



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2006 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Elaine K. Phillips	Project Number S1013
Project Title Effects of Lunar Motion and Position upon the Birth and Death Rates of Human Beings	
Abstract Objectives/Goals The objective was to determine if motions and positions of the moon affect the birth and death rates of human beings. It was believed that birth rates are affected by the moon's phases and by its perigee and apogee, and that death rates are influenced by the moon's perigee and apogee but not its phases. It was believed that lunar and solar eclipses have no affect upon human births and deaths. Methods/Materials In order to determine if lunar motion and position affect the birth and death rates of human beings, a two-year period of over 9,000 birth and death certificates in San Luis Obispo County were studied. The number of births and deaths per date were then aligned and compiled according to the respective moon phases, lunar and solar eclipses, and the moon's perigee and apogee. These graphs were analyzed to determine if any pattern or singular occurrence regarding the number of births and deaths reflected the moon's motion. Results The births and deaths in San Luis Obispo County happen randomly; the rates do rise and fall over time, yet these fluctuations do not correspond with lunar movement. Although the total number of births and deaths increases as each lunar cycle progresses, this ascension is so slight that it hardly yields positive results. Furthermore, in spite of the overall increase in the number of births and deaths during the moon's apogee, too often is the number of births or deaths on a particular day significantly lower than the average day. Only ten eclipses occurred in the two years studied, hence the result in this aspect were inconclusive. Conclusions/Discussion Although it was believed otherwise, it was found that human births and deaths occur in complete independence of lunar motion and position.	
Summary Statement The number of births and deaths per day during a time period consisting of one hundred moon phases was studied to determine if the various motions and positions of the moon influence the birth and death rates of human beings.	
Help Received Mother helped gather data from birth and death certificates at the San Luis Obispo County recorder's office.	