Abstract

This thesis explores the influence of personality on the challenging psychedelic experience. The

challenging experience represents both a strongly negative experience and an experience with

therapeutic potential. Thus, exploring the challenging psychedelic experience may be

particularly beneficial for the context of psychedelic therapy. The theoretical part of the thesis

introduces psychedelics, their history, mechanism of action, specific phenomena, and

therapeutic uses. Most emphasis is placed on describing the challenging psychedelic

experience, its predictors, and subsequent long-term effects. Personality and some of its

measurement tools are also described. In the last chapter of the theoretical section, a review of

previous research on the influence of personality on the challenging psychedelic experience is

conducted, based on which the research design of this thesis is constructed.

In the empirical section, an investigation of the relationship between three personality

dimensions and the challenging psychedelic experience induced by the use of a serotonergic

psychedelic is proposed. The research in the confirmatory part will verify previous findings in

this research area and attempt to elaborate on them in the exploratory part. The hypotheses of

the confirmatory part assume a relationship between the personality dimensions of

Extraversion, Anxiety, Tough-mindedness, and the challenging psychedelic experience. The

exploratory part works with the features of the selected personality dimensions and the

dimensions of the challenging experience. The research is in the form of an online questionnaire

study in which participants retrospectively describe their challenging psychedelic experience.

The Cattell Sixteen Factor Personality Scale (16PF) and the Challenging Experience

Questionnaire (CEQ) are used as measurement tools. Pearson correlation analysis was chosen

as the statistical analysis.

Key words: serotonergic psychedelics; challenging psychedelic experience; personality;

16PF; CEQ