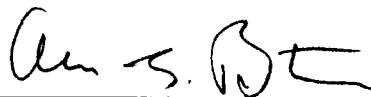


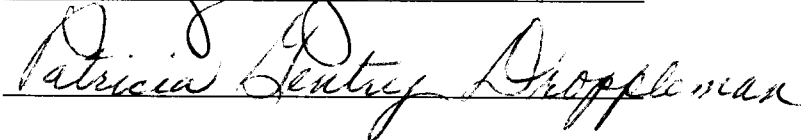
To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a dissertation written by Mary Louise Murray entitled "Some Object Relations Aspects of the Rorschach and Their Relation to Positive and Negative Emotionality as Measured by the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire." I have examined the final copy of this dissertation for form and content and recommend that it be accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, with a major in Psychology.



Alvin G. Burstein, Major Professor

We have read this dissertation
and recommend its acceptance:



Accepted for the Council:



Associate Vice Chancellor
and Dean of The Graduate School

SOME OBJECT RELATIONS ASPECTS OF THE RORSCHACH AND THEIR
RELATION TO POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EMOTIONALITY AS MEASURED
BY THE MULTIDIMENSIONAL PERSONALITY QUESTIONNAIRE

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ABSTRACT

The primary purpose of this study was to explore the degree of correspondance between a Rorschach scale of motivational valuation and the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire (Tellegen, 1982) in an effort to identify similar personality structure using dissimilar measures. The area of investigation was affect tone of interpersonal expectations.

Rorschach responses were separated into those which contained mention of human movement and emotion (labeled Explicit), and those which did not (labeled Implicit). They were then scored for benevolent and malevolent content as two separate dimensions rather than a bipolar continuum. Correlations were computed among the Rorschach variables, and Benevolence and Malevolence were correlated with the orthogonal factors of Positive and Negative Emotionality on the MPQ.

Results show that Rorschach measures of Benevolence are positively correlated with Positive Emotionality, supporting the notion that two dissimilar measures of personality structure can sample a similar domain. Malevolence did not correlate with Negative Emotionality. This study does not support the categorization of affect tone on the Rorschach as a bipolar construct, and raises

questions about the interpretation of Explicit and Implicit responses as a measure of interpersonal expectations.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The study of individual differences in psychology has included a focus on the structure of personality. A major trend in personality psychology has been the identification of underlying dimensions which encompass the varied expressions of personality attributes. Both personality psychology and psychoanalytic object relations theory have been concerned with affect/mood and interpersonal relations as reflective of underlying personality structure.

Various researchers have identified a number of overarching trait dimensions of personality which include both mood and social behavior aspects. The research on the constructs of Positive and Negative Affectivity or Emotionality is of particular interest to this present study. (The terms "Affectivity" and "Emotionality" are used interchangeably in this study to denote trait dimensions of affect rather than states.) Positive and Negative Emotionality are considered to be trait dimensions of personality, but may be influenced by situational effects in their immediate expression.

In a similar vein, object relations theorists believe that personality structure is enduring over time, and

reflective of internal structuralization or representations generated in the earliest years of life. They believe that personality attributes are phenotypic expressions of internal object relations, which include self, other, affect, and interpersonal relationship schema. Both research on Positive/Negative Emotionality and object relations assume that personality is stable and consistent over time, and may be sampled by personality assessment instruments such as self-report measures and projective tests.

The matter of consistency versus inconsistency within individuals, and across time, has been a salient question in personality research, and one which underlies the usefulness of the current research on Positive and Negative Affectivity and interpersonal relationships. The state versus trait debate, particularly spurred in recent times by Mischel's criticism of the trait position, has generated much examination of personality measurement techniques. Epstein (1979) provided support for personality traits by his use of the method of aggregation. He holds that stability in behavior can be seen if one introduces the variable of time into experimental studies. He found that significant relationships can be determined between self-report ratings and other-ratings if occurrences of behavior are averaged over an adequate period of time. He

states, "When single events are examined, there is little evidence for stability, but...when averaging is done over a sufficient sample of events, there is strong evidence for stability, as well as convergence among the different kinds of data." (p. 1121)

Block (1981) states, "By introducing the dimension of time, the question of consistency-inconsistency converts into the question of continuity-discontinuity." (p. 30) His work involves the longitudinal study of California residents over a period of at least 35 years. By using a Q-sort procedure, he found that some people are consistent over time, while others are not. He identified six personality types which were more consistently stable over time than others. The three male subtypes are: ego resilients, unsettled under-controllers, and vulnerable over-controllers. The three female subtypes are: female prototypes, vulnerable undercontrollers, and hyperfeminine repressives.

Tellegen (1988) posits that traitedness in individuals is variable, and may be a source of inconsistency in assessment. He also states that the existence of more than one trait can create multi-trait behavioral complexity, making inference of traitedness from specific behavior more complicated. Problems in measurement technique, such as inability of the respondent to understand the questions,

and temporal state fluctuations can also affect consistency in measurement. He believes that state/situation effects do not preclude trait manifestations as well.

The examination of personality consistency over time is an important aspect of explaining the outward manifestation of behavior. Starting from different points, both personality psychology and object relations theory seek to do just that. Personality research has focused on understanding nonpathological forms of behavior, while object relations theory has dealt with the explanation of personality development from an examination of psychopathological forms. Both areas of inquiry should find common ground in the close examination of affect and its relationship to social behavior.

This study seeks to integrate data from the fields of personality research and psychoanalytic theory in hopes of finding that common ground. Positive and Negative Emotionality, as obtained by Tellegen's Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire (MPQ), will represent personality psychology. Tellegen found that Positive and Negative Emotionality are independent trait dimensions. A motivational valuation scale for the Rorschach Inkblot Test will be used to tap into the malevolent and benevolent affect tone of the object relational world. It is hypothesized that benevolent content on the Rorschach will

correlate positively with Positive Emotionality (PEM), and that malevolent content will correlate positively with Negative Emotionality (NEM). It is further hypothesized that the Rorschach measures of Benevolence and Malevolence will not correlate with each other, and show similar relative independence as do Positive Emotionality and Negative Emotionality on the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EMOTIONALITY

History

Personality researchers have attempted to identify the major trends in the experience of affect by using self-report measures, multidimensional scaling of words related to emotion, rating of photographs of facial expression, and rater evaluations. The study of Positive and Negative Affectivity has primarily used self-report measures, with the application of factor analysis to derive major dimensions. In the literature on affect which has not used self-report measures, the following studies are examples of various techniques. Abelson and Sermat (1962) applied a multidimensional scaling technique to the domain of facial expressions. They found that two dimensions, Pleasantness and Unpleasantness, and Tension-Sleep, accounted for almost 75% of the variance. Bush (1973) used a multidimensional scaling technique to rate adjectives denoting emotion and found three prominent dimensions: Pleasantness and Unpleasantness, Level of Activation, and Level of Aggression. Russell (1983) applied a scaling

technique to emotion-related adjectives in five languages, and found that the words fell in a circular pattern around the two dimensions of Pleasure and Displeasure and Arousal-Sleep. While an explication of the research on emotion is beyond the scope of this paper, it is important to note that non-self-report measures have tended to define a small number of similar dimensions which account for most of the variance in emotional expression, and that the characteristics of these models share much in common with models derived from self-report.

There is a strong historical tradition in personality research which uses factor analysis to obtain evidence for personality consistency. Many theorists have found from two to eleven factors underlying personality structure. Allport, Cattell, and Eysenck stand out in the history of factor analytically-derived models of personality. Eysenck posits a three-dimensional model with Extraversion, Neuroticism, and Psychoticism as the salient dimensions underlying personality.

A number of investigators have consistently identified five dimensions as descriptive of personality structure. Digman (1990) reviews the history of the "Big Five" model, which contains the dimensions of Extraversion/Introversion; Friendly Compliance/Hostility; Will to Achieve or Conscientiousness; Neuroticism/Emotional Stability; and

Intellect. He compares the models of Fiske, Eysenck, Tupes & Cristal, Norman, Borgatta, Cattell, Guilford, Digman, Hogan, Costa & McCrae, Peabody & Goldberg, Buss & Plomin, Tellegen, and Lorr, and shows that there is considerable agreement among the dimensions in each of the above systems. Eysenck, Guilford, and Tellegen have either three or four factors in their systems, rather than five, but Digman locates their factors within the five-factor model.

A number of theorists posit a two or three factor model of personality. Bradburn & Caplovitz (1965) found in their studies on happiness clusters of positive and negative feelings which were independent of each other, but which correlated with happiness. They state that happiness is a consequence of the balance between negative and positive feelings. Russell (1979) found that affect terms were predominantly scaled on two dimensions: Pleasure and Displeasure and Degree of Arousal. He obtained these results from intercorrelating dimensions obtained from multidimensional scaling, successive-intervals scaling, semantic differential scaling, and factor analysis of verbal self-report data. Diener & Emmons (1984) found that Positive and Negative Affect are negatively correlated over short time periods, but become increasingly independent over longer time periods. Warr et al. (1983) found that Positive and Negative Affect were statistically

independent, and related to Extraversion and Neuroticism. Finn (1986) studied the higher-order structure of the MMPI, administered at various times to two cohorts of men over a time-span of thirty years. He found that a two-factor solution, Negative versus Positive Affectivity and Constraint, best fit the higher order structure of the MMPI and that the factors were highly stable across age, cohort, and time of measurement.

Tellegen (1982) developed a self-report personality measure, the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire, which identified eleven primary and three second-order factors as well-defined dimensions. Grove & Tellegen (1991) state that these three higher-order factors relate to the "Big Five" dimensions of Extraversion, Neuroticism, and Conscientiousness. Both Positive and Negative Emotionality are trait-like factors with emotional/cognitive/behavioral components (Tellegen & Waller, in press). These factors consist of a predisposition to certain emotional experience and cognition, with concomitant social engagement of a positive or negative nature. Tellegen and Waller state that those individuals with high PEM scores "present themselves as efficacious, as actively involved in their social and work environments and as ready to experience the positive emotions congruent with these involvements." (p. 35) Those

with high NEM scores "describe themselves as often stressed and harassed, as prone to respond with strong negative emotions (such as anxiety and anger) to everyday vicissitudes, and as enmeshed in adversarial relationships." (p. 35)

High Positive Emotionality is characterized by such words as "delighted," "enthusiastic," and "excited," while low Positive Emotionality is characterized by words such as "sleepy," "sluggish," "tired," "sad," and "regretful." High Negative Emotionality is marked by words such as "tormented," "distressed," "angry," "anxious," and "upset," and low Negative Emotionality is marked by words such as "content," "at ease," and "calm." Interestingly, it can be seen that the high ends of each dimension are characterized by the presence of strong affect, and the low ends by relatively low emotional engagement.

Tellegen (1985) states that Constraint is not directly correlated with mood, but may reflect an individual's readiness to respond to a range of emotion-related circumstances with either caution or recklessness. It can be interpreted as being reflective of the individual's pleasure-pain regulatory style, and shows variations from self-restrictive and cautious to impulsive and reckless. The Positive and Negative Emotionality factors are more directly related to a delineation of the underlying

structure of mood. This study is concerned with affective experience in terms of temperament and interpersonal expectancies, and therefore will not utilize the Constraint factor, which is related to self-regulatory style.

Watson & Clark state that the two-dimensional framework (Positive and Negative Emotionality) is complementary, and hierarchically related to, the discrete mood states (such as joy, interest, surprise, fear, anger, sadness, contempt, and disgust) found in other multifactor theories of emotion.

Watson & Tellegen (1985) reanalyzed six studies of self-reported mood, using a principal factor analysis method with the Varimax criterion. They were able to extract two dominant factors in each study: Positive and Negative Emotionality, which were orthogonal dimensions, having polar ends. These factors account for one half to three quarters of the common variance.

They present a circumplex model of affect, with High Positive Emotionality and High Negative Emotionality at 90 degrees to each other, and with Pleasantness and Unpleasantness, and Strong Engagement and Disengagement at 45 degrees to the two primary dimensions. They state that the Pleasantness and Unpleasantness factor corresponds to the Pleasantness factor that has emerged in the many studies on facial expressions and the ordering of emotion

words, and the Strong Engagement and Disengagement factor corresponds to the often-reported Arousal factor. These two factors (Pleasantness and Engagement) contain mood words from both the Negative and the Positive Emotionality dimensions, and therefore lie at 45 degrees from the orthogonal factors of Positive and Negative Emotionality.

Research on PEM and NEM Relevant to Mental Health Issues

Watson & Clark (1984) have extensively examined the Negative Affectivity factor. They see Negative Affectivity as a mood-dispositional dimension which has trait anxiety as one of its defining characteristics. It is a reflection of an individual's subjective experience of self and world. In their studies, they found that individuals who score high on Negativity Affectivity tend to be distressed and upset and have a negative view of self, and experience emotions such as "anger, scorn, revulsion, guilt, self-dissatisfaction, a sense of rejection, and, to some extent, sadness." (p. 465) The individual's experience of positive emotion or fearfulness is unrelated to Negative Affectivity. They state that individuals scoring high on Negative Affectivity are particularly aware of daily hassles, and will show trait anxiety even in the absence of an identifiable stressor.

They intercorrelated a number of studies using a variety of instruments measuring such constructs as trait anxiety, depression, neuroticism, and defensive or socially desirable responding. The following lists a number of measures used for their study: Taylor Manifest Anxiety Scale, Welsh's Anxiety Scale, MMPI Psychasthenia Scale, Edwards' Social Desirability Scale, Byrne's Repression-Sensitization Scale, Block's Ego Resiliency-Obvious Scale, Spielberger et al.'s State-Trait Anxiety Inventory A-Trait Scale, and the Eysenck Personality Inventory Neuroticism Scale. They found a significant relation among the instruments, supporting their contention that all measure Negative Affectivity to a significant degree. They state that measures of fear or harmavoidance do not correlate with Negative Affectivity, demonstrating the distinction between fear and anxiety. They state,

Negative affectivity (is) highly related to state anxiety/negative affect, under both stress and baseline conditions, even when the state measures were completed 10 years after the trait test. These results confirm our view that the NA construct reflects pervasive individual differences in negative mood and self-concept.
(p. 477)

Watson & Clark (1992) continued their explication of Negative Affectivity. They conducted four studies on measures of fear, sadness, hostility, and guilt, and found that while each of the discrete emotions were clearly

differentiable, they were interrelated substantially, showing support for a strong higher-order factor of Negative Affectivity. They believe that their results illuminate a fundamental problem in personality assessment--the confounding influence of Negative Affectivity on the measurement of individual constructs such as depression and anxiety. For example, they state that measures of depression as assessed by self-report inventories contain variance related to the individual construct, as well as variance related to the higher-order NA factor. Measures of depression may therefore be influenced by the contribution of related emotions, such as hostility and guilt.

Watson, Clark, & Carey (1988) investigated Positive and Negative Affectivity and their relation to anxiety and depressive disorders. They state that Negative Affectivity is a generalized predisposition to experience negative emotions, which influences cognition, self-concept, and world view. Positive Affectivity is a broad dimension which reflects pleasurable engagement with the environment. They describe Low Positive Affectivity as reflecting lethargy and fatigue, along with sadness and loneliness. They state that Negative Affectivity also contains the emotions of sadness and loneliness. Their results demonstrate that anxiety is essentially a state of

high Negative Affectivity, and depression is a mixed state of high Negative Affectivity and low Positive Affectivity. They suggest that by strengthening the Positive Affectivity scale in measures of anxiety and depression, better differentiation of depression may be obtained.

Tellegen (1985) suggests that depression and anxiety differ also in cognitive mode. He states that depression, as an affectively disengaged state, reflects a "knowing" mode, characterized by a sense of hopelessness about the future and dwelling on the past. Anxiety, in contrast, reflects an "orienting" mode, characterized by scanning the environment, hypervigilance, and worry about the future. Clark, Beck, & Stewart (1990) found support for Tellegen's contention that anxiety and depression reflect characteristic cognitive styles, as well as Beck's cognitive content-specificity hypothesis. They also found that a mixed anxious/depressed subsample showed a symptom pattern indicative of more severe psychological distress.

Positive and Negative Affectivity have also been found to be important factors in studies on quality of life. Bradburn (1969) found that Positive and Negative Affectivity were related to adjustment in marriage, in the expected directions. Costa & McCrae (1980) found that Positive and Negative Affect were related to the individual experience of happiness over a period of ten years. They

state that the balance of positive and negative affect creates a subjective sense of well-being, and that regardless of the area of life the individual examines, such as job, marriage, money, or religion, the individual tends to be either satisfied or dissatisfied. They suggest that the sources of variation lie within two higher-order dimensions of Extraversion and Neuroticism. They believe that momentary happiness is affected by situational/state events, but that over time, the valence of the situational events cancels out, leaving trait dimensions fairly stable in predicting general life satisfaction.

Brett et al. (1990) found that the relationship between reported life events and well-being may not be as strong as previous research suggests because of contamination by the Negative Affectivity factor in self-report measures. They suggest that individuals high in Negative Affectivity may remember and report more negative experiences, may be more likely to construe ambiguous stimuli in a negative direction, may overestimate the size of failure-related events, or that their negative view of the world may create more negative experiences.

Levin & Stokes (1989) examined the role of Negative Affectivity in job satisfaction. They found that high NA subjects were more likely to experience job dissatisfaction. They suggest that future research is

needed to assess whether job satisfaction influences life satisfaction or vice versa, or if underlying personality traits influence both life and job satisfaction. George (1989) found that Positive and Negative Affectivity had a significant influence on mood states at work, and that positive mood states at work were negatively associated with absenteeism. Negative moods were not found to be a significant determinant of absenteeism.

In the area of health psychology, Watson & Pennebaker (1989) found that self-report measures of stress and health contain a significant Negative Affectivity component, which causes an overestimate of the true relationship between stress and health. They found that high Negative Affectivity is largely unrelated to cardiac health, level of blood pressure, cancer, and general immune system dysfunction, but is correlated with complaints of angina and chest pain. Low Negative Affectivity was associated with increased risk of cancer, and low Positive Affectivity was associated with cancer risk in females. They suggest that low NA may reflect emotional inhibition, which has been previously related to negative health consequences.

Watson & Clark (1984) found that Negative Affectivity is not related to increased risk of morbidity, nor to objective evidence of poor health, such as doctor visits or absenteeism. They also found that health problems do not

lead to higher trait Negative Affectivity levels. Suls & Marco (1990) found that Neuroticism was associated with illness complaints reported retrospectively, but did not predict actual illness. They suggest that level of Negative Affectivity is reflected in somatic overconcern but not in objective illness.

The aforementioned studies indicate that Positive and Negative Emotionality as trait dimensions of personality are related to manifestations of social adjustment and psychopathology. As such, PEM and NEM may reflect fundamental cognitive structures about the world, the self, and interpersonal interactions. These are the very issues with which object relations theory is most concerned. Both object relations theory and trait psychology seek to explain in a meaningful way the patterns and consistency that individuals are perceived to display across time. I will now present the relevant information on object relations theory.

OBJECT RELATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

Object relations theory analyzes interpersonal relationships, and their effect on personality development. In actuality, there are a number of different object relations theories, but they all have in common a consideration of interpersonal dynamics, beginning with

those of the dyadic relationship between primary caretaker and infant.

A basic presupposition of object relations theory is that the fundamental structure of the personality is created in the give-and-take between primary caretaker and infant. It is the primary caretaker's response to the infant's needs that determines the child's future growth to maturity, and the pattern that this growth will take.

Many psychoanalysts have written on the concept of self and object constancy. They describe the development of the self and the object world in terms of increasing personal individuation and differentiation. The basic premise is that the infant starts out in an undifferentiated matrix with the mother. The two are joined in a symbiotic union from which they only gradually become differentiated. In all the theories, by the age of five, the child attains object constancy, as the resolution of the Oedipal complex brings the child into a new relationship with the parental objects. With the attainment of object constancy comes the capacity to tolerate ambivalence in relationships. Object relations theorists believe that disruption of the psychological development processes in the first five years of life leads to the development of the borderline and narcissistic personality disorders.

History

Object relations theory derives its name from Freud's designation of persons as "objects" (Freud, 1933, 1949). The other person is the object of the self's libidinal (sexual) and aggressive drives, and is important primarily as a foil in the underlying drama of the inner man. The psychosexual maturation in Freud's theory describes humans as determined by instincts and drives, moved by their frustration, conflict, or satisfaction. Interpersonal dynamics are not important as such for Freud; the emphasis, rather, is placed on the intrapsychic interactions of the structures of the personality--id, ego, and superego. The id is the reservoir of the instinctual libidinal and aggressive drives; the superego is the entity containing moral demands and idealized goals; and the ego is the regulatory and decision-making entity that integrates id impulses with superego demands in adaptation to external reality.

As the person matures, he/she grows through the various psychosexual stages: oral (birth-2 yrs.), anal (2-3 yrs.), phallic (3-6 yrs.), latency (6-puberty), and genital (puberty). These are named for each bodily zone that receives psychological emphasis in each stage. Latency, however, refers to the stage when no bodily zone is dominant. In each stage, the ego and superego acquire

better definition and greater functional ability in dealing with the forces of libidinal energy inherent in the personality. Fixation may occur in any stage, creating conflicts related to the bodily zone in question. The primal conflict occurs in the phallic stage, the Oedipus complex. The Oedipus complex deals with the triadic relationship of the son, mother, and father, moving beyond the dyadic relationship between child and mother.

Classical psychoanalysts (those adhering to Freudian precepts) interpreted much of their patients' psychological material in terms of Oedipal issues. There were always some patients, however, whose conflicts could not be resolved using the Oedipal model, and in an attempt to explain their patients' more severe psychopathology, some psychoanalysts began to search further back in their patients' personal histories. The assumption that has been made almost universally in object relations theory is that more severe pathology is related to earlier developmental onset. Theorists have focused on the preoedipal stage in order to explain adult psychopathology, and most theories of object relations are based on reconstructions obtained from adult clinical material.

Melanie Klein, a British psychoanalyst working in the 1930's, published a theory which was quite different from Freud's (Guntrip, 1971). She theorized that the roots of

psychopathology begin in the earliest days of infancy. The infant is born with an intact, though rudimentary, ego. In response to the death instinct (postulated by Freud as an active drive toward destruction), the infant deals with this threat of annihilation by projecting his/her anxiety onto the breast, which becomes the bad breast he/she wishes sadistically to destroy. Yet the breast is also good, for it meets his/her oral needs. In order to manage his/her relationship with the good and the bad breast, the infant splits the object--the breast-mother--into good and bad representations. These representations are then internalized in an attempt to make the object more controllable, relating to only one aspect of the object at a time. This splitting of the object is accompanied by a concomitant splitting of the ego. This results in a part-ego, or sub-self, related to the good object, and a separate ego related to the bad object. It is the task of maturity to rejoin these two egos, or sub-selves, in a greater tolerance for ambiguity.

Klein's theory moved psychoanalysis in a new direction. Her emphasis on the splitting of the ego and the object into good and bad representations, the internalization of object relations, and the projection of internal object relations onto external reality, laid the foundation for the more recent developments in object

relations theory. Current studies on Benevolent and Malevolent affect tone of interpersonal motivation stem from her foundational work.

British School of Object Relations Theory

The British School of object relations theory, so-called in distinction from the English School of neo-Kleinians (such as W. R. Bion, L. Grinberg, and H. Segal), is comprised of such theorists as W. Ronald D. Fairbairn, D. W. Winnicott, and Harry Guntrip. They published their works primarily in the decades from the 1940's to the 1970's.

Fairbairn (1954), while influenced by Klein's work, placed much greater emphasis on the psychosocial aspects of object relations. He rejected Klein's use of the death instinct, but retained the notion of the splitting of the ego and the object world. His theory departed significantly from traditional Freudian analysis by stressing the psychosocial aspect of personality development.

Fairbairn holds that the primal human orientation is the innate attraction to engage in object relations for their own sake. He believes that there are three stages of development of object relations in the growth to maturity. The first is that of infantile dependence. The baby

relates to the mother in an oral incorporative mode: He/she takes in whatever gratifications the mother provides, metaphorically described as "emptying the breast." The baby's ego boundaries include the mother in a state of basic identification with her, and his/her incorporative stance creates the beginning of the internalization of objects.

The second stage is one of quasi-independence, termed the "transitional stage." In this stage, the child begins to externalize the internal objects taken in during the first stage, and to come to terms with external objects existing in the environment. This stage is one of increasing differentiation from internal and external objects, and the infant learns to give as well as to take.

The final stage Fairbairn calls "mature dependence." This stage relates to the capacity of the individual to maintain satisfying interpersonal relationships, in a manner that is characterized neither by incorporation nor by primary identification. The individual maintains his/her separate identity and grants to others their own unique identities. His/her attitude toward others is characterized by giving rather than by taking. This stage is called mature dependence because to some degree, dependence on others is necessary for the creation of relationships.

Another historically influential theorist, and a member of the British School, is Donald W. Winnicott (1959, 1965, 1971). He was a pediatrician as well as a psychoanalyst, and his unique perspective on developmental issues made an important contribution to psychoanalytic thought. His primary work centered on the mother-infant dyad in the first years of life. He believed that if the mother could not make a "good-enough" response to the baby's needs, the infant would create a false self. The function of the false self is to protect the true self from impingement by the environment, saving the development of the true self for more favorable circumstances. The true self is the core experience of "I-ness" and, when in action, leads the individual to experience a sense of being real. It is the source of spontaneous, creative life. On the other hand, the action of the false self leads to a feeling of unreality and futility. It is marked by compliance with social demands, and imitation rather than self-maturation.

In the toddler phase, and during puberty, the child moves into the stage "towards independence," in which the child moves out into the broader circle of social life. By identifying with various social groups, the child is able to integrate personal growth with cultural expectations. Eventually, during adulthood, he/she will reach a state of

independence. Winnicott states, however, "Independence is never absolute. The healthy individual does not become isolated, but becomes related to the environment in such a way that the individual and environment can be said to be interdependent." (p. 84)

Another psychoanalyst of the British School, Harry Guntrip (1969, 1971), is perhaps best known for his organization and integration of Fairbairn's and Winnicott's theories, and his historical analyses of the origins of object relations theory in the work of Freud and Klein. Essentially he adopted the theories of Fairbairn and Winnicott with very little change, adding only a few new aspects.

Guntrip believes that mature independence is directly related to the individual's initial experiences of secure dependence on the mother. He states, "We begin as literally a part of another person, of 'nature', and only if that basic sense of unity and the security it gives persists as a permanent unconscious foundation, can we sustain separateness and individuality without anxiety." (Guntrip, 1969, p. 267)

American School of Object Relations Theory

The American development of object relations theory was greatly influenced by ego psychology and its decreasing

emphasis on the id and superego of Freudian theory. Some of the major American theorists are Joseph Sandler, Margaret Mahler, Otto Kernberg, Heinz Kohut, and Sidney Blatt. The American theorists are noted for their attempts to integrate Freudian structuralism (id, ego, superego) with the interpersonal dynamics of object relations theory.

The American School has written much about representations, as opposed to internal object structures. For example, Joseph Sandler and Bernard Rosenblatt (1962) state that the child forms mental representations, or schemas, of internal and external reality which consist of a multitude of impressions, including cognitive and affective components. The ego constructs representations of self and objects, and such representations can be conscious or unconscious. The ego makes use of the representations in maintaining equilibrium, and can distort them if so needed for defensive purposes.

Margaret Mahler (1966, 1968, 1982) has written extensively on the dynamics of the relationship between mother and child in the first three years of life. Her belief is that the psychological birth of the human infant occurs during this period. The infant begins life with a phase of normal autism, in which he/she primarily experiences the sensations of the inside of the body, and

is unaware of the ministrations of the external environment. This phase is followed by one of symbiosis, characterized by the infant's belief that he/she and the mother are one object. In turn, this phase gives way to the subphases of the separation-individuation process: differentiation ('hatching'), early and late practicing subphases, and the period of rapprochement.

The separation-individuation process is of paramount importance for the attainment of object constancy. During the 'hatching' phase, the infant first begins to realize that the mother's body is separate from his/her own. Additionally, he/she realizes that the mother is different from other people in his/her environment, as manifested by stranger anxiety. The practicing subphases ensue with the beginning and mastery of independent movement. Now the infant can move away from the mother and begin to develop greater autonomy. Often, however, the infant will interrupt his/her moving away and return to the mother for 'refueling.' As he/she truly masters motor abilities, the infant moves into the period of rapprochement. During this period, his/her quest for autonomy brings him/her to the realization that he/she is no longer one with the mother, and that no longer can he/she wish for something and omnipotently demand its fulfillment. He/she now actively woos the mother, and constantly tries to involve her in and

share with her his/her experiences in an effort to regain the sense of oneness with her. Mahler believes that at this point the child can achieve emotional object constancy if the rapprochement crisis (of balancing individuation with attachment) is resolved successfully. Many believe that the borderline syndromes originate in consequence of failures during the rapprochement subphase (Chatham, 1985).

Otto Kernberg (1979, 1980, 1984, 1986a, 1986b) has based much of his theory on his work with borderline patients. His primary concern is with the development of pregenital personality organization and the splitting of the ego. He believes personality development proceeds through the internalization of self-object-affect units, which become structuralized into the traditional tripartite model of personality (id, ego, superego). Three processes take place during the first three years or so of life: introjection, internalization, and ego identification of self-images, object-images, and the affective coloring of the interactions between the two. As the child matures, he/she progressively uses introjection, then internalization, and then identification to establish internal schemata of the self and object world. In the beginning, schemata are organized around 'good' percepts and 'bad' percepts, giving rise to the splitting of the

ego. As the individual's personality matures, he/she becomes better able to tolerate ambivalence, and repression takes over as the primary defense mechanism. The internal object world increasingly conforms to the external world of real objects, yet remains individualized by the influence of the self-object-affect units from which it arose. In the case of borderline pathology, the good self-object and bad self-object units remain split and unintegrated. The borderline personality experiences the world and self as split into good and bad units, and is unable to hold both good and bad in consciousness at the same time. Differentiation between the self and object units has not been successfully and continuously achieved.

Contributions From Developmental and Social Psychology

In the main, psychoanalysts have based their theories of self and object relations on adult clinical material. They have formulated a theory of early preverbal childhood development based on adult psychopathology. Peterfreund (1978), among others, has raised an objection to the analysis of human development from an examination of adult psychopathology. He has posed the question as to whether the regressed states experienced by adult patients are truly equivalent to the normal stages of development found in infancy. He states, "For example, many child psychotics

do not initially manifest obvious, gross disorder; and the 'break-down' phenomena observed do not necessarily represent any stage of normal development, as some psychoanalytic theoreticians seem to imply." (p. 439)

Westen (1989) states that the equation of more severe or primitive psychopathology with earlier fixation in the preoedipal stage is in need of revision. He elucidates several areas in which object relations theory is at odds with developmental research. He states that one area which object relations theory conceives of as resolved by the age of five is the capacity to tolerate ambivalence. Kernberg, in particular, has written much about the splitting of the self and object world into good and bad representations. Westen cites research by Harter, who found that the capacity to focus on two conflicting feelings toward the same person does not develop until the child is at least eleven years old. Westen suggests that borderline splitting is more appropriately seen as preadolescent, rather than preoedipal. On the basis of other research by Damon & Hart, Harter, Flavell, Shantz, and Selman, he states,

Self- and object-representations in severe character pathology are at times preoedipal, at times preadolescent, at times probably adult, and at other times distorted but not developmentally primitive. One might add that borderline identity confusion, while including preoedipal components (e.g., basic gender confusion), can

only arise fully in middle to late adolescence because before that time children lack the cognitive complexity to posit an abstract and integrated "self," to commit themselves to various ego-ideal standards and ambitions, and to integrate a view of their psyche, body, actions, history, and family and cultural context to form a mature sense of identity. (p. 338)

Westen et al. (1991) studied the development of working representations in childhood and adolescence. They found that complexity of representations, capacity for emotional investment, and understanding of social causality showed developmental changes from the 2nd to the 5th grade, and from the 9th to the 12th grades. Affect-tone of relationships (malevolent or benevolent) did not show any developmental change. Similarly, Grey and Losardo (1991) found that the maturity of representations of significant others in adolescents was associated with concomitant maturity in interpersonal actions, but that the relative maturity of the early adolescent sample studied did not reach the level of maturity posited by object relations theory. The implications of these studies for object relations theory is that the development of the self and object world continues to develop throughout childhood, adolescence, and possibly adulthood.

Recent trends in object relations theory have addressed the problem of reifying internal objects and egos. In the past decade, object relations theory has

moved in the direction of utilizing recent developmental research and advances in social cognition research. The self and object world are discussed in terms of cognitive representations and schema. Zeanah et al. states that internal representations "are organized hierarchically from small units reflecting subjective experience to increasingly large networks reflecting more global appraisals." (p. 663) These "working models" are comprised of lived experience, and act to selectively perceive and interpret incoming information.

Bretherton (1991) discusses working models in some detail. She states, "To think of internal working models of self and attachment figure as multiple-level schema-hierarchies (instead of an internalized person) will, I think make the concept more amenable to detailed study." (p. 18) She states that disruption in an individual's representational system can bias future processing, because incomplete or misinformed schemata are now guiding the processing of new experience.

Sidney J. Blatt (1991) proposes that psychopathology results from impairment in the cognitive-affective structures in the representational world of the individual. He believes that the first level of cognitive schema consists of boundary constancy (2-3 months), involving the articulation of the fundamental shape of a

single object from an embedding context. The second level is recognitional, or libidinal, constancy (6-8 months), in which the baby differentially responds to the familiar and special. The third level is evocative constancy (16-18 months), in which the infant has a sense of an object not immediately present in the perceptual field, which enables the baby to begin to separate from the mother. Self and object constancy occurs around 30-36 months. Around the age of five, the child enters a phase of concrete operational thought, as described by Piaget, at which time he/she shifts from an emphasis on dyadic relations to an emphasis on triadic relations, with consequent awareness of his/her role in the family system.

Psychopathology can arise from disruptions anywhere along the line of development of cognitive-affective representations. The borderline spectrum disorders arise from defects at the evocative constancy level, due to an inability to establish an enduring sense of self and a sense of relatedness with others during stressful times. Problems with self and object constancy, which can arise around 30-36 months, can lead to problems with either of two independent, but related, lines of development - self-definition, and capacity to establish satisfying interpersonal relationships. The individual may place an exaggerated emphasis on one dimension or the other in an

attempt to deal with developmental disruption at this level. The person may overemphasize independence and autonomy issues, at the expense of being in relationship with others, or vice versa. Blatt proposes that disruption in these two lines of development leads to different types of psychopathology (anaclitic and introjective), and require different types of therapeutic intervention.

One can note the progression of thought in object relations theory. Beginning with Klein, and then moving into the British School of object relations theory, one can see the movement from Freudian emphasis on intrapsychic dynamics to an increased emphasis on the importance of interpersonal relationships for development of personality structure. The American branch of object relations theory placed more emphasis on representation than on structuralization (as in the British School), and led object relations theory into a greater consideration of individuation-separation, as opposed to affiliation. Recent trends emphasize an inclusion of the current research in developmental psychology and social cognition, placing representation of the self and object world in a contextual framework.

Object Relations Scoring Systems for the Rorschach

The empirical assessment of object relations has occupied a prominent place in psychology over the last several decades. Research has been done on the Rorschach, Thematic Apperception Test, dream reports, and Early Memories (Mayman, 1968) in an effort to describe internal object relational themes in projective test data. It is believed that projective tests elicit internal representations of the self and others, with concomitant affect and relational patterns. A number of scoring systems have been devised to deduce an individual's level of object relations from projective test data. These systems have for the most part been derived from the theoretical work of Kernberg (self-other-affect units) and Mahler (rapprochement themes of separation/individuation and empathy), although some attention has also been paid to drive theory. Of particular relevance to the present study are scoring systems for the Rorschach.

Mayman (1967) investigated the thematic aspects of the Rorschach in terms of object relationships. He believes that human responses on the Rorschach reflect an individual's internalized images of others and the feelings connected with them. These responses indicate the individual's capacity for empathy, differentiation from others, and degree of ability to engage in mutuality with

others. Mayman (1977) states,

When a person is asked to spend an hour immersing himself in a field of impressions where amorphousness prevails and where strange or even alien forms may appear, he will set in motion a reparative process the aim of which is to replace formlessness with reminders of the palpably real world. He primes himself to recall, recapture, reconstitute his world as he knows it, with people, animals and things which fit most naturally into the ingrained expectancies around which he has learned to structure his phenomenal world. The kind of world that he recreates for himself will call forth core dispositions which enliven (or deaden) his sense of self and which shape the world he finds himself in. (p. 248)

Krohn and Mayman (1974) developed the Object Representation Scale for Dreams and applied it to dreams, Early Memories, and Rorschach percepts obtained from patients from three mental health agencies. On the low end of the scale, the subject's world is characterized as strange, alien, malevolent, and with little interaction with others. The high end of the scale emphasizes well-articulated human relationships, mutuality, and capacity for ambivalence. They found that when this scale is applied to the Rorschach, it seems to predict general level of psychopathology better than level of object relations.

Blatt (1990) is interested in the "relativistic construction of meaning," and sees the Rorschach as a test of cognition as well as of perception. He and colleagues

at Yale (1976) developed a scale for measuring cognitive development manifested on the Rorschach. They developed the Concept of the Object Scale which scores human responses on the Rorschach in three primary dimensions: Differentiation, articulation, and integration. The integration dimension includes a code for malevolent-benevolent content descriptive of interpersonal interaction. They applied this scale to a sample of adolescent and young adult inpatients, and to a sample involved in a longitudinal study of normal behavior. They found that patients gave more malevolent, inaccurately perceived, and incongruent human percepts than did the normal sample, who gave better articulated and integrated human responses, with figures engaged in constructive and reciprocal interactions.

Lerner and St. Peter (1984), using the Concept of the Object Scale, found that inpatient borderlines gave significantly more malevolent human responses than did outpatient neurotics, outpatient borderlines, and schizophrenics. Stuart et. al. (1990) applied the Concept of the Object Scale to inpatient borderlines and depressives, and to a normal comparison sample, and found that borderlines construe the object relational world as more malevolent in nature than do normals or depressives.

Urist (1977) developed the Mutuality of Autonomy Scale (MOAS), which makes the assumption that the portrayal of relationships between both animate and inanimate figures on the Rorschach depicts an individual's understanding of human relations. His scale ranges from mutual, autonomous, and benevolent relationships to highly malevolent, devouring, and destructive relations. Blatt et. al. (1990) applied the MOAS to Rorschachs of seriously disturbed adolescents and young adults admitted to a long-term residential facility. They found that a greater degree of malevolence was related to increased presence of neurotic and psychotic symptoms, and at least one benevolent response in a record was related to fewer psychiatric symptoms and lower affective lability as indicated in clinical case records. There was no consistent relationship between MOAS scores and independent measures of interpersonal and social behavior. Their results suggest that the MOAS is a better measure of psychopathological functioning than of the nature of object relations.

Westen has brought the research on social cognition and attachment theory into his understanding of object relations theory. Drawing on the research of such authors as Flavell, Shantz, Damon, Selman, Fiske, Harter, Horowitz, and Markus (see Westen, 1991), he has merged the

representational world described by object relations theory with current developmental and social cognition research. He believes that object relations are comprised of more than one developmental trend. He has devised a scoring system to rate projective psychological material, such as TAT stories and Early Dreams and Memories, along four different dimensions. Although he has not applied his scoring system to the Rorschach, his work sheds light on the projective attribution of malevolence-benevolence to interpersonal relationships.

His dimensions are the following: complexity of representations of people; affect-tone of relationship paradigms; capacity for emotional investment and moral standards; and understanding of social causality. The affect-tone scale measures the extent to which the individual expects malevolence and pain from relationships and the world, or whether he/she expects social interaction to be benign and enriching. He ranks each dimension on five levels, thereby allowing for the possibility of capturing differential development on each dimension. In general, (see Westen, 1990), he has found that malevolence is related to a history of sexual abuse, including that which occurred or began in the latency years; pathological maternal variables; and has found that inpatient

borderlines produce more malevolently-toned responses than do normals and depressives.

Burstein and Loucks (1989) devised an extensive scoring system for the Rorschach based on psychoanalytic theory which includes scales to assess interpersonal expectations, psychosexual drive and defense effectiveness, and perceptual-cognitive characteristics. The interpersonal expectations category contains scores for human articulation (level of articulation of any human content), motivational articulation (coded when human movement or human emotion are present in a response), explicit motivational valuation (benevolent, neutral, or malevolent content of responses which include human movement and human emotion), and implicit motivational valuation (benevolent, neutral, or malevolent content of responses which do not contain human movement or human emotion). Motivational articulation and its benevolence-malevolence valence are seen to capture an individual's relatively conscious fantasies about interpersonal relationships, and as such, provide a measure of object relations. Implicit motivational valuation is held to reflect the representations of the non-interpersonal environment.

Historically, Rorschach researchers have given human movement (HM) scores special consideration. Rorschach

(1942) believed that HM reflected more individualized intelligence, greater creativity, greater inner life, more stable affective reactions, and less adaptability to reality. Beck (1950) stated that HM responses represent an individual's deepest wishes and fantasies, and examination of their content provides a window to the unconscious. Klopfer (1954) saw HM as an indicator of an individual's inner stability, emotional integration, and investment in introspection. He thought that overuse of fantasy precluded the development of skills needed to master reality situations. Piotrowski (1977) believed that HM reflects the "core of the personality with its beliefs, emotions, and psychomotor activities." (p. 207) As such, it reflects personality traits which are relatively stable and unchanging, and shows the individual's mode of social interaction. Exner (1986) stated that HM involves reasoning and imagination, and indicates a form of delay through which responses to a stimulus field are sorted through before action is undertaken. The Burstein-Loucks Scoring System retains this historical separation of HM responses from all other responses. In addition, they include human emotion with human movement, and see both scores as aspects of more conscious fantasies about object relations.

Schaid (1993) used the Burstein-Loucks scoring category of Interpersonal Expectations to explore the possibility that both explicit and implicit motivational valuation might correlate with the Positive Emotionality and Negative Emotionality factors of Tellegen's Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire. She found that explicit benevolence and implicit benevolence were positively correlated with PEM. Explicit malevolence was positively correlated with NEM, and implicit benevolence was negatively correlated with NEM. Implicit malevolence was not significantly correlated with either PEM or NEM.

Hunter (1994) expanded the Burstein-Loucks' implicit motivational scale from three to five points in an effort to improve upon the correlations Schaid found between implicit benevolence and malevolence and Tellegen's PEM and NEM. She found that implicit benevolence and implicit malevolence were positively correlated with PEM, but her results did not significantly differ from Schaid's. She also found that neither implicit benevolence nor implicit malevolence were significantly correlated with NEM.

All of the above-mentioned scoring systems for the Rorschach, including the Burstein-Loucks System, encode motivational valuation on a bipolar continuum, with the polar ends as malevolence and benevolence. Object relations theorists posit that the perceived affective tone

of the environment, which includes both human and non-human elements, is a reflection of the level of development of an individual's object relationships. They believe that reactivity to the environment ranges from the more primitive expectation of malevolence to the more adaptive expectation of benevolence. The purpose of this study is to determine if benevolent and malevolent percepts may reflect orthogonal dimensions rather than a singular bipolar dimension, as Tellegen's orthogonal higher order factors of Positive and Negative Emotionality might suggest. In order to examine this supposition, I developed a brief scale to examine motivational valuation from this perspective which I called the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale.

The basic presupposition of the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale is that all Rorschach percepts can be scored for affective tone, and that each percept can be rated for both malevolent and benevolent tone on two relatively independent dimensions. To this end, a 4 point rating scale was developed for each dimension (benevolence and malevolence), and each Rorschach percept in the sample was assessed according to these scales. Both explicit and implicit responses were rated.

The Benevolence rating scale consists of 4 points. A score of 0 indicates the absence of any benevolent

content. A score of 1 consists of mildly benevolent content, including most animals, unelaborated humans, product of human creation (not including art), and postural activity. A score of 2 is seen as somewhat benevolent, with content that is life-promoting, human creation with an artistic slant (such as sculpture and literature), and movement which is constructive or cooperative. A score of 3 consists of highly benevolent content, such as that which is explicitly and clearly gratifying, aesthetically pleasing, and movement which is joyous or intimate. Guidelines and scoring examples are given in Table 1.

The Malevolence rating scale also contains 4 points. Again, 0 is scored for the absence of malevolent content. A score of 1 shows very mildly malevolent content, such as sharp edges, barrenness, obscurity, things somewhat removed or detached, sexual anatomy on the surface of the body (because of mild social inappropriateness in mentioning this type of percept in a testing situation), and movement which implies tension. A score of 2 consists of somewhat malevolent content, such as defense with aggression implied, threat implied, animals and insects which are unpleasant or perceived as a nuisance, distorted or combination animals, and descriptive words such as "strange," "weird," "crazy," or "odd." A score of 3 is given for highly malevolent content, such as themes

Table 1
Guidelines and Scoring Examples
Benevolence

0	No benevolence - cannot be scored at all	
1	Very mildly benevolent - mostly animals, unelaborated human, product of human creation (not art), postural activity	household items
airplane animal (unspecified) bent over doing something bird building bunch of paint clothing coat of arms, emblem, insignia (score content separately) continent coral (no emphasis on color) eagle facing each other fish flag		island man, woman map mountains person, somebody photograph, picture, schematic, drawing (score content separately) rocket ship, boat talking
NOTE: Score 1 on both Benevolence and Malevolence: breast, candle with flame, hand tools		

Table 1 (continued)

2	Somewhat benevolent - life-promoting, human creation with artistic slant (such as sculpture and literature), movement which is constructive or cooperative
apple baby animal (score content separately) building with art on it ceramic pot cooking decoration on clothing domestic pet (dog, cat, rabbit, hamster) eggs food (not desserts) forest Eiffel tower happy headdress holding hands lake, water, pond, bay	leaf, tree, plants lifting something together little girl or little boy mountain with trees movie, book, cartoon, mythology (score content separately) ocean sculpture serving food smiling sun totem pole touching waiter

Table 1 (continued)

3	Highly benevolent - explicitly and clearly gratifying, aesthetically pleasing, movement which is joyous or intimate
angel art autumn leaves (emphasis on color or beauty) bunny butterfly castle ceremonial church clown coral reef (emphasis on color or beauty) dancing elegant fairy fireworks flowers food (candy and desserts)	human baby jewels and gold joyful kissing laughing maple seed musical instruments party party games party mask playing praying puppy religion sunrise sunset (emphasis on color or beauty) temple toys tuxedo

of obvious aggression, aggressors, desertion, death, abandonment, destruction, pain-infliction, predators, anatomy, dangerousness, overt threat, and disgusting content. Guidelines and scoring examples are given in Table 2.

The distribution of scores for each scale was tabulated using twenty randomly chosen protocols (number of responses was 468). Results showed that each scoring category on the Benevolence scale was used almost equally. Categories 0 through 3 were chosen from 24% to 26% of the time. On the Malevolence scale, scoring category 0 was chosen 25% of the time, category 1 was chosen 12% of the time, category 2 was chosen 26% of the time, and category 3 (most malevolent) was chosen 37% of the time. See Table 3 for distribution of scores on the Benevolence and Malevolence scales. These results indicate that all the categories were used, but that category 1 on the Malevolence scale was somewhat underused, and category 3 on the Malevolence scale was somewhat overrepresented. Future refinements of the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale should undertake to make each scoring category on the Malevolence scale more nearly equivalent.

Table 2
Guidelines and Scoring Examples
Malevolence

0	No malevolence - cannot be scored at all		
1	Very mildly malevolent - sharp edges, barren, obscure, somewhat removed or detached, sexual anatomy on surface of body, movement which implies tension		
	amoeba big bushy beard big robe cliffs cloak clouds facing away from each other folds in cloth ink mask	microscopic life (except bacteria) penis rocks seen from above, back, or from a distance socially inappropriate attire (man in a dress) sunset turtle(shell)	tunnel two people pulling something between them vagina
Note: Score 1 on both Malevolence and Benevolence: breast, candle with flame, hand tools			

Table 2 (continued)

2	Somewhat malevolent- defense with aggression implied, threat implied, animals and insects which are unpleasant or perceived as a nuisance, distorted/combination animals, strange, weird, crazy, odd
alien animal skin or rug ant antlered animal arguing beetle "Bill the cat" breast plate bug buttocks caricature caterpillar cave crumpled crying darkness exhaust	eyes with a paranoid quality fetus fly frog gargoyle giant, huge person grasshopper helmet hungry ice and snow jack-o-lantern lizard mandibles, jaw, teeth mole moth mouse
	person with no head, no face raw or uncooked sad smoke snail sneaking stain storm cloud suit of armor UFO weeds wilted worm wrinkled

Table 2 (continued)

3	Very malevolent-themes of obvious aggression, aggressors, desertion, death, abandonment, destruction, pain-inflicting, predators, anatomy, dangerous, threatening, disgusting		
	alligator anatomy bacteria bat bear Big Foot blood bug with claws "coming at you" cougar crab death depressed desert destroy dinosaur dragon Excalibur	explosion evil fighting fire fire with smoke fox ghost hawk monster mosquito mountain lion mushroom cloud oozing pinching bug power tools, drill press, jack hammer prowling rat	sinister smashed spider splattered stealth bomber sting ray swamp creature Venus flytrap volcano weapons wicked wolf x-ray yelling

Table 3
Distribution of Scores for Twenty Protocols

Benevolence

Total N (number of responses)	Category 0	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
468	124 (26%)	113 (24%)	120 (26%)	111 (24%)

Malevolence

Total N (number of responses)	Category 0	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
468	119 (25%)	55 (12%)	120 (26%)	174 (37%)

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF STUDY

Personality psychology and the psychoanalytic theory of object relations have been concerned with bringing to light underlying organizing factors in personality structure which can explain perceived consistency in personality over time. In particular, research on affect and mood has identified, among others, two primary underlying factors - Positive and Negative Emotionality - which contain affect, self-experience, and social behavior components. PEM and NEM tap into independent dimensions, and a mix of high and low traitedness on either dimension has been found to be related to various states of anxiety, depression, and life satisfaction.

Object relations theorists have devised a number of models of personality development. The British School has been concerned with describing structuralization of personality based on the vicissitudes of affiliation with a primary caretaker. Breakdown in that relationship is believed to lead to the development of part-ego and part-object internal structures. The American School moved away from a reified structural system and focused more on internal representations of self and others. These representations are held to be interpersonal schema, with self-affect-other components. Themes of separation and

individuation versus merger, and concern with the capacity for empathy, predominate in the American School.

Contributions from developmental psychology, social cognition research, and social psychology support the idea that personality development is related to the formation of fundamental cognitive schema. The time-line of development of various interactional capabilities, such as capacity for ambivalence, differs from that offered by object relations theory. Developmental psychologists locate personality development throughout the life-span, rather than confining it primarily to the first five years of life. Object relations theory has begun to integrate these findings with traditional psychoanalytic theory.

A number of object relations theorists have developed empirical measures for application to projective data, such as the Rorschach, TAT, and Early Memories tests. They believe that projective data provide the most adequate account of an individual's deeply held beliefs about self and others, and patterns of interpersonal relatedness. Among the Rorschach measures, scoring systems primarily focus on the quality of percepts which express human content and human movement. Historically, human movement responses on the Rorschach have been understood to be related to creativity, intelligence, the capacity to delay action, the ability to use fantasy in response to reality

demands, and relatively conscious fantasies about human interaction. Scales that look closely at human content and human movement responses are based on the notion that these responses most adequately reflect internal object relations schema.

Many of the object relations scales for the Rorschach include a measure of affective tone (motivational valuation) of responses. Malevolent content is thought to reflect expectations that the world is a dangerous place, and that interpersonal relations are likely to be depriving or destructive. It is believed to be related to disruption in early object relations, leading to psychopathological manifestations such as borderline personality disorder. Benevolence is thought to reflect a more mature capacity to view interpersonal relationships as positive and constructive.

In general, empirical research has scored motivational valuation on a bipolar continuum, with the polar ends as benevolence and malevolence. Schaid and Hunter, in their studies on motivational valuation, correlated their findings on the Rorschach with Tellegen's measure of Positive and Negative Emotionality. Their studies are in line with the current trend in object relations research to integrate findings from other domains of psychological inquiry with psychoanalytic theory.

The purpose of this study is to determine if benevolent and malevolent percepts reflect relatively independent dimensions rather than a singular bipolar dimension, as Tellegen's orthogonal higher order factors of Positive and Negative Emotionality might suggest. To this end, the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale was developed. If benevolent content on the Rorschach corresponds to PEM, and malevolent content correlates with NEM, then motivational valuation on the Rorschach may tap into the same underlying personality dimensions, and may be viewed as a very different measure of a similar construct. There may also be implications for the object relational perspective on affect tone of the interpersonal world.

This study predicts that Benevolence will be positively correlated with Positive Emotionality, and Malevolence will be positively correlated with Negative Emotionality. It also predicts that benevolent and malevolent Rorschach percepts will be relatively independent of each other, with little or no correlation.

CHAPTER III

METHOD

SUBJECTS

The subjects were male and female undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Tennessee in the College Scholars, Honors Physics, and Honors Chemistry programs. All of the students excelled academically as measured by standardized tests such as SAT and ACT, and by high school grade point average. As undergraduate students, they were enrolled in academically accelerated programs in their respective disciplines. The subjects were invited to participate in a voluntary research project studying the personality dynamics of psychologically healthy, high-achieving undergraduate college students. The project included a number of paper and pencil tests, two projective tests, and an interview.

A sample size of 100 was chosen randomly from a pool of over 200 subjects. According to Cohen (1992), a sample size of 100 is adequate to detect a medium effect size at power equal to .80 for alpha set at .05. Subjects excluded from the study included those who exceeded a cut-off criterion on the Cornell Index (described in greater detail

below), and those whose records were used to establish interrater reliability for the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale.

INSTRUMENTS

Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire - MPQ

The Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire (MPQ) is a factor-analytically derived personality test developed by Tellegen (1982). It is a paper and pencil test consisting of 300 true-false self-report items. It identifies eleven primary and three second-order factors as well-defined dimensions. The eleven primary dimensions consist of the following: Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, Stress Reaction, Alienation, Aggression, Control versus Impulsivity, Harm Avoidance, Traditionalism, and Absorption. Content summaries of each primary dimension are given in Table 4.

The three higher-order factors are: Positive Emotionality, Negative Emotionality, and Constraint. PEM and NEM are orthogonally related. Positive Emotionality is most closely associated with the dimensions of Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption. Negative Emotionality is most strongly related to the dimensions of Stress Reaction, Alienation, Aggression, and Absorption. The fact that both PEM and NEM

Table 4
Content Summaries of the 11 Primary MPQ Scales

Scale	Self-Descriptors of High Scorers	Self-Descriptors of Low Scorers
1. Well Being	Has a cheerful, happy disposition; feels good about self; sees a bright future ahead, is an optimist, lives an interesting, exciting life, enjoys the things he or she is doing.	Is not a naturally cheerful person, is seldom really happy; does not seem to experience a lot of excitement and fun in life.
2. Social Potency	Is forceful and decisive; persuasive and likes to influence others; enjoys or would enjoy leadership roles; enjoys being noticed, being the center of attention.	Prefers others to take charge and make decisions; does not like to persuade others; does not aspire to leadership; does not enjoy being the center of attention.
3. Achievement	Works hard, drives self, enjoys working hard; welcomes difficult and demanding tasks; persists where others give up; is ambitious, puts work and accomplishment before many other things; sets high standards, is a perfectionist.	Does not like to work harder than is strictly necessary; avoids very demanding projects, sees no point in persisting when success seems unlikely; is not terribly ambitious or a perfectionist.

Table 4 (continued)

Scale	Self-Descriptors of High Scorers	Self-Descriptors of Low Scorers
4. Social Closeness	Is sociable, likes to be with people; takes pleasure in and values close interpersonal ties; is warm and affectionate; turns to others for comfort and help.	Likes to be alone; can do without close ties; is aloof and distant; prefers to work problems out on her (his) own.
5. Stress Reaction	Is tense and nervous; is sensitive, feels vulnerable; is prone to worry and feel anxious; is irritable and easily upset; has changing moods, can feel miserable without reason, is troubled by feelings of guilt and unworthiness.	Does not feel vulnerable; can put fears and worries out of her (his) mind; quickly gets over upsetting experiences; is not troubled by emotional turmoil or guilt feelings.
6. Alienation	Believes that others wish her (him) harm; is a victim of false and nasty rumors; has been betrayed and deceived; feels used by "friends"; feels pushed around; has had a lot of bad luck.	Does not see self as victim; does not feel taken advantage of; feels treated fairly.

Table 4 (continued)

Scale	Self-Descriptors of High Scorers	Self-Descriptors of Low Scorers
7. Aggression	Is physically aggressive; enjoys upsetting and frightening others; enjoys scenes of violence (fights, violent movies); victimizes others for own advantage; will retaliate, is vindictive.	Is not violent; does not enjoy others' distress; does not like to witness physical aggression; will not take advantage of others; would rather turn the other cheek than seek revenge.
8. Control vs. Impulsivity	Is reflective; is cautious, careful, plodding; is rational, sensible, level-headed; likes to plan his (her) activities in detail.	Is impulsive and spontaneous; can be reckless and careless; makes no detailed plans, preferring to "play things by ear".
9. Harm Avoidance	Does not or would not enjoy: participating in dangerous adventures or activities (e.g., skydiving); being in some natural disaster (e.g., a forest fire); being caught in a sudden and dangerous emergency (e.g., a hold-up); deliberately risking serious bodily injury (e.g., riding a runaway horse). Instead, prefers safer activities and experiences, even if they are tedious or aggravating.	Does or would enjoy dangerous and exciting experiences and activities; prefers these over safer ones that are tedious or aggravating.

Table 4 (continued)

Scale	Self-Descriptors of High Scorers	Self-Descriptors of Low Scorers
10. Traditionalism	Endorses high moral standards; endorses religious values and institutions; expresses positive regard for parents; endorses strict child-rearing practices; values conventional property and a good reputation; opposes rebelliousness and unrestricted freedom of expression; condemns selfish disregard of others.	Does not belabor the importance of high morals; considers traditional religion outdated; does not believe in punitive discipline; is not prudish or very concerned over what is "proper"; sees value in rebelliousness and free expression; does not reject selfishness.
11. Absorption	Is responsive to evocative sights and sounds (e.g., a sunset); is readily captured by entrancing stimuli (e.g., overpowering music); tends to think in images; has "crossmodal" experiences, including synesthesia (e.g., sounds evoke color experiences); is capable of vivid and compelling imaginings; can vividly re-experience the past; becomes deeply immersed in own thoughts and imaginings; experiences episodes of expanded (e.g., ESP-like) awareness; experiences states of altered awareness; (e.g., "stepping outside oneself").	Is not easily caught up in sensory and imaginative experiences; does not readily relinquish a realistic frame of reference.

Source: Tellegen, A. (1982) Brief Manual for the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire. Unpublished manuscript, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

are related to Absorption is a reflection of the strong emotional responsivity component of the Absorption dimension. Constraint is most strongly related to the dimensions of Control, Harm Avoidance, and Traditionalism. See Table 5 for complete analysis.

Rorschach Inkblot Test

The Rorschach Inkblot Test is a projective test consisting of ten ambiguous inkblots. Five of the inkblots are achromatic, two are a mix of achromatic and chromatic elements, and three consist of a blend of chromatic elements. Each card is administered one at a time to an individual by an experienced test administrator. The respondent is instructed to report to the examiner everything seen on each card during an initial free association phase. These responses (percepts) are further elaborated upon by the respondent during a secondary inquiry phase. Later, the examiner scores the respondent's percepts and elaboration according to the rules of one of the scoring systems available for analysis of Rorschach protocols.

The Burstein-Loucks Scoring System for the Rorschach (1989) includes a section on Interpersonal Expectations. This section is concerned with delineation of the respondent's expectations about the interpersonal realm, as

Table 5

Higher Order Factor Analysis of MPQ Scales

	Labeled Factors		
	PEM	NEM	CON
Well-being	60	-16	-07
Social Potency	50	03	-32
Achievement	34	-05	06
Social Closeness	37	-16	04
Stress Reaction	-17	61	08
Alienation	-09	57	08
Aggression	01	49	-26
Control	-05	-29	42
Harm Avoidance	-13	-04	47
Traditionalism	02	08	44
Absorption	35	32	-16

Note: PEM = Positive Emotionality;
 NEM = Negative Emotionality;
 CON = Constraint
 Loadings > |.30| are shown in boldface.
 Decimal points are omitted.

Source: Tellegen, A. (1982) Brief Manual for the
 Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire.
 Unpublished manuscript, University of Minnesota,
 Minneapolis.

well as his/her perceptions about the environment in general. This scoring system employs a category called Motivational Valuation to encode the affect tone of the object world presented by the individual in his/her Rorschach responses. Each response is coded as malevolent, neutral, or benevolent, and are categorized as having either explicit or implicit motivational valuation. Explicit motivational valuation encodes responses mentioning human movement or human emotion, and reflect conscious or preconscious ideas about the interpersonal world. Implicit valuation relates to the affective tone of the non-interpersonal world, which may also reflect unconscious expectations about the environment as it is experienced in an interpersonal context.

Revised Motivational Valuation Scale

The Revised Motivational Valuation Scale is a scale which assesses malevolent and benevolent affect tone of Rorschach percepts. Benevolence and Malevolence are treated as two independent dimensions, and each Rorschach percept is ranked on a 4 point rating scale for each dimension (Benevolence and Malevolence). Both explicit and implicit responses are rated. A full discussion of the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale can be found in Chapter II.

Cornell Index

The Cornell Index is a self-report measure containing 101 true-false questions about the experience of psychological and psychosomatic problems. It was developed during World War II to assess large groups of people for psychiatric difficulties. It was used in the current study as a broad screening measure of basic psychological health.

PROCEDURES

Initial Investigation

Students from the Honors Physics, Honors Chemistry, and College Scholars programs were invited by letter to participate in a voluntary research project studying the personality attributes of high-achieving young adults. Each student participated in a number of personality measures, including the Rorschach Inkblot Test, the Cornell Index, and the Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire. The measures were administered in two sessions as close together in time as was feasible, usually within two weeks. The initial session was a group testing session in which each participant completed several paper and pencil tests, including the Multidimensional Personality

Questionnaire, and a projective test (Van Lennep), which required the subject to write a story after brief exposure to a set of four pictures. The second session consisted of an individual administration of the Rorschach and a brief interview. Participants in the study were offered a feedback session regarding their test results.

The Multidimensional Personality Questionnaire and the Cornell Index were scored and entered into the computer by undergraduate students who received academic credit. Those subjects who endorsed more than 12 items on the Cornell Index, or responded positively to any of the three "Stop" items listed below, were eliminated from this study, as both of these criteria were judged to reflect greatest psychological difficulties. The three "Stop" items on the Cornell are as follows: 1) "Did you ever have a mental breakdown?" 2) "Were you ever a patient in a mental hospital?" 3) "Have you been arrested more than three times?"

The Rorschach Inkblot Test was administered and scored according to the Burstein-Loucks (1989) method. Each Rorschach was scored twice by independent scorers, and then the two scorings were reconciled by a third person. One scale included in the Burstein-Loucks Scoring System was the Motivational Valuation scale. In this category, each Rorschach response was coded as explicit or implicit with

regards to motivational valuation. Explicit responses were those which contained reference to human movement or human emotion. These included humans, animals, or inanimate objects engaged in movement or emotion typical of human beings, such as dancing or smiling. Implicit responses contained reference to animals, inanimate objects, and human content which excluded human movement and emotion. The present study incorporated the above-described scoring system of explicit and implicit percepts, which was entered into the computer by undergraduate students who received academic credit.

Each Rorschach percept was then scored on the dimensions of Benevolence and Malevolence by two experienced raters according to the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale. Each rater was an advanced graduate student in clinical psychology, with much experience using the Burstein-Loucks Rorschach Scoring System. They had also worked together on an expansion of the Burstein-Loucks bipolar motivational valuation scale (Hunter, 1994). Each rater scored half of the data independently after having achieved an interrater reliability correlation exceeding .85.

Interrater reliability was obtained in the following way. Protocols were randomly chosen from the data pool and scored one at a time independently by each rater. A

clinically-informed, intuitive approach was used in the categorization of percepts. Discrepancies in scoring were compared and reconciled for each protocol until the interrater reliability correlation exceeded .85 for three protocols in a row. These protocols were then excluded from the present study. Results are given in Table 6. The correlation coefficients for the first three protocols were .93, .90, and .88. It was decided that interrater reliability was sufficiently high to proceed with scoring the rest of the data. Midway through the scoring process, we checked interrater reliability for two protocols to ensure that there had been no scoring drift. Each person scored the other's last-scored protocol. Correlation coefficients for the two midway protocols were .88 and .92. At the end of the study, we scored each rater's last-scored protocol to ascertain if interrater reliability was still high. Correlation coefficients for the last two protocols were .94 and .96. Interrater reliability remained high throughout the present study.

Each protocol received a summed score for each of the following categories: Explicit Benevolence, Implicit Benevolence, Explicit Malevolence, and Implicit Malevolence. These scores were then entered into the computer by the present author. Summary Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence scores (combining Explicit and

Table 6
Interrater Reliability
Revised Motivational Valuation Scale

Batch #	Exact	Within One	Correlation
1	86%	97%	.93
2	82%	97%	.90
3	83%	98%	.88
Midway:	78%	98%	.88
	88%	98%	.92
End:	85%	100%	.94
	88%	100%	.96

Implicit scores) were obtained by computer program. On each record, Total, Explicit, and Implicit Benevolence scores and Total, Explicit, and Implicit Malevolence scores were divided by number of responses to correct for variable response rates on the Rorschach protocols. These corrected scores were then used in all statistical computations.

Secondary Investigation

After examination of the results of the initial investigation, a secondary analysis was undertaken to examine correlations between Rorschach variables and MPQ Content Scales (11 primary dimensions of the MPQ). The same subjects and instruments were used as in the initial investigation, and correlation coefficients were computed for Rorschach variables and MPQ variables.

STATISTICAL PROCEDURE

Spearman's rank order correlation technique was chosen as the statistical procedure for all analyses (one-tailed, alpha set at .05) because the data were not normally distributed and because the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale is an ordinal measure.

HYPOTHESES

Initial Investigation

I. Hypotheses About Correlations Between Rorschach Variables and MPQ Variables

It is hypothesized: 1.a.) Total Benevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Positive Emotionality. 1.b.) Explicit Benevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Positive Emotionality. 1.c.) Implicit Benevolence will positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Positive Emotionality.

2.a.) Total Malevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Negative Emotionality. 2.b.) Explicit Malevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Negative Emotionality. 2.c.) Implicit Malevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Negative Emotionality.

3.a.) There will be no correlation between Total Benevolence and Negative Emotionality. 3.b.) There will be no correlation between Explicit Benevolence and Negative

Emotionality. 3.c.) There will be no correlation between Implicit Benevolence and Negative Emotionality.

4.a.) There will be no correlation between Total Malevolence and Positive Emotionality. 4.b.) There will be no correlation between Explicit Malevolence and Positive Emotionality. 4.c.) There will be no correlation between Implicit Malevolence and Positive Emotionality.

II. Hypotheses About Correlations Among Rorschach Variables

It is hypothesized: 1.) There will be no correlation between Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence.

2.) There will be no correlation between Explicit Benevolence and Explicit Malevolence.

3.) There will be no correlation between Implicit Benevolence and Implicit Malevolence.

Secondary Investigation

Hypotheses About Correlations Between Rorschach Variables and MPQ Primary Dimensions

It is hypothesized: 1.a.) Total Benevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness,

and Absorption. 1. b.) Explicit Benevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption. 1.c.) Implicit Benevolence will be positively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption.

2.a.) There will be no correlation between Total Malevolence and any of the eleven MPQ dimensions. 2.b.) There will be no correlation between Explicit Malevolence and any of the eleven MPQ dimensions. 2.c.) Implicit Malevolence will be negatively correlated at the .05 level of significance with Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption.

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Test scores on Positive Emotionality; Negative Emotionality; Explicit, Implicit, and Total Benevolence; and Explicit, Implicit, and Total Malevolence were obtained from 100 subjects. Benevolence and Malevolence scores for each protocol were corrected for number of responses by dividing the summed scores by R to control for variable number of responses per record. As the data were not normally distributed, and the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale is an ordinal scale, the Spearman rank order correlation technique was chosen as the index of strength of the relationships among all the variables. Correlation coefficients were determined for PEM, NEM, the three indices of Benevolence, and the three indices of Malevolence. The Spearman correlation matrix is shown in Table 7.

In regard to the hypotheses about correlations between Rorschach and MPQ variables, seven of the hypotheses were confirmed and five were not confirmed. See Table 8 for a descriptive listing. The correlations between Total, Explicit, and Implicit Benevolence and PEM were positive

Table 7
Intercorrelations Among Rorschach and MPQ Variables

	PEM	NEM	ExBnv	ImBnv	Total Bnv	Ex Mal	ImMal	Total Mal
PEM		0.0583 (p=.282)	0.1921 (p=.028)	0.1760 (p=.040)	0.3156 (p=.001)	0.1062 (p=.146)	-0.1889 (p=.030)	-0.1138 (p=.130)
NEM			0.0604 (p=.275)	0.1094 (p=.139)	0.1965 (p=.025)	0.0922 (p=.181)	0.0690 (p=.248)	0.1355 (p=.089)
ExBnv				-0.3403 (p=.000)	0.5701 (p=.000)	0.6690 (p=.000)	-0.4585 (p=.000)	0.0998 (p=.162)
ImBnv					0.5084 (p=.000)	-0.3985 (p=.000)	-0.0344 (p=.367)	-0.3544 (p=.000)
Total Bnv						0.2255 (p=.012)	-0.4873 (p=.000)	-0.2456 (p=.007)
ExMal							-0.2574 (p=.005)	0.5207 (p=.000)
ImMal								0.6249 (p=.000)
Total Mal								

PEM = Positive Emotionality
ExBnv = Explicit Benevolence/R
ImBnv = Implicit Benevolence/R
Total Bnv = Total Explicit and
Implicit Benevolence/R

NEM = Negative Emotionality
ExMal = Explicit Malevolence/R
ImMal = Implicit Malevolence/R
Total Mal = Total Explicit and Implicit
Malevolence/R

Table 8

Hypotheses About Correlations Between Rorschach and MPQ Variables

Hypotheses		Results	
1. a. Total Bnv will be positively correlated with PEM		.3156, $p=.001$	confirmed
b. ExBnv will be positively correlated with PEM		.1921, $p=.028$	confirmed
c. ImBnv will be positively correlated with PEM		.1760, $p=.040$	confirmed
2. a. Total Mal will be positively correlated with NEM		.1355, $p=.089$	not confirmed
b. ExMal will be positively correlated with NEM		.0922, $p=.181$	not confirmed
c. ImMal will be positively correlated with NEM		.0690, $p=.248$	not confirmed
3. a. No correlation between Total Bnv and NEM		.1965, $p=.025$	not confirmed
b. No correlation between ExBnv and NEM		.0604, $p=.275$	confirmed
c. No correlation between ImBnv and NEM		.1094, $p=.139$	confirmed
4. a. No correlation between Total Mal and PEM		-.1138, $p=.130$	confirmed
b. No correlation between ExMal and PEM		.1062, $p=.146$	confirmed
c. No correlation between ImMal and PEM		-.1889, $p=.030$	not confirmed

PEM = Positive Emotionality
 ExBnv = Explicit Benevolence/R
 ImBnv = Implicit Benevolence/R
 Total Bnv = Total Explicit and Implicit
 Benevolence/R

NEM = Negative Emotionality
 ExMal = Explicit Malevolence/R
 ImMal = Implicit Malevolence/R
 Total Mal = Total Explicit
 Malevolence/R

(.3156, .1921, and .1760) and statistically significant beyond the .05 level. The correlations between Total, Explicit, and Implicit Malevolence and NEM (.1355, .0922, and .0690) were not statistically significant.

The correlation between Total Benevolence and NEM was positive (.1965), and statistically significant beyond the .05 level. The correlations between Explicit and Implicit Benevolence and NEM (.0640 and .1094) were not significant beyond the .05 level. Neither the correlation between Total Malevolence and PEM (-.1138), and between Explicit Malevolence and PEM (.1062) were statistically significant. The correlation between Implicit Malevolence and PEM was negative (-.1889) and significant beyond the .05 level.

In regard to the hypotheses about correlations among the Rorschach variables, two hypotheses were confirmed, and one was not confirmed. See Table 9 for a descriptive listing. The correlation between Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence was negative (-.2456), and the correlation between Explicit Benevolence and Explicit Malevolence was positive (.6690). Both correlations were significant beyond the .05 level. Implicit Benevolence and Implicit Malevolence were negatively correlated (-.0344) and the correlation was not statistically significant.

Table 9

Hypotheses About Correlations Among Rorschach Variables

Hypotheses		Results
1. a. No correlation between Total Bnv and Total Mal		-.2456, $p=.007$ not confirmed
b. No correlation between ExBnv and ExMal		.6690, $p=.000$ not confirmed
c. No correlation between ImBnv and ImMal		-.0344, $p=.367$ confirmed

ExBnv = Explicit Benevolence/R

ImBnv = Implicit Benevolence/R

Total Bnv = Total Explicit and Implicit Benevolence/R

ExMal = Explicit Malevolence/R

ImMal = Implicit Malevolence/R

Total Mal = Total Explicit and Implicit Malevolence/R

SECONDARY INVESTIGATION

In order to understand further the relationship between Rorschach variables and the MPQ, a secondary analysis was undertaken to examine correlations between Rorschach variables and MPQ Content Scales (11 primary dimensions of the MPQ). Test scores on all Rorschach variables and on the eleven primary dimensions of the MPQ were obtained for the 100 subjects used in the initial investigation. Spearman rank order correlation coefficients were computed and are shown in Table 10.

Results show that Total Benevolence is positively correlated with Well-being (.1655) and with Absorption (.4256), Explicit Benevolence is negatively correlated with Traditionalism (-.1792) and positively correlated with Absorption (.3479), and Implicit Benevolence is positively correlated with Well-being (.1943) and Achievement (.1887), all beyond the .05 level of statistical significance. Implicit Malevolence is positively correlated with Alienation (.2207) beyond the .05 level of significance, and Explicit Malevolence is not significantly correlated with any of the dimensions. Total Malevolence is negatively correlated with Social Closeness (-.1790), and positively correlated with Alienation (.2391), both beyond the .05 level of statistical significance.

Table 10

Correlations Between MPQ Content Scales and
Rorschach Variables

	Ex Bnv	Ex Mal	Im Bnv	Im Mal	Total Bnv	Total Mal
Well Being	.0475 (p=.320)	.0274 (p=.393)	.1943 (p=.026)	-.1168 (p=.124)	.1655 (p=.050)	-.1290 (p=.100)
Social Potency	.1004 (p=.160)	.0251 (p=.402)	-.0190 (p=.426)	.0231 (p=.410)	.0979 (p=.166)	.0403 (p=.345)
Achievement	.0180 (p=.429)	.0115 (p=.455)	.1887 (p=.030)	-.1295 (p=.100)	.1579 (p=.058)	-.1423 (p=.079)
Social Closeness	.1267 (p=.104)	-.0225 (p=.412)	.0362 (p=.360)	-.1621 (p=.054)	.1229 (p=.112)	-.1790 (p=.037)
Stress Reaction	.0777 (p=.221)	.0926 (p=.180)	.0485 (p=.316)	-.0553 (p=.293)	.1424 (p=.079)	-.0157 (p=.438)
Alienation	.0046 (p=.482)	.0455 (p=.327)	.0451 (p=.328)	.2207 (p=.014)	.0683 (p=.250)	.2391 (p=.008)
Aggression	-.0713 (p=.240)	.0028 (p=.489)	.1422 (p=.079)	.0851 (p=.200)	.0880 (p=.192)	.0888 (p=.190)
Control vs. Impulsivity	-.1129 (p=.132)	-.0453 (p=.327)	-.0126 (p=.451)	.0887 (p=.190)	-.1252 (p=.107)	.0721 (p=.238)
Harm Avoidance	-.0327 (p=.373)	-.0238 (p=.407)	-.0527 (p=.301)	.0607 (p=.274)	-.0592 (p=.279)	.0092 (p=.464)
Traditionalism	-.1792 (p=.037)	.0315 (p=.378)	-.0071 (p=.472)	-.0032 (p=.488)	-.1564 (p=.060)	.0494 (p=.313)
Absorption	.3479 (p=.000)	.1404 (p=.082)	.1136 (p=.130)	-.1517 (p=.066)	.4256 (p=.000)	.0039 (p=.485)

Note: Values of $p < .05$ shown in boldface.

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION

INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Rorschach and MPQ Variables

The first set of hypotheses of this study was concerned with the relationships between the Rorschach motivational valuation variables and the MPQ higher order factors of Positive and Negative Emotionality. It was thought that significant positive correlations between Benevolence and PEM, and between Malevolence and NEM, would provide support for the contention that both the Rorschach measure of affect tone and the MPQ measures of trait affectivity might tap into similar underlying personality dimensions.

This study found that all indices of Benevolence were positively correlated with Positive Emotionality, suggesting that these two measures may be to some degree sampling the same underlying personality dimension. As the highest correlation was .3156, it appears that there is still considerable divergence between the two measures. None of the indices of Malevolence were correlated with

Negative Emotionality, indicating little association between these two measures.

Interestingly, Total Benevolence was weakly positively correlated with NEM (.1965), but neither Explicit nor Implicit Benevolence showed any correlation with NEM. As Total Benevolence is positively correlated with both PEM and NEM, it is possible that Total Benevolence is related to the common engagement-with-the-world dimension of PEM and NEM, be it pleasurable or unpleasurable. A constituent of this dimension would be emotional responsivity to the environment, which is a significant part of the primary content scale of Absorption, with which both PEM and NEM are related.

Only one of the indices of Malevolence correlated with either PEM or NEM. Implicit Malevolence was negatively correlated with PEM, suggesting that increased level of negative expectations about the non-interpersonal world is related to low PEM. Low PEM has been associated with unpleasurable disengagement, which includes states of lethargy, fatigue, and sadness. Watson et. al. (1988) found that depression was related to a mix of high Negative Affectivity and low Positive Affectivity. It is possible that Implicit Malevolence assesses negative emotional states, as well as unpleasurable disengagement.

It is puzzling that there was no significant degree of association between any index of Malevolence and NEM, as NEM is thought to be related to unpleasurable engagement with the world, and object relations theorists posit that malevolent affect tone is reflective of negative expectations of interpersonal relationships. It appears that the Rorschach motivational valuation variables are measuring something a bit different than the MPQ variables. It is possible that the Rorschach assesses interpersonal expectations more directly than does the MPQ, while the MPQ focuses more closely on trait emotionality, and only secondarily on interpersonal relationships.

It is important to note that even though the correlations between the Rorschach variables and the MPQ were relatively low, they can be considered meaningful in the sense that the two measures in question were developed from very different starting points, yet show some convergence in assessment. The Rorschach scoring system used in this study is based on psychoanalytic theory, and uses a clinically-informed, intuitive approach to scoring. The MPQ is a factor-analytically derived personality measure which has an atheoretical base. The positive correlations between the Benevolence variables and PEM indicate that both personality tests are generally assessing a similar personality domain, and may be sampling

similar cognitive representations or schema about pleasurable engagement with the world.

A secondary analysis was undertaken to examine in greater detail the relationships of Benevolence-Malevolence with the MPQ. It was hoped that by looking at the degree of association between the Rorschach variables and the eleven content scales on the MPQ, from which the higher order factors PEM and NEM were derived, a clearer understanding of their commonalities might be obtained. Discussion of the results of this study is provided below, after a closer look at the interrelationships among the Rorschach variables.

Relationships Among Rorschach Variables

The second set of hypotheses was concerned with the correlations among the Rorschach variables, looking for relative independence between Benevolence and Malevolence. Although object relations theory suggests that there is a bipolar relationship between Benevolence and Malevolence, the research on Positive and Negative Emotionality leads to the supposition that affect tone may map onto two relatively independent dimensions as well.

The results of this study found that Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence were negatively correlated ($-.2456$), lending some support to the notion that affect tone may be

bipolar in nature rather than consisting of two separate dimensions. The correlation was relatively low, however, indicating some degree of divergence.

When Explicit and Implicit measures were considered separately, however, there were some striking results. Explicit Benevolence and Explicit Malevolence were found to be moderately positively correlated (.6690), and this was the strongest correlation of the study. By contrast, Implicit Benevolence and Implicit Malevolence showed little degree of association. It is apparent that explicit and implicit responses are quite different in nature.

Explicit responses consist of those which contain reference to human movement and/or human emotion. As such, they are thought to be reflective of more explicitly conscious fantasies about interpersonal relationships. Human movement responses have historically been linked with creativity, intelligence, the capacity to delay action, and fantasy use, and have traditionally been given a special place in Rorschach interpretation.

Implicit responses, on the other hand, are believed to express an individual's expectations about the non-interpersonal world. Even though an individual learns about the world while embedded in an interpersonal matrix, most knowledge is only implicitly connected with human

relationships. Implicit responses are believed to address this large domain of non-relational experience.

The difference in pattern between explicit and implicit responses in this study supports the traditional notion that human movement responses differ in kind from other types of responses, but does not provide a definitive statement about what exactly "explicitness" and "implicitness" express. Further research is necessary to validate the construct that explicit human responses correlate with conscious fantasies about interpersonal relationships.

Rorschach measurements of object relations have based their bipolar conception of Benevolence-Malevolence upon the interpretation of explicit human responses, rather than upon all responses in general, (except for Urist). The results of this study indicate that, when considering explicit human responses, Benevolence and Malevolence are positively correlated, rather than negatively correlated (bipolar). Greater numbers of human movement/emotion responses generate an increase in both Benevolent and Malevolent content.

It appears that explicitness is the salient feature rather than whether the response is Benevolent or Malevolent in tone. It is possible that individuals who give more explicit responses in general are able to present

a more balanced view of things by representing both positive and negative expectations about the interpersonal world at the same time. This could be likened to the capacity to tolerate ambivalence, which object relations theorists believe to be a sign of mature psychological development.

One reason for the difference in the findings of this study and that of other object relations measures may be that other object relations scales for the Rorschach focus on the affective quality of human movement as benevolent or malevolent, while the Revised Motivational Valuation Scale rates all components of the percept for affect tone. For example, if two human figures were described as performing a destructive behavior in a highly benevolent setting, such as Disneyland, the response would be coded on the Revised Motivational Valuation scale as both highly benevolent and highly malevolent, even though the human movement content was malevolent in nature. The Revised Motivational Valuation Scale does not differentiate pure human movement/emotion elements from the setting or context in which they are described. While this could be viewed as a contamination of "explicitness" with "implicit" elements, it is also likely that the context in which human movement is perceived contains important information about the individual's interpersonal fantasies, and may differ in

nature from exclusively implicit responses. Further research would be needed to examine this proposition more closely.

Another important consideration for future research would be the study of the relationship of form quality (accurate versus inaccurate perception of form) to Explicit/Implicit Benevolence and Malevolence. Accurate form quality is generally thought to reflect better reality contact (see Exner, 1986, for a review of the literature), and it would be particularly interesting to examine the interplay between form quality and motivational valuation. It is possible that while Explicit Benevolence and Explicit Malevolence are positively correlated, there may be dramatic differences in accurate perception of form. This is believed to be an important aspect of more highly developed object relations, and could possibly qualify our understanding of the positive correlation between Explicit Benevolence and Malevolence found in this study.

The fact that Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence were negatively correlated is particularly interesting in view of the findings on Explicit and Implicit responses. Explicit Benevolence and Explicit Malevolence are moderately positively correlated, while Implicit Benevolence and Implicit Malevolence show little degree of association. Since Total Benevolence and Total Malevolence

are the sum of both explicit and implicit values, they provide a measure of overall affective tone on each measure of motivational valuation. It seems that when expectations about interpersonal relationships and the non-interpersonal world are taken together, overall affective tone is somewhat bipolar in nature.

The secondary investigation, undertaken to describe in greater detail the relationships between the Rorschach variables and the MPQ, also sheds light on the nature of the Rorschach variables of Benevolence and Malevolence, and explicitness and implicitness. The results of this secondary analysis are discussed below.

SECONDARY INVESTIGATION

It was hypothesized that each measure of Benevolence (Total, Explicit, and Implicit) would be positively correlated with the five content scales of the MPQ most highly related to the higher order factor of Positive Emotionality. These content scales are Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption. (For content summaries of the MPQ primary scales, see Table 1.)

Total Benevolence was positively correlated (.4256) with Absorption, and showed a weak association with

Well-being. The Absorption scale contains content which includes emotional responsivity to environmental stimuli, experience of altered awareness, and vivid imagination. Well-being is characterized by optimism, enjoyment with present endeavors, cheerfulness, and satisfaction with self. Explicit Benevolence was similarly associated with Absorption, but not with Well-being. It was also weakly negatively correlated with Traditionalism. Those who score low on Traditionalism do not endorse strong beliefs about morality, religious values, or conventionality, and see value in freedom of expression. Implicit Benevolence was weakly associated with both Well-being and Achievement. Achievement reflects a concern with, and enjoyment of, hard work, persistence, perfectionism, and ambition. These results provide further evidence that Explicit Benevolence and Implicit Benevolence are sampling different domains.

It is not surprising that Explicit Benevolence is positively correlated with Absorption, as the human movement component of "explicitness" has historically been linked with creativity and fantasy production. In a similar vein, the negative correlation with Traditionalism's focus on social conventionality and restriction of freedom of expression is consonant with an emphasis on creative, emotional responsivity and expression.

Implicit Benevolence was not related to Absorption, but was associated with the optimistic outlook found in the Well-being scale, and with the hard work and emphasis on accomplishment of the Achievement scale. It is possible that Implicit Benevolence taps into themes of mastery and enjoyment found in the non-interpersonal world, as might be obtained through work and educational pursuits.

Total Benevolence combines the themes found in the Explicit and Implicit scales, showing a positive association with creativity, emotional responsivity, and fantasy production, as well as with a sense of emotional well-being and optimism. The positive correlation of Total Benevolence with both PEM and NEM is most likely due to the positive correlation of Benevolence with Absorption. This supports the notion that Total Benevolence expresses some degree of positive emotional engagement with the world.

Interestingly, none of the above-mentioned results include themes primarily related to interpersonal functioning. It is possible that measures of Benevolence reflect more adequately ideas about the self than about interpersonal interactions, and as such, do not provide much information about interpersonal expectations.

The hypotheses about Malevolence predicted that there would be no correlations between the eleven MPQ primary content scales and Total Malevolence and Explicit

Malevolence. Because of the negative correlation between Implicit Malevolence and PEM, it was predicted that Implicit Malevolence would negatively correlate with Well-being, Social Potency, Achievement, Social Closeness, and Absorption.

The results show that both Implicit Malevolence and Total Malevolence were positively associated with Alienation. Total Malevolence was also negatively associated with Social Closeness. The Alienation scale includes content of seeing oneself as a victim, believing that others wish one harm, and of feeling betrayed and deceived. Low scores on Social Closeness include themes of interpersonal aloofness and distance, asociability, and preference for being alone. It appears that among the Rorschach variables, Implicit Malevolence and Total Malevolence provide the best measures of negative expectations about interpersonal relationships.

This is an interesting finding, as "implicitness" is believed to be related to the non-interpersonal world. As noted previously, Implicit Benevolence and Implicit Malevolence show little correlation with each other, and this may be part of the reason. Implicit Malevolence is associated with interpersonal themes of rejection and victimization, while Implicit Benevolence seems to be related to non-relational themes such as achievement in

personal endeavor, satisfaction with oneself, and optimism about the future.

Interestingly, Implicit Benevolence is positively correlated with PEM and Implicit Malevolence is negatively correlated with PEM, while not being correlated with each other. As the correlations are quite low, (.1760 and -.1889, respectively), it is likely that the two Implicit measures are mapping onto differing aspects of the PEM variable. It is possible that Implicit Benevolence is related to the positive affective experience aspect of high PEM, while Implicit Malevolence is related to the unpleasurable interpersonal disengagement of low PEM.

Explicit Malevolence did not significantly correlate with any of the eleven MPQ content scales. Its closest approach to a significant correlation was with Absorption (.1404, $p=.082$). Based on the results of this study, Explicit Malevolence appears to be a relatively unknown quantity. Its only significant correlation was with Explicit Benevolence. It is possible that explicit human movement/emotion responses provide a greater indication of an individual's quality of imagination and fantasy production than of their interpersonal expectations. Implicit Malevolence and overall Malevolent affect tone may be more directly related to a measure of object relations.

It would be quite useful to undertake construct validation research concerning the nature of "explicitness" and "implicitness." The results of this study suggest that explicit and implicit responses may not be measuring traditionally expected domains. Explicit responses do not appear to sample interpersonal expectations, but rather, seem to reflect an individual's emotional responsivity to the environment, which is expressed through imagination and fantasy production. It also appears that "implicitness" is not a unitary dimension. The affect tone of implicit responses appears to be an important qualifier to their interpretation, as Implicit Benevolence seems related to the non-relational world, and Implicit Malevolence to negative expectations about interpersonal relationships. Future research would help to clarify some of these issues, and may add important information about how individuals organize cognitive representations about interpersonal relationships and the environment.

Generally it appears that the results of this study support the proposition that two very different measures of personality structure can tap into similar dimensions. While the correlations are relatively low between the Rorschach variables and the MPQ, these results can be considered a relatively successful foray into the examination of personality from two separate domains of

psychological research. There appears to be heuristic value in collaborative effort among the various subdomains of psychological endeavor. It is hoped that this current trend in psychological research will continue.

Psychoanalytic theory, developmental and social psychology, and social cognition research have much to contribute to the holistic understanding of personality.

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