

The Use of the Diagnostic Drawing Series with an Adolescent Population
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Abstract

This paper discusses the potential use of the Diagnostic Drawing Series (Cohen, Hammer, & Singer, 1988) as a possible indicator of psychopathology in an adolescent population. The Diagnostic Drawing Series has been established by art therapists and is designed to "elicit graphic messages from the patients about themselves, their world, and how they function in it" (Cohen, Hammer, & Singer, P.12). This three drawing measure is discussed at length. Information regarding its foundations, administration, materials, as well as validity and reliability data are included. Past research that has been completed using the DDS as a tool for predicting diagnosis is also discussed. It is the assumption of this writer that a non-verbal means of revealing psychopathology in adolescents would be a great asset to the diagnostic process. The current study includes a total of 68 adolescents who completed the DDS (34 experimental/diagnostic subjects, and 34 control subjects). The methods and results of this study are presented within this paper.