adjustment descriptions for each test taker. Exner also recorded certain popular and common responses to the cards and the degree to which test takers chose these responses. It should be noted, however, that many examiners still interpret the scores without benefit of a computer. One is location, or what part of the blot a person focuses on: Another is whether the response is based on factors such as form, color, movement, or shading. These factors are referred to as determinants. For example, people who tend to see movement in Rorschach blots are thought to be intellectual and introspective; those who see mostly stationary objects or patterns are described as practical and action-oriented. Finally, content refers to which objects, persons, or situations the person sees in the blot. Content categories include humans, animals, clothing, and nature. Most examiners also assess responses based on the frequency of certain responses as given by previous test takers. While the Rorschach technique is still widely used, its popularity has decreased somewhat in recent decades.

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Unlike objective personality inventories, which can be administered to a group, the Rorschach test must be given individually. A skilled examiner is required, and the test can take several hours to complete and interpret. Like other projective tests, it has been criticized for lack of validity and reliability. In addition, treatment procedures at mental health facilities often require more specific, objective types of personality description than those provided by the Rorschach technique. There have, however, been studies that support the validity of the Rorschach test. This sample included a large number of schizophrenic and depressed individuals. The Rorschach® A Comprehensive System. Basic Foundations, Volume One. John Wiley and Sons, Handbook of Psychological Assessment. The Handbook of Psychological Testing. Other articles you might like:

2: The Rorschach, Assessment of Children and Adolescents by John E. Exner Jr.

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