

## WHAT ABOUT THE POLTERGEIST?

by William G. Roll

If one goes to the trouble of visiting a poltergeist person while objects are moving in proximity to the person, it not difficult to observe macro PK. By observe I mean being present when movement of objects occurs and when you can be certain that the person is not pushing, pulling or throwing the things. This is because the occurrences tend to occur when you are looking directly at the person and perhaps talking to him or her. This central feature of RSPK (recurrent spontaneous psychokinesis) which seems to be unknown to many others in our field of study, probably comes into play because RSPK occurrences have an attention - seeking function for the person. There is a further advantage to RSPK from an evidential point of view because you can set up experiments in situ where the person has no tangible contact with the object before it moves.

There is a general belief that RSPK is too illusive for decisive study. This is simply not the case. On the contrary, RSPK must be the easiest form of PK to study, including micro PK. Why then not take a trip when a promising case comes up (after you interview witnesses to assure yourself that the case in fact is promising, which takes a phone call or two)? What is the problem? I can think of four: not enough money for a trip, people won't believe you when you return, laziness or fear of psi. Of these only the first reason is any good.

There is a peculiarity of RSPK in that a direct gaze on the object seems to prevent its movement, something like a Heisenberg uncertainty principle for large-scale objects. There is an apparent exception to this rule but it is only apparent. If you are looking at the RSPK agent when an object nearby, which is also in your visual field, begins to move, you can be certain that the person has no tangible contact with the object.

In Olive Hill, KY, John Stump and I saw several movements of objects when we were looking directly at 12-year-old Roger Callihan. To me the most impressive took place when I trailed Roger to the kitchen of his home to see if he was using trickery and when the kitchen table shot up in the air, rotated 45 degrees and came down in the four kitchen chairs that stood around it, its four legs all off the floor. Roger had just turned around and was facing me when this happened. He was standing between the kitchen sink and the table, about a foot from this. There was no one else in the room.

The only methodological problem I can think of is that video recording seems to have the same effect as a direct gaze: nothing happens when the camera is running and when this fact is know to the agent. Will things happen when the agent is unaware of being filmed? I don't know. I once hid my camcorder in an unused piece of lab equipment when a highly active RSPK person was present but was forbidden to use it by the director of the lab.

To read more about Poltergeists the following books by Dr. Roll,

Roll, William G. *The Poltergeist*. NY: The New American Library Inc., 1972.

Roll, William G.& Storey, Valerie *Unleashed: Of Poltergeists and Murder: The Curious Story of Tina Resch*. New York: Paraview Pocket Books, 2004