



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2009 PROJECT SUMMARY**

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Project Title
Are There Links between Certain Simple Phobias and Certain Social Phobias?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
 My hypothesis is that I will find links between certain simple/specific phobias and certain social phobias. There are two main categories of phobias, simple/specific phobias and social phobias. There are two other types of phobias (agoraphobia and hemophobia). My objective in doing this project was to find out if people who had particular simple/specific phobias also had certain social phobias in common. Which combined groups of phobias seem to correspond with each other within the two main groups of phobias.

Methods/Materials
 My method of collecting data was typing a survey of phobias and distributing it to several different locations. I made up a survey that included the top 10 simple/specific phobias and the top 4 social phobias. I included Agoraphobia and Hemophobia aka Blood Injection phobias as separate categories. I also made sure to have fill-in spaces "OTHER" spaces for people who had phobias not listed on the survey. I also had a space for people to fill in "NONE" if they had no existing phobias in any of the categories.
 I wanted to survey a wide range of people. I also needed to survey more adults than children. This was due to the fact that about 90 percent of children normally have phobias. However, probably 90 percent of my data was a collection of adult survey participants.

Materials: Survey of Phobias; People (240 people in total); Boxes for survey collections; Clipboards; Different locations for conducting my survey (street, medical and dental offices, school and e-mail); Computer (for analyzing data); Modeling clay; Wooden plaque.

Results
 My hypothesis was correct. I believed that there were indeed links between certain simple and certain social phobias and there are.

Conclusions/Discussion
 I have many graphs showing the resulting data, which will be submitted with the rest of my project. Here is a brief summary of that data:

The top 10 phobia pairs:

Public speaking & performing in public (both social).....36.5%
 Being embarrassed & performing in public(both social).....24.3%

Summary Statement
 My project is about finding which simple/specific phobias and which social phobias seem to occur as a combination in most people.

Help Received
 Upon getting permission I conducted my survey at my family's doctor and dentist offices. My parents helped with some data organization.