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The political personality of 2016 presidential candidate Rand Paul

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Rand Paul, official portrait, 112th Congress (Gage Skidmore)

Introduction

We conducted a psychodiagnostic case study of Kentucky senator and declared 2016 Republican presidential candidate Rand Paul. The purpose of the study was to construct a Millon-based personality profile of Dr. Paul.

Method

The assessment instrument was the 170-item Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria (MIDC; Immelman, 2012), which assesses the attribute domains of expressive behavior, interpersonal conduct, cognitive style, mood/temperament, and self-image. The instrument contains 12 scales, yielding 20 normal and 14 pathological personality styles.

Personality Type

“Confident, Resolute Individualist”

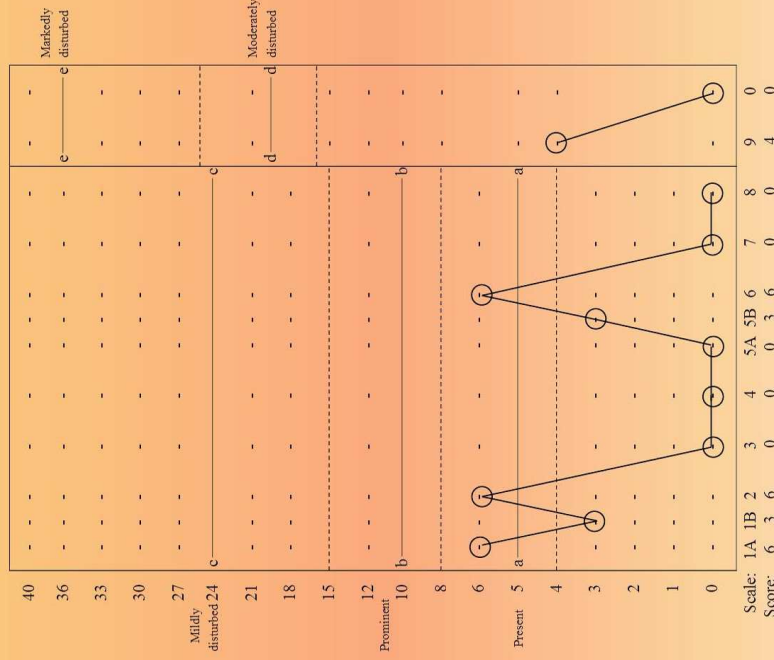
Primary pattern: Ambitious / confident
Secondary patterns: Dominant / asserting and Conscientious / respectful

The Political Personality of 2016 Presidential Candidate Rand Paul

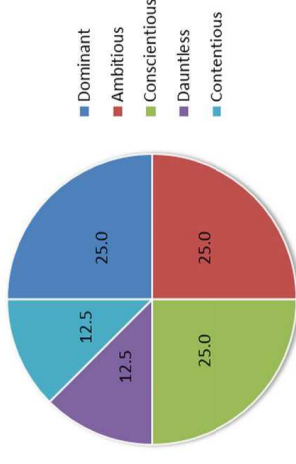
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Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria Profile for Rand Paul



Rand Paul's Basic Personality Patterns



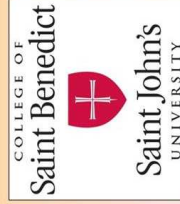
Results

Table 1
 MIDC Item Endorsement Rate by Attribute Domain

Attribute domain	Items
Expressive behavior	4
Interpersonal conduct	4
Cognitive style	3
Mood/temperament	3
Self-image	3
Sum	19
Mean	3.8
Standard deviation	0.7

Table 2
 MIDC Scale Scores for Rand Paul

Scale	Personality pattern	Raw	RT%
1A	Dominant: Asserting–Controlling–Aggressive	6	25.0
IB	Dauntless: Adventurous–Disseminating–Aggrandizing	3	12.5
2	Ambitious: Confident–Self-serving–Exploitative	6	25.0
3	Outgoing: Congenial–Gregarious–Impulsive	0	0.0
4	Accommodating: Cooperative–Agreeable–Submissive	0	0.0
5A	Aggrieved: Unpresuming–Self-denying–Self-defeating	0	0.0
5B	Contentious: Resolute–Oppositional–Negativistic	3	12.5
6	Conscientious: Respectful–Dutiful–Compulsive	6	25.0
7	Reticent: Circumspect–Inhibited–Withdrawn	0	0.0
8	Retiring: Reserved–Aloof–Solitary	0	0.0
9	Subtotal for basic personality scales	24	100.0
0	Distrusting: Suspicious–Paranoid	4	14.3
	Erratic: Unstable–Borderline	0	0.0
	Full-scale total	28	114.3



Acknowledgment
 Faculty Advisor: Dr. Aubrey Immelman
 Director, Unit for the Study of Personality in Politics

Reference

Immelman, A. (Compiler) (2012). *Millon Inventory of Diagnostic Criteria* (3rd ed.). Unpublished research scale, Unit for the Study of Personality in Politics, College of St. Benedict and St. John's University, St. Joseph and Collegeville, MN.

