ABSTRACT


Phobic reactions can often be a significant health problem for fearful dental patients. This is true in particular for individuals with long-time avoidance and elevated general psychological distress. The aim of this study was to investigate the expression of dental fear among 67 dental phobic individuals with a low versus high degree of general fear. Reported etiologic background factors, avoidance time, general psychological distress and psychosocial manifestations and consequences of dental phobia were studied. No significant difference in dental anxiety level between individuals with low versus high general fear was found, and both groups reported high frequencies of negative dental experiences. The low-fear group reported a longer (though not statistically significant) average avoidance time than the high-fear group. However, patients with a high level of general fear showed a significantly higher degree of psychological distress, and also reported stronger negative social consequences from their dental anxiety. These results indicate that the character of dental fear might be different between different groups of fearful patients, which makes the condition psychologically handicapping. Such aspects should be assessed in the diagnostic analysis of patients with severe dental anxiety. In particular, assessments of signs of general psychological distress are warranted.

*Key words:* Dental anxiety, phobia, psychological distress, psychological consequences


The aim of the present study was to describe the phenomenon termed, ”First-time parents’ sexual relationship”. The qualitative descriptive phenomenological method was applied for the material from the interviews. Twenty parents (ten couples) were interviewed separately and undisturbed on a single occasion, when the first baby was nine-months-old. The results indicated that the essence of the phenomenon described in this study pertained to sexual desire. The significance of the concept differed among parents. Some couples lacked the time and energy for each other due to the presence of the baby but compensated for their desires with reciprocal tenderness alternating with that shown to the baby. Some couple was forced to control their sexual desires due to severe mucus infection. However, this couple compensated with caressing and thereby confirmed each other emotionally and sexually. Certain mothers longed for desire or emotional confirmation. These couples lacked the ability to assign time and show interest
reciprocally, as well as an ineffective communication. Their relationships were characterised by misunderstandings and unarticulated demands. This study indicated that insufficient or defective communication may be contributory to problematic sexual and partnership relations.

**Key words:** First-time parents, sexual relationship, sexual desire, phenomenological approach, communication, partnership relations


It has previously been shown that blocking 5-HT1A receptors inmasks an inhibitory action of the selective 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) re-uptake inhibitor citalopram on male rat ejaculatory behaviour. This paper reports that subcutaneous (s-c-)admission of the selective 5-HT re-uptake inhibitor citalopram (10 mg/kg) facilitated ejaculatory behaviour in male Wistar rats treated with the 5-HT1B receptor antagonist, isamoltane (4 mg/kg) whereas neither citalopram nor isamoltane alone had any effects. It is concluded that citalopram possesses an inhibitory action on male rat ejaculatory behaviour normally balanced by a facilitatory action mediated via 5-HT1A receptors.

**Key words:** Isamoltane, citalopram, male rat sexual behaviour, seratonin re-uptake inhibitor, 5-hydroxytryptamine


In two experiments we employed calibration methods to investigate the realism of participants' confidence ratings of their own classification performance based on knowledge acquired after training on an artificial grammar. In Experiment 1 participants showed good realism (but overconfidence) for grammatical strings but very poor realism for non-grammatical strings. Method of training (string repetition in writing or mere exposure) did not affect the realism. The participants underestimated their overall performance. In Experiment 2, using a more complex grammar and controlling for two types of associative chunk-strength, participants showed good realism (but still overconfidence) for both letter and symbol strings, irrespective of grammaticality. Together, these experiments show that implicit learning can give rise to knowledge products that are associated with fairly realistic meta-knowledge. It is argued that both the zero-correlation criterion and the guessing criterion are misplaced when used to define implicit knowledge; two reasons being that confidence judgments may be affected both by implicit knowledge and by inferences.

In three experiments the acute effects of clonidine administration upon locomotor and rearing behaviour of mice pretreated with the selective noradrenaline (NA) neurotoxin, DSP4 (1 x 75 mg/kg, i.p.) 10-12 days previously, were studied. Clonidine (0.01, 0.05, 0.25, 1.25 and 3.0 mg/kg, i.p.) induced a dose-dependent reduction of motor activity during the initial 30 min of testing in both DSP4-treated and control mice; this effect was attenuated by DSP4 treatment in the 0.01, 0.05, 0.25 and 3.0 mg/kg dose groups. By the third 30-min period of testing (60-90 min), each clonidine dose group, except the highest (3.0 mg/kg) dose for locomotion and the two highest 1.25 and 3.0 mg/kg) doses for rearing, induced increases in motor activity in the control mice. In DSP4-treated mice, a large increase in locomotor counts was produced by the 0.05 mg/kg dose of clonidine with lesser increases induced by the 0.01 mg/kg dose group, whereas a lesser effect of the 0.05 mg/kg group (30-60 min) was obtained for rearing but a larger effect of the 0.25 mg/kg group (60-90 min). Yohimbine (0.5 mg/kg, i.p., 15 min before clonidine) attenuated the suppressive effects of clonidine (0.01 and 0.05 mg/kg) during the initial 30 min of testing and markedly increased locomotor and rearing counts, both by itself and in combination with each dose of clonidine, in both DSP4-treated and control mice over the following 90 min of testing. Yohimbine treatment attenuated the large increase in locomotor counts induced by the 0.05 mg/kg dose of clonidine in the NA-denervated mice. Dihydroergotamine (0.5 mg/kg, i.p., 15 min before clonidine) did not antagonise either the initial suppressive effect or the later supersensitivity effect of the 0.05 mg/kg dose of clonidine. DSP4 treatment by itself reduced motor activity. The effects of clonidine, dose- and time-dependently, by itself or in co-administration with \(\alpha\)-adrenoceptor antagonists, in DSP4-treated or control mice displayed denervation-induced supersensitivity that appear to reflect mainly postsynaptic \(\alpha_2\)-adrenoceptor mediation.

**Key words:** DSP4, control, clonidine, dose, time, parameter, locomotion, rearing, potentiation, co-administration, yohimbine, dihydroergotamine, attenuate, antagonise, supersensitivity, postsynaptic, \(\alpha_2\)-adrenoceptors, mice


Synergistic antiparkinsonian actions of different classes of purative therapeutic agents co-administered with a subthreshold dose of L-3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine (L-Dopa) (5 mg/kg) in drug-naive 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine (MPTP)-treated mice as well as the restorative
actions of those compounds in suprathreshold L-Dopa-tolerant MPTP-treated mice subjected to “wearing-off” of L-Dopa efficacy were assessed in a series of experiments. The classes of compounds studied included the noncompetitive NMDA antagonists, memantine, amantadine and MK-801, the anticonvulsant and putative anticonvulsant agents, lamotrigine, FCE 26743, phenytoin, the monoamine oxidase inhibitors, L-Deprenyl, amiflamine, α-ethyltryptamine, clorgyline and phenelzine, and the α₂-adrenoceptor agonists, clonidine and guanfacine. In this final case, the restorative effects of clonidine and guanfacine were antagonised by the α₂-adrenoceptor antagonist, yohimbine, but not the α₁-adrenoceptor antagonist, prazosin. Within each class of potentially therapeutic agents a differential restorative efficacy was obtained, but the combination of different doses of apomorphine with clonidine failed to restore motor activity. Finally, the neuroprotective actions of acute and subchronic administration of the nitron spin-trapping compound, α-phenyl-tert-butyl nitroxy radical upon the spontaneous motor behaviour and striatal dopamine concentrations of MPTP-treated mice was examined.

**Key words:** MPTP, C57 BL/6, L-Dopa, subthreshold, suprathreshold, NMDA antagonists, anticonvulsants, MAO inhibitors, α₂-adrenoceptor agonists, locomotion, rearing, PBN, Striatum, dopamine, “wearing-off”, restoration, protection, parkinsonism


During the decade following the initial onsets of regulatory dilemma pertaining to the putative neurotoxicity of abuse substances, conceptual issues and methodological innovations have sometimes taken second place to political and personality considerations with the consequence that some ‘abusable’ and documented toxic compounds have received scant attention. In the present account, several approaches to the problem of defining and describing the neurotoxic propensity of usable drugs are examined, from drug-stress induction to derangements of social competence, depending upon the degree and extent of substance misuse or mismanagement associated with any compound in question. On a general level, the physiological processes inherent to the stress-escalation processes in brain reward systems offer a primary step towards addressing neurotoxicity. Other novel approaches include: implications of direct interactions between an endogenous cannabinoid system and the mesolimbic dopaminergic reward system of the brain, the notion of ”functional neurotoxicity”, the ‘neurodegenerative plasticity’ of perinatal stress or agents that accelerate apoptotic actions resulting in disorders such as Schizophrenia or Attention Deficit Disorder, the multiple receptor systems, but particularly serotonergic systems, underlying the dramatic affectivity of prevailing incidence of methylenedioxyethyl amphetamine (MDMA, ”ecstasy”) usage. Despite the evolving conceptual and technical elegance the momentum of drug-neurotoxicity does not appear to have been hindered seriously.

Five experiments were performed to study the effects of the a-adrenoceptor agonists, clonidine and guanfacine, upon spontaneous motor activity in chronically morphine administered DSP4-treated and control rats. DSP4 (2 x 50 mg/kg, with a 10-day interval between injections) and vehicle (distilled water) were injected i.p., on each occasion 30 min after zimeldine (20 mg/kg). Morphine dosages were raised incrementally from 5 mg/kg (Days 1-3), through 10 mg/kg (Days 4-7) and 20 mg/kg (Days 8-14), to 30 mg/kg (Days 15-20). Motor activity testing occurred on Day 21, Day 22 as well, in Experiments II-V, (from 1st morphine injection). DSP4 pretreatment and chronic morphine injections each reduced motor activity during the first 30 min of testing; combined DSP4 and morphine treatment potentiated the hypoactivity. Habituation quotients indicated deficits in habituation to the novel test environment by the Vehicle-morphine (Quotient 2 only) and DSP4-morphine groups. Acute clonidine treatment (0.04 mg/kg, s.c.) reduced motor activity during the first 30 min of testing but attenuated or blocked the morphine-induced hypoactivity in DSP4-treated and control rats. During the 60-90 min test period, clonidine, but not guanfacine (0.08 mg/kg), potentiated morphine-induced hyperactivity in control rats; acute clonidine enhanced this effect, whereas acute guanfacine reduced it, in the DSP4-treated rats. The enhanced hyperactivity of morphine-clonidine suggest a cross-sensitivity effect. Naloxone (0.1 mg/kg, s.c.), injected after the 1st 30-min of testing, potentioted markedly the clonidine-induced elevations of motor activity in morphine-administered control rats: in the DSP4-treated rats, these effects were dramatically potentiated, underlining the cross-sensitivity effect. Acute guanfacine treatment reduced motor activity during the first 30 min of testing but did not attenuate reliably morphine-induced hypoactivity in control or DSP4 rats. Naloxone did not potentiate the guanfacine-induced hyperactivity of morphine-administered control rats but induced a merked enhancement in the DSP4-treated rats, a specific case of cross-sensitivity. The major finding pertain to a cross-sensitization effect of morphine upon clonidine-induced motor activity in both DSP4-treated and control rats, and to a lesser extent between morphine and guanfacine in NA-denervated rats only. The results may offer interactive implications for noradrenergic-opiate system functioning that may be of influence under neuropathological conditions.

*Key words:* DSP4, control, morphine, chronic administration, locomotion, rearing, habituation, clonidine, guanfacine, naloxone, potentiation, cross-sensitization, opioids-NA, NA-depletion, denervation, PDCs, rats
Mechanisms of neuronal cell death in apoptosis and necrosis are examined. Neurotoxic processes underlying cellular destruction may involve N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor activation and/or activation of neuronal nitric oxide synthase but the depletion of energy and generation of free radicals appears to be critical. In Alzheimer’s disease the damaging effects of peroxynitrite and exposure to β-amyloid peptide is evident. Mitochondrial dysfunction is involved in several neurodegenerative diseases including Parkinson’s disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Huntington’s disease as well as Alzheimer's disease and in these disorders the innovations offered by techniques ranging from transgenic mouse models of the disorder to cell culture preparations are remarkable. Agents of neuroprotection and neurorestoration possess either characteristics specific to particular disorders or have a general applicability or both. The vast array of agents available are for the most part the objectives of laboratory examinations but an increasing selection of compounds are reaching the clinical necessities thereby influencing current strategic notions to modify tactical contingencies. Among the agents listed are included: inhibitors of the enzyme poly-ADP-ribose polymerase, inhibition of apoptotic cell death, agents acting on mitochondrial permeability transition, excitatory amino acid antagonists, applications of neurotrophins, immunophilins, agents influencing heme oxygenase-1 expression and iron sequestration in aging astroglia, improvements in mitochondrial energy production or buffering, and finally dopaminemimetics with differential affinities for dopamine receptors.

Key words: Neuronal cell death, apoptosis, necrosis, NMDA, free radicals, peroxynitrite, β-amyloid peptide, Parkinson’s disease, Huntington’s disease, Alzheimer's disease, mitochondrial energy, neuroprotection, neurorestoration


Some earlier studies have suggested that platelet monoamine oxidase (MAO)-B activity should be determined at time-points other than early in the abstinence phase. However, the optimal time for blood samplings has not been precisely defined. We therefore assessed platelet MAO-B activity repeatedly in 13 male alcohol-dependent patients over the two months after the end of a period of heavy alcohol intake. Twelve healthy men were used as controls. In the alcohol-dependent patients platelet MAO-B activity was transiently increased from two to six weeks after the end of alcohol intake and the values during this time-period were not different from those of controls. Platelet MAO-B activity was, however, significantly lower in the alcohol-dependent patients at one week and at two months after the end of alcohol intake in
comparison to controls. It is concluded that the transient increase in platelet MAO-B activity after the end of alcohol intake in alcohol-dependent patients may conceal a difference from a control group. Therefore, it is suggested that when platelet MAO-B activity is determined the preferential time-point for obtaining those values in alcohol-dependent patients is after two months of abstinence.

Key words: MAO-B, alcohol dependence, abstinence


Postsynaptic alpha-2-receptor function, as assessed by growth hormone (GH) response to clonidine (CLON), has been shown to be downregulated in patients investigated in acute but also in late withdrawal after heavy alcohol intake. The results are however sometimes conflicting. The question whether this changed receptor function is a trait or state marker is not fully investigated so far. Seven male patients with alcohol dependence according to DSM-IV were assessed for the postsynaptic alpha-2-receptor function with the CLON/GH test (2.0 µg/kg body weight; iv) with start immediately after a period of heavy drinking. Neuroendocrine tests were repeated after 7 days, 2 and 6 months. Six healthy males were used as controls. The maximum GH responses to CLON were significantly lower at all four test occasions in the patient group as compared to the controls. Furthermore, in the patient group all neuroendocrine test results showed blunted GH responses to CLON. Thus, patients with downregulated alpha-2-receptor function during acute withdrawal after heavy alcohol intake showed similar subsensitive receptor function abnormality after a prolonged period of abstinence. The findings in this study indicate that alcohol dependent individuals have a persistent subsensitive alpha-2-adrenoceptor function which may constitute a trait factor for alcohol dependence.

Key words: Alcohol withdrawal, clonidine, growth hormone, noradrenergic activity


Cognitive therapy has been reported for the treatment of dental phobia, but comparisons with other behavioral treatment are scarce. This study investigated the outcome of two modes of treatment for phobic dental fear. Relaxation and cognitively oriented therapy were compared in a sample of 112 adult fearful dental patients. The patient made questionnaire assessments of
background and outcome variables, and the specialist dentist rated successful/non-successful outcome. It was shown that a higher number of patients who received cognitively oriented therapy completed the treatment program, while anxiety was more reduced among patients who received relaxation-oriented therapy. Dropout during the initial phobia therapy with a psychologist was related to lower motivation (willingness to engage in treatment), while failures during dental treatment after the completion of therapy were related to higher levels of general fear and anxiety. A multiple logistic regression model explaining 67% of the variance revealed that the risk of failure was only slightly increased by general fears, while patients with low (below median) motivation ran a 3.6-times-higher risk of dropping out. In conclusion, it was shown that the two treatment methods were both effective in reducing dental phobic reactions. However, while cognitively oriented therapy resulted in a higher number of patients completing therapy, relaxation-oriented treatment generally resulted in a more significant reduction in dental fear as well as in general anxiety and fear. Motivation was found to be a significant predictor of successful treatment outcome.

Key words: Dental anxiety, motivation, outcome, relaxation therapy, cognitive therapy


The effects on changes in health over time for middle-aged women were analysed concerning changes in work-role quality and quality of life. The results showed that this type of changes were significantly associated with changes in self-reported health over time. As work-role quality and quality of life improved symptoms of somatic disorders declined. Two categories labelled "Organization and Culture" and "Leadership" were grounded in interview data and related to women's perception of their health. Another qualitative study indicated that perceived stressful situations at work from the working women's own point of view resulted in a tentative model describing the interviewed women's perceptions of coping with the workplace culture in a male-dominated industry. On the basis of the qualitative data, a questionnaire was developed and evaluated. The main results were four indices called 1) general negative view of women, 2) need of mental strength, 3) sexual harassment, and 4) organizational support which supported the proposed model of a general dimension called "workplace culture" and outcome on health. An investigation of the relationships between self-reported health on the one hand and gender-related issues and physiological measures on the other hand resulted in two predictors, namely the variables "workplace culture" and the blood lipid ratio low-density lipoprotein/high-density lipoprotein, explaining 50% of the variance.
**Key words:** Gender-related female health, workplace culture, leadership, gender-related female questionnaire, self-reported health, blood lipids


Women have often been pictured as weak, easily influenced, emotionally unbalanced, unrealistic and incapable of confronting even milder stressors. Not mentioned in the literature is the fact that emotionally perceived problems often are the result not the cause of certain situations (Johannisson, 1996). This chapter deals about studies of women at work and health hazards due to gender-dependent differences at work.


Caregivers’ experiences and beliefs of working with borderline personality disorder (BPD) in a psychiatric organisation were investigated using a qualitative analysis of 29 in-depth interviews. The analysis identified eight characteristics, which were organized in two core concepts. The first of these core concepts, professional skills of mental health work, comprised the categories of empathy for persons work BPD, interest in treating the disorder, feelings of professional frustration and need for a common outlook. The second core concept, frame of work organisation, that is categories common to the organisation, included ambivalence between the professions of the caregivers, the need for structure in the organizing the work, forms of emotional support to the caregivers and the need for a shared philosophy of care. A tentative model was proposed to illustrate the effects of these factors on the type and outcome of work that interact with the care of the patients. It is concluded that the ambivalence in the division of labour may be a critical hindrance to the development of cooperation in the care of BPD patients. It is suggested that a shared common philosophy will support corresponding ethical standards by individual practitioners for the benefit of patient outcome.

*Key words:* Psychiatric work organization, organization model, nursing staff, BPD patients’ outcome, grounded theory

Self-reported health was studied in relation to physiological measures, gender-specific problems and clinical evaluation in 61 middle-aged women employed in a male-dominated industry. Using self-reported health as the dependent variable, 50% of the variability was explained by the dimension workplace culture and the ratio low-density-lipoprotein/high-density lipoprotein. Some women who reported good health were diagnosed with distress but showed no ill-health factors. However, they reported experiences of gender-specific problems more often than the women who were diagnosed as being healthy. We concluded that self-report scales seem not to be enough to identify people who look healthy on standard health scales but who use psychological defenses. Differentiating methods such as gender-specific questions, physiological ratio-measures, and clinical judgment seem to be important for distinguishing genuine from illusory mental health or physical health.

Key words: Self-reported health, gender-related problems, clinical diagnose, physiological ratio-measures

Boe, O. (2000). Attention bias in integration of outcomes of concurrent decision. (Göteborg Psychological Reports, 30, No. 1.) Sweden: Göteborg University, Department of Psychology.

An experiment was conducted to investigate whether an attentional bias explains why decision makers sometimes fail to integrate outcomes of concurrent decisions. Forty-eight undergraduates recruited as participants were asked to make fictitious choices of stores located at different distances where they could purchase the same consumer products at different prices. In one condition the participants were asked to also make a choice between driving and walking to the stores, in another condition to choose between the stores when they had no other option than to walk or drive. Attitudes toward driving were independently assessed by means of a questionnaire. A finding supporting the attentional bias was that participants with a more positive attitude toward driving chose more frequently to drive to stores within walking distance than participants with a less positive attitude towards driving.

Key words: Decision making, concurrent decisions, integration


When outcomes of concurrent decisions are evaluated, they may either be integrated or segregated. The present studies investigated when and how integration occurs. The aim of Study I was to investigate whether an integration principle (the loss-sensitivity principle) could be extended to account for the integration of outcomes of concurrent decisions. This principle
has been shown to hold for integration of prior outcomes with future outcomes. It was then expected that only the loss outcomes of concurrent decisions would be integrated. The two experiments conducted in Study I validated previous results concerning integration of prior outcomes, but did not show that the principle generalized to integration of the outcomes of concurrent decisions. Participants were in both experiments presented with fictitious non-context gambles. Study II was conducted with the primary aim of investigating how casually relatedness, in the form of means-end relations between consumer products, affects integration. Another aim was to investigate the effect of uncertainty. The results showed that participants integrate means-end related alternatives as well as that uncertainty of outcomes of concurrent decisions counteracts integration. The experiment conducted in Study III demonstrated an attentional bias in that causally related outcomes of concurrent decisions are not evaluated and therefore not chosen although more attractive than single outcomes. Finally, Study IV further investigated the attentional bias. Participants were asked to make fictitious choices of stores located at different distances where they could purchase the same consumer products at different prices. Attitudes toward driving were independently assessed by means of a questionnaire. A supporting finding was that participants with a more positive attitude toward driving chose more frequently to drive to stores within walking distance than participants with a less positive attitude towards driving who more frequently chose to walk to stores at driving distances.

Key words: Decision making, concurrent decisions, integration


The article, which is based on a presentation at Nordiska Barnavårdskongressen Åbo, Finland in August 2000 and the chapter 'Kulturella skillnader i barnuppförsot och utvecklingsideal' written together with Kjerstin Almqvist, discusses parenting and child rearing from a comparative perspective. Post-modern Scandinavian child rearing is compared to a more traditional type of child rearing as it is practiced in for example Islamic cultures in the Middle East. The aim of the article is to separate differences rooted in religious beliefs from those better understood as effects of cultural differences depending on degrees of modernity. Consequences of the outlined differences in child rearing, for families immigrating to the Scandinavian countries, are discussed.

Key words: Child rearing, cross-cultural perspectives

Evidence for the importance of the early parent-infant relationship) 
*Läkartidningen*, 97, 3068-3070.

The article reviews the research evidence for which aspects of the parent-infant relationship that is most important for the development of secure versus insecure attachment. An overview is also given of longitudinal studies of the sequelae of insecure, especially disorganised, attachment in infancy.

**Key words:** Attachment, disorganized attachment, parent-infant interaction, sensitivity


Bowlby’s attachment theory has inspired a dramatic shift in the way we understand the development of the early relationship between infant and caregiver(s). Though almost all infants develop an attachment relationship to their primary caregiver(s), not all of them are able to use their caregiver(s) as a secure base, or haven of safety, from which to explore the world. Mary Ainsworth was the first to describe in detail the aspects of the care-giving system that are most important for the development of the attachment relationship. During the last decade several studies have started to evaluate the possibility that insensitive and perhaps even inadequate parenting can be effectively ameliorated by interventions. The present article sketches the theory behind attachment-based interventions and reviews the evidence for the effectiveness of such interventions. Finally, the article gives examples of successful preventive as well as therapeutic interventions.

**Key words:** Attachment, intervention, mother-infant interaction, review


This book deals with psychological and social concomitants of disease and impairment. The consequences for the inflicted individual will reflect a complicated interaction between somatic and psychosocial factors. Health psychology and psychological handicap research are two partly related, new areas with ambitions to reformulate the prevailing biomedical conceptions of ill health and handicap. The book presents a number of research areas where psychological and social factors have proven important for the understanding of processes leading to illness and handicap.

**Key words:** Health psychology, psychological research on impairment and handicap

The chapter discusses semantic and historic aspects of psychosomatic medicine. Different research traditions are described, and proposed models for psychosomatic conditions are compared.

*Key words*: Psychosomatic medicine, psychosomatic theory, health psychology


Linguistic and cognitive development was studied in six children with severe speech impairments (SSI) and cerebral palsy. The children were assessed at three occasions, prior to starting school, after approx. three years at school and the third time after five years at school. The results were compared to those of normally developing children. All children were of normal intelligence at occasion 1, tested with Raven’s Progressive Matrices, a test of nonverbal intelligence. Over time, the children made some progress on all variables. However, the gains in performance on the test of nonverbal intelligence were quite small in all children with SSI and cerebral palsy, which resulted in a decline in IQ. Tests of auditory and visual memory revealed low levels and little variation over time in the children with SSI and cerebral palsy. While the children in the comparison group reached almost perfect results on most linguistic measures the children with SSI and cerebral palsy lagged far behind. The results call for attention when assessing cognitive and linguistic abilities and in interpreting results from formal tests of intelligence. Do we witness genuine difficulties or are the results effects of restricted experiences, that manifest themselves more the older the child gets?


Children with communicative disabilities often exhibit difficulties to convey information in a way that is adapted to the listener’s needs in situations where they have to judge what they need to tell about an object, a person or an event to give an unambiguous message. They tend to give very little information, no information at all or the information given is abundant but mixed with
information that is irrelevant for the purpose. Both alternatives leave the listener confused and lead to a probable breakdown of the communication. Such so called referential communication in communicatively disabled children was studied in a structured situation. The task consisted of describing a picture out of a set of sixteen in a way that made it possible for a “listener” to choose the correct one. Participants were children with autism, Asperger syndrome, DAMP, nonvocal children with cerebral palsy and children with mental retardation. The results showed that all groups of disabled children, except for the children with DAMP, had difficulties to convey relevant information compared to the children in two comparison groups. The results of this study indicate that the performance in these situations might be related to auditory memory problems, and to some extent to the capacity to take other persons’ perspective.


The question of how children develop an understanding of their own and others’ minds has attracted a substantial amount of research during the past decades. Especially, studies within the field of children’s “theory of mind” have been quite successful. However, in the research of children with different communicative disabilities, quite a few issues remain to be analysed. In the presentation different critical aspects of the theory of mind paradigm will be discussed, highlighted by examples from research on children with autism, Asperger syndrome, non-vocal children with cerebral palsy and children with attention deficits. The results will be discussed in terms of verbal ability, information processing, social skills and experimental design.


Communicative functions and their relationship with overall developmental level and autistic features were studied in eight young women with disorders in the Rett syndrome complex, three with the classical variant and five with variants with partially preserved/regained speech. The Vineland Adaptive Behaviour Scales, individual structured observation, and a specially designed structured interview covering early prelinguistic and linguistic development, current receptive and expressive language and non-verbal communication skills, were used. Autistic features were evaluated in accordance with the DSM-IV. Low levels of communicative abilities and overall functioning were demonstrated. In most cases, the communicative abilities did not reach the level expected on the basis of overall development. Joint attention behaviours and expressions of communicative intent were rare. However, six of the eight subjects showed clear examples of social interaction abilities. “Eye pointing”, as distinct from “eye communication”, was demonstrated only in a minority of
the cases. The level of communicative function at developmental arrest did not predict later language ability. It is suggested that intervention should focus on developing further the joint attention behaviours, intentional communications and communicative functions spontaneously used by individuals with disorders in the Rett syndrome complex.

Key words: Autism, Rett syndrome, communication, language, speech, developmental level


A high rate of autistic or autistic-like behaviours has been found in blind children during the last decades (Cass, 1998, Ek et al., 1998, Jacobson et al., 1998). In these cases the diagnostic procedure often is difficult and questions arise as to whether the symptoms are due to difficulties depending on the visual impairment or if the child in addition to the blindness also has autistic disorders. Knowledge is growing in the field and there are e.g. studies of children with blindness due to retinopathy of prematurity reporting autistic disorders in approx. 50% of the children (Ek et al., 1998). There are well-known educational methods for children with blindness as well as for children with autism. The most successful methods for children with autism comprising structuring and clarification are based on visual information which also seem to be the most reliable input channel for children with autistic disorders (Dahlgren, in prep.). Problems obviously arise when the child also is blind. In our work we describe educational experiences made by teachers who have tried to apply and adapt principles from work with sighted children with autism to situations where the child in addition to the autistic disorder also has a visual impairment. One of our main findings is the need to part from the unique combination of difficulties, autism and blindness, in the educational situation and that thorough knowledge of both disabilities is needed for success.


The comprehension of mechanical, behavioural and intentional picture stories was examined in nonretarded children with autism, Asperger syndrome and DAMP (Dysfunction in attention, motor control and perception similar to ADHD), all matched for sex and mental age. The results were compared to a group of sex and mental age-matched non-disabled children. The children’s ability to arrange pictures into a predetermined sequence that made up a story was assessed. In addition, the children were asked to tell a story based on the sequences. The children with autism and Asperger syndrome performed significantly worse than the other two groups. The difference in performance on the picture story task between those children with autism and Asperger syndrome who passed and
those who failed in a second order false belief task, was non-significant, i.e. they did not use their relative competence in second order theory of mind in other tasks that required theory of mind competence and put demands on information processing. The comprehension of five common forms of figurative language, differing in both degree of discrepancy from truth and in communicative purpose, was examined in the same group of children as in the previous study. The children heard a series of brief stories each ending with one of five types of figurative remarks or a literal remark. Generally, the children with autism performed worse than the other three groups. The group of children with Asperger syndrome performed statistically significantly worse than the non-disabled group. There were no significant differences between the non-disabled group and the group of children with DAMP. The results will be discussed in terms of symptomatology, metacognition, perception, communicative ability, information processing, perception of coherence and interpretation of meaning.

**Key words:** Autism, Asperger syndrome, theory of mind, understanding of picture stories, understanding of figurative language, communicative disabilities, central coherens


Communication is the foundation for all human interactions. For communication to be successful, one has to rapidly interpret others' thoughts and intentions in relation to the context. One also needs productive means to express oneself. Sometimes children have communicative difficulties, both linguistic and non-linguistic. These disorders can be of different origin. In this chapter we describe some important characteristics in typical communicative development and in what way it can be hindered early in life. In some cases it is quite easy to explain the difficulties that the children meet, in other cases it is quite difficult. Sometimes, but not always, there are means to help the child in the development. Often a more thorough understanding of the difficulties is needed before research endeavours can contribute with any suggestions how to facilitate the communicative development of the child.


The purpose was to prospectively evaluate changes in clinical, pain, and cognitive-behavioral variables in a structurally homogenous group of patients with painful temporomandibular joints (TMJ), who had undergone an identical intervention, arthroscopy. Twenty-six consecutive patients who had previously undergone unsuccessful conservative treatment participated. They were evaluated with the Craniomandibular Index (CMI), pain-related measures on visual analogue scales (VASs) for 1 wk, questionnaires, and the
Multidimensional Pain Inventory (MPI). The mean CMI decreased significantly, from 0.28 to 0.18, 3 months after surgery. Pain measures also decreased significantly as rated on questionnaires, and "at worst" and "most of the time" on VASs. Intraphychic variables related to pain also decreased significantly, while interpersonal and activity measures remained unchanged. An overall MPI dysfunctional variable correlated significantly with pain. Few further changes were observed at 12 months. Lysis and lavage of the upper TMJ compartment appears to effectively alleviate persisting functional and pain-related symptoms with low morbidity, in line with previous findings. Recoveries seem to be accompanied by changes in certain pain-related cognitive-behavioral variables within a limited sphere. Biological and intrapsychic features may interact with interpersonal factors in a complicated way in patients with orofacial pain.

Key words: Arthroscopy, cognitive-behavioral, pain, temporomandibular joint disorders


This chapter analyzed people’s willingness to contribute through taxes and by fees to the financing of public health care and child care. As expected, survey results indicated that people were more positive to pay collectively for health care through taxes than by fees. In contrast, respondents’ attitudes were more positive towards paying for child care by fees rather than through taxes. This results was suggested to be an effect of differences between the services in personal need; as compared to need for health care, need for child care is often predictable. This was supported in an experiment where participants in a social dilemma task either ran a high or low risk of being in future need of a resource. Participants with a high risk cooperated more than participants with a low risk. Therefore, it was concluded that the probability of a personal need in the future explains respondents’ different preferences for collective and individual methods of payment of child care and health care.

Key words: Social Dilemmas, cooperation, fairness

Eek, D., & Gärling, T. (2000). Effects of joint outcome, equality, and efficiency on assessments of social value orientations. (Göteborg Psychological Reports, 30, No. 4.) Sweden: Göteborg University, Department of Psychology.

In “decomposed games” used to assess social value orientations, it is assumed that prosocials choose the cooperative alternative because it provides self and the other with the largest joint outcome. However, the cooperative alternative has almost exclusively also provided self and the other with the same outcome (equality). Two experiments were
conducted partly to investigate whether joint outcome or equality is prosocials’ primary motive, partly to investigate the possible effects of efficiency on assessments of social value orientations. In Experiment 1, 52 psychology undergraduates completed an extended version of the Triple-Dominance Measure of Social Values where an additional fourth alternative distributing largest joint outcome unequally was introduced. The results suggested that prosocials’ primary motive is to reach equality and not to maximize joint outcome. This was also suggested by the results of Experiment 2, where 100 psychology undergraduates completed the same task. In addition, it was found that more prosocials maximized joint outcome when considerations for efficiency were evoked.

Key words: Social value orientations, human interdependence, equality, efficiency


We investigated if indications of coping strategies with relevance to spinal cord injury (SCI) could be found given a rigorous psychometric procedure. From literature reviews, in-depth interviews, and our coping definition, items reflecting coping and coping outcome were formulated. The study sample comprised 274 subjects with non-remarkable distribution of neurological deficit, gender and age. The coping scale consists of three factors: Acceptance, Positive reframing and Social reliance. The outcome scale consists of two psychological distress factors and a third positive morale factor: Helplessness, Intrusion and Personal growth. The buffering effect of coping on outcome was also elucidated. Indications were found that the concept of coping seems to hold promising possibilities in SCI, especially for targeting clinical interventions as regards subjective well being.

Key words: Spinal cord injury, coping, distress, scale development, psychometric validation


Low platelet monoamine oxidase B (MAO-B) activity and the presence of the Taq1 A1 allele of the dopamine D2 receptor (DRD2) gene have independently been proposed as “biological/genetic” markers for alcoholism. In the present study the relationship between these two markers was investigated in a group of socially stable Caucasian middle-age men with a mean daily consumption of 85 ± 57 grams pure alcohol. The platelet MAO-B activity was significantly lower in individuals with the presence of the DRD2 A1 allele (n = 8) compared to those with absence of this allele (n = 29). This relationship remained
unchanged when including only subjects who fulfilled DSM IV criteria for alcohol dependence (n = 27). The finding suggests that alcoholics who are carriers of the DRD2 A1 allele have lower platelet MAO-B activity.

Key words: MAO-B, alcohol dependence, DRD2 A1 allele


Citalopram, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI), has been suggested to reduce alcohol intake, at least in some studies. In the present study we investigated possible predictors for the effect of citalopram on alcohol intake in heavy drinkers. Two indices of central serotonergic neurotransmission, the prolactin response to d-fenfluramine and platelet monoamine oxidase-B activity was used as predictors as well as possession of the genotype dopamine D2 receptor (DRD2) A1/A2 allele. In addition, only subjects with a weekly consumption between 300-800 grams pure alcohol were investigated since citalopram has previously been shown to reduce alcohol intake in subjects with these amounts of consumption. The investigation was performed as a double-blind placebo-controlled study. Subjects were randomized into treatment with either citalopram 40 mg daily or placebo during a 4-week period. Predictors were related to changes in alcohol intake. Citalopram was not superior to placebo in reducing alcohol intake. Neither baseline alcohol consumption nor the two central serotonergic indices had any predictive value. However, presence of the DRD2 A2/A2 allele predicted a citalopram effect on alcohol consumption. Subjects with possession of the genotype DRD2 A2/A2 allele thus reduced their alcohol consumption, although transient. The findings suggest that future studies of SSRIs on alcohol consumption should include determination of the DRD2 Taq 1 alleles.

Key words: Alcohol dependence, DRD2 A1 allele, citalopram, serotonin


The possible relationships between alpha-2-adrenoceptor function, as assessed by blood pressure, heart rate and sedative responses to clonidine (CLON; 1.5 µg/kg iv), and psychopathology and mental well-being were investigated in 19 patients with alcohol-dependence in the early withdrawal period (day 1 and day 7). An age-matched control group was used (n=17). CLON-induced maximum reduction of systolic blood pressure was less day 1 in the alcohol-dependent patients compared to controls. CLON was found to induce less sedation at day 7 compared to day 1 and to controls. No relationships were seen between the parameters for alpha-2-adrenoceptor function and
psychopathology and mental well-being. These findings suggest that CLON-induced changes in blood pressures and heart rate reflect the cardiovascular situation in alcohol withdrawal and not aspects of behavior.

**Key words:** Alcohol-dependence, alpha-2-adrenoceptors, clonidine, blood pressure, heart rate, sedation, psychopathology, mental well-being


The daily fluid intake of male rats of the alcohol preferring (AA) and alcohol-avoiding (ANA) lines with simultaneous access to 10% ethanol and water was determined during a baseline period (2 weeks), following adrenalectomy (1 week) and for 2 weeks following corticosterone treatment. The results showed that adrenalectomized AA rats decreased their ethanol intake compared to the sham operated AA controls and that treatment with corticosterone restored the intake of ethanol to that observed during the baseline period. In contrast to the AA rats, there were no alterations in ethanol intake after adrenalectomy surgery and following corticosterone replacement in the ANA rats. These results suggest that corticosterone stimulates ethanol intake in animals with pronounced high preference for ethanol.

**Key words:** Alcohol intake, corticosterone, adrenalectomy, AA rats, ANA rats


The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of prenatal exposure of the steroid hormone corticosterone on adult alcohol consumption in rats. Pregnant rats were implanted with either cholesterol or corticosterone pellets at day 16 of pregnancy. At adult age, offsprings treated with corticosterone showed increased voluntary alcohol intake and fear-related behaviors (spontaneous peripheral locomotor activity, fleeing and freezing) compared to controls. These results indicate a potential prenatal influence of the steroid hormone corticosterone on alcohol drinking and fear-related behaviors in adult rats.

**Key words:** Prenatal, corticosterone, alcohol intake, fear, rat

The purpose of this study was to assess the impact of early rearing and stress-induced rise of plasma cortisol collected during infancy as a biological predictors of adult alcohol consumption in nonhuman primates. Ninety-seven female and male rhesus macaques (*Macaca mulatta*) were investigated. They were reared for their first six months of life either without mothers or other adults but with constant access to same-aged peers (peer-reared), or as controls with their mothers (mother-reared). When subjects reached six months of age, they underwent a series of four sequential weeks of four-day social separations. Blood was drawn one and two hours after initiating the four-day separation periods, and the plasma was assayed for plasma cortisol concentrations. When the subjects were young adults (approximately 50 months of age), they were tested for voluntary intake of alcohol for one hour per day, 4 days a week, during a period of five to seven weeks under normal living conditions. The social separation challenge increased infant plasma cortisol concentrations, with peer-reared subjects exhibiting higher stress-induced cortisol concentrations than mother-reared animals. Subjects that responded to the social separation challenge with high cortisol levels consumed significantly more alcohol per kg body weight as adults than subjects with a low cortisol response to the separation challenge, regardless of rearing condition. In addition, male, and peer-reared subjects consumed significantly more alcohol than female and mother-reared subjects, respectively. These findings suggest that early rearing experiences, such as adult absence, and high plasma cortisol concentrations early in life following a social separation stressor, are useful psychobiological predictors of future high alcohol consumption among nonhuman primates.

*Key words:* Rhesus macaques, alcohol consumption, cortisol, social separation, rearing condition

Fransson, N. & Biel, A. (2000). *Gender differences in pay expectations among different occupational groups.* (Göteborg Psychological Reports, 30, No. 7.) Sweden: Göteborg University, Department of Psychology.

Previous research, almost exclusively using student samples, has suggested that women tend to expect lesser pay for own work than men. Those results have been interpreted as being at least partly responsible for the gender wage gap evident in most developed countries. The main purpose of the present study was to test whether the same gender difference exist among people in the labor market and to explore which variables that mediate pay expectations. Questionnaire data from 329 males and 553 females from 4 different occupational groups were analyzed. The obtained results partly corroborated previous findings in that women and men from 2 of the 4 occupational groups differed in their pay expectations and that 3 out of 4 occupational groups displayed a gender wage gap. The two strongest predictors of pay expectation were current salary and years in occupation. Neither predictor has been tested in previous research using student samples. Those latter findings led to the conclusion that factors predicting pay expectation
among students differ from factors predicting pay expectations among people in the labor market.

Key words: Gender wage gap, pay expectation, labor market


Adult mice were administered either the noradrenaline (NA) neurotoxin, N-(2-choroethyl)-N-ethyl-2-bromobenzylamine, (DSP4), or distilled water (control), 10-12 days before motor activity testing, and 6 h before testing all the mice were administered reserpine (10 mg/kg), the monoamine-depleting agent. The interactive effects of (I) clonidine, the $\alpha_2$-adrenoceptor agonist, with the dopamine (DA) agonist, apomorphine, and the $\alpha_2$-antagonist, yohimbine, and (II) with either yohimbine or the $\alpha_1$-antagonist, prazosin, upon motor behaviour in activity test chambers were studied in reserpinized DSP4-treated and control mice. It was shown that apomorphine (3 mg/kg) increased locomotor and total activity in both reserpinized DSP4-treated and control mice but the effect was attenuated in the DSP4 mice. Co-administration of clonidine (3 mg/kg) with apomorphine potentiated the effects of apomorphine on motor activity and this effect was enhanced markedly by DSP4 pretreatment. Yohimbine (10 mg/kg) antagonised the motor activity-stimulating effects of apomorphine in both DSP4-treated and control mice. Co-administration of clonidine with apomorphine, following yohimbine, restored motor activity levels to those obtained in the absence of yohimbine and this effect upon locomotor activity was enhanced by DSP4 pretreatment. The effects of clonidine on motor activity were enhanced by NA-denervation. Prazosin (3 mg/kg) enhanced the locomotor activity of both reserpinized DSP4-treated and control mice after the initial 30-min period but was not affected by DSP4 treatment. Analysis of post-decapiation convulsions (PDCs) indicated loss of the reflex by DSP4 pretreatment. Reserpine pretreatment abolished the initial, exploratory phasne (30 min) of motor activity. These results demonstrate interactions between NA and DA systems that may bear eventual relevance to neurologic disorders such as parkinsonism.

Key words: DSP4, control, reserpine, locomotion, total activity, clonidine, apomorphine, co-administration, enhancement, yohimbine, antagonism, prazosin, supersensitivity, attenuation, PDCs, movement disorders, mice


Neontal mice administered nicotine (66 µg (-) nicotine base/kg body weight (bw) s.c. twice daily at 0800 and 1700 h on postnatal days 10 and 14 and
control mice received saline (10 ml 0.9% NaCl/kg bw s.c.) on the same occasions. Behavioral testing was initiated 3 months after birth. In Experiment 1, neonatal nicotine administration did not affect spontaneous motor activity but altered the peak dose stimulatory effect of ethanol upon locomotion and rearing activity from 3.0 mg/kg, in the control mice, to 1.5 mg/kg. Administration of the nicotine antagonist, mecamylamine (MEC, 2.0 mg/kg), had no effect upon the peak dose stimulatory effect (i.e., 1.5 mg/kg) evidenced in the nicotine-treated mice, but attenuated the stimulatory effect of the 3.0 mg/kg dose of ethanol in the control mice. In Experiment 2, the effects of neonatal nicotine administration upon ethanol intake and preference were assessed. In the single fluid access (one-bottle) test, nicotine-treated mice consumed both more ethanol (2%, 4%, or 6% concentrations) and more tap water than control mice. In the two-bottle ethanol preference test, nicotine-treated mice consumed more ethanol and tap water. Further analysis of the high-prefering (HP) ethanol mice indicated higher ethanol intake and preference in the nicotine-treated mice but no differences in tap water or total fluid intake. The present findings are considered together with prevailing notions of nicotine receptor alterations and possible cross-sensitization effects modulating substance abuse.

**Key words:** Nicotine, ethanol, neonatal, motor behavior, mecamylamine, peak effect, ethanol intake, ethanol preference, mice


Newborn mice were administered Fe$_{2+}$ (iron succinate: 7.5 mg/kg, b.wt) on either Days 3-5, 10-12 or 19-21, or vehicle (saline) at the same times, postnatally. Spontaneous motor behaviour and radial arm maze learning were tested at the age of 3 months. It was found that mice treated with Fe$_{2+}$ during postnatal Days 10-12 were markedly hypokinetic during the 1st 20-min test period and hyperkinetic during the 3rd and final 20-min test period. These mice showed an almost complete lack of habituation of spontaneous motor activity parameters to the test chambers. In the radial arm maze, the Days 10-12 treatment group evidenced significantly both more errors in arm choices and longer latencies to acquire all eight pellets; these mice showed also a severe trial-to-trial retention deficit as indexed by retention quotients. These behavioural deficits were observed also in animals treated with Fe$_{2+}$ during postnatal Days 3-5, but the effects were less pronounced, indicating the higher susceptibility of the brain for Fe$_{2+}$-induced damage during Days 10-12 postpartum. Treatment with Fe$_{2+}$ on Days 19-21 did not induce behavioural alterations in comparison with its respective control (vehicle) group. Analysis of total brain iron content indicated significantly more iron (µg/g) accumulation in the basal ganglia, but not frontal cortex, of mice from the Days 3-5 and 10-12 Fe$_{2+}$ (7.5 mg/kg) treatment groups. The contribution of iron overload during the immediate postnatal to later functional deficits seems to
implicate symptoms of Parkinsonism but the kinetics of iron uptake to the brain and its regional distribution at this critical period of development awaits elucidation.

*Key words:* Iron administration, postnatal, motor behaviour, habituation, radial maze learning, basal ganglia, NMRI mouse


Satisfaction is assumed to be an important cause of attitude change by mediating between preexposure and postexposure attitudes. A number of factors account for whether one is satisfied or not with a specific product or service. One factor is expectations, another performance of the product or service, and a third disconfirmation of expectation. Another possible factor that influences satisfaction is the affective reaction to product/service performance. The present thesis aimed at investigating satisfaction with public transport services. More specifically, the role of critical incidents in satisfaction was examined. In Studies I and IV the characteristics of critical incidents in public transport services were analyzed. Three different methods were in Study I applied to explore perceptual/cognitive experiences of negative critical incidents. The results suggested that employee behavior, reliability, simplicity, and design constitute perceived quality attributes in public transport services. Study IV investigated how individuals respond affectively to and evaluate satisfaction after such encounters. The results showed as expected that the critical incidents varied in both valence (positive-negative feelings) and activation (arousal). Study II confirmed the quality attributes found in Study I by means of further analyses of the covariances of rated frequencies of remembered negative critical incidents as well as of ratings of attributes-specific satisfaction. Some explanations of how frequencies of remembered negative critical incidents are coded in memory were tested in Studies II and III. The results showed that frequency of negative critical incidents, defined as disconfirmation of expectations, negatively affected overall satisfaction with public transport. The relationship was however not direct but mediated by attribute-specific satisfaction. Furthermore, the results obtained in Study IV showed that difference in satisfaction caused by different types of critical incidents were related to the affective relations to the incidents.

*Key words:* Perceived service quality, consumer satisfaction, negative critical incidents, affect, public transport

Three studies were conducted with the aim of investigating whether choice of behavioral alternative increases intention-behavior consistency. In Study 1 undergraduates were asked to write and mail back an essay on a topic they either chose or were assigned. Demonstrating an effect of choice, significantly more subjects who chose an essay topic mailed back the essays. These subjects also rated their intention to write the essay as stronger, thus suggesting that the difference between choice and no choice is that the intention is self-generated. Supporting this interpretation, no differences in mail-back rates were observed in Studies 2 and 3 between a difficult and easy choice condition. Furthermore, an alternative hypothesis that choice induces implementation intentions did not receive support since independent effects were in Study 2 found of deciding when and where to write the essay and in Study 3 of making an outline of the essay.

*Key words*: Decision making, intention, behavior


Previous research show that both naive subjects and presumed experts have a hard time distinguishing between truthful and deceptive statements. This paper discuss why that might be. Data from a national survey on police officers’, prosecutors’ and judges’ beliefs on deception is presented and discussed.

*Key words*: Deception detection, beliefs on deception


Offender profiling is perhaps the most misunderstood tool used in forensic contexts. In this paper we discuss and contrast three approaches to offender profiling: (a) the classic FBI-approach, (b) the clinical approach and (c) the investigative-psychology framework (suggested by David Canter). Furthermore, we discuss the concept of ‘geographical profiling’.

*Key words*: Offender profiling, geographical profiling


To develop interview techniques that facilitate the elicitation of both correct and complete witness’ statements is of paramount importance. In the last decade, much research has focused on one such technique: the Cognitive Interview (CI). In this paper we give a brief outline of the CI’s theoretical underpinnings and sketch the different steps constituting the technique.
also discuss feedback-results stemming from a CI-training program that was tested on a group of social workers.

*Key words:* the Cognitive Interview, training program


Suspects are often subjected to multiple interrogations. Research on deception has neglected this fact. To remedy this shortcoming a study was conducted focusing on how repeated interrogations affect deception detection performance. After seeing a staged event, 12 lying and 12 truth-telling witnesses were interrogated three times over a period of 11 days. The main findings were that (1) both interrogators and observers were poor at discerning truth-tellers from liars; (2) observers who made veracity judgments after seeing one interrogation performed in line with observers had seen three interrogations, and (3) the interrogators showed a very pronounced truth bias.

*Key words:* Deception detection, repeated interrogations, interrogators vs. observers


This study investigated the extent to which crediting and discrediting background information, given to observers before they watched three videotaped interviews with the same witness, affected their veracity judgments. Our analyses show that the observers’ distribution of truth/lie-judgments was more affected by crediting than discrediting background information. We also mapped the subjective cues given to justify the truth/lie-judgments, and found that the most frequently used cue was whether or not the three statements were consistent over time. In addition, our analysis revealed two types of inter-observer disagreements. One type referred to how different cues were perceived (e.g., forty observers perceived the three statements as being inconsistent over time while an equal number perceived the same three statements as being consistent over time). The second type referred to how different cues were used (e.g., the fact that the witness was perceived as not being confident in his testimony worked against him equally as often as it worked for him).

*Key words:* Deception detection, cues to deception, effects of crediting and discrediting background information, suspicion

In this paper we examined beliefs about deception held by experienced police officers (n=104). The result show that the police officers’ beliefs about deception were remarkably inconsistent with the general pattern resulting from studies mapping actual cues to deception. Both the genesis and the implications of these differences are discussed.

Key words: Beliefs on deception, expert lie-catchers, police officers


In this paper we examined beliefs about deception held by prosecutors (n=158) and judges (n=251). The result show that both the prosecutors’ and the judges’ beliefs about deception were remarkably inconsistent with the general pattern resulting from studies mapping actual cues to deception. Both the genesis and the implications of these differences are discussed.

Key words: Beliefs on deception, expert lie-catchers, prosecutors, judges


This study investigated the effects of repetition, memory, feedback and hindsight bias on the realism in confidence in answers to questions on a filmed kidnapping. In Experiment 1 the participants showed overconfidence in all conditions. In the Repeat condition (‘how confident are you now that your previous answers are correct’) overconfidence was reduced as a consequence of the decrease in confidence in both correct and incorrect answers. Compared with the Repeat condition when the participants received feedback on their answers and were asked to remember their initial confidence, the confidence level was higher for correct and lower for incorrect answers. In Experiment 2, recalled confidence (the Memory condition) increased compared with the original confidence both for correct and incorrect answers; the effect was increased overconfidence. The Hindsight condition showed a decrease in confidence in incorrect answers. The results suggest that a unique hindsight effect may be more clearly present for incorrect than for correct answers. Our study gives further evidence for the malleability of the realism in eyewitness confidence and we discuss both the theoretical and forensic implications of our findings.
**Key words:** Eyewitness confidence, reiteration, hindsight bias


In Experiment 1 we investigated size estimates and requests from an uncertain resource in a common-pool resource dilemma. In Experiment 2, we examine contributions in a public-good dilemma with an uncertain provision threshold when participants were informed about others’ pessimistically biased estimates of the resource size or provision threshold. Supporting an individual outcome-desirability bias, but refuting a perceptual bias and an egoism bias, participants in Experiment 1 did not estimate size differently, and they cooperated more, rather than less, when they were informed about others’ estimates. Likewise, participants contributed more in Experiment 2 when they were informed about others’ estimates. These results were replicated in Experiment 3, where the outcome did not depend on others’ requests or contributions.

**Key words:** Decision making, social dilemmas, resource uncertainty, outcome-desirability bias


The present study tested the hypothesis that habitual drivers become aversive against exerting physical effort by walking. In support of the hypothesis, distance thresholds for driving measured in a Swedish (n=60) and a US sample (n=51) of undergraduates decreased with driving habit. Respondents in the US sample were more frequent drivers and had a lower distance threshold than respondents in the Swedish sample.

**Key words:** Decision making, driving habit, cross-country comparison


This chapter analyzes the relationship between cognitive maps of large-scale environments and the choices people make of destinations of travel in these environments. It is argued that single or multiple such choices vary in accuracy in predictable ways depending on level of acquisition of spatial knowledge. The relevant research in several areas is reviewed to provide support for the arguments.
Key words: Decision making, cognitive maps, travel


The present research investigated what car-use reduction measures are perceived by households to be feasible if their goal is to reduce car driving. In Study 1 a number of such measures were included in a survey questionnaire requesting a total of 770 randomly selected respondents to rate how likely they would be to choose the different measures. The ratings suggested that for shopping trips choosing closer stores and trip chaining are more likely to be chosen than any other measure. A similar pattern was observed for leisure trips. Switching to public transport was the most likely choice for work trips. Women were more likely than men to choose public transport and trip chaining, whereas men were more likely than women to choose motorbike/moped. Choices of car pooling, biking, or motorbike/moped decreased with age. In Study 2 it was determined in interviews what choices households would make in forming car-use reduction intentions, then 1-week travel diaries were collected to assess whether their car-use intentions were implemented. A random sample of 113 multiperson households participated. They expected to be able to change approximately 10% of their car trips. However, in particular they made many more shopping and leisure trips than they had expected. Constraints, perceived costs, and preferences for different car-use reduction measures may all play a role for the choices. Further research needs to disentangle these roles since their implications for policies are different.

Key words: Decision making, travel, car-use reduction


Psychological science has the potential to contribute to diplomatic negotiations, and thereby indirectly to the prevention of conflicts between and within states that may escalate to wars. In this introduction of the special issue on diplomacy and psychology, different varieties of diplomacy are first briefly introduced. Then follows an enumeration of areas of psychological research which show the greatest promise of being directly or indirectly relevant to diplomacy. These research areas include judgment and decision making in negotiations and social dilemmas, social justice, intergroup conflicts, and intercultural processes. An additional area is research on environmental policy making whose important role needs to be better
recognized in international diplomacy. Overviews are also given of the articles included in the special issue.

Key words: Decision making, diplomacy, negotiation


This study aims to describe, from the perspective of patients with fibromyalgia themselves, their experiences of having to live with chronic pain and how they manage their situation. The sample consists of 22 female patients (22-60 years). Open-ended in-depth interviews were analysed by a method directed by the tradition of Grounded Theory. Three descriptive categories were grounded in the data, labelled subjective pain language, diversified pain coping, and pain communication. These descriptive categories formed the higher-order, or core, concept preoccupied with pain. Having to live with chronic pain seems to include that the sufferer becomes self-centred and preoccupied with the pain: the pain is mostly present and affects every aspect of life, leading to a continuous awareness of and coping with the pain. Pain tends to interrupt normal life, demands attention and is difficult to disengage from. Although coping should not be evaluated in terms of good and bad, passivity, escape behaviours, and resignation/catastrophizing, which dominated in the present study sample, might affect social and psychological functioning negatively. Patients with fibromyalgia might benefit from psychological support in coping with their pain and from reinforcement of healthy behaviours.

Key words: Fibromyalgia, pain coping, pain language, females, qualitative research


Perceived (subjective) future has been found to be a significant factor in explaining the relationship between pain and pain-related distress. The present study is based on the assumption that chronic pain patients with the three psychological profiles introduced by Turk and Rudy (1988) could also be found in a sample of chronic pain patients and if so, these profiles have different perspectives on the future. The Multidimensional Pain Inventory (MPI) and The Future Scale (Hellström et al., 1999) were used to collect data from 569 patients with heterogenous non-malignant chronic pain. A cluster analysis was conducted, where the resulting clusters closely resembled the profiles labelled by Turk and Rudy as ‘dysfunctional’, ‘interpersonally distressed’ and ‘adaptive coper’. The results indicated that patients with adaptive coper profile have a more positive perception while those with an interpersonally distressed profile have a more negative perception of the
future. With an increased duration of pain, the proportion of the adaptive coper category decreased linearly, while an opposite trend was noted for the interpersonally distressed category. These results may better enable profiled psychological interventions in clinical pain treatment, e.g. by providing patients with therapies focused on positive future orientation, resulting in increased motivation for health-seeking behaviour and better abilities to cope with pain.

Key words: Chronic pain, perceived future, MPI, the future scale, adaptive coping, future-oriented therapy


Pain as a clinical, human and economic problem is one of the largest challenges in modern Western society. The discussions on nature of pain, what causes pain conditions to be maintained, and which treatment methodologies that are optimal varies conspicuously. Notions of the nature of pain have also changed throughout history. For a long period pain was viewed as a sensory modality next to seeing, hearing and tactility. In this chapter we set out to describe the state-of-the-art knowledge in the area of pain research, and to elucidate the current radical reorientation with regard to the pain problematique.

Key words: Pain, schools of thought, systems oriented models


We present patient data, including diagnosis, follow-up and number of treatment sessions, for adolescent and young adult patients seen at the specialist clinic for eating disorders at the Queen Silvia Children’s Hospital between April 1994 and March 1999. Treatment modalities for different categories of patients are described and two follow-up projects, one for adolescents (13 – 17 years) with anorexia and one for young adult patients (18-24 years) with bulimia are presented. Preliminary results are optimistic in both projects.

Key words: Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa, Follow-up, treatment, psychotherapy

The chapter reviewed the different conceptual models of impairment, disability and handicap proposed by WHO, including the latest revisions and the introduction of the concept participation as an alternative to handicap. The role of attitude formation at an individual and collective level in this context was discussed. It is suggested that research on disability and handicap has a basic as well as a problem-oriented approach and that the models developed by WHO might be inspiring but that there is also a danger that such models might be confining rather than creative.

Key words: Handicap, disability, impairment, attitudes


This textbook gathers together a vast amount of recent international research and the authors’ own research on the causes and remediation of dyslexia. A multilevel approach is taken, including neurobiological, cognitive, educational and social levels of analysis. A cognitive model of the reading process is presented as a basis for diagnostic strategies. Guidelines for prevention and intervention are also provided, based on such concepts as phonological and orthographical processing, automaticity and metacognition.

Key words: Dyslexia, research review, multilevel approach, diagnosis, remediation


The study investigates determinants of private car users´ acceptance of road pricing. A model specifying the strength and direction of causal paths between latent theoretical variables was estimated for data from a survey of 524 car owners living in a metropolitan area of Sweden. The estimated model showed that acceptance of road pricing is negatively affected by perceived infringement on freedom and unfairness which in turn increase with intentions to reduce car use. Income is negatively and expectations that others will reduce car use positively related to intentions to reduce car use.

Key words: Road pricing, car-use reduction, structural equation modeling

Seventy four boys with reading disabilities and a matched control group of normal readers were followed during their compulsory schooling (to grade 9). Word decoding performance was assessed with the Wordchains test on three occasions. For each student a linear growth function was estimated. The slope parameter was used as the dependent variable in a multiple regression analysis with a large number of explanatory factors from grades 2 and 3 including phonological skills, reading and spelling, non-verbal intelligence, motor skills, eye movements, teacher ratings of school behaviour and parents’ education. The proportion of variance of growth explained for the reading disabled boys amounted to 25%, the most powerful predictors being early reading performance and non-verbal intelligence. More surprisingly, neither teacher ratings nor family background gave useful predictive information. For the control group none of the independent variables explained the variance of growth in reading.

*Key words*: Growth-curve analysis, reading disability, word decoding


The present study investigated whether a relationship exists between nandrolone decanoate and voluntary ethanol intake in laboratory rats. Animals were subjected to daily subcutaneous injections with nandrolone decanoate (15 mg/kg) during 2 weeks. One group of animals was tested for voluntary alcohol intake 1 week after the end of the 2-week treatment period and another group received alcohol 3 weeks after the treatment. In addition, assessment of defensive behaviors and immunoreactivity (ir) levels of the brain opioid peptides dynorphin B and Met-enkephalin-Arg-Phe (MEAP) were performed. The nandrolone decanoate treated animals were significantly more aggressive and showed lower fleeing and freezing reaction than the oil-treated controls. Treatment with nandrolone decanoate enhanced voluntary alcohol intake, regardless if it was presented 1 or 3 weeks after end of the treatment period. These animals had a decreased activity of dynorphin B-ir in the nucleus accumbens, decreased levels of MEAP-ir in the periaqueductal gray (PAG) and higher levels of MEAP-ir in the hypothalamus compared to controls. In line with previous studies, this suggest that the altered dynorphin B-ir activity may promote the rewarding effects of ethanol and thereby increasing alcohol intake, whereas MEAP-ir may be associated with the ability to control the aggressive reaction. Abuse of nandrolone decanoate may thus constitute a risk factor for increased alcohol consumption and defensive aggression. In human, this constellation of behavioral symptoms is closely
related to acts of crimes and violence and is often observed among those abusing anabolic androgenic steroids.

Key words: Anabolic androgenic steroids, nandrolone decanoate, alcohol intake, defensive aggression, freezing, fleeing, aggression, brain peptides


This research investigated the sunk-cost effect or escalation defined as the irrational tendency in decision making to continue to invest money, time, or effort following unsuccessful investments. Building on previous research demonstrating loss-sensitivity effects in sequential decision making, in three experiments employing undergraduates responding to decision scenarios the hypothesis was investigated that a loss-minimization goal would lead to stronger effects of sunk outcomes than would a gain-maximizing goal. Although the tendency to continue investments was always greater for gain-maximizing than for loss-minimizing instructions, the sunk-outcome effect was stronger in the former case when the decision context was business investments involving large amounts of money. However, when the decisions concerned personal and lower stakes, the expected stronger effect of sunk outcomes was found for loss-minimizing instructions. Another finding was that both escalation and de-escalation occurred. Furthermore, expected value was never ignored, thus suggesting that future research should focus on how expected value and sunk outcomes jointly influence decisions to continue or discontinue.

Key words: Decision making, escalation, sunk cost


In economic theory the motive for corporate takeovers is described both at a corporate and an individual level. At a corporate level it is assumed that the motive for a takeover is to create as much value as possible for its shareholders, whereas it is easy to imagine that under some conditions, individual managers’ interest in maximizing their own utility can be negatively correlated with maximizing the shareholders wealth. In a series of interviews with executives from the buying and the selling companies in a Swedish takeover, both parties emphasized the importance of a fair price, especially when there are opportunities for doing business together in the future. To test these hypotheses under experimental conditions, 88 MBA students playing the role of buyers were asked to evaluate the selling price in 22 different takeovers. The results clearly showed that both satisfaction with asked selling price and willingness to buy increased for a high fair price compared to when no such information were presented. The results also
showed that buyers were less satisfied and less willing to buy for identical selling prices when the fair price was low compared to when it was high. These results suggest that a fair price matters in corporate takeovers. A question which remains to be answered is what implication this will have for the outcome in a bilateral price negotiation.

Key words: Fairness, negotiation, corporate takeover


Based on the theoretical assumptions that counteroffers are generated through an anchoring-and-adjustment process and that offers are perceived as gains or losses relative to a reference point, predictions were made of how, in a price negotiation, the size of counteroffers varies with proposed selling prices and reservation prices. The predictions were confirmed in two experiments. In Experiment 1 64 undergraduate students of business administration playing the role of buyers of condominiums were presented proposed selling prices and asked to give a counteroffer which a hypothetical seller would accept or reject. A reference point was induced by telling subjects their reservation price. Before giving a counteroffer subjects were asked to indicate whether it was higher or lower than an arbitrary anchor point. In four groups of subjects, high vs. low reference point was crossed with high vs. low anchor point. The results showed as expected that the counteroffers were higher for a high than for a low anchor point, and higher for a high reference point when the anchor point was perceived as a gain than for a low reference point when the anchor point was perceived as a loss. In Experiment 2 in which another 48 undergraduate students of business administration participated, the anchor points were the proposed selling prices and the reference point (reservation price) was manipulated by providing estimates of the market price. The results were as predicted, thus suggesting that the proposed selling prices operated as anchor points and that the estimated market prices affected the reservation prices (reference points) so that the selling prices and estimated market prices jointly affected the counteroffers.

Key words: Negotiation, anchor point, reference point, decision making


Two studies were conducted with the aim of demonstrating anchoring induced biases in consumer price negotiations. In Study 1 96 undergraduate students of business administration who were recruited as subjects played the role of buyers of a condominium. All subjects first obtained the same market information. Then they were asked to tell whether their reservation price was higher or lower than an arbitrary price example (irrelevant
anchor) that for different groups of subjects was either low or high. Finally, subjects indicated their reservation price. As predicted if adjustments from the anchor are insufficient, the indicated reservation price was lower when the anchor was low than when it was high. In Study 2 employing 64 undergraduate students of psychology who conducted dyad negotiations of the price of condominiums, the effect of the irrelevant anchor on an initially indicated reservation price was replicated. In addition, an anchoring effect of the seller’s initial offer was observed. The results also revealed effects of both irrelevant anchor and initial offer on the purchase price.

Key words: Negotiation, anchor point, decision making


From a global perspective it seems as if command of more than one language is the rule rather than the exception. A full understanding of the optimal conditions for second language acquisition requires analyses at several levels including linguistic, cognitive, motivational, educational, social and cultural dimensions. This article presents an analysis at the cognitive level and reviews current research on phonological working memory and code switching. The acquisition of literacy in an additional language is also discussed.

Key words: Second language, vocabulary, phonological loop


A model of the first step in reading acquisition is outlined, where two parallel tracks are followed by the child. One track leads to breaking the alphabetic code and requires phonemic awareness; eventually a state of fluency or automaticity is reached. The other track involves the gradual command of sentence processing, syntactic-semantic parsing and inferencing. The implications for reading instruction are discussed.

Key words: Reading acquisition, instruction, phoneme awareness

The chapter presents current conceptions of dyslexia as a neurobiologically based disturbance of the phonological module of the language system. The main focus is on adults with dyslexic problems. The increasing demands of literacy skills in modern society and working life are pointed out, and the social and emotional consequences of difficulties in reading and spelling are discussed. Information technology offers some possibilities of useful compensatory tools. However, modern techniques may also involve increasing risks of aggravating the exclusionary forces.

**Key words**: Handicap, dyslexia, social consequences


This thesis is based on two research reports, both parts of a larger research project. The aim of the project is to study how many children well baby nurses and pre-school teachers identify as children at risk for maltreatment, which signals they respond to and what factors enhance respectively diminish the likelihood for the children and their families to be recognized.

**Study I.** We investigated how many infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers that pre-school teachers and nurses in well baby clinics in three socio-economically different areas believed were at risk for maltreatment. In all between 7 and 10 percent of the children were identified as being at risk for maltreatment. The estimated variation between areas with different socio-economic structure was confirmed although not so evident as expected. Only a small minority of the children identified as being at risk were identified by both well baby nurses and pre-school teachers.

**Study 2.** According to Swedish law, pre-school teachers and well baby nurses are obliged to report suspicions of child maltreatment to the Social Services. The aim of study II was to examine how participants interpreted the content of the mandatory reporting legislation and which expressions were used. The results showed that the interpretations of the legislation could be divided in child-focused and parent-focused categories. The child-focused categories included for example expressions like "children at risk for maltreatment, children at risk for physical and psychological maltreatment and child mental ill-health". Examples coded as parent-focused categories were "physical and psychological abuse, severe physical neglect and addictive/violent parents". The majority of well baby nurses gave definitions which were coded as child-focused, while pre-school teachers' interpretations were evenly divided between 'child-focused'- and 'parent-focused' categories. Well baby nurses, who stated that they had fulfilled the requirements of the legislation, that is reported children to the Social services, used definitions coded as 'child-focused’ while pre-school teachers reporting children more often used definitions coded as 'parent-focused'.

**Discussion.** To summarize, we have found that pre-school teachers and well baby nurses identified a considerable part of their children under
responsibility as being at risk. There were great differences, however, both between and within the two groups under study. Furthermore pre-school teachers and well baby nurses in the same area did not identify the same children. We also found differences in how our participants defined their reporting obligations. Pre-school teachers who made a report differed from those, who did not. Further studies will shed more light on, and increase our understanding of, factors which affect the likelihood for children and families to get help.

Key words: Child maltreatment, definition, prevalence, mandatory reporting


The aim of this study was to examine how well-baby nurses and preschool teachers (1) interpret the content of the mandatory reporting legislation, (2) which expressions they used when explaining the content, (3) if the interpretations differed between participants and (4) if socio-economic characteristics of the district in which participants worked, affected their interpretations. Nine well-baby nurses and 98 pre-school teachers from three districts with different socio-economic characteristics were interviewed regarding children they feared were maltreated. Interpretations of the content of the legislation could be divided into (1) child-focused and (2) parent-focused categories. The majority of well-baby nurses gave definitions that were coded as child-focused while pre-school teachers’ interpretations of the legislation were evenly divided between child- and parent-focused categories. Parent-focused definitions (e.g. physical abuse, sexual abuse, violent parents) were most common among participants from the highest socio-economic district. Possible psychological factors underlying different interpretations of the legislation are discussed and the need for a common definition is stressed.

Key words: Child maltreatment, mandatory reporting, pre-school children


In international surveys of literacy Sweden has achieved among the highest national literacy scores on reading comprehension tasks and yet has amongst the highest levels of discrepancy in scores between monolingual native Swedes and multilingual immigrant groups. When a non-native speaker of Swedish
has achieved a good level of oral competence in the language it can be difficult
to establish why he or she might experience exceptional difficulty in reading
and spelling. Clearly such difficulty may be grounded in native language
problems indicating specific language difficulties/dyslexia. However, second
language reading difficulties may be a result of problems either external or
central to the reader which do not indicate dyslexia but rather are
symptomatic of the cultural and linguistic shift associated with reading a
foreign language text. This chapter outlines differences in levels of literacy
between native Swedes and multilingual immigrant groups, comparing these
differences with those found between native and non-native speakers in other
nations. Literacy levels among multilingual immigrant groups are also
examined in relation to employment, participation in further education and
first language reading skills. The chapter presents a model of how aspects of
first language culture and writing system may influence the prerequisites
necessary to reading in any language. The issues raised by this model are
specified in view of literacy traditions in Sweden and difficulties inherent in
the Swedish writing system. The chapter discusses some possible explanations
as to why a non-native speaker of Swedish may have difficulty in establishing
fluent reading proficiency in Swedish and reference is made to published
studies indicating that such difficulties are not commonly found at the level of
word reading (dyslexia) but in general reading comprehension and cultural
difference.

Key words: Comprehension, dyslexia, literacy, monolingual, multilingual, non-
native speakers, reading, second language, Sweden

Miller Guron, L. (2000). Is dyslexia the same problem regardless of language?
Dyslexia – aktuellt om läs- och skrivsvårigheter [Dyslexia – current issues on

Reading research up to the last decade has been dominated by Anglo-American
models of reading development and word decoding, based on the English
language and its idiosyncratic spelling system. However, in recent years such
models have been considerably refined by research from other languages with
more regular spelling systems or orthographies. Although international
surveys of reading stress the importance of cultural and historical factors,
there is reason to assume that some orthographies are easier to read than
others. The impact of those studies that have focused on comparisons of
different systems of written representation is that global theories of word
reading and reading acquisition must now be modified to account for
orthography, and that the specific difficulties of poor readers must be viewed
in relation to the script being decoded. This article addresses the importance of
orthography to native language reading strategy, foreign language reading
acquisition and the difficulties of multilingual students learning to read
Swedish.

An unexpected and remarkable preference for second language reading among some dyslexics has been noted, presenting a challenge to accepted theory on dyslexia and the capacity for second language learning. The current study was designed to examine this phenomenon by systematically looking at the differential reading scores in the first and second languages of reading-disabled young Swedish adults who claimed to prefer reading in their second language (English). Three groups were selected for study: a group of 10 reading-disabled young adults who prefer to read English; a second group of 10 reading-disabled with no special preference for second language reading, matched on word recognition efficiency, age group, gender and educational level and a group of 10 normal readers matched on age group and educational level. The test battery was designed to compare overall reading efficiency in English and Swedish and therefore encompassed both speed and accuracy measures, three isolated word reading measures, two continuous text reading measures, a comprehension task and an author recognition task. All tasks were carried out in both English and Swedish. The results showed that two dyslexic groups differed significantly in the degree to which task performance, including reading efficiency, was impeded by the English format. A tentative hypothesis was forwarded as to how the exceptional and unexpected facility with English might be explained.


In this study, we investigated the way patients themselves view the development of their eating disorders. The subjects were 125 female patients, between 18 and 25 years of age (AN n=22; BN n=65; EDNOS n=38), from an eating disorder outpatient clinic in Göteborg, Sweden. The interviewees' responses were analysed using the following dimensions: (1) events before the onset, (2) age of onset, (3) why the disordered eating behaviour started and (4) what I did then. Events prior to the eating disorder were mainly associated with body image. The stated mean age of onset was 16 years of age and the duration was significantly shorter for AN than for BN/EDNOS. Interpersonal and weight-related problems were reported as the most common cause, independently of diagnosis and dieting or dieting/purging as the effect. Interaction between interpersonal, weight-related problems and dieting
constitutes the main risk factor for the emergence and development of eating disorders.

Key words: Eating disorders, emergence, development, explorative, qualitative


This study was designed to examine the interactive effects between alcohol-intake and frustration effects upon art vandalism. 100 subjects, 50 men and 50 women, were randomly assigned to five experimental conditions (Control, Alcohol, Alcohol+Frustration, Frustration and Placebo) with 10 men 10 women in each group. Subjects were provided with the opportunity to scrawl on a picture of Adam and Eve (the AET test). AET was also evaluated on levels of "destruction", "aggression" and "sexuality". The results indicated that alcohol did not increase the degree of vandalism, but there was a significant increase in scores of scrawling-graffiti under the influence of alcohol-frustration. Female subjects performed graffiti-scrawling to a significantly greater extent than male subjects in all five groups.

Key words: AET, aggression, alcohol, destruction, elaboration, frustration, graffiti, scrawling, vandalism, gender


This study examined the effects of life events, social support, personality traits and siblings' birth-order on the health of women. 199 middle-class participants were induced. 95 women, randomly assigned from four different patient groups, were compared with a control group of 96 randomly selected women without any special health problems. They completed a questionnaire which included questions regarding family background, health, different life events, social support, and signs of disease and a projective test, the Sivik Psychosomatism Test. Analysis indicated that report of negative life events was associated with more physical symptoms than positive life events and that the patient groups reported more negative life events and less social support than the control group.

The present study was performed to describe the involvement of gender-role and personality traits in a cluster of tests to ascertain individuals’ creative ability. Participants were 200 students at Karlstad University. Five gender-role types, based upon masculinity/femininity scales were derived including the androgynic, stereotypic, retrotypic, midmost and undifferentiated types. Results indicated that the androgynic group scored higher than the other groups on creativity, creative attitude (trend), dispositional optimism and scrawling-graffiti, with the exception of the stereotypic group that scored non-significantly higher on optimism. Nor was the difference to the retrotypic group significant for creativity although this group scored significantly higher than the stereotypic group. Small or negligible gender differences were found on the masculinity/femininity scales.

Key words: Creativity, optimism, destructivity, aggression, sexuality, gender, androgynic, stereotypic, retrotypic, undifferentiated, midmost, gender-role type


This study compared the neuropsychological test profiles of non-mentally retarded girls and boys consecutively referred to a neuropsychiatric clinic and those of contrast cases of girls from mainstream classrooms of one Göteborg school district. To avoid overreliance on the male prototype with regard to diagnostic criteria the clinical group comprised a mixed sample of girls and boys without diagnostic subgrouping. Clinic girls had a lower IQ than comparison girls. Girls were more impaired than boys with respect to executive functions and scored less well on theory of mind tasks. Previous studies have shown girls with autism and mental retardation to be more severely affected than boys with regard to level of intellectual functioning and overall measures of brain dysfunction. The present study indicates that clinic girls with a variety of neuropsychiatric disorders at higher levels of intellectual functioning (some of which met diagnostic criteria for autism spectrum disorder) may also be more severely affected than boys with corresponding types of “surface” problems.

Key words: Attention-deficit hyperactivity – PDDNOS neuropsychology girls


To validate a Swedish translation of the Asthma Quality of Life Questionnaire (PAQLQ) and to study determinants of asthmatic children’s quality of life, seventy-one 7-9-y-old children and their families were approached. Sixty-one
children (86%) participated, 36 boys and 25 girls; 11 children with mild, 40 with moderate and 10 with severe asthma. The mean age was 8.7 y. Most commonly restricted activities during the week preceding the investigation were: running (74%), gymnastics (30%), walking uphill (26%), playing football (20%) and shouting (13%). Parental rating of symptoms (Spearman’s ρ = −.40, p = .001), percentage of expected peak flow rate (PEFR) (ρ = .30, p = .009), and physician’s grading (mild, moderate or severe asthma, p = .047) all correlated significantly with PAQLQ scores. Younger children reported more impairment of QoL, as did children of parents not sharing household. Sex or presence of eczema or rhinoconjunctivitis did not significantly affect the scores. Children suffering from food allergy scored less impairment of QoL. The instrument was easy to administer, was well accepted by the children and had acceptable internal consistency.

**Key words:** Asthma, child quality of life, questionnaires, socio-economic factors


The aim of the present study was to establish whether electrical and/or drug stimulation of the medial preoptic and/or hypothalamus (mPOA/AH) surmounts the sexual behavior inhibition that results from copulation to exhaustion. Thus, intermittent electrical stimulation of the mPOA/AH (alone or combined with systemic injection of yohimbine or apomorphine, at doses that were subthresholds for reversing sexual exhaustion) or intrapreoptic treatments to block GABAergic transmission were applied to sexually satiated rats. The results suggest that the POA/AH is not responsible for male sexual behavior inhibition or for pharmacologically induced sexual behavior expression in satiated rats. Data are discussed in term of the roles ascribed to the mPOA/AH, both in the control of sexual behavior expression and in the regulation of the postejaculatory interval.

**Key words:** Medial preoptic area/auterior, hypothalamus, sexual exhaustion, postejaculatory interval, GABAergic neurotransmission


The primary objective of this study was to compare a sample of prison inmates with the norms obtained for large samples of 12 year-old students on tests measuring word-decoding skills, reading and spelling abilities. Theoretically, we assumed that phonological processing deficits are a strong predictor of dyslexic problems, and thus, only those inmates who did not seem to possess appropriate levels of phonological decoding skills should be defined as
dyslexics. The results showed that the inmates performed better or at the same level as 12 year-old students on all tasks measuring reading, spelling, and word decoding skills, and that four out of 35 inmates (11%) with Swedish as their native language exhibited phonological decoding skills substantially below the average of grade 6 students. Thus, by comparing the group of inmates with 12 year-old students, and by using phonological decoding skills as an indicator of reading and writing disabilities, our conclusion was that the frequency of possible dyslexic problems found in a group prison inmates looks very much like comparable incidence figures from a general population.

Key words: Dyslexic problems, phonological deficits, prison inmates


This edited volume presents the results of an evaluation of the Swedish Twin Registry and the research based on this registry. Four international and six Swedish experts from different disciplines present their evaluations and comments. Some experts emphasize a variety of theoretical, methodological and technical aspects, whereas other reports are more focused on practical and organizational aspects. The editors have presented the background of the evaluation and in a concluding chapter they have summarized the assessments and the specific recommendations.

Key words: Twin research, evaluation, methodology


This quantitative survey of 196 women physicians and qualitative focus groups with 48 other women physicians was conducted to determine perceptions of their health, stress, satisfaction, knowledge, and verbal abuse rates in medical practice. Eight specialties plus family practice physicians participated. Ss were aged 23-77 yrs. 74% of women physicians were married, with children. Specialists and family physicians were similar in all demographic characteristics except that family physicians were more significantly likely to be divorced, separated, or widowed. Specialists perceived their personal physical health to be better than that of family doctors, and family physicians rated their medical knowledge better than that of specialists. Women physicians over age 50 or with children over age 19 reported the best mental health. Overall, 49% of women physicians reported usually having high levels of stress, 44% felt mentally tired, and 17% took antidepressant drugs. 73% reported verbal abuse at work (71% in the last year), and 33% reported physical assault at work (11% in the last year). Focus groups identified 3 major sources of stress: high expectations, multiple roles, and work environment.

This thesis examined the effects of repeated interrogations on deception detection (Study I) and effects of suspicion, and cues to, deception detection (Study II). Suspects are often subjected to multiple interrogations, but deception research has neglected this fact. In Study I, the effects of repeated interrogations on detection accuracy, and the previous finding that interrogators tend to be more credulous towards suspects than observers was examined. After seeing a staged event, 12 lying and 12 truth-telling witnesses were interrogated three times each. The veracity of each witness was assessed by his/her interrogator and by six observers watching the interrogations on video. In all, 144 observers were used. The main findings were that (a) both interrogators and observers were poor at discerning truth-tellers and liars; (b) observers making veracity judgments after watching one interrogation performed in line with observers who had watched three interrogations; (c) observers making repeated assessments of veracity significantly increased their performance. Results suggest that interrogators might hold a too lenient attitude towards suspects. Importantly, the study also shows that the number of veracity assessments is more related to deception detection performance than is the number of interrogations a judge presides over. Study II investigated the extent to which background information, given to 125 observers before they watched three videotaped interrogations with the same witness, affected their veracity judgments and their cues to deception. The results show that the observers’ distribution of veracity judgments was more affected by crediting than discrediting background information. Furthermore, the most frequently used cue to deception was whether or not the three statements were consistent over time. In addition, two types of inter-observer disagreements were revealed; (a) how cues were perceived (e.g., forty observers perceived the three statements as being inconsistent while an equal number perceived the same three statements as being consistent), and (b) how cues were used (e.g., that the witness was perceived as not being confident in his testimony worked against him equally as often as it worked for him).

Key words: Deception detection, repeated interrogations, cues to deception, suspicion

In real life, suspects are often subjected to multiple interrogations. Research on deception detection has largely neglected this fact. We conducted a study where 12 lying and 12 truth-telling witnesses were interrogated three times over a period of 11 days. We found that (i) both interrogators and observers were poor at detecting deception; (ii) interrogators showed a pronounced truth bias; (iii) observers making a veracity judgment after watching one interrogation and then, again, after watching the additional two interrogations, significantly increased their performance. Our contention is that the finding that lie-catchers’ performance is affected by how sequential information is presented and integrated has important psycho-legal ramifications.

Key words: Interpersonal deception, repeated interrogations, deception detection, interrogators and observers


Child sexual abuse triggers strong emotion, not only by them directly involved, but as well by the rest of us. Increased knowledge about and better understanding of what is driving an adult to sexually assaulting a child, may lead to a more effective prevention of these acts. The present work contains two empirical studies. The first study is aimed at describing whether and, if so, how society’s view on child sexual abuse is expressed in and illustrated by the application of the law in court proceedings relating to offenses of this nature. The written legal proceedings of fourteen district court cases were analyzed. A comparison regarding severity of punishment was also made between the cases where a parent-child relationship existed between the perpetrator and the child (an incestuous situation), and cases without this type of relationship (a pedophilic situation). A complementary approach to illustrating the topic was taken by having 76 laymen (individuals of a non-legal profession) rate their view of the severity of the offenses described in the 14 court cases. The results suggest a lack of knowledge concerning the mechanisms behind child sexual abuse among legal personnel and that the view on parent-child abuse (incestuous relations) was more lenient than was the case for pedophilic abuse. Laymen in general tended to be stricter in their judgements, and, accordingly, reported having harsher views on the sentencing. The difference between the laymen and the legal professionals was clearest in the case of incestuous abuse. The laymen in this study considered incestuous relationships to be more serious matters than did the courts.

The second study describes a group of 20 convicted child sexual abusers. The emphasis is here on the psychological factors, which were investigated by looking at interview data, personality tests, and data from the court proceedings. This study showed that there was an overrepresentation during childhood of 1) alcoholic parents, 2) sexual abuse and/or negative sexual experiences, 3) physical abuse, and 4) feelings of discomfort in school (they were often bullied). During adulthood an increase of alcohol abuse and depression was often seen among these convicted men, though they were not more prone to criminality nor unemployment. As a result of both the interview
content and personality tests, an inability to understand the symbolic value of acts (mentalization) was noted. A comparison between the nine individuals who had been judged to have an adequate approach to their acts, and the eleven individuals who had been judged to have a non-adequate approach, was made due to the difficulty to treat denying and belittling individuals. The two subgroups both showed, on the MMPI, increased scores regarding depression, while they were separated on the scale representing a lack of deeper emotional engagement, indifference to social norms and an inability to learn from experiences. On the second scale, the individuals with a non-adequate approach regarding their acts, scored higher. These individuals idealized their own childhood and adolescence, as well as a child’s experiences when exposed to adult sexuality. Individuals with an adequate approach possessed an ability to see the sexual act from the child’s perspective, as well as an understanding of and reflection upon their own childhood.

**Key words**: Child sexual offenders, incest, in-depth-interview, judicial decision making, mentalizing, MMPI, pedophile


This chapter presents a computer based educational strategy for children with autism that uses fun multimedia material in combination with good teacher support. Evaluative work and previous studies has revealed both better language and communication skills among language-disabled children when implementing this strategy. The specifics of our model and our theory are described in more detail and in a more concrete fashion in the chapter. Several vignettes are included showing how various children with autism have been helped or not helped by our approach.


In this study, results are presented from an ongoing multidisciplinary study of girls with Turner syndrome living in western Sweden. Psychological function was assessed in 43 girls, aged 6-17 years, using the self-perception questionnaire I Think I Am and the parental rating scale the Child Behavior Checklist. On group level, there was a lack of agreement between the ratings of the girls and their parents, where the parents reported more problems. The possible interpretations of the results is discussed in relation to personality traits, handicap and social psychology. An improved understanding of the psychological aspects of Turner syndrome is important to optimise treatment and counselling.

**Key words**: Psychological functioning, Turner syndrome

The objective of this study was to describe self-perception, behavior and social functioning in all known girls with Turner syndrome (TS), 7-16 years of age, in the region of Western Sweden of 1.5 million inhabitants, 400,000 children and adolescents. Thirty-seven girls with TS (mean age, 12.6 years; range, 7-16 years) participated in a cross-sectional study using the self-perception questionnaire I Think I Am, the Child Behavior Checklist, and a semi-structured interview. The girls with TS reported self-perception at the same level as the normative sample, while their parents rated them as having significantly more behavioral problems and lower social competence than did parents in a normative sample. Half of the girls with TS reported peer-related problems. Both negative and positive consequences of TS were described by those girls aware of their diagnosis. The results from this population-based sample support previous studies from other countries that girls with TS are at higher risk of having social and behavioral problems than the general population, although not at the level of clinically referred children. The use of multiple informants in assessing the psychological functioning in girls with TS is discussed.

Key words: Behavior problems, self-perception, Turner syndrome


The aim of this thesis was to describe psychological and social functioning in females with a diagnosis of the sex-chromosome disorder Turner syndrome. Included are a review article and three empirical studies, based on cross-sectional interviews and questionnaire data originating from the multidisciplinary Western Swedish Turner project. In Study I, recent literature in the field is reviewed. This shows that there is an increased risk for psychological and social difficulties at the group level, but also considerable individual variability. It is argued that more attention should be paid to the perspective of the females themselves. In Study II it was found that 37 girls with Turner syndrome (age, 7-16 years) had more social and behavioural problems compared with normative data (according to parental rating), although the level of problems did not approach that seen in children referred for psychiatric treatment. The self-concept of the girls did not differ from normative data, although many girls reported peer-related difficulties when interviewed. In Study III, 63 women with Turner syndrome (age, 18-59 years) reported psychological well-being and health at the same level as normative
data, but they experienced more social isolation. Poor general health was related to more emotional distress. The subjects were employed or working to the same degree as the general Swedish population, but fewer were cohabiting. Both negative and positive consequences of the disorder were reported. In Study IV, bivariate analyses showed that, among the 63 women with Turner syndrome, the presence of school difficulties (retrospective data) was related to psychological well-being at the time of the study, as was age at menarche, the presence of sex hormones during adult life (from hormone replacement therapy or endogenous hormones), self-rated hearing impairment, age at diagnosis and age. Regression analysis showed that age at diagnosis and difficulties with school subjects were two separate predictors, explaining 26% of the variation in psychological well-being. The results presented underscore the importance of the psychological and social concomitants of Turner syndrome, and the necessity for an individual assessment of psychological and social problems in the management of Turner syndrome.

Key words: Turner syndrome, psychological factors, social factors, self-perception, self-rated health


The concept of health-related quality of life represents a method that is commonly used to assess the views of the patients in terms of the physical, social, and emotional aspects of living with their condition. Quality of life is an important component of research into outcomes, which is directed toward verifying the extent to which patients are compromised by their current state, and whether they benefit from the health care given. Outcomes in growth hormone deficiency include objective measures of height, weight and body composition. In children, intellectual functioning is estimated in addition to the physiological outcomes. These measures, however, do not necessarily reflect the impact of the condition. Neither do changes in these parameters represent valid indicators of health-related quality of life. It is therefore essential to measure quality of life alongside conventional clinical parameters.

Key words: Quality of life, growth hormone deficiency


Three studies were conducted with the aim of developing a new Swedish self-report measure of core affect (the Swedish Core Affect Scale or SCAS). In Study 1 40
participants rated their current mood on 24 unipolar adjective scales. A revised set of 12 bipolar adjective scales was evaluated in Study 2 employing 96 participants who rated their current mood before and after a mood-inducing naturally occurring event. The same set of adjective scales was used in Study 3 where another 96 participants rated several induced moods. The results showed that the adjective-scale ratings were possible to aggregate to reliable measures of the independent valence and activation dimensions proposed in the affect circumplex (Russell, 1980; Russell & Feldman Barrett, 1999), and that the aggregated measures discriminated mood differences within and between individuals.

*Key words:* Core affect, self-report measure, adjective-scale ratings
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS


Surveyed 41 CEOs in large organizations. The results indicate that managers’ communications regarding decision alternative/s with other persons, both within the organization and outside of it should be attended to if a more complete understanding of organizational decision making is aspired to. Such communications fulfill at least two functions. Firstly, they allow a manager to learn more about the alternatives under consideration. Secondly, through negotiating with others about the properties of the decision alternative, the commitment of these other persons to the version of the alternative that evolved during the communicative process often increased as well. Both of these functions are part of selling-in of a decision alternative, a process which we suggest is of general importance in strategic decision making in organizations. The selling-in process results in learning, and by this selling-in also contributes to the creation of high quality decision alternatives, so that the decisions that are implemented are more likely to have favorable consequences for the organization.

Key words: Decision making, communication, selling-in, field-study


Women and men in different job settings answered a gender-related questionnaire developed from in-depth interviews. One-way ANOVA showed differences not only between the female groups and the male groups but also between professional women and white-collar women. Factor analyses confirmed the results with respect to the factor structure. The respondents were also asked about health and work quality. The connection between gender-related experiences and perceived health and work quality will be discussed.


Health complaints are reported to be more frequent in female than in male physicians. There are higher rates of major depression among female doctors than in the general population of women. A questionnaire to academic physicians asking about health, mood, work environment, workload, stress, support, and abuse was factor analyzed and showed more differences in relation to speciality, number of children and children living at home than in
relation to gender. 82% felt too tired after work to participate in other interests. Saliva cortisol responses together with self reported point assessments of mood provided before and after work will be discussed.


This grounded theory study aims at describing early reactions to first-time myocardial infarction. The aim of such a study is to generate concepts or theory from empirical data. After 4-6 days in hospital care, 22 patients (11 women) were interviewed. Preliminary results show four concepts; ready to act and delay describing early reactions, and awareness of risks and illusions of invulnerability, describing health beliefs. Some patients understood the seriousness of the symptoms but for a majority of patients, defence mechanisms delayed their care seeking. The individuals’ health beliefs seem to affect early reactions to acute chest pain.

Key words: Myocardial infarction, health beliefs


The impact of early treatment can have significant consequences for the prognosis following an acute myocardial infarction. The problem is that many patients delay seeking professional medical care. The sample in this study consisted of in-patients admitted for a first-time myocardial infarction. Seeking care in response to symptoms of myocardial infarction was related to a person’s health beliefs, regardless of whether care is sought immediately. This pertains to both men and women but one important gender difference found in this study was that men more often than women had a spouse who stepped in and forced him to stop denying symptoms.

Key words: Myocardial infarction, symptom perception


A survey was conducted to investigate what factors, besides illness, that affect people’s decisions to work or report sick. As hypothesized, economic incentives (e.g., number of qualifying days) were of importance. Thus, the higher the financial loss of being absent, the more reluctant people were to report sick. When controlling for income, the effect remained. Thus, a subjective feeling of
not affording to report sick affected the decisions. In an experimental simulation of the health insurance system, participants were more willing to work when they were informed that the negative consequences of reporting sick were collective as well as personal.

*Key words:* Social dilemmas, cooperation

**Friman, M., & Gärling, T.** (2000, July). Satisfaction with public transport related to service performance attributes. In J. Louviere (Chair), *Combining data sources*. Workshop conducted at the 9th International Association for Travel Behavior Research conference, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

On the basis of complaints and interview data obtained from public transport users, descriptions of prototypical negative critical incidents were constructed and included in a survey questionnaire. The questionnaire was responded to by a random sample of 997 residents of a metropolitan area in Sweden. Overall satisfaction and attribute-specific satisfaction were also measured. The results suggested that neither for downtown trips or trips to and from work, the measures of satisfaction correlated with measures of service level except that reliability affected attribute-specific satisfaction. The results suggest a more complex relationship between measures of satisfaction and service level.

*Key words:* Satisfaction, critical incidents, public transport


In social dilemmas there is a conflict between self-interest and the interest of a group or collective. This research investigates the role of economic incentives in restraining individuals to act in their own interest. Preferences and choices in a N-person prisoners dilemma game were studied. The results show that a continuous monetary cost of self-interest choices is less effective than an intermittent monetary cost if the latter changes the payoff structure so that self-interest choices are no longer dominant. The reason for this appears to be a spillover effect suppressing self-interest choices also when they are dominant.

*Key words:* Decision making, social dilemmas, economic incentives

Automobile traffic in cities is a serious threat to the quality of urban environments around the world, for aesthetic, health, and efficiency reasons. In this presentation we will first summarize principles established in interdisciplinary research on how people acquire and use cognitive maps of urban environments. We will then describe research showing how the design of urban environments frequently makes it difficult for drivers to form such cognitive maps so that they can navigate and choose shortest paths, thus leading to unnecessary travel. How road informatics may help drivers will also be illustrated.

**Key words:** Car use, urban travel, cognitive maps


The aim of this research is to study goal conflicts in municipality decision making about the level of road pricing. Drawing on prior behavioral game-theoretic research, several hypotheses are offered of how in municipality decision the conflict between the national goal of reducing air pollution due to traffic and other goals pursued by the municipalities (e.g., equity) are solved when the government either implement or fail to implement various regulatory mechanisms. The results of structured interviews with local top politicians in Göteborg illustrate the viability of some of the proposed hypotheses. In particular it is shown that in addition to the expected party differences, there are conflicts within each party between the national and municipality goals, which require governmental regulations if the national goal of reduced air pollution will be attained.

**Key words:** Decision making, road pricing, principal-agent relations, goal conflicts


The study investigated the role of fairness and risk in principal-agent situations. In two conditions participants were to divide a sum of money between themselves and either a fellow employee or a subordinate employee for doing some work. A third condition employed a standard ultimatum game. In all three conditions participants were given the probability, which was varied within subjects, for the work being performed or the offer being accepted given the share offered. The results showed that participants were not only influenced by fairness considerations, but also took risk into account when deciding how much to offer.

Environmental psychology makes important contributions to understanding how humans adapt to urban living. Such knowledge is essential for improving urban quality and promote health. This symposium highlights the role played by affective, cognitive, and behavioral responses in adaptation to urban life. Research foci to be discussed cover a broad range, including aesthetic appraisals of environments, affective-cognitive representations, judgement and choice, and interpersonal behavior. Both psychological and health outcome measures are considered. Current urban planning problems targeted by this research include traffic noise and crowding in residential environments, traffic congestion in central business districts, and loss of open space.

**Key words:** Environmental psychology, urban problems, health promotion

Gärling, T., & Young, W. (Chairs) (2000, July). *Perspectives on travel behaviour: Decision paradigms*. Workshop conducted at the 9th International Association for Travel Behavior Research conference, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia.

The aim of this workshop was to discuss how choice of modeling tools needs to be contingent on an understanding of travel behavior by individuals and households. New behavioral approaches were highlighted. The random-utility-maximization mathematical-statistical models that have dominated research and applications were criticized for their theoretical foundation in microeconomics that make psychologically unrealistic assumptions. Problems were noted with obtaining data for studying choice processes.

**Key words:** Decision making, choice modeling, travel behavior


In Study 1 (n=60) the fit of a structural model confirmed the hypothesized causal relations between rated attitude towards driving, self-reported frequency of driving choice, and degree of script-based driving choice. In Study 2 participants’ (n=48) attitudes towards driving correlated with fictitious driving choices in a laboratory task whereas self-reported frequency of driving choice
and degree of script-based driving choice did not. Finally, in Study 3 non-drivers (n=50) repeatedly made fictitious choices between driving or walking and choices of destination. After repeated choices of driving, driving choices were as expected made more frequently when destinations were within walking distance.

Key words: Decision making, attitude towards driving, frequency of driving choice


The present study tested the hypothesis that habitual drivers become aversive against exerting physical effort by walking. In support of the hypothesis, distance thresholds for driving measured in a Swedish (n=60) and a US sample (n=51) of undergraduates decreased with driving habit. Respondents in the US sample were more frequent drivers and had a lower distance threshold than respondents in the Swedish sample.

Key words: Decision making, driving habit, cross-country comparison


Psychological science has the potential to contribute to diplomatic negotiations, and thereby indirectly to the prevention of conflicts between and within states that may escalate to wars. In this seminar a series of symposia was organized with the aim of covering those areas of psychological research which has the greatest promise of being directly or indirectly relevant to diplomacy. These research areas include judgment and decision making in negotiations and social dilemmas, social justice, intergroup conflicts, and intercultural processes. An additional area is research on environmental policy making whose important role needs to be better recognized in international diplomacy.

Key words: Decision making, diplomacy, negotiation


Surveyed 44 senior executive managers in large organizations/enterprises about their own accounts of factors affecting IT (Information Technology) use in aiding decision making in
their work. The purpose of the survey was to reveal attitudes towards IT and use of decision support systems that would enhance decision-making performance. One hindrance in making IT support the decision making process effectively was reported problems with Knowledge Management, i.e. how to save and reuse knowledge in an organized and disciplined way. Also problems with accessibility, accuracy, and trust of the information were prevalent. Furthermore, IT was found not to provide much help with respect to the necessary social psychological interactions in the decision making process. Implications of these findings are discussed for the design of future decision support systems.

**Key words:** Decision making, information technology, decision support systems


Recent progress in promoting adequate language input among children with various disabilities (e.g.: children with autism, down syndrome, mental retardation and cochlear implants) are discussed. Interventions strategies as well as theoretical consequences are highlighted.

**Key words:** Language impairment, children with handicap, autism, Down syndrome, cochlear implants

Heimann, M. (2000, July) (Chair and convener) *Development of memory and attention in infancy. Recent advances.* Invited symposium to be held at the 27th International Congress of Psychology, Stockholm, Sweden.

This symposia discussed new findings relating to various types of attention and memory in infancy. Among these are for instance novelty preference and joint attention. Other areas in focus is deferred imitation as an indicator of early memory processes.

**Key words:** Deferred imitation, joint attention, novelty preference, memory development


Several studies have shown that infants are able to learn through observation at a much younger age than previously believed. Presented here are data on deferred imitation at 6 months collected within an ongoing longitudinal Swedish study. The results shows that children in the imitation group (n= 30)
imitated significantly more often than the children in the control group (n = 16; t (44) = 2.35; p < .05). These findings suggest that deferred imitation of action with objects (maybe an precursor of episodic memory) is indeed possible to observe as early as at six months.

Key words: Deferred imitation, memory development


This paper focuses on imitation among young children with autism and infants with Down syndrome. A basic problem with all theories assuming an early imitation deficit in autism is that there exist no studies on children younger than one year, although studies on older subjects indicate that children with autism do imitate less. Thus, we do not know if children with autism differ in imitation early in life although many have proposed just that. However, the opposite view also exist. These different perspectives are discussed as are recent observations on imitation among almost newborn children with Down syndrome.

Key words: Imitation, autism, Down syndrome


Subjective (perceived) future has been found to be a significant factor in chronic pain. In this explorative study, a new psychometric instrument, the Future scale was constructed to investigate how chronic pain patients perceive the future. By use of multidimensional scaling a conceptual space was constructed which showed how 100 patients clustered according to the main factors of the scale. Two dimensions were recognized: 1) activity-passivity and 2) perceived obstacles – coping. Further, the patients were compared to a sample from a normal population (n=105). Significant differences in perceived future related to age between these two groups were found.

Key words: Perceived future, life-span, chronic pain

Aim of investigation: To investigate the relationship between psychological distress and different adaptation profiles in chronic pain.

Methods: 660 patients with heterogeneous chronic pain were tested with The Multidimensional Pain Inventory (MPI) and Symptom Distress Checklist (SCL-90). Three adaptation profiles were identified from the MPI scales by use of cluster analysis: dysfunctional, interpersonally distressed and adaptive copers. The ratings of the SCL –90 test were compared across the psychological profiles by use of ANOVA.

Results: Ratings by the adaptive copers were below or sometimes equal to a Swedish reference study, i.e. they were notably characterized as ‘non-distressed’. However, dysfunctional and interpersonally distressed patients were more distressed than the norm group.

Conclusion: The finding that adaptive copers in all the measured symptom scales scored below or equal to the norm group may be explained by application of the concept of “illusory mental health” [1]. Mental health scales may be valid when they indicate distress but rather ambiguous when indicating health. Adaptive copers may consist of two subgroups: (i) psychologically healthy patients and (ii) patients who are psychologically distressed but who maintain an illusion of mental health through defensive denial of psychological distress. Clinical as well as research attention needs to be paid to this ‘healthy group’, possibly through the combined use of traditional self-report measures, extended clinical judgment and interviews in order to find out more about the elusive status of adaptive copers

This work was supported by The Royal Swedish Academy of Science.


Key words: Chronic pain, distress, MPI, SCL-90


The study investigates determinants of private car users’ acceptance of road pricing. A model specifying the strength and direction of causal paths between latent theoretical variables was estimated for data from a survey of 524 car owners living in a metropolitan area of Sweden. The estimated model showed that acceptance of road pricing is negatively affected by perceived infringement on freedom and unfairness which in turn increase with intentions to reduce car use. Income is negatively and expectations that others will reduce car use positively related to intentions to reduce car use.

Key words: Road pricing, car-use reduction, structural equation modeling

Car-owning multiperson households were randomly assigned to three treatment groups and one no-treatment control group. Participants in two of the treatment groups volunteered to pay a fee (corresponding to about 100% of the current cost) per kilometer of automobile driving during the treatment period of either two or four weeks. In both these groups personal interviews were conducted in which the households were asked to plan how to reduce automobile travel. Travel diary data suggested that paying a fee affects automobile travel only if households also plan how to change their travel.

Key words: Car use, planning, economic incentives


Dimensions of the Sense of Coherence (SOC) scale were investigated for chronic pain inpatients and a control group (student nurses) (in all, N = 737). Different facets of the SOC scale were examined. The patients were categorized according to prototype profiles: dysfuntional, interpersonally distressed and adaptive copers. Four factors of SOC were found (by use of confirmatory factor analysis): potentiality, unpredictability, control of events, trust in self and others. The importance of the time perspective for a psychological understanding of chronic pain has previously been reported. Large group differences were found for ratings related to each of the four dimensions.

Key words: Chronic pain, sense of coherence, psychological pain profiles


A common example of irrational decision making is the tendency to escalate commitment in response to previous investments of money, effort, or time. In a study in which undergraduates participated as subjects and responded to investment problems, escalation of commitment is demonstrated even under conditions in which it is not assumed to occur, that is, when there are explicit future return estimates, salient investment alternatives, and no personal responsibility. The results suggests that escalation of commitment may be understood in terms of a more general sunk-outcome effect rather than being driven only by negative feedback in terms of sunk costs.
Key words: Decision making, escalation, sunk cost


The aim of this paper is to identify factors that may affect escalation of decisions in real life. Economic decisions, political decisions, and personal decisions will be analyzed and compared: The tenet is that escalation in these different types of decisions can be understood with regard to different dimensions. First, the decision goal is assumed to affect escalation. Being responsible in the face of accountability demands is a second dimension. A third dimension is risk transparency. A fourth dimension is costs and benefits distribution, primarily when sunk costs are incurred. Fifth and finally, focus of attention may differ.

Key words: Decision making, escalation, sunk cost


The purpose of the present explorative study was to investigate the character and permanence of the patients’ changes after receiving long-term psychotherapeutic treatment. All the patients fulfilled the DSM-IV (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 1994) criteria for major depression disorder (Axis I). A naturalistic approach was utilised, that is, ordinary work routines in the clinical setting were changed very little. The goal of the psychotherapy was to reduce clinical depression, to decrease inhibition and thereby to improve the quality of the patients’ interpersonal relationships. The instruments used in the study were chosen with the purpose of studying change on the behavioural, the conscious, as well as the unconscious level.

The patient group as a whole showed substantial improvements in areas such as degree of depression and interpersonal and emotional functioning. The follow-up results from this study also show that the beneficial effect lasts over time and can still be detected one year after completion of therapy.

Key words: Measurement, psychotherapy

Fluent word recognition is commonly regarded to be the core component necessary to skilled reading. However, there is recent evidence to suggest that different orthographies place different demands on the beginning reader, inviting different word reading strategies. A sample of 200 native English speakers aged 7 and 10 were tested with the Wordchains group word-reading test and a matched Swedish version of the test was administered to 200 native Swedish speakers from the same age groups. The tests were analysed for frequency and type of mistakes made. This paper will present results from the two samples and differences in frequency and type of word reading mistakes made will be considered with reference to orthographic differences.

Key words: English, error, mistakes, Swedish, wordchains, word recognition


Word recognition is commonly viewed to be the core component necessary to skilled reading. However, there are different strategies involved in word recognition and it is possible that different orthographies invite different decoding strategies. Individual error patterns on a standardised word reading test administered in both English and Swedish give an indicator of individual word recognition strategy. In a comparison of poor readers aged 7 and 10, English and Swedish children were found to have differing error patterns. This paper will present further data from dyslexic Swedish adults and children.

Key words: English, error patterns, orthography, reading, Swedish, wordchains, word recognition


A substantial proportion of Swedish citizens now have a first language or language of preference which is other than Swedish. This group may use one or a number of languages other than Swedish at home and for private or informal reading. Although Sweden has among the highest literacy scores in the world both for adults and school children, surveys have shown a marked discrepancy in reading skills between native- and non-native speakers in Sweden. This paper examines factors which may explain this discrepancy, with reference to cross-orthographic studies of reading.

Key words: Discrepancy, literacy, non-native speakers, Swedish

Legal proceedings of 14 district court cases concerning child sexual abuse were analyzed. A comparison was made between the cases where a parent-child relationship existed and cases without this type of relationship. 76 laymen rated the severity of the offenses described in the 14 court cases. The results suggest a lack of knowledge concerning the mechanisms behind child sexual abuse among legal personnel and that the view on parent-child abuse was more lenient than was the case for pedophilic abuse. Laymen were stricter in their judgements and considered incestuous relationships to be more serious matters than did the courts.


This study describes a group of 20 convicted child sexual abusers. The emphasis is here on the psychological factors, which were investigated by looking at interview data, personality tests, and data from the court proceedings.

This study showed that there was an overrepresentation during childhood of 1) alcoholic parents, 2) sexual abuse and/or negative sexual experiences, 3) physical abuse, and 4) feelings of discomfort in school (they were often bullied). During adulthood an increase of alcohol abuse and depression was often seen among these convicted men, though they were not more prone to criminality nor unemployment. As a result of both the interview content and personality tests, an inability to understand the symbolic value of acts (mentalization) was noted. A comparison between the nine individuals who had been judged to have an adequate approach to their acts, and the eleven individuals who had been judged to have a non-adequate approach, was made due to the difficulty to treat denying and belittling individuals. The two subgroups both showed, on the MMPI, increased scores regarding depression, while they were separated on the scale representing a lack of deeper emotional engagement, indifference to social norms and an inability to learn from experiences. On the second scale, the individuals with a non-adequate approach regarding their acts, scored higher. These individuals idealized their own childhood and adolescence, as well as a child’s experiences when exposed to adult sexuality. Individuals with an adequate approach possessed an ability to see the sexual act from the child’s perspective, as well as an understanding of and reflection upon their own childhood.

Tjus, T. & Heimann, M. (2000, March). *Teachers, multimedia and children with learning disabilities How to make a mix that facilitates reading and*
communication skills. Paper presented at a research meeting in special education (GIEE), Barcelona, Spain.

Learning new skills are difficult for most children, but especially so for children with communication disabilities. It requires patience and flexible thinking from both teachers and parents. One major aim with this paper is to show that factors like enjoyment do play an important role for children with autism as well as for other groups of children with a less severe impairment within the social and communicative areas. We demonstrate that an educational strategy that includes fun multimedia material in combination with good teacher support leads to both better language and communication skills.


Children with autism have profound difficulties in learning new communication and language structures and half of the children do not develop any language at all. In this study twelve children worked with a specially developed multimedia program with the aim to increase their reading and language skills and gains in reading have been reported elsewhere. Analyses of their syntactical errors in reading comprehension from start to end of training show that they reduce their amount of syntactical errors (subject, predicate, object) and especially the predicate form. Greatest problems are evident with the object form, which might indicate working memory problems.


The aim of this study was to investigate the relation between self-rated hearing impairment and self-rated psychological well-being in Turner syndrome (TS). Method: 63 Swedish women with TS (mean age 31.5 years, range 18-59) participated in a multi-disciplinary cross-sectional study. For the present study, we used data from the self-rating scale Psychological General Well-Being index and the medical interview. Results: The 25 women who reported presence of hearing impairment had a lower general psychological well-being (mean total score 96.96) than those 38 women who did not report impaired hearing (mean total score 106.47) (p=0.01). Conclusion: The result suggests that hearing impairment is related to impaired psychological well-being in adults with TS, and that management of hearing impairment should be considered in the clinical care.

Key words: Psychological well-being, hearing impairment, Turner syndrome

The sex-chromosome abnormality Turner syndrome occurs in 1 of 2500 females births. Clinical features are short stature, dysfunctional gonads, lack of sex-hormones, incomplete puberty, and infertility. This study investigated self-rated psychological well-being in women with Turner syndrome. In a cross-sectional study 32 women (mean age 39.9 years) completed the Psychological General Well-Being Index covering anxiety, self-control, general health, vitality, psychological well-being, and mood. The women with Turner syndrome did not report impaired psychological general well-being, compared to an age-matched Swedish control group. Adaptational processes of women with this chronic disorder should be further considered.

*Key words:* Psychological well-being, Turner syndrome


Turner syndrome (TS) occurs in 1 of 2500 female births, and is caused by a total or partial deletion of one of the sex chromosomes in all or in some cells. The aim of the present study was to investigate psychological well-being in women with TS, and to investigate if there was a relation between karyotype and psychological well-being. 63 women with TS (mean age 31.5 years) participated in a cross-sectional study. The participants completed the self-rating scale Psychological General Well-Being Index. To examine the possible relation to karyotype, the participants with one copy of the p-arm of the X chromosome according to karyotype (45,X and structural abnormalities) were compared to those with two copies of the p-arm (45,X/46,XX). The women with TS rated their psychological well-being at a similar level as the reference group. There was no difference in psychological well-being according to karyotype group, however, there was a tendency for the group with two copies of the p-arm to report higher levels of anxiety.

*Key words:* Karyotype, psychological well-being, Turner syndrome


It is a widely held opinion that dyslexia is associated with artistic talents. However, very few objective studies have been reported that confirm this conjecture. Two studies are here reported on dyslexia among university...
students enrolled in highly selective and competitive programs on arts, photo
and design and among students in more traditional academic fields. On the
basis of an extensive questionnaire, a word reading test and a phonological
task we could conclude that the incidence of dyslexia is in fact higher among
art students (15-20%) than among students enrolled more traditional
programs (3-4%). A more careful individual diagnosis confirmed the validity of
the selection procedure.

Key words: Dyslexia, screening, art students

mood measure derived from the affect circumplex. Paper presented at the 27th
international congress of psychology, Stockholm.

Swedish adjective-scale measure was developed to assess the fundamental
mood dimensions of valence and activation. On two occasions a week apart, 40
participants in Study 1 rated their current mood on unipolar adjective scales.
A revised set of 12 bipolar adjective scales was tested in Study 2 employing 98
participants who made the mood ratings before and after a lecture. The same
version was used in Study 3 where 56 participants rated their anticipated
emotions to four different scenarios. The adjective scales reliably discriminated
valence and activation mood differences within and between subjects.

Key words: Core affect, self-report measure, adjective-scale ratings

AUTHOR INDEX

Archer, T. .......................................................... 2,3,4,5,18,19,34,35
Bergman, B. ...................................................... 7,8,37,43
Biel, A. .............................................................. 14,18,23
Boe, O. ............................................................... 8,9,24,47
Brink, E. .............................................................. 43,44
Broberg, A. ........................................................ 9,10,26,32,34,35
Carlsson, S.G. .................................................... 1,6,10,14,25,26,49,50
Dahlgren Sandberg, A. ....................................... 11,12,13
Dahlgren, S-O. ................................................... 11,12,13
Dahlöf, L-G. ....................................................... 1,53
Eek, D. ............................................................... 14,15,44
Elfström. M.L. .................................................... 15
Erling, A. ............................................................ 41
Fahlke, C. .......................................................... 5,6,15,16,17,28
Fransson, N. ...................................................... 18,21
Friman, M. ......................................................... 20,41,44,55
Gillholm, R. ....................................................... 21
Granhag, P.A. .................................................... 2,21,22,23,38
Grankvist, G. ..................................................... 28
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gustafsson, M.</td>
<td>23, 45, 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gärling, T.</td>
<td>14, 15, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hansen, S.</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hedelin, L.</td>
<td>43, 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heimann, M.</td>
<td>39, 48, 49, 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hellström, C.</td>
<td>25, 26, 49, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hjelmquist, E.</td>
<td>10, 13, 27, 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacobsson, C.</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jakobsson, C.</td>
<td>27, 45, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jansson, B.</td>
<td>25, 49, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johansson, L-O.</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliusson, A.</td>
<td>28, 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karlsson, N.</td>
<td>28, 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larsson, K.</td>
<td>2, 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lundberg, I.</td>
<td>10, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 52, 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lundblad, S.</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lundén, K.</td>
<td>31, 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller Guron, L.</td>
<td>31, 32, 33, 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olofsson, B.</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spjut, E.</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strömwall, L.A.</td>
<td>22, 23, 37, 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tidefors Andersson, I.</td>
<td>38, 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tjus, T.</td>
<td>39, 49, 53, 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wide Boman, U.</td>
<td>40, 54, 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolff, U.</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Västfjäll, D.</td>
<td>41, 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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SUBJECT INDEX

AA rats ........................................................................ 17
Abstinence ..................................................................... 6
Adaptive coping ............................................................ 26
Adjective-scale ratings .................................................. 42,55
Adrenalectomy .............................................................. 17
AET ............................................................................. 34
Affect ........................................................................... 21
Aggression ..................................................................... 28,34,35
Alcohol ......................................................................... 34
Alcohol consumption .................................................... 18
Alcohol dependence ..................................................... 6,16,17
Alcohol intake ............................................................... 17,28
Alcohol withdrawal ....................................................... 6
Alpha-2-adrenoceptors .................................................. 17
Alzheimer’s disease ....................................................... .
ANA rats ...................................................................... 17
Anabolic androgenic steroids .......................................... 28
Anchor point .................................................................. 30
Androgynic ................................................................... 35
Anorexia Nervosa .......................................................... 26
Antagonise .................................................................. 3
Antagonism ................................................................... 19
Anticonvulsive agents ................................................... 3
Apomorphine ................................................................ 19
Apoptosis ..................................................................... 5
Art students ................................................................... 55
Arthroscopy ................................................................... 14
Asperger syndrome ....................................................... 13
Asthma ......................................................................... 36
Attachment ................................................................... 10
Attention-deficit hyperactivity – PDDNOS neuropsychology girls ....... 35
Attenuate ...................................................................... 3
Attenuation ................................................................... 19
Attitudes ...................................................................... 27
Attitudes towards driving .............................................. 47
Autism .......................................................................... 12,13,48,49
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Page(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basal ganglia</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior problems</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beliefs on deception</td>
<td>21, 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood lipids</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood pressure</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BPD patients' outcome</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brain peptides</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulimia Nervosa</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C57 BL/6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car use</td>
<td>45, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car-use reduction</td>
<td>24, 27, 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central coherens</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child maltreatment</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child quality of life</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child rearing</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child sexual offenders</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children with handicap</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choice modeling</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic administration</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic pain</td>
<td>26, 49, 50, 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citalopram</td>
<td>2, 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical diagnose</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clonidine</td>
<td>3, 5, 6, 17, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-administration</td>
<td>3, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cochlear implants</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive interview</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive maps</td>
<td>24, 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive therapy</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cognitive-behavioral</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>1, 12, 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicative disabilities</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehension</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concurrent decisions</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer satisfaction</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control</td>
<td>3, 5, 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coping</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core affect</td>
<td>42, 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate takeover</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corticosterone</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cortisol</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creativity</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical incidents</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-country comparison</td>
<td>24, 47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-cultural perspectives</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-sensitization</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cues to deception</td>
<td>22, 38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deception detection</td>
<td>21,22,38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision making</td>
<td>9,21,24,25,29,30,43,45,46,47,48,51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision support systems</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoding</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defensive aggression</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred imitation</td>
<td>48,49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Definition</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denervation</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental anxiety</td>
<td>1,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destruction</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Destructivity</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental level</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagnosis</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dihydroergotamine</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diplomacy</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discrepancy</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorganized attachment</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distress</td>
<td>15,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dopamine</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dose</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down syndrome</td>
<td>48,49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRD2 A1 allele</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving habit</td>
<td>24,47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSP4</td>
<td>3,5,19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyslexia</td>
<td>27,31,33,34,55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dyslexic problems</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eating disorders</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic incentives</td>
<td>45,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effects of crediting and discrediting background information</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficiency</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaboration</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergence</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>34,52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enhancement</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental psychology</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equality</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Error patterns</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escalation</td>
<td>24,51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol intake</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethanol preference</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expert lie-catchers</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explorative</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Page(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyewitness confidence</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairness</td>
<td>15,28,46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fear</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibromyalgia</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field-study</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First-time parents</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleeing</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Follow-up</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free radicals</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freezing</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency of driving choice</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frustration</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future scale</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future-oriented therapy</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GABAergic neurotransmission</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td>34,35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender wage gap</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender-related female health</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender-related female questionnaire</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender-related problems</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender-role type</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical profiling</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal conflicts</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graffiti</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounded theory</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth hormone</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth hormone deficiency</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth-curve analysis</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guanfacine</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habituation</td>
<td>5,20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handicap</td>
<td>27,31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health beliefs</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health promotion</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health psychology</td>
<td>10,11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing impairment</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heart rate</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindsight bias</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human interdependence</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huntington's disease</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypothalamus</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imitation</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implicit learning</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incest</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-depth-interview</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information technology</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Instruction ................................................................. 31
Integration ................................................................. 9
Intention ................................................................. 21
Interpersonal deception ................................................... 38
Interrogators and observers ............................................. 38
Interrogators vs. observers .............................................. 22
Intervention ............................................................. 10
Iron administration ........................................................... 20
Isamoltane ................................................................. 2
Joint attention ............................................................. 48
Judges ................................................................. 23
Judicial decision making .................................................. 39
Karyotype ................................................................. 55
Labor market ............................................................... 18
Language ................................................................. 12
Language impairment ...................................................... 48
L-Dopa ................................................................. 3
Leadership ................................................................. 7
Life-span ................................................................. 49
Literacy ................................................................. 33,53
Locomotion ............................................................... 3,5,19
Male rat sexual behaviour ............................................... 2
Mandatory reporting ....................................................... 32
MAO inhibitors ............................................................. 3
MAO-B ................................................................. 6,16
Measurement ............................................................... 52
Mecamylamine ............................................................... 19
Medial preoptic area/auterior .......................................... 36
Memory development ..................................................... 48,49
Mental well-being .......................................................... 17
Mentalizing ................................................................. 39
Methodology ............................................................... 37
Mice ................................................................. 19
Midmost ................................................................. 35
Mistakes ................................................................. 52
Mitochondrial energy ....................................................... 5
MMPI ................................................................. 39
Monolingual ............................................................... 33
Morphine ................................................................. 5
Mother-infant interaction ............................................... 10
Motivation ................................................................. 7
Motor behavior ............................................................ 19,20
Movement disorders ...................................................... 19
MPI ................................................................. 26,50
MPTP ................................................................. 3
Multilevel approach ....................................................... 27
Multilingual ............................................................... 33
Myocardial infarction ...................................................... 44
NA-depletion ................................................................. 5
Naloxone ................................................................. 5
Nandrolone decanoate .................................................. 28
Necrosis ................................................................. 5
Negative critical incidents ........................................... 21
Negotiation ...................................................... 25,29,30,47
Neonatal .............................................................. 19
Neuronal cell death .................................................. 5
Neuroprotection ....................................................... 5
Neurorestoration ...................................................... 5
Nicotine ................................................................. 19
NMDA ................................................................. 5
NMDA antagonists .................................................. 3
NMRI mouse .......................................................... 20
Non-native speakers ................................................. 33,53
Noradrenergic activity ............................................... 6
Novelty preference .................................................... 48
Nursing staff .......................................................... 8
Offender profiling .................................................... 21
Opioids-NA ........................................................... 5
Optimism ............................................................... 35
Organization model .................................................. 8
Orthography ........................................................... 33,34,52
Outcome ............................................................... 7
Outcome-desirability bias .......................................... 24
Pain ................................................................. 14,26
Pain coping ............................................................ 25
Pain language .......................................................... 25
Parameter .............................................................. 3
Parent-infant interaction ............................................. 10
Parkinson's disease ................................................... 5
Parkinsonism .......................................................... 3
Partnership relations ............................................... 1
Pay expectation ....................................................... 18
PBN ................................................................. 3
PDCs ................................................................. 5,19
Peak effect ............................................................ 19
Pedophile .............................................................. 39
Peoxynitrite ........................................................... 5
Perceived future ....................................................... 26,49
Perceived service quality .......................................... 21
Perceptions of their health and stress and satisfaction and knowledge and verbal abuse rates ............................................. 37
Phenomenological approach ...................................... 1
Phobia ................................................................. 1
Phoneme awareness ................................................ 31
Phonological deficits ................................................ 37
Phonological loop ..................................................... 30
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phonological skill</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological ratio-measures</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police officers</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postejaculatory interval</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postnatal</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsynaptic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potentiation</td>
<td>3,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prazosin</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prenatal</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-school children</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevalence</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal-agent relations</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prison inmates</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutors</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric work organization</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological consequences</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological distress</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological factors</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological functioning</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological pain profiles</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological research on impairment and handicap</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological well-being</td>
<td>54,55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychometric validation</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychopathology</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosomatic medicine</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosomatic theory</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychotherapy</td>
<td>26,52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>21,45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative research</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of life</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questionnaires</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radial maze learning</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rat</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>33,52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading acquisition</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading disability</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading efficiency</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realism in meta-knowledge</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rearing</td>
<td>3,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rearing condition</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference point</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reiteration</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
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<td>Relaxation therapy</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remediation</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeated interrogations</td>
<td>22,38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research review ..................................................</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserpine .........................................................</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resource uncertainty .............................................</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration ........................................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrotypic ........................................................</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rett syndrome ....................................................</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review .............................................................</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhesus macaques ..................................................</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road pricing .......................................................</td>
<td>27,46,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction ........................................................</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale development ................................................</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools of thought ...............................................</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCL-90 ...............................................................</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scrawling ..........................................................</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening ..........................................................</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second language ...................................................</td>
<td>30,33,34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sedation ............................................................</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-perception ...................................................</td>
<td>40,41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-rated health ..................................................</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-report measure ...............................................</td>
<td>42,55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-reported health ...............................................</td>
<td>7,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selling-in ..........................................................</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sense of coherence ................................................</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensitivity ........................................................</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serotonin re-uptake inhibitor ...................................</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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<td>Serotonin ..........................................................</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual desire ......................................................</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual exhaustion ..................................................</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sexual relationship ................................................</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexuality ............................................................</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social consequence ................................................</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social dilemmas ...................................................</td>
<td>15,24,44,45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social factors ......................................................</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social separation ..................................................</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social value orientations ........................................</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic factors ..........................................</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech ..............................................................</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinal cord injury ................................................</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stereotypic ........................................................</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Striatum ............................................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structural equation modeling ....................................</td>
<td>27,50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subthreshold .......................................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunk cost ...........................................................</td>
<td>29,51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supersensitivity ....................................................</td>
<td>3,19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suprathreshold .....................................................</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspicion ...........................................................</td>
<td>22,38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden ..............................................................</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Swedish ................................................................. 34,52,53
Sympton perception ................................................. 44
Systems oriented models .......................................... 26
Temporomandibular joint disorders .......................... 14
Theory of mind ......................................................... 13
Time .......................................................................... 3
Total activity ............................................................ 19
Training program ...................................................... 22
Travel ........................................................................ 24
Travel behavior ........................................................ 47
Treatment ................................................................. 26
Turner syndrome ....................................................... 40,41,54,55
Twin research ............................................................ 37
Ultimatum game ....................................................... 46
Uncertainty ............................................................... 46
Understanding of figurative language ....................... 13
Understanding of picture stories .............................. 13
Undifferentiated ......................................................... 35
Urban problems ....................................................... 46
Urban travel ............................................................... 45
Vandalism ................................................................. 34
Wearing-off .............................................................. 3
Vocabulary ............................................................... 30
Word decoding ........................................................ 28
Word recognition ..................................................... 34,52
Wordchains ............................................................. 52
Workplace culture .................................................... 7
Yohimbine ............................................................... 3,19
a2-adrenoceptor ...................................................... 3
ß-amyloid peptide .................................................... 5
5-hydroxytryptamine ............................................... 2
23-27 year old women physicians .......................... 37