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**Philip J. Corr** is a faculty member at City, University of London, UK. He is a personality psychologist with a main interest in understanding fundamental systems of motivation and emotion associated with approach and avoidance behaviour, and, especially, how these systems relate to the wider psychological landscape.

**Early Life and Educational Background**

Philip Corr was born on June 11, 1962, in London. Having narrowly avoided early dispatch from this life (he received the ‘last rites’ in hospital shortly after birth), and then enjoying a less than illustrative school career – which he puts down to a perverse trait x situation interaction, ineffectual Roman Catholic conditioning (now entirely in extinction – if only the reward schedule of reinforcement had been greater than the punishment one!) and a generally uninspiring educational environment – Philip left school at 16 years of age with few worthwhile qualifications but with a certain independence of mind, some would say verging on contrariness. Despite these early years – or, perhaps, because of them – and after stints of unchallenging work, but sustained independent study – culminating in two University of London Diplomas (in Economics and Psychology) - Philip finally went on to obtain a BSc Psychology degree (First Class) from Goldsmiths, University of London in 1989, and was then immediately offered two doctoral positions (Oxford University, and the Institute of Psychiatry, IoP – now the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, at King’s College London). He opted to research under the supervision of Professor Jeffrey Gray at the IoP, and during this time he met and, for three months, shared a desk with the world famous Hans Eysenck. Philip’s PhD empirically contrasted Eysenck’s and Gray’s neuropsychological theories of personality, and this research formed the foundation of his research career since.

**Professional career**

Prior to his current professorial position at City, University of London (2013-present), Philip held professorial positions at the University of East Anglia (2009-2013), and Swansea University (2004-2009). Before that time, he was Lecturer and Senior Lecturer at Goldsmiths, University of London (1996-2004), and briefly Lecturer at Greenwich University (1995). Between 1994-6, Philip was Honorary Lecturer in Psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry, where he taught personality theory to trainee psychiatrists.

Philip has single and co-authored well over 150 papers, many book chapters, and is the author and editor of five books, including a 2016 biography, *Hans Eysenck: A Contradictory Psychology*. Philip has won several awards, starting with the Early Career Development Award (2001), from the *International Society for the Study of Individual Differences* (ISSID), where later he washonoured by being elected by Society members to the offices of Member of the Board of Directors, and then President-Elect (2013-2015) and President (2015-2017). In the UK, Philip co-founded the *British Society for the Psychology of Individual Differences* (BSPID), in which he is currently joint elected President.

**Research Interests**

Philip’s research interests are in the general area of personality neuroscience, including its extension to, amongst other things, behavioural economics. Specifically, his personality neuroscience research concerns individual differences in fundamental systems of emotion and motivation that underlie approach and avoidance behaviour, and their conflict. He believes that such fundamental systems hold wide-spread importance across the whole landscape of psychological phenomena.

Philip is most identified with the reinforcement sensitivity theory (RST) of personality, which provides the neuropsychological bases for three systems: *Behavioral Approach System* (BAS), *Fight-Flight-Freeze System* (FFFS) and *Behavioral Inhibition System* (BIS). Along with Andrew Cooper, Philip has developed a theoretically faithful questionnaire of RST, which was published in 2016 in *Psychological Assessment*.

Much of Philip’s work combines an experimental approach with individual differences in personality and cognitive variables. This follows the course of trying to combine these two major schools of psychology, as outlined by Cronbach’s, 1957, *American Psychological Association* Presidential Address. This scientific perspective contends that a truly unified psychological science needs properly to consider both sides of this perspectival scientific coin. To achieve this end, there needs to be a revival of the generalist in psychology, which Philip’s research typifies.

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