

PERSONALITY: NATURE AND NURTURE

Genetics
Early Experiences
Life Space
Learning
Expectancies

- I.
 1. Definition of Personality
 2. Life Style
 3. Behavior is a function of Individual and Environment:
Murray; Lewin
 4. As stability of environment decreases (i.e., variability increases) so does predictability of behavior

- II. 5 personality factors are mostly agreed upon as universal
 1. Neuroticism - Stable
 2. Extroversion - Introversion

3. Openness to Experiences
4. Agreeableness - Antagonism
5. Conscientiousness or Will to Achieve

- III. Contribution of Heredity and Shared Environment

1.	Neuroticism	Males	Females
	Heritability	.52	.56
	Shared Environment	-.05	-.03
2.	Extroversion		
	Heritability	.58	.67
	Shared Environment	-.09	-.12
3.	Perception of Family Life - Swedish Study		
	A. Description of Identical twins reared apart		
	B. Description of Fraternal twins reared together		

- IV. Fact: Brothers and Sisters raised in the same family are almost as different in their personalities as people who grew up in separate families.

1. A shared family environment has little influence on personality

- V. Individual differences in personality traits seem, on the average, to be attributable to:

Common family environment = 5%
Nonshared environment = 35%
Genetic factors = 40%
Measurement error = 20%

Genetics
Early Experiences
Life Space
Learning
Expectancies

VI. A family is not one environment, but a series or collection of micro environments/niches

1. Systematic sources of these micro environments: birth order, gender
 - A. First borns are more conscientious than later born
 - B. Later borns are more unconventional
2. Birth order has big impact on strategies used in relationships

VII. General Findings - Personality Traits

1. Genes account for 50% of variance
2. Environment unique to individual - 50%
3. The Degree to which same Personality Traits are Estimated to be Inherited
 - A. Tellegen, from twin studies

Social Potency		61% (Leadership)
Traditionalism		60% (Respect for Authority)
Reaction to Stress		55% (Neuroticism)
Well-Being	54%	
Risk Avoidance	51%	
Aggression	48%	
Achievement		46%
Control		43%
Social Closeness	33%	
4. Two traits where no evidence of genetic influence: Agreeableness, Niceness.