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## Technique Gives Insight on Psychopathic Disorders

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Reviewed by John M. Grohol, Psy.D. on July 15, 2009

A research group from the University of Granada has developed a method to analyze the personality of people with psychopathic disorders by means of their drawings.

The method consists of a series of Graphic Projective Tests (TPG) where patients draw what a psychologist says. Each element of the picture has a meaning and it will give information about conscious and unconscious aspects of the individual.

Dr. José María Cid and colleagues developed a methodology that systematically categorizes all elements that appear in the drawing. This system eases evaluation and interpretation of technical specifications used to determine a personality profile.

Also, it is possible to foresee a diagnosis whose therapeutic action guidelines will be indicated for that person.

This study is the first arranged system of variables supported by a psychological theory easy to evaluate and interpret. That is why it can be used by professionals as well as all those who wish to know a little bit more about themselves.

Researchers have described this methodology in a book titled *Personalidad y conflictos en el dibujo* (personality and conflicts on drawings), which includes the person test, the person under the rain test and the couple test.

This series of graphic projective techniques can be added to the traditional tree test. There is a similitude between the morphology of the drawings and the psychological system of the person in all these tests.

The tests include psychopathological indicators related to the making of the drawing, as well as features that allude to emotional, inhibition or aggressiveness-related disorders.

Also they provide parameters for measuring social maladjustment, criminal trend, and hysteric and obsessive neurosis. In addition to this, elements of [depression](#), psychotic alterations and melancholy features are evaluated.

Source: [University of Granada](#)

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