

PSYC1102

Critical thinking

Diffusion of responsibility = full responsibility is not focused on one individual but shared between witnesses → individual helpfulness is reduced.

Spurious correlations = a statistical relationship between 2 variables that appear to be related but have no direct causal connection.

Quasi experiment = participants allocated to experimental conditions on a non-random basis.

Modelling aggression (Bobo Doll Study)

Children with aggressive role models displayed more aggression than those with non-aggressive role models and controls (no role models).

Internal validity = accuracy of the studies conclusions.

External validity = extent to which the findings can be generalised to other people, times and settings.

Intelligence

Metacognition = ability to reflect on and evaluate our own thought processes.

IQ scores = have a mean of 100 and a standard deviation of 15.

Z scores = have a mean of 0 and a standard deviation of 1.

65% of people believe themselves to be above average intelligence.

5% of people believe themselves to be below average intelligence.

IQ and Age

Changes with ages → IQ scores are compared to others in the same age group.

Identical IQ scores but different age groups → absolute levels of intelligence will differ significantly.

Verbal comprehension index = increases through late middle age before declining.

Processing speed = peaks around 16.5 yrs while perceptual reasoning peaks in the mid-20's.

Ages 75-90 → scores for reasoning and speed can drop to levels near mild intellectual disability.

Brain volume decreases from 85% (18-35yrs) to 70% (+75yrs).

Importance of IQ

Intelligence is a positive predictor of academic performance (0.4).

Strong predictor of job performance (0.6).

Correlation decreases with time spent at the job for mundane jobs.

Giftedness = individuals with exceptional abilities → 2% of the population.

Idiot savant = developmental disabilities but exceptional skills in other areas.

Twice exceptional = intellectually gifted and have a learning disability or neurodevelopmental disorder.

Positive manifold = cognitive abilities are positively correlated across individuals → perform well on one test tend to perform well on others, even if the tests are measuring different abilities.

Stronger correlations within the same category → supports distinction between verbal and performance intelligence.

CHC Model of Intelligence: 3 Stratum Theory