

A further protection to potential respondents, especially schoolchildren, is the requirement that researchers must obtain cooperation from schools in which they wish to collect data. Schools are free to cooperate with or to refuse to participate in a study or to require revision of questionnaires before allowing their use. And many schools exercise this prerogative.

B. In the period from July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1964, 25 of the 626 projects supported by the cooperative research program involved assessment of personality characteristics. The negotiated cost of studies in which personality factors were main considerations was \$1,548,473. Of this amount an estimated \$399,456 was used for the collection and analysis of personality data. These amounts do not include Project Talent.

C. Project Talent is a long-term longitudinal study with a national sample representative of America's high school children in the 10th through 12th grades in the year 1960.

A comprehensive aptitude and abilities test battery was developed and standardized using this sample. Followup studies are designed to obtain accurate and reliable knowledge of what the post-high-school experience and achievements have been. The data for this project are typical of the kinds of student personnel data used in the average American high school. Specimens of the tests and the questionnaires are appended. The Project Talent researchers have adhered to an inflexible policy of maintaining absolute confidentiality and anonymity of data.

Of the almost \$1.4 million that has been invested in the original collection of data for Project Talent, it is estimated that 2 percent of approximately \$28,000 of the total was used for the collection and analysis of personality data.

The Office of Education also supported a 1-year followup of persons included in the original Project Talent sample. No personality tests or inventories were included in the followup investigation.

D. During the period July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1964, 217 research and dissemination projects concerned with new educational media were initiated under title VII of the National Defense Education Act. Of these projects four involved assessment of personality characteristics. The cost of these four projects was \$238,657. Of this amount approximately \$7,159, or 3 percent, was used for the collection and analysis of personality data.

Sincerely yours,

RALPH C. M. FLYNT,

Associate Commissioner,

Educational Research and Development.