

**A CORRELATION BETWEEN THE OVER-ALL
AGREEMENT SCORE SCALE AND THE EGO
STRENGTH SCALE**

LYNDA MATHEWS CERRONE

A CORRELATION BETWEEN THE OVER-ALL AGREEMENT SCORE SCALE
AND THE EGO STRENGTH SCALE

An Abstract
Presented to
the Graduate Council of
Austin Peay State University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by
Lynda Mathews Cerrone

August 1973

ABSTRACT

The present investigation was initiated in order to determine the degree of relationship between agreeing response set and ego strength. It was hypothesized that: (1) a significant but inverse relationship exists between agreeing tendency and ego strength, (2) a significant difference exists between males and females on ego strength, (3) a significant difference exists between males and females on agreeing response set, and (4) a significant difference exists between males and females on the correlations obtained for each sex between agreeing response set and ego strength. The instruments employed in the investigation were Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale and Barron's Ego Strength Scale.

The subjects utilized in the present undertaking were sixty undergraduate students, of which thirty were males and thirty were females, from undergraduate psychology classes at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee. The subjects were volunteers.

Although all results were in the hypothesized direction, only the second hypothesis was confirmed. The recommendation was made that further research be initiated on the influence of sex differences on the agreeing response.

A CORRELATION BETWEEN THE OVER-ALL AGREEMENT SCORE SCALE
AND THE EGO STRENGTH SCALE

A Thesis
Presented to
the Graduate Council of
Austin Peay State University

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by
Lynda Mathews Cerrone
August 1973

To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a Thesis written by Lynda Mathews Cerrone entitled "A Correlation between the Overall Agreement Score Scale and the Ego Strength Scale."

I recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts, with a major in Psychology.

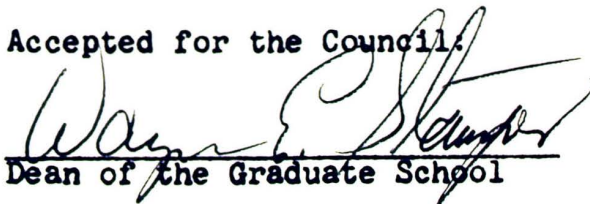

Major Professor

We have read this thesis and
recommend its acceptance:


Second Committee Member


Third Committee Member

Accepted for the Council:


Dean of the Graduate School

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to express sincere appreciation to Dr. John D. Martin, Associate Professor of Psychology, Austin Peay State University, who suggested the problem and aided and counseled her during the course of the study; to Dr. Peter Minetos and Dr. Garland Blair, Department of Psychology, for their comments and criticisms.

The author sincerely appreciates the assistance given by Dr. John D. Martin, Dr. Stephen Davis, and Mrs. Diane Patterson in providing subjects for the study. Gratitude is also extended to the students who volunteered to serve as subjects in this study.

I wish to express special appreciation to my husband Richard for his support, patience, and understanding.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION	1
Review of the Literature	1
Previous Investigation	9
Purpose of the Study	14
II. METHOD	16
The Sample	16
Description of the Instruments	16
Administration and Scoring	20
III. RESULTS	22
IV. DISCUSSION	24
V. SUMMARY	28
REFERENCES	30
APPENDIXES	35
A. Barron's Ego Strength Scale	36
B. Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale	41

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

For a number of years psychologists have recognized the importance of various response sets in the field of personality measurements (Lorge, 1937), but only since the publication of two articles by Cronbach (1946, 1950) has this biasing effect of response set been systematically studied.

As Jackson and Messick (1958) indicated in their summary of response sets on objective psychological test scores, much of this research has pertained to agreeing response set, defined as the tendency to agree or disagree with items regardless of their content. The agreeing-disagreeing tendency obviously permeates the answer patterns of response scales of the Likert-type, since it is intrinsically involved in the method of measurement itself. There have been numerous studies on the influence of the agreeing response set on many psychological tests including the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) (Fricke, 1956; Barnes, 1956).

Two general approaches to agreeing response set are evident in the literature. One approach considers the agreement tendency a statistical nuisance that must be

controlled by mathematical techniques and gives little interest to the psychological determinants of the agreeing response set in the individuals taking the tests. Supporters of this position contend that in some instruments, "the elevation score ... represents a trivial response set, such as the tendency to say 'yes' to both favorable and unfavorable questions. In that case, the dimension should probably be removed from the data" (Cronbach, 1958, p. 366).

From a second viewpoint, agreeing response set is seen as a manifestation of the responders' personality, interests, or personal "style" (Berdie, 1943; Jackson and Messick, 1958). These researchers propose that the agreement tendency is merely a general "acquiescence" tendency that results in agreement with the rather general statements of most questionnaires.

Couch and Keniston took a somewhat different position and hypothesized that "response set is a manifestation of a deep-seated personality syndrome -- whose underlying determinants serve to explain the phenotypical phenomenon of 'acquiescence' or 'agreement'" (1960, p. 151).

Using both objective test measurements and a program of clinical assessment, Couch and Keniston (1960) analyzed agreeing response set as a personality variable. Their first step was to develop an appropriate measure of this

response set which would be essentially independent of any specific content. By increasing the number and heterogeneity of items, and by "cancelling out" positive and negative statements of each variable, they obtained a 360-item Over-all Agreement Score (OAS) that met this criterion.

The OAS was developed by administering a battery of objective personality tests to 61 paid volunteer students (male, sophomore, satisfactory grades) from Harvard College enrolled in an undergraduate course in the social sciences. The battery included 681 items of the Likert-type scale from previously developed tests as well as over 200 new items. Many of the items were derived from Davids' Affect Questionnaire (1955), the factorial scales from Couch and Bales' Value Profile (1955), the Authoritarianism F Scale (Adorno, Frenkel-Brunswick, Levinson, and Sanford, 1950), Thurstone's Temperament Schedule (1949), Cattell's 16 P.F. Personality Inventory (Cattell, Saunders, and Stice, 1957), Rokeach's Dogmatism Scales (1956), and Bass' Social Acquiescence Scale (1956). Out of the total of 681 items, 360 items were selected for the final OAS to control the effect of content variables.

To fulfill the criteria for a response measure unaffected by specific content, items were chosen from thirty heterogeneous scales that had "psychological" opposites, such as Trust-Distrust, Dependency-Self-sufficiency,

Rationalism-Religiousness, Optimism-Pessimism, etc. An equal number of items on "opposite" ends of each of the dimensions measured were included in the hopes of "canceling out" the effect of any content variable on the Over-all Agreement Score. "This diversity and 'psychological balancing' of content reduced the possibility that the measure of agreeing tendency would be unduly influenced by some extraneous pattern of personality variables" (Couch and Keniston, 1960, p. 153). To the extent that this "content canceling" has been achieved, the sum score of all 360 item responses is a pure measure of agreeing response set. This approach should reduce the likelihood that correlations between the agreement measure and other scales or items are produced by content variables unintentionally built into the measure itself.

An Over-all Agreement Score (OAS) was then computed for each male subject by taking the mean of his responses to the 360 items. The range of scores obtained for the 61 male subjects was from 3.1 to 4.5, with a mean value of 3.9 and a standard deviation of 0.3. Since a high (+.85) Spearman-Brown split-half (even-odd) reliability of the entire 360 item scale was obtained, the OAS provides a reliable measure of agreeing response set as defined by the authors.

Couch and Keniston demonstrated that the OAS has

empirical characteristics which support their contention that it measures a generalized agreement tendency. The generality of the OAS was tested by correlating it with the grand sum of all 681 items of the Likert-type in the original questionnaire battery. This "grand sum" correlated $+0.94$ with the OAS.

To test the extent that response set varied from one testing session to the next, the correlations were computed between the sum of "content-cancelled" items (120) from the first two weeks of testing and the sum of "content-cancelled" items (240) from the third week of testing. The correlation coefficient was $+0.73$, indicating that agreeing and disagreeing response set operates fairly consistently over time and is not merely the product of the subject's momentary mood.

The OAS as a mean score indicates the average point along the Likert scale around which the subject tends to center his responses. However, if this tendency to agree or disagree is a manifestation of a general response set, then this set should also permeate objective tests that do not employ Likert-type items but use response categories that are similar in psychological meaning to agreement and disagreement. In order to test the generality of response set, Couch and Keniston investigated the relationship of the OAS with the agreement equivalent (marking true) on

the MMPI. About six months after the initial testing sessions, the subjects filled out the entire 566-item MMPI. As a measure of a "true-saying" response tendency, a Sum True score was computed for each subject by counting the total number of True responses on all items. This score had a correlation of $+0.64$ with the OAS, indicating that response set influences answers both to Agree-Disagree Likert items and to True-False answer patterns.

To test further the generality of agreeing response set in the objective test domain, the characteristic response patterns of the 61 male subjects was examined on Cattell's 16 P.F. Test. The total number of times each subject had marked Yes on the 217 items of the test which have an answer pattern of Yes, In Between, or No was counted. This Sum Yes score was then correlated with the OAS, giving a correlation of $+0.56$.

Couch and Keniston then proceeded to treat the OAS as a criterion measure of the agreeing response set, and correlated the score with a series of objective test domains. In the Cattell 16 P.F. Test the highest positive correlations with male subjects with the OAS are with scales (L) Suspecting, Jealous vs. Trustful, (O) Insecure, Anxious vs. Unshakable, and (Q4) Tense, Excitable vs. Phlegmatic, Poised. The highest negative relationships are with Cattell's (C) Mature, Calm vs. Emotional, Unsta-

ble, (Q3) Controlled, Exact vs. Lax, Unsure. In the Thurstone Temperament Schedule, a significant negative correlation was obtained with the (E) Stable temperament scale. A theme of emotional control vs. impulsivity was noted. The naysayers (subjects who disagree) presented a picture of calm, controlled stability; while yeasayers (those who tend to agree) seemed more emotionally determined, openly admitting anxiety and distrustfulness.

Bass (1956) developed a Social Acquiescence Scale in a manner similar to the method used in obtaining the Overall Agreement Score, although only aphorisms were involved in his scale. This Social Acquiescence Scale was found by Couch and Keniston to correlate significantly (+.30) with the OAS, "but at a lower level than would be expected if 'acquiescence' were actually a central variable in the agreeing response tendency ... this result suggests that the Social Acquiescence Scale is not distinctively related to agreeing response set" (1960, p. 159).

Couch and Keniston's contention that they had isolated an "agreeing response set" and that this was not related to "social acquiescence" or to "social desirability" has been the subject of much discussion in subsequent literature. Taylor (1961) felt that Couch and Keniston's findings might be understood in terms of a "social desirability set" rather than the "agreeing re-

sponse set." Edwards and Walker's (1961) first analysis indicated that both the OAS scale and the MMPI are influenced by acquiescent tendencies as well as by social desirability tendencies. When Edwards and Walker (1961) reanalyzed the Couch and Keniston data by performing a different method of rotation of the matrix, the analysis eventuated in only two factors, a social desirability set and an acquiescence factor, with OAS items heavily loaded on both factors. Thus, Edwards and Walker reconcluded that the OAS may be "loaded in, confounded in, or misidentified with items of the social desirability set" (1961, p. 183).

Webster (1962) contended that any analysis that attempts to treat personality acquiescence-denial and social desirability-social undesirability as independent runs grave risk of leading us astray. However, Soloman and Klein's (1963) results show that truly balanced measures of acquiescence and social desirability might very well be orthogonal to each other, and their results support Couch and Keniston's contention that the OAS scale is not necessarily associated with elements of the other response set. Politis (1967) agreed with Soloman and Klein and suggested that "the OAS appears to be an independent and reasonably pure measure of the agreeing response set ... uncontaminated by the social desirability set" (1967, p. 37). It is obvious that this controversy has not yet

been resolved in the literature.

In addition to investigating the relationship of the OAS with the agreement equivalent (marking true) on the MMPI, Couch and Keniston computed for each subject the percentage of items in each of the 32 MMPI scales which count towards a high score on that scale when marked True. All scales were then correlated with the OAS scale. Scales that rely primarily on True responses for a high score tended to have positive correlations with the OAS scale, while scales relying on False responses for a high score tended to have negative correlations. The pattern of scales having significant positive and negative correlations with the OAS scale clearly suggested pervasive psychological differences between yeasayers and naysayers. An outstanding dimension indicated was that of ego strength.

Yeasayers were found to be high on such scales as Anxiety and Psychasthenia, while naysayers obtained high scores on the scales of Ego Strength and the Suppressor scale. The correlation obtained by Couch and Keniston with their 61 male subjects between the OAS scale and Barron's Ego Strength Scale was $-.35$, which was significant at the $.01$ level.

Using a clinical interview, Couch and Keniston confirmed the main aspects of their personality formulation of the agreement response tendency. Yeasayers were shown

to be individuals with "weak ego controls, who accept impulses without reservation, and who 'agree' and easily respond to stimuli exerted on them. The naysayer inhibits and suppresses his impulses, in many ways rejecting all emotional stimuli impinging on him" (1960, p. 173). The positive end of the agreeing tendency was characterized by impulsivity, dependency, anxiety, and mania. The opposite end, the "disagreeing tendency" was defined by ego strength, stability, responsibility, tolerance, and impulse control.

An obvious limitation of Couch and Keniston's exhaustive investigation is their very limited (by size and nature) population. Although their study demonstrated the far-reaching importance of response set in the area of psychological tests, it is severely restricted since all investigations employed 61 male sophomore students from Harvard with satisfactory grades. Especially significant is the fact that females were excluded from study. As Holmes and Jorgensen noted, the psychological literature is very biased in favor of using males as subjects: "males appear as subjects twice as often as females, a ratio even greater than that favoring college student subjects over noncollege student subjects" (1971, p. 76). Since the agreeing tendency is influenced by ego strength and by impulsivity, it would seem likely that males would differ

from females in the agreeing response tendency. As Vaught (1965) and Vaught and Rosenbaum (1966) noted, males score higher on Barron's Ego Strength Scale than females.

Osborne (1971) found that males scored higher than females on the Ego Resiliency Scale and lower than females on the Overcontrol of Impulses Scale on the MMPI. Thus, it might be suspected that females would tend towards the positive end of the agreeing tendency while males would tend more towards the "disagreeing tendency."

The concept of ego strength has been obscure and equivocal in the literature and attempts to give the concept clear-cut scientific value have met with difficulty. In 1938 in a symposium on "Ego Strength," Glover contended that the relation of the total ego to its environment, its strength or weakness, should be considered in terms of adaptation. Karush (1964) maintained that the ego's psychological capacity for adaptation is expressed in the ego's ability to select, control, and integrate systems of mental activity. Fixation of the total ego to any one period of development results in impaired perception, learning, and rational thought and is considered evidence of ego weakness. Otto and Griffiths (1965) stated that there is evidence of a general lack of agreement between the professionals as to what constitutes ego strengths or personality strengths. According to Herron, Guido, and

Kantor (1965), ego strength is a function of the test used to measure it. Although there is a controversy in the psychoanalytic literature over the definition of ego strength, the data from three separate studies by Jacobs, Pugalch, and Spitlen support the assumption that "it is possible to operationalize a theoretical model of ego strength and ego weakness, so that it effectively discriminates functioning normals from psychiatric patients" (1968, p. 307).

In 1950 Barron developed his Ego Strength Scale to predict the favorable response of psychoneurotic patients to psychotherapy. It was Barron's contention that the scale may be useful as an assessment device quite apart from the clinical situation. Correlations between the Ego Strength Scale and personality variables in normal samples were similar to the pattern of relationships seen in clinic samples. Barron felt that consideration of the Ego Strength Scale's content and correlates indicate that "a somewhat broader psychological interpretation be placed upon it, making it useful as an assessment device in any situation where some measure of adaptability and personal resourcefulness is wanted. It appears to measure various aspects of effective personal functioning which are usually considered descriptive of ego strength" (Barron, 1953, p. 229). In general, the Ego Strength Scale seems

to measure constructive forces in the personality.

In his construction of the Ego Strength Scale, Barron selected 68 items from the MMPI on the basis of a significant correlation with rated improvement in psychoneurotic patients who had been treated for six months in a psychiatric clinic. The 33 patients in the sample were rated by two skilled judges for degree of improvement. An r of $+ .91$ was obtained. The mean of the improved group was 52.7 and that of the unimproved group was 29.1, a difference which was significant well beyond the .01 level. The even-odd reliability of the scale in a clinic population of 126 patients was .76. Test-retest reliability after three months in a sample of 30 cases was .72.

Administration of the Ego Strength Scale to graduate students at the Institute of Personality Assessment and Results involved the description of the students by staff members who filled out an adjective check list. The ten highest scorers and the ten lowest scorers on the psychotherapy prediction scale were then compared by item-analyzing the composite adjective list for the two groups. The high scorers gave an impression of greater vitality, resourcefulness, and self-direction. The pretherapy prediction scale correlated positively and significantly with vitality ($+ .38$), drive ($+ .41$), self-confidence ($+ .24$), poise ($+ .24$), and breadth of interest ($+ .25$). Significant

negative correlations were found with submissiveness (-.40), effeminacy (-.34), and intraceptiveness (-.34).

Subsequent research on Barron's Ego Strength Scale has supported the use of the 68-item scale as an independent measure (Gaines and Fretz, 1969). Silversman (1963) found very high test-retest correlations between ego strength scores and supported the scale's construct validity.

Much of the recent investigation of Barron's Ego Strength Scale has been concerned with the difference between the scores of male and female subjects. According to Vaught and Rosenbaum (1966), females score lower on ego strength on Barron's scale because, in females, ego strength is more likely to be associated with either the male or female role orientation, rather than masculinity or femininity per se. Holmes (1967) maintained that the lower ego strength scores of females were not a function of a general tendency for females to admit to more pathology than males, but rather were due to a number of items on the scale which seem to measure sex-role identification.

In light of the above considerations, it would be assumed that a person with high ego strength would be low in agreeing response set and a person with low ego strength would be high in agreeing response set. One purpose of the present study was to determine the rela-

tionship of ego strength to agreeing response set, using Barron's Ego Strength Scale and Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale. A negative correlation was hypothesized.

Another purpose of the present study was to determine the difference between males and females on both ego strength and agreeing tendency. It was assumed that males would score higher than females on ego strength as measured by Barron's Ego Strength Scale, and lower on agreeing response set as measured by Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale.

A third purpose of the present study was to determine the difference between the correlation obtained for males between ego strength and agreeing response set and the correlation obtained for females between ego strength and agreeing response set, using Barron's Ego Strength Scale and Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale. A significant difference between the two correlations was hypothesized.

For all hypotheses, the .05 level of significance was employed.

CHAPTER II

METHOD

The Sample

The sample used in this study was undergraduate students enrolled in undergraduate psychology classes during the Spring and Summer Quarters, 1973, at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee. All participants volunteered to serve as subjects and received extra points in class for their participation in this research. The sample was composed of 60 Caucasian students, of which 30 were males and 30 were females. The subjects were freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors. The ages of the male subjects ranged from 18 to 34 and the ages of the female subjects ranged from 17 to 44.

Description of the Instruments

The Over-all Agreement Score Scale was developed by Arthur Couch and Kenneth Keniston at Harvard University. It consists of 360 items of the Likert-scale type from previously developed tests such as Davids' Affect Questionnaire, the factorial scales from Couch and Bales' Value Profile, the Authoritarianism F Scale, Thurstone's

Temperament Schedule, Cattell's 16 P.F. Personality Inventory, Rokeach's Dogmatism Scales, Bass' Social Acquiescence Scale, and some new items included by the authors for heterogeneity to "cancel out" the effect of any content variable. The response categories are given values from 1 to 7, and are worded as follows: (1) Strongly Disagree, (2) Disagree, (3) Slightly Disagree, (4) No Answer, (5) Slightly Agree, (6) Agree, and (7) Strongly Agree. An Over-all Agreement Score (OAS) is computed for each subject by taking the mean of his responses to the 360 items. A copy of this test can be found in the appendix. There was no time limit on this test and it could be administered either individually or in a group setting.

Couch and Keniston established the statistical internal reliability of the OAS by obtaining a high (+.85) Spearman-Brown split-half (even-odd) reliability for the entire 360-item scale.

Since the OAS was based on an arbitrary selection of items, the authors considered it necessary to test its generality by correlating it with the grand sum of all 681 items of the Likert-type in their original questionnaire battery. This grand sum correlated +.94 with the OAS, a high value even considering the 53% overlap of items.

To test the extent that response set varied from one

testing session to the next, Couch and Keniston computed the correlations between the sum of "content-cancelled" items from the first two weeks of testing and the sum of "content-cancelled" items from the third week of testing. The correlation coefficient was $+0.73$, indicating that agreeing and disagreeing response set operates fairly consistently over time, and is not merely the result of the subject's transient mood.

The results obtained in developing the OAS, namely the high reliability, stability over time, and generality of agreeing response set, support the view that the agreeing tendency is the manifestation of a personality syndrome. Couch and Keniston therefore investigated the correlates of the OAS to the variables of several objective tests. The agreeing tendency was found to be highly related to "true-saying" and "yes-saying" on other standard tests. A cluster of scales characterized the positive end of the agreeing tendency: Impulsivity, Dependency, Anxiety, Mania, Anal Preoccupation, and Anal Resentment. The opposite end of the continuum, the disagreeing tendency, was characterized by: Ego Strength, Stability, Responsibility, Tolerance, and Impulse Control. When a factor analysis was performed, a major dimension of Stimulus Acceptance vs. Stimulus Rejection emerged as central to the agreeing-disagreeing response set. Personality

test results also indicated pervasive differences in ego functioning, particularly as regards the high vs. low psychological inertia of secondary processes.

Couch and Keniston also conducted a clinical analysis of extreme subjects at opposite ends of the agreeing response tendency. Using a clinical interview centered around a sentence completion test, the authors confirmed the main aspects of their personality formulation of the agreement response tendency. Yeasayers were shown to be individuals with weak ego controls who accept impulses without reservation, and who "agree" and easily respond to stimuli exerted upon them. The naysayer, on the other hand, was shown to inhibit and suppress his impulses, in many ways rejecting all emotional stimuli impinging upon him.

The Ego Strength Scale developed by Frank Barron consists of 68 items from the MMPI that were selected on the basis of a significant correlation with rated improvement of thirty-three psychoneurotic patients. The test consists of selected statements that are judged to be true or false descriptions of the subjects. They are scored by summing the total number of correct answers as listed in Basic Readings on the MMPI in Psychology and Medicine (1963). A copy of the Ego Strength Scale can be found in the appendix. There was no time limit on this test

and it could be administered either individually or in a group setting.

To test the scale's predictive validity, Barron conducted a cross-validation study on three new samples. Fifty-three patients, who had previously been studied and had later shown patterns of improvement, were given an abbreviated form of the MMPI and the results correlated .42 with the terminal rating.

The second sample, a group of fifty-two patients from Langley Porter Clinic, was rated by therapists as examples of exceptional improvement, moderate improvement, and complete lack of improvement. The rating and the Ego Strength Scale correlated .54.

The third sample consisted of forty-six patients from a general hospital who were rated by therapists on a nine-point scale of improvement. The degree of relationship between the Ego Strength Scale scores and the therapists' scale of improvement was .38.

Administration and Scoring

The Ego Strength Scale and the Over-all Agreement Score Scale were administered to the subjects in a group setting. The Ego Strength Scale was administered first and after everyone had completed it and all tests had been collected, the Over-all Agreement Score Scale was

administered. Both tests were administered by the present researcher. It took a period of about two hours to complete both tests.

The Ego Strength Scale was scored according to the directions given by Barron in Basic Readings on the MMPI in Psychology and Medicine, pages 227-228. The raw score was obtained by adding the number of correct responses.

The Over-all Agreement Score Scale was obtained from Arthur Couch, co-author of the test. Responses to individual items were added algebraically and then the Over-all Agreement Score was computed for each subject by taking the mean of his responses to the 360 items.

CHAPTER III

RESULTS

The Pearson Product-Moment technique was used to compute all correlation coefficients. First, the scores for all subjects on Barron's Ego Strength Scale were compared to the scores on Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale. The resulting correlation was $-.13$, which was not significant at the $.05$ level.

The t ratio was used to test the significance of the difference between the mean of the scores obtained by the male subjects on Barron's Ego Strength Scale and the mean of the scores obtained by the female subjects on the Ego Strength Scale. The mean for male subjects was 46.55 and the mean for the female subjects was 42.7 . The resulting t ratio was 2.605 , which was significant beyond the $.01$ level.

The t ratio was also used to test the significance of the difference between the mean of the scores obtained by the male subjects on the Over-all Agreement Score Scale and the mean of the scores obtained by the female subjects on that scale. Although the mean for male subjects (3.952) was indeed lower than the mean for female subjects (4.039), the resulting t ratio was $.926$, which

was not significant at the .05 level.

The significance of the difference between the correlation coefficient obtained for males between ego strength and agreeing response set and the correlation obtained for females between these two variables, as measured by Barron's Ego Strength Scale and the Over-all Agreement Score Scale, respectively, was tested using Fisher's z transformation. For the male subjects the Pearson Product-Moment correlation coefficient comparing ego strength and agreeing response set was $-.175$, which was not significant at the .05 level. The correlation coefficient comparing ego strength and agreeing tendency for the female subjects was $-.305$, which fell slightly short of the $-.306$ needed for significance at the .05 level. The resulting Fisher's z was $-.507$, which was not significant at the .05 level.

CHAPTER IV

DISCUSSION

A correlation of $-.13$ was obtained between the Over-all Agreement Score Scale and the Ego Strength Scale on a sample of sixty undergraduate students, including thirty males and thirty females. It was not significant at the $.05$ level. Thus, the hypothesis was not confirmed that a person who is high in agreeing response set would probably be low in ego strength, and that a person who is low in agreeing response set would have the tendency to be high in ego strength.

Couch and Keniston found a significant correlation of $-.35$ between the Over-all Agreement Score Scale and the Ego Strength Scale with sixty-one paid volunteer students (male, sophomore, satisfactory grades) from Harvard College. One factor contributing to the difference between the correlation of $-.13$ found in the present study and the correlation of $-.35$ found by Couch and Keniston might be the difference in the characteristics of the students sampled. In this respect sex, age, geographical location, educational level, grade point average, and socioeconomic background of the subjects are variables to be considered. Another possible variable influencing the difference in

results is the difference in incentives offered to subjects for their participation, since Couch and Keniston offered a monetary incentive, whereas the subjects in the present study were offered extra points in class for their assistance in the research.

A significant t ratio of 2.605 was obtained in testing the significance of the difference between the mean (46.53) of the scores obtained by the male subjects on Barron's Ego Strength Scale and the mean (42.7) of the scores obtained by the female subjects on the Ego Strength Scale. It was significant beyond the .01 level. Thus, the hypothesis was confirmed that males score significantly higher than females on the Ego Strength Scale. This result supports the findings of Vaught (1965), Vaught and Rosenbaum (1966), Holmes (1967), and others.

In the test of significance of the difference between the mean (3.952) of the scores obtained by the male subjects on the Over-all Agreement Score (OAS) Scale and the mean (4.039) of the scores obtained by the female subjects on the OAS Scale, the resulting t ratio was .926. It was not significant at the .05 level. Therefore, the hypothesis was not confirmed that males score significantly lower on the agreeing tendency than females. These results support the findings of Langer (1962) that the sexes were not significantly different in response set

(agree-disagree) obtained on a measure other than the OAS Scale.

The correlation obtained for males between Barron's Ego Strength Scale and Couch and Keniston's OAS Scale was $-.175$; the correlation for females was $-.305$. A value of $-.306$ was required for significance at the $.05$ level; therefore, the correlations obtained by the present researcher were not significant. Thus, for each sex, as well as for the sample as a whole, the hypothesis was not confirmed that a person who is high in agreeing response set would probably be low in ego strength, and a person who is low in agreeing response set would have the tendency to be high in ego strength.

The significance of the difference between the correlation obtained for males between the Ego Strength Scale and the Over-all Agreement Score Scale and the correlation obtained for females between the Ego Strength Scale and the OAS Scale was investigated by the use of Fisher's z transformation. The resulting value of Fisher's z was $-.507$, which was not significant at the $.05$ level. Thus, the hypothesis was not confirmed that the correlation for males between ego strength and agreeing response set is significantly different from the correlation for females between ego strength and agreeing response set. The earlier results reported by the present researcher that males do

not differ significantly from females on agreeing response set may lead to an expectation of the findings of no significant difference between the correlations for males vs. females between ego strength and agreeing response set.

Since 1961 when Cowen found that the social desirability of trait descriptive terms influenced the sexes differently, with females rating positive adjectives higher than males, and thus tending to "acquiesce" to a higher degree with such items, a more liberalized philosophy concerning the traditional male-female role has permeated our society. Consequently, there exists the possibility that a great blurring of the distinctions between the conventional male-female roles has occurred. Such a possibility may provide a tentative explanation of the results reached in this study.

Since there is a paucity of pertinent information in the literature concerning the agreeing response set as defined by Couch and Keniston, it is believed that their results may be enhanced by further investigation. Also, it is believed that general knowledge into the area of agreeing tendency as a central personality syndrome may be expanded and intensified by further research on the influence of sex differences on this response set.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY

The present investigation was initiated in order to determine the degree of relationship between agreeing response set and ego strength. It was hypothesized that a significant but inverse relationship existed between agreeing tendency and ego strength. That is to say, that an individual scoring high on agreeing response set would score low on ego strength, and that an individual scoring low on agreeing response set would score high on ego strength. The instruments employed in the investigation were Couch and Keniston's Over-all Agreement Score Scale and Barron's Ego Strength Scale.

The subjects utilized in the present undertaking were sixty undergraduate students, of which thirty were males and thirty were females, from undergraduate psychology classes at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee. The subjects were volunteers.

The first hypothesis of the present study was that, for all subjects sampled, a significant but inverse relationship existed between agreeing tendency and ego strength. A Pearson Product-Moment Correlation eventuated in a

coefficient of $-.13$ which, while negative as hypothesized, was not significant at the $.05$ level. Thus, the first hypothesis was not confirmed.

Second, it was hypothesized that a significant difference exists between males and females on ego strength. A t ratio resulted in a value of 2.605 , which was significant beyond the $.01$ level. The second hypothesis was cogently confirmed.

Third, it was hypothesized that a significant difference exists between males and females on agreeing response set. A t ratio performed to test the significance of the difference between the means resulted in a value of $.926$, which was not significant at the $.05$ level. Thus, the third hypothesis was not confirmed.

The final purpose of the present study was to determine the difference between males and females on the correlations obtained for each sex between agreeing response set and ego strength. A Fisher's z transformation which was utilized to test the significance of the difference between the two correlations resulted in a value of $-.507$, which was not significant at the $.05$ level. Thus, the final hypothesis was not confirmed.

REFERENCES

REFERENCES

- Adorno, T. W., Frenkel-Brunswick, Else, Levinson, D. J., & Sanford, R. N. The Authoritarian Personality. New York: Harper, 1950.
- Barnes, E. H. Response bias in the MMPI. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1956, 20, 371-374.
- Barron, F. Psychotherapy as a special case of personal interaction, prediction of its course. Ph.D. dissertation. University of California. Berkley, 1950.
- Barron, F. Some test correlates of response to therapy. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1953, 17, 235-241.
- Bass, B. M. Development and evaluation of a scale for measuring social acquiescence. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1956, 53, 296-299.
- Berdie, R. F. Likes, dislikes, and vocational interests. Journal of Applied Psychology, 1943, 27, 180-189.
- Cattell, R. B., Saunders, D. R., & Stice, G. E. The 16 P. F. Questionnaire. Champaign, Ill: Institute of Personality and Ability Testing, 1957.
- Couch, A. S., & Bales, R. F. Factor Analysis of Value Profile. 1955.
- Couch, A. S. & Keniston, K. Yeasayers and naysayers: agreeing response set as a personality variable. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1960, 60, 151-174.
- Cowen, E. L. The social desirability of trait descriptive terms: preliminary norms and sex differences. Journal of Social Psychology, 1961, 53, 225-233.
- Cronbach, L. J. Response set and test validity. Educational and Psychological Measurement, 1946, 6, 616-623.
- Cronbach, L. J. Further evidence on response sets and

test design. Educational and Psychological Measurement, 1950, 10, 3-31.

Cronbach, L. J. Proposals leading to analytic treatment of social perception scores. In R. Tagiur & T. Petrullo (Eds.), Person Perception and Interpersonal Behavior. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1958.

Davids, A. Alienation, social apperception, and ego structure. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1955, 19, 21-27.

Edwards, A. L., & Walker, J. N. A note on the Couch and Keniston measure of agreement response set. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1961, 62, 173-174.

Edwards, A. L., & Walker, J. N. Social desirability and agreement response set. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1961, 62, 180-183.

Fricke, B. G. Response set as a suppressor variable in the OASIS and MMPI. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1956, 20, 161-169.

Gaines, L. S., & Fretz, B. R. Reliability of the Barron Ego Strength Scale in an individual form. Psychological Reports, 1969, 25(2), 513-514.

Glover. Ego Strength. Symposium presented at the 15th International Psycho-analytical Congress, Paris, 1938.

Herron, W. G., Guido, S. M., & Kantor, R. E. Relationships among ego strength measures. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 1965, 21(4), 403-404.

Holmes, D. Male-female differences in MMPI ego strength: an artifact. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1967, 31(4), 408-410.

Jackson, D. N., & Messick, S. J. Content and style in personality assessment. Psychological Bulletin, 1958, 55, 243-252.

Jacobs, M.A., Pugalch, D., & Spilken, A. Ego strength and ego weakness. Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 1968, 147(3), 297-307.

- Karush, A., et al. The evaluation of ego strength I: a profile of adaptive balance. The Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 1964, 139(4), 332-349.
- Langer, Philip. Sex differences in response set. Journal of Social Psychology, 1962, 54(1), 203-207.
- Lorge, I. Gen-like: halo or reality. Psychological Bulletin, 1937, 34, 545-546.
- Osborne, D. Age and sex differences on MMPI factor scales ER-0 and EC-5 in a medical population. Journal of Clinical Psychology, 1971, 27(2), 245-246.
- Otto, H. A., & Griffiths, A. C. Personality strength concepts in the professions. Psychiatric Quarterly, 1965, 39(4), 632-645.
- Politis, M. E. The purity of the OAS as a measure of the agreeing response set. Connecticut College Psychology Journal, 1967, 4, 33-37.
- Rokeach, M. Political and religious dogmatism: an alternative to the authoritarian personality. Psychological Monographs, 1956, 70, (18, Whole No. 425).
- Silverman, J. The validity of the Barron Ego Strength Scale in an individual form. Journal of Consulting Psychology, 1963, 27(6), 532-533.
- Soloman, L., & Klein, E. The relationship between agreeing response set and social desirability. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1963, 66(2), 176-179.
- Taylor, J. B. The "yeasayer" and social desirability: a comment on the Couch and Keniston paper. Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 1961, 62, 172-173.
- Thurstone, L. L. Thurstone Temperamental Schedule. Chicago: Science Research Associates, 1949.
- Vaught, G. N. The relationship of role identification and ego strength to sex differences in the rod-and-frame test. Journal of Personality, 1965, 33(2), 271-283.

Vaught, G. M., & Rosenbaum, G. A note on the Ego Strength Scale and sex differences in college students. Psychological Record, 1966, 16(1), 87-89.

Webster, H. Acquiescence, social desirability, and inhibition reflected by "response set" scales. Psychological Reports, 1962, 10, 789-790.

Welsh, G., & Dahlstrom, W. Basic Readings on the MMPI in Psychology and Medicine. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1963.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A

BARRON'S EGO STRENGTH SCALE

This inventory consists of numbered statements. Read each statement and decide whether it is true as applied to you or false as applied to you.

Mark each statement in the left margin. If a statement is TRUE, as applied to you, put a T before the statement. If a statement is FALSE or NOT USUALLY TRUE, as applied to you, put an F before the statement. If a statement does not apply to you or if it is something that you don't know about, make no mark.

Remember to give YOUR OWN opinion of yourself. Do not leave any blank spaces if you can avoid it. Erase completely any answer you wish to change.

Remember, try to make some answer to every statement.

NOW OPEN THE BOOKLET AND GO AHEAD.

1. I have a good appetite.
2. I have diarrhea once a month or more.
3. At times I have fits of laughing and crying that I cannot control.
4. I find it hard to keep my mind on a task or job.
5. I have had very peculiar and strange experiences.
6. I have a cough most of the time.
7. I seldom worry about my health.
8. My sleep is fitful and disturbed.
9. When I am with people I am bothered by hearing very queer things.
10. I am in just as good physical health as most of my friends.
11. Everything is turning out just like the prophets of the Bible said it would.
12. Parts of my body often have feelings like burning, tingling, crawling, or like "going to sleep."
13. I am easily downed in an argument.
14. I do many things which I regret afterwards (I regret things more or more often than others seem to).
15. I go to church almost every week.
16. I have met problems so full of possibilities that I have been unable to make up my mind about them.
17. Some people are so bossy that I feel like doing the opposite of what they request, even though I know they are right.
18. I like collecting flowers or growing house plants.
19. I like to cook.
20. During the past few years I have been well most of the time.

21. I have never had a fainting spell.
22. When I get bored I like to stir up some excitement.
23. My hands have not become clumsy or awkward.
24. I feel weak all over much of the time.
25. I have had no difficulty in keeping my balance in walking.
26. I like to flirt.
27. I believe my sins are unpardonable.
28. I frequently find myself worrying about something.
29. I like science.
30. I like to talk about sex.
31. I get mad easily and then get over it soon.
32. I brood a great deal.
33. I dream frequently about things that are best kept to myself.
34. My way of doing things is apt to be misunderstood by others.
35. I have had blank spells in which my activities were interrupted and I did not know what was going on around me.
36. I can be friendly with people who do things which I consider wrong.
37. If I were an artist I would like to draw flowers.
38. When I leave home I do not worry about whether the door is locked and the windows closed.
39. At times I hear so well it bothers me.
40. Often I cross the street in order not to meet someone I see.
41. I have strange and peculiar thoughts.

42. Sometimes I enjoy hurting persons I love.
43. Sometimes some unimportant thought will run through my mind and bother me for days.
44. I am not afraid of fire.
45. I do not like to see women smoke.
46. When someone says silly or ignorant things about something I know about, I try to set them straight.
47. I feel unable to tell anyone all about myself.
48. My plans have frequently seemed so full of difficulties that I have had to give them up.
49. I would certainly enjoy beating a crook at his own game.
50. I have had some very unusual religious experiences.
51. One or more members of my family is very nervous.
52. I am attracted by members of the opposite sex.
53. The man who had most to do with me when I was a child (such as my father, stepfather, etc.) was very strict with me.
54. Christ performed miracles such as changing water into wine.
55. I pray several times every week.
56. I feel sympathetic towards people who tend to hang onto their griefs and troubles.
57. I am afraid of finding myself in a closet or small closed space.
58. Dirt frightens or disgusts me.
59. I think Lincoln was greater than Washington.
60. In my home we have always had the ordinary necessities (such as enough food, clothing, etc.).
61. I am made nervous by certain animals.

62. My skin seems to be unusually sensitive to touch.
63. I feel tired a good deal of the time.
64. I never attend a sexy show if I can avoid it.
65. If I were an artist I would like to draw children.
66. I sometimes feel that I am about to go to pieces.
67. I have often been frightened in the middle of the night.
68. I very much like horseback riding.

APPENDIX B

COUCH AND KENISTON'S OVER-ALL AGREEMENT SCORE SCALE

The following is a study of what the general public thinks and feels about a number of important social and personal questions. The best answer to each statement below is your personal opinion. We have tried to cover many different and opposing points of view; you may find yourself agreeing strongly with some of the statements, disagreeing just as strongly with others, and perhaps uncertain about others.

Mark each statement in the left margin according to how much you agree or disagree with it. Please mark every one. Write 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7, depending on how you feel in each case.

- 1: I STRONGLY DISAGREE
- 2: I DISAGREE
- 3: I SLIGHTLY DISAGREE
- 4: NO ANSWER
- 5: I SLIGHTLY AGREE
- 6: I AGREE
- 7: I STRONGLY AGREE

NOW OPEN THE BOOKLET AND GO AHEAD

1. The most profound happiness is reserved for those who are capable of selfless dedication to a cause.
2. People will be honest with you as long as you are honest with them.
3. There are days when one awakes from sleep without a care in the world, full of zest and eagerness for whatever lies ahead of him.
4. Beneath the polite and smiling surface of man's nature is a bottomless pit of evil.
5. There are times when it is absolutely necessary to use other people as tools in the accomplishment of a purpose.
6. The real substance of life consists of a procession of disillusionments, with but few goals that are worth the effort spent in reaching them.
7. An immature man works for his own advancement; a mature man for the advancement of society.
8. Believe that a man will keep his promise and he will keep it.
9. Satisfaction is the rule, dissatisfaction the exception.
10. Beware: the world is full of people who experience their keenest satisfactions in detecting and exposing the defects and weaknesses of people such as you.
11. You will certainly be left behind if you stop too often or too long to give a helping hand to other people.
12. Wise men know that there is more pain and misery in life than pleasure and delight.
13. Most satisfying is the knowledge that one is an indispensable and appreciated member of a purposeful and effective group (team or institution).
14. People are basically and innately good.
15. The world is a bright and cheery place.
16. Very few people can be trusted.

17. If a man is to fulfill his destiny he can expend no more than a small fraction of his supply of energy in the service of others.
18. The prospect is pretty hopeless: it looks as if the Nations were heading for their doom -- one final, fateful, suicidal, global war.
19. Cooperation and reciprocation are far more enjoyable as well as more desirable than competition.
20. Most people are generous in their judgments of your actions and inclined to give you the benefit of a doubt.
21. The world is teeming with opportunities and promises of success for anyone with sufficient imagination to perceive them.
22. Be vigilant: there are more than a few frustrated people in the world who are seething with spitefulness, envy, malice, and hence ever-ready to debase you if they can.
23. It is every man's duty to attend to his own independent interest and purposes without leaning on his associates; and to encourage them to do likewise without leaning on him.
24. There is little chance of ever finding real happiness.
25. Society is advanced by the united endeavors of many people rather than by the single endeavors of a few.
26. The vast majority of men are truthful and dependable.
27. One can be sure that, despite any evidences to the contrary, happiness lies ahead of him.
28. Experience in the ways of the world teaches us to be suspicious of the underlying motives of the general run of men.
29. Thirst for fame is a spur which prompts men to the very highest reaches of talent and endeavor.
30. There are times when the idea of death presents itself, forcefully and temptingly, as the only way of ending an intolerable and insoluble situation.

31. Happiness comes when a man puts self-interest aside and devotes himself to the welfare of others.
32. There are always plenty of people who are eager to extend a helping hand.
33. We can be confident that conditions will improve in due time.
34. Nice as it may be to have faith in the majority of your fellowmen, it does not pay off.
35. A man should look out for himself first; if successful, he may eventually be in a position to look out for others.
36. Life's Burdens often seem unbearable.
37. Doing something for a friend is more satisfying than doing something for yourself.
38. If you have faith in your friends, they will seldom disappoint you.
39. Most endeavors are worthwhile -- pleasurable in their execution and rewarding in their results.
40. In this era of spies and counter-spies, accusations and counter-accusations, a man should keep his feelings and opinions strictly to himself.
41. If a man stops to consider the effect of his decisions on the welfare of all concerned, the chances of his achieving anything worthwhile will be greatly diminished.
42. The future looks black as pitch, with little in view to justify a core of hope or faith.
43. Enterprises that benefit yourself alone are less gratifying than those which contribute to the well-being of others.
44. Trust others to the limit and they will trust you to the limit.
45. The way to get the most out of life is to seize every opportunity to enjoy it.
46. One should maintain a constant watch against those

people who look for weaknesses in others in order to attack them.

47. Personal ambition is, without doubt, the strongest motivating force in human nature.
48. Only very rarely do things turn out for the best: disappointment, complete or partial failures -- these are the inevitable bitter lessons of experience.
49. The best measure of a man's true worth is the quality of his friendships.
50. Most people you meet are friendly and obliging, more disposed to aid you than to refuse aid.
51. For anyone with an average amount of energy, self-confidence, and talent the chances of success in life are excellent.
52. He who is gullible enough to believe the "truths" that people tell him is heading for a fall -- disillusionment, mortification, and regret.
53. If you do not admire yourself a little, you can be sure that others will not admire you at all.
54. There are sad and depressing times when the world strikes the eye as a huge, heartless, impersonal machine, almost devoid of understanding, sympathy, and mercy.
55. The fruits of true friendship are more precious than the triumph of genius.
56. Only once in a great while, if at all, does one run into a dishonest and deceitful person.
57. The true standard of living is joy -- sheer fun and gaiety.
58. The world is full of people who will take advantage of you if you are fool enough to give them the slightest opportunity.
59. A person who says he cares more for someone else than he does for himself is not sticking to the truth.
60. You can be certain that beyond every obstacle you

encounter, your chosen path is blocked by a succession of further obstacles -- some of which are insurmountable.

61. Every explanation of man and the world is incomplete unless it takes into account God's will.
62. In addition to faith we need help from God in order to resist temptation.
63. The most important aim of the churches at the present time should be to encourage spiritual worship and a sense of communion with the highest.
64. Every person should have complete faith in some supernatural power whose decisions he obeys without question.
65. Theology will ultimately prove more important for mankind than the sciences.
66. Man can solve all his important problems without help from a Supreme Being.
67. Christianity and all other religions are, at best, only partly true.
68. Morals must vary according to circumstances and situations: there are no sacred, unalterable, eternal rules which must always be obeyed.
69. All the evidence that has been impartially accumulated goes to show that the universe has evolved in accordance with natural principles, so there is no necessity to assume a first cause, cosmic purpose, or God behind it.
70. A man should be his own harshest judge.
71. Only vain and simple-minded people believe they can keep others from discovering their disabilities and failures.
72. All development of personality begins with a frank admission of one's deficiencies and limitations.
73. One of the deepest human needs is to recapture the security and affection of early childhood.

74. Shower your friends with gifts; that is the way to a full life.
75. A man's heaviest burden is the reproach of his conscience.
76. Nothing is gained by pretending to be better than you are.
77. The first law is: know and accept thyself -- without distortions or equivocations.
78. To be loved and protected -- that is my greatest desire in life.
79. Drop reminders of yourself wherever you go and your life's trail will be well remembered.
80. I often have the vague feeling of having done some wrong.
81. The best way to resolve a personal problem is to talk it over with someone.
82. There's no desire that cannot at least be considered.
83. A beneficent Being watches over us and protects us from harm.
84. Hold nothing back.
85. Life is a continual attempt to live up to one's ideals.
86. Let people know if something is bothering you.
87. A man's first obligation is to admit the truth about him innermost nature -- without fear, without squeamishness, and without lies.
88. Life is pretty meaningless without someone to go to for comfort and sympathy.
89. There are few things more satisfying than really to splurge on something -- books, clothes, furniture, etc.
90. I'd rather be laughed at than violate my own standards.
91. There's no reason to hide one's true feelings from others.

92. "Forget about it" is the worse possible advice for any personal problem.
93. It is best to get everybody's advice before making important decisions.
94. The best thing to do with a lot of money is to spend it freely.
95. Conscience is another name for fear.
96. If you tell all your secrets, you will lose the respect of others.
97. Turn away from your troubles and they disappear; pay attention to them, they remain with you.
98. It is best not to care about receiving praise from others.
99. I tend to keep most of the letters I receive.
100. I'm often surprised at how many ethical scruples some people have.
101. Privacy is the best privacy.
102. Don't encourage fears and anxieties by dwelling on them.
103. He travels farthest who travels alone.
104. It's unwise to throw anything out: it might be put to good use later.
105. The only reason for being "moral" is that you usually get caught if you aren't.
106. Meet the world with your most cheerful face and manner; no one wants to hear about your private aches and pains.
107. A great deal of modern neuroticism comes from people spending too much time analyzing their own feelings.
108. The independent spirit -- spurning all aid, needing no one, self-reliant and free -- this is man at his best.

109. It's a wonderful feeling to sit surrounded by your possessions.
110. Questions of "right" and "wrong" seldom concern me.
111. A person who feels compelled to discuss his troubles with his friends merely shows his inner weakness.
112. Modern literature is overly introspective, personal, and subjective.
113. The wise man asks for nothing from anybody.
114. Time is money -- only the man who can save will ever sit in the seats of the mighty.
115. It is hard to feel much sympathy for a literary character who is overburdened with guilt.
116. Reserve and a need for personal privacy are indications of a strong character.
117. Keep busy and never worry.
118. Not to need others is a sign of maturity.
119. I usually try to hold myself back (to keep my thoughts to myself).
120. I am never afraid to do things on my own.
121. I find that my attachment to my home and the neighborhood of my youth is still very strong.
122. I am enraged when people try to tell me what to do.
123. I tend to be convinced by every philosopher I read.
124. I like advice before making decisions.
125. My speech is quite slow and deliberate.
126. It is better not to keep angry feelings to oneself.
127. My feelings about others fluctuate a good deal.
128. I seldom need the advice of others about anything.
129. Few things are more disorienting than moving from one home to another.

130. The more I am pushed the more I resist.
131. The things I like today are very different from the things that I liked two years ago.
132. The love and sympathy of friends is the most important thing in life.
133. Gradually, I tend to build up a picture of a person that stays very much the same.
134. I give way easily.
135. I am usually among the first to finish an assignment.
136. I am totally self-sufficient.
137. It has always been hard for me to get used to new places.
138. I often get into extremely difficult positions with people in authority.
139. It is silly to develop sentimental attachments to objects: they are to be used and thrown away when worn out.
140. More than anything, I want to be loved.
141. I do things more slowly and carefully than most people.
142. I get along well with people.
143. I am more restless than most people.
144. I couldn't care less what others think of me.
145. I usually go out with one girl at a time and get quite serious.
146. People never really pay you back for all you give them.
147. I often try new things: new foods, new clothes, new places.
148. I badly want to be comforted and consoled when I'm "down."

149. It's difficult for me to get adjusted to new groups.
150. It's only natural for people to display rebellion and anger against authorities.
151. I work quickly even when there is no rush.
152. I need neither help nor praise nor sympathy.
153. I have unusually strong attachments to my friends.
154. Most human relationships reduce, in the last analysis, to a question of who is going to be boss and who is going to obey.
155. At my age, relationships with girls should be light-hearted and non-committal; I "play the field."
156. Sometimes I wish I were a child again.
157. When I'm feeling happy, hardly anything can depress me.
158. People usually appreciate my efforts to please.
159. My study habits are rather erratic.
160. Depend on only one person -- yourself.
161. I am apt to hold a grudge a long time.
162. I really envy the man who can walk up to anybody and tell him off to his face.
163. Friendship requires physical proximity: when my friends move away, I don't try to keep in touch with them.
164. I often wish that someone could make my decisions for me.
165. I almost always go to bed at the same time.
166. For me, work comes easily and is not the strain that some people seem to find it.
167. I find that the goals of my life change rather frequently.

168. I ask for nothing and expect less.
169. I develop strong affections for certain "favorite" objects: an old jacket, a pipe, a chair, a picture that means a lot to me.
170. I could really shock people if I said all of the dirty things I think.
171. I like a job where you have to move around a lot.
172. Only false pride prevents people from asking for help.
173. I know pretty well what I want to get out of my courses.
174. I've always been pretty clear about what is expected of me.
175. I've had a number of different ideas about what I will eventually do.
176. One should bear all his burdens alone.
177. I was slow to arrive at my present values, but I don't think they'll change very much now.
178. I am a perfectionist.
179. There's nothing worse than having to live in the same place year after year.
180. I need other people's approval for my peace of mind.
181. I chose my career a long time ago.
182. I never check my work for mistakes.
183. I go to bed when I'm sleepy, regardless of the time.
184. I can't stand solicitous friends.
185. Once I make up my mind about something, I'm not likely to change it.
186. Nothing bothers me more than being unable to produce something that I think is expected of me.

187. I would enjoy a job that involved a great deal of moving around.
188. I have a fairly fixed "system" of studying.
189. I'd rather do an average job than strain to make my work so perfect that it would be beyond criticism.
190. I seldom eat a meal at the same time on two consecutive days.
191. I can handle just about any situation.
192. For me the old familiar places and ways are the most satisfying.
193. The one thing I cannot forgive is incompetence.
194. New faces, new places -- that's living!
195. There is no point in running if you can walk, walking if you can sit, or sitting if you can lie down.
196. I am generally methodical and systematic in the way I go about things.
197. I am not very good at keeping secrets.
198. I seldom look at my watch.
199. I'm willing to work very hard to get to the top.
200. I can always reread certain passages in books or poems with enjoyment.
201. No one is so contemptible as the person who sneaks and pries in other people's minds.
202. Novelty has a great appeal to me.
203. I seldom take an active part in discussions.
204. I am never satisfied until I have related all the aspects of a phenomenon.
205. I don't usually mind if strangers overhear a personal conversation I am having.
206. Don't worry about a philosophy of life -- conditions will probably be different tomorrow.

207. I always take on a lot of responsibility.
208. I hate to be distracted when I'm in the midst of anything.
209. Sometimes I am afraid that I will lose my head and say things that are better kept hidden.
210. It's hard for me to concentrate on one thing for a long time.
211. I cannot understand people who are always on the go.
212. I frequently find that others have given the answer to a question before I have weighed its full significance.
213. It is ridiculous to believe that people can read omens and signs.
214. Saying "I want to think it over" is usually an excuse for avoiding a decision.
215. There is no reward like success.
216. I like to stick to one topic at a time and talk it out.
217. I cannot escape the conviction that fate somehow has it in for me.
218. I make up my mind very quickly.
219. I have no desire to climb the ladder of success.
220. I am continually trying to understand the relation between events.
221. I enjoy exploring slums and back alleys -- dirty though they are.
222. It's best to accept other people at face value and not worry too much about their deeper motives.
223. I'm an extremely hard worker.
224. I like to continue with any project I've begun until it's completely finished.

225. When I take off my clothes at night, I always arrange them neatly in a special way.
226. I am at my best in an emergency.
227. My goal is to have a life of peace, comfort, and contentment.
228. I always try to look at a situation from every point of view.
229. I often forget to send my clothes to the laundry.
230. I respond to a work of art with my feelings, not with my intellect.
231. There are no substitutes for great achievement.
232. Sometimes I get completely absorbed in what I'm doing, oblivious to what's going on around me.
233. I am a great one for picking things up and putting them where they belong.
234. I tend to make decisions on the spur of the moment.
235. I like nothing better than having breakfast in bed.
236. I have to think things through thoroughly before I act.
237. I am apt to leave my belongings in a mess.
238. I usually say whatever comes to mind.
239. I preserve a calm exterior under all circumstances.
240. I persist in the face of difficulties.
241. Nothing is worse than an offensive odor.
242. I don't like to try to decide ahead of time what I'll do: I trust to the inspiration of the moment.
243. I eagerly take in all that goes on around me.
244. In times of stress, I tend to withdraw into myself.
245. My friends consider me to be untidy.

246. Little things upset me.
247. No one is of great emotional importance to me.
248. I've always been active and excitable.
249. I often take a shower every day, whether I need it or not.
250. I've always been active and excitable.
251. I am an avid reader.
252. Uncontrolled impulsiveness is not part of my make-up.
253. An immaculate appearance tells absolutely nothing about a man's true worth.
254. I can easily be knocked off balance by some unexpected event.
255. I sometimes lose interest in a girl after she falls for me.
256. I like to think things out ahead of time.
257. I worry a lot about leaving things behind when I leave some place.
258. I dislike situations with a lot of excitement and bustle.
259. All life is to be seized upon and made part of oneself.
260. I have a sense of inner stability as I go through life.
261. Money is here to be spent, not saved.
262. My course alters with every change of wind.
263. I am very sensitive to criticism.
264. I find it difficult to express tender feelings.
265. I like to make plans and stick to them.
266. Most people don't realize the bargains that are available around this area.

267. In most conversations I tend to bounce from topic to topic.
268. We must drink deep of knowledge to fill the emptiness of ignorance within.
269. My equilibrium is seldom shaken.
270. I seldom know how much money I have in the bank.
271. I am rather given to short-lived enthusiasms.
272. Some people consider me aloof and inaccessible.
273. I have a pretty good idea of where I want to be in ten years.
274. I am afraid if I lend money I won't get it back.
275. I prefer work that can be done -- finished and put away -- to work that stretches out over a long time.
276. Most people are pretty cold.
277. My friends count on my steadiness in a crisis.
278. I just don't understand why it bothers some people so much to lend their things.
279. I sometimes feel that I'm the plaything of forces beyond my control.
280. I am probably more jealous than most people.
281. I would enjoy having charge of the long-range planning of some enterprise.
282. Conscientious and tasteful collectors are just as important to society as great artists.
283. I get quickly bored with long assignments.
284. Man's state is one of isolation -- there is no possibility of genuine communication with others.
285. Heaven and Hell are products of man's imagination, and do not actually exist.
286. By and large, I feel that my life to date has been

- pretty much of a success in terms of my own values.
287. I've never been able to see the point in collecting things -- stamps, letters, coins, keys, or what have you.
288. The mature person can enjoy whatever life brings.
289. It burns me up when people get more than they deserve.
290. I usually consider every side of a problem.
291. I get depressed when I realize how many things I have to do that I don't really want to do.
292. I prefer to do work that gets tangible results within a fairly short time.
293. You can't expect people to take much interest in your troubles.
294. There's no one in the world with whom I can't hold my head high.
295. When I'm under pressure I blow off steam and it's all over.
296. Most suffering and misery is self-inflicted.
297. I often feel I'm being taken advantage of.
298. I gather momentum as I work.
299. I get furious when people make me do things I don't really want to do by playing upon my feelings of duty and obligation.
300. I like fast, witty conversations.
301. There are usually selfish motives behind apparent altruism.
302. When I tackle a new job, I'm usually pretty sure I'll make a go of it.
303. I am seldom unable to fulfill any demands made on me.
304. Most unhappy people could improve their lot if they only tried.

305. I'm fond of arguing.
306. My physical reactions are slow.
307. Most people are not nearly as efficient as they could be if they were trained to use all of their time.
308. My reflexes are very quick.
309. It is misery to be born, pain to live, grief to die.
310. I feel that most people like me.
311. It doesn't bother me if I am late for appointments.
312. Happiness is one of the primary goals of life.
313. I can be pretty sarcastic at times.
314. I am continually trying to integrate my inner values, impulses, and experiences with the demands of external reality.
315. The essence of happiness is to do the right things at the right time in the right place.
316. I act on my impulses.
317. Hope only brings disappointment.
318. I have a good deal of self-confidence.
319. I have no interest in trying to stick to a daily schedule.
320. Find me a truly happy man, and I'll show you a man who is mature and creative.
321. I enjoy participating in really hard-hitting debates.
322. It's hard to get me upset.
323. I feel strongly how different I am from most people, even my close friends.
324. Man lives by responding, not by analyzing.
325. I like to have people around me most of the time.

326. I have failed to accomplish many of my basic goals in life.
327. I am a man, nothing human is alien to me.
328. Only cows are contented.
329. I can't stand waiting in line.
330. When I worry, I really worry.
331. The older I get, the more I see the differences that divide and separate me from other people.
332. I am very quick on the comeback in arguments.
333. A good mother devotes herself entirely to her children and family.
334. I feel there are some people I have let down.
335. No matter what their backgrounds, Americans are very similar to each other.
336. Unavoidable circumstances often create misery which no amount of intelligence or maturity could alleviate.
337. I really boil when people keep me waiting.
338. I am less affected than most by the impact of external events, but more affected than most by my own inner moods.
339. Most families are objectively very different from my own.
340. It takes very little to change my mood.
341. My greatest ambition is to help others.
342. I am often afraid of failing when I tackle something different or new.
343. The mentality of children is understandable to anyone who has been a child himself.
344. Suffering is the only source of wisdom.
345. I get annoyed at people who take a long time to get to the point.

346. I usually think of what I should have said long after the time to say it has passed.
347. I don't think I'll ever find a woman who really understands me.
348. It doesn't take much to start me moving.
349. I want my children to have more love and affection than I had.
350. I have very little to offer other people.
351. Given certain conditions, any one of us could have been a Nazi concentration camp guard.
352. I don't want to be happy: I want to be utterly alive.
353. In a discussion I frequently find myself interrupting.
354. I prefer to do things at my own pace, slowly and thoroughly.
355. I have very little in common with most of the people I meet.
356. I adjust myself very quickly to new groups.
357. I would like to devote my life to serving others.
358. I have very little self-confidence.
359. Regardless of the superficial differences, primitive men are very much like us.
360. Most people who say they are happy close their eyes to the sufferings of the world.