

THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE FIVE MAJOR PERSONALITY FACTORS IN THE PREDICTION OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AMONG STUDENTS DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

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***ABSTRACT_** This study discusses the extent to which the five major factors of personality (i.e. neuroticism, extraversion, openness, agreeableness and conscientiousness) can predict social responsibility from studying self-responsibility, religious responsibility, collective responsibility and civic responsibility). It first discusses the relationship between the five factors of personality and the ones of social responsibility in one hand and their relationship with particular variables of a sample. A descriptive correlative method is used to collect data which consists of a sample of (305) students (158 male and 147 female students from the department of special education). The study has compared the measure of social responsibility among university students and the one of the five major factors for personal responsibility as discussed in Costa and Macri (1992). The result shows a high level of extraversion compared to a low level of openness factor among students. There is also an indication that civic responsibility is significantly expressed among students while self-responsibility is the least expressed. There are no differences which appear to be statistically significant among the sub-dimensions of responsibility (notably religious, collective and self-responsibility) in relation to a particular variable. But there are differences which can be taken to be statistically significant (0.01 on the scale of social responsibility) in relation to civic responsibility among female students. There is an indication that the factor of conscientiousness can partake in the building up of religious and social responsibilities as well as self-responsibility. An interaction between conscientiousness and extraversion factors are taken to be relevant to the building up of civic responsibility; while a fusion between conscientiousness and openness factors are relevant to the building up of social responsibility.*

KEY WORDS: the five major factors, forecasting, social responsibility.