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Relationships between Extreme Response Style and Individualismrelated Traits

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Extreme response style (ERS) is the tendency to use frequently extreme alternatives of a rating scale for any specific item content. The purpose of this study was to explore relationships between ERS and individualism-related traits including individualism orientation and need for uniqueness. The results showed that, although the coefficient of correlation was not high but significant, ERS correlated positively with "free-spirit," a subtrait of need for uniqueness. As with previous studies, ERS also correlated with playfulness of Five-Factor Personality Questionnaire (FFPQ), and specifically with "fugue," a sub-trait of playfulness. Based on these results, we discussed Tsujimoto's (2003) suggestion for the relationships between ERS and individualism orientation facet of playfulness.

Keywords: extreme response style, individualism orientation, need for uniqueness, openness/playfulness



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