Some Personal and Social Variables That Affect Extra Sensory Perception (Sixth Sense)

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If we accept the importance of the 6th sense in developing human community, we have to study the variables that may affect it, that may develop or control this frontier human ability. The current study tries to survey some personal and social variables that may affect this sense. These variables are: gender, age, country, educational level, monthly income, marital status, one hygiene, hobbies, personality type, one heredity of the sixth sense, one superior sense (the best sense) of the 5 ordinary senses, one case during 6th sense experience and day time during 6th sense experience. The author uses descriptive method on an intended sample, which experience 6th sense. By applying a criterion measure consists of these previous variables. Results showed that there are significant effects among the study variables, with emphases on early childhood importance in discovering and educating this frontier ability.

Keywords: Sixth (6th) Sense, Social Variables, Personal Variables

Introduction

The Sixth Sense (Extra-Sensory Perception)

Mankind’s advances in technology and science have so far outstripped his humanistic tendencies that we are in danger of obliterating ourselves. What humanity needs in order to catch up with its own technology is to allow the right, intuitive side of the brain to flower. We are suffering from the so-called (culture lag) wherein man has built weapons that can destroy himself without knowing how to control them. Perhaps through the balancing of intuition with logic our next generation can establish a balance between man’s humanity and inhumanity. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009). Intuition, extrasensory perception (ESP) and sixth sense are sometimes synonymous; they all refer to mind ability to communicate without using 5 common channels of senses. ESP and psychic (PSI) can be synonymous, also. While esp. is a term popularized by J. B. Rhine and refers to information perceived by telepathy, clairvoyance or precognition. Psi used as a term for all ESP type and psychokinetic phenomena. (Radin, 1997). So that 6th sense or (ESP) is the ability to sense something by means other than the main 5 senses of touch, taste, smell, sight and hearing. (Wiktionary, 2010). Intuition can be defined as a synthetic psychological function that apprehends the totality of a given situation (Vaughan, 1990 IN Khatri & Alvin, 1990s). It is a subconscious and an irrational process. It based on a deep understanding of the situation. It is a complex phenomenon that draws from the store of knowledge in our subconscious and is rooted in past experience. It is quick but not necessarily biased or emotion. (Khatri & Alvin, 1990s). Finally it can be defined as a direct acquisition of knowledge; some forms of intuitive information come from the mind capacity to access information from distant location (Radin, 2007).

Some forms of the sixth sense:

- The mainly forms of (ESP) or 6th senses are:
  1) Telepathy: Sending of thoughts to another. It has been called thought transference, for example, it acts like this: person A is aware of person B’s thoughts at the moment person B is thinking them (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  2) Clairvoyance: Visual perception of events or things. This phenomenon consists of seeing the distant event simultaneously with its occurrence (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  3) Precognition: Knowledge of the future. It is a foretelling of an event that has not yet happened, the person experiencing the event must have had no way of knowing of it in advance. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  4) Premonition: An experience akin to precognition and can best be defined as a vague, uneasy feeling that something is going to happen, but the something provides no specific information. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  5) Psychometry: Picking up information by touching an object. It is a channel for picking up information about person or events, whether past present or future, from touching an inanimate object or from seeing its presence through energies emanated. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  6) Psychokinesis (PK): Moving objects without physical exertion. It is the influence or energy a person exerts upon an object without the use of physical energy, the moving of an object through mental power alone. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).
  7) Finally, there are psychic (PSI) dreams; most psi dreams appear to deal with telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition or premonition events. (Tanous & Donnelly, 2009).

The 6th Sense and Its Relationship with Some Variables

For many years scientists have examined the possible existence of ESP, many researchers have argued that the results of these experiments provide strong support for the existence of
psychic ability (Wiseman, 2011). So that, there are number of works that study the 6th sense and its relationship with some variables, some from the physiological view, as the study cited by Radin: The significant correlations in brain waves between isolated identical twins, this study was reported in the journal Science in 1965 by Duane and Behrendt (Psychology Today, 2009). Also, a new study by Rollin 2004 provides evidence that the heart responds to future events and indicates women be naturally more attuned to their intuition. Intuition has often thought of a mysterious 6th sense. Heart Math researchers found that we can actually be aware of an event five to seven seconds before it happens. (Powers, 2004). A new theory suggests that the anterior singulate cortex (ACC) may actually function as an early warning system that works at a subconscious level to help us recognize and avoid high risk situations. A new research from Washington University in St. Louis has defined a brain region that clearly acts as an early warning system and helps us adjust our behavior to avoid dangerous situations. This brain study points to this region in relation to 6th sense (Science news blog, 2009).

- 6th Sense and the other five senses

Backwards from this the discovery of the sixth sense was announced in a paper read at the world congress of medical men in Naples in 1909, a French academy Dr. Luis at Batavia School worked out a theory of sight through skin, as he mentioned: the power in the blind child is due to an unusual development of external sensory nerves, in other words, the facial nerves of the blind have probably become so delicate in perceptions as to afford these unfortunate children a sight by skin. (New York Times, 1915).

- 6th Sense and Personality type

A study conducted by the Institute of Noetic Sciences in 2003, asked 465 people questions about their education, allergies, bodily sensitivities, mental practices, and unusual experiences. Found strong differences between men and women, consistent with the results of other surveys. Also they found that left-handed and ambidextrous people were significantly more likely to believe in exceptional experiences than right handed people and that younger people were significantly more likely to believe in exceptional experiences than older ones. Then by comparing 55 people who reported no experiences of telepathy against 60 who frequently reported such experiences, found a clear pattern emerging about bodily sensitivities. Finally, their findings made able to form a profile of a person very likely to report psychic experiences: a left-handed female who is thirty something or younger, physically highly sensitive, suffers from chronic anxiety, is somewhat introverted, make decisions based on feelings than logic, practices one or more creative arts, and engages in some forms of mental discipline like meditation, is open unconventional claims, and is interested more in possibilities than facts. (Radin, 2006).

- 6th sense and age

There are some experiments indicated some aspects of the 6th sense among children aged from 8 to 12 old. In fact ESP plays an important role in the lives of many creative individuals. As they are spontaneous, it is important not to push a child to produce them, instead we may: create an atmosphere of understanding and caring, give older child books on ESP, keep a record on psychic happing, respond naturally to your child’s ESP experiences and give them ESP tests. (Khatri & Alivin, 2009).

- 6th sense and mental ability

Gardener Murphy once states that, there is a relationship between creativeness and ESP. So that he claimed, we should take care about elementary school students as well as we do with adolescent students. He added that we should treat our children’s psychic abilities not as odd experiences that we should hide. Attitude is important and comprehension is important too. Child should be able to transfer psychic abilities into everyday living; all psychic experiences will give the child a total picture of how to succeed. (Tanous, 2009). Sargent also concluded—from his experiment on 25 Zener cards at the University of Cambridge that ESP is associated with a relaxed state of mind and a freer, more atavistic level of altered consciousness. (Wikipedia, 2010).

- 6th sense and the belief of psychic ability

Personality’s measures have showed that people who belief in PSI tend to score above chance, while who not belief in it show null results. This is become known as “sheep-goat effect”. (Wikipedia, 2010). Wiseman with his mind machine experiment showed a relationship between participants’ ESP scores and their gender, belief in psychic ability and degree of predicted success. (Wiseman, 2011).

- The methodology of studying 6th sense

Parapsychologists have carried out a large number of studies examining the possible existence of ESP. One of the most principle types of experimental design uses the “forced choice” procedure, in which are asked to guess the identity of hidden targets. Many researchers have argued that the results of these studies support the existence of ESP. For example, Pratt et al. (1940/1966) reviewed findings from more than 3, 6 million guess made in over 140 forced choice, all were independently significant. (Wiseman, 2011). There were also, free-response measures used by Carington in the 1930s. This included relaxation, meditation, REM-sleep and Ganzfeld (a mild sensory deprivation procedure). These studies have proved to be more successful than Rheine’s forced choice paradigm, with meta-analysis evidencing reliable effects and many confirmation replication studies (Wikipedia, 2010).

From the related studies and the theoretical frame work-mentioned above, we may conclude that: 1) We do not need to examine the existence of 6th sense now, instead we need to draw a map about it. 2) Neither of these studies used methodology except experimental one. 3) With this methodology, studies examined some variables that affect 6th sense, which are: Gender, age, education, heredity (as in twin studies), allergy or bodily sensitive, belief in exceptional experiences and mental ability.

So the important and new manipulation in the current study is that, it is intended to draw a map of the 6th sense by trying to answer these mainly two questions: what is one condition through exceptional experience?—What are the circumstances surrounding one through these experiences? To answer the first question the author examined personal variables, while answering the second question the author examined social variables. To capture and close up to the identity of this ESP we need to know: one’s age, gender, educational/economic and marital status, mood through hobbies, heredity, hygiene and best sense of one’s 5 senses. (Personal). Also, we need to know: one’s geographical region, circumstances and day time
during this experience. (Social). Some of these variables men-
tioned above and the author intended to examine through de-
scriptive way, while others not mentioned and consisted a new
approach in this stud; but have their logic from the theoretical
frame work; as region-place and time in the light of Quantum
Theory, which describes that in particular time and environ-
ment interacting in quanta manner (Radin, 2006). Also,
marital status may reflect telepathy comparing between single
and married one and so on. Finally, the importance of the cur-
rent study therefore, is to examine the effect of some personal
and social variables that may develop or control this frontier
ability; in order to draw a map of this sense—as Rheine once
described it, as unconscious mental process, which may com-
plete understanding of human personality (Wikipedia, 2010).
And to develop it from early childhood as much as possible.

**Design and Procedures**

**Design:** The design represented (13) independent variables × (2) dependent variables. The independent variables are: 1) Personal-
status, education status, marital
status, hygiene, hobbies—personal not social, personality type,
heredity and one best sense of 5 senses. 2) Social: geographical
region, one’s circumstances (case) during the experience, one’s
social hobbies and day time of the experience. The dependent
ones are: forms of sixth sense and frequency of the sixth sense
(rare, sometimes, usually).

The forms of 6th sense that sample experienced, only, are:
telepathy, premonition, PSI dreams and Psychokinesis (PK); in
evil eye upon them (as they thought they have been envied).

**Procedure:** The researcher explains definition of all 6th
sense experiences; so that the sample members could define
and express them; because these phenomena and their defini-
tions are not known to the most of people here in our culture,
in Egypt. Finally, it is an intended sample from people who have
experienced these forms only of 6th sense. As mentioned be-
fore, the new methodology of the current study indented to
examine people as they experience 6th sense in natural situa-
tions, not artificial one as experiments. By asking them: to de-
scribe their experiences through a criterion measurement.

**Hypothesis**

1) There are differences in 6th sense type according to:
   A—Gender. B—Age. C—One’s country. D—One’s educa-
tional level. E—One’s monthly income. F—One’s marital
status. H—One’s hygiene& Heredity. I—One’s best sense of
his/her 5 ordinary senses. J—One’s personal hobbies. (Personal
variables).K—Personality Type as one perceived.
2) There are differences in 6th sense type according to:
   A—One’s case/circumstances during experience. B—Time
of the 24 hours through the experience. C—One’s social hob-
bies (Social variables).

**Sample Description**

Table 1 (A) and (B) describes the sample with the study vari-
ables: Sample consists of (50) participants, whom selected ac-
cording to their exceptional experiences and their approval to
respond to the author’s measurement: As shown in appendix 2.

**Scale Validity**

To obtain scale validity I have relayed on the questionnaire’s
content about sixth sense with its affect on the mentioned social
variables (content—descriptive validity, obtained by comparing
it with the theoretical frame work). The author also, computed
scale validity by comparing scale for adults with scale for chil-
dren. T.Test was significant 0, 05. To obtain reliability internal
consistency was assessed by computing Cronbach Alpha. Re-
sults indicate Alpha of about 0.60 (0.58).

The hypothesis examination: By computing
Multivariate ANOVA (MAN OVA) was used: to examine
differences among participants within the study variables. In
order to examine the effect of 13 independent variables on 6th
sense & 6th sense frequency, the author has divided them into 5
groups, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 appendix 2: Study’s results.

**From Table 2:** Tests that are significant: 1) Bartlett’s Test
shows the significant result (p .01).That means, the correlation
among independent variables are high. 2) Multivariate Tests
show that there are differences among dependent variables
(telepathy, psi dreams, premonition and PK) according to the
only significant independent variables (age, country, education,
all personality types, one’s case during experience and day-
time). 3) Levine’s Test refers that the error variance of the de-
pendent variables are equal across majority of groups. 5) Post
Hoc test refers to the source of variation among categories.
There wasn’t variation among groups except case during ex-
perience and day time variables.

**Discussion**

The current study shows from its significant results that the
independent variables affect 6th sense & its frequency are: age,
geographical place (country), education status, personality type,
case during experience and daytime. According to sample:
youth 19 - 45 are more than another age, which may consists
with Noetic Institute study’s result, according to, the current
study’s measurement : The first time that sample experience 6th
sense was more frequent in adolescence, which may refers or
suggests that 6th sense may flourish not begin in puberty . This
is corresponding to the importance of education, which men-
tioned in previous theoretical frame. The new approach in the
current study is asking pre-school child of 5 years, which re-
results indicate here PSI dreams experience. Also, this suggests
that the 6th sense may begins before adolescence and need
more studies. The significant of geographical place and day-
time, refers to specific place & time ESP needed to happen
during it. This corresponds to the importance of physical envi-
ronment surrounding experience, as Carl Jung’s idea of the
collective unconscious, which means the existence of some
form of nonlocal memory permeating time and space that can
resonate with (Radin, 2006). The education status refers to the
importance of social environment that adults have to develop
this ability according to, which consists with previous result
and related frame work. Personality type with the sample de-
scription (Table 1) consists with Noetic Institute result, which refers—as mentioned above that- one anxiety, introverted, sensitive and emotional than logic is more affected by PSI experiences than others. Another important result in this study have shown that: even early childhood may exhibit ESP experience that indicates the importance of discovering and educating it from early years. Finally, the frequency of ESP experience increase during disasters more than another times; as results were significant with all categories. This exhibits new result in the current study and shows the need for more studies to answer: Why do people experience more PSI—ESP or 6th sense, as mentioned before-experiences while they are frightened or during disasters?

The independent variables which aren’t significant are: gender, although the previous studies showed that female experiences 6th sense more than male. Also the sample experienced more envied experiences (evil eye)—on them-from aged women than from men. This is a new record for the current study, also. Income and marital status shows insignificant results, with their frequency. The importance of heredity is not required here by the sample response. But it is important that one have a family member with 6th sense, or believe in its existence; because of education and attitude towards it. Also, results show that: it isn’t important that one have any superior sense from his/her 5 senses.

6th sense isn’t correlated with hobbies, according to current results, but needs hygiene for its frequency; thus all people ill and healthy experience it but its frequency refers to good health as result suggests. These recent results are new and suggest more studies to examine them.

Finally, one important limitation of the current study is the small sample, that global study is required to draw a map all over the world for this important phenomena and frontier ability.

References

Powers, R. (2004). Sounding circle: The sixth sense: Dr. Rollin McCraty research at IHM. URL (last checked 6 December 2010) soundingcircle.com
Wikipedia (2011) Tests to prove that human being’s have a sixth sense. New York Times, Published in May 9, 1915. URL (last checked 6 December 2010) www.nytimes.com/
Appendices

Appendix A: Study's Measurement

- Part A: Sample's member general information: Age, gender, country, educational/economic and marital status, one’s hygiene, heredity, best sense of his/her 5 senses and one’s hobbies.
- Part B: Questions: Examples:
  - What are 6th sense do you experience?
  - Mention how many times you experience each one.
  - When do you often experience PSI experiences you have mentioned? For example, (Always/often/sometimes/rarely).

Notices: 1) First image of this questionnaire was open-ended questions, on pilot study. Then multiple choices one, on the main sample, according to the results of previous pilot study.
2) About pre-school children, the author explains everything for them; read questions then write their answers.

Appendix B

Table 1: Part A: Study’s variables: Descriptive Statistics: Divided according to each variable. (A-Personal variables: describes one almost alone).
Each one is classified according to: its category, number of cases and its ratio.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 5 - 18</td>
<td>14 (28%)</td>
<td>36 (72%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults over 18</td>
<td>20 (40%)</td>
<td>30 (60%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside Egypt</td>
<td>47 (94%)</td>
<td>3 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outside Egypt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Arabic Countries)</td>
<td>33 (66%)</td>
<td>3 (6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Educational Status:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>29 (58%)</td>
<td>21 (42%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Economical Status-Income:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100 - 500 per month</td>
<td>25 (50%)</td>
<td>25 (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One marital Status:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>35 (70%)</td>
<td>15 (30%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Hygiene as one described:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy, almost</td>
<td>44 (88%)</td>
<td>6 (12%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ill, almost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heredity of the 6th sense:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have a family member who experienced ESP</td>
<td>34 (68%)</td>
<td>16 (32%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t have</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- One best sense of his/her 5 senses:
  - Have one superior sense (Seeing or hearing … etc.) Have more than one
  - 23 (46%) 27 (54%)

Table 1: Part B: Study’s variables: Descriptive Statistics: Divided according to each variable. (B-Social variables: describes one in relationship with other: people or circumstances). Each one is classified according to: its category, number of cases and its ratio.

| Hobbies: | | |
| Single (as reading) | 30 (60%) | 20 (40%) |

- Personality Type as one described:
  - Rational/Emotional
  - Pessimistic/Optimistic
  - Introverted/Extroverted
  - Forgiveness/Strict
  - 14 (28%)/36 (72%)
  - 5 (10%)/40 (90%)
  - 13 (26%)/37 (74%)
  - 32 (64%)/18 (36%)

- One Case During 6th sense Experience:
  - Normal 6 (12%) 33 (66%)
  - In Disaster 11 (22%)

- Day Time of Experiencing ESP:
  - Morning 2 (0.04%) 4 (0.08%)
  - Noon 12 (24%)
  - Night 7 (14%)
  - After Midnight 25 (50%)
  - At Anytime

Table 2: Study Results: Tests that examines study’s variables: Tests Part A:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Bartlett’s Test</th>
<th>Multivariate Tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1: gender, age, country.</td>
<td>Sig. .000</td>
<td>Sig. .016 (age), .043 (country),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2: education, income, marital.</td>
<td>Sig. .000</td>
<td>Sig. .005 (education)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3: hygiene, hobbies, personality type.</td>
<td>Sig. .000</td>
<td>Sig. .011 (personality type)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4: heredity, 5 senses.</td>
<td>Sig. .000</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 5: case during experience, day time.</td>
<td>Sig. .000</td>
<td>Sig. .002 (case during experience)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tests Part B:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Levine’s Test</th>
<th>Tests of between Subjects effect</th>
<th>Post Hoc. Test. Multiple comparisons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group 1: gender, age, country.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 2: education, income, marital.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>Sig. .009</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 3: hygiene, hobbies, personality type.*</td>
<td>Sig. .019*</td>
<td>Sig. , .018 (hygiene)</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 4: heredity, 5 senses.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group 5: during &amp; daytime</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>No Sig.</td>
<td>Sig. 000. Both variables, all types.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>