

# Raymond Bernard Cattell (Factor Theory Of Personality)

M. Wagey Tairas

*Faculty of Psychology, Airlangga University*

## INTRODUCTION

Raymond Bernard Cattell is best known for his investigation and usage of a particular empirical method, the technique of factor analysis, to provide the substance for the development of the Factor Theory of Personality. Cattell is basically a theorist that postulates traits as an element residing within the organism with potential. Most recent attempts discovering primary traits have centered on a statistical technique known as factor analysis. Factor analysis is a method of summerizing the relationship among a large number of variables into fewer, more general pattern (Feldman, 1993). The unique ability of this man has been to transfer the psychological ideas into clear mathematical equations which enable them to be explained and in some cases, be more easily understood.

## BIOGRAPHICAL

Raymond Bernard Cattell was born in 1905 in Staffordshire, England. He married Monica Rogers on December 1, 1930 only later to be divorced due to the depression and his constant preoccupation with his work. One son, Hereward Seagrieve, who later become a surgeon, was born to this couple on April 2, 1946. Later Cattell married Alberta Schuttler and together they reared for children, three daughters and one son. Their names are Mary, Heather, Roderic, and Elaine.

## EDUCATION BACKGROUND

Cattell received all of his education and formal training in Great Britain. He secured his BSc.in Chemistry, from the Univer-sity of London in 1924 and his Ph.D. in psychology under Spearman from the same institution in 1929. This unusual combination of an academic post followed immediately by extensive experience in a clinical setting undoubtedly provides a partial explanation for Cattell's subsequent breadth of interest. In 1937 he was awarded a D.Sc. by the University of London for his contributions to personality research (Hall and Lindzey, 1981).