

ABSTRACT

A Comparison of Cocaine Addicts and Normals Using the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire

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Analysis of variance was used to measure the difference between the performance of a sample of sixty cocaine addicts and sample of sixty control subjects on the four scales of the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ). The personality variables measured by the scales are Psychoticism (P), Extroversion (E) and Neuroticism (N). The fourth variable is a measure of dissimulation called the Lie (L) scale.

The findings of the study indicated that the two samples differed significantly on the L scale, with the addicts scoring higher. The difference between the two male samples was more marked. Also, a significant sex difference was noted from the subjects' performance on the N scale, with the females scoring higher. A more marked difference was evident between the two addict samples. Explanations to account for these findings include the effects of cultural factors, differences in level of educational attainment, and drug use.

Based on this study, therefore, treatment facilitators should be encouraged to develop special intervention strategies for cocaine addicts who present with false pretenses and neurotic tendencies. Further research is also needed to facilitate the

ongoing process of assessing and treating the problem of cocaine

abuse in the Bahamas.