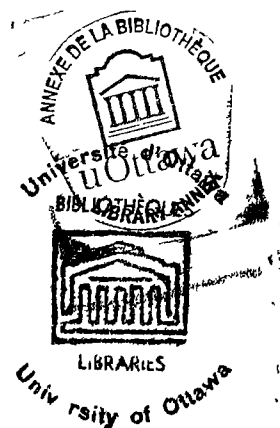


A STUDY OF MURKIN'S THEORY OF THE NEED FOR SELF-DEFINITION
INTO THE FUTURE AS MEASURED BY GROUP RESPONSES OF
PROSPECTIVE PARENTS AND /ADOPTIVE COUPLES
ON A SENTENCE COMPLETION TEST OF THE
COLVIN-BOHMAN TYPE.

by Sister Mary Fidelis Tince, A.C.N.T.

Thesis presented to the Faculty of
Psychology and Education of the
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fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Doctor of
Philosophy



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CURRICULUM STUDIORUM

Sister Mary Fidelis Tonra was born February 20, 1913, in Brooklyn, New York. She received the Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from St. Joseph's College for Women, Brooklyn, New York, in 1960. She received the Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Fordham University, New York, New York, in 1963. The title of her thesis was Differentiation between a Female Delinquent and a Female Nondelinquent Group on the Socialization Scale of the California Psychological Inventory.

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INTRODUCTION

The present study, which is concerned with the study of human needs, represents the combined efforts of two separate disciplines, namely, psychology and social science. Psychology contributed the particular theory of needs and the specific test for needs, while social science contributed the subjects whose particular needs were to be studied. More specifically, the investigation was directed towards the initial step for the study of needs which operate at the existential or spiritual level of psychic life, as proposed by Nuttin. For the sake of brevity, these type of needs will be referred to as existential needs throughout these pages.

The focal point and justification for the present study derives from Nuttin's postulation that man feels a need to go on existing into the future either through his posterity or through his work. It seemed that this desire for self-perpetuation could be studied with groups of married subjects. By finding two separate groups with respect to parenthood, that is, one group composed of childless couples and another group composed of biological parents; but united by a common, expressed desire for children, the theory might be tested.

In the social science field, two such distinct groups were found under the classification of those seeking to be substitute parents. They were prospective foster parents who were requesting that a child be placed in their home on

a temporary basis with the understanding that the child so placed would not be available for adoption by the family. In this group of prospective foster parents, taken from the Pennsylvania area of the United States, the vast majority of applicants were already biological parents. Then there was a group of prospective adoptive parents, the vast majority of them childless, who were requesting that they receive a child in their home for the purpose of permanent possession by legal adoption. Sixty couples were selected from each group to serve as subjects for the study.

The test used in the study was of the sentence completion type as developed by Colvin-Behman for use with substitute parents and containing items related to needs, interpersonal relationships, and concepts of time, particularly the future. In addition, a motivation statement was obtained from each couple at the time of their application for a child.

The first chapter begins with a discussion of Maslow's Theory of Needs, proceeds to an explanation of the preparations made for the use of the test as employed in this study, and concludes with the general research hypothesis. In the second chapter the experimental design is presented with a description of the sampling and testing procedure as well as the outline of the statistical techniques.

The results obtained are presented in Chapter III. The discussion of the results is presented in Chapter IV and

covers the inferences of a need for self-extension into the future as it may be inferred from the data obtained on the group responses of the prospective foster and adoptive parents to a sentence completion test of the Colvin-Bohman type, particularly as the items relate to such topics as progeny, work and future time. Chapter IV also includes statements concerning the limitations of the study, and concludes with lists of suggestions for further research.

It is believed that the primary contribution will be to provide the initial step towards experimentation on existential needs in the United States, as postulated by Muttin. Secondly, it is also believed that the study may provide social science with a clue as to the value of existential needs in the motivational assessment of substitute parents.

In the summary and conclusion the contribution of the study to personality theory and recommendations for subsequent research are indicated. Relevant material, as well as a copy of the research instrument, are given in the several appendices.

CHAPTER I

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Undeniably, existential needs evolve around themes and crises pertaining to human problems. It is essential, however, that a theory of existential needs, when applied to the study of human problems, be relevant to the problem under study. Such orientation of problem with theory is called by Nevitt Sanford the "human-problems" approach and requires a theory that is dynamic, holistic, comprehensive and on a "level of abstraction that is appropriate to the problem at hand."¹ It is the opinion of the present writer that Nuttin's Theory of Needs meets these specifications and, furthermore, considers the manifestation of the fundamental needs "as the dynamic aspects of man's complex psychic life."² The discussion of these needs is contained in the first part of this chapter.

Nuttin, however, experiences "restlessness" with his principles until he is able to obtain facts for verification of them. For Nuttin, "the facts alone, and not assumed

1 Nevitt Sanford, "Will Psychologists Study Human Problems?", in American Psychologist, Vol. 20, No. 3, issue of March 1965, p. 194.

2 Joseph Nuttin, Psychoanalysis and Personality. A Dynamic Theory of No. Personality, translated by George Lamb, New York, Sheed and Ward, 1953, published as a Mentor-Omega Book, New American Library of World Literature, New York, 1962, p. 224.

principles, can allow us to admit the existence of any particular need",³ therefore he urges that scientific observations be made in the study of basic needs as a necessary requisite to the formulation of adequate conceptions in psychopathology, psychotherapy and education. The second part of this chapter contains a discussion of the psychological assessment of existential needs as employed in this study. The chapter concludes with a summary and the basic hypothesis.

1. Muttin's Theory of Needs.

In their search for existential meaning to life, an ever-increasing number of existentialists have so projected their thoughts through the media of drama, literature, art and education that the intensity of their questioning is arousing universal interest in the postulation of existential needs. Personality theorists ought therefore to find themselves absorbed in the challenge to integrate concepts of existential needs into their own proposals concerning the structure and dynamics of personality. They cannot rest secure upon the vast amount of experimental knowledge now accrued about man's physical and social needs but must seek further to discover existential needs and to study how they may influence in a deeper and a more subtle way, not only the present, but also the future actions of the individual.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 228.

As a theorist, Nuttin is first among those psychologists who attempt to account for existential needs. For him there are two basic phenomena into which needs may be postulated, that is, the need for self-preservation and development, and the need for social contact and exchange. From this viewpoint, Nuttin sees "that the whole complexity of human life is involved in the study of human motivation".⁴ A need then "represents a necessity for certain types of behavioral contact with the milieu rather than a 'state' of the organism".⁵ Thus, his theory becomes a relational theory of fundamental needs, explained as follows:

Essentially personality is a structure going beyond its internal organization. Its most characteristic feature is that an outlook on and an exposure to the world are included in its constitution. Personality is a way of being and behaving in a world that exists for the self. In this sense, the fundamental structure of personality is an ego-world unity.⁶

To further elaborate how the basic needs are types of interactions required by the ego-world unity, or the organism-milieu, Nuttin describes three levels of psychic life, namely, the psycho-physiological level, the psycho-social level, and the existential or spiritual level. These different levels of

⁴ Ibid., p. 273.

⁵ Ibid., p. 225.

⁶ Joseph Nuttin, "Personality Dynamics", in Henry P. David and Helmut von Bracken, (eds.), Perspectives in Personality Theory, New York, Basic Books, 1977, p. 136.

activity are intermingled in any concrete human act. For example, man does not simply have a "sensation" of pain on the psycho-physiological level but also experiences a grasp of a "meaningful situation".⁷ It is this concept of the interpenetration of the basic needs on the three levels of psychic activity which enables Nuttin to postulate that need satisfaction embodies more than the sensation of pleasure and displeasure but also "ego-involved failures and success",⁸ that is, factors which have important bearing on the theory of personality disorders and psychotherapy.

The three levels of psychic life also enable Nuttin to regard human needs and tendencies as being 'intimately bound up with the contents of consciousness'⁹ so that "even in our most general and abstract ideas, traces and clear signs of sense knowledge"¹⁰ may be found. Consciousness is the explicit exposure of man to outside things, the "recognition that the essential characteristic of behavior itself is in its being related to a meaningful outside world with which the subject finds himself presented."¹¹ By consciousness man is

7 Joseph Nuttin, Psychoanalysis and Personality, p. 223.

8 -----, Perspectives in Personality Theory, p. 195.

9 -----, Psychoanalysis and Personality, p. 221.

10 Ibid., p. 220.

11 Joseph Nuttin, "Consciousness, Behavior and Personality", in Psychological Review, Vol. 62, No. 5, 1955, September 1955, p. 351.

freed from his own subjectivity. While some degree of exposure to the world is implied in all behavior the higher functions of consciousness are manifested only in specific forms of human behavior such as in language and culture.

To summarize this general presentation of Nuttin's Theory of Needs it may be stated that personality is regarded as an ego-world unity; that motivation must be considered as it relates to man living in a meaningful world; that consciousness functions at different levels of awareness depending on the psychic level of activity; and that "basic needs are general types of organism-environment and ego-world relationships which actually are required by the functioning of organism and personality".¹²

a) The Postulate under Study.- Nuttin states that "man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellow-men either through his posterity or through his work."¹³ It was the opinion of the present writer that if this postulate could be subjected to experimental study the results might give evidence to substantiate it. This single statement refers to the two basic phenomena of self-preservation and social contact. It also suggests material for observation on the three levels of psychic activity; that is, on the biological level there

12 Ibid., p. 355.

13 Joseph Nuttin, Psychoanalysis and Personality, p. 258.

would be questions concerned with social and altruistic forms of contact, and on the existential level there would be opportunity to infer from direct and indirect expressions of motives the existence of an abstract need. The statement also deals with the concept of future time and would provide an area for research which has not been extensively explored, particularly with its relation to concepts of work and progeny.

The suggestion of experimentation on existential concepts, however, arouses negative reactions in both European and American psychologists, but for different reasons, due to their orientation with respect to the scientific approach to the study of personality. The review of the literature necessarily followed this division, chiefly because Nuttin's theory, European in origin, was to be applied to American subjects in the United States.

b) Nuttin's Theory and European Existential Thought.-
The presentation of Van Kaam¹⁴ on the impact of existential phenomenology on the psychological literature of western Europe reveals that the proponents of existential psychology are also proponents of the phenomenological approach to the study of personality. Characteristic of the studies is the effort to keep the subject as subject and not to make him the object of

¹⁴ Adrian Van Kaam, "The Impact of Existential Phenomenology on the Psychological Literature of Western Europe", in Review of Existential Psychology and Psychiatry, Vol. 1, No. 1, Winter 1961, p. 63-92.

controlled, laboratory experimentation with emphasis being on the consideration of man as he stands out in an experienced world. Van Kaam believes that this phenomenology is implicit in James because of the emphasis James places on the unity of man in the world of experience. For Van Kaam there are two aspects of experience; the sources of experience which lead to a descriptive psychology, such as that of Buytendijk; the other sources which lead to an analysis of the experienced world and becomes the explanatory psychology of Skinner, Hill and Spence.

It is Van Kaam who points out that the anthropological approach of existential psychologists is also integrated into the thought of French personalism thereby moving from pessimistic existentialism to personalistic existentialism. He places Muttin among those psychologists who have contributed to this anthropological integration and furthermore indicates that such an integration is congenial to the American temperament. Muttin's theory therefore should have some appeal in American psychology and be appropriate for testing in the United States.

Durkin is alert to the fact that European philosophical anthropology has "invaded the field of psychology and made of it a cultural science with an ontological base"¹⁵ with far-reaching changes resulting in the theory and practice of

¹⁵ Helen E. Durkin, The Group in Depth, New York, International Universities Press, 1964, p. 273.

psychotherapists who adopted its principles. Such an approach requires that the therapist understand his patient in ontological terms and she urges psychologists to study the basic premises of existential philosophy. For Durkin this is the primary task, the question of common techniques, although not yet formulated, is seen as of secondary importance. She is thereby reflecting the attitude of European thinkers such as Medard Boss¹⁶ who states that psychotherapeutic processes cannot be understood unless an answer can be given to the question of what would have to be the nature of man in order for him to perceive object relations and interpersonal relations. May, as American voice for existential analysts, is in agreement with Boss and other European thinkers that the nature of man needs to be studied but urges that the studies be conducted along scientific lines, and not be anti-intellectual or anti-scientific in approach. Dissatisfaction with the present inadequacies of scientific method ought rather to lead to greater effort to find "new scientific methods which will be more adequate for revealing the nature of man."¹⁷ The phenomenological context for a science of man is deemed an acceptable

¹⁶ Medard Boss, "Daseinsanalysis and Psychotherapy", in Hendrik M. Ruitenbeek, (ed.), Psychoanalysis and Existential Philosophy, New York, Dutton, 1962, p. 81-89.

¹⁷ Rollo May, "Dangers in the Relation of Existentialism to Psychotherapy", in Hendrik M. Ruitenbeek, (ed.), Psychoanalysis and Existential Philosophy, New York, Dutton, 1962, p. 178-187.

approach by May. In comparing Eastern philosophies with existentialism, May is impressed by their common concern with ontology. He does not, however, urge that Eastern thought be transferred to the Western mind but should serve rather to correct the biases and highlight, by contrast, "the erroneous assumptions that have led Western development to its present problems."¹⁸ Similarly, it is believed by the present writer that the contrast of Western psychology and its existential formulations with American psychology having no professed philosophical formulations might serve to correct some American biases and erroneous assumptions. Allport¹⁹ would also insist that the scholar betrays "inexcusable provincialism" if he neglects the wisdom of the East. In this study, however, it is not plausible to do so, beyond recommending that further research be directed towards such study. Here the concern is with the question of selection of theory from Europe which possesses existential principles and the problem of testing the theory in an American milieu. It seems that Nuttin's Theory of Needs is amenable to American culture. It also appears that Nuttin's methodology is particularly appropriate at this time, for he uses the current scientific approach to

¹⁸ Rollo May, "The Origins and Significance of the Existential Movement in Psychology", in Rollo May, et al., (eds.), Existence, A New Dimension in Psychiatry and Psychology, New York, Basic Books, 1957, p. 3-36.

¹⁹ Gordon W. Allport, Pattern and Growth in Personality, New York, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1961, p. 564.

test his hypotheses. The theory may therefore be tested with a method that is already familiar to the American mind. That there appears to be a need for the testing of a theory such as Nuttin proposes is revealed by a survey of the literature on motivation in American psychology.

c) Nuttin's Theory and American Theories of Motivation.- A prominent forum for the study of motivation in the United States is the Nebraska Symposium on Motivation which meets annually. At the 1964 session, Hilgard presented data which he gathered from the symposia of previous years by making a content analysis of the reference lists at the end of each author's contribution. Hilgard noted that there were three basic orientations of authors, i.e., 'one built around S-R drive-reduction learning theory approach, second a more physiological-hormonal approach, and third, a personality social approach.'²⁰ Hilgard was critical of the fact that no one orientation produced satisfactory results in the study of human motivation and particularly expressed disappointment that the personality-social group was least productive in providing "a unified position among those who deal primarily with human beings."²¹ The present writer wondered how many references

²⁰ Ernest R. Hilgard, "The Motivational Relevance of Hypnosis", in David Levine, (ed.), Nebraska Symposium on Motivation, University of Nebraska Press, 1964, p. 2.

²¹ Ibid., p. 5.

might have been made to Nuttin among the authors. A survey was made of the same lists Hilgard had analyzed and not one reference was found to Nuttin's motivational theory. Hilgard had concluded that it was not surprising if "those with different pre-occupations do not refer excitedly to the findings by way of other approaches",²² but it seems that scientific interests should at least acknowledge an awareness of the existence of other motivational theories if only for the sake of avoiding "inexcusable provincialism".

An overview and synthesis of theories of motivation by Madsen²³ also omits reference to Nuttin's theory although Madsen's own theory of motivation expresses concepts similar to those of Nuttin's. Madsen, however, wishes to confine his theory to a limited number of motives classifying them in accordance with actual functional relationships as either organic or situational motives. He thus avoids any reference to existential factors and sets his hypotheses upon empirical grounds. It then becomes impossible to equate Nuttin's theory to Madsen's.

Well-known theorists of personality, however, among whom may be mentioned Lewin, Murray and Maslow, offer several

²² Ibid., p. 3.

²³ K.B. Madsen, "Theories of Motivation, An Overview and a Synthesis", paper presented at the Seventeenth International Congress of Psychology, Washington, D.C., August 20-26, 1963, 17 p.

common denominators relevant to Nuttin's Theory, for their main concepts are also developed around "need" as representing the driving forces behind behavior. For Lewin, needs affect the cognitive structure not only of the psychological present but, even more, of the psychological future for "the reality level of the psychological past, present, and future corresponds to the situation as they actually existed, exist and will exist according to the individual's belief."²⁴ Nuttin is particularly interested in the study of the depth of time perspective and frequently uses Lewin's terminology in the explanation of his experimentations. Time perspective is "best manifested in the behavioral plans, the long term projects and tasks in which human motivation develops",²⁵ and on the basis of research findings Nuttin has been developing hypotheses concerning relationships between learning and dynamic systems, as well as between overt behavior and cognition. In the present study, time perspective is involved with the subject's perception of how the arrival of a child in his household will affect his future existence.

²⁴ Kurt Lewin, Field Theory in Social Science. Selected Theoretical Papers, edited by Dorwin Cartwright, New York, Harper, 1951, p. 75.

²⁵ Joseph Nuttin, "The Future Time Perspective in Human Motivation and Learning", in Proceedings of the Seventeenth International Congress of Psychology, Washington, D.C., August 20-26, 1963, p. 73.

Muttin's studies on the future time perspective has also enabled him to bridge a gap which Arnold states ought to be explained by "need" psychology, that is, the providing of some explanation of how needs of any kind initiate action, or to postulate some connection "between biological needs and adult actions, from which psychological or social needs may be inferred."²⁶ Muttin's hypothesis on learning and behavior with regard to motivational and cognitive processes is as follows:

Learning is conceived of as a process by which behavioral responses are incorporated or embedded in the dynamic systems of the individual. The arousal of the dynamic system activates at the same time the behavioral pattern embedded in it, and in this way the gap between learning and action or performance can be bridged.²⁷

This concept is also applicable to the present study because in the two groups of subjects there is demonstrated some effects of learning with relationship to parenthood. One group has learned to become parents and the affect tied to the learning has been pleasant enough to want to continue the experience, whereas the subjects in the other group have not had the opportunity to learn how to become parents and the anxiety aroused by the frustration has initiated action for

²⁶ Magda B. Arnold, Emotion and Personality, Volume I Psychological Aspects, New York, Columbia University Press, 1960, p. 220.

²⁷ Joseph Muttin, Future Time Perspective, p. 31.

learning to begin. Lewin's statement that a "need may be satisfied by reaching the desired goal or by reaching a substitute goal"²⁸ is also demonstrated by the groups under study since all the subjects are seeking to become substitute parents.

For Murray, a need is a "force which (if inhibited) produces activity which (if competent) brings about a situation which is opposite (as regards its relevant properties) to the one which aroused it."²⁹ He states, furthermore, that when need is defined "as a disequilibrium which stresses towards equilibrium, it falls into the category of finalistic concepts."³⁰ Murray clearly outlines that this concept of finalism is to be understood as that aspect of human experience which anticipates a goal although the conscious purpose of the goal may not be present. Thus Murray presents his concept of needs as dynamic rather than mechanistic but he does not go as far as Nuttin in postulating a need for self-extension into the future. The same comment may be made of all the different types of needs Murray postulates and his attitude is accepted by those who follow his concepts and experiment with them. Notable among these psychologists is

28 Lewin, Op. Cit., p. 275.

29 Henry A. Murray, Explorations in Personality, Cambridge, Oxford University Press, 1938; New York, Science Editions, 1962, p. 42.

30 Ibid., p. 67.

McClelland and his work on the need for achievement. But McClelland does not believe "it is too helpful simply to ask a person about his motives, interests, and attitudes. Often he does not know very clearly what his basic concerns are."³¹ McClelland therefore resorts to the use of a projective technique developed by Murray, that is, "to try and get a sample of his normal waking thoughts by asking him just to tell a few stories about some pictures."³² Nuttin takes exception to the basic methodological principle involved in this research as far as it is related to normal persons. It is Nuttin's contention that "purely artificial imagery in an experimental setting may remain rather alien to the real motivation structure of a well-adjusted personality."³³ Therefore the assumption that man will reveal the content of his dominant thoughts in experimental imagery is not tenable, according to Nuttin. He is supported in his objection by Christie and Lindauer³⁴ who are critical of McClelland and his co-workers because many

³¹ David C. McClelland, The Roots of Consciousness, New York, Van Nostrand, 1964, p. 19.

³² Ibid.

³³ Joseph Nuttin, "Personality", in C.P. Stone and D.W. Taylor, (eds.), Annual Review of Psychology, Vol. 6, 1955, p. 169.

³⁴ Richard Christie and Florence Lindauer, "Personality Structure", in Annual Review of Psychology, Vol. 14, 1962, p. 201-230.

of the measures against which the need for achievement has been compared are not carefully defined. Allport also supports Nuttin's objection but does not rule out the use of the projective method per se, rather he insists that if one wishes "to distinguish a well-integrated personality from one that is not"³⁵ then projective methods in the study of motivation should at the same time employ direct methods for comparison of conscious report and projective responses. The recent work of Carberry³⁶ supports Allport's theoretical position that the normal adult is able to comprehend his general personality make-up and can accurately describe his motivations.

The specialization trend in motivational theory is noticeable in Atkinson's emphasis on motivation. Firstly, his introduction to motivation is declared as "aphysiological in its orientation"³⁷ and the theoretical problems of motivation are considered as separate and distinct from that of learning. Each of these approaches to motivation is opposed to Nuttin's approach as previously cited. In addition, Atkinson tends to the Lewinian mathematical approach in the

³⁵ Gordon W. Allport, "The Trend in Motivational Theory", in American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, Vol. 23, No. 1, January 1953, p. 111.

³⁶ Hugh Carberry, A Comparison of Three Methods of Need Assessment with Normal and Neurotic Subjects, unpublished doctoral thesis presented to the School of Psychology and Education of the University of Ottawa, Ontario, 1964, p. 21.

³⁷ J.W. Atkinson, An Introduction to Motivation, New York, Van Nostrand, 1964, p. x.

assessing of human motives since he believes that the combination of an expectancy theory of motivation and a mathematical model for decision carries much promise. For Atkinson, "the idea of measuring cognitive expectancies aroused in particular real-life situations"³⁸ offers a mediating link between psychological and sociological concepts. Moulton's experiment based on Atkinson's approach to the study of achievement motives, however, leaves one with many questions as to its adequacy, in particular about the expectancy of the subjects since they "were required to participate in the study."³⁹

More closely aligned to Nuttin's Theory of Needs is Maslow's concept of the nature of normality which is identified with the highest excellence of which man is capable:

But this ideal is not an unattainable goal set out far ahead of us; rather it is actually within us, existent but hidden, as potentiality rather than as actuality [...] It implies a strictly naturalistic system of values that can be enlarged by further empirical research with human nature [...] The key concepts in the newer dynamic psychology are spontaneity, release, naturalness, self-acceptance, impulse-awareness, [and] gratification.⁴⁰

³⁸ John W. Atkinson, "Thematic Apperceptive Measurement of Motives within the Context of a Theory of Motivation", in Bernard I. Murstein, (ed.), Handbook of Projective Techniques, New York, Basic Books, 1965, p. 454.

³⁹ Robert W. Moulton, "Effects of Success and Failure on Level of Aspiration as Related to Achievement Motives", in Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Vol. 1, No. 6, May 1965, p. 399-406.

⁴⁰ A.H. Maslow, Motivation and Personality, New York, Harper, 1954, p. 352.

Maslow believes that basic needs can be directly studied in relatively healthy people. He places these needs into five categories as physiological needs, safety or personal needs, love needs, esteem needs and the need for self-actualization. The gratification of needs occurs in a hierarchy, that is, the lower needs must be satisfied before the higher ones. In this respect Maslow's concept differs from Mattin's and also by his postulation of a need identification, "or the pooling of the hierarchies of basic needs in two persons into a single hierarchy. The effect of this is that one person feels another's needs as if they were his own."⁴¹ Mattin would not quite concur with Maslow that under these conditions two people would become, for psychological purposes, a single ego. He would rather explain that a good love relationship brings to full flower the "gift" of man to be "actively open to others and widely receptive to them"⁴² so that contact with an "other" leads to an enrichment of the ego, not to a surrender of it, or the merging of one ego with another.⁴ There is active integration with the world of men and the absolute which implies an "openness" as "the channel by which man "gives himself" and by which he "receives", i.e., his channel of self-realization. It is life itself."⁴³ To

⁴¹ Ibid., p. 248-249.

⁴² Joseph Mattin, Psychoanalysis and Personality, p. 243.

⁴³ Ibid., p. 245.

which Rogers would also agree, for he sees life as an active process, "the most impressive fact about the individual being seems to be his directional tendency toward wholeness, toward actualization of his potentialities."⁴⁴ Rogers sees man as striving toward fulfillment and preferring in the process to select a more richly stimulating setting than a more impoverished one. Rogers' concept that "the substratum of all motivation is the organismic tendency toward fulfillment"⁴⁵ is an American approach to the study of motivation that is in concurrence with Nuttin's concept.

While Maslow and Rogers discuss goals relating to self-actualization and fulfillment Patterson⁴⁶ is urging that psychology needs to concern itself with disappointment in the attainment of goals because of disability or other forms of tragedy. He advocates that existential principles would enable the psychologist to study the limitations imposed by disability because of their emphasis upon freedom. Nuttin's studies on success and failure are acknowledged by Allport⁴⁷ particularly as they demonstrate that even in the laboratory persons will behave according to their style of life.

⁴⁴ Carl R. Rogers, "The Actualizing Tendency in Relation to 'Motives' and to Consciousness", in Nebraska Symposium on Motivation, Lincoln, Nebraska, Nebraska Press, 1963, p. 4.

⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 6.

⁴⁶ C.H. Patterson, "Existentialism and Disability", in The Catholic Psychological Record, Vol. 3, No. 2, Fall, 1965, p. 120-124.

⁴⁷ Allport, Op. Cit., p. 267.

In summary of this section on Nuttin's Theory of Needs it may be noted that the orientation of European psychologists who have adopted existential principles is towards the use of the method of phenomenology, therefore Nuttin's experimental approach would not be enthusiastically received by them. The orientation of American psychologists, on the other hand, would welcome the methodology of Nuttin but would tend to avoid his theoretical concepts because of a tendency to be skeptical about existential principles. The review of the literature, however, gives some indication that an effort to present Nuttin's Theory of Needs through experimentation with American subjects might prove profitable for both the theory and the American psychologists.

2. The Psychological Assessment of Existential Needs.

While the theorem in this investigation was taken from Nuttin's Theory of Needs, the subjects for testing of the theorem were taken from social science. The statement under investigation was "Man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellow-men either through his posterity or through his work."⁴⁸ It was the opinion of the present writer that married persons would best serve as subjects to test this premiss, but one would need to be certain

⁴⁸ Joseph Nuttin, Psycheanalysis and Personality, p. 258.

that such married persons did desire children, since the possession or non-possession of children could be the independent variable upon which the desire for self extension depended. Therefore the writer looked for two groups of married subjects who were expressing a common desire for children but who differed with respect to parenthood, that is, one group would consist of married couples who were childless and the other group would consist of married couples who were already biological parents.

In the field of social science two such distinct groups were found among agencies dealing with substitute parents. Those agencies concerned with foster home placements had applicants the majority of whom were already biological parents, and those agencies concerned with the placement of children for permanent adoption had applicants the majority of whom were childless.

In the process of locating the groups, however, social science presented a secondary problem, that is, the social workers expressed divergent opinions about the needs of substitute foster and adoptive parents. Most of the objections were based on the belief that the needs of foster and adoptive parents could not be assessed with the same test because the needs were so different. When questioned further, the social workers could not present scientific evidence for the avowed difference.

To the investigator of this study the protestations of the social workers gave confirmation of the need for an experimentation on needs of prospective foster and adoptive parents, and was encouraged that these two groups might be differentiated on a psychological test. Furthermore, the differentiation on the basis of existential needs could provide a distinct guide for the social workers. The review of the literature in this section was made therefore with two main points in mind, namely, 1) the needs of the subjects, and 2) the assessment of existential needs.

a) The Needs of the Subjects.- As an initial step in the survey of the literature a letter was sent by the writer to fourteen national and state agencies in the United States requesting information on any comparative studies which were completed, or in process of completion, on the needs of foster and adoptive parents. Every agency replied in the negative. Some graciously referred the request to another agency and these additional agencies also replied in the negative. A list of these agencies is in Appendix 1.

A second step was the attendance of the writer at the first and second annual meeting of the Detroit Foster Homes Project held under the auspices of the Merrill-Palmer Institute of Human Development and Family Life, in Detroit, Michigan, in the winters of 1964 and 1965. Delegates at these meetings represented the research workers of foster home agencies in the

United States, with some representation from Canada. In the literature distributed, and in personal discussion with the delegates, the writer found only one agency conducting a comprehensive program of research on the needs of foster parents. This was the Astor Home for Emotionally Disturbed Children located in Rhinebeck, New York. The work of this agency is discussed in detail in the following section of this chapter. Over ninety agencies and research centers were represented in these groups. As might be anticipated, there was no mention of adoptive parents, much less of their needs.

For research data on the needs of adoptive parents, the writer obtained the results of a questionnaire issued from the Catholic Welfare Agency in Trenton, New Jersey, to a number of adoption agencies throughout the United States. These agencies were asked to send information as to the type of psychological services they engaged in for the screening of their adoptive parents. Of the several replies received there was no evidence of a uniform attempt to assess the needs of the adoptive parents and, in general, the practice was to use psychological testing procedures only when there was a doubt about the suitability of the applicants. Appendix 2 contains a list of these agencies.

In 1963, the writer conducted a private study of 117 adoptive parents who applied for children at the above-named agency during the year 1959. As part of the study, the motives

given by each couple for wanting to adopt a child were copied from the applicant forms. In 1964, these motives were compared to the reasons given by prospective foster parents at the Astor Home. From this content analysis by the research staff at Astor Home some categories of responses were identified. In brief, while both types of substitute parents expressed needs for affiliation, the adoptive couples repeatedly emphasized their lack of biological children. This difference occurred despite the fact that both foster and adoptive groups were mixed with respect to parenthood, although the majority of the foster parents were biological parents and the majority of the adoptive parents were childless.

Another difference was noted in the fact that the responses of the adoptive couples were more heavily laden with an abstract or religious orientation in contrast to the more concrete orientation of the foster parents. If this difference were to be tested with controlled groups some evidence might be obtained to support Nuttin's statement which is under study, for it would appear that concern about progeny was in some manner involved with an abstract need.

In current publications on adoptive couples there is a growing awareness that their needs ought to be considered as much as those of the child being placed in their care. Isaac states that "the function of the agency is not to screen out good from bad applicants but to help applicants determine if

they do indeed wish to become adoptive parents."⁴⁹ Careful analysis of motives would help in this process, yet no solid body of research is being conducted to study the needs of adoptive parents despite the statements of many social workers, such as Carle, that "the question of the motive and the personality of the adoptive parents is of more importance than their social status, their educational or professional background, or their economic capacity."⁵⁰

Rotter⁵¹ has given some consideration to the manner in which needs of both foster and adoptive parents may be differentiated and classified as negative or positive. On the biological level, he suggests that sexual maladjustment of the adoptive parents could be symptomatic of broader problems of adjustment; on the psycho-social level he believes that the best adoptive parents are those who have a genuine desire for children and are themselves warm and affectionate. Likewise foster parents should be flexible, patient, warm and possessed of a sense of humor. Foster parents also need to be able to

⁴⁹ Rael, Jean Isaac, Adopting a Child Today, New York, Harper and Row, 1965, p. 216.

⁵⁰ Sister William Elizabeth Carle, Adoption Applicants at Intake. A Statistical Study of Fifty Prospective Adoptive Parents accepted at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1954, unpublished Master's dissertation, Fordham University School of Social Service, 1955, p. 72.

⁵¹ Julian B. Rotter, Social Learning and Clinical Psychology, New York, Prentice Hall, 1954, xvi-466 p.

accept having to relinquish the child at a later date, a need which would differentiate them from the adoptive parents. On the existential or spiritual level, Rotter believes that "parents who have successfully raised some of their own children, who have developed the patience and tolerance that comes from such experience [...] still have sufficient satisfactions from working with children."⁵² This statement would also seem to suggest that, if Nuttin's statement is correct, the desire for self-perpetuation may be satisfied not only through progeny or work, but also through progeny and work, especially when the desire for progeny has been adequately satisfied.

The statements of other writers about the needs of substitute parents may also be classified according to the three levels proposed by Nuttin. When this is done another factor is noted which seems to bear on Nuttin's postulation regarding the need for self-perpetuation. To illustrate, consider the following quotations: On the biological level, Kirk states, "adoptive parents may be taken to be no different from biological parents in their aspirations for family life, with perhaps one exception."⁵³ The exception mentioned is that adoptive parents most strongly seek stability and permanence.

⁵² Ibid., p. 411.

⁵³ H. David Kirk, Shared Fate. A Theory of Adoption and Mental Health, New York, Free Press of Glencoe, 1964, p. 85.

On the other hand, foster parents are also seen as concerned with the question of permanence because the foster child will eventually leave their home. On a test, therefore, which tapped the area of permanence the two types of substitute parents might give similar responses. On the psycho-social level, Hicks states, "all parents undergo a maturing process through caring for each child who comes to them, whether through birth or adoption."⁵⁴ Therefore one should not expect adoptive parents to differ from natural parents who, in this study, are also foster parents. Needs of both types of substitute parents would be similar at the psycho-social level and responses to test items tapping this level should not reveal differences in needs. On the existential or spiritual level: Raymond states that adoptive couples "feel a child will make a richer and better life for them, and that they will do the same for the child, a mixture of self-interest, altruism and conformity."⁵⁵ On the other hand, comments about foster parents do not include any reference to altruistic or existential motives as being characteristic of them. Wolins states that those most likely to succeed in foster care are marital partners who have backgrounds of well-adjusted, loving, and tolerant family life, who

⁵⁴ Lydia T. Hicks, "Placing the Second Child for Adoption", in Child Welfare, Vol. 39, No. 5, May 1960, p. 15.

⁵⁵ Louise Raymond, Adoption and After, New York, Harper, 1955, p. 15.

have experience in meeting crises, and never "succumbed to cultural lag and lost touch with the times."⁵⁶ If Nuttin's postulate is valid and if Rotter's observation about foster parents is basically true it would seem that foster parents might possibly give a greater number of responses on items which tapped the existential level than would the adoptive parents. If so, the study would reveal a characteristic of the foster parents which is not attributed to them by the current literature.

b) The Assessment of Existential Needs.- Since the particular existential need under study includes the concept of the future it was desirable to select a test where the subject would be free to express his plans, intentions, wishes, strivings and tasks. Nuttin⁵⁷ uses a form of sentence completion test for this purpose in his experimentations. This type of test also provides the subject with the opportunity for personal, conscious expression of his motives. Likewise, such a test, by using both direct and indirect expressions in its stems, permits the psychologist to tap different levels of the subject's needs, a procedure which was desirable in this study.

⁵⁶ Martin Wolins, Selecting Foster Parents. The Ideal and the Reality, New York, Columbia University Press, 1963, p. 49.

⁵⁷ Joseph Nuttin, "Future Time Perspective in Human Motivation and Learning", Op. Cit., p. 67.

Rohde⁵⁸ presents the historical background of the sentence completion method beginning with Libbinhaus and working up to her own type of sentence completion test. The method has been extensively used in both European and American countries. Rohde concludes there is adequate evidence that, to a considerable extent, the sentence completion test carries out its role as a projective technique. As a rule, however, the tests are not constructed for any particular group other than the general population. But the writer did find one test which was specifically constructed for use with foster parents. It is the Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Form as constructed by the members of the research center at Astor Home for Emotionally Disturbed Children, Rhinebeck, New York. After a complete study of the test, particularly of the stems and the categories by which the responses were judged, it seemed to the writer that by changing one word only the instrument could be adopted for use with adoptive parents. That is, the word foster would be changed to adoptive where necessary in the text. A seminar was held with Dr. Colvin and his staff to discuss this possibility. As a result of the discussions, the writer decided to use the test for the study, but to precede it with a few preliminary studies which would make it more adequate and

⁵⁸ Amanda R. Rohde, The Sentence Completion Method, Its Diagnostic and Clinical Application to Mental Disorders, New York, Ronald, 1957, p. 6-45.

reliable for the purpose of the present investigation. The following account gives a brief history of the test and its development as well as the preliminary steps taken to prepare it for use in the measurement of existential needs.

c) The Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Test.- The motive and justification for the construction of this type of test is offered by Dr. Colvin as follows:

A readiness to explain pathological behavior on the basis of a pathological home experience logically must be matched by a readiness to formulate plans for the prevention and treatment of pathology in terms of placing the child in a home specifically suited to his individual needs.⁵⁹

There were several objectives to be accomplished by the construction of the test which were as follows: (1) to obtain an understanding of the needs of prospective foster parents. A study by Beaulieu,⁶⁰ comparing needs of foster parents to needs of foster children, had demonstrated to Dr. Colvin and his staff at Astor Home the importance of obtaining a measure of parental needs. (2) To allow potential foster parents the opportunity to project themselves into the role of foster parents and through this experience to gain a better

⁵⁹ Ralph W. Colvin, 'Toward the Development of a Foster Parent Attitude Test', in Quantitative Approaches to Parent Selection, New York, Child Welfare League of America, 1962, p.41.

⁶⁰ Lucien Beaulieu, A Study of Characteristics of Foster Children and Foster Parents associated with Successful Foster Parent-Child Matchings, unpublished master's thesis presented to the School of Social Sciences of the University of Ottawa, Ontario, 1960, viii-106 p.

knowledge of the realities of the relationship. (3) To provide a method of obtaining the attitudes of prospective substitute parents on critical aspects of the foster parent-child relationship.

These three objectives were also regarded as pertinent to the present study with substitute parents because, as Fanshel⁶¹ has indicated, there are ingredients in the situation of a substitute family that are not normally encountered in biological units.

On the basis of their research and personal observations of foster home activities at Astor Home, as well as a survey of the literature, Dr. Ralph W. Colvin and the late John Bohman evolved a fifty-six item sentence completion projective test of foster parent attitudes. (Later increased to fifty-eight items by adding two multiple-choice items.) It was administered first to forty-four staff members of Astor Home and then to forty-five prospective foster mothers and fathers. The responses of the forty-four staff members were classified individually by each of ten research clinicians into ten or less content categories of their own origin. These categories were then assigned to two clinicians with instructions to evolve four content categories and one etcetera category per

⁶¹ David Fanshel, "Approaches to Measuring Adjustment in Adoptive Parents", in Quantitative Approaches to Parent Selection, New York, Child Welfare League of America, 1962, p. 18-35.

item. When this task was completed, the original staff sentence completion responses were classified according to these content categories, with revisions of categories subsequently made when distributions were poor or an excess of ten per cent of responses fall into the etcetera category. Next, the sentence completions of forty-five Astor Home foster home applicants were categorized according to these five content categories per item, individually, by two other clinicians. Interrater reliability coefficients were computed for each of the fifty-six items, by means of Cohen's Kappa coefficient⁶² of the extent to which the percentage of agreement on the classifications of forty-five responses per item exceeded chance expectation. Revisions were then made in the response categories for twenty-five of the items by still another pair of researchers, with Kappa coefficients again computed, this time with consistently adequate interrater reliability. The test was next administered to a new population of thirty-two experienced foster parents, responses were categorized, proportions of interrater agreement were computed, and further revisions in response categories made for several items. An^{ten} additional twenty foster parents have since been tested and ^{on} their responses similarly worked upon, again with consistently adequate interrater reliability.

⁶² Jacob Cohen, "A Coefficient of Agreement for Nominal Scales", in Educational and Psychological Measurement, Vol. 20, No. 1, 1960, p. 37-46.

The population for the above samples was drawn from the New York region of the United States. Since the population for the present study was to be drawn from the New Jersey-Pennsylvania region, some preliminary studies were done to prepare the test for use in that region and to gather some norms whereby to judge the results of the present study. The following section contains an explanation of these studies.

d) Pilot Study One.- The Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Form was administered to twenty-three couples, six of which were prospective foster parents and seventeen were experienced foster parents. They were selected at random by social workers. Each couple filled out separate forms independent of each other, generally at the same time, but always without communicating their responses to each other. All forms were uniform in the amount of space allotted for the responses. There was no time limit to the completion of the form. From this sample, responses were categorized by the present writer and a research statistician at Astor Home. A staff session was then held with two other psychologists who worked on the original forms of the test. Categories in which there had been some question as to clarity were then more clearly defined. On the basis of frequency of appearance in the new group, some additional words were added to the categories for classifying the response. No item was dropped as being too difficult. This process made the categories more readily understandable to

judges not familiar with the construction of the test as were the workers at Astor Home. A copy of this present form is in Appendix 3.

e) Pilot Study Two.- A second study was undertaken immediately. Sixty experienced foster parents were administered the Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Form and their responses categorized by the writer and two other psychologists according to the revised categories from Pilot Study One.⁴⁴ Interrater reliability coefficients were computed for each of the items by means of the Kappa coefficient as developed by Cohen. Three Kappas were obtained for each item. Percentages of agreement for each item between two of the judges were also obtained. These data are presented in Appendix 4. No items were dropped from the test because of this study. The purpose of the study was to obtain some data on how foster parents might be expected to answer the items so that some norms would be available with which to compare the responses of prospective foster parents. The foster parents who filled out the form for Pilot Study Two were considered by their social workers to be adequate foster parents.

f) Pilot Study Three.- The next step was to administer the test to two representative samples of foster and adoptive applicants from the areas under study. The Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Form was administered to sixty foster parents. The same form was administered to sixty

adoptive parents with one change in the form, that is, the word adoptive was substituted for the word foster whenever necessary to make the form appear exclusive for the use of the adoptive parent. All applicants were invited to take the test on a voluntary basis. From those who were tested a proportion of the tests was selected according to the percentage of distribution of parenthood. That is, on the basis of unpublished annual reports and private discussions with the department heads of the agencies involved, it was found that ninety per cent of the foster parents were already biological parents and ten per cent were childless and may or may not have adopted a child previously, or, less frequently, it was the second marriage for one or both of the applying couple with children from the past marriage but none from the present union. The proportions for adoptive couples were in reverse order, that is, ninety per cent were childless, and ten per cent might have their own children or previously adopted children, or one member with children from a previous marriage. No control was exerted over any other factor. Data on the personal history of the subjects are contained in Appendix 5.

Two complete ratings were made on each test. The judges were numerous, each one taking sections of the test and no one doing the two ratings on the same subject. In all, ten social workers with Master's degrees and three psychologists

served as judges. Kappa coefficients were computed and are presented in Appendix 6. Comparisons were made by the Chi Square technique and levels of significance obtained. These data are presented in Appendix 7.

g) Motivation Statements.- With Pilot Study One and Pilot Study Two was also obtained a joint statement from the application forms of the prospective parents which gave the reason why they were requesting a child. The responses from the two groups were studied so as to guide the writer in the formulations of hypotheses concerning the existential needs. They will be discussed at greater length when the results from the present study are discussed.

h) Items Relating to Existential Needs.- Thirteen psychologists were given a copy of the stimulus stems used in the sentence completion test and asked to select those items which they thought might elicit a response relating to the need to go on existing into the future through one's posterity. All the judges agreed in the selection of six of the items and there was seventy-five per cent agreement in the selection of fifteen items. It seemed therefore that one could expect the test to yield data relating to the theory under study.

Therefore, by a series of steps, preparations were made to enter into the present investigation. To sum up: a theorem was noted which needed to be put to experimentation, suitable subjects were found and a tool was readied for the study.

3. Basic Hypotheses.

The investigator sought an answer to the specific question, "Will there be significant relationships between the responses given by groups of prospective foster parents and prospective adoptive parents to items of a sentence completion test which require projection into the future when those items elicit responses related to progeny or work?" The answer was also sought to a second question, "Will there be significant relationships between the motivational statements of these two groups of substitute parents if their statements are categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life?"

The basic hypotheses were:

1. Significant relationships would be found between the responses of prospective foster and adoptive parents on items of a sentence completion test which required projection into the future and elicited responses related to progeny or work.

2. Significant relationships would be found between the statements of prospective foster and adoptive parents when their motivational statements were categorized according to the three levels of psychic life as postulated by Nuttin.

The general sub-hypotheses were as follows:

1. Significant relationships would be found between responses of two groups of substitute parents on items of a sentence completion test when those items were related to difference in agency orientation for the two groups of substitute parents.

2. No significant relationships would be found between responses of two groups of substitute parents on items of a sentence completion test when those items were related to general child knowledge or orientation.

3. Significant relationships would be found between responses of two groups of substitute parents on items of a sentence completion test when those items were related to parental orientation with respect to experience in raising progeny

CHAPTER II

EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN

The procedures followed in conducting an experiment to test the hypothesis proposed in the preceding chapter are presented in this chapter. It begins with a description of the subjects used in the experiment, an explanation of the areas from which they were selected, and gives the procedures in the selection of the subjects. This is followed by an explanation of the matching for socioeconomic level and ages; as well as statements concerning the number of years married, the amount of schooling, and the racial, cultural and religious backgrounds of the subjects. Information for these vital statistics was obtained from a Personal Data form which was filled out by a social worker who procured the data from the agency's record on the applicants. A copy of this form is in Appendix C.

The discussion of the subjects is followed by a description of the tools of the experiment with respect to rationale, items, reliability and validity. The procedures for the administration of the test is then presented and a description of the scoring methods follows. The chapter concludes with an explanation of the statistical operations and the elaboration of specific sub-hypotheses.

1. The Subjects of the Experiment.

Two groups of subjects were compared in this study. One group was comprised of sixty married couples who were biological parents. They were also prospective foster parents who had applied to a social agency for a child to be placed in their care on a temporary basis.

The other group was comprised of sixty married couples who were childless. They were also prospective adoptive parents who had applied to a social agency for a child to be placed in their care on a permanent basis in order to legally adopt the child as their own.

Except for the difference with respect to the biological parenthood, these two groups were alike in their desire to have a child placed in their care, and alike, too, in the fact that they had no previous experience with foster or adoptive children. The considerations given to the control of the groups with respect to other variables are explained in the following sub-topics.

a) Territorial Areas Covered by the Study.- Three agencies cooperated in the study, namely, the Catholic Welfare Bureau of Trenton, New Jersey; the Catholic Social Agency of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and the Catholic Charities Bureau of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The subjects drawn from this metropolitan area were considered as living in a comparatively homogenous milieu with respect to social, cultural and economic

factors since the boundary line of Trenton was adjacent to Philadelphia and the boundary line of Philadelphia adjacent to that of Harrisburg.

[It might be parenthetically added here that while the combining of agencies in one study is relatively new in practice, its advantages are causing the idea to meet with wider approval. From the viewpoint of national interest, studies of this type are of particular value.¹

b) The Selection of the Subjects.- In each of the three cooperating agencies there was a supervisor with a Master's degree in social work who assumed responsibility for the proper execution of the research project. Under their direction workers were instructed and trained in the method of administering the test and in the obtaining of the pertinent information. While every attempt was made to antecedently control for variables which might influence the study, a few emergency states did occur by the sudden death of one of the supervisors and some unexpected changes in personnel. Although testing was continued during these crises, new workers made an occasional mistake in the administering of the test and the protocols had to be rejected. This type mistake occurred twice with foster parents and three times with adoptive parents.

¹ A topic discussed with the writer by Mr. James Cumiskey, Executive Secretary, Community Programs Committee, National Institute of Mental Health, Bethesda, Maryland, at the First Annual Conference on Foster Care for Emotionally Disturbed Children, Detroit, Michigan, February 29, 1964.

Every prospective foster and adoptive couple eligible for the study was invited to fill out the sentence completion form. Two foster and four adoptive couples declined the invitation because of anxiety engendered by the possibility that their responses might determine their acceptance or rejection by the agency, although they had been reassured that the form was in no way involved with their application. They were not told that applicants were only invited to take the test when the workers could be reasonably certain that the applicants would be accepted as substitute parents.

When less than fifty per cent of the fifty-eight items in the form were completed by the subjects it was considered as inadequate and therefore was rejected. Two of the foster forms and three of the adoptive forms were rejected on this basis.

In all, there were sixty-eight foster couples and seventy-six adoptive couples who filled out the sentence completion form. In the matching process two foster and six adoptive protocols were dropped. Thus, due to refusals, rejections, errors in administration and the matching process, the final number of cases used in the study were sixty foster couples and sixty adoptive couples, a total number of 240 subjects with 120 in each group of substitute parents.

The time covered by the study extended over an eighteen month period. This was due to two factors, that is,

the rate of applications was indeterminate and uncontrollable, and, secondly, the length of time needed to fill out the form, together with the requirement that the couple fill it out independently of each other, frequently necessitated the making of an extra appointment in order to accomplish the task. In general, the subjects were not only graciously obliging but were deeply interested in the procedure. It is considered that their responses were genuine and representative of their opinions.

c) The Matching for Socioeconomic and Educational Factors.- Since the mothers in the study could not be employed outside the home, only the fathers' occupation could be used to estimate the socioeconomic level of the family. However, in this study, an index of social position was obtained for each substitute father which combined his occupational and educational level. It is known as the Two Factor Index of Social Position,² and is a statistical measure developed to provide an objective procedure to estimate the positions individual occupy in the status structure of society in the United States. The weights given to the factors of occupation and education were determined by multiple correlation techniques and the Index was validated by the use of factor analysis.

² August B. Hollingshead, Two Factor Index of Social Position, New Haven, Conn., August B. Hollingshead, 1957, 11 p.

Table I lists the distribution of prospective foster and adoptive fathers' combined occupational and educational level as measured by the Two Factor Index of Social Position. The classifications were determined in the following manner. The occupations and amount of education were listed in random order. Lists of these were given to three judges who made independent judgments for the classification of each occupation and the level of education. The three ratings were then compared. Where the judgments of the raters were not in unanimous agreement, the criterion of selection was the agreement of two out of three. There was no instance of a classification where all three raters disagreed.

As shown in Table I, the two groups of fathers were equally distributed with respect to the different social classes, Class I being considered as the highest and Class V as the lowest in social position. While the majority of cases are in Class IV, fifty per cent of the cases fall in upper classes.

d) Ages.- Since the existential needs may operate with different degrees of intensity at different age levels, it was considered requisite to control for the ages of the two groups. Table II presents the ages of the groups in mean years, as well as the mean ages of the foster mothers versus the adoptive mothers and the foster fathers versus the adoptive fathers.

Table I.-

Social Class and Range of Computed Scores on the
Two Factor Index of Social Position for the
Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents.

Social Class	Range of Computed Scores	Foster Fathers	Adoptive Fathers
I	11-17	6	6
II	18-27	11	11
III	28-43	13	13
IV	44-60	27	27
V	61-77	3	3

Table II.-

Mean Years, Standard Deviations and Results of t Tests for Significance of Ages for the Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents.

Subjects	Mean Years	SD	Diff.	t
Foster Parents	32.80	5.39		
Adoptive Parents	32.31	6.10	.49	.66
Foster Fathers	34.13	5.20		
Adoptive Fathers	33.02	3.71	1.11	1.23
Foster Mothers	31.48	5.29		
Adoptive Mothers	31.94	5.79	.46	.44

The range of ages for the foster parents was from twenty-one to forty-two years, and the range of ages for the adoptive parents was from twenty-eight to forty-seven years inclusive. Results of the t tests revealed no significant difference between the groups.

e) Educational Level.- Although the educational level of the fathers was controlled for in the Two Factor Inf₁₄₄ of Social Position, a separate account of the education level is presented in order to provide data for the foster and adoptive mothers. Table III presents the mean years in school for the two groups of substitute parents, as well as the mean years in school for foster fathers versus adoptive fathers and foster mothers versus adoptive mothers. The range of years in school was from six to eighteen years for the foster parents and from seven to twenty-one years for the adoptive parents. Results of the t tests revealed no significant difference between the groups.

f) Number of Years Married.- As it was not considered pertinent to the study, no control was made for this variable. The mean years of married life for the foster parents was 10.66, with a standard deviation of 4.95 and a range of 5.71 to 15.61 years. The mean years of married life for the adoptive parents was 8.18, with a standard deviation of 3.02 and a range of 5.16 to 11.10 years.

Table III.-

Mean Years, Standard Deviations and Results of *t* tests for Significance of Number of Years in School for the Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents.

Subjects	Mean Years	SD	Diff.	<i>t</i>
Foster Parents	12.22	1.08	.82	.71
Adoptive Parents	13.04	3.19		
Foster Fathers	12.60	2.18	1.10	1.19
Adoptive Fathers	13.70	3.29		
Foster Mothers	11.85	1.33	.53	.87
Adoptive Mothers	12.38	2.31		

The trends noted in Tables II and III, and in the statistics on the number of years of marriage, indicate that adoptive parents tend to be younger in age and to be married a shorter length of time than foster parents, but to have a greater amount of schooling than the foster parents. These facts have been consistently reported in the literature for many years, but with greater differences than found in this study. The analysis made by Greeley³ in 1963 of prospective foster parents applying at the Catholic Social Agency in Philadelphia revealed a rise in the level of education of foster parents together with a concomitant decrease in their mean age and the years of marriage. Verbal reports of other social workers confirm these findings and, in addition, state that the new type foster parent manifests great zeal and enthusiasm for the task assumed in caring for another's child. It is believed that a number of these kind of foster parents are included in the present study and, if so, would explain why differences between the groups with respect to age and education are not found to be significant.

g) Racial, Cultural and Religious Background.- All the subjects in the study were white and at least one member

³ Sister Charles Eileen Greeley, Foster Home Care: A Study of Thirty-Five Applicants Approved at Intake by the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, January to June, 1963, unpublished Master's thesis presented to the Fordham University School of Social Service, New York, 1964, vi-76 p.

of each couple was a member of the Roman Catholic Church. The subjects were applicants at agencies which placed only Catholic children and required, therefore, Catholic parents. Occasionally a Catholic married to a non-Catholic would apply for a child and be accepted. Approximately two or three out of a hundred applicants were of this type. In this study, there were two such couples in each group.

With but three exceptions, all subjects of this study were born in the United States and came from a varied background of nationalities with no one nationality dominant. The exceptions were an adoptive couple who were born in Scotland and a foster mother who was born in Italy. Every type of European nationality was represented in the cultural background, with no other continental representation beyond America.

2. The Tools of the Experiment.

The direct relationship between the appropriateness of selecting objective measures for screening foster parents as a means of solving problems concerning the personality development of children is explained by Colvin's conviction that:

If we conceive of a disordered and non-productive personality as the resultant of the unfavorable commerce between a biological given and its social milieu, it is only consistent that we likewise conceive of mental health as a more favorable resultant of biological and social forces.⁴

Therefore research ought to be conducted with foster parents as a positive step in the determining of how to combine the biological given of a disturbed child to the social milieu of foster parents in a manner productive of mental health for all parties involved in the situation.

The Colvin-Bohman Sentence Completion Form was developed in 1959 within the framework of self-concept, needs and interpersonal relationships, with the intention of objectifying the attitudes of prospective foster parents on dimensions deemed important for their selection as substitute parents. In its present form, the test consists of fifty-eight sentence completion stimulus stems, two of which are of the multiple-choice type. The number of categories derived for each stem ranges from four to six as follows: there are twenty stems with 4 categories, thirty-four stems with 5 categories and two stems with 6 categories. One of the multiple-choice stems offers two choices and the other offers six choices. The last category in the other fifty-six items is an etcetera category for all responses which do not fit the other categories and includes stems left unanswered.

⁴ Ralph W. Colvin, "Toward the Development of a Foster Parent Attitude Test", in Quantitative Approaches to Parent Selection, New York, Child Welfare League of America, 1962, p.41.

The test is planned to serve five functions. It may be given to social workers to explore their concepts of foster parents. It may be used to study needs, or to identify areas of conflict in foster parents, to assess their attitudes and to enable them to project themselves into their future roles as substitute parents.

a) Reliability.- As previously explained in Chapter I, reliability is established through the kappa coefficient and both Pilot Study One and Pilot Study Two conducted by the writer established further reliability for the instrument to be used in this study. Many qualified social workers have been involved in the rating procedures and all have commented that they had no difficulty in making discriminations between the categories. Kappa coefficients obtained from the ratings of these judges have been consistently high and uniform. However, the instrument is still considered as a research tool and, if future studies point out an area for correction in it, adequate steps will be taken to make the necessary adjustments.

b) Validity.- Several validity studies are in process. The major concern with establishing validity of the instrument evolves around the need for generally accepted criteria by which to judge the adequacy of substitute parents on the basis of their success with the children placed in

their care. The Dohrenwends⁵ analysis has demonstrated that the problem of validity is particularly acute where researchers have to report relations between sociocultural factors and psychological disorder, two factors which are, as Colvin noted, also involved in the study of substitute parents insofar as they are attempting to care for disturbed children, or even to develop the personality of a child.

Furthermore, before any measure of adequacy may be applied to substitute parents they must have sufficient time to prove their ability and, in the matter of raising a child, more than a year may be needed. So, as far as validity is concerned Colvin⁶ reports extensive and intensive study being given to the problem of defining adequacy, as well as on-going research with groups of foster parents to be judged at the appropriate time. The agencies cooperating in this present study have also expressed willingness to participate in validation studies, as follow-up work on the current study.

However, the validity of an instrument to predict the success or failure of a selection in substitute parents, is

⁵ Bruce F. Dohrenwend and Barbara Snell Dohrenwend, "The Problem of Validity in Field Studies of Psychological Disorder", in Journal of Abnormal Psychology, Vol. 70, No. 1, 1965, p. 52-69.

⁶ Ralph W. Colvin, Foster-Parent Attitudes Related to Placement Success, Research Project Grant: HD 00655-04, United States Public Health Service, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Progress Reports of July 1963 and September 1964, 50 p.

not fully established, would not necessarily mitigate against the use of an instrument to test for the existence of a need. Previous studies had demonstrated the instrument's value as an indicator of needs. In addition, it contained both direct and indirect forms of stimulus stems, the responses to which would provide an opportunity to study the three levels of psychic life as postulated by Nuttin.

The work of Etri⁷ also had identified a number of general and more structural categories which could be applied to most or all the responses given in the form. Among these were the frequent incidences in use of such words as "love", "home", "give", "take", along with reference to self, others and family, as well as statements of impersonal, abstract or spiritual nature. Thus, it appeared that the form would provide material to measure Nuttin's theory of existential needs in an objective way.

c) Motivation Statements. These are statements made by the foster and adoptive couples at the time of their application to the agency. They are recorded in the files of each couple. Copies of these statements were procured in order to compare a combined motivation statement with the

⁷ Gloria Caroline Etri, Motivation and Foster Parent-Needs: A Comparison of the Motivations of 40 Foster Families currently Used by the Catholic Home Bureau in New York City, 20 of whom are Considered Most Adequate and 20 Least Adequate, unpublished Master's thesis presented to the Fordham University School of Social Service, New York, 1959. vi-56 p.

individual responses made by each applicant on the sentence completion form to items 12 and 16. Item 12 requires a first person singular response in giving the reason for wanting a child, and item 16 is an indirect form of stimulus stem requiring a response as to why most foster or adoptive people take in a child.

Ratings of these three statements were made by three judges, independent of each other. One judge was a psychologist, the other two were social workers, all three having a Master's degree in their special field. The ratings were categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life, that is, there was a category for biological needs, a second one for psycho-social needs and a third one for existential or spiritual needs, as well as an etcetera category for non responses or responses which did not fit into the other three.

3. Procedures.

The sentence completion form was filled in personally by each prospective foster and adoptive parent without consultation with each other. There was no time limit to the completion of the form. The printed instructions were as follows:

This form is being given to persons interested in the welfare of children. Its purpose is to study the feelings and thoughts of people concerning children in need of private home placement.

There are fifty-eight items.

In two of the items you will be asked to rank a series of responses. The remaining items are sentences in need of completion. Read each item and then complete the sentence, or, in the two indicated items, make rankings.

Work as rapidly as you can.

Write down the first thing that comes to mind.

If a response doesn't come right to mind circle its number on the sheet and come back and finish it later. Be sure that you answer every item.

When you have finished you are encouraged to include, on the last page, any comments which come to mind concerning children, parents, or this form, about the feelings and thoughts of people interested in the welfare of children.

Thank you for your cooperation.

All forms were uniform in size and in the amount of space allotted for each response. After completion, the forms were coded, the Personal Data Sheet was filled out and the Motivation Statement written on the back of it. The completed protocols were then forwarded to the writer by mail. The writer had initiated these procedures by a previous visit to each agency to consult with the supervisors and to hold a staff conference on the methods of procedure. Interest in the research was high and the workers were conscientious in their endeavours to follow the correct procedure. The writer also administered the form to some of the applicants during these visits.

4. Scoring Methods.

In this method, each item is scored individually and placed in the appropriate category for that item. A response

that does not fit into any of the enumerated categories goes into the etceters category.

A % Agreement is obtained by taking the number of responses put into the same category by both judges, dividing it by N, the total number of responses categorized, and multiplying it by 100 to get it into percentage form.

The Kappa coefficient is an index of "agreement beyond chance", and thus is a measure of reliability. It was developed by Dr. Jacob Cohen of N.Y.U.,⁴ and is used here instead of a contingency coefficient that might ordinarily be used. This is the method employed at the research center where the instrument was developed. The Kappa coefficient is obtained by the following formula:

$$K = \frac{F_o - F_c}{1 - F_c}$$

where $F_o = \frac{\text{Ratio Observed Agreement, i.e., \# responses put in same category by two judges}}{\text{Total \# of Responses}}$

$F_c = \frac{\text{Ratio of Agreement Expected by Chance, i.e., \# expected by chance (from marginal totals)}}{\text{Total \# of Responses}}$

⁴ Cohen, Op. Cit.

For example:

		<u>JUDGE A</u>				
		Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	
J U D G E B	Category 1	F (1,1)				$\Sigma(B_1)$
	Category 2		F (2,2)			$\Sigma(B_2)$
	Category 3			F (3,3)		$\Sigma(B_3)$
	Category 4				F (4,4)	$\Sigma(B_4)$
		$\Sigma(A_1)$	$\Sigma(A_2)$	$\Sigma(A_3)$	$\Sigma(A_4)$	Σ Total

$$P_C = \frac{F_{1,1} + F_{2,2} + F_{3,3} + F_{4,4}}{\Sigma \text{Total}}$$

$$P_C = \frac{(\Sigma A_1)(\Sigma B_1) + (\Sigma A_2)(\Sigma B_2) + (\Sigma A_3)(\Sigma B_3) + (\Sigma A_4)(\Sigma B_4)}{\Sigma \text{Total}}$$

Where F (1,1) means # of responses agreed upon by both judges to fall into category 1

(A₁) = Sum of the responses categorized by Judge A into category 1

(B₁) = Sum of the responses categorized by Judge B into category 1

The following comparisons were made by the Chi Square technique:

1. Foster Parents vs. Adoptive Parents
2. Foster Fathers vs. Adoptive Fathers
3. Foster Mothers vs. Adoptive Mothers

For example:

Item No. _____

		Categories				
		1	2	3	4	
Adoptive	# Ob- tained					ΣA
Foster	# Ob- tained					ΣF
		$\Sigma 1$	$\Sigma 2$	$\Sigma 3$	$\Sigma 4$	N Total = $\Sigma A + \Sigma F$ $= \Sigma 1 + \Sigma 2$ $= \Sigma 3 + \Sigma 4$

Expected value in cell 1A = $\frac{(\Sigma A)(\Sigma 1)}{N}$

Expected value in cell 2F = $\frac{(\Sigma F)(\Sigma 1)}{N}$

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(E-O)^2}{E}$$

Degrees of freedom = (r-1) (c-1)

In conclusion, the experiment was designed to test two null hypotheses stated as follows:

1. There is no significant relationship found between the responses of prospective foster and adoptive parents on fifteen items selected as possible indicators of the existential need to extend oneself into the future either through progeny or work, when those items require projection into the future and elicit responses related to progeny or work.

2. There is no significant relationship found between the statements of prospective foster and adoptive parents when their statements are categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life.

CHAPTER III

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

The ratings obtained from the sentence completion tests and the motivational statements were treated in the following steps: (1) the frequency distribution for each of the categories on every item was obtained; (2) the per cent of agreement between the two ratings on each item was estimated; (3) Kappa coefficients of reliability were computed for the two groups of substitute parents; and (4) comparisons of the obtained frequencies were made by the Chi Square technique and levels of significance obtained. Comparisons were made in three ways: between the foster and adoptive couples; between the foster and adoptive fathers; and between the foster and adoptive mothers.

The results of these treatments are presented in this chapter under the headings of Kappa Coefficients of Reliability, Chi Squares, Motivational Statements, and Results Obtained on the Other Items. The raw data for all the items are presented in Appendix 9.

For the Chi Square computations one rating was used of the two ratings made on each item. The selection was made by taking the first rating made for all the odd-numbered items and the second rating made for all the even-numbered items.

1. Kappa Coefficients of Reliability.

Table IV presents the frequency distributions, per cent agreement between the two ratings on each item and the obtained Kappa coefficients of reliability for the foster couples. Of immediate note is the fact that the coefficients of reliability are consistently high on all the items. An explanation of this result is offered on the basis of three factors: first, a pilot study had served to clarify the categories so that they would be mutually exclusive and thereby facilitate the classification of responses; second, the raters were carefully selected and highly qualified to make the ratings; and thirdly, the etcetera category for each item served the function of catching all responses which did not fit into the other categories. Further elaboration will be made on the third explanation.

a) The etcetera Category.- A rating is made for this category whenever a response to an item is not found to fit into the other more precise categories, or whenever the item has been left blank. The advantages of an etcetera category are several. It prevents the other categories from being over rated by dubious responses. It helps to maintain an equal N between the numbers of ratings and the number of responses, for statistical purposes. Finally, it serves as an indicator for the adequacy of the other categories to differentiate between responses.

Table IV.-

Frequency Distributions, Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Two Ratings for Responses of Prospective Foster Parents to Items of the Sentence Completion Test Related to Existential Needs.

Item	Ratings	Category Frequencies						% Agreement N=120	Kappa
		1	2	3	4	5	6		
3	1	56	37	21	6			.93	.89
	2	60	32	19	9				
6	1	83	27	0	8	2		.93	.85
	2	76	26	0	15	1			
8	1	29	71	16	4			.94	.90
	2	27	72	17	4				
12	1	58	23	17	11	11		.88	.82
	2	57	24	21	6	15			
15	1	69	37	4	10			.96	.93
	2	68	39	3	10				
16	1	65	25	0	29	1		.94	.83
	2	72	21	0	26	1			
18	1	23	22	65	2	8		.98	.97
	2	23	22	64	3	8			
19	1	58	31	4	6	15	6	.97	.95
	2	50	29	4	7	15	7		
24	1	42	83	5	5	5		.96	.93
	2	44	61	5	5	5			
26	1	41	26	6	10	21	8	.86	.85
	2	34	36	7	16	18	9		
29	1	55	56	5	4			.90	.96
	2	54	58	3	5				
30	1	64	25	1	23	7		.95	.92
	2	64	27	0	21	6			
46	1	32	6	26	49	7		.94	.92
	2	32	5	24	51	6			
57	1	70	20	8	22			.91	.84
	2	72	23	11	14				
58	1	37	66	14	3			.94	.90
	2	36	65	17	2				

It is this latter point which is emphasized in the analysis of the results obtained in this study. When the percentage of etcetera responses accounts for a large part of the per cent agreement between the two ratings then there is justification for the questioning of a coefficient of reliability which is derived from the per cent agreement. Though the judgments of the raters may be valid in that they agree to place a response in the etcetera category, a high per cent of responses so placed indicates that the item is not providing an adequate category, or that another additional category is needed for the item.

With reference to Table IV, it was antecedently expected that the foster couples would have a minimum of their responses placed in the etcetera category since the items were specifically categorized for use with foster parents and a pilot study had served to clarify the categories for use with the foster parents of this present study. A review of Table IV shows that there is but one item where there is an excess of ratings in the etcetera category, namely, item 57. This finding suggests that there may be a need to refine the categories of item 57. It further indicates the need for caution in interpreting the results obtained on this particular item, as the quotients of the etcetera category may influence the Chi Square obtained, and consequently the level of significance.

Table V presents the frequency distributions, per cent agreement between the ratings on each item and the obtained Kappa coefficients of reliability for the adoptive couples. Antecedently, it was expected that the adoptive couples could have a high frequency for responses placed in the etcetera category. This expectation was due to the fact that the sentence completion test had been modified for use by the adoptive couples through the changing of one word only. In the items selected as indicators of existential needs, however, there is only one where the adoptive couples have an excess of responses placed in the etcetera category and that is on item 50. Apparently the remaining fourteen items provided adequate categories for the rating of the adoptive couples' responses.

As a result of this observation on the items for the adoptive couples caution is advised in the interpretation of results for item 50 by observing how much weight is carried by the quotients obtained from the etcetera category. It is further advised that if this item is to be used to adoptive parents another category may be needed or the present ones need refinement.

The etcetera category, therefore, had served to indicate that two of the fifteen items for existential needs elicited responses that could not be readily judged to fit the present group of categories for the items. This function of the etcetera category is an important one.

Table V.-

Frequency Distributions, Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Two Ratings for Responses of Prospective Adoptive Parents to Items of the Sentence Completion Test Related to Existential Needs.

Item	Ratings	Category Frequencies						Agreement N=120	Kappa
		1	2	3	4	5	6		
3	1	1	9	13	26	12		.97	.93
	2	9	13	90	6				
6	1	20	27	0	4	1		.95	.80
	2	28	29	0	3	0			
8	1	10	34	63	5			.93	.89
	2	13	30	64	5				
12	1	43	62	10	1	4		.88	.80
	2	29	72	14	1	4			
15	1	39	69	0	12			.96	.92
	2	39	71	0	1				
16	1	46	53	17	1	3		.95	.92
	2	40	59	17	1	3			
16	1	10	2	97	0	3		.93	.95
	2	18	2	97	0	3			
19	1	60	6	3	0	42	9	.90	.97
	2	60	6	3	0	40	11		
24	1	30	35	1	37	9		.97	.95
	2	34	39	1	37	9			
26	1	67	9	3	3	29	9	.88	.80
	2	61	0	3	5	34	9		
29	1	51	55	9	5			.93	.89
	2	54	50	11	5				
30	1	66	35	0	12	7		.89	.81
	2	74	20	0	13	5			
46	1	14	0	54	39	13		.92	.87
	2	12	0	60	41	7			
57	1	65	10	37	0			.89	.82
	2	66	16	32	6				
58	1	32	34	37	17			.94	.92
	2	27	38	40	15				

The Kappa coefficients of reliability, as reported in Tables IV and V, are the refined ones obtained after a check for possible bias on the part of the raters. With one exception, all those who participated in the rating procedure rated approximately the same number of items. The one exception was the experimenter who contributed to about fifty per cent of the judgments made on one complete set of ratings. While this procedure had been deemed satisfactory since the experimenter's ratings were being paired with many other raters, it was decided, as a double check for bias and the evaluations of the ratings, to obtain a second rating on the existential items with which to check the first ratings.

The outside rating was accomplished by a group of ten raters. Nine of these raters had Master's degrees in social work and one was a teacher with a Master's degree in Spanish. Three of this group of raters had assisted in the former ratings but care was exercised that they did not rate the same items again. The remaining seven raters were new ones.

Comparisons of the new ratings with the original ratings revealed very slight fluctuation in the agreement among the judges, no more than that of chance fluctuation. On some items the agreement remained identical. No changes were made in the original ratings except for those of the experimenter when it was noted that a response had obviously been placed in the incorrect category. As a result, the per cent agreement on

some items was lowered and, consequently the coefficient of reliability was also lowered. However, as can be observed in Tables IV and V the coefficients are still relatively high and give assurance of their dependability by reason of the added scrutiny of the ratings. It is also considered that, to a certain extent, the extra check for bias and reliability provided some evidence of validity for the items.

2. Chi Squares.

Table VI presents the Chi Squares and levels of significance obtained from comparisons of responses made by prospective foster and adoptive parents to those items of the sentence completion form which were selected as possible indicators for the existence of a need to extend oneself into the future either through progeny or work. Of the fifteen items there are thirteen with a P of .01 or higher. The null hypothesis is therefore rejected for the thirteen items. Two items have a P less than .05 and the null hypothesis is accepted for them. A brief comment is made of the individual items.

Item 3.- The number of responses placed in the etcetera category for this item was just short of being in excess of ten per cent of the total number of responses. A study of the quotients from which the Chi Square was obtained showed that the size of the Chi Square was largely due to the weight of quotients from categories 1 and 3. The Chi Square

Table VI.-

Degrees of Freedom, Chi Squares and Levels of Significance
 Obtained by Three Comparisons of Responses by
 Prospective Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad)
 Parents to Items of the Sentence Completion
 Test Related to Existential Needs.

Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P	Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P
3	Ad vs Fo	3	37.00	.001	24	Ad vs Fo	4	34.31	.001
	Fathers		39.28	.001		Fathers		17.26	.01
	Mothers		48.75	.001		Mothers		15.64	.01
6	Ad vs Fo	4	67.10	.001	26	Ad vs Fo	5	37.60	.001
	Fathers		28.34	.001		Fathers		14.74	.02
	Mothers		40.16	.001		Mothers		25.43	.001
9	Ad vs Fo	3	42.79	.001	29	Ad vs Fo	3	1.41	.24
	Fathers		32.63	.001		Fathers		1.25	NS
	Mothers		14.56	.01		Mothers		4.75	NS
12	Ad vs Fo	4	42.53	.001	30	Ad vs Fo	4	3.32	NS
	Fathers		29.50	.001		Fathers		7.01	NS
	Mothers		18.11	.01		Mothers		4.91	NS
15	Ad vs Fo	4	22.10	.001	46	Ad vs Fo	4	30.67	.001
	Fathers		10.77	.05		Fathers		14.49	.01
	Mothers		11.45	.05		Mothers		22.11	.001
16	Ad vs Fo	4	60.34	.001	57	Ad vs Fo	3	28.74	.001
	Fathers		32.76	.001		Fathers		15.97	.01
	Mothers		36.43	.001		Mothers		13.54	.01
18	Ad vs Fo	4	29.31	.001	58	Ad vs Fo	3	27.59	.001
	Fathers		19.52	.001		Fathers		16.50	.001
	Mothers		11.08	.05		Mothers		11.09	.01
19	Ad vs Fo	5	36.46	.001					
	Fathers		19.41	.01					
	Mothers		24.27	.001					

and the resultant P were not unduly influenced by the etcetera category and the null hypothesis was rejected on the basis of a P of .001.

Item 6.- Differences between the expected and obtained frequencies were great in three of the five categories and resulted in large Chi Squares for each of the three comparisons. The P of .001 justified the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 8.- As with item 6, differences between the expected and obtained frequencies were great on three categories for all three comparisons. On the basis of a P of .001 for the combined groups of parents and the fathers' groups, and a P of .01 for the mothers' groups the null hypothesis was rejected.

Item 12.- A P of .001 for both the combined groups of parents and the fathers' groups, and a P of .01 for the mothers' groups, led to a rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 15.- A number of responses placed in the etcetera category was barely below an excess of ten per cent for the adoptive group of parents. The quotients for this category, however, totaled only .18 of the Chi Square of 22.18. The P of .001 was considered reliable for the combined group and likewise the P of .02 for the fathers and the P of .01 for the mothers justified the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 16.- In this item the category frequencies, with the exception of a low number of responses placed in the etcetera category, showed great differences between the expected and

obtained frequencies for all three comparisons. The resultant large Chi Squares with Ps of .001 justified the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 18.- Comparisons for both the combined groups of parents and the fathers' groups produced large Chi Squares with Ps of .001. The mothers' groups just missed the .02 level and were placed in the .05 level of significance. Results justified the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 19.- Comparisons for both the combined groups of parents and the mothers' groups produced large Chi Squares with Ps of .001. The fathers' groups just missed the .001 level and were placed in the .01 level of significance. Results justified the rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 24.- Comparisons for the combined groups of parents resulted in a P of .001 while the comparisons for the fathers' groups and for the mothers' groups resulted in a P of .01 for each type of comparison. The null hypothesis was therefore rejected.

Item 26.- Comparisons for both the combined groups of parents and the mothers' groups resulted in a P of .001. This, together with a P of .02 for the fathers' groups, led to a rejection of the null hypothesis.

Item 29.- On this item the expected and obtained frequencies were almost equal in all categories for all three comparisons. The low Chi Squares which resulted failed to

produce a P less than .20. The null hypothesis was therefore upheld for this item:

From a theoretical viewpoint, the responses elicited by this item were related to the common worries shared by all parents in caring for children and a minimal differentiation would be the expected.

Item 30.- There was greater fluctuation between the expected and obtained frequencies on this item, but not enough for the three comparisons to produce a P less than .20. Therefore the null hypothesis was accepted.

From a theoretical viewpoint, the responses elicited by this item were related to the meaning of marriage for the subjects themselves, upon which they shared common agreement, and therefore a minimal differentiation would be the expected.

Item 46.- Comparisons for both the combined groups of parents and the mothers' groups produced large Chi Squares with P s of .001, and the fathers' groups had a P of .01. The null hypothesis was therefore rejected for this item.

Item 57.- On the basis of a P of .001 obtained for combined groups of parents, and P s of .01 for both the fathers' and mothers' groups the null hypothesis was rejected. Caution is advised in the interpretation of the results since the quotients obtained from the etcetera category accounted for more than twenty-three per cent of the obtained Chi Square.

Item 50.- On the basis of Ps of .001 for the combined groups of parents and the fathers' groups, as well as a P of .01 for the mothers' groups the null hypothesis was rejected. Again, caution is advised in the interpretation of results since the quotients obtained from the etcetera category accounted for over thirty-seven per cent of the obtained Chi Square.

In summary of these results on obtained Chi Square and the levels of significance it is stated that thirteen of the fifteen items have revealed significant relationships between the groups of prospective foster and adoptive parents. The null hypothesis was rejected for these thirteen items. For two other items the null hypothesis was accepted since the obtained P did not reach a level of significance of .05 or less. Two items for which the null hypothesis was rejected should be interpreted with caution because of the excessive percentage of responses placed in the etcetera category which resulted in quotients that greatly influenced the size of the Chi Square obtained.

3. Motivational Statements.

Table VII presents the frequency distributions, per cent agreement and Kappa coefficients of reliability for prospective foster and adoptive couples on three motivational statements. These statements consist of: 1) the combined

Table VII.-

Frequency Distributions, Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability for Motivational Statements made by Prospective Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad) Parents and Categorized According to Nuttin's Three Levels of Psychic Life.

N	Parents	Raters	Category Frequencies				N	% Agreement	Kappa
			1	2	3	4			
8 ^a	Fo	A	0	42	18	0	60	.98	.96
		B	0	43	17	0	60		
	Ad	A	38	9	13	0	60	.97	
		B	40	9	11	0	60		
12	Fo	B	6	70	43	1	120	.92	.85
		C	4	62	52	2	120		
	Ad	B	48	50	21	1	120	.96	
		C	52	51	16	1	120		
16	Fo	A	13	54	49	4	120	.91	.85
		C	12	63	39	6	120		
	Ad	A	66	36	17	1	120	.92	
		C	61	45	12	2	120		

a Motivational statements made by each couple.

statement (X) made by the couples at the time of their application in response to the inquiry as to why they wish a child; 2) the statement in answer to item 12 of the sentence completion test which is formulated in the first person singular as to the reason for wanting a child; and 3) the statement in answer to item 16 of the sentence completion test, which uses the indirect approach, as to why most foster or adoptive people take a child into their home. The judgments on these three statements were made according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life, namely, the biological, psycho-social and existential levels.

Ratings were made by three judges. One set of each of the three ratings is presented for each item. These ratings were selected according to the closest agreement of the raters for that item, and the ratings of all three raters are equally represented in the table. By this method the highest and the lowest coefficients of reliability are not shown in Table VII but are given here in the text. The lowest kappa was .69 for AB judgments of the foster couples on item 12, and the highest Kappa was a .99 for BC judgments of adoptive couples on item 16. The minimum of responses placed in the *et cetera* category indicates that the judges experienced no difficulty in classifying the responses according to the three levels of psychic life.

Table VIII presents the obtained Chi Squares resulting from the comparisons made of responses to the three types of

Table VIII.-

Degrees of Freedom, Chi Squares and Levels of Significance
Obtained from Comparisons of Motivational Statements
made by Prospective Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad)
Parents and Categorized according to Muttin's
Three Levels of Psychic Life.

Item	Parents	Obtained Frequencies				N	df	χ^2	P
		1	2	3	4				
X ^a	Adoptive	29	15	16	0	60	3	40.66	.001
	Foster	0	30	21	1	60			
12	Adoptive	44	44	30	2	120	3	43.13	.001
	Foster	5	50	63	2	120			
	Ad Fathers	23	22	15	0	60	3	19.56	.001
	Fo Fathers	4	25	30	1	60			
	Ad Mothers	21	22	15	2	60	3	27.46	.001
	Fo Mothers	1	25	33	1	60			
16	Adoptive	62	44	12	2	120	3	40.41	.001
	Foster	13	70	33	4	120			
	Ad Fathers	25	25	0	2	60	3	14.46	.01
	Fo Fathers	7	35	16	2	60			
	Ad Mothers	37	19	4	0	60	3	32.22	.001
	Fo Mothers	6	35	17	2	60			

^a Motivational statements made by each couple.

motivational statements. A study of the obtained frequencies for category 1 shows a low number of responses for the foster parents and high frequency of responses for the adoptive parents. This category was the one for responses relating to the biological level of psychic life.

In category 2 the differences between the two groups on the basis of expected frequencies is less noticeable except for the combined groups on item 16. This category was the one for responses relating to the psycho-social level of psychic life.

In category 3 differences between the expected and the obtained are proportionally greater than those of category 2 but less than those of category 1. This category was the one for responses relating to the existential level of psychic life.

The consistently large Chi Squares obtained on all three types of responses resulted in a P of .001 for the comparisons made, with one exception. The fathers' groups on item 16 had a relatively smaller Chi Square with a P of .01. On the basis of these results the null hypothesis was rejected for all comparisons made. Significant relationships were found between the groups of substitute parents when their motivational statements were categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life and compared by the Chi Square technique.

4. Results Obtained on Other Items.

This study was primarily concerned with the results obtained on items of the sentence completion test selected as possible indicators of existential needs. However, since it was necessary to administer the test in its entirety, it would be of interest to note what results were obtained on the other items. These results are therefore briefly presented here.

Table IX presents the per cent agreement and Kappa coefficients of reliability for prospective foster parents on the other items of the sentence completion test. Seven of these items were found to have an excess of ratings placed in the etcetera category, which exceeded ten per cent of the entire number of responses on the item. The numbers of these seven items are as follows: 37, 39, 41, 48, 49, 52 and 53. The recommendation is made that there is need for revision or refinement of the categories for these items. In addition, caution is advised in the interpretation of results for the seven items since the etcetera category carried great weight in establishing of per cent agreement between the judges, and the resultant Kappa coefficient was derived by the use of the per cent agreement.

Table 1A.-

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability for Responses of Prospective Foster Parents on the Remaining Items of the Sentence Completion Test.

Item	\bar{X} Agreement N=120	Kappa	Item	\bar{X} Agreement N=120	Kappa
1	.99	.97	34	.98	.97
2	.93	.86	35	.96	.93
4	.93	.90	36	.97	.91
5	.90	.96	37	.98	.90
7	.96	.94	38	.95	.93
8	.98	.96	39	.96	.94
10	.94	.86	40	.97	.95
11	.95	.82	41	.94	.92
13	.99	.93	42	.96	.93
14	.94	.86	43	.97	.93
17	.90	.95	44	.95	.92
20	.96	.92	45	.97	.94
21	.96	.84	47	.90	.97
22	.97	.94	48	.96	.92
23	.98	.96	49	.97	.95
25	.95	.97	50	.97	.95
27	.94	.91	51	.95	.93
28	.92	.88	52	.96	.94
31	.95	.92	53	.95	.93
32	.92	.80	54	.97	.91
33	.95	.93			

Table X presents the per cent agreement between the ratings on each item and the obtained Kappa coefficients of reliability for the adoptive couples on the other items of the sentence completion test. There are seventeen items which were found to contain an excess of responses placed in the etcetera category. These are items 2, 5, 11, 21, 25, 31, 32, 37, 38, 39, 41, 42, 45, 49, 50, 52 and 53.

As a result of these findings on the adoptive couples four observations are made. The first one is that seven of the above-mentioned seventeen items are also among those for which an excess of ratings placed in the etcetera category was noted for the foster parents. It appears that the item may be inadequate for both groups. The second observation is that in addition to the etcetera category, the items 2, 25, 32 and 50 contain another category for the reception of ambiguous word responses, or for neutral and mixed responses. There is need for revision of an item when two categories, or more, are needed for ambiguous or neutral responses. The third observation is that items 5, 11, 21, 31, 38 and 42 ought to be submitted to further analysis to discover if the addition of another category might make the items useful for the categorization of responses made by adoptive couples. The final observation is that on all these items with an excess of responses placed in the etcetera category caution must be exercised in the interpretation of results obtained.

Table A.-

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability for Responses of Prospective Adoptive Parents on the Remaining Items of the Sentence Completion Test.

Item	% Agreement N=120	Kappa	Item	% Agreement N=120	Kappa
1	.99	.95	34	.99	.95
2	.93	.89	35	.93	.90
4	.97	.95	36	.96	.90
5	.96	.94	37	.96	.94
7	.90	.96	38	.95	.93
9	.97	.94	39	.95	.94
10	.96	.94	40	.97	.95
11	.90	.98	41	.95	.94
13	.99	.97	42	.94	.92
14	.96	.89	43	.97	.94
17	.97	.94	44	.96	.93
20	.96	.91	45	.96	.93
21	.93	.85	47	.97	.95
22	.93	.89	48	.90	.97
23	.97	.95	49	.97	.96
25	.93	.91	50	.96	.94
27	.91	.87	51	.96	.94
28	.93	.91	52	.96	.95
31	.93	.90	53	.96	.95
32	.95	.90	54	.93	.97
33	.93	.96			

Table XI presents the Chi Squares and levels of significance obtained by comparisons made of the responses of prospective foster and adoptive couples to the other items of the sentence completion test. As partial explanation for the variations in the obtained results with respect to the levels of significance, the following observations are made.

First, items which relate to general child knowledge ought to result in no differences between expected and obtained frequencies from the two groups under study. Items 1, 4, 9, 13, 22, 25, 28, 36, 39, 47, 49, 51 and 53 may be so classified. The fact that the comparisons made on these items showed no significant relationships between the groups is therefore an expected one.

Second, items which pertain to the relations of each group to their specific foster or adoptive agency would be expected to reveal significant relationships on the basis of different agency practices, or orientation. Items 2, 7, 10, 11, 14, 17, 20, 23, 27, 32, 33, 34, 35, 42, 43, 45, 46, 52 and 56 may be classified under agency orientation and results reveal significant relationships between the groups, at different levels of significance.

Third, items which elicit responses relating to experience with the care of children might also be expected to differentiate between the groups, and are found to do so. They are items 5, 21, 31, 37, 38, 40, 41, 44 and 50.

Table XI.-

Degrees of Freedom, Chi Squares and Levels of Significance
Obtained by Comparisons of Responses of Prospective
Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad) Parents to the
Remaining Items of the Sentence Completion Test.

Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P	Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P
1	Ad vs Fo	3	1.86	NS	20	Ad vs Fo	4	5.50	NS
2	Ad vs Fo	4	34.56	.001	21	Ad vs Fo	4	9.61	.05
	Fathers		11.17	.05		Fathers		12.71	.02
	Mothers		25.45	.001		Mothers		5.03	NS
4	Ad vs Fo	4	3.89	NS	22	Ad vs Fo	4	6.11	NS
5	Ad vs Fo	4	54.49	.001	23	Ad vs Fo	3	23.01	.001
	Fathers		20.14	.001		Fathers		15.20	.01
	Mothers		39.91	.001		Mothers		19.96	.001
7	Ad vs Fo	3	7.41	NS	25	Ad vs Fo	4	5.70	NS
	Fathers		.86	NS					
	Mothers		8.52	.05	27	Ad vs Fo	4	10.53	.05
9	Ad vs Fo	4	7.16	NS		Fathers		11.10	.05
						Mothers		3.04	NS
10	Ad vs Fo	4	13.28	.01	28	Ad vs Fo	4	3.02	NS
	Fathers		5.43	NS					
	Mothers		9.79	.05	31	Ad vs Fo	4	5.79	NS
11	Ad vs Fo	4	22.31	.001		Fathers		2.96	NS
	Fathers		7.24	NS		Mothers		9.50	.05
	Mothers		16.19	.01	32	Ad vs Fo	4	22.01	.001
13	Ad vs Fo	4	4.40	NS		Fathers		10.00	.05
						Mothers		16.57	.01
14	Ad vs Fo	3	7.25	NS	33	Ad vs Fo	4	28.66	.001
	Fathers		.25	NS		Fathers		17.53	.01
	Mothers		10.95	.02		Mothers		13.16	.02
17	Ad vs Fo	3	8.66	.05	34	Ad vs Fo	4	23.85	.001
	Fathers		1.60	NS		Fathers		15.05	.01
	Mothers		9.33	.05		Mothers		11.38	.05

Table XI.-(Cont'd.)

Degrees of Freedom, Chi Squares and Levels of Significance
Obtained by Comparisons of Responses of Prospective
Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad) Parents to the
Remaining Items of the Sentence Completion Test.

Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P	Item	Groups Compared	df	χ^2	P		
35	Ad vs Fo	3	12.27	.01	45	Ad vs Fo	3	30.58	.001		
	Fathers		5.73	NS		Fathers		12.60	.01		
	Mothers		10.16	.02		Mothers		20.67	.001		
36	Ad vs Fo	3	4.21	NS	47	Ad vs Fo	3	1.59	NS		
37	Ad vs Fo	4	22.22	.001		Fathers		.40	NS		
	Fathers		12.59	.02	Mothers	7.93	.05				
	Mothers		21.96	.001	48	Ad vs Fo	4	11.33	.05		
38	Ad vs Fo	4	22.89	.001		Fathers		1.39	NS		
	Fathers		10.08	.05		Mothers		12.40	.05		
	Mothers		15.10	.01	49	Ad vs Fo	3	6.08	NS		
39	Ad vs Fo	4	8.04	NS		50		Ad vs Fo	4	52.24	.001
	Fathers		2.42	NS		Fathers		33.33		.001	
	Mothers		13.64	.01	Mothers	24.00	.001				
40	Ad vs Fo	3	2.42	NS	51	Ad vs Fo	4	4.36	NS		
	Fathers		3.31	NS		52		Ad vs Fo	4	40.91	.001
	Mothers		3.31	NS				Fathers		14.06	.01
41	Ad vs Fo	4	21.93	.001	Mothers		27.79	.001			
	Fathers		13.23	.02	53	Ad vs Fo	4	9.43	NS		
	Mothers		11.95	.02		54		Ad vs Fo	4	7.80	NS
42	Ad vs Fo	3	20.41	.001				55		Ad vs Fo	5
	Fathers		13.91	.01	56		Ad vs Fo			2	
	Mothers		7.29	NS		Fathers	10.34		.01		
43	Ad vs Fo	4	10.97	.05		Mothers	10.05	.01			
	Fathers		7.95	NS							
	Mothers		4.07	NS							
44	Ad vs Fo	3	19.18	.001							
	Fathers		9.54	.05							
	Mothers		15.17	.01							

In summary of Chapter III the following statements are made:

1. The null hypothesis was rejected for thirteen of the fifteen items of the sentence completion test selected as related to the existential need for the extension of oneself into the future.

2. The null hypothesis was rejected for the three motivational statements that were categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life.

3. Results found on other items of the sentence completion test reveal significant relationships may be expected to occur when the items relate to parental experience with children or to differences in agency orientation for the two groups, and no significant relationships are found when the items relate to child knowledge in general.

CHAPTER IV

DISCUSSION

Maslow states that psychologists should be sensitized "to the necessity of grappling with and systematizing the dynamic role of the future in the presently existing personality."¹ Such was the nature of the task undertaken in the present study. The purpose of the experiment was to investigate how the need to go on existing into the future was to be observed through the presently expressed needs for progeny or work.

The discussion of the obtained results is developed along two lines, one for the theoretical implications and the other for the sociological implications. Discussion will center around the results obtained from the fifteen items selected as possible indicators of the need for self-extension into the future and the analysis made on the motivational statements according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life. The results on other items of the sentence completion test will be discussed only insofar as they are relevant to the theorem under study.

¹ Abraham H. Maslow, Toward a Psychology of Being, New York, Van Nostrand, 1962, p. 14.

1. Theoretical Implications.

A common characteristic of the fifteen items selected to study the need for extending oneself into the future was that these items required the subjects to project themselves into the future in the role they expected to fill after their request for a child had been granted. From this requirement certain assumptions were made with reference to the theorem under study.

a) Initial Assumptions.- When the fifteen items also elicited responses relating to progeny or work it was assumed that a future goal was being anticipated either through the possession of progeny or through work. Furthermore, if the subjects were married couples who were childless, the assumption was that they were seeking to attain a goal through the possession of children. If the subjects were married couples who were already biological parents, the assumption was that they were seeking to attain a goal through work. From these assumptions, then, it was stated that the two groups of subjects were striving towards a common goal of success with children. However, in the present time, one group was expressing a need for the possession of the child per se, and the other group was expressing a need for work with a child. But since success with a child is best measured by the maturity he achieves in adulthood, the goals of the subjects in the study were placed in the distant future and considered as a function of the existential need to go on existing into the future through progeny or work.

On the basis of these initial assumptions, it was antecedently expected that significant relationships would be found to exist between the two groups of subjects when comparisons were made by the Chi Square technique. The rejection of the null hypothesis for thirteen of the fifteen items met the expectation. The next step, therefore, was to analyze each of the thirteen items to find out how many times the two groups were differentiated by frequency of responses placed in categories relating to progeny or work. It was expected that the responses of the childless couples would have a higher frequency of placement in categories related to the possession of a child, and the responses of the biological parents would have a higher frequency of placement in categories related to working with the child. The results of this scrutiny of the categories is given as follows:

Item 3.- Childless couples had eighty-six responses placed in category 3 relating to the receiving of progeny and biological parents had thirty-seven responses in category 2 for work and reward, and fifty-six responses in category 1 for expending efforts on a child.

Item 6.- Childless couples had eighty-nine responses placed in category 2 for wanting to receive a child and biological parents had seventy-eight responses placed in category 1 for the giving of help to a child.

Item 8.- Childless couples had sixty-four responses placed in category 3 for possession of a child and biological parents had seventy-two responses placed in category 2 for giving, helping, sharing, and molding a child. * *

Item 12.- Childless couples had seventy-two responses placed in category 2 for the self-satisfaction of parental needs, and biological parents had fifty-seven responses placed in category 1 to help a child by giving love and a home.

Item 15.- Childless couples had sixty-nine responses placed in category 2 for fulfilling parental needs for a child and biological parents had sixty-nine responses placed in category 1 for a child's response to their work and efforts.

Item 16.- Childless couples had fifty-nine responses placed in category 2 for wanting children, and seventeen responses placed in category 3 for wanting children as substitute for their own. Biological parents had seventy-two of their responses placed in category 1 for helping a child and twenty-six in category 4 for wanting to help unfortunate children.

Item 18.- Childless couples had ninety-seven responses placed in category 3 for positive reaction to receiving a child. Biological parents had sixty-four responses placed in the same category. Differentiation occurred between the groups by the biological parents' negative reaction to placing a child with childless couples.

Item 19.- Childless couples had forty-two responses placed in category 5 for regarding the new child as their own, and biological parents had thirty-one responses in category 2 for doing something good. The largest number of responses on this item fell into category 1 for both groups' expression of happiness in having a child to satisfy their needs, a psycho-social response to be expected of these age groups.

Item 24.- Childless couples had forty-seven responses placed in category 4 for permanent possession of the child and biological parents had sixty-one responses placed in category 2 relating to the child's response to their efforts on his behalf.

Item 26.- Childless couples had sixty-one responses placed in category 5 for regarding the new child as their own and biological parents had twenty-six responses in category 2 for doing something good. As in item 19, the largest number of responses fell into category 1 to express satisfaction in having a child to meet their needs, a psycho-social response.

Item 46.- Childless couples had sixty responses placed in category 3 for regarding the new child the same as any child, and biological parents had fifty-one responses placed in category 4 related to the hope that their efforts would be appreciated in the future.

Item 57.- No category for work is contained in this item. The groups are differentiated by the etcetera category.

Item 58.- The greatest differentiation occurs on this item because of the large number of responses in the etcetera category.

On eleven items, therefore, the two groups of subjects were differentiated on the basis of frequency of responses placed in categories for progeny or work, that is, the childless couples were differentiated from the biological parents in eleven categories related to progeny, and the biological parents were differentiated from the childless couples in thirteen categories related to work. This observation supported the assumption that the childless couples were seeking to attain a goal through the possession of children and that biological parents were seeking to attain a goal through work. It also provided an explanation to account for the significant relationships found between the groups as a result of the comparisons made by the Chi Square technique. Furthermore, it provided greater assurance that there was functioning an existential need to extend oneself into the future either through progeny or work.

Further confirmation, however, required some evidence that there was an existential level of psychic life. The foregoing analysis, while confirming the need for progeny and work, suggested that the childless couples were at a biological level of psychic life and the biological parents were at a psychosocial level of life. In what manner, then, could the existential

level of psychic life be observed as functioning with these groups?

It was decided that this could be accomplished by an analysis of the three motivational statements made by the subjects and categorized according to Nuttin's three levels of psychic life. For this step, further assumptions were made as follows.

b) Subsequent Assumptions.- It was assumed that no absolute dichotomy would be consistently observed between the groups on all the statements, except on the biological category because of the controlled variable of biological parenthood. This assumption was made on the basis of Nuttin's theory that there is an interpenetration of needs on the three levels of psychic life.

It was assumed that, despite the expected differentiation of the groups on the biological category, they would not necessarily be consistently differentiated on the psycho-social level. This assumption was made on the basis of Nuttin's statement that psycho-social needs were more strongly manifested in the mid-thirties of age and the groups under study were matched at a mean age level in the early thirties.

It was assumed that both groups would have a certain number of responses placed in the existential category on the basis of Nuttin's theory that, as maturing personalities, they would be moving towards self-extension on a more abstract level.

of functioning. It was for the verification of this particular assumption that the analysis was undertaken.

The frequencies which were analyzed are those presented in Table VIII. The observations showed no absolute dichotomy between the groups on the categories except on the biological category, which was an anticipated exception due to the experimental control for parenthood. The assumption of an interpenetration of needs on the three levels of psychic life was upheld by the distribution of responses pertaining to needs into the three main categories.

In category 2 for the psycho-social level differentiation occurred on two of the three statements, and in both instances a greater differentiation had occurred for the groups in the biological category. Where there was no differentiation on the psycho-social category, the number of responses on the biological category was equal to the number of responses on the psycho-social category for the group of childless couples. The age level would account for the equal pull of the psycho-social needs and the assumption of no consistent differentiation was upheld.

Both groups had responses placed in the existential category. In one statement the numbers were almost equal, with the biological parents having a few more responses than the childless couples. In another statement the responses of the biological parents which were placed in the existential

level exceeded those placed in the psycho-social level. In all three statements the numbers of the biological parents' responses exceeded those of the childless couples. The percentages of the total number of responses which were placed in the existential category for the two groups were as follows: for the combined statements, the distribution of responses was 25% for the childless couples and 35% for the biological parents; for item 12, the distribution of responses was 25% for the childless couples and 50% for the biological parents; for item 16, the distribution of responses was 10% for the childless couples and for the biological parents, 25%.

These percentages of responses placed in the category related to existential needs not only indicated that existential needs were expressed by the subjects in the study, but also indicated the functioning of an existential level of psychic life. The inference for the theorem under study was that subjects' responses to two items, when categorized in two different ways, revealed existential needs and needs for progeny or work. When, added to these facts, there was the fact that the items had required projection into the future, and the additional fact that the subjects were seeking further extension of themselves by caring for a child of another, the accumulated evidence justified the inference that the subjects were seeking to extend themselves into the future either through progeny or work with children. The existential need was

observed as functioning and Nuttin's theorem was considered as having a substantiate basis for acceptance.

c) The Wording of the Theorem.- At this point, consideration must be given to the theorem under study as stated by Nuttin, that is, "Man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellow-men either through his posterity or his work."² In this study a group of biological parents were requesting the care of a child who was not their own. The question was asked, "If posterity assures existence into the future, and biological parents possess posterity, why does work have to be postulated as their mode for the satisfaction of this existential need?" The answer was, not to deny that the biological parents' children had assured a satisfaction of the existential need, but to postulate that the derived satisfaction received from social contact and exchange with their own children had, in the process, aided their own maturity and they were now pushing out the bounds of self-centeredness to a self extension towards others. The field of activity they chose was one in which they had become professional, so to speak, by caring for children, and this work, in addition, assured a fuller extension into the future. The concept of work was rightly postulated

² Joseph Nuttin, Psychoanalysis and Personality. A Dynamic Theory of Normal Personality, translated by George Lamb, New York, Sneed and Ward, 1953, published as a Mentor-Omega Book, New American Library of World Literature, New York, 1962, p. 25b.

for the biological parents, therefore, but they were also entitled to a claim for self-extension into the future on the basis of possessing their own progeny.

On the other hand, the childless couples could have extended themselves into the future on the basis of success in their current occupations or professions. The results of the study revealed, however, that successful parenthood was their desired future goal. It could be further hypothesized that when they had acquired one child, and some experience in caring for him, they would be back to request another one, and therefore they would be following the same pattern of the biological parents.

From these considerations, it is now suggested that the wording of the theorem be slightly changed, if it is to be applicable to all persons. The suggested change is as follows: Man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellow-men through his posterity and/or work. Such a change permits application of the theorem to everyone and allows for variance in the intensity of the degree to which such an existential need is experienced.

2. Implications for Social Science.

As a result of the findings of this study, as well as the discussion on the theoretical implications, some personality characteristics observed as functioning in the prospective

adoptive and foster parents who served as subjects for the experimentation are presented. They may serve as a guide to social workers in their assessment of substitute parents of this kind.

It must be understood, however, that these statements are made as inferences based upon Maslow's Theory of Needs and require further experimentation before they can be certified as facts. The statements are made because no such statements, or inferences, have been made to the effect that adoptive and foster parents may be functioning on a mutual level of needs, the more they are aligned as experienced substitute parents.

In general, therefore, the substitute parents in this present study, matched on a group basis for socio-economic, age and education level, are seen as working through a need for self-actualization in the future through the acquisition of, and working with, children. Their perception of the child is of someone who creates a meaningful situation for them which strengthens their marriage bond and gives unity of purpose to them by providing an opportunity to achieve a greater ego-world unity individually, and a family unit corporately.

More specifically, the adoptive couples were absorbed in the painful consciousness of their childlessness and emphasized their need for a child in order to satisfy their biological need for progeny. At the same time, they were struggling to meet their psycho-social needs, but always giving

first effort to the satisfying of the need for a child. Further, the adoptive couples did not decide to become substitute without some inner struggle of an existential nature which was observed in their expression of existential needs.

Foster parents, on the other hand, as experienced biological parents face the future with confidence, engendered by successful parenthood, and are volunteering to care for disturbed children who will most certainly challenge their ability as parents.

The foster parents in this present study manifested a sense of dedication for the new roles they were assuming as substitute parents. They were capable of objective criticism and self-judgment. Their maturity was observed in their willingness to give of themselves for the benefit of a child who might disgrace them by anti-social behavior, who might resist their efforts to love him, and who might be poor in scholastic achievement. They were willing to undertake this difficult task even with the knowledge that their new world would be filled with the ever-threatening presence of critical neighbors, of the real parents coming to see their child, and of social workers' investigations. Such conditions call for a personality that is flexible and adaptable, and an extension of oneself into the future with an existential need for fulfillment and commitment beyond the ordinary demands of life. The foster parents perceived their life as substitute parents as a "meaningful situation" for the enhancement of the future for themselves and others.

3. Limitations of the Study.

The limitations of the study are discussed from three viewpoints, namely, the theoretical, psychometric, and that of social science.

a) From the Theoretical Viewpoint.- The theorem under study was one postulated of mankind in general. The results of this experiment are only those of the initial step taken to introduce experimentation of the theorem in an American milieu. They must be interpreted as limited to results obtained on married couples functioning as substitute parents. They provide evidence that the theorem may be applied to the specific subjects, but further experimentation is needed before the theorem can be generally applied to everyone.

The term, existential needs, was used in this study to indicate those needs which function at an existential or spiritual level of life. Perhaps this is not the best term to use, or the best definition of the term, but precise terms are difficult to find in the literature. Therefore the terms as used here, may differ from similar terms used elsewhere. Insofar as the present writer was able to ascertain, however, the terms as used in the study were representative of the meaning implied by Nuttin's use of such terms. There is need for a formulation of a scientific glossary of terms for use with existential psychology.

b) From the Viewpoint of Psychometrics.- The theorem under study, based as it was upon an assumption of three levels

of psychic life, required testing by an instrument which would tap the three levels. The selection of the semi-projective sentence completion test, containing both direct and indirect types of stimulus stems, was considered as tapping all levels and the categorizing of two of the items according to Muttin's three levels of psychic life indicated that responses had been elicited from all three levels, for those two items. Further analysis of the other thirteen items might have, or might not, have given the same results. The research was necessarily limited in this respect.

A personal document from each subject, such as one requesting a statement as to what the subject expected to be in five, ten or fifteen years might have provided further indications, or information, concerning existential needs about the future. Unfortunately the experimenter did not think of this kind of document when the study was begun. It is believed it would have added to the further confirmation of the findings. Further research on the theorem should obtain direct statements from the subjects which relate to their concept of, or anticipation of, the future.

c) From the Viewpoint of Social Science.- The study was most limited by restrictions placed upon it due to agency practices. The pressure of work which required the immediate solution to problem cases often superseded the need to conduct the research. As a consequence, the circumstances under which

the tests were taken could sometimes have been unfavorable. There was no way to control for the conditions under which the subjects were tested, except to accept the word of the social workers that they tried to make the conditions as pleasant as possible and were certain that the subjects were cooperating willingly.

The subjects tested were those who were considered as acceptable for becoming substitute parents. This judgment was made by the social worker without any objective measure beyond an interview or the recommendations of others. The subjects therefore were not precisely equal in their qualifications as substitute parents. This was a limitation to the study over which the experimenter had no control, and had to accept that the judgment of the social worker was valid for judging the adequacy of prospective substitute parents.

4. Suggestions for Further Research.

The suggestions for further research are listed under General and Specific headings.

a) General Research.- In this area, the following investigations could be conducted:

1. The testing of different racial groups to note if primitive races look to the future as satisfying existential needs.

2. The testing of ethnic groups to note the psychosocial level of functioning as it affects the existential level in the anticipation of the future.

3. The testing of the space-age generation to note if existential needs are affected by men who plan to 'live in space' someday in the approaching future.

4. The testing of the mentally ill to note their expression of existential needs to extend into the future.

5. The conducting of longitudinal studies to note how the existential needs of an individual may change at regular periods of time in his progress towards the future.

6. The testing of the physically handicapped to note how biological malfunctioning affects existential needs.

7. The testing of different socio-economic groups to note how poverty or wealth affect the existential needs particularly with respect to the future.

8. The testing of various religious groups to note how they look to the future to satisfy existential needs.

9. The testing of groups covering a range of ages to note if existential needs are most observable in old age.

b) Specific Research.- The suggestions under this heading pertain to specific endeavors to add to personality theory while concomitantly contributing psychological assistance to aid in the solution of human problems.

1. To assess if mental illness may in any way be related to unsatisfied existential needs.

2. To assess if the anti-social behavior of psychopaths, delinquents, etc. may be related to undeveloped existential needs.

3. To assess if the apathy of certain racial groups, such as the North American Indians, is due to an absence of, or a pathological conception of existential needs. If an absence is noted, the theory would not be universal. It would perhaps be better to hypothesize a fixation at a lower level of psychic life, or lack of development, or a primitive concept relating to existential needs.

4. To assess if concern with existential needs is related to the problems of the aged.

Other suggestions could be made. It is felt, however, that those given provide some thought of what might be accomplished if existential needs can be experimentally tested to discover their importance in the functioning of a personality.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

It was the purpose of the present investigation to initiate a scientific study of Nuttin's postulate of an existential need to extend oneself into the future either through one's posterity or work, with subjects taken from an American milieu.

The subjects were two groups of substitute parents. One group consisted of sixty prospective adoptive couples who were childless. The other group consisted of sixty foster couples who were biological parents. Neither group had previous experience with foster or adoptive children.

The subjects were obtained from Catholic Welfare Agencies located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Trenton, New Jersey, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. They were matched, on a group basis, for socio-economic, education and age level. All subjects were white, representing various nationalities of European and American origin, with no one nationality dominant.

A combined motivational statement was obtained for each couple. Every subject gave independent answers to a sentence completion form of the Colvin-Bohman type. There were fifty-eight items in the form, fifteen of which were selected as possible indicators of the existential need under study.

The data in this study were analyzed as follows: (1) Frequency distributions for each of the categories on every item were obtained. (2) The per cent of agreement between

judgments on the two ratings was estimated for each item.

(3) Kappa coefficients of reliability were computed for the two groups of substitute parents. (4) Comparisons of the obtained frequencies were made by the Chi Square technique and levels of significance obtained. Comparisons were made in three ways: between foster and adoptive couples; between foster and adoptive fathers; and between foster and adoptive mothers.

The null hypothesis for the sentence completion form was that no significant relationships would be found between the responses of prospective foster and adoptive couples on items of the test which required projection into the future and elicited responses related to concepts of progeny or work.

The null hypothesis for the motivational statements was that no significant relationships would be found between the two groups of substitute parents when their statements were categorized according to Muttin's three levels of psychic life.

Results showed significant relationships between the two groups of prospective foster and adoptive couples on thirteen of the fifteen items of the sentence completion form selected as possible indicators of the need to extend oneself into the future. The null hypothesis was rejected for the thirteen items. The two items which failed to yield significant relationships were found not to have elicited responses which related to progeny or work.

Results showed significant relationships between the two groups of substitute parents when their motivational statements were rated according to Muttin's three levels of psychic life and the null hypothesis was rejected.

The results indicated that existential needs may be experimentally assessed with subjects taken from an American milieu. A secondary effect of the results was that social science obtained added information for the understanding of biological, psycho-social and existential needs of substitute parents.

With reference to the theory, a specific recommendation was made with respect to the postulate under study. Muttin's statement is worded as follows: Man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellowmen either through his posterity or through his work. On the basis of the results obtained in this study, it was recommended that the words be changed to read as follows: Man feels a spontaneous need to go on existing amongst his fellowmen through his posterity and/or his work.

It was concluded therefore that the initial step to assess one theorem of existential needs, as postulated by Muttin and tested with American subjects, demonstrated such research was not only possible but also contributed to personality theory with results not previously obtained. It was also concluded that the scientific study of personality theory

may be conducted with groups taken from social science and concomitantly offer valuable information towards the understanding of its particular problems.

Recommendations are for further research along these lines in the assessment of existential needs. The groups under investigation should be varied ones covering a range of ages, cultural and ethnic groups, and degrees of mental and physical health. It is also recommended that longitudinal studies be made. For example, the present study ought to follow up on the subjects after they have had experience as substitute parents for one, five and even ten years.

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Hollingshead, August B., Two Factor Index of Social Position, New Haven, Conn., August B. Hollingshead, 1957, 11 p.

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Levin, Kurt, Field Theory in Social Science, Selected Theoretical Papers, edited by Dorwin Cartwright, New York, Harper, 1951, xx-346 p.

A good set of theoretical papers by a psychologist who demonstrated that objective, scientific observations were possible in social science.

adsen, K.B., "Theories of Motivation, An Overview and A Synthesis", paper presented at the Seventeenth International Congress of Psychology, Washington, D.C., August 20-26, 1963, 17 p.

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Maslow, A.H., Motivation and Personality, New York, Harper, 1954, xiv-411 p.

The author urges that motivation theorists study the needs for seeking self-perfection through usefulness and improving the external world. This positive approach to psychology, therefore, accents the importance of existential needs.

-----, Toward a Psychology of Being, New York, Van Nostrand, 1962, ix-214 p.

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Nuttin, Joseph, Psychocatalysis and Personality. A Dynamic Theory of Normal Personality, translated by George Lamb, New York, Sheed and Ward, 1953, published as a Mentor-Omega Book, New American Library of World Literature, New York, 1962, xvi-332 p.

This book contains the entire theory of Nuttin, and was the one from which the theorem under investigation was taken.

-----, "Consciousness, Behavior and Personality", in Psychological Review, Vol. 62, No. 5, September 1955, p. 349-355.

The author's explanation of consciousness in its different functions as freeing man from his subjectivity and bringing him into contact with the behavioral world.

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Patterson, C.H., "Existentialism and Disability", in The Catholic Psychological Record, Vol. 3, No. 3, Fall, 1965, p. 120-124.

An article on the obligation of psychology to concern itself with tragedy as an inevitable aspect of life, to study the psychological processes of experiencing human beings. In support of the need for study of the handicapped with reference to existential needs.

Rogers, Carl R., "The Actualizing Tendency in Relation to 'Motives' and to Consciousness", in Nebraska Symposium on Motivation, Lincoln, Nebraska, Nebraska Press, 1963, p. 1-24.

An article emphasizing Rogers' conviction that the basis of all motivation is the tendency toward fulfillment, and consciousness in the well functioning person tends to be reflexive. Both concepts are in line with those of Muttin.

Rohde, Amanda R., The Sentence Completion Method. Its Diagnostic and Clinical Application to Mental Disorders, New York, Ronald, 1957, xii-301 p.

Part I contains a comprehensive account of the sentence completion method for investigating personality and includes discussion on the theoretical implications. Required reading for knowledge of this type test.

Rotter, Julian B., Social Learning and Clinical Psychology, New York, Prentice Hall, 1954, xvi-466 p.

References are made in the text concerning adoptions and foster home placements from the psychological viewpoint of assessment of personality characteristics and motivations as prime factors for the selection of substitute parents.

Sanford, Nevitt, "Will Psychologists Study Human Problems?", in American Psychologist, Vol. 20, No. 3, issue of March 1965, p. 192-202.

An excellent article with a plea to study human problems that, in addition, offers concrete suggestions for the choice of problems.

Van Maan, Adrian, "The Impact of Existential Phenomenology on the Psychological Literature of Western Europe", in Review of Existential Psychology and Psychiatry, Vol. 1, No. 1, Winter 1961, p. 63-92.

A compact, well documented, article divided into three considerations of man's essential awareness towards his fellowman, the world of animals and things, as well as towards himself in search for an integral view of man.

Wolins, Martin, Selecting Foster Parents. The Ideal and the Reality, New York, Columbia University Press, 1963, xii-223 p.

An excellent report of well-planned research to improve foster home placement procedures.

APPENDIX 1

LIST OF RESEARCH AGENCIES CONTACTED

APPENDIX 1

List of agencies who replied to a request sent out by the experimenter for information concerning comparative studies on the needs of foster and adoptive parents:

American Association for the Advancement of Science
Washington, D.C.

American Home Economics Association
Washington, D.C.

Children's Bureau
Department Health, Education, and Welfare
Washington, D.C.

National Education Association
Washington, D.C.

Science Research Association, Inc.
Chicago, Illinois

The Minnesota Council on Family Life
Minneapolis, Minnesota

State of New Jersey
Bureau of Children's Services
Trenton, New Jersey

American Social Health Association, Education Dept.
New York, New York

Child Adoption Research Committee, Inc.
New York, New York

Child Placing and Adoption Committee
State Charities Association
New York, New York

Child Welfare League of America
New York, New York

Child Study Association of America
New York, New York

Louise Wise Services, Child Adoption Center
New York, New York

Utah Council on Family Relations
College of Family Life
Utah State University, Utah

APPENDIA 2

LIST OF ADOPTIVE AGENCIES CONTACTED

APPENDIX 2

List of agencies who replied to a request sent out by the Catholic Welfare Bureau of Trenton, New Jersey, for information concerning agency practices for the screening, or psychological assessment, of adoptive parents:

Catholic Charities Center
Mobile, Alabama

Rocky Mountain Regional Conference on Adoptions
Estes Park, Colorado

Catholic Welfare Guild
Wilmington, Delaware

National Conference of Catholic Charities
Washington, D.C.

The Cradle Society
Evanston, Illinois

Catholic Service Bureau
Grand Rapids 2, Michigan

Catholic Charities Bureau
Jackson, Mississippi

Children's Aid and Adoption Society of New Jersey
East Orange, New Jersey

United Family and Children's Society
Plainfield, New Jersey

Children's Home Society of New Jersey
Trenton, New Jersey

Department of Institutions and Agencies
State of New Jersey
Trenton, New Jersey

New York Foundling Hospital
New York, New York

Catholic Charities Bureau
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Catholic Social Service, Inc.
La Crosse, Wisconsin

APPENDIX 3

COPY OF SENTENCE COMPLETION TEST
FOR FOSTER PARENTS

APPENDIX 3

Sentence Completion Form for Foster Parents

1. The principle difference between foster child care and adoption is
2. Foster children generally
3. Having a foster child means
4. A child who has been neglected is
5. I imagine that it is important for foster parents to be
6. People who take in foster children want
7. From what I hear about children's institutions I think'
8. I imagine foster parents receive much satisfaction from
9. I imagine most foster children turn out to be
10. Nurses who work in children's homes are
11. Children are placed in foster homes because
12. The main reason that I might wish to have a foster child is
13. Most children are
14. If I were a social workers seeking homes for foster children I would
15. A foster child could help its foster parents by
16. Most foster parents take children into their home because
17. Social workers tend to be
18. A foster child in the home of a childless couple would
19. A foster mother feels
20. The money that foster parents receive is
21. If a child's real parents are neglectful

22. In comparison to men, women are
23. The chief advantage of a social worker visiting foster parents is
24. If I were to take a foster child into my home, I would want to be certain that
25. In comparison to girls, boys are
26. A foster father feels
27. Doctors in institutions are
28. Children in institutions tend to
29. I imagine most foster parents worry about
30. A foster child would help a married couple by
31. If foster parents already have young children of their own, a foster child would
32. When a child's social worker visits his foster parents, the foster parents probably
33. If I were a foster parent of a child who suddenly asked to go home to his real parents, I would
34. If I were to take a foster child into my home, my friends would
35. Children of unwed parents are
36. Children who are easily upset need
37. I would not know what to do if a child
38. I imagine the most difficult thing about being a foster parent is
39. The true parents of most foster children are
40. The response of grown children to a foster child coming into the home of their parents probably is
41. Of the problems many children present, I imagine foster parents might be more upset by

42. Real parents sometimes want to visit children who are in foster homes because
43. When a foster child comes into a home already having young children, these children would
44. Foster parents tend to be
45. If someone were to suggest that I take a foster child, I would
46. When foster children grow up, I imagine
47. Children who easily become upset probably will
48. If I had a foster child in my home, I would prefer
49. If a child acts in an unusual manner its foster parents probably
50. A foster child going back to its own parents would
51. When parents disagree about a question concerning a child, I believe that the mothers should
52. If I were a foster parent of a child whose parents suddenly arrived for a visit I would
53. A foster parent having children of his own might feel that
54. When a foster child comes into a neighborhood, the neighbors
55. Of the following things that most children sometimes do, I would be most disturbed by: (Please rank the following from (1) to (6) in order of the degree to which you would find them disturbing, i.e., 1 (most disturbing), 2 (next most disturbing) etc.)
- () arguing
 - () sexual play
 - () lying
 - () stealing
 - () fighting
 - () having a temper tantrum

56. If I were to choose between a shy child who is hard to get to know or an active child who is into everything I would prefer the: (please check)
- shy, hard to get to know child
 - active child who gets into everything
57. The best foster parents are
58. The most pleasant things about being a foster parent are

APPENDIX 4

RELIABILITY COEFFICIENTS FOR PILOT STUDY TWO

APPENDIX 4

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Three Ratings for Responses of Experienced Foster Parents to Items of the Sentence Completion Tests in Pilot Study Two.

Item	Raters	Agreement N=60	Kappa	Item	Raters	Agreement N=60	Kappa
1	AB	.97	.94	10	AB	.97	.94
	AC	.92	.84		AC	.96	.97
	BC	.97	.94		BC	.96	.97
2	AB	.97	.93	11	AB	.95	.92
	AC	.97	.93		AC	.95	.92
	BC	.97	.93		BC	.93	.89
3	AB	.95	.92	12	AB	.95	.93
	AC	.92	.88		AC	.97	.92
	BC	.97	.95		BC	.95	.88
4	AB	.93	.90	13	AB	.98	.95
	AC	.90	.86		AC	.97	.89
	BC	.88	.83		BC	.98	.94
5	AB	.92	.86	14	AB	.97	.84
	AC	.97	.94		AC	.93	.74
	BC	.90	.83		BC	.92	.68
6	AB	.97	.97	15	AB	.97	.92
	AC	.95	.91		AC	.93	.84
	BC	.92	.85		BC	.97	.92
7	AB	.93	.91	16	AB	.93	.87
	AC	.95	.93		AC	.97	.93
	BC	.92	.89		BC	.93	.87
8	AB	.93	.90	17	AB	.97	.92
	AC	.92	.88		AC	.95	.91
	BC	.90	.86		BC	.96	.97
9	AB	.92	.90	18	AB	.90	.85
	AC	.95	.81		AC	.82	.73
	BC	.90	.63		BC	.88	.83

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Three Ratings for Responses of Experienced Foster Parents to Items of Sentence Completion Tests in Pilot Study Two. (Cont'd.)

Item	Raters	% Agreement N=60	Kappa	Item	Raters	% Agreement N=60	Kappa
19	AB	.93	.90	28	AB	.93	.87
	AC	.90	.85		AC	.92	.84
	BC	.90	.85		BC	.96	.97
20	AB	.90	.96	29	AB	.97	.96
	AC	1.00	1.00		AC	.95	.91
	BC	.98	.96		BC	.98	.97
21	AB	.95	.93	30	AB	.90	.83
	AC	.87	.81		AC	.93	.86
	BC	.90	.85		BC	.92	.85
22	AB	.92	.85	31	AB	.93	.91
	AC	.92	.85		AC	.88	.84
	BC	.88	.78		BC	.88	.84
23	AB	.90	.84	32	AB	.95	.94
	AC	.92	.86		AC	.92	.89
	BC	.88	.81		BC	.87	.83
24	AB	.92	.87	33	AB	.96	.98
	AC	.95	.92		AC	.93	.90
	BC	.90	.84		BC	.95	.92
25	AB	.90	.86	34	AB	.93	.88
	AC	.92	.88		AC	.93	.86
	BC	.85	.80		BC	.92	.84
26	AB	.95	.93	35	AB	.93	.90
	AC	.98	.96		AC	.88	.83
	BC	.92	.89		BC	.93	.90
27	AB	.95	.92	36	AB	.92	.85
	AC	.97	.95		AC	.90	.83
	BC	.92	.86		BC	.85	.74
37	AB	.97	.95	47	AB	.95	.93
	AC	.97	.95		AC	.93	.89
	BC	.93	.91		BC	.93	.89

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Three Ratings for Responses of Experienced Foster Parents to Items of Sentence Completion Tests in Pilot Study Two. (Cont'd.)

Item	Raters	% Agreement N=60	Kappa	Item	Raters	% Agreement N=60	Kappa
30	AB	.97	.86	40	AB	.93	.85
	AC	.95	.93		AC	.93	.86
	BC	.93	.91		BC	.87	.95
39	AB	.95	.93	49	AB	.93	.90
	AC	.92	.89		AC	.93	.91
	BC	.90	.87		BC	.90	.86
40	AB	.97	.94	50	AB	.97	.96
	AC	.93	.88		AC	.90	.87
	BC	.97	.94		BC	.87	.82
41	AB	.95	.92	51	AB	.97	.96
	AC	.95	.92		AC	.87	.87
	BC	.95	.92		BC	.90	.87
42	AB	.97	.95	52	AB	.95	.93
	AC	.92	.87		AC	.85	.93
	BC	.88	.81		BC	.90	.86
43	AB	.92	.85	53	AB	.93	.90
	AC	.95	.90		AC	.93	.91
	BC	.83	.76		BC	.93	.90
44	AB	.95	.92	54	AB	.95	.92
	AC	.95	.90		AC	.88	.83
	BC	.85	.92		BC	.90	.85
45	AB	.93	.89	57	AB	.92	.86
	AC	.93	.89		AC	.80	.83
	BC	.97	.94		BC	.97	.94
46	AB	.85	.93	58	AB	.91	.93
	AC	.82	.74		AC	.93	.91
	BC	.87	.81		BC	.93	.91

APPENDIX 5

PERSONAL DATA FOR SUBJECTS IN PILOT STUDY THREE

APPENDIX 5

**Personal Data for Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents of
Pilot Study Three.**

Variable	Prospective Foster Parents N=60	Prospective Adoptive Parents N=60
Mean Age in Years:		
Fathers	46.60	28.82
Mothers	42.79	27.74
Mean Years in School:		
Fathers	11.43	13.80
Mothers	11.47	12.90
Mean Years Married	19.48	6.34
Parental Experience: (Couples)		
As biological parents	27	2
As substitute parents	1	1
Childless	2	27
Social Class (Couples)		
I	1	6
II	3	3
III	10	8
IV	12	11
V	4	2

APPENDIX 6

RELIABILITY COEFFICIENTS FOR PILOT STUDY THREE

APPENDIX 6

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of Ratings for Responses of Prospective Foster Parents to Items of the Sentence Completion Test in Pilot Study Three.

Item	Agreement N=60	Kappa	Item	Agreement N=60	Kappa
1	.97	.90	29	.95	.91
2	.93	.90	30	.93	.90
3	.93	.90	31	.95	.92
4	.93	.89	32	.95	.93
5	.91	.95	33	.92	.88
6	.93	.87	34	.93	.87
7	.93	.89	35	.98	.97
8	.92	.87	36	.95	.90
9	.90	.83	37	.97	.96
10	.92	.80	38	.92	.88
11	.90	.84	39	.95	.93
12	.93	.89	40	.97	.93
13	.95	.83	41	1.00	1.00
14	.93	.89	42	.95	.89
15	.93	.87	43	.93	.86
16	.88	.83	44	.95	.90
17	.93	.86	45	.95	.90
18	.93	.87	46	.87	.80
19	.93	.90	47	.95	.93
20	.95	.85	48	.92	.86
21	.93	.91	49	.93	.90
22	.92	.81	50	.95	.93
23	.93	.90	51	.95	.93
24	.97	.94	52	.92	.85
25	.93	.91	53	.93	.91
26	.92	.89	54	.92	.87
27	.92	.86	57	.88	.77
28	.90	.85	58	.93	.89

Per Cent Agreement and Kappa Coefficients of Reliability of
Ratings for Responses of Prospective Adoptive Parents to
Items of the Sentence Completion Test in Pilot
Study Three.

Item	Agreement N=60	Kappa	Item	Agreement N=60	Kappa
1	.97	.85	29	.97	.95
2	.92	.87	30	.93	.90
3	.93	.88	31	.90	.85
4	.92	.86	32	.95	.90
5	.92	.87	33	.98	.96
6	.97	.90	34	.98	.94
7	.97	.95	35	.92	.87
8	.95	.92	36	.95	.85
9	.93	.89	37	.93	.91
10	.95	.89	38	.98	.98
11	.92	.87	39	.90	.87
12	.87	.80	40	.92	.88
13	.97	.90	41	.90	.87
14	.88	.76	42	.95	.93
15	.95	.92	43	.95	.90
16	.93	.90	44	.97	.95
17	.97	.95	45	.97	.93
18	.92	.79	46	.87	.86
19	.93	.90	47	.98	.98
20	.97	.95	48	.93	.90
21	.93	.91	49	.97	.95
22	.97	.95	50	.97	.94
23	.92	.88	51	.92	.87
24	.97	.95	52	.93	.91
25	.92	.90	53	.90	.87
26	.90	.86	54	.97	.95
27	.93	.90	57	.88	.83
28	.90	.85	58	.93	.90

APPENDIX 7

RESULTS OF COMPARISONS MADE FOR PILOT STUDY THREE

APPENDIX 7

Chi Squares and Levels of Significance Obtained for Comparisons Made on Group Responses of 60 Prospective Foster Parents and 60 Prospective Adoptive Parents on Items of the Sentence Completion Test for Pilot Study Three.

Item	df	Chi Square	P	Item	df	Chi Square	P
1	3	4.29	NS	30	4	7.52	NS
2	4	25.28	.001	31	4	7.23	NS
3	3	17.96	.001	32	4	27.55	.001
4	4	13.31	.01	33	4	26.23	.001
5	4	9.65	.05	34	4	17.93	.01
6	4	33.27	.001	35	3	1.27	NS
7	3	8.38	.05	36	3	2.61	NS
8	3	20.15	.001	37	4	6.64	NS
9	4	3.62	NS	38	4	7.47	NS
10	4	6.65	NS	39	4	26.58	.001
11	4	.58	NS	40	3	14.32	.01
12	4	24.62	.001	41	4	18.68	.001
13	4	3.99	NS	42	3	27.70	.001
14	3	2.44	NS	43	4	1.17	NS
15	3	12.45	.01	44	3	12.94	.01
16	4	28.19	.001	45	3	3.44	NS
17	3	4.00	NS	46	4	21.03	.001
18	4	66.46	.001	47	3	6.73	NS
19	5	9.06	NS	48	4	4.23	NS
20	4	8.42	NS	49	3	11.23	.02
21	4	3.42	NS	50	4	45.16	.001
22	4	9.16	NS	51	4	17.22	.01
23	3	29.82	.001	52	4	42.25	.001
24	4	23.49	.001	53	4	7.31	NS
25	4	14.22	.01	54	4	4.50	NS
26	5	8.38	NS	55	5	6.80	NS
27	4	9.76	.05	56	2	6.14	.05
28	4	6.83	NS	57	3	20.85	.001
29	3	2.07	NS	58	3	10.84	.02

APPENDIX 3

COPY OF PERSONAL DATA SHEET

APPENDIX J

PERSONAL DATA SHEET

Code Number: _____ Fo Ad _____ Date Tested: _____

Directions for Social Worker

Fill out one personal data sheet for each couple.
 Prospective parents must not have had any previous experience with either foster or adoptive children. They must fill out the Sentence Completion form independent of each other and at a time when you are reasonably certain they will be approved to receive children.

<u>Information Required</u>	<u>In re Husband</u>	<u>In re Wife</u>
Date of Birth	_____	_____
Place of Birth	_____	_____
Father's Nationality	_____	_____
Mother's Nationality	_____	_____
Race	_____	_____
Religion	_____	_____
Occupation (be specific)	_____	_____
Weekly Income	_____	_____
Education	_____	_____
Grade Completed	_____	_____
Date of Marriage	_____	
Number of own children, if any	_____	
Type of child requested:	Sex: _____	Age: _____
Other specifications:	_____	
Check place of residence:	Rural _____ Urban _____ Suburban _____	

APPENDIX 9

RAW DATA FOR COMPUTATIONS IN PRESENT STUDY

APPENDIX 9

Category Frequencies for the Computation of Kappa Coefficients of Reliability for Prospective Foster (Fo) and Adoptive (Ad) Parents Responses to Items of the Sentence Completion Test and for Comparisons by the Chi Square Technique in Three Ways, Combined (Co), Fathers (Fa) and Mothers (Mo).

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	AdCo	1	111	1	3	5			120
	AdCo	2	110	1	3	6			120
	FoCo	1	105	1	6	8			120
	FoCo	2	104	1	7	8			120
	AdFa	1	54	1	1	4			60
	FoFa	1	49	1	4	6			60
	AdMo	1	57	0	2	1			60
	FoMo	1	56	0	2	2			60
2	AdCo	1	60	5	21	8	26		120
	AdCo	2	55	6	23	11	25		120
	FoCo	1	65	34	4	7	10		120
	FoCo	2	65	31	5	6	13		120
	AdFa	2	23	4	10	6	17		60
	FoFa	2	31	12	3	4	10		60
	AdMo	2	32	2	13	5	8		60
	FoMo	2	34	19	2	2	3		60
3	AdCo	1	9	13	66	12			120
	AdCo	2	9	13	90	8			120
	FoCo	1	56	37	21	6			120
	FoCo	2	60	32	19	9			120
	AdFa	1	3	9	40	8			60
	FoFa	1	25	20	11	4			60
	AdMo	1	6	4	46	4			60
	FoMo	1	31	17	10	2			60
4	AdCo	1	7	50	54	2	7		120
	AdCo	2	8	48	56	2	6		120
	FoCo	1	13	52	47	3	5		120
	FoCo	2	13	52	50	3	2		120
	AdFa	2	4	29	25	1	1		60
	FoFa	2	9	28	22	1	0		60
	AdMo	2	4	19	31	1	5		60
	FoMo	2	4	24	28	2	2		60

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
5	AdCo	1	55	16	31	0	18	120	
	AdCo	2	53	17	31	0	19	120	
	FoCo	1	64	38	0	10	8	120	
	FoCo	2	65	37	2	9	7	120	
	AdFa	1	28	11	14	0	7	60	
	FoFa	1	29	21	0	3	7	60	
	AdMo	1	27	5	17	0	11	60	
	FoMo	1	35	17	0	7	1	60	
6	AdCo	1	28	87	0	4	1	120	
	AdCo	2	28	89	0	3	0	120	
	FoCo	1	83	27	0	8	2	120	
	FoCo	2	78	26	0	15	1	120	
	AdFa	2	13	44	0	3	0	60	
	FoFa	2	35	15	0	9	1	60	
	AdMo	2	15	45	0	0	0	60	
	FoMo	2	43	11	0	6	0	60	
7	AdCo	1	48	55	5	12		120	
	AdCo	2	48	57	5	10		120	
	FoCo	1	58	39	13	10		120	
	FoCo	2	55	42	14	9		120	
	AdFa	1	26	25	3	6		60	
	FoFa	1	28	22	5	5		60	
	AdMo	1	22	30	2	6		60	
	FoMo	1	30	17	8	5		60	
8	AdCo	1	18	34	63	5		120	
	AdCo	2	13	38	64	5		120	
	FoCo	1	29	71	16	4		120	
	FoCo	2	27	72	17	4		120	
	AdFa	2	7	14	37	2		60	
	FoFa	2	13	37	7	3		60	
	AdMo	2	6	24	27	3		60	
	FoMo	2	14	35	10	1		60	
9	AdCo	1	76	0	31	11	2	120	
	AdCo	2	79	0	30	9	2	120	
	FoCo	1	65	6	34	13	2	120	
	FoCo	2	65	6	35	12	2	120	
	AdFa	1	39	0	14	7	0	60	
	FoFa	1	30	3	17	6	2	60	
	AdMo	1	37	0	17	4	2	60	
	FoMo	1	35	3	17	5	0	60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
10	AdCo	1	90	7	4	9	10	120	
	AdCo	2	89	7	3	11	10	120	
	FoCo	1	92	18	1	7	2	120	
	FoCo	2	89	21	0	5	5	120	
	AdFa	2	43	4	0	8	5	60	
	FoFa	2	46	9	0	2	3	60	
	AdMo	2	46	3	3	3	5	60	
	FoMo	2	43	12	0	3	2	60	
11	AdCo	1	36	0	47	10	27	120	
	AdCo	2	36	0	47	11	26	120	
	FoCo	1	65	0	40	9	6	120	
	FoCo	2	64	0	38	9	9	120	
	AdFa	1	20	0	20	7	13	60	
	FoFa	1	31	0	18	7	4	60	
	AdMo	1	16	0	27	3	14	60	
	FoMo	1	34	0	22	2	2	60	
12	AdCo	1	43	62	10	1	4	120	
	AdCo	2	29	72	14	1	4	120	
	FoCo	1	58	23	17	11	11	120	
	FoCo	2	57	24	21	8	10	120	
	AdFa	2	19	35	3	1	2	60	
	FoFa	2	37	7	8	1	7	60	
	AdMo	2	10	37	11	0	2	60	
	FoMo	2	20	17	13	7	3	60	
13	AdCo	1	103	3	1	6	7	120	
	AdCo	2	104	3	1	6	6	120	
	FoCo	1	95	5	0	18	7	120	
	FoCo	2	94	5	1	13	7	120	
	AdFa	1	48	2	1	5	4	60	
	FoFa	1	46	2	0	8	4	60	
	AdMo	1	55	1	0	1	3	60	
	FoMo	1	49	3	0	5	3	60	
14	AdCo	1	90	7	12	11		120	
	AdCo	2	93	6	12	9		120	
	FoCo	1	91	13	11	5		120	
	FoCo	2	90	17	3	5		120	
	AdFa	2	49	3	3	5		60	
	FoFa	2	49	5	4	4		60	
	AdMo	2	44	3	9	4		60	
	FoMo	2	41	14	4	1		60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
15	AdCo	1	39	69	0	12			120
	AdCo	2	39	71	0	10			120
	FoCo	1	69	37	4	10			120
	FoCo	2	68	39	3	10			120
	AdFa	1	20	33	0	7			60
	FoFa	1	36	17	1	6			60
	AdMo	1	19	36	0	5			60
	FoMo	1	33	20	3	4			60
16	AdCo	1	46	53	17	1	3		120
	AdCo	2	40	59	17	1	3		120
	FoCo	1	65	25	0	29	1		120
	FoCo	2	72	21	0	26	1		120
	AdFa	2	19	31	7	1	2		60
	FoFa	2	38	10	0	11	1		60
	AdMo	2	21	28	10	0	1		60
	FoMo	2	34	11	0	15	0		60
17	AdCo	1	76	28	8	8			120
	AdCo	2	74	29	9	8			120
	FoCo	1	84	12	14	10			120
	FoCo	2	85	13	14	8			120
	AdFa	1	40	12	4	4			60
	FoFa	1	40	8	6	6			60
	AdMo	1	36	16	4	4			60
	FoMo	1	44	4	8	4			60
18	AdCo	1	18	2	97	0	3		120
	AdCo	2	18	2	97	0	3		120
	FoCo	1	23	22	65	2	8		120
	FoCo	2	23	22	64	3	8		120
	AdFa	2	8	1	49	0	2		60
	FoFa	2	13	12	28	2	5		60
	AdMo	2	10	1	48	0	1		60
	FoMo	2	10	10	36	1	3		60
19	AdCo	1	60	6	3	0	42	9	120
	AdCo	2	60	6	3	0	40	11	120
	FoCo	1	58	31	4	6	15	6	120
	FoCo	2	58	29	4	7	15	7	120
	AdFa	1	27	3	0	0	22	0	60
	FoFa	1	26	13	4	3	9	5	60
	AdMo	1	33	3	3	0	20	1	60
	FoMo	1	32	18	0	3	6	1	60

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
20	AdCo	1	84	7	15	4	10	120	
	AdCo	2	84	7	14	5	10	120	
	FoCo	1	80	12	19	1	8	120	
	FoCo	2	79	14	17	1	9	120	
	AdFa	2	36	5	10	3	6	60	
	FoFa	2	38	7	9	1	5	60	
	AdMo	2	48	2	4	2	4	60	
	FoMo	2	41	7	8	0	4	60	
21	AdCo	1	58	8	18	14	22	120	
	AdCo	2	58	8	24	13	17	120	
	FoCo	1	65	8	26	14	7	120	
	FoCo	2	65	10	23	14	8	120	
	AdFa	1	33	4	12	0	11	60	
	FoFa	1	37	5	13	4	1	60	
	AdMo	1	25	4	6	14	11	60	
	FoMo	1	28	3	13	10	6	60	
	22	AdCo	1	62	9	8	34	7	120
AdCo		2	63	10	6	35	6	120	
FoCo		1	72	3	10	33	2	120	
FoCo		2	71	4	10	33	2	120	
AdFa		2	28	9	4	17	2	60	
FoFa		2	34	1	7	17	1	60	
AdMo		2	35	1	2	18	4	60	
FoMo		2	37	3	3	16	1	60	
23		AdCo	1	57	14	38	11		120
	AdCo	2	58	12	42	10		120	
	FoCo	1	18	37	55	10		120	
	FoCo	2	19	37	53	11		120	
	AdFa	1	21	8	25	6		60	
	FoFa	1	5	18	33	4		60	
	AdMo	1	36	6	13	5		60	
	FoMo	1	13	19	22	6		60	
24	AdCo	1	38	35	1	37	9	120	
	AdCo	2	34	39	1	37	9	120	
	FoCo	1	42	63	5	5	5	120	
	FoCo	2	44	61	5	5	5	120	
	AdFa	2	20	19	0	16	7	60	
	FoFa	2	23	31	2	2	2	60	
	AdMo	2	14	20	1	21	4	60	
	FoMo	2	21	30	3	3	3	60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
25	AdCo	1	18	37	12	36	17		120
	AdCo	2	18	36	13	35	18		120
	FoCo	1	30	37	10	34	9		120
	FoCo	2	30	38	10	33	9		120
	AdFa	1	9	17	9	18	7		60
	FoFa	1	12	21	4	18	5		60
	AdMo	1	9	20	3	18	10		60
	FoMo	1	18	16	6	16	4		60
26	AdCo	1	67	9	3	3	29	9	120
	AdCo	2	61	8	3	5	34	9	120
	FoCo	1	41	26	6	18	21	9	120
	FoCo	2	34	36	7	16	18	9	120
	AdFa	2	27	4	2	2	20	7	60
	FoFa	2	20	17	3	6	10	4	60
	AdMo	2	34	4	1	3	14	4	60
	FoMo	2	14	19	4	10	6	5	60
27	AdCo	1	48	45	5	14	8		120
	AdCo	2	46	45	4	15	10		120
	FoCo	1	67	31	7	5	10		120
	FoCo	2	64	29	9	6	12		120
	AdFa	1	18	27	2	10	3		60
	FoFa	1	28	17	5	3	7		60
	AdMo	1	30	18	3	4	5		60
	FoMo	1	39	14	2	2	3		60
28	AdCo	1	13	52	12	34	9		120
	AdCo	2	13	49	13	37	8		120
	FoCo	1	11	60	15	26	8		120
	FoCo	2	16	58	15	25	6		120
	AdFa	2	6	30	4	16	4		60
	FoFa	2	11	26	6	12	5		60
	AdMo	2	7	19	9	21	4		60
	FoMo	2	5	32	9	13	1		60
29	AdCo	1	51	55	9	5			120
	AdCo	2	54	50	11	5			120
	FoCo	1	55	56	5	4			120
	FoCo	2	54	58	3	5			120
	AdFa	1	22	33	3	2			60
	FoFa	1	27	27	4	2			60
	AdMo	1	29	22	6	3			60
	MoMo	1	28	29	1	2			60

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
30	AdCo	1	66	35	0	12	7	120	
	AdCo	2	74	28	0	13	5	120	
	FoCo	1	64	25	1	23	7	120	
	FoCo	2	64	27	0	21	8	120	
	AdFa	2	39	16	0	4	1	60	
	FoFa	2	38	8	0	12	2	60	
	AdMo	2	35	12	0	9	4	60	
	FoMo	2	26	19	0	9	6	60	
31	AdCo	1	48	5	44	7	16	120	
	AdCo	2	51	2	47	7	13	120	
	FoCo	1	48	7	53	6	6	120	
	FoCo	2	46	8	52	6	6	120	
	AdFa	1	28	5	20	3	4	60	
	FoFa	1	20	6	28	2	4	60	
	AdMo	1	20	0	24	4	12	60	
	FoMo	1	28	1	25	4	2	60	
32	AdCo	1	6	4	81	13	16	120	
	AdCo	2	6	2	86	13	13	120	
	FoCo	1	18	6	53	31	12	120	
	FoCo	2	15	7	54	32	12	120	
	AdFa	2	4	0	45	6	5	60	
	FoFa	2	7	2	29	13	9	60	
	AdMo	2	2	2	41	7	8	60	
	FoMo	2	8	5	25	19	3	60	
33	AdCo	1	5	86	0	21	8	120	
	AdCo	2	6	83	1	22	8	120	
	FoCo	1	23	60	11	15	11	120	
	FoCo	2	24	63	11	16	6	120	
	AdFa	1	3	41	0	10	6	60	
	FoFa	1	14	26	6	8	6	60	
	AdMo	1	2	45	0	11	2	60	
	FoMo	1	9	34	5	7	5	60	
34	AdCo	1	109	3	6	1	1	120	
	AdCo	2	110	3	5	1	1	120	
	FoCo	1	79	6	19	9	7	120	
	FoCo	2	80	6	19	8	7	120	
	AdFa	2	54	2	4	0	0	60	
	FoFa	2	38	2	11	4	3	60	
	AdMo	2	56	1	1	1	1	60	
	FoMo	2	42	4	6	4	2	60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
35	AdCo	1	40	52	9	19		120	
	AdCo	2	40	51	11	18		120	
	FoCo	1	22	67	19	12		120	
	FoCo	2	23	67	20	10		120	
	AdPa	1	20	26	4	10		60	
	FoPa	1	15	27	12	6		60	
	AdMo	1	20	26	5	9		60	
	FoMo	1	7	40	7	6		60	
36	AdCo	1	65	31	3	1		120	
	AdCo	2	69	29	2	0		120	
	FoCo	1	96	22	0	2		120	
	FoCo	2	92	26	0	2		120	
	AdPa	2	12	18	0	0		60	
	FoPa	2	12	12	0	1		60	
	AdMo	2	17	11	2	0		60	
	FoMo	2	45	14	0	1		60	
37	AdCo	1	45	9	15	19	32	120	
	AdCo	2	45	11	15	20	29	120	
	FoCo	1	28	23	22	33	14	120	
	FoCo	2	27	24	22	32	15	120	
	AdPa	1	26	5	7	12	16	60	
	FoPa	1	10	6	17	16	9	60	
	AdMo	1	19	4	8	7	22	60	
	FoMo	1	16	15	5	17	1	60	
38	AdCo	1	31	46	5	15	23	120	
	AdCo	2	31	45	5	17	22	120	
	FoCo	1	31	43	4	39	3	120	
	FoCo	2	34	41	4	38	3	120	
	AdPa	2	15	22	3	10	10	60	
	FoPa	2	14	25	2	16	1	60	
	AdMo	2	16	23	2	7	12	60	
	FoMo	2	20	16	2	20	2	60	
39	AdCo	1	24	27	32	17	20	120	
	AdCo	2	27	26	31	16	20	120	
	FoCo	1	34	35	30	7	14	120	
	FoCo	2	36	38	29	5	12	120	
	AdPa	1	7	18	17	9	3	60	
	FoPa	1	12	18	18	6	5	60	
	AdMo	1	17	9	15	8	11	60	
	FoMo	1	21	17	12	1	9	60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
40	AdCo	1	58	23	33	6			120
	AdCo	2	57	23	33	7			120
	FoCo	1	65	20	25	10			120
	FoCo	2	66	21	24	4			120
	AdFa	2	25	14	21	0			60
	FoFa	2	34	10	9	7			60
	AdMo	2	32	9	12	7			60
	FoMo	2	32	11	15	2			60
41	AdCo	1	22	18	17	21	42		120
	AdCo	2	20	16	17	23	44		120
	FoCo	1	44	32	8	13	23		120
	FoCo	2	46	32	9	12	21		120
	AdFa	1	11	8	10	9	22		60
	FoFa	1	21	16	3	9	11		60
	AdMo	1	11	10	7	12	20		60
	FoMo	1	23	16	5	4	12		60
42	AdCo	1	44	29	32	15			120
	AdCo	2	43	28	34	15			120
	FoCo	1	73	24	13	10			120
	FoCo	2	74	25	12	9			120
	AdFa	2	22	14	16	8			60
	FoFa	2	40	12	4	4			60
	AdMo	2	21	14	18	7			60
	FoMo	2	34	13	8	5			60
43	AdCo	1	72	26	17	1	4		120
	AdCo	2	72	27	17	0	4		120
	FoCo	1	83	11	13	3	10		120
	FoCo	2	84	10	14	3	9		120
	AdFa	1	34	13	9	1	3		60
	FoFa	1	41	4	6	2	7		60
	AdMo	1	38	13	8	0	1		60
	FoMo	1	42	7	7	1	3		60
44	AdCo	1	49	58	11	2			120
	AdCo	2	48	58	11	3			120
	FoCo	1	70	25	17	8			120
	FoCo	2	70	26	17	7			120
	AdFa	2	23	30	7	0			60
	FoFa	2	29	17	9	5			60
	AdMo	2	25	26	4	3			60
	FoMo	2	41	9	8	2			60

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Ratio	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
45	AdCo	1	96	1	21	2		120	
	AdCo	2	96	2	19	3		120	
	FoCo	1	57	0	51	12		120	
	FoCo	2	56	0	52	12		120	
	AdFa	1	43	1	15	1		60	
	FoFa	1	27	0	25	8		60	
	AdMo	1	53	0	6	1		60	
	FoMo	1	30	0	26	4		60	
46	AdCo	1	14	0	54	39	13	120	
	AdCo	2	12	0	60	41	7	120	
	FoCo	1	32	6	26	45	7	120	
	FoCo	2	32	5	24	51	6	120	
	AdFa	2	5	0	29	24	2	60	
	FoFa	2	17	2	15	21	5	60	
	AdMo	2	7	0	31	17	5	60	
	FoMo	2	15	3	9	30	3	60	
47	AdCo	1	31	63	14	12		120	
	AdCo	2	31	60	16	13		120	
	FoCo	1	34	63	16	7		120	
	FoCo	2	32	65	16	7		120	
	AdFa	1	15	33	7	5		60	
	FoFa	1	13	33	7	7		60	
	AdMo	1	16	30	7	7		60	
	FoMo	1	21	30	9	0		60	
48	AdCo	1	65	1	31	11	12	120	
	AdCo	2	64	1	30	11	14	120	
	FoCo	1	78	4	13	10	15	120	
	FoCo	2	80	4	12	11	13	120	
	AdFa	2	37	1	10	5	7	60	
	FoFa	2	42	1	6	5	6	60	
	AdMo	2	27	0	20	6	7	60	
	FoMo	2	38	3	6	6	7	60	
49	AdCo	1	39	35	31	15		120	
	AdCo	2	39	34	30	17		120	
	FoCo	1	30	26	48	16		120	
	FoCo	2	32	26	46	16		120	
	AdFa	1	20	20	14	6		60	
	FoFa	1	17	14	21	8		60	
	AdMo	1	19	15	17	9		60	
	FoMo	1	13	12	27	8		60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
50	AdCo	1	13	60	5	22	20	120	
	AdCo	2	12	61	5	21	21	120	
	FoCo	1	60	38	9	8	5	120	
	FoCo	2	59	38	9	9	5	120	
	AdFa	2	3	33	4	9	11	60	
	FoFa	2	31	18	3	5	3	60	
	AdMo	2	9	20	1	12	10	60	
	FoMo	2	28	20	6	4	2	60	
51	AdCo	1	20	18	54	18	10	120	
	AdCo	2	19	18	53	17	13	120	
	FoCo	1	22	28	48	11	11	120	
	FoCo	2	23	27	46	12	12	120	
	AdFa	1	13	9	24	10	4	60	
	FoFa	1	10	15	21	6	8	60	
	AdMo	1	7	9	30	8	6	60	
	FoMo	1	12	13	27	5	3	60	
52	AdCo	1	32	36	13	20	19	120	
	AdCo	2	32	37	13	19	19	120	
	FoCo	1	61	7	29	10	13	120	
	FoCo	2	61	7	30	9	13	120	
	AdFa	2	21	16	6	10	7	60	
	FoFa	2	37	4	9	4	6	60	
	AdMo	2	11	21	7	9	12	60	
	FoMo	2	24	3	21	5	7	60	
53	AdCo	1	33	25	16	13	33	120	
	AdCo	2	31	24	14	15	36	120	
	FoCo	1	50	25	17	12	16	120	
	FoCo	2	49	24	16	13	18	120	
	AdFa	1	18	10	9	9	14	60	
	FoFa	1	29	12	6	5	7	60	
	AdMo	1	15	15	7	4	19	60	
	FoMo	1	21	13	11	7	9	60	
54	AdCo	1	76	2	26	6	10	120	
	AdCo	2	75	1	27	6	11	120	
	FoCo	1	65	7	32	10	6	120	
	FoCo	2	66	6	33	10	5	120	
	AdFa	2	35	0	15	5	5	60	
	FoFa	2	27	4	19	8	2	60	
	AdMo	2	40	1	12	1	6	60	
	FoMo	2	39	2	14	2	3	60	

Raw Data Continued.

Item	Groups Compared	Rating	Category Frequencies						N
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
55	AdCo	(Mult. Choice)	1	59	24	29	0	7	120
	FoCo		4	40	23	44	1	8	120
	AdFa		0	26	15	14	0	5	60
	FoFa		2	18	12	25	1	2	60
	AdMo		1	33	9	15	0	2	60
	FoMo		2	22	11	19	0	6	60
56	AdCo	(Mult. Choice)	27	87	6				120
	FoCo		56	59	5				120
	AdFa		15	44	1				60
	FoFa		29	27	4				60
	AdMo		12	43	5				60
	FoMo		27	32	1				60
57	AdCo	1	65	10	37	6		120	
	AdCo	2	66	16	32	6		120	
	FoCo	1	70	20	8	22		120	
	FoCo	2	72	23	11	14		120	
	AdFa	1	33	7	16	4		60	
	FoFa	1	34	13	2	11		60	
	AdMo	1	32	3	21	4		60	
	FoMo	1	36	7	6	11		60	
58	AdCo	1	32	34	37	17		120	
	AdCo	2	27	38	40	15		120	
	FoCo	1	37	66	14	3		120	
	FoCo	2	36	65	17	2		120	
	AdFa	2	16	16	20	8		60	
	FoFa	2	24	26	7	1		60	
	AdMo	2	11	22	20	7		60	
	FoMo	2	12	37	10	1		60	

APPENDIX 10

ABSTRACT OF

A Study of Nuttin's Theory of the Need for Self-Extension
into the Future as measured by Group Responses of
Prospective Foster and Adoptive Couples on a Sentence
Completion Test of the Colvin-Eohman Type

APPENDIX 10

ABSTRACT OF

A Study of Nuttin's Theory of the Need for Self-Extension
into the Future as Measured by Group Responses of
Prospective Foster and Adoptive Couples on a Sentence
Completion Test of the Calvin-Bohman Type.¹

Existential needs, which are increasingly being postulated by proponents of existential psychology, are not being extensively or intensively submitted to objective experimentation. In this project the initial step was taken to submit to scientific observation one of Nuttin's theorems concerning existential needs, namely, the need to go on existing amongst one's fellowmen either through posterity or work.

The population was drawn from an American milieu, with subjects selected from the field of social science. Two groups of substitute parents were used; in one group there were sixty childless couples who wished to become adoptive parents; in the other group there were sixty couples, all biological parents, who wished to become foster parents. The groups were matched on an educational, age and socio-economic level.

A motivational statement, giving the reasons for wanting a child, was obtained from each couple. Each subject was independently administered a sentence completion test of the

¹ Sister Mary Fidelis Tenra, doctoral thesis presented to the Faculty of Psychology and Education of the University of Ottawa, Ontario, 1966, x-139 p.

Colvin-Bohman type. In addition, two of the items which required motivational responses, and the combined motivational statements of each couple, were categorized according to three levels of psychic life, as postulated by Nuttin.

For both procedures, coefficients of reliability were estimated, three comparisons were made by the Chi Square technique, and levels of significance obtained. Results led to the rejection of the null hypothesis of no significant relationships between the group responses to the sentence completion test when items required projection into the future and elicited responses related to posterity or work. The null hypothesis of no significant relationships between group responses was also rejected for the motivational statements.

The primary contribution of the study was the introduction of Nuttin's theorem of existential needs to objective experimentation in an American milieu. A secondary contribution was added knowledge gained for social science about the needs of substitute parents.

Recommendations as a result of the findings were as follows: To have the theorem include the word "and" so as to read that there is an existential need to extend oneself into the future through posterity and/or work. Also: To test the theorem for its universality by conducting research on samples of different racial, ethnic and cultural groups, each sample to cover a range of ages and other personality variables.