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TITLE: An Evaluation of the California Drive Test in Theme and Variation. Volume I: Treatment Development and Preliminary Evaluation_

DATE: August 1978

AUTHOR(S): Michael Ratz

REPORT NUMBER: 62

NTIS NUMBER: PB89-190847/ AS

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PROTECT OBTECTIVE:

To develop two modifications of the standard California drive test--the first to make the test more difficult, the second to make the test more comprehensive and more difficult. In addition, the relationships between scores on the standard and new, more comprehensive, test and biographical and driver record data were to be obtained.

SUMMARY:

Two new tests were developed, both of which had a first-attempt fail rate of approximately 50%. Parallel parking was selected for use with the new tests on the basis of its correlation with drive test scores and its dual-rater reliability. Both the standard and the more comprehensive test were significantly correlated with age, with older drivers tending to receive lower scores. The new test was significantly correlated with sex, with males tending to score higher. The standard test was not significantly correlated with sex. Neither drive test was significantly correlated with subsequent accident records. Both tests were significantly correlated with convictions in that higher scoring applicants showed a slight tendency to receive more traffic convictions.

No more individual test items were significantly correlated with either accidents or convictions than could be expected by chance. (In no correlations involving accidents or convictions was a mileage correction made.)

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The tests developed in this study were used in a later experiment, where they were compared to the standard test to determine if the use of either could result in an accident reduction (see Report 62, Volume II).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

None.