



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2003 PROJECT SUMMARY**

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| Name(s) Daniel Y. Gorenberg | Project Number J1799 |
| Project Title Who's to Blame? | |
| Abstract Objectives/Goals To examine students are more likely to blame other people or try to shift responsibility of their actions on to someone or something else. Methods/Materials Procedures: 1.Find and gather five test-subjects into one room. 2.Explain to them that you are going to read them a multiple- choice story; they all have to decide on what path to take as a group, and that there will be a questionnaire at the end of the story. 3.Give them each a character (A, B, C, D, E) 4.Read the group the story. 5.After they lose, have them take the questionnaire interpersonally. 6.Escort all five test-subjects out of the room and find five different test subjects. 7.Repeat steps one through six until you have tested fifty subjects. 8.Record and graph all of your results. Materials: ·Fifty test subjects (preferably sixth, seventh, and eight graders) ·One multiple choice story with three or more alternative endings and no good endings ·Fifty questionnaires (The questionnaire asks the subject their grade, gender, character, and who they think is most/least responsible for their group losing. One is the most responsible, and five is the least responsible) ·Five pencils and pens Results Individuals blamed others rather than themselves for their group losing. 74% of individuals tested blamed others while only 26% assumed blame. Conclusions/Discussion My hypothesis withstood successfully throughout my experiment. Thirty-seven out of the fifty students that I tested blamed one of their peers for their group losing. I noticed that most of the students didn't want to feel responsible for the choices that their group made. | |
| Summary Statement My project examined whether individuals blamed others or themselves for mistakes/choices. | |
| Help Received Guidance and constructive criticism by my science teacher, Ms. Terri Elkin and math teacher, Mr. David Klein | |