

tended to retard hemolysis while those over 34 tended to accelerate it. The 2nd finding involved the combined test and baseline runs but is a psi effect because the hemolysis tester was blind to run order. Ps who received the test run 1st significantly retarded hemolysis if the manipulated GMF was off and significantly accelerated hemolysis if the GMF was on. The effect in the GMF-off condition was significantly stronger for Ps with "thin" boundaries on a short form of the Hartmann Boundary Questionnaire. All these results should be considered tentative pending replication (or, in the case of the ambient GMF finding, further replication).

139/02 - "Experimenter effects and Psi performance using a digital autoganzfeld system"

Instituição/Institution: Liverpool Hope University College - UK

Duração prevista/Estimated duration: 2003/10 - 2006/03

Investigador/Researcher: Prof. Matthew D. Smith

Abstract: The replicability of ganzfeld-ESP findings continues to be debated by parapsychologists and their critics. Similarly, the 'experimenter effect' (where some experimenters are consistently more successful than others in obtaining evidence for psi) continues to be a major challenge facing experimental parapsychology. This project addresses both of these concerns.

Sixteen experimenters were trained to use DigiGanz, a digital autoganzfeld system developed in the psychology department at Liverpool Hope University, in order to conduct 8 ganzfeld trials each. Experimenters were recruited on the basis of their prior attitudes towards psi, with the aim of recruiting those obtaining either high or low scores on a measure of attitudes towards psi. Experimenter expectancy regarding the likely success of the experiment was manipulated so that half the experimenters were given a positive expectancy of success and half were given a negative expectancy of success. The effects of these independent variables upon participants' confidence of success and actual performance on a ganzfeld-ESP task were assessed. No previous research has used this approach with the ganzfeld paradigm, nor has any previous research discriminated

between the experimenter's a priori attitudes towards psi and his or her more specific expectations about the outcome of the experiment.

147/02 - "The Manipulation of Ganzfeld ESP Performance by the Control of Implicit Percipient Variables"

Instituição/Institution: Rhine Research Center, Durham – USA

Duração/Duration: 2003/01 - 2005/09

Investigadores/Researchers: Prof. James Carpenter, Dr. Christine Simmonds

Abstract: Objectives:

- To identify implicit aspects of percipient experience that discriminate ganzfeld performance
- To develop experimental manipulations that heighten psi-conductive aspects of experience, and diminish psi-disconductive aspects
- To demonstrate the effectiveness of these manipulations in new ganzfeld data
- To examine other questions of percipient experience and sender-receiver context

Methods: In Stage One, analyze 190 session transcripts of ganzfeld data previously collected in terms of a number of variables measuring aspects of implicit attitude, emotional adjustment and perceptual style. Design and pilot-test experimental manipulations intended to facilitate psi-conductive aspects identified in Stage One. In Stage Two, test 80 percipients (40 active in creative pursuits and 40 claiming previous psi experiences) randomly assigned to experimental or control conditions.

Results: Two variables, having to do with the experiences of positive self-transcendence and intellectualization were selected in Stage One, and conditions designed to heighten the first and diminish the second were designed and tested in Stage Two. Overall scoring in Stage Two data was not different from chance. The condition designed to raise scoring failed to do so, and it also failed to yield more psi-conductive aspects of experience. Other predictions were confirmed in that overall significant psi performance was observed in the form of an excess of