

enables these to be evaluated by an external judge. Two target film clips along with their sets were randomly chosen from the digitalised film library contained in the computer hard disc.

The first study involved 64 double session trials (N=128). All the sessions were evaluated by an external judge obtaining first rank hits close to the 25% chance expectancy. Half the sessions were also judged by the receiver giving a 14% direct hits ( $p = .05$ , two-tailed). Using only the book-marks, the external judge raised his hit rate from 25% to the 33%. Comparing the receiver's judgements with the external judge's showed the external judgments to be significantly higher ( $p < .05$ ). When judge and receiver disagreed on which was the target film, the external judge was more likely to be correct ( $\text{Chi}^2 4.51, p = .03$ ). Receivers who brought a friend to serve in the role of sender (N=22) gave a 46% hit rate ( $p = .03$ ). Senders rated the affect of the film target significantly higher for hits than for misses.

The second study carried 37 double session trials (N=74) and obtained a first rank hit frequency of 32.4% and a small-medium effect size: 0.17 ( $z = 1.48, p = .09$ ). The trials with one session per day (N=38) gave a 45% hit frequency ( $p < .05$ ) while those with two sessions (N= 36) gave a 19% hit rate. The difference in hit rate between one versus maximum two sessions per day was also significant ( $p < .05$ ).

**Título/Title:** "Psi in a Relational Culture: An Exploratory DMILS Study in a Non-EuroAmerican Culture"

**Instituição/Institution:** Rollins College, Florida - USA

**Duração/Duration:** 2001/03 - 2003/03

**Investigadores/Researchers:** Prof. Hoyt Edge, Prof. Luh Ketut Suryani

**Abstract:**

In spite of the great diversity among the world's cultures, each of them reports parapsychological phenomena; however, few controlled experiments have been performed to test these claims, and these experiments have yielded inconsistent results. Therefore, during 2002-3, two cognitive DMILS studies were carried out in Bali, Indonesia, to test whether an experiment based on a protocol employed in the US and in Scotland could achieve positive results in a very different, non-EuroAmerican culture.

The psi task consisted of one person (Helper) in one room trying to help another person (Helpee) in a second room to achieve success in their focus meditation. Helpees were asked to press a button each time their mind wandered from their focus meditation, and then to commence their focus meditation, again; these presses were recorded on a computer. Each run consisted of 8 one-minute Help periods randomly counterbalanced with 8 one-minute Control periods. Psi success was measured by comparing the button presses in the Help and Control conditions.

In the first study, half of the forty unpaid participants (ages 23-48, 16 females, and 24 males) were trained in meditating on a lit candle to investigate if meditation training improved psi success in this task. Ten groups of four were run; within each group, meditators and non-meditators were paired in counterbalanced conditions. Significance was achieved overall, with fewer button presses in the Help period as opposed to the Control period,  $t(37) = 2.151$ ,  $p < .025$ , one-tail, Cohen's  $d = .36$ , power = .33). Questionnaires were given to elicit their ability to focus in daily life and during the experiment.

Since the most successful condition resulted from Helpers who were trained in meditation paired with Helpees who were not trained, and who said that they were easily distracted, we pursued this set of conditions in Study 2. Each Helper was a practiced meditator, while each Helpee was not a meditator but was someone who was easily distracted and therefore needed help in focusing. Thirty unpaid volunteers, ages 23-45, participated (16 Females, 14 males). The Study consisted of 60 runs over a five day period. Again, we achieved significant results  $t(59) = 2.23$ ,  $p < .02$ , one-tailed, Cohen's  $d = .21$ , power = .20. These effect sizes were similar to those in the experiments carried out in the US and Scotland.