## **Research in Temperament**

Research in temperament has blossomed in the last 15 years through the efforts of literally hundreds of scientists in many disciplines. There are both basic and applied research programs at many of the leading universities in the US and other countries around the world. It would be impossible to name every contributor to the literature. However, there are a number of research programs that have been particulrly influential in shaping our knowledge about temperament. The following list indicates some major contributors:

**Mary Rothbart** and colleagues at the University of Oregon, who have been investigating basic processes of self-regulation and effortful control in infants and young children. Jack Bates and colleagues at Indiana University, who have done work on difficult infant temperament and its relationship to aversive control techniques in early childhood.

Adam Matheny and colleagues at University of Louisville School of Medicine have done numerous investigations of infant and early childhood temperament, its structure and the relationship between temperament and clinical phenomena such as accidental injury.

Jerome Kagan and colleagues at Harvard who have studied inhibition and its physiological correlates in infancy and toddlerhood.

**Hill Goldsmith** and colleagues at the University of Wisconsin who have made major contributions in the areas of twin studies and the theoretical structure of temperament including its relationship to attachment and other affective variables.

**Barbara Keogh** and colleagues at the University of California at Los Angeles have conducted numerous studies of the role of temperament in affecting school learning and particularly the role of teachability in doing so.

**Robert Plomin** and colleagues at the Institute of Behavioral Genetics in Boulder, CO and now at Penn State U. have been looking at heritability and other behavioral/genetic elements of temperament.

**Diana Guerin, Allen Gottfried**, and colleagues at California State-Fullerton have conducted a 10 year longitudinal study of temperament and its developmental and behavioral significance.

**Gedolph Kohnstamm** and colleagues at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands, whose work on the factorial structure of temperament and its relationship to later personality has been in progress for many years.

**Barbara Medoff-Cooper** and colleagues at the School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania have investigated the impact of temperament in the newborn and early infancy period. Roy Martin and colleagues at the University of Georgia have done both clinical and basic research in the areas of measurement of temperament in school and its relationship to achievement and lately, long term prediction of outcomes from early temperament status.

**Gunilla Bohlin** and colleagues in Sweden have done extensive longitudinal work showing relationships between early temperament and later personality and patterns of behavior. Richard and Jacquie Lerner at Boston College and colleagues have done extensive research in the areas of measurement of temperament as well as the process of temperament/environment interaction.

**Michel Maziade** in Quebec has done extensive studies of temperamental extremes and their relation to various outcomes in behavioral status later in life.

**Charles Super, Sara Harkness** and colleagues at University of Connecticut have done numerous studies of the role of cultural niche and temperament, showing the importance of context in how temperament influences adjustment.

**Frank Oberklaid, Ann Prior and Ann Sanson** of the Australian Temperament project have published numerous articles on the role of early temperament in predicting later adjustment. Current work in this area has moved further into the physiological and neurophysiolocial basis of temperamental differences.

Some exciting findings are being reported by:

**Megan Gunnar** and colleagues in Minnesota who have been measuring hydrocortisol levels and their behavioral correlates.

**Nathan Fox** at the University of Maryland whose studies are demonstrating that EEG patterns are consistently correlating with different behavioral patterns in young children over time.

**Grazyna Kochanska** at Iowa who has shown relationships between patterns of temperament and pathways to the development of conscience in young children.

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