

Os textos são da exclusiva responsabilidade dos autores
All texts are of the exclusive responsibility of the authors

The connection between psi and volitional competence in a non-western culture

Results:

We focused on two aspects of Balinese culture in this study: 1) an understanding of the Balinese notion of volition, and 2) an understanding of their psychic beliefs.

We created the Balinese Volitional Competency Questionnaire, an 82 question instrument based on a 5 point Likert scale, which 385 Balinese completed. A factor analysis did not yield sufficiently robust factors, but when analyzing only the 66 questions also used in the Edinburgh Volitional Competency Questionnaire, we found four factors in the Balinese sample matching four factors in the Edinburgh sample. These were: Persistence/Initiative (10 questions), Helping/Influencing Others (10 questions), Positive Self-image/Self-confidence (14 questions), and Handling Outside Influences (7 questions).

Additionally, Prof. Suryani interviewed 10 people using a semi-structured format, and these reinforced the importance of the four factors, as well as supplied additional information. For instance, most of the high volitional subjects described significantly challenging life circumstances that were formative in developing their volition.

The second part of the study concerned the Balinese view of psychic phenomena. We collected 533 surveys containing questions about their psychic beliefs. These revealed a high level of belief in the ubiquity of psychic phenomena. For instance, over 75% of the respondents marked positively to the questions of whether ESP and PK exist. Interestingly, while belief in psi seems to be widespread in Bali, less than a quarter of them said that they could demonstrate these abilities. This finding is attributed to their view that psi abilities are possessed only special individuals and not by the general population.

Published Work:

Edge, Hoyt, and Luh Ketut Suryani, "*Selves in Bali*," to be published in Ontology of Consciousness, Helmut Wautisher (ed.).

Edge, Hoyt, and Luh Ketut Suryani, "*Investigation of Psychic Beliefs in Bali*," in Proceedings of Presented Papers, The Parapsychological Association, 44th Annual Convention, New York, 2001.

Edge, Hoyt, and Luh Ketut Suryani, "A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Volition," Florida Philosophical Review, Vol 2, No. 2, December 2002, 56-72.

Os textos são da exclusiva responsabilidade dos autores
All texts are of the exclusive responsibility of the authors

Researcher's Contacts:

Dr. Hoyt Edge
Hugh F. and Jeannette G. McKean Professor of Philosophy
Rollins College
1000 Holt Ave, Box 2749
Winter Park, FL 32789
Telephone: (407) 646-2280
Fax (407) 646-2445
Email: Hedge@rollins.edu

Prof. Dr. dr. Luh Ketut Suryani, SpKJ
Department Head, Psychiatry Department,
Medical Faculty Udayana Univ.
Denpasar, Bali
Indonesia
Telephone 62 361 462-306
Email: cokorda@indosat.net.id