**Psychic Testing Lab By Marcus Stevens September 14th, 2015**

1. Introduction

During this scientific study, people were randomly picked to be tested for psychic powers. Many people claim to possess this type of paranormal phenomena, but not all of them actually have these extraordinary unknown senses. This experiment attempts to uncover the probability of psychic senses in a randomized selection of test subjects. Three male test subjects were chosen, and each of them were tested with five different suits of playing cards. If a test subject selects the corresponding card that is chosen by the tester, it is recorded as correct for that particular test.

**The Purpose:** The purpose behind the experiment is to determine the probability of psychic senses through testing and by comparison of the recorded findings of randomly selected test subjects.

**The Hypothesis:** When three male test subjects are tested for the presence of psychic abilities, there will be no compelling evidence to conclude that psychic powers will exceed the expectations/probability of chance.

1. Materials and Methods (Procedure)

**Materials:**

1.5 different suits of playing cards, King, Queen, Jack, Ace, and a 2 of Hearts.

2.A flat surface on which to shuffle the cards.

**Procedure:**

1. Three different test subjects were chosen for this psychic ability test.
2. During the testing, each person was put through 4 trials, 10 tests per trial, with a total of 40 individual tests per test subject.
3. 5 different suits of playing cards were selected to test the subjects on, King, Queen, Jack, Ace, and a 2 of Hearts.
4. In all 120 tests the test subject had to guess which card was randomly chosen/picked up off of the desk through their psychic ability. The tester who picked the card shuffled the cards thoroughly by spreading them around with their hands on a flat surface.
5. Each test subject sat faced the opposite way of the cards while they were being picked up by the tester.
6. During the test, there was a separate individual writing down whether the test subject predicted the card’s suit correctly or incorrectly. He recorded the data by writing down a T for correct and an F for incorrect. This person also told the test subject if they predicted the card correctly or not by saying the words “no” and “yes.” The reasoning behind the person telling the test subject is that if the test subject gets it wrong, he might try even harder to get it right in the next test.
7. Once all four people were tested for their psychic abilities, the 4 trials’ outcomes for each individual person were averaged together. This gives the overall percentage that indicates whether the person tested is by chance a psychic.
8. After that data was averaged, the Chi Squared (*x²*) value was then calculated for each test subject through a Formal Contingency Box/Table to indicate whether or not the null hypothesis is true. This is the equation for the **Chi Squared value**: **(*x²*)** Chi squared = ∑ (observed value – expected value) squared ÷ (expected value) + the data that is in the other columns that were in the contingency box, in this case 2 columns. The Greek symbol ∑ represents that the Chi Squared value (*x2*) is the sum of all of the terms represented in the formula.
9. The degrees of freedom were found by subtracting 1 from the number of test subjects. In this case it was found by 2-1=1 degree of freedom for this experiment.
10. The data recorded was then presented on a graph and table to display the results of the experiment.
11. Results

**Graphs and Tables:**

**Chi Squared (*x²*) Table:**

Accept Hypothesis / Reject Hypothesis

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *d.f*. - | *p =* | .90 | .80 | .70 | .50 | .30 | .20 | .10 | .05 | .01 |
| 1 *d.f.* | → | .016 | .064 | 1.48 | .455 | 1.07 | 1.64 | 2.71 | 3.84 | 6.64 |
| 2 *d.f.* | → | .211 | .446 | .713 | 1.38 | 2.41 | 3.22 | 4.60 | 5.99 | 9.20 |
| 3 *d.f.* | → | .548 | 1.00 | 1.42 | 2.37 | 3.66 | 4.64 | 6.25 | 7.82 | 11.3 |

***d.f. =*** Degrees of Freedom ***p =*** the probability that the observed results differ from expected values by chance.

**Formal Contingency Box:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Correctly Predicted With All Subjects | Incorrectly Predicted | Total Tests: |
| Observed | 25 correct | 95 incorrect | 120 Tests |
| Expected | 23 correct | 97 incorrect | 120 Tests |

**Test Subjects’ Totals:** 7 + 6 + 12 = 25 correct predictions and 95 incorrect predictions.

This formal contingency box is what is used to calculate the **Chi Squared Value.**

**The Chi (*x²)* Squared Value:**

The *x²* value was calculated through this equation that was presented in the procedure.

*x²* = (25 – 23)² + (95 – 97)² = .17 + .04 = **.21 = *x²***

23 97

Following the calculation of the *x²* value, the value was compared with the Chi Squared Table to find the probability that the observed results differ from expected values by chance. As it turns out, the probability was approximately .91 in 1 degree of freedom, near 100% or 1.00 in probability on the Chi Squared Table.

1. Conclusion

Earlier, it was hypothesized that when 3 male test subjects are tested for the presence of psychic abilities, there will be no compelling evidence to conclude that psychic powers will exceed the expectations/probability of chance. The data documented in this psychic probability experiment shows that the likelihood that the three test subjects had no psychic influence on any of the tests was very high, virtually undisputable. The anticipated value of chance was extremely accurate in comparison to the observed outcomes, as shown in the formal contingency box. The expected number of correct predictions was at 23, the observed number was only 2 off of that number at 25 correct predictions. Subsequently to calculating the data through the Chi Squared (*x²*) value equation, it has now come to light that there is not enough data, correct predictions, or evidence acquired in this experiment to confidently state that the null hypothesis was incorrect. This is the case since the probability against psychic powers is at .91 or 91% on the Chi Squared Table. This also indicated that the test subjects do not obtain the psychic abilities that they were tested for.

Although this experiment may have seemed to be fool proof, there are some limitations and undetectable psychic senses in light of this experiment. For instance, the inexplicable psychic surgeries, levitation, incantations, and others are all abilities that were not tested. So no one can be certain that the three test subjects do not possess any supernatural intelligence by isolating their knowledge down to this particular test. But, if the different categories that were listed and more are tested in future studies, they will truly collect all possible information on each and every test subjects’ psychic abilities.