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THE CORRELATES OF THE MMPI-2 PERSONALITY DISORDER SCALES IN A
SELECTED NON-CLINICAL POPULATION USING THE ADJECTIVE CHECK
LIST AND RELATED CHARACTERISTICS (236 pp.)

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Researchers involved in the introduction of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory-2 (MMPI-2) have recommended further study of the MMPI-2 to increase the instrument's utility for practitioners in counseling settings (Butcher & Graham, 1994). The purpose of this study was to further refine the utility of the Personality Disorder (PD) scales of the MMPI-2 for use with non-clinical populations. The examination of the relationship between MMPI-2 PD scales and the Adjective Check List Need scales and adjectives was used as a means of identifying and examining characteristics of non-clinical personalities within an adult sample of 285 participants. Hypotheses related to item correlations, scale correlations, uniqueness of scale elevations, prediction of group membership, gender, and race, were tested. Five of the six research hypotheses were rejected as a result of the 4-part statistical analysis. The hypothesis related to gender was not rejected. The results of the present study seem to reflect what has previously been suggested with regard to personality; essentially that clinical personality exists on a continuum that also contains non-clinical personality (Morey, 1997). The profiles of the various PD scales for non-clinical respondents with elevated scores indicate behaviors that while problematic do not likely rise to the level of

impairment as those often found for individuals whose behaviors meet the criteria for diagnosis of a particular personality disorder. The present study was undertaken as a means of answering a call for research aimed at improving the understanding of the relevance of the MMPI-2 in non-clinical settings with non-clinical populations. However, the lack of previous research into the aforementioned diminishes the confidence in which the conclusions of this study can be asserted. The limitations of the present study should be duly noted. Likewise age-old concerns as to the proper use of the MMPI/MMPI-2 and its interpretation in working with non-clinical populations cannot be ignored. Though there remains a lack of existing research to date regarding the MMPI-2 and non-clinical populations, the empirical correlates of the present study not only add to the existing body of knowledge but provide a foundation for future lines of research regarding the MMPI-2 and non-clinical populations.