

Lengthy Rorschach Records

Re: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com; on behalf of; Rick_Poll [richardipollack@yahoo.com]

Sent : Fri 6/24/2011 1:41 PM

To: Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com

Subject: [Rorschach_List] Re: scoring very lengthy responses

No problem with the length of the email. My joke was about the length of the single response.

We number responses, but not every patient thinks that way. Most give discrete responses but some go into a kind of stream of consciousness which can't really be divided and numbered.

In this case, in a single response there is evidence of 1) cognitive flooding, 2) emotional flooding, 3) depression (color-shading blend, at a minimum, although in a record this flooded, one wonders if it can be interpreted conventionally) 4) loss of reality contact. My thought is that there is evidence of both mood and thought disorder. ADHD and OCD do not typically present like this, at least not individually.

The simultaneous occurrence of clear evidence of depression and evidence of heightened cognitive activity reliably predicts affective instability (I don't have a reference on this, but it is my experience). Whether this rises to the level of bipolar disorder is unclear.

Of course, I'm interpreting a single response for the sake of discussion here -- and there are good reasons not to do that. I suppose there might be more benign explanations of why the patient responded in this manner (is he getting a stimulant?). But, given that he's already been diagnosed with two disorders which don't usually present together (ADHD and OCD), I'm wondering about mood disorder.

Keep us posted and good luck with the case.

Rick

--- In Rorschach_List@yahoogroups.com, "Amanda Barrow, Ph.D." <dr.barrow.lifetrek@...> wrote:

>

> Thank you for your thoughts, Rick. I am definitely seeing depression as I
> look into his other test data. I also apologize about the length of the
> email ... that was part of my concern, how much info there is to sift
> through!! Perhaps my questioning about whether his responses were new or
> the same were not clear to him, because I agree that these sound like
> different responses, but in the "heat of the moment" I was just scribbling

> and took him at his word that everything was in one response.

> -Mandy

>

> On Thu, Jun 23, 2011 at 10:13 PM, Rick_Poll <richardipollack@...> wrote:

>> I'd love to comment on this, but I leave on vacation in a couple of weeks,

>> and I don't want to have to stop writing my analysis in the middle.

>> Well, that was mostly a joke. Off the top of my head, I'd say that it

>> really doesn't sound like one response, despite the patient's insisting.

>> It's a flood of ideas which he can't seem to regulate. He is emotionally and

>> cognitively flooded. There is some human, aggressive movement. There is

>> FABCOM2 DR2, but I don't quite see the CONTAM.

>> If the history suggests that the patient is approaching everything in his

>> life like this ... this is a very troubled boy. OCD may be right, but I'd be

>> checking his sleep history carefully and looking at family history of mental

>> illness -- particularly bipolar and/or psychosis.

>> This has a manic quality, and there is simultaneous evidence of depression.

>>

>>

>> --- In Rorschach_List@yahoo.com, "Amanda Barrow, Ph.D."

>> <dr.barrow.lifetrek@> wrote:

>>>

>>> Hi everybody,

>>> I administered the Rorschach to a sweet 8yo boy who has been diagnosed with

>> ADHD

>>> in the past. The mom has observed OCD-like behaviors in recent months,

>>> hence the evaluation. After speaking w/ the client in depth, OCD

>> definitely

>>> seems like an appropriate diagnosis. There were some other interesting

>>> thoughts described (e.g. that he believes he has special abilities other

>>> people do not have), which led me to include the Ror in the battery. On

>> the

>>> Rorschach, he started out giving pretty complete responses, a pattern which

>> became

>>> more and more pronounced as we went. I clarified as he gave his response

>>> that this was still the same response, not a separate one, and he said

>> that

>>> everything was in the same response. It was almost as if he was trying to

>>> find a way to incorporate everything he observed on the card ... if that

>> is
>>> the way he is encountering his world, he must be an exhausted little guy.
>> I
>>> am a little overwhelmed w/ the scoring of these very lengthy and involved
>>> responses, and any guidance would be appreciated. I have typed out his
>>> response to Card X below, as well as my inquiry ... I felt like I was
>>> over-inquiring, but since he included so much in the free association
>> there
>>> was a lot to address. My scoring attempt follows:
>>>
>>> FREE ASSOCIATION:
>>> 2 blue crabs or zombie lobster things, 4 bananas underwater, 1 by each
>> crab,
>>> and 2 in the middle, separated by green tweezers, and at top grey things,
>>> thing you do nails w/, lobsters holding leaves, 2 mice w/ a big boat or
>>> cannon, leaves looks like fans, lobsters using fans, 2 pears underwater, 2 big
>> red
>>> seahorses, looks like little people, are locked up in chains, have to hop
>> everywhere
>>> they go, blue things connected to each of their stomachs, a little thing
>> in
>>> middle, either water or poison that other animals are making them drink,
>> and
>>> 2 little circles connected to the thing in the middle; it holds it so
>> when
>>> they're drinking, it goes as fast as it can and it tries to choke them
>> while
>>> drinking it, that's why it's so big, then 2 little green, you know those
>> red
>>> crabs you see on a beach or in movies, except they're green, and they're
>>> pushing the 2 seahorses so they can get it as fast as they can go; if
>> they
>>> try to trip them because they're pushing the legs and the back, the
>> machine
>>> goes as fast as it can, and they have to keep drinking it because their
>>> mouth is going to be full b/c it has a stopper where you can't spit
>> anything
>>> out but it will let things go in, and then mouth will be full and so they
>>> will choke when they drink, and the 2 bananas by the tweezers ll they
>> have 1
>>> orange eye, that's all.
>>>
>>> INQUIRY:

>>> these are regular crabs, but these ll lobsters (WMLL lobsters?) said it
>> was
>>> a lobster b/c things coming out of it ll tentacles and legs and arm and a
>>> hand (you said zombie lobsters?) it doesn't ll lobsters, so I said
>> zombies
>>> b/c of the things coming out; lobsters in movies and in real life don't
>>> really ll that, so I said zombie lobsters (you said bananas?) see the
>> yellow
>>> things and 2 orange things that ll eyes (you said tweezers?) b/c the
>> green
>>> handles go out straight and diagonally, these pinchers on top, I used one
>>> before I came here to get a nail that was hurting my finger (you said 2
>>> mice?) this ll a motor that goes around, it ll a circle, a wheel (WMLL
>>> mice?) b/c they're small and grey and tail are small and eyes are grey;
>> it
>>> ll a cannon b/c of motor and wheel, where it's straight you could pull it
>>> back and let it go and it would shoot (you said fans?) these blue things,
>>> the leaves, the blue things lobster is holding on to (you said pears?)
>> b/c
>>> it's orange, kinda looks roundish, oval-y (you said seahorses?) the red
>>> things, and the thing they're drinking out of in the middle, each side
>> has a
>>> circle, it makes a lot at same time and goes speedy fast, it makes them
>> suck
>>> it up
>>>
>>> W+ ma.FC.FC'.CF- 2 A,Fd,Sc,Bt,H 5.5 CONTAM, PER, COP, PHR
>>>
>>> additional info:
>>> - ma for "using fans" and "drinking"
>>> - COP for "they're pushing the 2 seahorses" (not sure if that behavior is
>>> unequivocally positive ...)
>>> - PER for "I used one before I came ..."
>>> - CONTAM for "lobster zombie things" (which then makes other special
>> scores
>>> like DV's, ALOG's not included, according to the manual)
>>> - I was debating AG for "they will choke when they drink" or "they are
>>> locked up in chains" but I'm not sure they really fit ...
>>>
>>> Any input would be wonderful! Many thanks in advance for some help!!!!
>>> -Mandy Barrow
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>>> --

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