

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 449 417

CG 030 638

AUTHOR Maness, Paula; Gomez, Nelson; Velasquez, Roberto J.; Silkowski, Sharon; Savino, Aimee

TITLE Gender Differences on the MMPI-2 for Colombian University Students.

PUB DATE 2000-08-00

NOTE 8p.; Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association (108th, Washington, DC, August 4-8, 2000).

PUB TYPE Reports - Research (143) -- Speeches/Meeting Papers (150)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS *Adjustment (to Environment); Alienation; College Students; Foreign Countries; Higher Education; Interpersonal Relationship; *Personality Measures; *Psychological Patterns; Sex Differences; Stress Management

IDENTIFIERS Colombia (Bogota); *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory

ABSTRACT

In this study the efficacy of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory 2 (MMPI-2) was examined with a Colombian college student population. It was projected that the participants would have elevated scales related to psychological distress, marginality, and poor morale, given the current socio-political climate in Columbia. Participants were university students (men=21; women=54) from Bogota, Columbia. Similarities and differences between male and female participants were examined on the Spanish version of the MMPI-2. Three conclusions can be drawn from the results. First, women were more likely to present issues related to interpersonal relationships and physical/somatic complaints, suggesting they are more internally conscious. Second, men were more likely to repress feelings related to anger and hostility and to report a sense of disconnectedness or alienation towards society, implying internalized anger and frustration. Third, differences were found on two of the traditional clinical scales; women obtained higher scores on the Masculinity Femininity and Psychopathic Deviant scales. These elevated scores suggest a more non-traditional sex role attitude in females than their male counterparts, and possible adaptive features to the stress related to their enrollment at the university or their ability to manage stress within Colombian society. (JDM)

Gender Differences on the MMPI-2 for Colombian University Students

Paula Maness
San Diego State University

Nelson Gomez
Harvard University

Roberto J. Velasquez
San Diego State University

Sharon Silkowski
San Diego State University

Aimee Savino
Harvard Graduate School of Education

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

- This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

P. MANESS

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Introduction

The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory 2(MMPI-2) is one of the most widely used instruments in personality-and clinically related research throughout the United States and Latin America. A review of the recent literature indicates a growing body of research on the utilization of the MMPI-2 (in Spanish) in many Latin American countries including Mexico, Argentina, and Chile. The recent work by Butcher (1996) highlights the accomplishments of many researchers in standardizing the MMPI-2 in their respective countries. While such research is flourishing in these countries, there remains an absence of research of other Latin American countries like Colombia.

The purpose of this study was twofold; first to examine the efficacy of the MMPI-2 with a college student population in Colombia, and second, to examine similarities and differences between Colombian men and women on the MMPI-2. Given the current socio-political climate in Columbia, we expected that participants might possibly elevate scales related to psychological distress, marginality, and poor morale.

Method

Participants

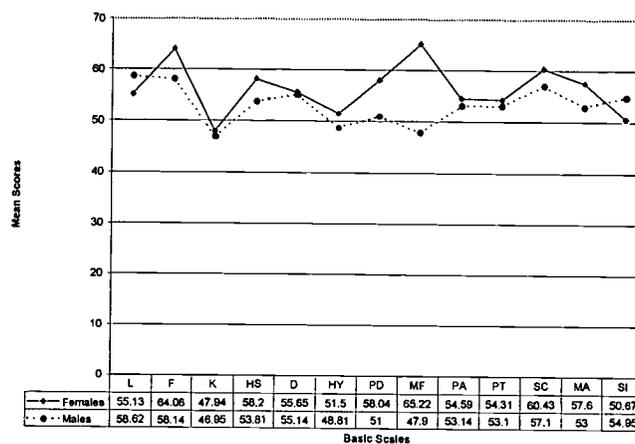
The participants of this study were university students from Bogota, Columbia (men =21; women=54). The mean age for participants was 28.5 years, (men = 29.38; women = 28.22) with a standard deviation of 10.67. The participants were administered the Spanish translation of the MMPI-2. Profile validity was determined by the following rule, "Cannot Say" (CS) or omitted items >20 were excluded from the analysis. No profiles were omitted. The validity, clinical, content, supplementary and Harris-Lingoes scales were analyzed. All data was entered into SPSS and analyzed. A T-test for between group differences was conducted and statistical significance

was determined if $p < .05$; clinical significant differences were determined if the difference between the means of the two groups had a T-score greater than 5 points.

Results

Comparisons between the women and men yielded numerous statistically significant differences. For example, women scored significantly higher than males on the *Gender Masculinity* (GM), $t(73) = -2.55$, $p < .05$, *Masculinity Femininity* (MF), $t(73) = -7.48$, $p < .05$, *Psychopathic Deviant* (PD), $t(73) = -2.23$, $p < .05$, *Psychopathic Deviate Subtle* (PD-S), $t(73) = -2.03$, $p < .05$, *Authority Problems* (PD 2), $t(73) = -2.53$, $p < .05$. The males obtained higher scales than women scores on *Overcontrolled Hostility* (O-H), $t(73) = 2.28$, $p < .05$, *Fears* (FRS), $t(73) = -2.03$, $p < .05$, *Fears 1* (FRS 1), $t(73) = 2.84$, $p < .05$, *Fears 2* (FRS 2), $t(73) = 2.93$, $p < .05$, *Gender Feminine* (GF), $t(73) = 3.52$, $p < .05$. The following graphs illustrate the differences in the mean scores between the groups.

Figure 1: Mean Scores of Males and Females on the MMPI-2 Basic Scales



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Figure 2: Mean Scores of Males and Females on the MMPI-2 Supplementary Scales

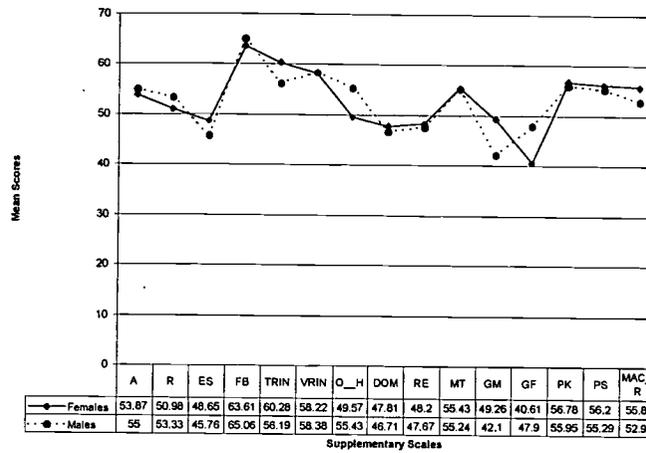
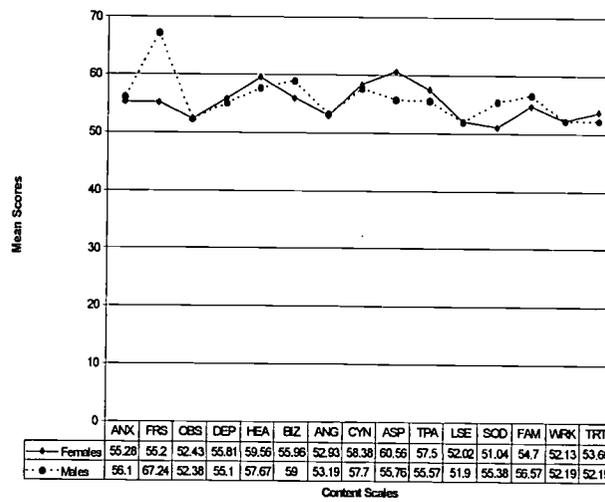
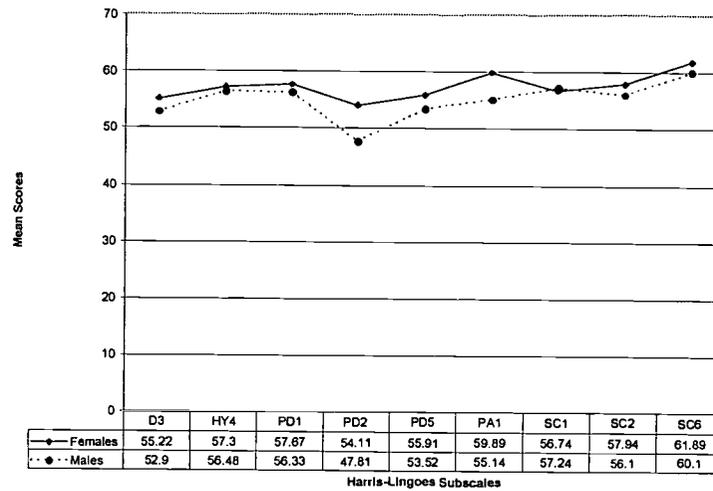


Figure 3: Mean Scores for Males and Females on the MMPI-2 Content Subscales



BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Figure 4: Mean Scores of Males and Females on the MMPI-2 Harris-Lingoes Scales

In addition to statistical significance, clinical significance was evaluated as well. Clinical significance is defined as a difference in 5 T-score points. Illustrated below are the clinical and statistical differences between the two groups.

	Statistically Significant	Clinically Significant
DEP 4		✓
FRS	✓	✓
FRS 1	✓	✓
FRS 2	✓	✓
GF	✓	✓
GM	✓	✓
MF	✓	✓
O H	✓	✓
PD	✓	✓
PD S	✓	
PD 2	✓	✓
PD 4		✓
R	✓	
SC 1	✓	
VRIN	✓	

Discussion

Our results led us to the three following conclusions. First, women were more likely to present issues related to interpersonal relationships and physical/somatic complaints. This suggests that women are more internally conscious; this may be due in part to their lack of perceived control of their external environment. Second, men were more likely to repress feelings related to anger and hostility, and to report a sense of disconnectedness or alienation towards society. This implies internalized anger and frustration possibly due to the Colombian environment. Finally, differences were only found on two of the traditional clinical scales. Women were found to obtain higher scores on the Masculinity Femininity and Psychopathic Deviant scales. In fact, women obtained a mean T score of 65.22 on the MF scale. This elevated score suggests a more *non-traditional* sex role attitude than their male counterparts and possible adaptive features to the stress related to enrollment at the university and/or functioning in Colombian society. Higher performance by women on the PD scale possibly reflected interpersonal issues related to managing stress within Colombian society.

References

Butcher, J.N.; (1996). International Adaptations of the MMPI-2. Minneapolis, MN. University of Minnesota Press.



U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI)
National Library of Education (NLE)
Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC)



REPRODUCTION RELEASE

(Specific Document)

I. DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION:

Title: <i>Gender Differences on the MMPI-2 for Colombian University Students</i>	
Author(s): <i>Paula J. Maness, Nelson Gomez, Roberto J. Velasquez, Sharon Silkowski, Aimee Savino</i>	
Corporate Source: <i>Roberto J. Velasquez A1V-6363 Suite 103-3 Psych Dept Bldg SDSU/UCSD <i>(Clinical Psych + Ph.D. Program San Diego 92182</i></i>	Publication Date:

II. REPRODUCTION RELEASE:

In order to disseminate as widely as possible timely and significant materials of interest to the educational community, documents announced in the monthly abstract journal of the ERIC system, *Resources in Education* (RIE), are usually made available to users in microfiche, reproduced paper copy, and electronic media, and sold through the ERIC Document Reproduction Service (EDRS). Credit is given to the source of each document, and, if reproduction release is granted, one of the following notices is affixed to the document.

If permission is granted to reproduce and disseminate the identified document, please CHECK ONE of the following three options and sign at the bottom of the page.

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 1 documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

1

Level 1

↑

Check here for Level 1 release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche or other ERIC archival media (e.g., electronic) and paper copy.

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2A documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE, AND IN ELECTRONIC MEDIA FOR ERIC COLLECTION SUBSCRIBERS ONLY, HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

2A

Level 2A

↑

Check here for Level 2A release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche and in electronic media for ERIC archival collection subscribers only

The sample sticker shown below will be affixed to all Level 2B documents

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL IN MICROFICHE ONLY HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

Sample

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

2B

Level 2B

↑

Check here for Level 2B release, permitting reproduction and dissemination in microfiche only

• Documents will be processed as indicated provided reproduction quality permits.
If permission to reproduce is granted, but no box is checked, documents will be processed at Level 1.

I hereby grant to the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) nonexclusive permission to reproduce and disseminate this document as indicated above. Reproduction from the ERIC microfiche or electronic media by persons other than ERIC employees and its system contractors requires permission from the copyright holder. Exception is made for non-profit reproduction by libraries and other service agencies to satisfy information needs of educators in response to discrete inquiries.

Signature: <i>Paula J. Maness</i>	Printed Name/Position/Title: <i>Paula J. Maness</i>	
Organization/Address:	Telephone: <i>619-479-4338</i>	FAX: <i>619-479-4338</i>
	E-Mail Address: <i>Paulamaness@</i>	Date: <i>01/25/01</i>

Sign here, → please



APA 2000

home.com

(over)

III. DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY INFORMATION (FROM NON-ERIC SOURCE):

If permission to reproduce is not granted to ERIC, or, if you wish ERIC to cite the availability of the document from another source, please provide the following information regarding the availability of the document. (ERIC will not announce a document unless it is publicly available, and a dependable source can be specified. Contributors should also be aware that ERIC selection criteria are significantly more stringent for documents that cannot be made available through EDRS.)

Publisher/Distributor:
Address:
Price:

IV. REFERRAL OF ERIC TO COPYRIGHT/REPRODUCTION RIGHTS HOLDER:

If the right to grant this reproduction release is held by someone other than the addressee, please provide the appropriate name and address:

Name:
Address:

V. WHERE TO SEND THIS FORM:

Send this form to the following ERIC Clearinghouse:	University of North Carolina at Greensboro ERIC/CASS 201 Ferguson Building PO Box 26171 Greensboro, NC 27402-6171
---	---

However, if solicited by the ERIC Facility, or if making an unsolicited contribution to ERIC, return this form (and the document being contributed) to:

ERIC Processing and Reference Facility
4483-A Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, Maryland 20706

Telephone: 301-552-4200

Toll Free: 800-799-3742

FAX: 301-552-4700

e-mail: ericfac@inet.ed.gov

WWW: <http://ericfac.piccard.csc.com>