

## Acklin Bio--Encyclopedia of Personality and Individual Differences

**Marvin W. Acklin** is a clinical, assessment, and forensic psychologist in independent practice in Honolulu, Hawaii. He is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry, John A. Burns School of Medicine. He serves as an expert consultant and witness to state, federal, family, and immigrations courts, as well as private and public agencies in areas of child, adolescent, and adult clinical and forensic psychology (criminal, civil, family law, law enforcement and airline pilot personnel selection). Acklin is board certified in three advanced psychological specialties (clinical, assessment, and forensic psychology). He is a Fellow of the Society for Personality Assessment, and three APA divisions: Clinical Psychology (12), Independent Practice (42), and American Psychology-Law Society (41). Primary research interests are in the area of applied clinical personality and psychodiagnostic assessment.

### **Early Life and Educational Background**

Acklin was born on October 11, 1949, in Louisville, Kentucky. He obtained his B.A. in Psychology from the University of Houston in 1972, M.Div. from San Francisco Theological seminary in 1976, and M.A. in Psychology (1980) and Ph.D. (1984) in Clinical Psychology from Georgia State University, under the direction of Earl Brown and Roger Bakeman. He studied in the Graduate Department of Religion at Vanderbilt University in 1977-78.

### **Professional career**

Acklin taught at Loyola University of Chicago from 1984 to 1988. He served as Chief Psychologist and Director of Clinical Training at the Queen's Medical Center in Honolulu in 1988 – 1990. He has been in full-time independent practice since 1990. Acklin has authored over 80 publications in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*, *Assessment*, *Journal of Personality Assessment*, *Journal of Clinical Psychology*, *Journal of Forensic Psychology Practice*, *Rorschachiana*, and several book chapters on the clinical and forensic applications of the

Rorschach Test. He has served on several editorial boards, including *Psychological Assessment*, *Assessment*, *Rorschachiana*, and the *Journal of Personality Assessment*. He is a co-editor of *Contemporary Rorschach Interpretation* (Meloy, Gacono, Acklin, Peterson, & Murray, 1997). He has presented over 80 professional symposia and workshops in the area of applied personality assessment. Acklin was awarded the 1992 Walter Klopfer Award for Distinguished Contribution to the Literature in Personality Assessment for *Early Memories as Expressions of Relationship Paradigms* by the Society for Personality Assessment. He was awarded the 2010 Distinguished Service Award by the Hawaii Psychological Association.

### **Research Interests**

Acklin's research interests have focused on clinical and forensic personality assessment, with a strong focus on projective techniques, especially the Rorschach Test. With his students, he has studied statistical power of Rorschach research and inter-rater reliability methods in Rorschach coding and interpretation. More recently, his research interests have turned to methodological issues in forensic decision-making and personality assessment.

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