

# CORRELATES OF THE COMMUNICATION ORGAN SCORE ON THE HARRIS-GOODENOUGH DRAWING TEST<sup>1</sup>

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A scale consisting of the head items on the Goodenough Draw-a-Man test has shown a relationship to improvement in psychotherapy (1), as well as to popularity in a sample of children (3). Stone and Ansbacher (4) related these findings to Adler's concept of "social interest." They used the Man scale on the Harris revision of the Goodenough test (2) and purified the head score to a Communication Organ Score (COS). In a group of 4th grade children (mean age about 10), this score correlated .729 with a measure of social interest but only .074 with IQ. The present study essentially replicated theirs, using scores based upon both male and female figure drawings.

The *Ss* were 282 white children: Group 1, 79 Afrikaans-speaking children, mean age 11.4; Group 2, 105 boys, mean age 12.7, Group 3, 98 girls, mean age 12.3, both English-speaking. Their figure drawings were scored on the Harris-Goodenough scales. For Group 1, interscorer reliabilities of .91 and .92 were obtained for the full-length scales.

Various subscores were derived: The COS included items dealing with the eyes, ears, nose and mouth for both figure drawings. The Body Score (BS) included all of the remaining items. In order to rule out the influence of the greater length of the BS as compared with the COS scale, Abbreviated Body Scores (ABS) were derived by random selection from the longer scale, of the same number of items as those of the COS.

The criterion measures consisted of scores on an individual and a group intelligence test; scholastic achievement tests in English, Afrikaans and Arithmetic; examination marks, ranks for scholastic ability by teachers; paper-and-pencil tests for manual dexterity and figure perception; as well as Cattell's High School Personality Questionnaire (HSPQ), a modification of his 16 Personality Factor Questionnaire for use with children.

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<sup>1</sup>An extended report of this study may be obtained without charge from D. J. W. Strümpfer, P. O. Box, 1600 Port Elizabeth, Rep. of South Africa, or for a fee from the American Documentation Institute. Order Document No. 9867 from ADI Auxiliary Publications Project, Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540. Remit in advance \$1.25 for 35 mm microfilm or \$1.25 for photocopies, and make checks payable to: Chief, Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress.

## INTELLIGENCE, ACHIEVEMENT, REMAINING DRAWING SCORES

Whereas Stone and Ansbacher (4) found for COS an  $r$  of only .07 and for BS an  $r$  of .24 with a measure of intelligence, in our Group 1 the  $r$ s of COS and BS with the measures of intelligence and scholastic performance were all very similar; ABS actually tended to show lower  $r$ s than COS. The only exception occurred in the case of the non-verbal IQ on the group test, where the  $r$  with COS was .33 and with BS .49. The latter pattern became more observable in Groups 2 and 3 where the  $r$ s with the group test, verbal and non-verbal, were non-significant (.05 to .12) for COS, but significant (.22 to .33) for BS. As for ABS, this showed in both of these groups a significant  $r$  (.22 and .25) with only the non-verbal score.

Another finding differentiating COS from BS and ABS was a tendency in Group 1 for COS to show slightly higher  $r$ s with the measures of manual dexterity. Similarly, COS and both BS and ABS showed different patterns of  $r$ s with the HSPQ scales in Groups 2 and 3.

There are thus indications that the items combined into COS do not measure the same functions as those of the rest of the Harris-Goodenough scale. The  $r$ s between COS and Body scores ranged from .41 to .48. This lack of internal consistency tends to lower  $r$ s with intelligence scores and to provide at least a partial explanation as to why the Harris-Goodenough shows lower  $r$ s with scholastic performance than conventional measures of intelligence (5). The intercorrelations of all the subscores are presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1. INTERCORRELATIONS OF HARRIS-GOODENOUGH SUBSCORES IN 105 BOYS (GROUP 2) AND 98 GIRLS (GROUP 3). BOYS ABOVE DIAGONAL, GIRLS BELOW

Subscore	1	2	3	4	5
1. Communication organ (COS)		.88	.47	.48	.60
2. Head (including COS)	.89		.66	.64	.74
3. Body (BS)	.48	.67		.87	.94
4. Abbreviated body (ABS)	.41	.55	.83		.81
5. Harris-Goodenough total IQ	.65	.80	.93	.77	

## PERSONALITY FACTORS

The present findings do not really support the hypothesis that the COS is related to social interest. But various HSPQ scales provide measures of aspects of interpersonal and social functioning,

and regarding these it may be said: The sex of the subject must apparently be considered here, because it is with boys (Group 2) that there is a slight relationship between COS and Factor A, Cyclothymia, i.e., being good-natured, ready to cooperate, attentive to people, soft-hearted, trustful, warm-hearted. In the case of girls (Group 3) Factor I, i.e., being esthetically sensitive, gentle, sentimental and liking to be with people, seems to be positively related to COS. Somewhat surprisingly and therefore in need of cross-validation, Factor C, Ego Strength, seems to be negatively related to COS in girls, meaning that those will do better on COS who show more emotionality. None of these relationships occurred in the case of the body scores.

Factor A probably comes closest to something related to social concern. The low but significant  $r$  between this factor and COS in Group 2 is, therefore, possibly of significance. But it must be pointed out that there are other social factors in the HSPQ, such as Factor H (likes meeting people, is responsive, genial, friendly), Factor J (likes group action versus fastidious individualism), etc. But these did not show any relationship to COS.

#### SUMMARY

In a study, replicating in part one by Stone and Ansbacher, of a Communication Organ Score (COS—referring to the eyes, ears, nose and mouth) derived from the Harris-Goodenough Draw-a-Man test, it was found with 282 children, aged 11 and 12: (a) COS shows lower correlations with intelligence and scholastic achievement than scores from the remainder of the test, i.e., body scores (BS), and shows correlations with BS of only .41 to .48. (b) On the other hand COS shows some specific correlations to certain personality factors on the children's version of the Cattell 16 P.F. test.

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