Parental Assessment of Temperamental Behavioural Style of Australian Children

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ABSTRACT The present study was conducted in Brisbane, Australia. One hundred mothers and 55 fathers of 4 to 6 year old children assessed temperament of their children using Behavioural Style Questionnaire (McDevitt and Carey 1975). The results revealed that parental perceived highly active children were arrhythmic, slow to adapt, more intense, negative in mood, and distractible. Arrhythmic children were withdrawn, slow to adapt, more intense, non-persistent and low on threshold. Children who were withdrawn and slow to adapt were more likely to be negative mood, non-persistent, highly distractible and low on threshold. Children perceived low on threshold were non-persistent and distractible. Results also revealed sex differences in temperamental dimensions.