Appendix

Introductory Bibliography of Psychical Research

This annotated list is intended only to provide an entry into the vast literature of serious psychical research. It is by no means complete or even comprehensive, and it reflects to some degree our personal preferences, although many if not most of our selections would probably also appear on similar lists compiled by other knowledgeable professionals. Many of the entries cited contain extensive bibliographies of their own. For additional references to some of the basic literature of the field, see http://www.pflyceum.org/106.html.

Introductory and General Scientific Literature


Krippner, Stanley (Ed.) (1977–1997). *Advances in Parapsychological Research* (8 vols.). An ongoing series reviewing recent research on a wide variety of topics of current interest to parapsychologists, including occasional bibliographic updates of the literature.

and classification of phenomena bearing on the question of the evolution of human nature, as suggested in particular by latent, or as yet not fully realized, attributes and capacities for transcendence and transformation. In this context the author describes a variety of effects of mental states on the body, as well as numerous transformative practices. Several appendices and a large bibliography guide the reader to an enormous wealth of literature on the topics surveyed.


Radin, Dean R. (2006). *Entangled Minds: Extrasensory Experiences in a Quantum Reality*. New York: Simon & Schuster. The author presents updated meta-analyses for several large areas of psi research (including Ganzfeld research) and argues that the “entangled” reality revealed by quantum mechanics is more congenial to psi than that postulated by classical physics.


Spontaneous Case Studies

Gurney, Edmund, Myers, Frederic, & Podmore, Frank (1886). *Phantasms of the Living* (2 vols.). London: Trübner. A classic and the first major publication of the Society for Psychical Research, primarily reporting hundreds of spontaneous cases investigated and documented by the authors, with emphasis on apparitions coinciding with the death of a distantly located person. Indispensable reading for anyone seriously interested in psychical research. Contains sophisticated discussions of problems of evidence and methods for investigating spontaneous cases.

Prince, Walter Franklin (1963). *Noted Witnesses for Psychic Occurrences*. New Hyde Park, NY: University Books. Prince collected in this volume numerous first-hand accounts from well-known scientists, artists, statesmen, and professionals from a wide variety of fields, describing apparently paranormal experiences that they themselves had. Prince believed that such reports from people who were otherwise known to be responsible, intelligent observers and who had reputations that could be damaged by a fraudulent or fictional account would help raise the credibility of all reports of spontaneous paranormal experiences.


Sidgwick, H., Johnson, A., Myers, A. T., Myers, F. W. H., Podmore, F., & Sidgwick, E. (1894). Report of the Census of Hallucinations. *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, 10, 25–422. Report of a survey of 17,000 persons which demonstrated the frequent occurrence of hallucinatory experiences in normal, healthy persons in a waking state. Many of the experiences reported coincided closely in time with a crisis, such as the death of a distant person, and the authors made quantitative evaluations suggesting that such experiences occur more often than can be expected by chance.

Philosophical Literature


Griffin, David Ray (1997). *Parapsychology, Philosophy, and Spirituality: A Postmodern Exploration*. Albany: SUNY Press. A review of the evidence from psi research, with an emphasis on the empirical evidence for post-mortem survival, in the context of Griffin’s contention that psi research has been largely rejected or ignored because it challenges both the supernaturalism of religion and the materialism of modern science. He argues that it provides the framework for a much-needed postmodern world view that can go beyond this dichotomy and reconcile the two within a larger perspective.


Survival and Mediumship

the survival/super-psi interpretations of them. He concludes that the cumulative weight of the evidence may be tipping the scales slightly toward survival.


Murphy, Gardner (1945). (a) An outline of survival evidence; (b) Difficulties confronting the survival hypothesis; (c) Field theory and survival. *Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research, 39*, 2–34, 67–94, 181–209. These papers by a distinguished American psychologist bring the difficulties of the survival debate into sharp focus.


Stevenson, Ian (1984). *Unlearned Language: New Studies in Xenoglossy*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia. Certainly the best account to date of this rare but important phenomenon, in which a person demonstrates the ability to speak responsively a language not learned normally. Includes detailed reports of two cases that Stevenson investigated.


**Reincarnation**


Stevenson, Ian (1997). *Reincarnation and Biology: A Contribution to the Etiology of Birthmarks and Birth Defects* (2 vols.). Westport, CT: Praeger. These volumes deal with an important subset of cases of the reincarnation type, cases in which living subjects manifest birthmarks or birth defects, often of extremely unusual character, usually corresponding to injuries that killed the ostensible previous person. Contains reports of over 200 cases, as well as important discussions of the relationship between this phenomenon and other kinds of phenomena demonstrating the effects of mental states on the body. (A 200-page synopsis of this work is available in *Where Reincarnation and Biology Intersect*. Westport, CT: Praeger, 1997.)

Stevenson, Ian (2003). *European Cases of the Reincarnation Type*. Jefferson, NC: McFarland. With this volume Dr. Stevenson shows that cases of the reincarnation type occur in modern Western cultures, many of them similar to those from Asian countries in which a belief in reincarnation is widespread. He
describes some cases from early in the 20th century, and then reports 32 cases that he himself investigated.

Stevenson, Ian (2001). *Children Who Remember Previous Lives: A Question of Reincarnation* (Rev. ed.). Jefferson, NC: McFarland. Dr. Stevenson describes, for the general reader, research conducted over the past 40 years on the phenomenon of young children who seem to remember a previous life. He also addresses some of the questions frequently asked about these cases.

Tucker, Jim B. (2005). *Life Before Life: A Scientific Investigation of Children’s Memories of Previous Lives.* New York: St. Martin’s. An excellent introduction for the general reader to investigations, conducted by Dr. Tucker, Dr. Ian Stevenson, and other colleagues, of cases suggestive of reincarnation among young children. Included are discussions of the memories reported by the children, unusual behavior in the children, and birthmarks and birth defects apparently related to the previous life.

### History of Psychical Research


Meta-Analyses, Reviews, and Selected Journal Articles on Experimental Studies

DMILS (Distant Mental Influence on Living Systems)

Braud, W. (2003). *Distant Mental Influence*. Charlottesville, VA: Hampton Roads. A collection of papers previously published by Braud and colleagues of experimental studies showing that the intentions of one person can influence physiological processes of other organisms, including other persons. See also Chapter 3 in the present volume for additional references.

Ganzfeld


Hypnosis and Psi


Statistics and Meta-Analyses


The Psi Controversy

This is a small but representative selection from a very large literature, intended to illustrate the character of the debates. Some of the books and articles listed above also include substantial discussions of the critical literature, including Broad (1962), Broughton (1991), Griffin (1997), and Radin (1997).

tic, argues that there is no persuasive evidence for any paranormal phenomena and that it is a belief system rather than science.


Druckman, D., & Swets, J. A. (Eds.). (1988). *Enhancing Human Performance: Issues, Theories, and Techniques*, pp. 169–231. Washington, DC: National Academy Press; Palmer, J. A., Honorton, C., & Utts, J. (1988). *Reply to the National Research Council Study on Parapsychology*. Research Triangle Park, NC: Parapsychological Association. A report from the National Research Council which concluded that research in parapsychology has provided “no scientific justification... for the existence of parapsychological phenomena.” In the reply, the authors show that the scope of this review was severely restricted to conform to the authors’ pre-existing beliefs, even to the extent of asking a prominent psychologist to withdraw his favorable conclusions.


Rao, K. R. & Palmer, J. (1987). The anomaly called psi: Recent research and criticism. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences, 10*, 539–643. A lead positive review article on the then current status of experimental psi research, followed by a second, negative target article by James Alcock, with numerous commentaries on both articles and responses from their authors.

Zusne, L., & Jones, W. H. (1989). *Anomalistic Psychology: A Study of Magical Thinking* (2nd ed.). Hillside, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum. A textbook intended to show students that there are normal psychological explanations for a variety of apparently anomalous phenomena involving psychophysiology, perception, and memory. The authors also discuss the psychology of belief in the context of the occult and of magic, and conclude that parapsychology is “bad science” on grounds that most of it, they claim, involves either inappropriate or fraudulent research.