



Human Intelligence and Medical Illness: Assessing the Flynn Effect

By R. Grant Steen

Springer. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 218 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.7in. As critics will note, psychometric tests are deeply flawed. Person-to-person differences in performance on a psychometric test are not informative about many things of great interest. An intelligence quotient (IQ) cannot characterize creativity or wisdom or artistic ability or other forms of specialized knowledge. An IQ test is simply an effort to assess an aptitude for success in the modern world, and individual scores do a mediocre job of predicting individual successes. In the early days of psychology, tests of intelligence were cobbled together with little thought as to validity; instead, the socially powerful sought to validate their power and the prominent to rationalize their success. In recent years, we have ob- ated many of the objections to IQ that were so forcefully noted by Stephen Jay Gould in *The Mismeasure of Man*. Nevertheless, IQ tests are still flawed and those flaws are hereby acknowledged in principle. Yet, in the analysis that follows, individual IQ test scores are not used; rather, average IQ scores are employed. In many cases though not all an average IQ is calculated from a truly enormous sample of people. The most...



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