

significant effect is indeed significant.

These points were brought to the attention of Dr. Thalbourne in 1982.

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To the Editor,

Monte Carlo methods are becoming more frequently used in parapsychology. John Palmer (Edge, Morris, Palmer, Rush, 1986) indicated that such methods 'may well be the wave of the future in evaluating psi data' (page 151). One of the first examples was presented by Michael Thalbourne in an exceptionally readable article 'A More Powerful Method of Evaluating Data From Free-Response Experiments' (*JSPR*, **50**, 1979, pp. 84–107). Unfortunately, that paper contains a number of serious errors and misconceptions.

1. The description of the Randomization Test given on page 92 is incorrect; the method described counts combinations that cannot occur with the actual experimental procedure. If the described method were used it would result in a wrong probability value being estimated. [Also, the number of combinations of