



Desire for Control: Personality, Social and Clinical Perspectives (The Springer Series in Social Clinical Psychology)

Jerry M. Burger

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This book is a cumulation of a research program that began in the summer of 1978, when I was a doctoral student at the University of Missouri. What started as a graduate student's curiosity about individual differences in need for personal control led to a personality scale, a few publications, some additional questions, and additional research. For reasons I no longer recall, I named this personality trait desire for control. One study led to another, and questions by students and colleagues often spurred me to apply desire for control to new areas and new questions. At the same time, researchers around the globe began using the scale and sending me reprints of articles and copies of papers describing work they had done on desire for control!. In the past decade or so, I have talked or corresponded with dozens of students who have used the scale in their doctoral dissertation and master's thesis research. I have heard of or seen translations of the Desirability of Control Scale into German, Polish, Japanese, and French. There is also a children's version of the scale. I estimate that there have now been more than a hundred studies conducted on desire for control!.

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