

**The Skanderborg project:**  
A 14 year cohort-sequential study of  
420 8-18 year old boys and girls.

**Year studied:**

Born							Type of study:
1960					1976		1. Cross-sectional
1962				1976			
1964			1976				
1966		1976					
1968	1976	1978	1980	1982	1984	1986	Longitudinal study
1970							
1972						1990	2. Cross-sectional
1974					1990		
1976				1990			
1978			1990				
1980		1990					
1982	1990						
Age	8	10	12	14	16	18	

Hormone measures: Free and bound estradiol, estrone sulphate, free and bound testosterone, DHEAS, DHT, 4AH, FSH, LH, SHBG.

Anthropometric measurements.

Dichotic listening, tachistoscopic dot counting.

Perceptuo-motor tests: Pursuit-rotor test, tapping.

Rod-and-frame test, Embedded-Figures test, Mental rotation test, Road-Map test, WISC or WAIS, School grades.

Eysenck Personality questionnaire, PRF Andro scale, Newcombe Early Experiences and Interest.

Educational and occupational choices.

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## Anthropometric measures, pubertal staging, bone maturation, and laterality measures

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### *Pre-school measures:*

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Birth length         | Repeated height/weight measures<br>from birth to school age<br>Developmental or other defects, major illness |
| 2. Birth weight         |  |
| 3. Vision, hearing etc. |  |

### *Childhood measures (consecutive years):*

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 4. Standing height from sole to top of head | At time of psychological testing |
| 5. Sitting height                           |                                  |
| 6. Height from sole to pubic bone           |                                  |
| 7. Head circumference                       |                                  |
| 8. Arm span                                 |                                  |
| 9. Breast span                              |                                  |
| 10. Circumference of biceps                 | of preferred arm                 |
| 11. Internipple distance                    |                                  |
| 12. Inner canthal distance                  |                                  |
| 13. Outer canthal distance                  |                                  |
| 14. Bi-acromial diameter                    |                                  |
| 15. Bi-cristal diameter                     |                                  |
| 16. Strength of fingers and hand            | Dynamometer                      |
| 17. Cubitus valgus                          |                                  |
| 18. Genus valgus                            |                                  |
| 19. Size of testes                          | Prader's orchimeter              |

### *Pubertal stage:*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 20. 3 standardized nude photos: Front, side, behind | For estimation of pubertal stage ad modum Tanner, and body typing ad modum Sheldon |
|---|--|

### *Biological age:*

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 21. X-ray of left hand | For estimation of bone age (skeletal maturation) ad modum Tanner-Whitehouse (20-bone-scale) |
|------------------------|---|

### *Laterality measures:*

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 22. Handedness    |  |
| 23. Eye dominance |  |
- 

Figure 3. Consecutive biological measures at birth and unto adulthood, in accordance with prescriptions by Tanner (1966).

Tests	Measure
<b>Visuo-spatial tasks:</b>	
1. Rod-and-frame test	Field dependency -
2. Embedded-figures test	psychological differentiation.
3. Money's Road-Map test	Left-right discrimination.
4. Vandenberg's version of the Metzler-Shepard test *	Mental rotation.
<b>Perceptuo-Motor task:</b>	
5. Pursuit-Rotor test	Hand-Eye coordination.
<b>Brain functional specialization tasks:</b>	
6. Dichotic Listening test	Lateralization of language.
7. Tachistoscopic Dot Counting test	Non-Verbal brain lateralization.
<b>Spatial experiences during childhood:</b>	
8. Danish version of Newcombe's questionnaire *	Spare time interests during childhood.
<b>Personality:</b>	
9. Danish versions of Eysenck's Personality Questionnaire: Junior and Adult versions *	Psychoticism, Extraversion, Neuroticism, and Social desirability
10. Terman-Miles Gender Preference scale	Teacher's rating of conformity to sex stereotypic norms
11. PRF Andro Scale (Berzins) *	Self-reported masculinity, femininity, and androgyny
<b>Intelligence:</b>	
12. Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children	Intelligence in childhood
Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale	Adult intelligence

**Figure 2. Overview of types of test used in the study. Instructions and other test materials were translated into danish, and the danish translation was again re-translated in some cases \* into the original language in cooperation with the constructor of the test.**

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## Radioimmunoassays

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### *Gonadal androgens:*

- |    |                                   |        |
|----|-----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. | Free + protein bound Testosterone | t      |
| 2. | Free testosterone                 | Free t |

### *Adrenal androgens:*

- |    |                                  |      |
|----|----------------------------------|------|
| 3. | Dihydrotestosterone              | DHT  |
| 4. | $\Delta$ -4- Androstendione      | 4-AD |
| 5. | Dehydro-epi-androsteronesulphate | DHAS |

### *Gonadal estrogens:*

- |    |                                |                     |
|----|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 6. | Free + protein bound Estradiol | E <sub>2</sub>      |
| 7. | Non-SHBG bound Estradiol       | E <sub>2</sub>      |
| 8. | Free Estradiol                 | Free E <sub>2</sub> |

### *Adrenal estrogens:*

- |     |                              |                                |
|-----|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 9.  | Free + protein bound Estrone | E <sub>1</sub>                 |
| 10. | Estrone Sulphate             | E <sub>1</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> |

### *Pituitary hormones:*

- |     |                              |     |
|-----|------------------------------|-----|
| 11. | Follicle-Stimulating Hormone | FSH |
| 12. | Luteinizing Hormone          | LH  |

### *Globulin:*

- |     |                              |      |
|-----|------------------------------|------|
| 13. | Sex-Hormone-Binding-Globulin | SHBG |
|-----|------------------------------|------|
- 

Figure 4. Overview of radioimmunoassaying. For boys, one blood sample (4 WR tubes) is collected between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For premenstrual girls, blood is sampled between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. For menstruating girls, two blood samples are taken: One on the 8th. day ( $\pm 1$  day) after 1st. menstrual flow day, and one on the 22nd. day ( $\pm 1$  day) after 1st. menstrual flow day.

**Table 4. Sex differences in 16+ years old males and females in 20 independent variables, represented by means, t-values, effect sizes, point-biserial correlations, and variances (N=52).**

Variable	Mean differences										Differences in variability						Variance	p
	Mean		Difference		t-test	Effect Size	Point-biserial correlation	sd		Average sigma		F ratio	Variance					
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls				Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls							
RFT Frame dependence (signed error, inv.)	-1,72	-2,96	1,25	0,12	0,43	0,25	2,43	3,35	2,92	1,90	0,10							
RFT Response variability (error, inv.)	-1,46	-1,94	0,47	0,13	0,42	0,25	0,70	1,44	1,13	4,24	0,00							
RFT Field dependence (unsigned error inv.)	-2,63	-3,71	1,08	0,14	0,41	0,24	1,95	3,20	2,65	2,70	0,01							
Embedded-Figures test (Sec/fig inv.)	-38,21	-42,27	4,06	0,71	0,13	0,07	30,59	33,44	32,05	1,28	0,54							
Money left-right discrim. test (error inverted)	-1,39	-3,45	2,06	0,04	0,53	0,33	2,96	4,61	3,88	2,42	0,02							
Mental Rotation (Figures found, corrected)	8,11	6,56	1,56	0,05	0,68	0,44	1,81	2,71	2,30	1,12	0,76							
Tapping (Left hand)	313,29	289,00	24,29	0,02	0,60	0,38	38,11	42,88	40,57	1,27	0,52							
Tapping (Right hand)	353,68	341,35	12,32	0,24	0,30	0,17	40,06	41,72	40,90	1,08	0,83							
Oral fluency	14,23	14,61	-0,39	0,76	-0,08	-0,04	5,19	4,51	4,87	1,32	0,45							
WAIS Information	10,90	10,00	0,90	0,10	0,43	0,25	2,01	2,22	2,12	1,23	0,58							
WAIS Comprehension	10,10	10,71	-0,61	0,39	-0,22	-0,10	2,71	2,85	2,78	1,11	0,78							
WAIS Arithmetic	11,13	10,84	0,29	0,62	0,13	0,07	2,29	2,31	2,30	1,02	0,96							
WAIS Similarities	13,19	12,23	0,97	0,18	0,34	0,20	2,65	2,95	2,81	1,24	0,56							
WAIS Digit Span	9,94	9,55	0,39	0,53	0,16	0,09	2,48	2,38	2,43	1,08	0,83							
WAIS Vocabulary	11,58	10,90	0,68	0,17	0,35	0,20	1,63	2,18	1,92	1,79	0,11							
WAIS Digit Symbol	11,13	12,61	-1,48	0,03	-0,56	-0,19	2,68	2,60	2,64	1,06	0,87							
WAIS Picture Completion	12,97	12,00	0,97	0,10	0,43	0,26	2,14	2,38	2,26	1,24	0,56							
WAIS Block Design	14,29	14,06	0,23	0,74	0,08	0,04	2,60	2,76	2,68	1,13	0,75							
WAIS Picture Arrangement	11,94	11,84	0,10	0,88	0,04	0,02	2,50	2,41	2,46	1,08	0,84							
WAIS Object Assembly	13,52	13,68	-0,16	0,81	-0,06	-0,03	2,64	2,56	2,60	1,07	0,86							
<b>Average Effect Size</b>					0,23													
<b>Average IQ equivalent</b>					3,39													

*Significant p values are italicized, with blue for boys scoring superior and red for girls scoring superior*

**Table 8. Factor loadings for 52 16+ year boys and girls on hierarchical orthogonal components (Schmid-Leiman) for 20 variables with eigenvalues > 1. Point-biserial correlations (adjusted for unequal Ns and SDs), were factored in to indicate loading of sex on each of the dimensions (From Nyborg, 2001).**

	Visualization						Quantitative ability
	g	Spatial Orientation		Mental Rotation		Short-term Memory	
		Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary		
RFT Frame dependence (signed error, inv.)	0,423	0,812	-0,032	0,128	0,072	0,062	-0,054
RFT Response variability (error, inv.)	0,424	0,622	-0,152	0,192	0,029	0,169	0,041
RFT Field dependence (unsigned error, inv.)	0,434	0,830	0,006	-0,076	0,016	0,024	-0,093
Embedded-Figures test (sec/fig inv.)	0,466	-0,081	0,155	0,301	-0,248	0,017	0,275
Money left-right discrimination test (Inv.)	0,630	0,094	-0,173	0,310	0,268	-0,027	0,426
Mental Rotation (Figures found, corrected f. guess.)	0,501	0,150	0,245	0,129	0,420	-0,243	0,029
Tapping (Left hand)	0,241	0,002	0,100	0,798	0,023	-0,049	-0,159
Tapping (Right hand)	0,283	-0,075	-0,005	0,708	-0,191	0,072	0,072
Oral fluency	0,182	0,108	0,444	0,187	-0,562	0,256	-0,132
WAIS Information	0,545	-0,026	0,626	0,147	-0,054	-0,053	0,024
WAIS Comprehension	0,387	-0,154	0,409	-0,074	-0,321	0,271	0,270
WAIS Arithmetic	0,469	-0,221	0,212	-0,167	0,089	0,391	0,485
WAIS Similarities	0,451	0,049	0,748	0,075	-0,035	0,041	-0,142
WAIS Digit Span	0,163	0,202	0,044	-0,035	0,113	0,757	0,088
WAIS Vocabulary	0,487	-0,144	0,662	-0,060	0,152	-0,065	0,059
WAIS Digit Symbol	0,025	-0,076	-0,019	0,222	-0,639	-0,220	0,074
WAIS Picture Completion	0,407	0,253	0,103	0,270	0,051	-0,048	0,017
WAIS Block Design	0,668	0,204	0,060	-0,117	-0,150	-0,099	0,457
WAIS Picture Arrangement	0,451	0,090	0,165	-0,067	0,038	-0,565	0,163
WAIS Object Assembly	0,535	0,307	-0,094	-0,067	-0,314	-0,127	0,389
Point-biserial factor loading of sex	0,272	0,165	0,117	0,431	0,589	0,052	-0,187
Average factor loading	0,402						

Loading > 0,300 are italicized. Positive point-biserial loadings indicate a male lead, and negative loadings a female lead.