# A REVISED VERSION OF THE PSYCHOTICISM SCALE 

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#### Abstract

Summary-In view of certain psychometric deficiencies of the original Psychoticism scale, an attempt was made to improve the scale by adding new items. It was attempted to increase the internal reliability of the scale, improve the shape of the distribution and increase the mean and variance score. Two different studies are discussed. Reliabilities are now somewhat improved, distributions are closer to normal and mean scores are higher than on the old scale. Four new short 12 -item scales for the measurement of $\mathbf{P}, \mathrm{E}$, N and $\mathbf{L}$ are also given.


## INTRODUCTION

The publication of Psychoticism as a Dimension of Personality (Eysenck and Eysenck, 1976) and the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ; Eysenck and Eysenck, 1975) was accompanied by numerous criticisms of the psychometric properties of the P scale (Block, 1977a, b; Bishop, 1977), as well as other aspects of the concept itself; some of these were answered by Claridge and Birchall (1978), Eysenck (1977) and Eysenck and Eysenck (1977). A summary of the available evidence to date on all the points has been presented by Claridge (1981), and there is no intention here to discuss these issues any further. Our intention is to try and improve what are undoubtedly psychometric weaknesses in the P scale of the EPQ, by designing new items, based on the development of the original concept, testing the relevance of these items by new factor-analytic studies and construct improved questionnaires in the hope of improving upon the original version of the $P$ scale.
There are three major faults in the original $P$ scale which, while not apparently interfering too much with its validity in group comparisons, made individual application rather hazardous. The first of these faults is the low reliability of the scale, 0.74 for males and 0.68 for females. (These are internal reliabilities; test-retest reliabilities are rather higher, viz. 0.83 and 0.71 .) The second fault is the low range of scoring, with means of 3.78 for males and 2.63 for females. The fact that standard deviations were almost identical with means ( 3.09 and 2.36 ) indicates the third fault, namely the grossly skewed distribution of scores, which almost resembled a Poissonian distribution. The fact that in spite of these faults the scale was found to behave very consistently and predictably (Claridge, 1981) suggests that the validity was not depressed too much by these psychometric faults, but clearly improvements should be made if possible.

## SAMPLES AND METHODS

Two studies were, in fact, carried out to this end. The first (A) used a 90 -item questionnaire which contained the EPQ P scale plus possible new P items, together with 12 E and 13 N items selected from the EPQ. There were no L-scale items. The sample tested consisted of 384 males and 290 females, whose ages ranged from 17 to 70 yr , their respective age means being $40.01 \pm 14.39$ and $37.99 \pm 14.47$ yr. Sample A was collected by random approach in the street and by house-tohouse circulation of questionnaires.
The second sample (B) used a 117 -item questionnaire which contained all the 90 items of the EPQ plus almost all the possible new $\mathbf{P}$ items used for the questionnaire of Study A. This sample was collected in a more orthodox manner, with groups of students, teachers and other willing and varied $S$ s being approached to complete the questionnaire and returned by post. There were 408 males and 494 females aged $38.44 \pm 17.67$ and $31.80 \pm 15.84 \mathrm{yr}$, respectively, the range being the same as in Study A.

In both studies the items were intercorrelated separately for males and females and the resulting matrices factor-analysed by principal components. In Study A, three factors were extracted and rotated through Varimax and then Promax, these being identified as P, E and N. In Study B, however, four factors were extracted and were similarly rotated using Direct Oblimin rotation. These were clearly identified as $\mathrm{P}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{N}$ and the L scale.

Both sets of loadings were scrutinized for suitable $P$ items to improve the original scale. Table 1 gives the 32 items which were finally chosen to make up the P scale of the EPQ—Revised (EPQ-R). It will be seen that only the $P$ loadings are given for Sample $A$, but all $P, E, N$ and $L$ loadings are given for Sample B. This is because of the few E and N items in Study A, and the complete absence of $L$ items.

Table 1. Factor loadings on P for Sample A and on P, E. N and L. for Sample B for items on EPQ-R

| No. on 100 -item EPQ-R | MALES |  |  |  |  | FEMALES |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sampie A $(n=290)$ | Sample B$(n=408)$ |  |  |  | Sample A $(n=384)$ |  | Sample B$(n=494)$ |  |  |
|  | P | P | E | N | L | P | P | E | N | L |
| -2 | -0.34 | -0.38 | -0.11 | -0.02 | 0.14 | -0.19 | -0.25 | -0.14 | -0.01 | 0.22 |
| -5 | -0.36 | -0.42 | 0.18 | 0.17 | -0.03 | -0.30 | $-0.32$ | 0.12 | 0.26 | -0.09 |
| -7 | -0.43 | -0.32 | -0.18 | 0.17 | 0.11 | $-0.36$ | $-0.30$ | -0.11 | 0.24 | 0.18 |
| -9 | -0.41 | -0.33 | -0.01 | -0.07 | $-0.02$ | -0.35 | $-0.27$ | -0.06 | -0.04 | -0.02 |
| -12 | -0.31 | -0.47 | 0.05 | 0.15 | -0.02 | -0.15 | -0.26 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.20 |
| -14 | -0.33 | -0.18 | -0.04 | 0.16 | 0.23 | -0.06 | -0.21 | -0.09 | 0.17 | 0.08 |
| -18 | -0.38 | -0.28 | 0.08 | -0.05 | 0.25 | -0.38 | -0.43 | 0.08 | 0.05 | 0.31 |
| -21 | -0.48 | -0.25 | 0.26 | 0.08 | 0.24 | -0.17 | -0.44 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.12 |
| 25 | 0.26 | 0.30 | 0.13 | 0.08 | -0.22 | 0.32 | 0.41 | 0.07 | 0.07 | -0.19 |
| 29 | 0.47 | 0.21 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.22 | 0.51 | 0.39 | -0.02 | -0.11 | -0.11 |
| 30 | 0.46 | 0.30 | 0.03 | 0.08 | -0.01 | 0.24 | 0.32 | 0.17 | 0.18 | 0.16 |
| 34 | 0.31 | 0.29 | 0.11 | 0.25 | 0.11 | 0.32 | 0.28 | 0.11 | 0.25 | 0.15 |
| 37 | 0.40 | 0.37 | 0.20 | 0.03 | -0.10 | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.18 | 0.08 | -0.05 |
| -41 | -0.55 | -0.37 | 0.26 | 0.05 | 0.21 | -0.26 | $-0.44$ | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.18 |
| 42 | 0.26 | 0.25 | 0.12 | 0.18 | -0.17 | 0.42 | 0.39 | 0.08 | -0.01 | -0.14 |
| 48 | 0.33 | 0.43 | -0.04 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.47 | 0.45 | -0.08 | 0.08 | 0.07 |
| 50 | 0.34 | 0.22 | 0.04 | -0.04 | -0.09 | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.06 | -0.06 | -0.01 |
| -54 | -0.46 | -0.37 | 0.36 | $-0.07$ | 0.04 | -0.31 | -0.33 | 0.12 | -0.02 | -0.10 |
| 56 | 0.05 | 0.39 | -0.08 | $-0.03$ | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.34 | 0.02 | 0.18 | 0.31 |
| -59 | -0.53 | -0.42 | -0.12 | 0.17 | 0.09 | -0.34 | -0.39 | -0.09 | 0.10 | -0.02 |
| -64 | -0.27 | -0.19 | -0.07 | 0.04 | 0.09 | -0.22 | -0.32 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.05 |
| -68 | -0.26 | -0.27 | 0.06 | -0.08 | -0.20 | -0.17 | -0.32 | 0.02 | -0.10 | -0.27 |
| 73 | 0.32 | 0.30 | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0.12 | 0.29 | 0.40 | 0.08 | 0.20 | 0.26 |
| 75 | 0.44 | 0.32 | 0.08 | 0.02 | $-0.07$ | 0.35 | 0.30 | 0.08 | $-0.04$ | -0.03 |
| -79 | -0.51 | -0.39 | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.11 | -0.31 | $-0.34$ | -0.06 | -0.04 | 0.11 |
| -81 | -0.27 | -0.27 | -0.16 | -0.05 | 0.27 | -0.20 | $-0.31$ | -0.25 | -0.07 | 0.24 |
| -85 | -0.19 | -0.40 | 0.01 | -0.29 | -0.25 | -0.44 | $-0.20$ | 0.14 | $-0.25$ | -0.10 |
| -88 | -0.50 | -0.19 | 0.11 | -0.02 | 0.26 | -0.46 | -0.37 | 0.07 | 0.08 | 0.19 |
| 91 | 036 | 0.53 | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.09 | 0.36 | 0.44 | 002 | 019 | 0.24 |
| 95 | 0.14 | 0.38 | 0.19 | 0.26 | 0.20 | 0.33 | 0.26 | 0.03 | 0.22 | 0.14 |
| -96 | -0.41 | -0.34 | -0.04 | $-0.05$ | $-0.06$ | $-0.36$ | $-0.38$ | 0.06 | 0.04 | -0.01 |
| -99 | -0.29 | $-0.36$ | $-0.02$ | 0.04 | 0.04 | -0.20 | $-0.14$ | -0.04 | -0.03 | -0.14 |

## RESULTS

Although Sample A were somewhat older than Sample B (especially the females), and the collection of the data was somewhat different, the P -scale means and standard deviations were pooled. These are given, for different age groups, in Table 2 and contain $S$ s from Samples A and B combined for P, but only from Sample B for E, N and L. However, just as a matter of interest, Table 3 gives the actual means and standard deviations on $P$ obtained by each of the age groups in Samples A and B, respectively.

The scoring key on which these mcans werc calculated is given in Table 4, the item numbers referring to questions on the 100 item EPQ-R given in Appendix 1. There are now 32 items on the new $P$ scale, i.e. 7 more than in the EPQ $P$ scale and very slight changes to $E$ and $N$ were made so that the former has 23 and the latter 24 items, leaving $L$ with the original 21 items. The total number of items, therefore, is now 100 .

Table 2. Means and standard deviations of $P, E, N$ and $L$ for different age groups on the EPQ-R

| Age group (yr) | Samples A + B |  |  | Sample B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | P |  |  | E |  |  | N |  | L |  |
|  | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $\bar{X}$ | SD |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 120 | 9.57 | 5.26 | 108 | 15.97 | 5.26 | 11.12 | 5.68 | 5.37 | 4.18 |
| 21-30 | 148 | 8.65 | 4.56 | 64 | 14.50 | 5.64 | 11.08 | 5.37 | 5.53 | 3.39 |
| 31-40 | 117 | 6.69 | 3.58 | 53 | 11.92 | 5.67 | 11.92 | 5.70 | 6.66 | 3.59 |
| 41-50 | 107 | 7.00 | 4.65 | 55 | 11.91 | 5.09 | 11.22 | 5.95 | 7.04 | 3.87 |
| 51-60 | 110 | 5.28 | 3.59 | 69 | 8.94 | 5.75 | 9.43 | 6.27 | 9.14 | 4.29 |
| 61-70 | 91 | 4.87 | 3.55 | 59 | 8.68 | 5.71 | 8.32 | 5.07 | 10.05 | 3.65 |
| Total | 693 | 7.19 | 4.60 | 408 | 12.51 | 6.00 | 10.54 | 5.81 | 7.10 | 4.28 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 203 | 7.06 | 4.11 | 161 | 15.47 | 4.99 | 14.03 | 4.85 | 5.45 | 3.25 |
| 21-30 | 256 | 6.20 | 3.86 | 159 | 14.17 | 4.68 | 12.53 | 4.78 | 6.33 | 3.82 |
| 31-40 | 135 | 5.87 | 3.72 | 38 | 13.55 | 4.93 | 11.71 | 4.94 | 6.79 | 3.74 |
| 41-50 | 109 | 4.62 | 3.05 | 50 | 12.36 | 4.95 | 10.94 | 5.92 | 8.02 | 3.88 |
| 51-60 | 102 | 4.05 | 3.21 | 45 | 13.62 | 5.47 | 11.31 | 5.36 | 8.82 | 3.97 |
| 61-70 | 73 | 4.19 | 3.26 | 41 | 12.15 | 5.08 | 9.98 | 5.51 | 11.20 | 3.09 |
| Total | 878 | 5.73 | 3.85 | 494 | 14.14 | 5.06 | 12.47 | 5.22 | 6.88 | 3.97 |

Table 3. Means and standard deviations for the P scale only for Samples A, B and (A+B) combined

| Age group (yr) | Sample B |  |  | Sample A |  |  | Samples B + A |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 108 | 9.31 | 5.06 | 12 | 11.92 | 6.36 | 120 | 9.57 | 5.26 |
| 21-30 | 64 | 9.08 | 4.63 | 84 | 8.32 | 4.48 | 148 | 8.65 | 4.56 |
| 31-40 | 53 | 7.19 | 3.44 | 64 | 6.27 | 3.64 | 117 | 6.69 | 3.58 |
| 41-50 | 55 | 7.98 | 4.13 | 52 | 5.96 | 4.94 | 107 | 7.00 | 4.65 |
| 51-60 | 69 | 5.71 | 3.85 | 41 | 4.56 | 2.96 | 110 | 5.28 | 3.59 |
| 61-70 | 59 | 5.34 | 3.60 | 32 | 4.00 | 3.28 | 91 | 4.87 | 3.55 |
| Total | 408 | 7.63 | 4.57 | 285 | 6.55 | 4.58 | 693 | 7.19 | 4.60 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 161 | 6.98 | 4.15 | 42 | 7.36 | 3.94 | 203 | 7.06 | 4.11 |
| 21-30 | 159 | 6.30 | 4.16 | 97 | 6.04 | 3.30 | 256 | 6.20 | 3.86 |
| 31-40 | 38 | 6.61 | 3.90 | 97 | 5.58 | 3.61 | 135 | 5.87 | 3.72 |
| 41-50 | 50 | 5.12 | 3.27 | 59 | 4.19 | 2.77 | 109 | 4.62 | 3.05 |
| 51-60 | 45 | 4.80 | 3.16 | 57 | 3.46 | 3.13 | 102 | 4.05 | 3.21 |
| 61-70 | 41 | 5.00 | 3.48 | 32 | 3.16 | 2.61 | 73 | 4.19 | 3.26 |
| Total | 494 | 6.18 | 4.00 | 384 | 5.16 | 3.56 | 878 | 5.73 | 3.85 |

Table 4. Scoring key for the EPQ-R (items numbered as for the 100 -item questionnaire)
(B)

YES: $25,29,30,34,37,42,48,50,56,73,75,91,95$
NO: $2,5,7,9,12,14,18,21,41,54,59,64,68,79,81,85,88,96,99$
$\square$
YES: $1,6,11,16,20,28,36,40,45,51,55,58,61,63,67,69,72,78,90,94$
NO: $24,33,47$

## (1)

YES: $3,8,13,17,22,26,31,35,38,4346,52,60,65,70,74,76,80,83,84,87,92,97,100$
(1)

YES: $15,23,39,62,86,98$
NO 4, 10, 19, 27, 32, 44, 49, 53, 57, 66, 71, 77, 82, 89, 93

It should be mentioned that there were 6 items from the original 25 -item EPQ P scale, which have been omitted from the present revised scale. These were:
"Do you lock up your house carefully at night?"
"Do you believe insurance schemes are a good idea?"
"Do people who drive carefully annoy you?"
"When you catch a train do you often arrive at the last minute?"
"Do your friendships break up easily without it being your fault?"
and
"Do you sometimes like teasing animals?"
The main reason for these omissions was the lack of consistent loadings on the $P$ factor.
However, 13 new $P$ items were incorporated into the $P$ scale which, along with 19 of the original EPQ P scale items now totals 32 items. In addition, two new $E$ items warranted inclusion in the new $E$ scale and one extra $N$ item was added to the $N$ scale, leaving $L$ at the original 21 items.

Reliabilities ( $\alpha$-coefficients) and intercorrelations of the scales are given in Table 5 . It will be noted that separate reliabilities for $P$ are given for Samples A and B. For interest, the correlations between the new $P$ scale (EPQ-R) and that of the EPQ were calculated and the values were 0.88 for males and 0.81 for females (Sample B only).

Finally, it seemed desirable to try to devise a short scale of the EPQ-R for use when time is very limited. Twelve items were chosen from each of the scales and the short scale questionnaire is given in Appendix 2. The means and standard deviations of all the age groups are given in Table 6. Again, as with the longer scale, Table 6 gives the $P$ means and standard deviations of Samples A and B pooled, while Table 7 shows the individual age group means for the separate samples on $P$.

Reliabilities for both samples are given in Table 8 and also intercorrelations of the scales for Sample B. The scoring key on Table 9 gives item numbers to correspond with the 48 -item short scale given in Appendix 2.

Table 5. Reliabilities of P (Sample A), and P, E, N and L(Sample B) (intercorrelations of P, E, N and L for Sample B only)

|  | Sample A ${ }^{\text {Reliabilities }}$ |  | Sample B |  |  |  | Intercorrelations (Sample B only) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | P | P | E | N | L |  | Males | Females |
| Males | 0.81 | 0.78 | 0.90 | 0.88 | 0.82 | PE | 0.23 | 0.14 |
| Females | 0.73 | 0.76 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.79 | PN | 0.19 | 0.06 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | PL | -0.34 | -0.16 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | EN | 0.02 | -0.07 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | EL | -0.32 | -0.19 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | NL | -0.25 | -0.26 |

Table 6. Means and standard deviations of $P, E, N$ and $L$ for different age groups on the short scale of the EPQ-R

| Age group (yr) | Samples ( $\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{B}$ ) |  |  | Sample B |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | P |  |  | $n$ | E |  | N |  | L |  |
|  | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD |  | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $\bar{X}$ | SD |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 120 | 4.16 | 2.43 | 108 | 8.16 | 3.30 | 5.03 | 3.41 | 269 | 2.61 |
| 21-30 | 148 | 3.57 | 2.29 | 64 | 7.42 | 3.44 | 5.17 | 3.35 | 2.92 | 2.00 |
| 31-40 | 117 | 2.82 | 1.84 | 53 | 6.40 | 3.85 | 5.75 | 3.46 | 3.58 | 2.28 |
| 41-50 | 107 | 2.93 | 2.18 | 55 | 6.18 | 3.34 | 5.24 | 3.41 | 3.98 | 2.51 |
| 51-60 | 110 | 2.28 | 1.61 | 69 | 4.48 | 3.69 | 4.49 | 3.70 | 5.16 | 2.83 |
| 61-70 | 91 | 2.36 | 2.06 | 59 | 4.24 | 3.40 | 4.14 | 3.04 | 5.61 | 2.36 |
| Total | 693 | 3.08 | 2.20 | 408 | 6.36 | 3.80 | 4.95 | 3.44 | 3.86 | 2.71 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 203 | 2.79 | 1.95 | 161 | 8.40 | 3.23 | 6.66 | 3.05 | 2.75 | 2.03 |
| 21-30 | 256 | 2.56 | 1.95 | 159 | 7.60 | 3.02 | 5.93 | 2.89 | 3.34 | 2.41 |
| 31-40 | 135 | 2.37 | 1.80 | 38 | 7.37 | 3.18 | 5.50 | 2.92 | 3.76 | 2.38 |
| 41-50 | 109 | 2.05 | 1.63 | 50 | 6.48 | 3.20 | 5.06 | 3.37 | 4.26 | 2.46 |
| 51-60 | 102 | 1.72 | 1.67 | 45 | 7.22 | 3.64 | 5.36 | 3.44 | 4.96 | 2.70 |
| 61-70 | 73 | 1.76 | 1.74 | 41 | 6.46 | 3.24 | 4.78 | 3.28 | 6.56 | 2.14 |
| Total | 878 | 2.35 | 1.88 | 494 | 7.60 | 3.27 | 5.90 | 3.14 | 3.69 | 2.55 |

Table 7. Means and standard deviations for the short-scale EPQ-R P scale only for Samples A, B and (A + B) combined

| Age group (yr) | Sample B |  |  | Sample A |  |  | Samples B + A |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD | $n$ | $\bar{X}$ | SD |
| Males |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 108 | 4.05 | 2.27 | 12 | 5.17 | 3.39 | 120 | 4.16 | 2.43 |
| 21-30 | 64 | 3.83 | 2.26 | 84 | 3.38 | 2.29 | 148 | 3.57 | 2.29 |
| 31-40 | 53 | 3.23 | 1.82 | 64 | 2.48 | 1.79 | 117 | 2.82 | 1.84 |
| 41-50 | 55 | 3.44 | 2.03 | 52 | 2.40 | 2.21 | 107 | 2.93 | 2.18 |
| 51-60 | 69 | 2.38 | 1.72 | 41 | 2.12 | 1.38 | 110 | 2.28 | 1.61 |
| 61-70 | 59 | 2.61 | 2.16 | 32 | 1.91 | 1.76 | 91 | 2.36 | 2.06 |
| Total | 408 | 3.33 | 2.18 | 285 | 2.73 | 2.19 | 693 | 3.08 | 2.20 |
| Females |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16-20 | 161 | 2.84 | 1.99 | 42 | 2.60 | 1.75 | 203 | 2.79 | 1.95 |
| 21-30 | 159 | 2.74 | 2.08 | 97 | 2.27 | 1.67 | 256 | 2.56 | 1.95 |
| 31-40 | 38 | 2.68 | 2.08 | 97 | 2.25 | 1.66 | 135 | 2.37 | 1.80 |
| 41-50 | 50 | 2.34 | 1.66 | 59 | 1.80 | 1.57 | 109 | 2.05 | 1.63 |
| 51-60 | 45 | 1.98 | 1.54 | 57 | 1.51 | 1.74 | 102 | 1.72 | 1.67 |
| 61-70 | 41 | 2.20 | 1.88 | 32 | 1.19 | 1.33 | 73 | 1.76 | 1.74 |
| Total | 494 | 2.61 | 1.97 | 384 | 2.02 | 1.69 | 878 | 2.35 | 1.88 |

Table 8. Short-scale reliabilities of P (Sample A) and P, E, N and L (Sample B) (short-scale intercorrelations of P, E, N and L for Sample B only)


Table 9. Short-scale EPQ-R scoring key
(®)
YES: $10,14,22,31,39$
NO: $2,6,18,26,28,35$,
(E)

YES: $3,7,11,15,19,23,32,36,44,48$
NO: 27.41
(1)

YES: $1,5,9,13,17,21,25,30,34,38,42,46$

(L)

YES: 4, 16,45
NO: 8, 12, 20, 24, 29, 33, 37, 40, 47

## DISCUSSION

Since, admittedly, the P scale of the EPQ suffered from several psychometric shortcomings, an attempt has now been made to rectify some of these. The three main areas of criticism have been listed in the Introduction as: (1) low reliability, (2) low range of scoring and (3) grossly skewed distribution.

The reliabilities (see Table 5) are 0.78 for males and 0.76 for females which contrasts with 0.74 for males and 0.68 for females as quoted in the EPQ manual (Eysenck and Eysenck, 1975). Although this is still not as high as the reliabilities achieved for $E, N$ and $L$, it must be remembered that the $P$ scale taps several different facets (hostility, cruelty, lack of empathy, non-conformism etc.) which
may hold reliabilities lower than would be true of a scale like E which comprises largely sociability and activity items only (Cattell and Tsujioka, 1964). At any rate, the new reliabilities are now acceptable and are certainly an improvement on those of the EPQ P scale.

The low range of scoring of the 25 -item $P$ scale was a great disadvantage in that means of $3.78 \pm$ 3.09 for males and $2.63 \pm 2.36$ for females, quoted in the manual of the $E P Q$, gave very little room for differentiation. The nature of the scale, unfortunately, is such that most discriminating items are somewhat 'way out' for most people. The original PEN P scale contained even more paranoid and schizoid type items than the EPQ P scale, and some criticism of this latter scale from researchers like Claridge (1981) dwells on the better discrimination of the old PEN P scale as far as schizophrenics are concerned. Hopefully the present changes of the $P$ scale will not further reduce the usefulness of the EPQ-R for work with schizophrenics, but this remains to be seen when the scale is applied to clinical groups in due course. Meanwhile, Table 2, shows means of $7.19 \pm 4.60$ for males and $5.73 \pm 3.85$ for females; this contrasts with $4.15 \pm 3.42$ for males and $2.97 \pm 2.59$ for females when the same groups are scored for $P$ on the original 25 items of the EPQ. This difference seems a considerable improvement giving greater leeway in scoring.

Finally, the question of skewness and kurtosis of distribution was investigated. Since all 25 original EPQ P scale items are contained in the questionnaires used in both Studies A and B, it was possible to compute the moments for this scale as well as for the 32 -item new P scale form. Both distributions, of combined Studies A and B Ss, were plotted as histograms and are given in Figs 1 and 2. It can be seen that there is a somewhat improved skewness in the new distribution, especially so for the females, and this is reflected in the drop in both skewness and kurtosis values listed in the figures. It would be unreasonable to expect a dramatic normalizing of the distribution for the $\mathbf{P}$ scale, since the scale itself must inevitably, by its very nature, constitute some departure from normality. This is so, not only by reason of the type of items which differentiate high and low $P$ scorers, but also highlights a proven hallmark of high $P$ scorers to be uncooperative as far as helping researchers with questionnaire replies. "Did you mind filling in this form?" gives consistent loadings on P and suggests that high P scorers would be much less likely to complete a personality questionnaire than low $P$ scorers. Thus, however improved the $P$ scale, it seems likely to be doomed to a slightly J-shaped distribution as long as high $\mathbf{P}$ scorers are able to decline to cooperate.


Fig. 1. Distributions of combined Studies A + B for males ( $n=693$ ). -25-item scale; --- 32-item scale.


Fig. 2. Distributions of combined Studies $A+B$ for females ( $n=878$ ). -25 -item scale; --32 -item scale.

Nevertheless, we feel that all these areas of improvement which we set out to tackle, have yielded some success and, hopefully, researchers may try the new questionnaire out in future studies.

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## APPENDIX 1

$E P Q-R$
$\qquad$

Instructions: Please answer each question by putting a circle around the 'YES' or the 'NO' following the question. There are no right or wrong answers, and no trick questions. Work quickly and do not think too long about the exact meaning of the questions.

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO ANSWER EACH QUESTION

1. Do you have many different hobbies? ..... YES NO
2. Do you stop to think things over before doing anything? ..... YES NO
3. Does your mood often go up and down? ..... YES NO
4. Have you ever taken the praise for something you knew someone else had really done? ..... YES NO
5. Do you take much notice of what people think? ..... YES ..... NO
6. Are you a talkative person? ..... YES NO
7. Would being in debt worry you? ..... YES NO
8. Do you ever feel 'just miserable' for no reason? ..... YES ..... NO
9. Do you give money to charities? ..... NO
10. Were you ever greedy by helping yourself to more than your share of anything? ..... YES NO
11. Are you rather lively? ..... YES NO
12. Would it upset you a lot to see a child or an animal suffer? ..... YES NO
13. Do you often worry about things you should not have done or said? ..... YES ..... NO
14. Do you dislike people who don't know how to behave themselves?. ..... YES ..... NO
15. If you say you will do something, do you always keep your promise no matter how inconvenient it might be? ..... YES NO
16. Can you usually let yourself $g o$ and enjoy yourself at a lively party? YES
17. Are you an irritable person?YES NO
18. Should people always respect the law?. ..... YES NO
19. Have you ever blamed someone for doing something you knew was really your fault? ..... YES
20. Do you enjoy meeting new people? ..... YES NO
21. Are good manners very important? ..... YES
22. Are your feelings easily hurt? ..... YES NO
23. Are all your habits good and desirable ones?. ..... NO
24. Do you tend to keep in the background on social occasions? ..... YES
25. Would you take drugs which may have strange or dangerous effects? ..... YES
26. Do you often feel 'fed-up'? ..... YES NO
27. Have you ever taken anything (even a pin or button) that belonged to someone else? YES
28. Do you like going out a lot?YES NO
29. Do you prefer to go your own way rather than act by the rules? ..... YES NO
30. Do you enjoy hurting people you love? . ..... YES
31. Are you often troubled about feelings of guilt? ..... YES ..... NONO
32. Do you sometimes talk about things you know nothing about? ..... YES

## continued

33. Do you prefer reading to ineeting people? ..... YES ..... NO
34. Do you have enemies who want to harm you?. ..... YES
35. Would you call yourself a nervous person? ..... YES ..... NO
NO
36. Do you have many friends? ..... YES
37. Do you enjoy practical jokes that can sometimes really hurt people?. ..... YES
38. Are you a worrier? ..... YES39. As a child did you do as you were told immediately and without grumbling?YES
39. Would you call yourself happy-go-lucky? ..... YES
40. Do good manners and cleanliness matter much to you? ..... YES ..... NO
41. Have you often gone against your parents' wishes? ..... YES ..... NO
42. Do you worry about awful things that might happen? ..... YES ..... NO
43. Have you ever broken or lost something belonging to someone else? ..... YES ..... NO
44. Do you usually take the initiative in making new friends? ..... YES NO
45. Would you call yourself tense or 'highly-strung'?. ..... YES NO ..... NO
46. Are you mostly quiet when you are with other people? ..... YES NO
47. Do you think marriage is old-fashioned and should be done away with? ..... YES ..... NO
48. Do you sometimes boast a little? ..... YES
49. Are you more easy-going about right and wrong than most people? ..... YES ..... NO
50. Can you easily get some life into a rather dull party? ..... YES ..... NO
51. Do you worry about your health? ..... YES
52. Have you ever said anything bad or nasty about anyone? ..... YES NO
53. Do you enjoy co-operating with others? ..... YES NO ..... O
54. Do you like telling jokes and funny stories to your friends?. ..... YES NO
55. Do most things taste the same to you? ..... YES N ..... No
56. As a child were you ever cheeky to your parents? ..... YES NO
57. Do you like mixing with people? ..... YES NO ..... NO
58. Does it worry you if you know there are mistakes in your work? ..... YES ..... NO
59. Do you suffer from sleeplessness? ..... YES NO
60. Have people said that you sometimes act too rashly? ..... YES ..... NO
61. Do you always wash before a meal? ..... YES NO ..... NO
62. Do you nearly always have a 'ready answer' when people talk to you? ..... YES ..... NO
63. Do you like to arrive at appointments in plenty of time? ..... YES NO
64. Have you often felt listless and tired for no reason? ..... YES ..... NO
65. Have you ever cheated at a game? ..... YES ..... NO
66. Do you like doing things in which you have to act quickly? ..... YES NO
67. Is (or was) your mother a good woman? ..... YES NO ..... NO
68. Do you often make decisions on the spur of the moment? ..... YES
69. Do you often fecl life is very dull? ..... YES
70. Have you ever taken advantage of someone? ..... YES NO
71. Do you often take on more activities than you have time for? ..... YES NO ..... N
72. Are there several people who keep trying to avoid you? ..... YES
73. Do you worry a lot about your looks? ..... YES NO
74. Do you think people spend too much time safeguarding their future with savings and insurance? ..... YES NO
75. Have you ever wished that you were dead? ..... YES NO ..... NO
76. Would you dodge paying taxes if you were sure you could never be found out? ..... YES ..... NO
77. Can you get a party going? ..... YES
78. Do you try not to be rude to people? ..... YES ..... NO
79. Do you worry too long after an embarrassing experience?. ..... YES ..... NO
80. Do you generally 'look before you leap"? ..... YES NO
81. Have you ever insisted on having your own way? ..... YES ..... NO
82. Do you suffer from 'nerves'? ..... YES ..... No
83. Do you often feel lonely? ..... YES
84. Can you on the whole trust people to tell the truth? ..... YES ..... NO86. Do you always practice what you preach?YES
85. Are you easily hurt when people find fault with you or the work you do? . ..... YES ..... NO
86. Is it better to follow society's rules than go your own way? ..... YES N
87. Have you ever been late for an appointment or work?. ..... YES N ..... No
88. Do you like plenty of bustle and excitement around you? ..... YES NO
89. Would you like other people to be afraid of you? ..... YES NO ..... NO
90. Are you sometimes bubbling over with energy and sometimes very sluggish? ..... YES ..... No
91. Do you sometimes put off until tomorrow what you ought to do today?. ..... YES ..... NO
92. Do other people think of you as being very lively? ..... YES ..... No95. Do people tell you a lot of lies?YES
93. Do you believe one has special duties to one's family? ..... YES
94. Are you touchy about some things? ..... YES
95. Are you always willing to admit it when you have made a mistake? ..... YES NO
96. Would you feel very sorry for an animal caught in a trap? ..... YES NO
97. When your temper rises, do you find it difficult to control? ..... YES
NoNONONONONONONoNoNoNoNONONoNONo

## APPENDIX 2

## Short-scale EPQ-R

Age Sex

1. Does your mood often go up and down?. ..... YES NO
Do you take much notice of what people think? ..... YES ..... NO
Are you a talkative person? ..... YES ..... NO
If you say you will do something, do you always keep your promise no matter how inconvenient it might be? ..... YES NO
Do you ever feel 'just miserable' for no reason? ..... YES ..... NO
Would being in debt worry you? ..... YES
Are you rather lively? ..... YESNO
NO
Were you ever greedy by helping yourself to more than your share of anything? ..... YES
Are you an irritable person? ..... YES NO
Would you take drugs which may have strange or dangerous effects? ..... YES ..... NO
Do you enjoy meeting new people? ..... YES
Have you ever blamed someonc for doing something you knew was really your fault? ..... YES ..... NO
YESAre your feelings easily hurt?Do you prefer to go your own way rather than act by the rules?YES NO
Can you usually let yourself go and enjoy yourself at a lively party? ..... YES NO
Are all your habits good and desirable ones? ..... YES ..... NO
YES Do you often feel ‘fed-up"? ..... NO
YES
Do good manners and cleanliness matter much to you? ..... NO
Do you usually take the initiative in making new friends? ..... NO
Have you ever taken anything (even a pin or button) that belonged to someone else? ..... YES ..... NO
Would you call yourself a nervous person? ..... YES ..... NO
Do you think marriage is old-fashioned and should be done away with? ..... NO
Can you easily get some life into a rather dull party? ..... YES NOHave you ever broken or lost something belonging to someone else?YES
Are you a worrier? ..... YESNODo you enjoy co-operating with others?YESDo you tend to keep in the background on social occasions?YESNO
NOYES
Does it worry you if you know there are mistakes in your work?Have you ever said anything bad or nasty about anyone?.YES
YES Would you call yourself tense or 'highly-strung'?NO
YES
YES ..... NO
Do you think people spend too much time safeguarding their future with savings and insurances? ..... NO
YES
As a child were you ever cheeky to your parents? ..... NO
Do you worry too long after an embarrassing experience? ..... YESYES NO
Do you try not to be rude to people?
YES NO
YES NO
Do you like plenty of bustle and excitement around you?.
Do you like plenty of bustle and excitement around you?. ..... YES
Have you ever cheated at a game? ..... NO
YES
Do you suffer from 'nerves'?YESWould you like other people to be afraid of you?
YES
Have you ever taken advantage of someone?
YES
Are you mostly quiet when you are with other people?
YES
YES ..... NO
Do you often feel lonely?.
YES
YES ..... NO
Do other people think of you as being very lively? ..... YES ..... NO
2. Are you often troubled about feelings of guilt? ..... NO
YES
3. Do you sometimes put off until tomorrow what you ought to do today?
YES ..... NO
4. Can you get a party going?
