

Behavioural Genetics

Psychology

What twin, family and adoption studies can and cannot show.

The main designs and what each isolates.

Design	Compares	Isolates
Twin study	MZ vs DZ concordance	Genetic vs shared environment
Adoption study	Adoptee vs biological and adoptive parents	Genes vs rearing
Family study	Relatives of varying relatedness	Familial aggregation
GWAS	Genome against trait across many people	Specific variants

Most psychological traits are polygenic: thousands of variants each of tiny effect. Single 'genes for' traits are almost always wrong.