

## **MMPI characteristics of patients with borderline personality disorders**

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### **Abstract**

The authors studied the MMPI profile characteristics of 41 patients with DSM-III borderline personality disorder. The analysis of data indicated that there is no specific MMPI two-digit code characteristic for the borderline patients. However, the analysis of the mean profile revealed: (a) a 20T difference of the elevations between the L and F validation scales and (b) a simultaneous elevation of both so-called «neurotic» and «psychotic» slopes. Furthermore, a cluster analysis identified groups of patients with different characteristics, which are discussed.

## **The concept of education in the Piagetian theory of moral development**

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### **Abstract**

The Piagetian theory of development towards moral autonomy and the Vygotskian concept of instruction are not incompatible. The present article discusses critically the Kohlbergian theory, investigates some aspects of the Piagetian theory which are supportive of the above hypothesis, and presents Vygotsky's critique to Piaget regarding the role of instruction for the development of children's cognitive structure. The results of two empirical studies show the leading role of instruction for the acceleration of the development of moral thinking.

## **Greek women and abortion: psychosocial study of repeated recourse to abortion**

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### **Abstract**

This article sets a psychosocial approach on the particularities of the problem of abortion in the Greek society. Using a clinical methodology, the psychological processes which, by interacting with social factors, create a situation by which the Greek woman will either have repeated recourse to abortion, or access to modern contraception, are presented. In this article, the different stages of the research are exposed at (a) a theoretical level (review of the bibliography on repetitive abortion and the concept of «compulsive repetition», and at (b) a methodological level (semi-directive interviews, use of the method of «content analysis»). A general synthesis follows. Thus abortion may be considered as the expression of different conflicts affecting the psychological life of the Greek woman and particularly the formation of her feminine identity. At the root of these conflicts are various influences by the social and family environment and those are obvious also on her sexual life. The resolution of these conflicts depend upon the woman's psychological structure.

## Postpartum depression: Psychosocial dimensions

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### Abstract

The spectrum of «affective disorders» following childbirth has frequently been divided into three categories: a) postpartum blues, b) postpartum depression, and c) postpartum psychosis. This paper refers to a number of psychosocial variables which are related to self-reported postpartum depression in a sample of 200 mothers. Mother's psychological state during pregnancy, the stressful life events she has experienced, the social support available, mother's stability according to father's perception were all found to predict postpartum depression. On the contrary, there was a lack of association of postpartum depression with socioeconomic status, parity and father's depression postnatally. The variables examined are related to the contemporary psychosocial context and are closely linked to changes in the family structure and the woman's role. Results of the present study confirm respective non-Greek findings. Finally, the great advantage of prospective designs is stressed rendering possible prediction of women at risk, well in advance, so that preventive measures can be taken so much for the mother's, as for the infant's and the whole family's benefit.