

HVI Interpretation

From: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com [mailto:Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com]
On Behalf of James Loving Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2008 19:15 To:
Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com Subject: Re: [Rorschach_List] HVI and T

Phil -

If you think about +HVI as capturing **two behavioral tendencies: keeping the world at arm's length (T=0)**, while investing a great deal of energy into scanning the environment and looking for threats (the other HVI components, including high Z score values, over-abundance of part-objects, etc.)...

...then, in these cases (+HVI, but for the T), you might expect to see the **HVI's self-protective watchfulness**, but without the reserved or detached-seeming social stance. Anecdotally, this "near-HVI" has fit very neatly for several kids I've seen with histories of repeated abuse and mistreated, who clearly saw the world as a dangerous place where they needed to watch their backs, but who nevertheless were continuing to reach out for relationships and connections instead of withdrawing like many similarly-situated kids do. In the cases I'm thinking of, their ability to keep connecting was a great strength, though for some it added to their risk for additional mistreatment. Unfortunately, as you point out, your boy's T is not the sort of normative T that we'd normally think of in terms of healthy, "warm and fuzzy" attachment.

By the way, if I'm reading it correctly, I do agree with your giving it the T, but it is sure a **cringe-worthy response**. T accompanied with a really explicit MOR, and also AgPast (from Gacono & Meloy). Not a pretty combination of scores.

Hope this helps. - Jamie

----- Original Message ----- From: "Phil Wickline" <philwickline@HOTMAIL.COM> To: <Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com> Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2008 7:49 AM Subject: [Rorschach_List] HVI and T

I am in the process of interpreting the protocol of a 16 year old boy and am struggling with something I'm hoping folks on the list could help me with.

The boy was hospitalized for aggressive and psychotic/paranoid-like behaviors. The psychiatrist on the unit referred him for assessment to look more closely at the psychotic piece, which appears to be present in this young man (e.g., XA = .69, WDA = .67, X- = .31, WSum6 = 37, CONTAM = 1, etc.).

My question concerns the HVI. Although he has one Texture response, he also has 5 of the 7 other HVI criteria. His presentation is certainly consistent with what would be expected of someone with a positive HVI. What I'm wrestling with is the nature or quality of his texture response. To the D2 area of Card III he responded "LL at cut in half heart." On inquiry he elaborated, "The shape and when it's cut in half and pulled apart, you can see the gooey stuff. (What makes it look gooey?) Because this part, (the middle), is lighter than the hearts (the sides) and because of the tiny holes in it."

Maybe I miscoded the Texture, but if I was right, this certainly has a different "feel" to it (no pun intended, thought it's not bad either) than the warm, fuzzy Popular animal pelt to Card VI. Which, by the way, he missed. He identified it as a pelt, but described Form as the determinant.

How can I make sense of this?

Thanks in advance,

Phil